



STREET LEVEL



“Where Life Happens”

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Issue 20
July 17, 2009

Evanston's Super Sidewalk Sale Includes Four Unique Districts Friday, July 24, Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26

Bargain hunters, put on your shopping sandals, as four Evanston districts collaborate on this season's Super Sidewalk Sale. This outdoor extravaganza is the largest yet, embracing the unique character and distinct merchandise of four easily accessible areas -- Main Street Station, Chicago/Dempster, Downtown Evanston, and Central Street.

More than 200 Evanston merchants will offer bargains on summer inventory, featuring the ideal mix of independent shops and your favorite national chain stores. Fashionistas will discover unique designs at specialty boutiques, and can also hit the sale racks for work, play and athletic clothing and shoes.

Expect to find deals on one-of-a-kind accessories and decorative arts, including the best in specialty designed, hand-crafted goods. Antique collectors and thrifters alike will revel in Evanston's great selection of vintage items -- from classic to kitsch.

In search of that perfect summer hostess gift? Each Evanston district offers a wide variety of fun and unique gift items sure to please.

When it's time to give your feet and your credit card a rest, see what makes Evanston the unofficial restaurant capital of the North Shore. From frozen yogurt and the finest baked goods to sushi, you can find that perfect nosh to fortify yourself for more bargain-hunting.

You won't find tube socks at this sale, and the only garage you'll enter is the one you can conveniently access for a full day of inexpensive parking. Park once, and hop the “el” or Metra to access all four districts. What could be easier?

For more information about the Super Sidewalk Sale visit www.evmark.org or call (847) 866-6319. To get to the sale on public transit, take the CTA Purple Line “el” to the Davis, Dempster, or Main stop; or take Metra to the Central, Davis or Main stop.

CHICAGO CRITERIUM

It's like the Kentucky Derby, but with a twist! Spend a day at the races to cheering on cycling's elite in Grant Park on Chicago's beautiful lakefront for the city's premier cycling event, the Chicago Criterium on Sunday, July 26, 2009. Fast paced racing will begin at 7:00 a.m. and continue throughout the day.

Best described as NASCAR racing with bikes, the all-day event features 10 professional and amateur criterium bike races on a closed circuit loop, approximately 1.1 mile in length with the start/finish line at Buckingham Fountain. Spectators are captivated with the fast paced straight-aways, tight 90-degree turns and the occasional pile up! The event will feature a Kids Big Wheel Race, Goose Island Beer Garden, Sports Expo and much more. Visit www.chicagocriterium.us for more details.



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It's Thursday, Let's Dance!



Thursdays, July 16 to August 20 at 909 Davis Street Plaza, Maple Avenue at Church Street from 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Join us under the stars on the only live dance floor north of Chicago, as you shake your groove thing to some of the hottest local bands around. In the event's tenth year, downtown Evanston heats up with a dance lesson at 6:30 and kicks into high gear at 7:30 with a live performance featuring the sounds and unique dance styles of R&B, reggae, Samba, swing, Zydeco and classic rock.

There is plenty of inexpensive garage parking, and both the CTA and Metra lines take you right to the party. This is a free event and all ages are welcome. For more information contact Laura at Evmark: lfolk1@evmark.org or 847-866-6319. For complete band schedule: <http://www.evmark.org/newsite/displayEvtCategory2.asp?Cat=THURS>

Muse of Fire Theatre Company to Present William Shakespeare's HENRY V Directed by Jemma Alix Levy

OUTDOOR PERFORMANCES IN EVANSTON'S LADD ARBORETUM AT 3 PM EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY FROM AUG. 1 THROUGH AUG. 23 *** ALL SHOWS FREE TO THE PUBLIC ***

Muse of Fire Theatre Company is pleased to join with its co-sponsor, the City of Evanston's Parks/Forestry, Recreation & Facilities Management Department to present professional outdoor Shakespeare in Evanston for the first time in the city's history. With HENRY V we have chosen one of the bard's best loved plays, the ever-timely story of a silver-tongued young king and his decision to go to war. It is a tale of integrity and virtue, of corruption and despair, of conquerors and cowards -- recounted in some of the most stirring speeches in the English language.

Muse of Fire's mission is to reach new audiences and captivate them with plays of great drama and poetry. To this end, we prefer to perform in found spaces rather than traditional theatre venues and to astonish with human resources rather than technical fireworks. Thus, our HENRY V will be presented in an open area of the Ladd Arboretum in Evanston, just west of the Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd., and the Rotary Garden. We will use no set, lighting or sound equipment -- only the outdoor site itself and the imagination of actors and audience.

THE PERFORMANCES HENRY V will open Saturday, Aug. 1, at 3:00 pm and will continue on Saturdays and Sundays at 3:00 pm through Aug. 23. Run time is approximately 2 hours. All performances will be free, and seating will be open and unlimited. In the event of rain, performances will be cancelled. Audiences are encouraged to bring chairs or picnic blankets to sit on. Free parking is available in the Ecology Center parking lot on the corner of Bridge St. and McCormick Blvd. For information, please call (847) 707-8632 or go to www.museoffire.webs.com.

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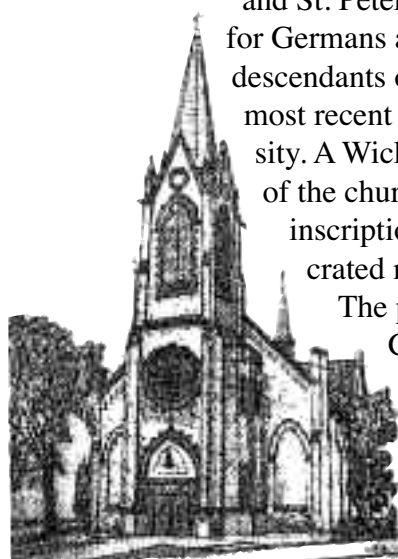
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St. Peter Parish of Skokie, Founded in 1868, Plans Memorial Garden Dedicated to School Sisters of St. Francis

This gem of a Gothic church has seen a lot of history in 105 years. One of the first churches designed by architect Henry J. Schlacks, it was dedicated in 1895. With its 150-foot steeple pointing skyward, it sits in the center of the old town (once called Niles Center). Many of its stained glass windows were made in Munich by the Zettler Company and the sanctuary’s five lancet windows depict the Evangelists,



and St. Peter receiving the keys. The parish, originally for Germans and Luxembourgers, today welcomes direct descendants of early parishioners as well as America’s most recent immigrants – comfortable with its diversity. A Wicks pipe organ was installed in 1963 and two of the church’s original bells still ring. One bears the inscription: “(The pastor) of this Church, consecrated me in the service of God in 1878.”

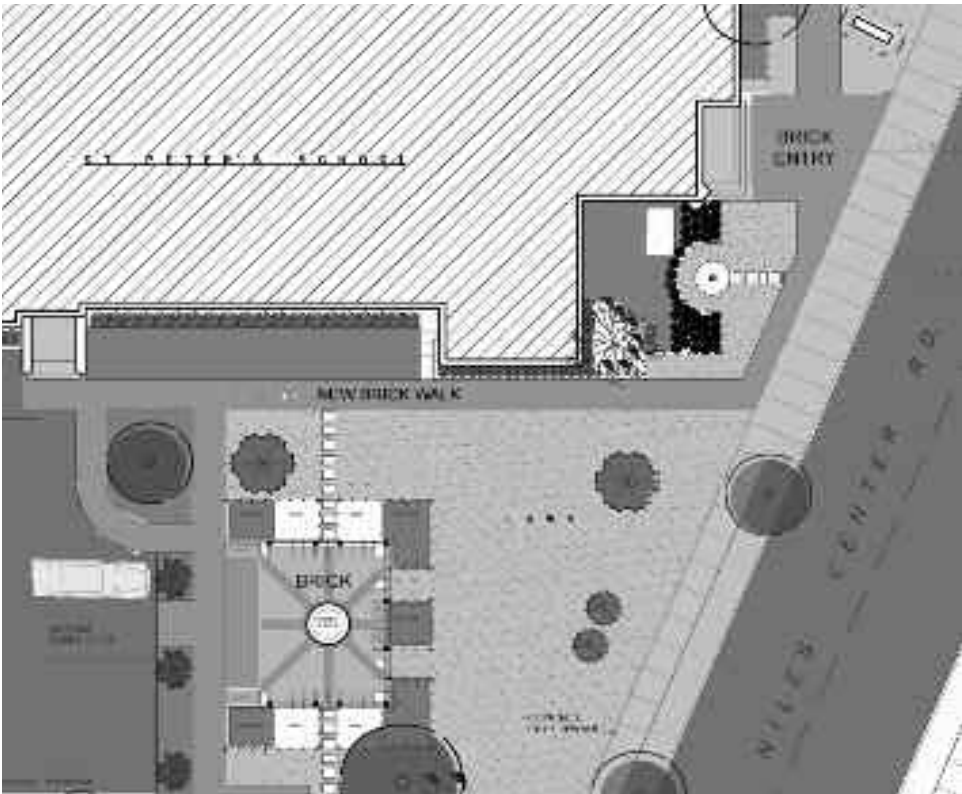
The plaza and garden green of St. Peter Catholic Church are in the remaining section of the old convent area. The dedication paving bricks that will be installed in this area are a remembrance of all the School Sisters of St. Francis who staffed the school for many years.

Rev. Michael A. Wulsch, along with the

parishioners and staff of St. Peter Parish thank the community for their support through the years. “We hope all of our alumni and families from the parish will purchase one of these inscribed paving bricks as a remembrance of the School Sisters of St. Francis years here at St. Peter.”

Please contact the parish office at 847-673-1492 for information about the Memorial Garden Project.

Below is a diagram of the Memorial Garden.



Summer Special at the Levy Center Fitness Room

New limited-time offers beginning June 1, 2009! If you purchase six months of any fitness room membership, you will get the seventh month free as a bonus! There is a limit of one 6-month membership with bonus per person. OR, if you purchase one year of any fitness room membership, you will get a 14-month membership! There is a limit of one annual membership with the 2-month bonus per person. Passes must be paid in full at time of purchase in order to receive the bonus membership. Call 847/448-8250 or visit <http://www.cityofevanston.org/departments/parks/levy-programs.shtml>.

In future editions we will be highlighting other local companies to enable you to...

Spend Locally and Save!

It is possible to pinch pennies and still have a good time! One easy way to trim budget bulge is to dine, shop, and play in our own neighborhood. A visit to your favorite local boutique, bowling alley, movie theater, and restaurant saves gas money and is more affordable than a trek to a downtown counterpart. Best of all, spending locally is a vote of confidence and an investment in the future health of our neighborhoods.



CALLING ALL FRIENDS, FAMILY, PARISHIONERS AND ALUMNI OF ST. PETER!

33% Sold!



Our Alumni Walk/Memorial Garden Project is underway and **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**



To help finance the project we are selling engraved bricks that will be used in the walkway and in the garden. This is your chance to get in early on this project and get your brick in a prime location – either near the fountain or closest to the school steps!

Please Act Soon! We would like to double our current sales before groundbreaking!



Brick pricing is as follows (per order):
1st Brick \$100
2nd Brick \$75
3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th Bricks \$65 each



IF YOU KNOW OF ANY ALUMNI WHO LIVE OUTSIDE THE PARISH, PLEASE LET THEM KNOW ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY!

Contact the Rectory or call either Jacquie Toigo at 847-677-4190 or Chris Franczyk at 847-673-5850 for information.

Come on Alumni! We know you’re out there!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone Number _____
Graduation Year (if Alumni) _____
Email Address: _____

Engraved message:

Each brick can have three lines of 13 characters each. Please note, spaces count as characters.

Please make checks payable to St. Peter Church.
Please return this slip with your payment to the rectory or drop in the Sunday collection.
Thank you!

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CZECH & SLOVAK AMERICAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF ILLINOIS

extends an invitation to attend it's general meeting and program on August 15, 2009 at 1:30pm "Why Our Austro-Hungarian Ancestors Were Neither Austrian or Hungarian" presented by Paul Valasek
Coffee and Dessert will be served afterward
LOCATION: First Presbyterian Church of LaGrange, 150 S. Ashland, LaGrange IL
ADMISSION: Free
INFORMATION: www.csagsi.org, czechmail@ameritech.net, 312-527-0506

EVANSTON PUSHES NEIGHBORHOOD STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Committed to supporting our businesses
and community

The City of Evanston, in their continued commitment to the community, has been working with local business owners over the years to help beautify their buildings through the Neighborhood Storefront Improvement Program (NSIP). Projects covered by this program may be funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the Economic Development Fund, or with Tax Increment Financing based on their nature and location.

“One of the goals of the City is to help small businesses improve their properties or buildings because creating more attractive neighborhood commercial districts helps grow their business,” explained Sarah Flax, City of Evanston’s CDBG Administrator. “We all succeed when our local businesses succeed and it is important to remember that small businesses are the drivers of job creation.”

The program is designed to improve the visual quality of commercial structures, sustain the vitality of neighborhood commercial centers, and encourage private investment. Properties can qualify for \$10,000 in CDBG funds per storefront or façade on a 50/50 sharing basis in the cost of labor, materials and architectural design for storefront improvement projects located in neighborhood business districts in Evanston. In order for a business to get \$10,000, the business needs to spend at least \$20,000 and the maximum CDBG per business is \$40,000.

This program has recently benefited Ted’s Restaurant on Crain Street as well as recently helping the STAMPfactory, an adaptive re-use project at the corner of Dewey and Payne. That project converted several empty manufacturing and commercial buildings into 19 two-story live-work units. The project has attracted new businesses to the city, increased the tax base, and helped revitalize the neighborhood.

“This program has made a big time positive impact on the community and I hope it continues,” said Andy Spatz, Adas/Spatz Properties developer of the STAMPfactory. “I was very pleased with the city while working with them to get this funding; the process was effective and straight forward.”

The City of Evanston currently has two other projects underway – North Suburban Automotive Supply Company at the corner of Howard and Custer and the property located at 1800 Dempster Street, the new home of Sir Speedy Printing.

Projects must follow design standards established by the City. For more information on NSIP, please contact the CDBG Administrator, Sarah Flax, at 847.866.2928 ext. 2268, cdbg@cityofevanston.org or visit www.cityofevanston.org.

Lincolnwood Social Club (55+) Monthly Lunch Bunch

Per a Club Member’s suggestion, the July Lunch Bunch will be held at the ever-popular Pizano’s Pizza & Pasta of Glenview. Diners will enjoy the convenience of a pre-arranged menu and pricing of \$12.00 per person which includes your choice of menu item to be ordered day of, coffee, tea, soft drinks, dessert, tax and gratuity.

As always, transportation to and from the restaurant as well as payment is the responsibility of each attendee. On-site parking is available. Bring your appetite!

Wednesday, July 29 11:30am
Pizano’s Pizza & Pasta 1808 N. Waukegan Road, Glenview, IL
FREE – Lunch & Transportation are on your own Registration is required, for more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Saint Francis Hospital Offers Free Foot Screenings

Saint Francis Hospital will provide free foot screenings at its new Wound Healing Center on Thursday, July 30 from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., at 800 Austin Street, Suite 604 in Evanston.

The screenings will be performed by podiatrist Khalid Husain, DPM, and will check for risk factors that can lead to diabetic foot conditions, such as nerve damage, skin changes, calluses, foot ulcers, poor circulation and arterial disease. The screenings are free and open to the public, however an appointment is required. Call 847-316-HEAL to schedule a screening.

Saint Francis Hospital is a Level I Trauma Center in Evanston, IL and is home to the North Shore’s first and only accredited Chest Pain Center. It is part of Resurrection Health Care, Chicago’s largest Catholic health care system, including hospitals, nursing homes, retirement communities, a surgery center, behavioral health services, a home health company, hospice services and outpatient and medical office facilities.

Evanston Community Energy Challenge Business Savings

ComEd has reserved \$350,000 in Smart Ideas for Your Business program incentives for Evanston businesses and institutions as part of Evanston's participation in the ComEd Community Energy Challenge.

Now entering its second year of implementation, the ComEd Smart Ideas for Your Business program offers prescriptive and custom incentives to facilitate the implementation of cost-effective energy efficiency improvements for non-residential (commercial and industrial) customers. The response to ComEd's program has been very positive - last year, funding was depleted half-way through the program year. The reserved dollars for the 2009 program year ensure that Evanston businesses will be able to participate in this beneficial program to "go green and save green".

To learn more about ComEd's Smart Ideas for Your Business program, visit <http://www.comed.com/businesssavings/programsincentives/>. To access the program incentives reserved specifically for Evanston, apply for the program directly through ComEd, no additional steps need to be taken.

Home Savings

ComEd has reserved \$12,500 in Smart Ideas for Your Home program incentives for Evanston condo owners, building owners, renters and property managers as part of Evanston's participation in the ComEd Community Energy Challenge.

Now entering its second year of implementation, the ComEd Smart Ideas for Your Home all-electric efficiency upgrade program offers some of the latest, energy-saving devices on the market - installed - at absolutely NO CHARGE. To qualify for this program, units must have both electric space heating and electric water heating.

To learn more about ComEd's Smart Ideas for Your Home all-electric efficiency upgrade program, visit <http://www.comed.com/homesavings/programsincentives/allelectric.htm>. To access the program incentives reserved specifically for Evanston, apply for the program directly through ComEd, no additional steps need to be taken.

Evanston is one of 10 municipalities participating in ComEd’s Community Energy Challenge (CEC), a program designed to generate creative, locally-driven approaches to help communities meet their environmental sustainability objectives. The CEC runs from June 2009 through May 2010.

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GREAT OUTDOORS

Legends of the Lake 51st Venetian Night Celebration

by Tracy Seglin

Buona sera, Chicago! More than a half century ago, Mayor Richard J. Daley challenged his special events chief and Chicago area yacht clubs to devise a boating bonanza, a floating fiesta, a celebration of our gorgeous Lake Michigan and lakefront.

Named for the Italian city's legendary Christmas boat parades, Chicago's first Venetian Night was held at Diversey Harbor in August 1958, with 200 lighted boats. Over the years, the festival has evolved, at times a several-night extravaganza, replete with beauty pageant and corresponding State Street parade.

This year, Venetian Night takes place Saturday, July 25. The 2009 theme is "Hollywood on the Lake." More than 30 boats decked out with elaborate light displays plan to participate. Led by King Neptune, the parade launches at 8:15 p.m. at the Shedd Aquarium and hugs the shoreline, ending at the Chicago Yacht Club. A feast for eyes and ears, the program features pre-parade music by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and a fireworks display choreographed to tunes by radio station WXRT (93.1) at 9 p.m.

More than 675,000 are expected to attend, many getting to the lakefront 12 hours early for prime viewing. Leave the car at home, pack a picnic, and take public transportation for a hassle-free, fun-filled Venetian Night.



Snowballs in July?

By: Nick Urhausen, Urhausen Greenhouses

The popular perennial flowering shrub, known as the Hydrangea, begins blooming at the start of July. The blooms are either shaped like a large snowball, technically known as a mophead, or like a cone. White is the most popular color. This is why hydrangea flowers are sometimes called "snowballs"... they are white in color and shaped like a ball. However, there are some blue, pink, and red varieties available now which will survive our cold Chicagoland winters.

There are a few reasons why white is the most popular color. First, most of the old fashion varieties that are hardy in Chicago only came in white. Second, the new colorful hydrangeas often require an acidic soil, something we don't have in Chicago because our soil is quite alkaline. In some of the newer varieties like "Endless Summer" and "All Summer Beauty" acid in the soil changes the color of the flower from pink to blue. In the Chicagoland area, one must add sulfur to the soil to make it more acidic to produce more vibrant colors. These varieties seem to do best in the southeastern part of America where the soil is naturally more acidic.

Hydrangeas can be divided into three size categories. First there are the 3' tall varieties. This size is the most popular. Second, there are the tall varieties that can easily grow to 6'. Third, there are the climbing hydrangeas which they say will grow to 75' tall. Personally, the climbing hydrangeas make a nice climbing plant, but I have never seen one anywhere near to 75' tall.

Hydrangeas prefer growing conditions which range from full sun to part shade. If the plant is in too much shade, then it will not bloom. In my experience, hydrangeas need at least half a day of sun to really bloom well. People might argue with me, but that has been my experience. Some even promote hydrangea's as shade plants and I just do not agree.

The flowers of hydrangeas can be picked in bloom and put in a vase with water. The flower heads can also be picked and allowed to dry out, and then used in dried flower arrangements. When fall approaches, some people leave the dried flower heads on the plant for interest in the garden during winter.

If you want to grow a hydrangea your best chance for success will be to grow one of the old fashion white varieties. I recommend the variety "Annabelle." This is a white, mophead or snowball type flowering variety which grows about 3' tall and 4' wide. "Annabelle" is very hardy during cold Chicagoland winters, and is very easy to grow. Unless you really want to exert a lot of time and effort growing a hydrangea, I do not recommend any of the newer blue and pink varieties. From talking to many gardeners, I have not heard many success stories. So, give yourself the best chance for success by growing an "Annabelle" hydrangea.

Urhausen Greenhouses, Inc. is located at 6973 N. East Prairie Road in Lincolnwood. Phone: 847-675-1573, fax: 847-675-0661

Free Youth Fishing Program Continues

Once again this summer, young anglers, age 5 to 15, can grab a pole and fish for free on Saturday mornings at the pond in Lovelace Park, located on Gross Point Road at Thayer St. Sponsored by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, this is a catch-and-release program designed to give youth a chance to experience firsthand the fun of fishing. Free equipment and bait are provided, and staff from the Evanston Ecology Center are on hand to offer their expert advice. This fishing program is held from 10 A.M. to noon every Saturday, May 2- Oct. 31. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Fishing licenses are not needed for those under age 16. For more details, call 847-448-8256.

Open Studio Project Art Classes

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 OSP members.

Tuesday Nights July 21 - Aug 25 6:30-8:30pm

Friday Mornings July 24 - Aug 28 10am - 12noon

Thursday Mornings (Extended Class) July 23 - Aug 27 10:00am-12:30pm Cost \$200 non-members, \$190 OSP members

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

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Rent a Boat or Kayak in Evanston and Sail Lake Michigan

This summer, sailboats and fishing kayaks will be available for rent by the hour, the day or the season at Evanston's Dempster St. Beach. The times watercraft may be rented are 3 to 7 p.m. Mondays-Fridays and 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, beginning June 13. Kayak rentals start at \$25/hour for Evanston residents; sailboat fees start at \$30/hour for residents; and Hobie 16' rentals start at \$40/hour for residents. Multiple-hour discounts are available as is a reduced-fee punch pass option. Season rental (a maximum of two hours on a single day) is \$600 for residents. Nonresident adults may also rent boats, but fees are higher. Life vests are provided free for all passengers. Reserved for adults age 18 and older, all rentals are handled at the Dempster St. Beach office, which is now open daily. A valid driver's license and credit card are required to rent boats. For more information, call the beach office at 847-866-4167.

Evanston Public Library

1703 Orrington Ave.
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www.epl.org

Free Ravinia Tickets for Book Lovers!

Share your opinions about our book reviews, or post your own at www.epl.org/booksmoviesmusic, our Teen Loft page, eplteen.wordpress.com, or goodreads.com/evanstonpubliclibrary and win a pair of free Ravinia lawn tickets! Either submit a review or comment on a review to be eligible. (1 pair of tickets per reviewer).

For details, call the Readers' Services desk, 847-448-8620 or the Loft at 847-448-8625

Online Computer Reservations

Library patrons can now book computers from home, either online or by phone. Reservations can be made up to two days in advance for all Internet computers on the second and third floors of the Main library except for the Accessible station and the computers in the Loft. If you are in the library, you can make a future reservation at one of the Reservation/Printing stations located on the second and third floors. You can also call the Magazines and Newspapers desk at 847-448-8635 during library hours to make a reservation.

Books on Wheels

Do you know someone who loves to read, but can't make it over to the Library? Sign them up for Books on Wheels! Evanston residents of any age who have difficulty coming in because of illness or disability may receive home delivery of books, movies or music from a volunteer. To register, or for more information, leave a message at 847-448-8618, or email booksonwheels@cityofevanston.org

Career Counseling Offered at Main Library

Schedule a free half-hour consultation with a professional career counselor Jewish Vocational Service by calling the Main Library's Reference Desk at 847-448-8630 to reserve a time-slot. Sessions are the second Monday and the last Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon, in the Small Community Meeting Room on the first floor.

Skokie Fine Arts Commission

The Skokie Fine Arts Commission is now accepting applications for the 2009-2010 granting year. To be eligible for a grant, all projects and programs must take place between May 1, 2009 and April 30, 2010.

Skokie schools are invited to submit arts-related projects and programs for Cultural Arts Grants in the amount of \$250. Skokie-based arts organizations may apply for Project Grants in varying amounts. Applications for both grants are available on the Commission's webpage at www.skokie.org.

If you are a first-time grant applicant, please consider attending the Fine Arts Commission Grant Workshop on Wednesday, November 11, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street. The first-time grant applicant presentation also is available on the Commission's webpage at www.skokie.org.

For more information or to download a copy of the grant application, please visit www.skokie.org.

LOCAL GROUP LAUNCHES RACING SITE

:

Want to understand the difference between the Chicago Criterium and Le Tour de France? Confused about categories, drafting, and attacks? Learn the basics and get some racing tips from the Active Transportation Alliance's new racing site, www.activetrans.org/racing. Active Trans has partnered with local racing team XXX Racing-AthletiCo to introduce bicycle racing and its culture to those curious about the sport, as well as showcase local racers' contributions to the cycling community at large.



The new site features information about mountain, track and road racing - with cyclocross to come soon - plus a calendar of racing events and blog entries about local racing news. "Chicagoland has a lot of great teams and races available throughout the year," said Randy Warren, who writes the Coach's Corner blog for the site. "This new site will get more people involved in local racing whether they're enjoying the show or are one wheel back from the front at the final sprint." Warren is on the Active Trans staff and also the coach of XXX Racing-AthletiCo. Go to www.activetrans.org/racing

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Join Open Studio Project for the Mural Dedication Block Party!

Open Studio Project invites you to a celebration of a Community Mural, a Public Art Project by Open Studio Project, Artist Sonata Kazimeraitiene, & the Chicago Public Art Group

"A Mural Dedication Block Party" Thursday, July 30th, 4-5:30 pm at the Brick Road between the Main St. Metra and CTA stations (1/2 block west of Chicago Ave., just south of Main St.) In case of rain: Meet at Main St. Arts Depot, 600 Main St. (Metra platform)

Welcome Remarks: Elizabeth B. Tisdahl, Mayor, City of Evanston
Food Provided by Trattoria D.O.C. Music Provided by "The Musical Offering" RSVP by June 25 to 847-475-0390 or info@openstudioproject.org

This Project is funded by: A Grant from the City of Evanston's Public Art Program, Illinois Arts Council's Youth Employment Program, Youth Workers: Gabriella Bertucci, Tamar Byrne, Aiden Keeva, & Martasia Tolar

Artists from these Organizations: Connections for the Homeless, District 65 21st Century Program, Main St. Merchants Association, OSP's Art & Adventure and Connecting with the Creative Process Classes, PEER Services, Willpower, Youth Organizations Umbrella

Mural Paintings By: Janet Beals, Dayna Block, Cal Calvird, Wren Campbell, Jan Ellenstein, Barbara Goldberg, Barbara Goldman, Ted Harris, Nora Hartman, Elena Kaiser, Sarah Laing, Zoe Medville, Erin Mooney, Maurice Murray, Colleen Ostrander, Karla Rindal, Kris Taylor

Mural Preparation Artists Kristin Barrick, Katy Kiehn, Ju Youn Lee, Gabriella Zecker

Mural Installation Artists Sarah Marder-Epstein, Ailisa Qualkinbush, Emilija Rasinskaite, Stanislovas Rasinskas, Karla Rindal, Rahmaan Statik, Tricia Vail

Special Thanks To: Chicago Transit Authority, Evanston Community Foundation, Larry Goldberg, Heffernan Painting, Piccolo Theatre

Evanston Art Gallery

An exhibition of paintings by Evanston artist Virginia Scribner Mallard, "Celestial Bodies and Earthly Forms" opens Thursday, June 25, at Evanston's Noyes Cultural Arts Center Gallery.

The exhibition includes paintings from several of Mallard's series, including works inspired by her study of the universe, ancient warriors and Egyptian and Asian cultures.

"Celestial Bodies and Earthly Forms" will remain on display through Aug. 11. The Noyes Art Gallery is at 927 Noyes St., Evanston; admission is always free. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. The building is accessible, and group tours are available. For information, call 847-448-8260.

Starlight Concerts Continue to Sizzle

Heat up the night with hot reggae and regional groove styles performed by The Eternals. The talented group appears at the free Starlight Concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 23, in James Park, Dodge Ave. at Mulford. Then Mucca Pazza swarms the stage at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, in Dawes Park, Sheridan Road at Church St. A 30-piece "circus punk marching band," Mucca Pazza plays everything from Balkan brass and Czech, Russian, and Hungarian themes to 60's covers. Both concerts are free. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy the shows. In case of rain, concerts will be moved indoors. If rain threatens, call 847-448-8058 after 4 p.m. the night of a concert for the latest site information.

Evanston Starlight Concerts are presented by the City of Evanston's Cultural Arts Division and are partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. Sponsors include The Homestead Hotel and Quince Restaurant, Chicago Reader, Chipotle Mexican Grill, and Evanston RoundTable.



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FOR KIDS - Summer Youth Program
Summer Youth Program Tickets are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door. Niles Township residents only \$2 unless otherwise listed.
July 22 at 10:30 am Jeff Bibik - "The Magician"
July 29 at 10:30 am Magic That Quacks You Up from Steve Belliveau
August 5 at 10:30 am Pocket Circus - The Smallest Circus in the World
August 12 at 10:30 am Jeffrey The Great

POP/JAZZ/FOLK
July 22, at 1:30pm The 50's Songbook with Marcus Gentry Tickets are \$10.
July 24, at 8pm Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Three Cat Media is proud to present "It's So Easy: The Music of Linda Ronstadt"
July 25, at 2pm STAND BY ME - Soulful Salute to the 50's and 60's by Marcus Gentry and Friends Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.
"It's My Party" starring Jeanne Scherkenbach & Carolyn Wehner Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door
July 29, at 1:30pm BIG BAND SERENADE starring Jack Muiccio Tickets are \$10.
July 31, at 8pm CELTIC MUSE starring Gillian Kelly Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

STAGE
July 18 & 19 · 8 & 2 pm THE ONE-MAN ONE-MAN PLAY FESTIVAL!
Timothy Mooney presents TWO one man shows you can see two of them in a single night! Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. July 18 (8 pm) and 19 (2 pm) MOLIERE THAN THOU and CRITERIA (90 minutes later)

Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Concerts In The Park

July 22nd * The Class of '68
The Class of '68 began in 2002 as the Rob Ross tribute band to celebrate a birthday for one of Steve Wild's closest friends. In the process, Steve met Woody Johnson, who volunteered to sing with a guy who hadn't played in thirty years! The event re-kindled a love affair with 1960's music in both and gave birth to the Class of '68, a band dedicated to the Golden Age of Top 40." With the addition of other's who share the passion, the band is one of the few whose members actually played 1960's rock and roll in the 1960's at some of the Chicago areas most popular venues including the Cellar, the Green Gorilla and the Pink Panther.

Location: Proesel Park Shelter (Corner of Kostner & Morse), Lincolnwood, IL
Fee: FREE – Open to the Public
For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Once on This Island at Evanston's Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre

What is the true price of love? Caribbean traditions, mystical gods, tropical heat, well-established class lines and a hurricane collide in the haunting legend of love, Once on This Island, now at Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre. Written by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, Once on This Island combines powerful vocals, heart-racing emotions and awe-inspired physicality to produce a gripping musical love story set on a Caribbean island. Directing the show for Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre, which is proudly celebrating its 30th season, is Runako Jahi, with musical direction by June Smith and choreography by Vaune Blalock.

Performances of Once on This Island are at 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays, through July 26 (excluding July 4th weekend), at the theatre in the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Individual tickets are \$15, \$10 for students with IDs, and \$7 for seniors age 55 and older. Group discounts are available. For more information, call 847-448-8260.

An African-American theatre company, Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre produces theatre and cultural events that address the African-American experience or reflect the culture of people of African descent. The theatre rounds out its 30th season by presenting Nilaja Sun's No Child Aug. 1-23. For more details, call 847-448-8260.

SKOKIE ART GUILD

Skokie Art Guild Artists' Individual Exhibits
Showing May 15 thru July 31.

Marina Nemsetva - Oil Paintings
Bank of Lincolnwood
4433 W. Touhy Ave., Lincolnwood

Paula Smiles - Drawings
Devonshire Cultural Center
4400 Greenwood St., Skokie



PG. 6

"A Theatre Review"

"Graceland"

Profiles Theatre, 4147 N. Broadway, Chicago, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

Profiles Theatre Company is known for its strong plays and tough acting of its cast and "Graceland" is one hell of a show.

Whoever thought that a cemetery would make for a good play? Well Ellen Fairey has found the answer as its playwright. The play deals with four stories.

"Graceland" is located on Clark Street and Irving Park within walking distance of Wrigley Field. Across the street from Graceland is Wudner's Cemetery, another old but established cemetery owned by a Lutheran church.

The show is set in August on a weekend. Like many shows it deals with a dysfunctional family who are Sarah played by Brenda Barrie, her brother Sam played by Eric Burgher who we find at their father's gravesite. The father was estranged from the family and ended his life by committing suicide.

We see how loneliness can be felt even being around people in a large city. We find Sarah is single and while she hails from a middle class family is still searching to be young and loved. Her brother Sam doesn't have much of a job as a delivery man who doesn't overreact to the highs and lows of life. We find that the father has been sleeping with Sam's ex-girlfriend Anna played by Somer Benson.

When they leave the cemetery they go to the local bar that was their dad's favorite to get more information on their father and they end up getting drunk.

Joe the father is being played by Darrell W. Cox one of Chicago's finest no-equity actors. At the father's apartment that Sarah has returned to she runs into a young boy she met at the cemetery who turns out to be Joe's son Miles played by Jackson Challinor. Coming from a broken home we see how lonely he has been as he loves to be open with strangers and being open in his conversation with them.

Anna, the ex-girlfriend of Sam, played by Benson does a beautiful job with her acting. The show is a drama but offers comical moments and runs 75 minutes. The production is being directed by Matthew Miller.

The play can affect many lives as you'll see if you view it. The show is in a small shoe-box theatre with limited seating. "Graceland" runs through August 16. For performance schedule, show times and reservations call 773-549-1815. Tickets are \$25-\$30.

"A Tribute to the Black Crooners"

(Yesterday-Today-Tomorrow)

Black Ensemble Theatre, 4520 N. Bacon St., Chicago

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

Jackie Taylor's Black Ensemble Theatre is concluding their 2008-2009 season with a new hit with the world premier of "A Tribute to the Black Crooners" (Yesterday-Today-Tomorrow). This season was heralded as their season of men.

Black ensemble has a five play season that includes "The Message is in Music," "The Nicholas Brothers," "Nothing But the Blues," "Al in Love is Fair-A Tribute to the Love Songs" and one to be announced at a later date.

Black Crooners has a book by Rueben Echoles and Dawn Bless and is being directed by Echoles and founder and artistic director Jackie Taylor. The show has a cast of 11. The show features the music and songs made famous by Willie Nelson, Louis Armstrong, John Legend, Luther Vandross, Billy Eckstein, Johnny Mathis, Roy Hamilton, Nat King Cole and the list goes one.

As with all their productions, the singing and dancing will have you rocking in your seat. It's a fast 2 hours and 10 minutes.

The book for the show may not be as strong as with some of BET other shows that Ms. Taylor has written and directed but it still makes the time go by fast.

The leads in the show are Trinity P. Murdock, Daniel Barnes, Magellan Watts, Michael T. Bartlett, Jr., Donald Manuel, Rashawn Thompson and Melanie McCulloch.

The story deals with the Stevens family and the club they own, the famous Stephen's Club that has been the home of some of the greatest black artists for over 60 years. The club is celebrating its anniversary as the older and younger generations present a show honoring Black Crooners of yesterday, today and tomorrow – that the family has owned from one generation to another.

The club is to be closed as the city wants to make the space into a mall. But in the end someone saves the day. The show ends with a stirring and powerful rendition of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "You'll Never Walk Alone."

Crooner runs through August 16 and could be extended, but don't wait, reserve your tickets now. For show schedule, show times and reservations call 773-769-4451. Tickets are \$45. -Three Stars-



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Skokie People Speak

By Alfred S. Nathan

Welcome to Skokie People Speak, a continuation in writing of the former Comcast public access TV program. The purposes and goals are identical: build goodwill, understanding, and friendship among all people; tell about important activities in our community and especially the people who make it happen. The Chicago Tribune’s July 5, 2009, feature article in the Parade section, entitled What’s Great About America, contains quotations that we can proudly apply to Skokie. New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter-“The best thing about America is its ethnic diversity. I see it –and live it–every day during baseball season” (attend our Festival of Cultures). Best selling author John Sandford –“ I love the physical presence of the U.S” (look around our beautiful Village). Artists Peter Max –“America awakened my creativity when I was a boy” (our excellent schools and the library do that). Arnold Schwarzenegger –“ I was able to find opportunity and accomplish things far beyond what I had ever imagined possible” (full creative freedom to produce public access television programs). Colin Powell quoted the Declaration of Independence –“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal” (the welcoming Spirit of Skokie to people from all over the world). Arianna Huffington, co-

founder and editor-in-chief of the Huffington Post-“From the beginning, America has been dedicated to the pursuit of happiness.. the happiness that comes from feeling good by doing good”. “Feeling good by doing good” happens to people who join service organizations – the Rotary, Kiwanis, and Lions clubs. Rotarians bring together business and professional leaders to provide humanitarian service and build goodwill in the world. Kiwanis emphasizes service to children and youth around the world. Lions clubs focus on helping visually and hearing impaired everywhere. Many people are members of more than one organization, serving the Skokie community in a variety of ways; here are some examples. Mort Paradise, on the Board of Directors, Outreach Chairman, Past President, and 28 year charter member of the Skokie Lions Club, is an on the Board of Directors of the East Prairie School Foundation, the Skokie Caucus Party Board, one of the original founders and past board member of what is now called Turning Point, and the Board of synagogue congregation TJM. His wife, Shirley, has also been very active in the community since they moved here in 1949.

Krishna Goyal joined the Skokie Lions Club in 2002 with her then living husband Kuldip. She became Vice-President in 2003, then secretary and now is President. She is an active, 11 year member of the Skokie Human Relations Commission and one of the original 20 year members of the Skokie Festival of Cultures. Krishna is a board member of the Coalition of Asian–American Communities of Skokie, founded six years ago by her husband Kuldip, Jerry Colito (VP of the Skokie Park Board of Commissioners), Jelly Carandang (Skokie Plan Commissioner), and Linda Swenson (Skokie Human Relations Commission and Festival of Cultures). More information will be provided about this organization in a future article. Krishna is President of the Indian Community of Skokie and a recipient of the Asian-American Hall of Fame and the Women of Achievement awards for her considerable contribution to the community. She is a member of and has been very active in her Hindu temple. She is on the board of directors of the Federation of Indian Associations. She has been an active participant in other, volunteer, community activities.

Skokie Lions Club member, David Putrus, is Assistant Vice President and Skokie branch manager of the First Bank and Trust of Evanston. He is a member of the Skokie Traffic Safety Commission and the Zoning Commission. He is also on the membership committee of the Skokie Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Directors of the Skokie North Shore Sculpture Park, Treasurer of the Coalition of Asian-American Communities of Skokie, member of the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie, the Skokie Caucus Party, and treasurer of Le Tip International. He and his wife, Judy, are members of the Festival of Cultures committee.

Walt Holden is an officer in the Skokie Lions Club and the Lions of Illinois Foundation and a member of the Festival of Cultures. His TV show about the Lions organization is broadcast every Thursday at 7 PM on Comcast public access cable channel 35 or 19, according to the location, north and northwest suburbs. Call him for information at (847) 679-7457 (ask him about the special event at Devonshire Park on July 19) . Lions of Illinois Foundation can be reached at 1-800-955-5466. Go to the Lions International website for more information. For over 85 years, the Lions have been known for their services to the visual and hearing impaired. There are over 1.4 million men and women members in more than 194 countries; they bring joy and happiness to themselves by bringing it to others. There is much excellent, informational material available. Your comments are welcome: alfrednathan@sbcglobal.net.

The Village of Skokie Encourages Bicycle Safety

As a reminder to residents, the State of Illinois and the Village of Skokie have specific laws to protect pedestrians, motorists and cyclists.

- By Village Ordinance, riders under the age of 16 must wear a helmet.
- Obey all traffic signs and markings.
- No more than two cyclists may ride side by side.
- Cyclists can ride on Skokie sidewalks, minding pedestrians, except for in the CX Core Mixed-Use zoning district which includes the area from: Oakton Street from Skokie Boulevard to Lockwood Avenue, extending north and south on Lincoln Avenue between Cleveland Street and Babb Avenue.

For more information contact the Skokie Police Crime Prevention Division at 847/982-5922, or visit www.skokie.org.

The Village of Skokie offers Car Seat Loans and Proper Installation Programs

The Village of Skokie Health Department offers a short-term infant/toddler car seat loan program. The program is available to Skokie residents and is ideal when young guests are visiting.

A \$10 cash deposit is required for each seat borrowed. The participating resident receives \$5 of the deposit back once the seat is returned in good condition. Health Department personnel are able to assist residents with ensuring the proper installation of loaned seats.

Seats are loaned subject to availability and are loaned for up to six weeks. Please contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252 for additional information or visit www.skokie.org.

The Skokie Police Department also invites residents to make appointments to check for proper installation of child safety seats. The proper installation and use of the child safety seats is critical and the process takes approximately 20 to 45 minutes. To make an appointment for this free community service, please call the Police Department at 847/982-5996.

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What Do Estate Planning and Shoes Have in Common?



Chester M. Przybylo

Surprisingly, estate planning and footwear share many similarities. Let's see how:

Like estate plans, shoes protect you from unexpected obstacles in your path. Like a great pair of shoes, a good estate plan prepares you for any contingency.

When choosing shoes, you need to consider the whole wardrobe. When designing an estate plan, you must consider all assets, even those which will not be governed by the Will or Trust, such as retire-

ment plans and joint tenancy property.

In order to stay in style, your shoes must be updated periodically. Estate plans, too, must be updated periodically. Changes in circumstances and laws necessitate revisiting your plan periodically.

Most importantly, a good fit is essential with a pair of shoes and with an estate plan. A poor-fitting pair of shoes, even if attractive, can leave you and your feet miserable. Likewise, an estate plan that does not fit your current situation will not achieve your goals.

Obviously, choosing an estate plan that is right for you is a bit more complicated than choosing a pair of shoes. A basic estate plan consists of a well thought out, integrated plan which should include the following documents:

Trust. This holds title to your property and avoids probate and public scrutiny of your affairs. It can be extremely flexible and provide direction for your assets and heirs for years to come.

Will. At death, this can transfer any remaining assets to your Trust.

Financial Power of Attorney. This appoints a trusted person to make financial decisions if you are unable to make them for yourself.

Health Care Power of Attorney. This appoints a trusted person to make health care decisions for you when you are unable to make them for yourself.

HIPAA Power. This designates those individuals who are allowed access to your protected health information. Without this important power, a health care provider like a hospital may refuse to provide any information to your family, including whether you are even in their care.

An experienced attorney who focuses in estate planning can help you craft a plan that is tailored to your unique needs. For finding a good pair of shoes—you're on your own.

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.

ASK THE ASSESSOR

Q. *My property is located in Chicago. When will it be reassessed, and how is the assessed value calculated? I live in suburban Cook County and received a notice this year from the Assessor's Office. My property is not due to be reassessed next until 2010, so why did I receive this notice?*

A. Normally, properties are reassessed and receive notices every three years. But the situation we face in the real estate market today is extraordinary, and the downturn has had a pronounced impact on home values. After analysis of market sales and foreclosure data, we determined that suburban homeowners should not have to wait until their properties are reassessed for the downturn to be reflected in their assessments. Therefore, all suburban homeowners will receive lower assessments this year.

This first-ever downward market adjustment will be calculated by township, with reductions expected to range from 4% to 15%. Each residential property in a township will receive the same percentage reduction, but different townships will receive different-sized reductions based on the local market.

If you have any questions regarding your assessment please visit my Web site at www.cookcountyassessor.com or contact my office at 312-443-7550.

My office is required to reassess one-third of the properties located in Cook County each year. The assessments alternate between the north suburbs, the south suburbs and the City of Chicago.

Properties located in the City of Chicago will be reassessed this year, and valuation notices for the eight city townships will be mailed at different times throughout the year. Any changes in value as a result of the 2009 reassessment will be reflected in the second-installment tax bills of 2010.

My office uses a mass-appraisal method to value homes. In conducting the assessment, we look at sales of comparable properties in your neighborhood, land, location, building square footage and construction type. This year, we are also giving special weight to the impact of foreclosures on your neighborhood.

If you have any questions regarding your assessment please visit my Web site at www.cookcountyassessor.com or contact my office at 312-443-7550.

Unpaid Taxes on About 32,000 Cook County Properties Going to Auction "Last Chance" to Pay Delinquent Property Taxes before Tax Sale, Pappas Warns

Owners who have not paid property taxes for tax year 2007 have one day to pay before their delinquent taxes are offered at auction during the Annual Tax Sale, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas said today.

"This is your last chance to pay before your taxes can be bought, forcing you to redeem at high penalty costs to keep your property," Pappas said.

Unpaid taxes for tax year 2007 – issued in 2008 – on some 32,000 homes and other real property across Cook County will be offered at the Tax Sale, to be conducted as an electronic auction over four business days beginning Thursday, July 16, and ending Tuesday, July 21.

Taxes purchased by tax buyers will have to be redeemed – paid back to the tax buyer – with penalties and interest to stop the buyer from possibly asking a court for the deed to the property, Pappas said.

Delinquencies for tax year 2007 must be paid by certified check, cashier's check, money order or cash at the Treasurer's Office, Room 112, Cook County Building, 118 N. Clark Street, Chicago.

Pappas said property owners can review their unpaid taxes at cookcountytreasurer.com or by calling 312.443.5100. Those checking by web or phone should have their Property Index Number at hand, Pappas said.

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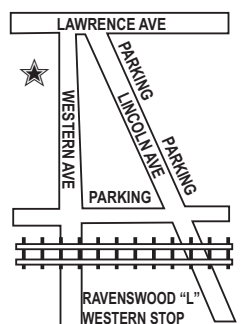
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Say NO To Bugs!

By Bosley

OK Furry Friends, please raise your paws and speak after me. "I (your name) a good and loving dog do solemnly swear to help my humans understand the importance of flea prevention and will kill all fleas I come across."

I know we don't really need the oath, we dogs are taught the hazardous of fleas at a young age. However, some of our humans just don't seem to get it. How would they feel if something were crawling around in their fur? Or something sucking their blood and causing them to scratch like crazy? Plus, it is gross! Don't get me wrong I love to Roll in the dirt and swim in the lake, what self-respecting pooch doesn't? But, there is something about biting bugs in my fur that grosses me out!

So, what is a poor pup to do? I suggest biting your human on the rear. Just kidding, maybe! I asked my human to help make the following list:

Fleas are more prevalent now than in the spring. The buggers are looking for a warm place, so we find them more on us.

Talk with your Vet or Groomer about flea prevention and or treatment.

There are very effective treatments available from your Vet or at pet stores.

NOT all products are created equal. Some products don't work as well as others and some not at all. So buyer beware and follow the advice of your Vet and Groomer.

Flea baths are only a temporary fix to a flea problem and its prevention time is limited.

The topical flea treatments work the best in my opinion.

Any dog can get fleas! You can get them in your own backyard!

Any dog can get fleas! Finding yourself with fleas is not the end of the world and it doesn't mean that you are dirty. Fleas follow a life cycle and they need our blood to survive. They are clever little buggers that can find their way to any pooch. It is no one's fault when you get fleas, well except your human that didn't have you on a prevention treatment.

Fleas are treatable quickly. Please convince your human to get you the help you deserve!

So, now your job is to give this list repeatedly to your human. Because WE CAN WIN THE WAR ON FLEAS, but we need the cooperation of our human. If your human chooses not to listen, then I suggest cuddling up in their bed. Maybe the fleas will bite them too! Go ahead I am giving you permission. Until next time play hard and be as good as you can!

Bosley

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



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Vaccinations in Dogs & Cats

Peter S. Sakas DVM, MS

Introduction-We are going to discuss a topic of utmost importance to all dog and cat owners-vaccinations. However, we are going to cover it in great detail to help you understand why certain schedules are followed, why certain products are used, and in the process cover some basic immunology.

You have all heard of someone being "immune" to something. In basic terms humans and animals possess a very intricate system of defense against disease termed the immune system. It reacts against disease organisms to destroy or inactivate them so that it cannot lead to the development of disease. In discussing vaccines we will be particularly interested in the part of the system that produces antibodies (termed humoral immunity).

Antibodies-What are antibodies? Antibodies are products of the body's defense developed in response to an invading protein (disease organism) in the body, termed an antigen. The body recognizes this invading organism as being foreign and reacts to destroy it with the appropriate antibodies. Antibodies are very specific and each type reacts to only one particular antigen. The body does not possess antibodies that react to everything, rather these antibodies have to be developed through exposure to a disease, vaccination, immunoglobulin (antibody) injection, or through the colostrum (first milk) during nursing. Let us discuss the different ways to develop immunity.

Passive (artificial) Immunity-This type of immunity is so named because specific antibodies are provided to humans and animals, usually through injections, to provide immediate protection against disease. It is called passive immunity because the antibodies are from an outside source, not actually produced by the animal itself and the protection is only temporary. For a familiar example of this look to the immunoglobulin (antibody) injection a person gets when there is a potential exposure to hepatitis. Instead of having a person develop their own antibodies through the actual development of this serious disease, these injected antibodies are specific for the disease and destroy the organism before it can cause sickness.

The disadvantage to passive immunity is that it is short-lived and the antibodies provided rapidly deteriorate as they were not actually produced by the body so there is no mechanism to maintain them. The protection provided by passive immunity is also lower than that generated by vaccination, and if used may reduce the ability to respond to vaccination adequately while the passive immunity persists. Passive immunity is rarely used in veterinary medicine currently.

Continued next issue

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

Evanston Dog Beach Open

Evanston's dog beach, located north of the Church Street boat launch facility, opened for the 2009 season on Friday, May 1, and will remain open through Oct. 31. Hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. All dogs using the beach must have a pass. The fee for a 2009 dog beach pass is \$50 per dog owned by an Evanston resident and \$100 per dog owned by a nonresident. Applications for dog beach passes as well as dog beach rules and regulations are available at the Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave., or on the City's Web site at www.cityofevanston.org. Before obtaining a dog beach pass, owners must show written proof that their dogs are current on their vaccinations and have been examined within the past year for any communicable diseases. In addition, dogs must be currently licensed in Evanston or the city where the dog lives. For more information, call 847-866-2900.

CANINE CRUELTY Five-State Dog Fighting Ring Busted

A year-long investigation by federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies has resulted in the arrests of approximately 30 people across five states in what officials are calling the largest dog fighting operation ever seen in the U.S.

In addition to the arrests, about 350 dogs—mostly pit bull terriers—were seized during early-morning raids yesterday in Missouri, Texas, Illinois, Iowa, and Oklahoma and will be cared for by local humane societies. Those arrested for their involvement face felony charges that carry maximum sentences of five years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000.

The FBI played a significant role in the multi-agency investigation that in the Eastern District of Missouri resulted in the arrests of five men and the seizure of more than 150 dogs at a variety of dog fighting locations.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Inspector General headed the investigation, and our St. Louis office was involved from start to finish. "This was a criminal enterprise," said one of our agents there. "It involved illegal drugs given to the dogs and also money laundering from wagering that took place at the dog fights."

According to the indictments, the defendants acquired, bred, and trained pit bull dogs for the purpose of fighting. The defendants denied the dogs ade-

quate medical treatment as a result of injuries suffered after the fights, and they "routinely" destroyed dogs—sometimes by electrocution—that became severely injured after fighting.

In Kansas City, Missouri, defendants allegedly constructed fighting pits for the dog fights, were timekeepers and referees during the fights, and placed wagers on the outcomes. The fights were often so violent and bloody that some of the defendants were designated as "sponge men"—they provided sponges to the dogs' handlers to wipe blood from their dogs or to cool them down during the fight.

After a set of fights last April, the indictment says, one of the defendants used a .22-caliber rifle to shoot and kill two dogs who fought but didn't perform up to his expectations. The dogs were shot in the head twice, then placed in plastic containers outside the garage where the fights had taken place.

Thanks to a 2007 federal law championed by animal welfare organizations, dog fighting is banned throughout the country and is a felony in all 50 states.

"Dog fighting is an illegal and despicable practice," our agent in St. Louis said. "We are very pleased with the outcome of the investigation and the way our law enforcement partners worked together."

Evanston Leaf Blower Ban in Effect

The City of Evanston’s City Code bans the use of backpack-mounted or hand-held gasoline-powered leaf blower types of machines from May 15th through September 30th, 2009. The leaf blower ordinance will be enforced by the Evanston Police Department. Violations will result in a \$75.00 compliance ticket. Questions concerning the ordinance can be answered by calling the Evanston Ecology Center at (847) 864-5181 or by calling the Evanston Police Department, (847) 866-5000.

Evanston Water Restrictions

The City has an outdoor watering ban from May 15 through September 15, Monday through Friday from 9a.m. to 4p.m. Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day and all weekends are excluded. Watering your lawn and garden during the day wastes water because evaporation is highest during the hottest parts of the day. Watering instead in the early morning and late evening ensures more water is absorbed where you want it, in the lawn and garden. Violators can be fined \$25 to \$500 for each day of the offense.

City of Evanston is providing FREE Waste Assessments

The City of Evanston is offering FREE Waste Assessment services to help businesses and multifamily buildings reduce waste and lower costs associated with refuse disposal. A waste assessment is a cost-effective tool for businesses to evaluate the areas of their business which are creating the most waste and determine best practices to reduce waste. There is NO COST for the City’s waste assessment service. City staff will conduct a walk through at your site to gather basic operational information and collect waste sample. Afterwards, you will receive a waste assessment report that reveals opportunities to reduce your waste generation and strategies to lower your refuse bill as well as contribute to preserving our landfill capacity. If you have any question or want to schedule a waste assessment, please contact the Street and Sanitation Department at jliu@cityofevanston.org or call 847-866-2940 ext. 2429 for more information.

Skokie Lawn Care Equipment Rebate Program

The Village of Skokie, in support of northeastern Illinois’ regional eco-friendly Clean Air Counts initiative, is offering a Lawn Care Rebate Program. Through Labor Day (September 7, 2009) Skokie residents can trade-in gasoline-powered lawn mowers for a discounted (between 5% to 33%) electric or “people-powered” lawn mower.

To participate in the program, Skokie residents may bring a gasoline-powered mower to Skokie Ace Hardware, 5035 Oakton Street, and receive a rebate voucher. This voucher can be used to purchase an ecofriendly mower at a reduced price from Skokie Ace Hardware or purchase an electric mower by phone order with a program code from Neuton Mowers (www.neutonpower.com/CLEANAIR) as part of their Direct Order Discount Coupon Program.

Mowers Available with a 5% to 33% Discount include:

- Earthwise and Neuton corded and cordless electric lawn mowers
- Scotts and American classic reel mowers

To learn more about the Village’s Lawn Care Rebate Program or about Skokie’s Participation with Clean Air Counts, please visit www.skokie.org or call the Village Manager’s Office at 847/933-8257.

Skokie Lawn Care Equipment

Occasionally, the Village receives complaints about loud lawn care equipment. Residents are reminded that the Village Code addresses these concerns, limiting use of this type of equipment as follows:

- Lawn care equipment, except for gas-powered leaf blowers, may be operated only between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 p.m., Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. on Saturdays and 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. on Sundays and holidays.
- Gas-powered leaf blowers may only be operated between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday through Sunday, including holidays.
- Throwing grass clippings in a sewer, ditch or open pit area, or upon vacant lots or public rights-of-ways is prohibited.

Homeowners are responsible for making certain that the use of lawn equipment occurs within permitted hours of operation. Residents who use the services of a landscaping contractor should advise them of the hours of operation for lawn care equipment.

Please visit www.skokie.org for more information about leaf blower and lawn mower usage.

LOCAL FARMERS’ MARKETS

LINCOLNWOOD

Beginning Thursday, June 4, the Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department will be operating Lincolnwood’s 3rd Annual Farmers Market. The market will run every Thursday through August 20th, between the hours of 8 am – 1 pm, at St. John’s Lutheran Church, 4707 W. Pratt Avenue. This location was chosen because of its visibility from Pratt Avenue, accessibility of parking, and neighborhood location.

The goal of the Lincolnwood Farmers Market is to offer an event that brings residents and the business community together, while offering the opportunity for individuals living and working in Lincolnwood to buy fresh produce and natural products. Our vendors will set up displays that may include fruits, vegetables, bread, pastries, cheese, flowers, honey, and more.

Thursdays, June 4 – August 20, 8:00am – 1:00pm St. John’s Lutheran Church, 4707 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, IL FREE – Open to the Public For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

EVANSTON

Date: Saturdays, May 16 - Nov. 7, 2009 Time: 7:30am to 1pm

Place: Intersection of University Place and Oak Avenue

Enjoy the bounty of Midwest farmers every Saturday throughout the summer. For over 30 years, the Evanston Farmers’ Market has been a crowd-pleaser with 30+ vendors of fruit, vegetables, meat, flowers, cheese and bakery items. Now We’re Cookin’ and Home Grown Artists are going to be at the Market certain Saturdays throughout the summer. Free parking is available in the Maple Avenue Parking Garage. Senior coupons for Farmers’ Markets are available through the Commission on Aging.

SKOKIE

Visit the “Best on the North Shore” Skokie Farmers’ Market held on Sundays beginning Sunday, June 28 through Sunday, October 25. The market is open from 7:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Arrive early for the best selection. The market is conveniently located in the Village Hall parking lot, 5127 Oakton Street. The Skokie Consumer Affairs Commission, a volunteer commission, hosts the Skokie Farmers’ Market. For more information on the Skokie Farmers’ Market, contact Terry Oline, Market Master at 847/933-8224 or visit www.skokie.org.

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