

Washington Fed. Bank Sponsors Book Drive



Beginning April 1st to 30th, Washington Federal Bank will be hosting a book drive to support the efforts of Pilsen Community Books in promoting literacy. In addition to selling new and used books, they are supporting local schools through their book giveaway program, *Pilsen Reads!* Donations will be given directly to schools or sold to support this literacy program. Future goals are to provide all encompassing lit-

eracy services for Pilsen and other neighborhoods.

New or gently used children and adult books will be accepted with the following exceptions: encyclopedias, coloring or activity books, magazines, school textbooks and food, beverage or smoke stained books.

Bank locations are 2869 S. Archer and 1410 W. Taylor st. Monetary donations will also be accepted at wafedbank.com.

Consumer Complaints

Attorney General Lisa Madigan announced her office's annual top 10 consumer complaints for 2016 that again show consumer debt and identity theft ranked as the top concerns.

Madigan's office received 23,735 complaints in 2016. For the ninth year in a row, consumer debt ranked as the top complaint, with 2,783 complaints involving issues such as mortgage lending, abusive debt collection practices and predatory payday loans. Number two on the list also for the ninth year in a row is identity theft, with 2,391 complaints.

Education-related complaints now rank number six, jumping a notch from last year's list and reflecting the student loan debt crisis. About 44 million Americans grapple with more than \$1.4 trillion in student loan debt and many borrowers face issues with loan servicers and for-profit schools.

1. Consumer debt (mortgages, collection agencies, banks) 2,783. 2. Identity theft (government document fraud, credit cards, utilities,

data breaches) 2,391. 3. Promotions/Schemes (phone scams, investment schemes, lottery scams, phishing) 2,387.

4. Construction/Home Improvement (remodeling, roofs and gutters, heating and cooling, plumbing) 2,094. 5. Telecommunications (telemarketing, cable and satellite TV, phone service and repairs, cell phones) 1,851. 6. Education (for-profit schools, student loan debt, loan counseling) 1,691.

7. Used Auto Sales/Motor Vehicles (as-is used cars, financing, warranties) 1,648. 8. Internet/Mail Order Products (Internet and catalog purchases, TV and radio advertising) 955.

9. Motor Vehicle/Non-Warranty Repair (collision, engines, oil changes and tune-ups) 677. 10. New Auto Sales/Motor Vehicles (financing, defects, advertising) 668.

For more information, call (800) 386-5438.

Library Classes On Social Media

The McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st. will offer two Social Media classes on Tuesday, March 7th at 11 a.m. and Wednesday, March 8th at 4 p.m.

Patrons will learn what is social media and why do people use it? Learn about popular platforms such as Twitter, Instagram and Facebook? For more information, call (312) 747-6082.

Bingham Graduates

Bridget Bingham graduated from Southeast Missouri State University of Cape Girardeau, Missouri Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in art.

Alonso Honored

Trinity Christian College of Palos Heights has named Melisa Alonso (60638) to the Dean's List for Fall 2016. Honorees must be enrolled full time and earn a minimum 3.5 grade point average.

Community Trust Sponsors Forum

The Chicago Community Trust announced the return of its annual region-wide civic engagement initiative *On the Table* on Tuesday, May 16th. It provides a yearly forum to elevate civic conversation, foster new relationships and inspire collaborative action. Chicago-area residents are expected to gather in small groups to share a meal and discuss the challenges and opportunities communities face.

Anyone can sign up to host a mealtime conversation - breakfast, lunch, dinner and everything in between - at a private residence, local restaurant, place of worship, library, office, backyard or other community location. A meal can be sit-down, catered, picnic or potluck - it is entirely up to the host.

Hosts have access to a number of materials to help guide their conversations: a toolkit with conversation prompts, guides developed for youth and families and, resources to lead a conversation focused on equity and social inclusion.

To learn more or to sign up, visit www.onthetable.com or call (866) 737-6951. Join the *On the Table* 2017 conversation on social media using the hashtag #OnTheTable 2017.

Free Entry At Nature Museum

Illinois residents can experience the hands-on fun the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum has to offer at no cost on suggested donation Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

March 16th: Watch newly emerged butterflies take their first flight into the Judy Istock Butterfly Haven at 2 p.m.

March 23rd: Discover Surface Tension, the photography exhibit that explores two sides of Lake Michigan—a beautiful, vast, life-sustaining natural wonder and a valuable resource under silent siege from pollution and other perils.

March 30th: Be one of the first visitors to Our House, the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum's self-produced exhibit that explores how your home interacts with the world of nature.

WGU Announces Local Graduates

Western Governors University held its 32nd semi-annual commencement ceremony at the Disney Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando on Feb. 11th and celebrated the graduation of more than 11,000 graduates.

Local recipients are: Katherine Gushard (60608), Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Jonathan Matthew (60609), Bachelor of Science in Business Management; Michael Stewart (60609), Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (K-8); Samantha Kulpa (60638), Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Susan Stewart (60638), Bachelor of Science in Business Management.

Free Training For Trades

National Latino Education Institute, 2011 W. Pershing road provides free STEM training for trades.

Participants will receive Skills Training, CDL Training and Field Experience with companies in range of industries, including Transportation, Construction and Energy Monday through Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Requirements: 18 years old, high school diploma/GED, valid driver's license, must be laid-off, or collection unemployment to qualify.

For more information call (773) 247-0707, ext. 218.

Aquinas Literacy Center Invites Tutors



Aquinas Literacy Center, 3540 S. Hermitage, which knows the value that volunteer tutors bring, recently trained seven new volunteer tutors to address the need of adult education in English as a Second Language. Volunteer tutors are needed to instruct limited English proficient adult learners for 90 minutes per week. Knowledge of a second language is not required; all instruction is in English. Scheduled for Friday, March 24th from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, March 25th from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tutors must attend both days for certification. For more information, contact Sabrina Poulin at (773) 927-0512 or Sabrina@aquinasliteracycenter.org.

Brain Research and Studying



By Dr. R. Pletsch

There is always the question: How to pace yourself to retain the most information? This can be with any number of scenarios, whether it's cramming for a test, making up for wasted time, or trying to master something you don't find very interesting.

An unusual piece of research is being performed by Keisuke Fukuda, a professor in the University of Toronto's Department of Psychology. He was raised in Japan, where there is very little use of electives. His experience in high school made him begin thinking: there must be a better way or at least a more logical way to study, than he had been trained. He found it extremely hard to study the subjects he did not enjoy yet he was forced to take, such as Math and English.

The professor's research is trying to

understand the learning process -- why the brain has a great ability to store information, yet sometimes we forget where we put our keys or park the car. I think we all live with situations like that. I can recall the sequence of all the battles of the American Civil War, but don't remember what I had for lunch. I am glad to hear that Professor Fukuda says that this is normal, not just a Senior Moment.

He uses a scalp electroencephalogram technology that is like a huge beanie with electrodes that monitor electrical activity. It makes me think about the kids using the aluminum foil in the movie "Signs". But their subjects are given different exercises and use a computer to review the brain waves. Professor Fukuda has concluded that his research indicates it is best results is to focus on a large amount of information for shorter bits of time -- like milliseconds -- can be more effective than mulling over smaller amounts of material for longer duration. He states it is much more effective to study 20 minutes a day every day than to study an hour or more a day. Why? That's the way the brain works.

This may be useful to some of you. For those who are in a situation where this is needed, you might want to look up the Professor's study. Kids, when Mom says I used to study two hours a night, she was probably wasting her time.

IEMA Predicts Severe Weather

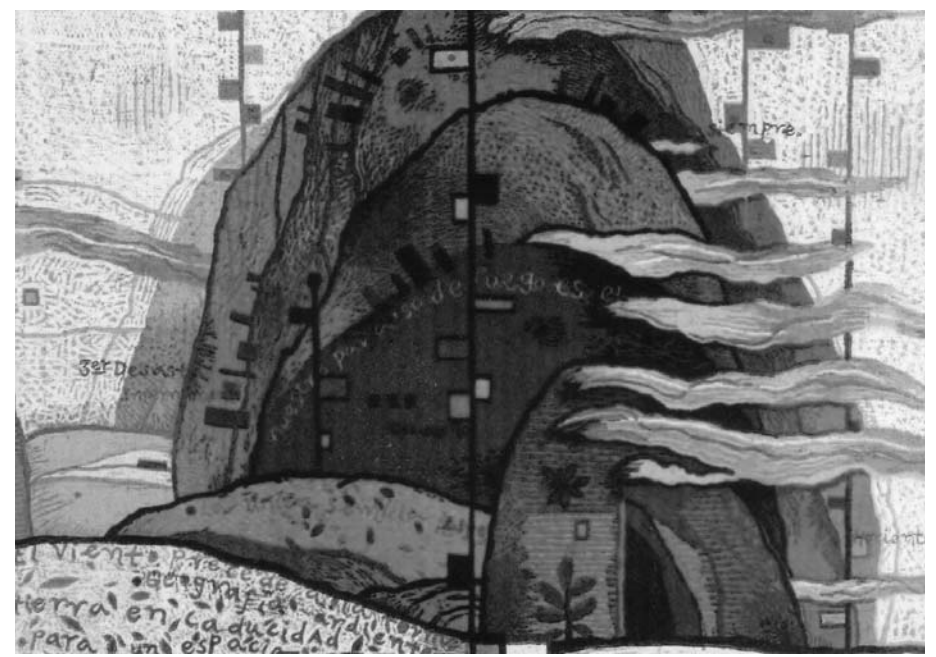
The Illinois Emergency Management Agency encourages people to stay aware of local forecasts and be prepared to act quickly if storm warnings are issued.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather alert radios can be programmed to issue a tone alarm and provide information about a warning that has been issued for your county. Other ways to receive severe weather warnings include Wireless Emergency Alerts, weather alert apps, TV and radio broadcasts, the Internet and outdoor warning sirens.

Seek shelter immediately if a tornado warning is issued for your area. The best shelter is in a basement or cellar. If an underground shelter is not available, find an interior room or hallway on the lowest level, such as a closet, small interior hallways and bathrooms without windows.

IEMA and local emergency management agencies will be promoting Severe Weather Preparedness Month throughout March. In addition, IEMA and the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association are sponsoring an

Opening Reception For Art Exhibit



"Paraiso de Fuego," reduction lino cut print 12.5" x 16", 2017.

Prospectus Art Gallery, 1210 W. 18th st., will present "First Garden," a one-man exhibition by Mexican artist, Mizraim Cardenas, March 10th through May 27th.

Mr. Cardenas (b. 1971 Morelia, Mexico) studied drawing, painting and printmaking with master artist Alfredo Zalce (1987-1997). Studied integral design at the CEID in Morelia (1990-1993) and in 2012 received his BFA from the Universidad de Guadalajara.

Participate in the printmaking workshop in Bilbao, Spain sponsored by the Billbaote

Blood Drive At VFW Post

Johnson-Phelps VFW Post #5220 will conduct their annual Blood Drive, at the Post home, 9514 S. 52nd. Ave., Oak Lawn, on Saturday, March 25th from 8:30am to 1:30pm.

To schedule your appointment, call LifeSource at (877) 543-3768 or www.lifesource.org and use code VFWSOR30. Appointments are recommended.

All donors (and those who attempt to donate) will receive a free breakfast prepared by the VFW Auxiliary and a free LifeSource T-Shirt.

Dinner Dance For PJPII School

Pope John Paul II Catholic School will hold its first annual dinner dance at Abramowitz Hall, 44th and Richmond on Sunday, April 29th from 7 to 10 p.m. Early bird tickets are \$35. For more information, call the school office at (773) 523-6161.

Ocampo Graduates

Elaine Ocampo, daughter of Felipe Ocampo & Veronica Fuerte, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in December 2016 from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in Winona.

Foundation in 2004 and in 2007 in the workshop "multiple international transparencies," taught by Alicia Candian at House of the Americas, Havana, Cuba. He was director of Museo de Arte Contemporaneo Alfredo Zalce in Morelia, Mexico

and currently works as academic in the UNAM, Campus Morelia.

The opening reception will be held on Friday, March 10th from 5 to 10 p.m. Admission is free and parking will be available. For more information, call (312) 733-

Dean's List At Lewis University

Lewis University of Romeoville has honored academic success with the Dean's List for the 2016 Fall Semester.

Honorees must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours of credit with a grade point average of 3.5 out of a possible 4.0 and with no "D" or "F" grades.

Scholars and their major are: Eric A. Aguilar, Undecided; David Avila, Aviation Maintenance; Bradford Bingham, Elementary Education; John C. Derby, Sport Management; Daniel Dominguez, Criminal Social Justice; Abby J. Dowling, Undecided; Joseph C. Fiandaca, Criminal Social Justice; Emanuel Franco, Management; Mauricio Galvan, Illustration; Danielle F. Gornick, Nursing; Christopher M. Grosskopf, Computer Science; Stephanie E. Jimenez, Criminal Social Justice; Nicole M. Kubik, Undecided; Genna M. Mirabile, Criminal Social Justice; Patrick D.

O'Kelly, Forensic Criminal Investigation; Natalie M. Palm, Psychology; Paulina M. Perhon, Human Resource Management; Jessie F. Racinowski, Computer Science; Jacob Rodriguez, Theatre; Cecilia Ruiz, Social Work; Jacob Stypa, Aviation Maintenance; Anthony R. Valadez, Aviation Flight Mgmt and Monica L. Wojcik, Undecided.

Panel Discussion On Cooking

The Chicago Public Library will present a panel discussion on cooking, culture and community in the Cindy Pritzker Auditorium of the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State st. on Wednesday, March 22nd at 6 p.m.

Amanda Puck, director of strategic brand development for Mariano's will moderate a panel with chefs Carrie Nahabedian and Bill Kim.

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Cyber Security Training Program

Mayor Rahm Emanuel, officials from the U.S. Department of Defense and City Colleges of Chicago announced a new cyber security training initiative to prepare students for skilled jobs.

The initiative makes CCC the first community colleges system in the nation to adopt a high-quality training module from the U.S. military.

The U.S. Department of Defense joined CCC to pilot the new cyber security boot camp this spring, modeled after the intensive, six-month course prototyped with government personnel at Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.

The first cohort of cyber security apprentices at CCC will be a mix of service members and civilians. Those completing the boot camp will sit

for the Offensive Security Certified Professional Certification Test.

Careers in cyber security account for more than 10 percent of all IT jobs.

The \$1.5 million cooperative investment by the City of Chicago and the Department of Defense is a down payment on the pilot and development of a credit-bearing pathway at CCC. Mayor Emanuel will leverage the federal commitment by investing \$1 million from property tax rebate funds to support the program.

Wilbur Wright College, where the boot camp and developing cyber security pathway will be housed, is designated as Center of Excellence for IT education. The college already offers associate degree and certificate programs in IT that include computer science, networking systems and technology, web development.

Several corporate leaders in the IT industry including Accenture, Allstate, Aon, ComEd, Keeper Security and Microsoft, have committed to providing a range of supports, including: internship opportunities, ongoing mentoring, recruitment and job placement, and advise on curriculum development. Chicago will identify internship opportunities to meet its own internal IT needs, and to foster a pipeline that will help boot camp completers connect with jobs in the field upon certification.

Father - Daughter Dance At St. Bruno



St. Bruno School, 4839 S. Harding, conducted its annual Father-Daughter Princess Ball on March 2nd. The event provides treasured memories.

Women Veterans Art Exhibit

Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, 820 S. Damen, will host a Women Veterans Art Exhibit in honor of Women's History Month on Thursday, March 16th at 12 noon. The opening exhibit will feature work by: Victoria Bryers, Pamela Corwin, Amy Forsythe, Natalie Lopez, Cara Myhre, Debra Russell, Daveon Sudduth, Laura Taylor, Stacey Thompson and Lindsay Zike.

Present will be Laura Taylor, a U.S. Navy Veteran who served as an F-14 Jet Mechanic (AD) as well as an F-14 and F-18 Plane Captain. After serving, Laura continued her education earning a degree in Visual Communications leading her into a Graphic Design career.

Summer Camps At Planetarium

The Adler Planetarium is offering a variety of summer day camp experiences for children (preschool aged through 10th grade) June 19th to Aug. 18th. Activities will include exploring space, using telescopes, building rockets, seeing (and in one camp, building) immersive sky shows, programming robots, exploring exhibits, launching high-altitude balloons, and more.

Young Scientists (preschool) will learn about the skills of science exploration through participation in this engaging summer camp designed to spark scientific curiosity. Activities during the week-long sessions integrate circle time, hands-on investigations, snack, art and literacy connections.

Two day mini camps for Astro Juniors/Explorers/Investigators (K-4th graders) will feature hands-on experiments and activities, Planet Explorers and other exhibits, an immersive sky show, and more.

A week long Techno-

logy Camp: Robotics (4th-7th graders) includes telescope viewing, lunch by Lake Michigan and sky shows. Based on age and ability, campers will be exposed to the process of designing, building, testing and redesigning as they use multiple types of robotics to overcome escalating challenges. Campers will also be exposed to creative design, documentation and presentation skills through the use of video recording, and editing.

A week long Technology Camp: Sky Show (6th-7th graders) will have campers work in teams to create sky shows, from storyboarding through presentation on the dome of the Grainger Sky Theater. Campers will present their shows to their families during a closing showcase.

Mission Near-Space: A Team Experience to the Edge of Space! (6th-10th graders) will prepare, launch, track, and retrieve a scientific payload sent to the stratosphere aboard a high-altitude balloon. The week ends with a showcase in which participants present their exploration results to family members and invited guests.

Summer Worlds Tour for K-5th graders offers a week of adventures in Chicago's premier museums. Campers will investigate the science of a solar eclipse at the Adler Planetarium, explore how scientists prepare specimens for scientific study at The Field Museum, and investigate underwater environments at the Shedd Aquarium. Activities include investigating exhibits, hands-on activities, creating original art projects, playing learning games, and having lunch along the shore of Lake Michigan.

For more information, visit adlerplanetarium.org.

Feast Day Dinner At Rhine VFW

Rhine VFW Post #2729 at 5858 S. Archer will celebrate St. Joseph and St. Patrick Feast Day Dinner on Sunday, March 12th from 5 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased in the canteen on Monday and Thursday after 7 p.m. Parking is available on West end of the lot across Archer ave.

For more information, call (773) 284-9025.

HWLC Maker Lab Schedules Classes

The Maker Lab at the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State st., features free classes and workshops for ages 14 and up. Enrollment is first come, first served until capacity is reached, 15 minutes before start time.

On Monday, March 13th at 6 p.m. participants will learn the basics of Inkscape software to create a design and cut out a reflective vinyl decal for bike safety using an electronic cutter.

On Saturday, March 25th at 2 p.m., participants will utilize 3D printed wheels or other provided activators in various shapes and patterns to play long wires.

Crew Member In College Play

Melany Castillo was a member of the crew in Ripon College's production of Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*, which ran March 1st to 4th in Benstead Theatre, C.J. Rodman Center for the Arts.

She is a member of the class of 2019 with a major in English and minors in Spanish and Theatre Production.

Lawyers Offer Phone Advice

The Chicago Bar Association will conduct its monthly Call-a-Lawyer program on Saturday, March 18th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Residents may call (312) 554-2001 for free general legal advice and self-help strategies.

Human Workshop At B-Y Branch

Human Library Chicago will conduct a workshop at the Back of the Yards Branch, 2111 W. 47th st. on Saturday, March 11th at 12 noon.

The event seeks to create dialogue and understanding between people.

Law Program On Home Buying

The Chicago Bar Association will present a workshop on "Buying and Selling a Home" at the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State st. on Monday, March 27th at 12:15 p.m.

A question and answer period will follow.

Water Main Project Now In Progress

The Department of Water Management and Benchmark Construction Company crews have begun work to install 1,293 feet of new 8-inch and 2,026 feet of new 12-inch water main in Pope John Paul II Drive from Albany to California and Mozart Street from Pope John Paul II Drive to Archer. The old water main dates back to 1903 and needs to be replaced.

The work area will be posted for "No Parking" as needed (generally 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Parking outside of those hours will be allowed, but cars will need to be moved by the start of the next workday.

Should you have any questions or concerns,

you can either ask the construction foreman during the project or call any of the following numbers: 24 hour city services and information line 311; 15th Ward Office (773) 306-0837 or DWM (312) 744-6635.

History Of Korean War

The Illinois Korean Memorial Association has published a booklet, "A Brief History Of The Korean War" with a tear proof cover, headlines, photos from Department of Defense, peace talks, maps, American Commanders & more, all from 1950-53 era. A must for any teacher who wants to hold a class, or a student who wants to write a paper on the Korean War.

To receive a copy, send \$10 check or money order to Illinois Korean Memorial Association, P.O. Box 8554, Springfield, Illinois 62791. 100% of all funds go to the book project to send this booklet to Illinois schools & libraries at no charge.

Orchid Show

Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook road, Glencoe will present The Orchid Show through March 26th.

For cost is \$12 person. For more information, visit www.chicagobotanic.org.

Art Exhibit At DePaul Museum

DePaul Art Museum, 935 W. Fullerton, will present "One day this kid will get larger," a group exhibit that examines HIV and AIDS through the lenses of childhood, youth culture and marginalized communities, through April 2nd.

Admission is free. Museum hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fridays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. The museum is closed Mondays and Tuesdays. For more information, call (773) 325-7506.

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Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIMORTGAGE, INC. Plaintiff, vs. ALEX RIOS, CITY OF CHICAGO, BRIDGEPORT CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants.

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC Plaintiff, vs. WANNA TUKASORNA AKKA VANNA TADKESORN, BYLINE BANK, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF PRASERT TUKASORN AKKA PAT TADKESORN (DECEASED) Defendants.

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, vs. ELIAS ORTEGA, FAUSTINA ORTEGA Defendants.

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE (THE TRUSTEE) FOR THE HOLDERS OF DEUTSCHE ALTA SECURITIES, INC. MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2007-RAMP1 Plaintiff, vs. MARIA V CAZALES, ANDRES CAZALES Defendants.

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Job Training For SNAP Recipients

The Illinois Department of Human Services and Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity announced that openings are still available for the Employment Opportunities, Personalized Services, Individualized Training, and Career Planning pilot program.

The program's primary participants are adults without children who are currently able to work, and are currently SNAP recipients. EPIC services include career training, connections to employers in high-growth, high-demand career pathways, and an individualized comprehensive plan to help throughout the career navigation process.

Computer Class For Sr. Citizens

The McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st., will offer an introduction to computers workshop on Sat-urday, March 11th at 2:30 p.m. Participants will learn how to start a computer and operate the mouse and keyboard.

Back of Yards Library Schedules Events

The Back of the Yards Branch Library, 2111 W. 47th st. has scheduled informative programs for March.

Adult Programs (Ages 18 +) Human Library Chicago - Saturday, March 11th, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Check out a "book" and "read" or have a conversation with a person who can speak from a unique experience.

Children's Programs Afternoon story time every Thursday, 4:00-4:30 p.m. Join us for an active story time. For children ages 0-5 and their caregivers.

After School Fun - Mondays, 13th, 20th, & 27th, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Join us afterschool for a surprise activity! Ages 5-12. Makey Makey - Thursday, March 16th, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Use our Makey Makey to play fun retro video games and create your own wild controller.

BOY Builders - Every Saturday, 10 -11 a.m. Join us for a full hour of building with our small LEGOs. A perfect morning activity for families looking for fun! Ages 5-12.

Job Seekers Workshop Thursday, March 16th, 6-7:30 p.m. Join us for these educational workshops hosted by Spanish Coalition for Housing and Chicago Housing Authority. The purpose of the workshop is to inform local Back of the Yards residents about Section 3, a new portal administered by CHA to help local Chicago residents find employment opportunities.

Introduction to Music - Saturdays, March 18th & 25th, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Enjoy a short musical performance followed by some hands-on time with real instruments. Do you already play an instrument? Bring it along and impress us with your skills.

Adult Learning In The Library - Adult Learning, Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ESL, Thursdays, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Do you want to improve your reading, writing and math or learn English? Literacy Works has partnered with us to provide free help to adults who want to build their reading, writing and English skills. Tutors will work one-on-one and in small groups. All levels are welcome!

Popcorn Reading - Thursday, March 23rd, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Join us for a fun and interactive group reading. Ages 6-12. Story Time at Bubbleland - Tuesdays, March 14th & 21st, 6 -7 p.m. Wash time is reading time! Join us for good, clean fun with stories and activities at Bubbleland on 51st & Western.

Tween & Teen Programs (Ages 12-18) YOUmedia Teen Space DIY, Mon., 3:30 - 5:30 pm, make crafts. Tech, Tues., 3:30-7:30 p.m., learn tech skills. Audio-Logue, Wed., 3:30-5:30, discuss relevant topics.

Newberry Library Offers Exhibits The Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton is a world-renowned independent research library that is home to a collection spanning six centuries. The collection features items such as illuminated medieval transcripts, rare early maps, rich genealogical resources and the personal papers of Midwest authors. Free and open to the public, the Newberry offers exhibitions based on its collections; theatrical performances; lectures and discussions with leading humanists; seminars and workshops; and teacher programs.

Jazz Concert Features Women In celebration of Women's History Month and the 100th birthday of jazz pioneer Ella Fitzgerald, two female ensembles will perform on Friday, March 10th at 7 p.m. as part of the JazzCity 20th anniversary season. The bands, SHE, a trailblazing sextet, and the Chicago-Detroit Collective will perform at Garfield Park Conservatory located at 300 N. Central Park Ave. under the auspices of the Jazz Institute of Chicago's Women's Jazz Leadership Initiative, which connects talented young players in school programs with distinguished mentors.

Benefit Program For Disabilities

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs joined members of the National Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Alliance, U.S. Senator Richard Burr (R-NC), and advocates of people with disabilities in Washington, D.C. announce a new investment program for people with a disability or blindness that does not jeopardize their federal disability benefits.

The Alliance is led by Illinois and serves as the country's largest multi-state agreement for this investment program that allows for tax-free investment growth when savings are spent on qualifying disability-related expenses.

To qualify for an ABLE account, the account owner must have developed the disability or blindness before the age for 26. A person meeting the age requirement who qualifies for Social Security Administration benefits, or has received a waiver from the IRS, will qualify. For more information, visit www.SaveWithABLE.com.

Annual contribution limits are tied to the federal gift tax amount, which is \$14,000. The investment can grow up to \$100,000 and not impact eligibility for Social Security Income or other means - tested programs at the federal level. When an ABLE account balance exceeds the \$100,000 cap, Social Security Income benefits are suspended. The benefits resume if the account values fall below \$100,000. ABLE Balances have no implications on Medicaid eligibility.

Investment growth is tax-free at the federal level when used for qualifying purchases, such as medical services, transportation and job training.

City Schedules Spring Clean-Up

On Saturday, April 22nd, you and your neighbors can make an immediate difference in your community by volunteering for Chicago's citywide Clean & Green Day of Service.

This is a great opportunity for resident, school groups and community organizations to team up and beautify areas in their neighborhood. The City will provide the brooms, rakes, shovels and bags needed for clean-up projects.

The deadline for registration is Wednesday, April 19th. For more information, or to register, call 311 or visit: www.cityofchicago.org/dss.

Eclipse Exhibit At Planetarium

Adler Planetarium, 1300 S. Lake Shore drive will open a temporary exhibit, "Chasing Eclipses" on March 25th. Visitors will receive facts of the moon and shadow event in anticipation of the upcoming Aug. 21st solar eclipse.

For information, visit www.adlerplanetarium.org or call (312) 922-7827.

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Assistance With Benefit Filing

The Brighton Park Neighborhood Council, 4477 S. Archer has certified representatives to assist with applications or redeterminations for the medical card or SNAP (Link).

Assistance with marketplace applications and renewals for individuals or families that are over the income for Medicaid is available.

Required documents for each household member are Social security, proof of income for last 30 days; State ID or driver's license and proof of legal status. These include Permanent Residents card, Certificate of Naturalization or Passport and birth certificate or passport.

Marketplace applications require a W2 form or 2015 income tax report. Appointments are required with Lupe Roque or Elizabeth Tellez at (773) 523-7110.

Organ Registry For Young Donors

Secretary of State Jesse White initiated legislation that would allow 16 and 17 year olds to register for the state's First Person Consent Organ/Tissue Donor Registry when they receive their driver's license or identification card.

Under current law, an individual must be at least 18 years old to join the registry. Those who join the registry will receive a letter from the Secretary of State's office thanking them for joining. White encouraged 16 and 17 year olds to use this letter as a basis for discussing their decision with their parents.

The procurment organizations, Gift of Hope Organ and Tissue Network and Mid-America Transplant, must make a reasonable effort to contact a parent or guardian to ensure that they approve of the donation. The parent or guardian will be the opportunity to overturn the child's decision.

Approximately 4,700 people are on the waiting list and about 300 people die each year waiting for an organ transplant. One person can improve the quality of life for up to 25 people. Illinoisans can register with the Secretary of State's Organ/Tissue Donor Registry at LifeGonesOn.com, by calling 1-800-210-2106 or visiting their local Driver Services facility.

City Promotes Anti-Hate

15th Ward Alderman Raymond Lopez has "Hate Has No Home Here" posters as well as information about reporting hate crimes, racial/gender discrimination, and immigrant rights available at the 15th Ward Brighton Park office, 2736 W. 47th st.

Sports Program For 5th - 8th Grade

Chicago Park District CEO Mike Kelly announced that nearly 9,000 elementary students from nearly 200 schools devoted their winter weekends to basketball competitions, signaling a promising start for the program, which is finishing its inaugural season.

CPS SCORE! is the official interscholastic league for elementary schools and doesn't require tryouts so that it can include all students, regardless of their level of athletic ability. Before CPS SCORE!, only 10 percent of elementary school students participated in afterschool sports programs. Both tryouts and budget constraints limited the number of students who could participate on teams, with students. A minimum playing time requirement ensures that all team members have the opportunity to practice and play sports.

Program Honors Chicago Women

The Chicago Public Library will celebrate Chicago women who were pioneers in their field during an open house in the special collections room, 400 S. State st. on Saturday, March 11th at 10:30 a.m.

Guests will view archival artifacts and manuscripts from a variety of collections and near the inspirational histories behind the materials. Archivists Sarah Zimmerman and Beth Loch will highlight the story of local pioneers in the Chicago Theater Collection and Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection.

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Urban Waterways Forum In Chicago

19 Mayors from around the world will attend urban waterways forum in Chicago on March 13th.

The event, which is co-hosted by World Business Chicago and Chicago Council on Global Affairs, is designed to foster an international conversation about the future of urban waterways.

The first discussion will focus on economic opportunity and will be moderated by Bruce Katz, the inaugural centennial scholar at the Brookings Institution. This session will focus on innovative ways cities are approaching economic development with an eye on nontraditional uses of their waterways and how issues of social equity play into these efforts. The second will focus on environmental protection, and will be moderated by Mark Watts, Executive Director of C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group. This session will concentrate on projects around the world utilizing waterways to push environmental efforts critical to cities in the 21st century. Jeanne Gang, Founding Principal of Studio Gang and Anders Bringdal, Founder & CEO of SeaBubbles, will

also participate in the second discussion.

Urban waterways - whether on rivers, lakes, seas or oceans - have always been natural centers of gravity. For thousands of years, cities around the world were built around bodies of water, first because they are a critical resource and later because they sustain trade and commerce. Transportation and manufacturing have evolved and the old industrial waterways that turned into unused land are again ripe for new design, development and purpose.

Completed and planned waterways redevelopment projects are underway in Chicago, Paris and cities around the world that elevate the questions with which global city leaders are grappling as they prioritize their investments.

In Chicago, the recently extended 1.25 mile Riverwalk and the completion of a fourth boat house along the Chicago River demonstrates the Mayor's commitment to increase access to and recreational opportunities on the river, as outlined in both his *Building on Burnham plan* and *Our Great Rivers*.

Early Childhood At Planetarium

The Adler Planetarium is launching a new early childhood workshop series designed to give 3-4 year-olds and their caregivers the opportunity to learn and explore the practices of science together in a museum setting.

Through conversations, read aloud, hands-on investigations, and make-and-take activities, caregivers and children, 3-4 year-olds, will learn about a variety of topics over the course of four consecutive Monday workshops March 13th to April 3rd and May 1st to 22nd from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m.

AmeriCorps Week In Illinois

Governor Bruce Rauner has proclaimed March 4th-11th, AmeriCorps Week in Illinois. The Service Illinois Commission uses this week to salute members and alums for their hard work and thank the community partners that support them.

Opportunities for adults of all ages and backgrounds to serve through a network of partnerships with are available nonprofit groups. From neighborhood cleanups and building homes, to tutoring children and signing up new volunteers.

For a listing of programs and information on how to find a volunteer opportunity, visit www.Serve.Illinois.gov.

Topics explored in each 45-minute workshop include preschool benchmarks in: curiosity about the world, beginning to use and understand the practices of science and engineering, and exploring physical and earth sciences. An extension of Adler's Young Explorers Mondays program, the goals of the early childhood workshop series are to increase comfort level around science topics and conversations for adults and young children.

The series will accommodate 10 children maximum per session. The cost of \$50 includes four consecutive Monday workshops and general admission following each workshop for 1 child and 1 caregiver.

For more information or tickets: <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/events/early-childhood-workshop-series-2016-10-24>.

15th Ward I-D's Garbage Carts

15th Ward Alderman Raymond Lopez has recently begun delivering garbage carts to residents with their addresses stenciled onto the cart. The identification will help cut down on theft as well as help police identify their correct locations in an alley. Existing garbage carts will be painted during the summer. Residents can call the Brighton Park office at (773) 823-1539 to request the stenciling.

Prepaid Tuition For College

The College Illinois! 529 Prepaid Tuition Program encourages parents with young children to plan today for the college costs that they and their children will face.

The program allows you to lock in the cost of college when a child is still young so no matter how high tuition rates climb when your student is ready to attend college, you'll know tuition is covered for the schools in your plan. The value of benefits can be used at most private and out-of-state colleges as well.

Currently, College Illinois! is offering a \$200 price reduction on purchases of 4 semesters or more for a limited time.

Advantages include: The option to purchase anywhere from 1-9 prepaid semesters. Plan benefits can be applied to tuition and fees at almost any college or university in the United States. Flexible pricing and payment options to meet different family budgets. Significant tax benefits, because it is a qualified 529 plan.

Since its inception, the program has helped more than 30,000 students pay for college and has paid out more than \$800 million in plan benefits. College Illinois! general enrollment is open through May 31, 2017. Newborn enrollment, for children born between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017, runs through August 31, 2017.

For more information, visit www.collegeillinois.org.

Alumnae Event For SCA/Maria H.S.

The St. Casimir Academy Maria High School Alumnae Association are planning an all year alumnae celebration beginning with a Mass for the Beatification of Mother Marie Kaupas in the Sisters of St. Casimir Mother house Chapel, 2601 W. Marquette rd. on April 1st at 9:30 am. There will be light refreshments for those who choose to stay at the Motherhouse immediately following Mass. An alumnae banquet for graduates of St. Casimir Academy/Maria High School will be staged at the Palos Country Club, 13100 Southwest Highway. The cost is \$40 person.

For more information, call Ann Pater '73 at (708) 484-1204 or Connie Jesukaitis, '75 at (630) 234-9756.

Suicide Group Schedules Walk

The Illinois Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is accepting registration for the 2017 Out of Darkness Chicagoland Walk which will be held at Arvey Field of Grant Park on Saturday, Sept. 23rd.

For more information, visit www.ChicagoWalk.org.

Obituaries

FRANCIS K. BLAZEK formerly of Archer Heights passed away on Feb. 26th at the age of 49. He was the husband of Laura (nee Renaud); father of Francis R. Blazek; son of Sarah (nee Kirwan) & late Frank W. Blazek. Interment was held March 3rd at Resurrection Cemetery. Services by Zarzycki Manor Chapels.



HENRY J. SCHLUSEMANN, of Lakewood Ranch, FL passed away on Feb. 28th at the age of 88. Born in Chicago on 2/14/29 to Elsie & Henry Schlusemann, he graduated from Kelly High School and lived in Brighton Park until 1963, when he moved to Glen Ellyn. He retired and moved to Florida in 1988. Hank had a 40-year career at Navistar, starting as a skilled-trades pipe-fitter and progressed to management before retiring in 1988. Survivors are his wife, Fran (nee Carver) of 68 years; daughter Eileen Hansen (Terry) of Bradenton, FL, and son Jim Schlusemann (Lee) of Batavia, IL; grandchildren-Mike Figuray (Beth), Jennifer Figuray, Rachel Giblin (Noah), Dana Schlusemann (finance Nick Wolek) and Tyler Schlusemann; and great-grandchildren-Victor Dulceak IV, Sean Figuray and Kaitlin Figuray. A memorial service will be held in Lakewood Ranch this Spring.

STANLEY VLASIC of Garfield Ridge, passed away on March 5th at the age of 88. He was the husband of late Marie (nee Pecharich); father of William, Daniel, Ronald (Allison), Michael and late MaryAnn Vlasic; grandfather of Lori (Jason) Kircheimer, Randy (Tracy), Christopher, Nicole, Steven, Cameron, Evan and late Justin and late Ashley; great-grandfather of Eva, Marissa and William; brother of Frank Vlasic, Teresa Marcic, Mary Kranjec, Angie (Victor) Balaker and Vince (Polly) Vlasic. Visitation will be held Friday, March 10th from 3-9 p.m. at Zarzycki Manor Chapels, 8999 S. Archer Ave., Willow Springs. Funeral services will be held Saturday, March 11th, at 8:45 a.m. to St. Mary Slovenian Catholic Mission Church, 14246 Main Street, Lemont for 10 a.m. Mass. Interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery.

Veteran's Affairs In New Office

The Illinois Department of Veteran's Affairs Chicago office has moved to the George W. Dunne Cook County Office Building, 69 W. Washington st., Suite 1620.

For more information, call (800) 437-9824.

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Army Recruiting Plans Increase

U.S. Army leaders announced the need for 6,000 additional active-duty recruits and 1,500 additional Army Reserve recruits by the end of September.

U.S. Army Recruiting Command will see the largest in-year mission increase in the command's history, brining the original mission of 62,500 to 68,500. This will increase the mission of the Minneapolis Army Recruiting Battalion, based on Ft. Snelling, from 885 combined active duty Army and Army Reserve contracts to 1,013 combined active duty and Army Reserve contracts. The increase of 128 contracts for fiscal year 2017 will fall over the Minneapolis Army Recruiting Battalion's territory which includes all of Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota as well as part of Wisconsin, Wyoming, Nebraska and Illinois.

The Army has added \$200 million to incentive bonuses, fully opened enlistment to those who have served previously to assist with the increase, and increased the number of two-year enlistment opportunities.

The Army's standards for quality will not change. Currently, only 29 percent of youth meet the physical and mental qualifications required for military service.



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Easter Breakfast At Brookfield Zoo

Brookfield Zoo will present Breakfast with the Bunny on April 8th, 9th, and 15th at 9 and 11 a.m. Enjoy a family day at Brookfield Zoo that begins at the annual Breakfast with the Bunny. The all-you-can-eat buffet, held in Discovery Center, will feature a special appearance by costumed characters Mr. & Mrs. Bunny, who will be available for photo opportunities. The Banjo Buddies will provide musical entertainment. Afterwards, take a stroll around the park to see your favorite animals. Pricing, which includes zoo admission and parking, is \$29.95 for adults and \$21.95 for children ages 3 to 11. Children 2 and under eat for free. For more information and to make reservations, visit CZS.org/Events or call (708) 688-8355.

Free Courses For GED & ESL

The National Latino Education Institute, 2011 W. Pershing rd. has opened enrollment for free GED and English as a Second Language courses.

The GED course has convenient morning and afternoon start times and the ESL course is offered at four locations on the south side.

Information Sessions are offered three times a week. For more information, call (773) 247-0707.

Dance Groups At Library Center

Made in Chicago will showcase local dance groups and choreographer in the Cindy Pritzker Auditorium, 400 S. State st. on Thursday, March 30th at 12:15 p.m. "Hide and Follow" by Karen Yatsko will feature Anna Keller, Anna Rodimtseva and Andy Stein. "On the Front" by Hillary Aarons will feature Sarah Morimoto, Collin Quinn, Cami Goldstein and Emma Hill.



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