



Ohio is Burning



By Dr. R. Pletsch

The train derailment near Palestine, Ohio has brought a serious look at the true crisis of American environmental concerns. The sad thing is, that no national politicians or "experts" call on the issue to be truly examined. One of the many problems appears to be, that no one wants to admit that the safest way to transport materials is through pipelines, which certain people consider the enemy.

Those of us who are old enough to remember can remember the Alaskan pipeline. There were numerous arguments on whether the effects on the ecology of Alaska would be changed, including numerous dead animals and disrupting animal migration. You can look these up and find that none of the scares turned out to be true. These concerns were met through good studies and have helped make pipelines so safe that

many countries use them. They're much safer to people and the environment than our trains and trucks. Some studies say they cause much less pollution.

The fact is, wind farms kill more birds than any other known factor according to several scientific journals. The newest craze is electric cars. If you have read the articles about them, you might reconsider yourself. I saw that there is a five year wait for new batteries. Many states have stopped using electric buses because of fire hazards. They have trouble getting rid of the waste. So please look into all before you jump on a particular bandwagon.

It may sound absurd, but in the 1860's to 1870's, the killing off of the bison was scientifically considered good because they would move and free up much farm land so they could feed the burgeoning immigrant population after the Civil War. We must remember that all studies were not scientific and there are often unintended consequences. Many projects developed to improve our lifestyle would never be built today, because too many are not willing to look for balance. Sometimes due to greed, other times their sincere beliefs. The hydroelectric dams built throughout the nation would probably not be built because they diverted water from its natural location. We know that there are very few programs that affect everybody equally, but that is the goal. Often the results are not determined for years. Do your due diligence.

Park District Hosts Teen Job Fairs

The Chicago Park District announces the 7th annual Teen Opportunity Fairs series at Truman College, 1145 W. Wilson ave. from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 25th; Kennedy King College, 740 W. 63rd st. from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 18th, and Malcolm X College, 1900 W. Jackson blvd. from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 25th.

Young adults ages 13 to 19 searching for summer employment opportunities will be guided through the application process for lifeguard, attendants, recreational leader, junior laborer, and other seasonal positions.

Park District summer program events include junior counselor positions, summer Rollin' Rec initiative, junior lifeguard opportunities, cultural & arts programs, sailing apprenticeship programs and wellness Teen Fit Boxing programs.

Teens seeking employment and volunteer opportunities as well as skill development offerings will find ample options.

On Saturday, Feb. 25th, take a tour of a pop-up Teen Center and join a self-defense class led by an Athletic Boxing instructor.

Chicago Police and Firefighter Junior Training Academy will provide information about pathways to opportunities in law enforcement and fire mitigation and prevention. Built IT will expose teens to junior trades positions.

On Saturday, March 18th, teens will attend the following informa-

tional sessions on Title IX: Girls, Sports and Mental Health; Sports Officiating and BAM (Becoming a Man); Mentorship for male teens.

On Saturday, March 25th, teens will attend the informational sessions on Self-Care for Teens, Exploring Your Options, Job Readiness and Chicago Scholars.

Organizations attending the fairs include: Chicago Museums, Public Library, City Year, One Million Degrees, Economic Awareness Council, Mental Health Meets Hip-Hop LLC, Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Arts+Public Life-Univ. Of Chicago, City Colleges, One Summer Chicago, Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago Police Department, Forest Preserves, Brookfield Zoo, Girls 4 Science, After School Matters, Chicago Transit Authority, Metropolitan Family Services, Soldier Field/ASM Global Yolocalli Arts Reach, Chicago Harbors and YMCA Camp Duncan.

Organizations typically fall into three categories: Recreation, Educational/Vocational and Job Readiness.

For those unable to attend the series in-person, on-demand, virtual workshops focused on job and college opportunities, balancing education and extracurricular activities and interviewing techniques are available on the Chicago Park District's YouTube page.

Pre-registration is recommended at chicago park district.com/teen-opportunity-fairs. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Rental Assistance

The Chicago Department of Family Support Services Rental Assistance Program provides funding to those who are at risk of becoming homeless because of lost income or another eligible emergency.

Assistance may include: Payment of future rent, or rent arrears to prevent eviction. Security deposits in case of fire, flood, foreclosure, domestic violence or eviction. For application information, chicago.gov/fss/RAP.

Iron Horse District B. S. A. Klondike Derby



Over the weekend of Feb. 18th, members of the Iron Horse District of the Pathway to Adventure Council held their annual Klondike Derby and overnight camping event at Goodenow Nature Preserve, Beecher. The Patrol to Patrol Winter skills competitions, started with morning drag sledge races followed by Troop site challenges: Knot Identification, Ice Safety, Mat lava team building, Patrol relay and Stretcher construction and uses. The afternoon brought Winter skills events such as, Fire building races, Pancake cook off, Lash it together, Why are my teeth chattering, Clovis Maximus knots and more. Orienteering and Ice berg shuffle. The Winning Patrol will be presented the Klondike Derby traveling trophy. St. Mary Star of the Sea Boy Troop 1441 entered their Patrol, named "Blue Monsters". Front row: Adan Moreno, Lucas Kozel, Alexei Ayala, Luis Burgos, Raul Burgos and Lulu Rodriguez (Troop Secretary). Back row: Ed Melkonian (Asst. Scout Master), Lorena Sanchez (Troop Advancement Chairman), Marnee Burgos (Committee Member), Pedro Moreno (Committee Member), Eloy Corral Jr. (Asst. Scout Master) and John Massura (Scout Master). Any boys from any school ages 11 to 17 who are interested in Scouting can have a parent contact Ed Melkonian at (312) 316-5825 for further information.

Spring Flower Show At Garfield Conservatory



Provided by Chicago Park District
The Garfield Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park ave. will present its Spring Flower Show "Bee's Knees" through May 14th. The show is a peek into the wondrous relationship between bees and blooms. Beautiful flowering Spring bulbs such as tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, hydrangeas, and delphiniums are featured this year. Empty observation and demo hives from GPC's beekeeping program are set amongst the blooms. Reservations are required at <https://garfieldconservatory.org/visit>.

Bridgeport Art Center Issues Call For Artists

Bridgeport Art Center, 1200 W. 35th st. announces a Call for Artists to its 11th Annual Bridgeport Art Competition and Exhibition that will be displayed in the 4th Floor Gallery from May 19th to July 7th.

The competition is open to artists 18 years of age and older, at all stages in their careers, and who are living or working within 150 miles of Chicago. Work must have been completed within 2020-2023. This juried competition accepts a broad range of art media and styles. Not

eligible are functional pottery, jewelry, clothing, accessories, furniture, other primarily functional art, or time-art such as video, sound, or film.

Deadling for application is Tuesday, April 4th. Application fee is \$35. Prizes are \$3,000, 1st Place; \$1,500, 2nd Place; \$750, 3rd Place and \$500, People's Choice Award.

Opening reception & awards ceremony will be held on Friday, May 19th from 7 to 10 p.m. For more information visit www.bridgeportart.com or call (773) 843-9000.

Omega Delta Youth Baseball & Softball

Omega Delta Youth Baseball and Softball League at Hoyne Park, 34th & Hamilton provides regular season baseball and softball from April through July. Every player that signs up plays in every game.

Divisions are T-Ball ages 4-5, Rookie ages 6-8, Girls Softball ages 8-10, Minor Division ages 9-10,

Girls Softball ages 11-13, Major Division ages 11-13 and Girls Softball ages 14-18.

Registration Fees include: full uniform, awards picnic, award, approximately 15 games, ticket to a Minor League Baseball game, Opening Day & All Star festivities and much more.

For more information, visit omegadeltabaseball.org.

Prieto Honored

Eric Prieto was named to the Albion College Dean's List for the Fall 2022 semester.

Honors are given to students who achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in four graded courses. Eric is a graduate of Noble Street Charter: Golden and is majoring in integrated marketing communication.

Villalobos Honored

Carthage College of Kenosha, Wisconsin has named Daniel Villalobos to the dean's list for academic excellence during the Fall 2022 term.

Honorees must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade-point average while carrying at least 14 credit hours during a semester.

Chicago Street Race Design Competition

As excitement builds for 2023 Chicago Street Race Weekend, NASCAR and Chicago Public Schools announced a collaborative initiative that will engage and inspire more than 22,000 students with racing-themed STEM and STEAM learning experiences and curriculum. The partnership was announced by CPS and Chicago Street Race officials at the Field Museum with the help of 2023 DAYTONA 500 champion Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

Beginning in March, CPS students from all 43 STEM and STEAM schools will compete in an in-classroom design challenge culminating with the first-ever "STEAM Fest" on May 2nd. Nearly 500 student finalists will interact with NASCAR drivers, engineers and other industry STEM professionals at the Field Museum in the event's championship round for a chance to attend the Chicago Street Race Weekend.

CPS and NASCAR will develop new STEM curriculum for eighth-grade students exploring fundamental science and engineering concepts within the sport. The NASCAR-themed curriculum, designed to address Next Generation Science Standards Performance Expectations, will be finalized and introduced in middle schools during the 2023-2024 school year.

Students in grades K-12 will receive kits with simple materials and design race helmets that address key elements including safety, communication, ventilation, and other technological innovations. The complexity of the challenge will vary depending on grade.

Top-performing groups from each of the 43 schools will earn invitations to STEAM Fest at the Field Museum. At the event, schools will be assigned a new NASCAR challenge and compete against each other with the support of Cup Series drivers and STEM professionals employed across

the sport. The champion groups for each grade will receive complimentary tickets to the Chicago Street Race Weekend.

The curriculum integration, which will impact eighth-grade students at all CPS middle schools, will focus on the research and design process. Together with NASCAR engineers, CPS STEM faculty will identify specific engineering needs that exist in NASCAR and students will be tasked with building design proposals that address the real-world challenge with potential solutions.

A group of eighth-grade students will visit the site of the Chicago Street Race to learn firsthand how the curriculum material comes to life at a NASCAR event and the sport's first street race in its 75-year history. The students will capture data and content leading up to the event, which will be included in the curriculum planned for launch.

The first-ever Chicago Street Race will feature the NASCAR Cup Series and Xfinity Series competing on a 12-turn, 2.2-mile street course that will take competitors past and through many of Chicago's most renowned downtown landmarks, along with full-length concerts by The Chainsmokers and Miranda Lambert with the support of The Black Crowes and Charley Crockett over Fourth of July Weekend on July 1st & 2nd.

General admission and reserved tickets are on sale for the Chicago Street Race. Two-day general admission ticket start at \$269. Reserved tickets that offer an array of opportunities including reserved seating and a wide variety of premium experiences start at \$465. Log onto NASCARChicago.com or call 1-888-629-7223.

Sheriff Partnership With Paws Chicago

PAWS Chicago, the Midwest's largest No Kill animal welfare organization, and Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart announced a volunteer program that supports the need for more PAWS animal-handling volunteers while serving as a wellness initiative for Sheriff's Office staff.

Sheriff's Office employees will walk dogs and participate in cat enrichment activities because while adoptions and other animal welfare programs have returned to prepandemic levels, volunteer hours have not.

"We care for hundreds of pets each day, ranging from the homeless pets that receive medical care on their path to adoption to the many more that receive free and low-cost services we offer to the public," said PAWS Chicago CEO Susanna Wickham.

"We reached out to PAWS after hearing about their recent disaster relief rescue effort, because we wanted to help those pets on their path to finding homes," said Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart. "We quickly realized there was an opportunity to provide a much larger program and benefit to our staff and PAWS Chicago."

Several employees of the Sheriff's Office have already undergone training and begun the volunteer program, with many more expressing interest in attending orientation.

The PAWS Chicago Medical Center, 3516 W. 26th st. examines every animal brought to the organization and pro-



SHERIFF T. DART

vides all necessary treatments. The facility performed over 15,000 spay and neuter operations last year. The 30,000-square-foot hospital can house more than 200 pets, which allows PAWS Chicago to rescue pets from high-kill shelters in 13 states, such as the rescue of 33 puppies and dogs from Houston area following a tornado that closed one Texas shelter.

For information on volunteering, email volunteers@pawschicago.org

PAWS Chicago (Pets Are Worth Saving) is a national model in No Kill animal sheltering, committed to bringing an end to the killing of homeless cats and dogs. As Chicagoland's largest No Kill animal welfare organization, and one of the largest in the nation, PAWS has led the reduction of the number of homeless pets killed in the city by over 92% since its founding in 1997.

Property Taxes Are Due April 3rd



M. PAPPAS

To make a payment or download a copy of your tax bill, visit cookcountytreasurer.com. Select the blue box labeled "Pay Online for Free".

Search by property address or enter your Property Index Number.

There is no fee if you pay from your bank account. Online payments made before 11:59 p.m. on April 3rd will be recorded as on time.

Partial payments are accepted. Late payments are charged 1.5 percent per month, as mandated under Illinois law.

Lenten Fish Fry At St. Richard

The combined Sts. Bruno & Richard Parish is resuming the Catholic tradition of the Friday Fish Fry during Lent. St. Richard Church, 50th & Kostner, will host the Lenten Dinners in the lower level on Fridays, Feb. 24th through March 31st from 4 to 7 p.m.

All are welcome to attend, no reservations are required. Dine in or take-out available. Dinner menus will be posted on Facebook and the parish bulletin, www.facebook.com/strichard, www.stsbruno-richard.org. For further information, contact Berta at (773) 585-1221.

Dean's List At Elmhurst University

More than 950 Elmhurst University students were named to the Fall 2022 Dean's List. Local scholars are Vance Fowler, Jimena Serrato and Stefanie Socco.

Mobility Devices For Disabled

Devices 4 the Disabled (D4D)'s mission is to overcome barriers that prevent individuals with disabilities from obtaining the medical equipment they need. When they are finished with the equipment, it is returned, refurbished and distributed again to a new user.

The four tenants of the organization are independence, mobility, dignity and freedom.

Donate devices to help others with disabilities live their ideal lives.

For more information, visit Devices4theDisabled.org.

Taylor Honored

Endicott College of Beverly, Massachusetts has named Jonathan Taylor to its Fall 2022 Dean's List. A major in Criminal Justice, he is the son of Denise Taylor and Leedale Taylor. In order to qualify, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no letter grade below "C," have no withdrawal grades, and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester.

BrightonParkLIFE.com
To complement our weekly edition The Brighton Park-McKinley Park Life has launched a website. On it can be found general information about us, recent and past issues, advertising information. Send neighborhood interest stories, student accomplishments, civic organization events to brightonparklife@aol.com.
Opinions expressed by guest editorials may not represent the viewpoints held by the publisher of the Brighton Park - McKinley Park Life Newspaper.

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Pompeii: The Exhibition At Science Museum



Photo by Museum of Science and Industry

The Museum of Science & Industry, 5700 S. DuSable Lake Shore dr. announces the opening of *Pompeii: The Exhibition*, Feb. 23rd through Sept. 4th.

Pompeii, a Roman city destroyed by nature more than 1,900 years ago, was preserved in a volcanic time capsule after the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius. The city, fixed in time, provides a glimpse into what life was like in ancient Rome.

The bustling commercial port and trading center contains the treasures, marble and bronze sculptures, jewelry, gladiator

armor, weapons, ancient Roman coins, and full body casts of the volcano's victims. Immersive multimedia experiences take you to Pompeii's amphitheater floor for a holographic gladiator display or to Mount Vesuvius for a 4D eruption simulation. Archaeological details present a unique record of Pompeii's industrial life. More than 150 precious artifacts bring to life how people in this ancient city lived.

Adults, age 12+, \$18/ Children, ages 3-11, \$14. Advance reservations are recommended. Ticket information at msichicago.org.

Spring Flower Show At Lincoln Conservatory



Provided by Chicago Park District

The Lincoln Park Conservatory, 2391 N. Stockton Drive will present its Spring Flower Show, "Cooler by the Lake" through May 14th. Come in and enjoy the endless blooms of cinerarias, snapdragons, osteospermums and more. With a nod to the chillier spring weather produced by Lake Michigan, cooler color tones will be used throughout the Show House. The Show also includes features familiar to Chicago's Lakefront, like the iconic Chicago Harbor Lighthouse and boats that have sailed into the Conservatory. Admission is free with a suggested donation. Reservations are required. At eventbrite.com/v/lincoln-park-conservancy-17342067619

McKinley Library Offers Programs

The McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st. will conduct Little Learners Story Time with Ms. Katie featuring songs and stories for children 0 to 5 and their caregivers on Fridays, March 3rd and 10th from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

AARP Foundation will be providing free tax preparation by appoint-

ment only on Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through April 15th. Email woodsontax2@gmail.com to make an appointment or call (773) 312-5201 for more information. Library staff are not tax professionals and cannot provide any tax assistance.

Visit chicagopubliclibrary.org to register.



COOK COUNTY MILITARY AND VETERANS DISCOUNT CARD



The Cook County Clerk's Office and the County's Department of Veterans Affairs are offering veterans, active-duty personnel, and other members of the military a free discount card offering reduced costs and benefits from hundreds of businesses in the Chicagoland area. This public-private partnership is a small way to honor those who have served by providing money-saving discounts on a wide variety of products and services.

To apply: visit cookcountyclerk.com/Veterans



Cook County Clerk Karen A. Yarbrough
cookcountyclerk.com

Brighton Park Library Schedules Programs

The Brighton Park Branch Library, 4314 S. Archer has scheduled engaging in-person, hybrid and virtual programs. Hours are Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday noon to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Chicago Police Department 9th District Beats 921 & 922 meet on the first Thursday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. Stop by to meet your beat officers, discuss problems and crime conditions.

Help with Homework from the Teacher in the Library program is available on Mondays from 3:30 to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Open Play for children 0 to 5 with their parents or caregivers will be available on Friday, March 17th from 10 to 11 a.m.

Family Craft Night will be available on Thursdays through March 9th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Kids STEM Club for ages 6 to 13 will conduct experiments on Saturday, March 11th from 2 to 3 p.m.

Join Adler Planetarium to design a Mars Rover and test it on a variety of terrains on Monday, Feb. 27th. Drop in anytime between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. to use every day materials to design your own rover that can travel the surface of Mars. Register by 3 p.m. the day before the event.

The LEGO Club for families with children

ages 5 and up will meet on Saturdays, Feb. 25th and March 25th from 2 to 3 p.m. Build your own design to try out a design challenge. Work on your own or as a team, LEGO bricks are supplied.

Family Story Time for children of all ages is offered on Tuesdays to March 28th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Join us for picture books, stories, songs and a simple paper craft activity.

Family Craft Night for children ages 6 & up will be held on Thursday, March 9th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Junior Justice League Community Service Club for teens ages 10 to 19 is available on Monday, March 13th from 4 to 5 p.m. Perform a craft project to benefit a cause while earning 1 hour for community service.

Graphic Novel and Manga Book Discussions will be held on Thursdays, Feb. 23rd and March 16th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Each month, read and discuss a graphic novel and a manga selection. Stay for the conversations that can be anything from the details of the book to the latest happenings in comic book culture. For 2023, we will be reading the first six volumes of the classic manga series *Monster* by Naoki Urasawa. The selections for March's discussion are *Bermuda* by John Layman and the first half of *Monster*, volume 2, by Naoko Urasawa.

Visit chicagopubliclibrary.org to register.

IDOT Workshops For DBE Enterprise

The Illinois Department of Transportation is hosting free virtual workshops in March as part of its continuing Building Blocks of Success series for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms interested in strengthening their skills, growing their business and bidding on state projects. New and existing DBEs, as well as firms interested in becoming certified in the program are invited.

March workshop dates and topics from 10 a.m. to noon include: March 2, Landscaping- Section 200 of the Spec Book & Traffic Control; March 7, Avoiding Pitfalls; March 9, Overhead Rate Calculation, Construction & Professional Services, and more; March 14, Daily Documentation; March 16, 10 a.m. to noon: Force Account (T&M) Work; March 21, Getting Paid and March 23, Construction Materials Requirements (IDOT). Building Blocks of Success will continue through April. Workshop information, including dates and times, is available through [Eventbrite at bit.ly/IDOTworkshops](http://Eventbrite.com/v/IDOTworkshops). Ad-

vance registration is required.

Questions can be directed to (312) 939-1100.

The DBE program provides minorities, women and other eligible small businesses opportunities to participate in highway, transit and airport contracts that are federally and state funded. For more information on becoming a certified DBE and learning more about IDOT resources that are available, visit www.idot.illinois.gov/dbe.

CCPSA Meeting At Daley College

The Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability announces a public meeting on Thursday, Feb. 23rd at 6:30 pm at Richard J. Daley College, 7500 S. Pulaski.

The seven-member body oversees the Chicago Police Department, Civilian Office of Police Accountability and Police Board. The Commission works to increase public safety, transparency, and community input into operations, policies, and procedures.

The Commission will conduct business and provide an update on its ongoing initiatives and hear from members of the public on issues related to public safety and accountability. The items to be discussed include: A vote to confirm a member of the Non-Citizen Advisory Council, a vote to approve Commission bylaws, a presentation on District Councils by Deputy Director of District Councils and a discussion about officer wellness.

Residents who are unable to attend in-person can participate in the meeting via Zoom at the following link: bit.ly/3YQ7esf.

For more information, visit communitycommission@cityofchicago.org.

Programs At Symphony Center

Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan ave. has scheduled an exciting lineup of performance to welcome the winter season.

Muti, Fischer & Tchaikovsky Manfred, Feb. 23rd to 26th; Marc-Andre Hamslin pianist, Feb. 26th; Joshua Bell & Daniil Trifonov and Pinn Martini featuring China Forbes.

For ticket information visit CSO.org or call (312) 294-3000.

Obituaries



HELENA BAFIA, (nee Wodziak) of Archer Heights, passed away on Feb. 21st at the age of 87. She was the wife of late Bronislaw Bafia; mother of Maria (Jozef) Korkosz, Jozef (Anna) Bafia and Jane Ligas; grandmother of Ryszard (Magdalena) Korkosz, Renata (Przemyslaw) Latos, Krzysztof (Malgorzata) Korkosz, Robert (Dominika) Korkosz, Mariusz (Katarzyna) Bafia and Malgorzata Bafia, Ralph (Agata) Ligas and Matthew Ligas; great grandmother of Kacper, Maciej, Kamil, Gabriel, Julia, Jakub, Veronika, Patrycja and Mateusz; daughter of late Ludwika (nee Gawel) and late Jan Wodziak. Helena was a member of Kolo Nr. 42 Bialka Tatrzańska. Visitation will be held Friday, Feb. 24th from 3-8 p.m. at Zarzycki Manor Chapels, 5088 S. Archer. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Richard Church on Saturday, Feb. 25th at 10 a.m. Interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery.

IDYS G. CRUZ long time McKinley Park resident, passed away on Feb. 13th at the age of 83. She was the wife of Juan Cruz; mother of Maureen Cruz and Michelle Kowaluk; grandmother of Megan O'Marrah, Jordan Kowaluk and Robyn Kowaluk, great grandmother of Madison O'Marrah, Logan O'Marrah and Raylan O'Marrah, and Matilda Kowaluk. Visitation was held Feb. 19th at Wollschlaeger Funeral Home, 3604 S. Hoyne Ave. Interment was at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery on Feb. 20th. Pastor Brock Brockway of Bethany Baptist Church officiating.



KEVIN HERRERA passed away suddenly on Feb. 14th at the age of 28. He was the son of Ramon Herrera and Sofia Navarro; brother of Ramon (Flor); uncle of Alexandra 1 1/2 yrs, and Sophia 7 months. Visitation: Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 3 to 8 p.m. at Ocwieja-Robles Funeral Home, 4256 S. Mozart.

Career Center For Disabilities

The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities announced the opening of the Career Center, 2102 W. Ogden, dedicated to serving job seekers with disabilities and providing career readiness. Career Placement Counselors specialize in assisting job seekers with disabilities to access employment and accessibility, including an American Sign Language interpreter along with computer stations equipped with adaptive technology.

The career center serves businesses and potential employers by matching applicants with available job opportunities, while providing technical assistance on inclusive hiring practices.

Services are available to people who reside in the City of Chicago, are at least age 16, identify as a person with a disability, and want to get a job.

Shedd Aquarium Schedules Events



Photo Credit: ©Shedd Aquarium

Shedd Aquarium has numerous activities for connection with the natural world - including a new adults-only after-hours program, overnights for the whole family, and free workshops for teens including a new series to learn how to create their own at-home aquariums. Illinois Resident Free Days are offered Thursday, Feb. 23rd plus Wednesday and Thursday, March 1st & 2nd from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free general admission includes the option to view an animal spotlight in Abbott Oceanarium, featuring animals like Pacific white-sided dolphins, beluga whales, penguins and California sea lions. Valid ID or proof of residency and advanced reservations are required online at www.shedd-aquarium.org. A \$3 transaction fee applies.

For participants interested in caring for aquatic animals at home, a four part workshop series will begin Saturday, March 25th from 1 to 3:30 p.m. This includes determining the right animals and creating an ideal habitat.

ating an ideal habitat.

The inaugural Ritmo del Mar after-hours event for adults will feature music, cuisine, culture and mesmerizing animals on Saturday, March 25th, 7 to 11 p.m. Dance to salsa, cumbia, merengue and Latin jazz, with special performances by Proyecto 7 and Carpacho y Su Super Combo. The cost is \$39.95 per adult (21+), \$19.95 per Chicago resident. Admission includes all aquarium exhibits and entertainment. Food and beverages are available for purchase.

Teen Workshops connect with animals, peers and Shedd staff to learn about conservation, explore careers and engage in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) projects.

English Literacy Volunteers Needed

Aquinas Literacy Center, 1751 W. 35th st. needs volunteers to help adult immigrants learn English. You do not have to speak another language, all tutoring is in English for 90 minutes per week.

The next tutor workshop will be conducted on Saturday, March 4th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, contact the Associate Director at sabrina@aquinasliteracycenter.org or (773) 927-0512. The Literacy Center is sponsored by the Adrian Dominican Sisters.

Free Catguard Tag Installation

12th Ward Alderwoman Anabel Abarga is providing free Catguard installation to prevent catalytic converter theft. Applicants must be a 12th Ward resident and the vehicle must be up to date and registered.

Pre-registration is required at bit.ly/3ZU42xb.

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Masses at St. Barbara

Bridgeport - 2859 S. Throop
Saturday, 5 PM,
Rosary: Sunday, 5:30 AM

6 AM & 9:30 AM Sunday Masses
Weekday Schedule (Chapel)
Tue., Thurs., & Sat. 8 AM Mass

St. Barbara: 312-842-7979 St. Therese: 312-842-6777 School 312-226-2937

Masses at St. Therese

Chinatown - 218 W. Alexander
Sunday Masses
8 AM & 10:30 AM in English
12:30 PM in Mandarin

Weekday Schedule
Mon., Wed., & Fri. 8 AM Mass
(2-26-2023)

Stations of the Cross, Friday, 7pm
St. Therese - Feb. 24, March 10 and 24
St. Barbara - March 3, 17, and 31

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Radon Action Month Features 2 Contests

Radon is a naturally-occurring element which is undetectable from human senses. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is urging residents to take time to test their home as part of 2023 Radon Action Month.

"This odorless, colorless, tasteless gas is found in the air we breathe in buildings, homes, offices," said IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. "If not properly addressed, high levels of radon can cause major health concerns."

It's estimated more than 1,100 people in Illinois develop radon-related lung cancer each year. Tests can be purchased at most hardware and department stores. It is recommended to conduct one short-term and one long-term test to ensure consistent readings. Should you find higher readings, contact IEMA for information about a licensed mitigation professional.

The IEMA and Lung Association in Illinois are announcing the continuation of two statewide contests that encourage students to use their creative talents to promote radon awareness among young people. The Radon

Video Contest asks high school students to create a 30-second commercial style video, while the Radon Poster Contest asks middle school students (9-14) to create a poster that will encourage people to test their homes.

Deadline for entries is March 18th. Poster contest winners will receive \$200 for first prize, \$150 for second and \$100 for third. Video contest winners will receive \$1,000 for first place plus \$300 for their school; \$750 for second plus \$200 for their school; \$500 for third plus \$100 for their school and \$250 for Honorable Mention.

All contest prizes are funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Both contests are sponsored by IEMA, Lung Association, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5.

The top posters and videos from the 2022 state contests can be viewed on IEMA's radon website at www.radon.illinois.gov. The website also includes information about radon and lists of licensed measurement and mitigation professionals. Information is also available through IEMA's Radon Hotline at 800-325-1245.

Ice Skating Ribbon At Maggie Daley Park



Photo provided by Chicago Park District

The Maggie Daley Ice Ribbon skating season runs through March 13th (weather permitting). The facility at 337 E. Randolph st. is open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations are required to skate whether you bring your own skates or rent them. To make reservations and learn more, visit maggiedaley.com.

Application For ICF Scholarship

Applications are being accepted by the Illinois Conservation Foundation for the 2023 Conservator Achievement Scholarship program.

The foundation annually awards scholarships to outstanding high school seniors who demonstrate long-term dedication to the preservation, protection or enhancement of the state's natural resources.

Four scholarships of \$2,000 each are available for the current school year. One of the scholarships is reserved for a qualified applicant who is

a dependent of a current employee of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Applicants must be an Illinois resident and a senior at state high school with a deadline of March 3, 2023.

Instructions and the application form can be accessed at www.ilconservation.org.

Contact the Illinois Conservation Foundation at (217) 785-2003 or info@ilconservation.org for more information or to make a donation to support the Conservation Achievement Scholarship program.

Lawyers Offer Phone Advice

The Chicago Bar Association is reminding the public that attorneys are available to provide legal assistance online or over the telephone.

The CBA sponsors a monthly "Call A Lawyer" program through the Lawyer Referral Service, making attorneys available to take calls from the public. On Saturday, March 18th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, the public may call (312) 554-2001 and explain their situation to an attorney.

These services can also be accessed on CBA's website at www.chicagobar.org.

Virtual Library Homework Help

The Chicago Public Library offers Homework Help: Virtual Teacher in the Library for students in grades K to 12 via Zoom.

Get homework help from a certified teacher and learn about resources with expert librarians. Join other students and their families in this after school learning program. Attend the whole session or drop in with a quick question.

This event takes place on Zoom. Register at least one hour in advance at chipublib.org.

A parent or guardian's email address must be used to register, school email addresses may block external emails such as those from CPL.

Automatic transcription is included. Sessions are available from 5 to 7 p.m., Feb. 27th to 28th; March 1st to 2nd, 7th to 9th, 13th to 16th, 20th to 23rd, 27th to 28th and 30th.

Free Days At Children's Museum

In partnership with the Chicago Children's Museum, Navy Pier guests can enjoy five fun-filled days of activities for families and children (ages 10 and under) on the last Thursday of each month through May and two additional days of activities in September and October.

Admission to the Chicago Children's Museum is free, in addition to the Pier's workshops, programming, activities and other resources. This event is made possible by generous support from the Pritzker Foundation.

Dates are Feb. 23rd, March 30th, April 27th, May 25th, Sept. 28th and Oct. 26th.

Polar Plunge For Special Olympics

Each year, the Polar Plunge brings together individuals, organizations and businesses - to support Special Olympics Illinois. All funds raised to provide programming and events for more than 21,000 traditional athletes and 9,000 Young Athletes participating in Illinois.

Each plunger who raises \$100 or more receives a 2023 Polar Plunge sweatshirt, plus the change to win additional prizes for raising more money.

For more information, visit plungeillinois.com.

Archer Heights Library Schedules Programs

The Archer Heights Branch Library, 5055 S. Archer has scheduled limited programs due to staff shortages.

Story Steam for ages 5 to 10 is available Mondays, March 13th, 20th & 27th from 4 to 5 p.m. Each week we will explore the scientific, technological, engineering, artistic and mathematical elements behind some of your favorite picture books with fun activities, experiments and crafts.

LEGO Club for ages 7 to 12 is offered Wednesdays through March 29th from 5 to 6 p.m. Participants compete in new and fun challenges every week.

Family Story and Play Time for ages 2 to 5 is conducted on Thursdays through March 30th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The active story time is filled with books, songs and play. Stay afterwards for open play time with blocks, puzzles and more.

The Adult Book Discussion Club meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Topics are: March 22nd - The Feather Thief by Kirk Johnson. April 26th - The Invention of

Wings by Sue Monk Kidd. May 24th - The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides. June 28th - The Only Good Indians by Stephen Graham Jones.

The Polish Book Discussion Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Family programs for ages 10 & up are offered on Saturdays.

Draw a picture or doodle with gel pens while listening to music on March 11th from 2 to 3 p.m.

Reading Time: Craft for adults will be provided on Saturday, March 4th from 2 to 3 p.m.

Story STEAM for ages 6 & up will be conducted on Mondays, Feb. 27th, March 13th to 27th from 4 to 5 p.m. Each session will explore the science, technology, engineering, arts and math aspects behind your favorite picture books with fun activities, experiments and crafts.

Library Hours are Monday and Wednesday 12 to 8 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 10 to 6 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

For more information, visit chipublib.org.

Open Music Jam At Ryan Woods



Photo provided by the Cook County Forest Preserve

The Cook County Forest Preserves will conduct an Open Music Jam at Dan Ryan Woods Pavilion, 87th and Western on Saturday, March 25th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring your instrument and create music with your community. All instruments and music types are welcome.

Application For DCFS Scholarship

The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services is accepting applications for the 2023 Scholarship Program. A minimum of 53 academic scholarships will be awarded to current and former youth in care for the upcoming school year, with four awards reserved for the children of veterans.

Recipients receive up to five consecutive years of tuition and academic fee waivers to be used at participating Illinois state community colleges and public universities, a monthly grant of \$1,506 to offset other expenses and a medical care. On average, the department receives 200 application packets each year, and has awarded over 1,500 scholarships since the program began in 1971.

The program is available to youth who have an open DCFS case, whose cases were closed through adoption or guardianship or who aged out of care at 18 or older. Youth who are at least 16 years old and not yet 21 on March 31st may apply.

Scholarship recipients are selected based on their scholastic record and aptitude, community and extracurricular activities, three letters of recommendation from non-relatives and a personal essay illustrating their purpose for higher education.

Applications are available at www2.illinois.gov/dcfis (form CFS 438). Students or caregivers may call (217) 557-2689 or email DCFS.Scholarship@illinois.gov with questions.

Free Expo For Small Business

The Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection will conduct its first Small Business Expo of 2023 on Saturday, March 11th from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Kennedy-King College, 740 W. 63rd st. The free expo will kick-off with a breakfast networking hour and offer resources from nonprofit and government agencies, workshops, and a keynote address by Chrishton Lampley, founder of Love Cork Screw, an award-winning wine brand.

Free resources will be available for business owners and entrepreneurs, with the opportunity to network, consult, gather information and

receive expert advice on licensing, financing, marketing, and business planning. Over 25 government and non-profit agencies will be onsite to offer guidance. City of Chicago business licensing consultants will explain the process of obtaining a business license or make an appointment for additional counseling.

Also available will be free professional headshots for marketing materials, consumer protection information, financial resources, Chicago labor laws compliance information, and a tax clinic.

To register, visit Chicago.gov/BizExpo. For more information call (312) 744-2086.



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Polar Adventure At Northerly Island



Provided by Chicago Park District

Northerly Island, 1521 S. Linn White dr., will conduct Polar Adventure Days on Saturday, Feb. 25th from 12 p.m. noon to 3 p.m. Limited parking is \$3, cash only.

The free winter series will treat visitors to activities that are educational and fun for all ages. Participants will tour the Natural Area, either on foot or in snowshoes and learn about winter animals including Siberian huskies, raptors, and birds of prey. Visitors will enjoy interacting with the Jaberwocky Marionettes and using their imaginative skills to carve recycled Christmas trees with nature experts. Al Eastman will perform storytelling around the campfire.

Participants should dress warmly. Activities are subject to change based on weather. Hot Cocoa will be served.

For more information visit chicagoparkdistrict.com/polar-adventure-days.

Pre-Apprentice For Building Trades

The office of Illinois Works conducts a Pre-apprenticeship Program for those interested in a career in construction and the building trades.

The free program can prepare the transition to a Department of Labor registered apprenticeship in the trades.

Students receive classroom instruction, wrap-around services, support services and stipends.

Eligibility requirements are minimum age

of 18 years, possess a high school diploma/GED/HISET and Illinois resident.

For more information, contact CEO.ILWorks@illinois.gov or online at: www2.illinois.gov/dceo/IllinoisWorks/Pages/PreApprenticeship.aspx.

7426 W. 115th Street, Worth IL - Spacious entry into this home and what a view inside, plus looking out across the street to Waters Edge Golf course. In the last 3 years the kitchen was remodeled, bath, windows, newer electric and copper plumbing, central air and roof. Crown molding in the kitchen and living room. Separate laundry and utility room in the kitchen area. There was 1 car detached garage and the owner raised the floor to have more room for entertaining; they left the overhead door working. There is a new wooden fence in the yard. Close to Metra, shopping, hospital, schools and a large community building 1 block away. Make your appointment today. (773) 582-9300.

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Jam Session For Student Musicians

The Jazz Institute of Chicago will conduct a Jam Session for student musicians at the Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Court on Wednesday, March 8th at 5 p.m.

Students may perform with the house band which includes professional musicians. Future sessions are available April 12th and May 10th.

For more information, visit jazzinchicago.org.

9th Dist. Beat 912 Plans Meeting

9th District Police Beat 921 will meet at the McKinley Park Fieldhouse, 2210 W. Pershing rd. on Wednesday, March 8th at 7 p.m.

Residents may meet their beat officers to discuss problems. For more information, contact (312) 747-3501.