



# HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

## The Border Crisis



By Dr. R. Pletsch

The US border continues to be flooded by illegal aliens. That's both the northern and southern borders. No one is sure of an accurate account of how many have entered because the U.S. government refuses to follow the law. Many polls indicate these numbers to be at least 7 or 8 million people. These polls also indicate that this lack of control of the borders was one of the instrumental reasons that the Republicans won the election very convincingly.

Most lists that were produced by interviewing voters have the situation with illegal aliens very high on the list. It may not have influenced you, but it appears it was considered by many. The House Committee made an official list of non-citizens who have crossed our borders as of July 21, 2024. The official record only includes the non-citizens that entered that have criminal histories and are freely wandering the US. The agency acknowledges they have no other record. There are 662,566 people with criminal charges against them

that have crossed our borders. As of now the agency says that there is no idea who or where they are.

Some of the crimes committed by these groups have hurt families. The news has reported some of them but not all. These were the people that went through the process at the borders. Many have fled into the desert, into the cities and many others had cars waiting for them. This rightfully so concerns civilians, especially those that live in or near where these people may be living.

We, as a people, are compassionate because we, by nature, want to protect our families. While driving along the Lake, I saw many tents. One tent in particular caught my attention. This was during normal school hours and there were children playing by the tent while clothes were hung to dry outside, an American flag flying high over the tents. You then realize some are here for the same reasons our families travelled from numerous countries leaving friends, family and familiarity.

I remember when my children came to America through customs at O'Hare and we gave them American flags and told them welcome home. It appears right now that if you want to stay, do not commit a crime and enjoy what God has given us. Your opinions will vary as much as you think. If you love your family, you will obey the laws as best you can and, therefore, have a good chance of one day in the future you will enjoy the American Dream.

## Christmas Party For Boy Scout Troop 1441



On Dec. 19th, members of Boy Scout Troop 1441 sponsored by St. Mary Star of the Sea Holy Name Society held a Court of Honor for Rank Advancements for three members, followed by a Christmas party. Scouts, family and friends had a catered meal, desserts, music, games and enjoyed a visit from Santa who brought gifts for all. Any boys from any school ages 11 to 17, can have a parent contact Ed Melkonian in English at (312) 316-5825 or Angie Kozel in Spanish at (773) 851-7855 for further information. Pictured in front row are Luis Burgos (Patrol Leader), Andres Burgos, Lucas Kozel, Adan Moreno, Alexi Ayala, Gabriel Hernandez and Demian Jimenez. Back row: Ed Melkonian (Asst. Scout Master), Pedro Moreno (Committee Member), Heriberto Burgos (Committee Member), Marnee Burgos (Committee Member), Brian Konkoleski (Troop Committee Chairman), Conrad Zadlo (Committee Member) and John Massura (Scout Master).



Santa brings joy to the Boy Scouts of Troop 1441.

## 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, Jan. 20th 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.

## IDES Announces Unemployment Rate

The Illinois Department of Employment Security announced that nonfarm payrolls were down -3,400 while the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.3 percent in November. The October monthly change in payrolls was revised from the preliminary report, from -2,400 to +8,400, while the revised unemployment rate was 5.3 percent, unchanged from the preliminary October unemployment rate. The November payroll jobs estimate and unemployment rate reflect activity for the week including the 12th.

In November, the industry sectors with the largest over-the-month job losses included: Construction (-2,700), Professional and Business Services (-2,400), Manufacturing (-1,400) and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-1,400). The industry sectors with the largest monthly payroll job increases included: Leisure and Hospitality (+2,000), Other Services (+1,100), and Private Education and Health Services (+1,000).

The state's unemployment rate was +1.1 percentage points higher than the national unemployment rate for November. The national unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in November, up +0.1 percentage point from the previous month.

The Illinois unemployment rate was up +0.6 percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.7 percent.

Compared to a year ago, total nonfarm payroll jobs increased by +42,600. The industry groups with the largest jobs increases included: Government (+27,100), Private Education and Health Services (+25,100), and Other

Services (+10,900). The industry groups with the largest jobs decreases included: Professional and Business Services (-12,400), Financial Activities (-7,400), and Manufacturing (-6,100). In November, total nonfarm payrolls were up +0.7 percent over-the-year in Illinois and up +1.4 percent in the nation.

The number of unemployed workers was 346,400, unchanged from the prior month, and up +13.1 percent over the same month. The labor force was up +0.1 percent over-the-month and up +1.2 percent. The unemployment rate identifies those individuals who are out of work and seeking employment. An individual who exhausts or is ineligible for benefits is still reflected in the unemployment rate if they actively seek work.

IDES helps connect jobseekers to employers who are hiring by hosting and co-hosting job fairs and hiring events with workforce partners, and through Illinois JobLink. Recently, IJL showed 64,412 posted resumes with 73,689 jobs available.

## New State Laws To Take Effect

Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias announced several new laws initiated by his office will take effect at the start of the new year. The initiatives were passed earlier this year by the General Assembly and signed into law. They include: Preventing Catalytic Converter Theft, Assisting Victims of Crime, Enhancing Scott's Law and Honoring Gold Star Families.

## Park District Offers Outdoor Ice Skating

The Chicago Park District will continue the tradition of ice skating in neighborhoods at five outdoor sites. Programs and hours vary at each site. Visit each rink's official webpage to view hours, program schedules, accessibility information, rules, and more. The following outdoor ice rinks will close on Feb. 17th, weather permitting:

Midway Plaisance Park Ice Rink, 1130 Midway Plaisance North; Mt. Greenwood Ice Rink, 3721 W. 111th st.; Warren Park Ice Rink, 6601 N. Western ave.; Wentworth Park Ice Rink, 5625 S. Mobile ave.; Due to mechanical repairs, the McKinley Park Ice Rink opening will be delayed.

Each outdoor rink site is open Wednesday through Sunday on regular business days, except for Midway Plaisance Park Ice Rink, which is open seven days a week.

## Naming Contest For Snowplows

The City of Chicago is holding its third annual "You Name A Snowplow" contest. Submissions are open until Jan. 4th, one name per person, limit 50 characters. Entries can be made online at shovels.chicago.gov.

The first phase involves gathering submissions, the second phase involves voting on the top 50 finalists, which will start on Jan. 10th. The top six winning names will represent one snowplow in each of the city's snow districts. Previous winning names include "Skilling It", "CTRL-SALT-DELETE", and "Mrs. O'Leary's Plow". Residents are encouraged to think creatively and submit their suggestions.

Skaters are encouraged to check website for holiday hours. Skate trainers/walkers are available for children.

In early January, the 108th Silver Skates Speed Skating competition will welcome skaters ages 6 and up to race their peers at one of 6 ice rinks. Midway Plaisance Park, 1130 Midway Plaisance North, Jan. 7th; McKinley Park, 2210 W. Pershing rd., Jan. 8th; Mt. Greenwood Park, 3721 W. 111th st., Jan. 9th; McFetridge Sports Center, 3843 N. California ave., Jan. 14th; Warren Park, 6601 N. Western ave., Jan. 15th and Wentworth Park, 5625 S. Mobile ave., Jan. 16th. All from 5 to 7 p.m.

The 108th Silver Skates Citywide Championship will take place at McFetridge Sports Center on Jan. 18th from 10: a.m. to 12 p.m. Finalists from each park will compete within their age group for first prize.

The skating ribbon at Maggie Daley Park, will remain open through March 9th. For more information, visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/ice-rinks.

## CSO Announces 2024/25 Season

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association announces 2024/25 Season programming for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Center Presents Jan. 8th - Gonzalez-Grandados at Chodl Auditorium of Morton East High School (free admission) and Jan. 10th - 11th - Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon - the film with orchestra. Visit CSO.org or call (312) 294-3000.

## New Year's Eve Fireworks Spectacular



Photo credit: Patrick L Pyszka, City of Chicago

The City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events announced the return of the New Year's Eve fireworks spectacular on the Chicago River to ring in 2025. In partnership with ART on THE MART, the New Year's Eve celebrations will include a custom ART on THE MART projection, beginning Sunday, Dec. 31st at 10 p.m. leading up to a countdown to midnight projected onto THE MART's massive facade.

At 11:55 p.m. a clock projected onto the facade of THE MART will begin the countdown to midnight, when the riverwalk will erupt in a fireworks display launched from a series of bridges along the river.

"New Year's is a time when we gather with friends and family to reflect on what's been and what's yet to come," said Mayor Johnson. "We're inviting residents and visitors to come together along the Riverwalk and welcome the New Year with a celebration of what makes Chicago the most beautiful, iconic and vibrant city in the world."

The fireworks show can be best viewed from Upper Wacker Drive. Fireworks will be launched from the Orleans Street, La Salle Drive, Clark Street, Dearborn Street, State Street and Columbus Drive bridges spanning the Chicago River.

Bridges will be closed to traffic and pedestrians at Orleans, La Salle, Clark, Dearborn, State & Columbus on December 31st from 11:45 p.m. to 12:15 a.m.

## Fun Program For Toddlers

Our Lady of the Snows School, 4810 S. Leamington ave. is conducting a fun program for ages 0 to 4 titled, "Little Leopards" on Fridays, Jan. 10th and 24th from 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Arts & Crafts, singing, active play and more are included. The cost is \$5 per child, per session. Walk-ups are welcome. At least one parent or guardian must accompany.

12:15 a.m. Additional streets and bridges may close as the countdown to midnight draws close. Spectators are encouraged to use public transportation.

Beginning at 10 p.m., ART on THE MART will present a selection of past projections leading up to the countdown clock. This year's projections will feature pieces by: Obscura Intro, Jonas Denzel, Yuge Zhou, Black Dance Legacy Project, Yiyun Kang, Cory Arcangel and Brendan Fernandes.

The Riverwalk will be closed beginning at 11 p.m., with only a section from Wells Street to Orleans Street open until 12:15 a.m. for spectators to enjoy the full audio/visual projection program.

For more information, visit Chicago.gov/NYE and follow on Facebook at ChicagoDCASE, on Twitter @ChicagoDCASE and Instagram @ChicagoDCASE.

Revelers are also invited to take in Navy Pier's free fireworks show, which starts with a countdown to midnight, followed by 10-minute celebratory fireworks display visible up and down the Lakefront. Visit NavyPier.org for information and visit Choose Chicago.com for a list of other NYE celebrations.

## First Day Hike At Powers State Park

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources invites outdoor lovers to start 2025 with a First Day Hike at William Powers State Recreation Area at 12949 S. Avenue O on Jan. 1st.

Stickers and special photo opportunities will be available for hikers. Visitors are encouraged to sign in and share photos and videos on social media with the hashtags #ILStateParks and #FirstDayHikes.

Trail maps and additional information are available at the Illinois First Day Hikes website. For more information contact dnr.parksadmin@illinois.gov or call (217) 782-6302.

## Holiday Festivities At Millennium Park



More than 100,000 people have already enjoyed the stunning holiday displays at Millennium Park, including the Chicago Christmas Tree, that sparkles with 70,000 LED lights and 35,000 feet of lights. The tree, a centerpiece of the holiday season, will remain illuminated until Jan. 8th at 11 p.m.

Visitors have the opportunity to ice skate at the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink, which is presented by Discover Financial Services®. The rink will remain open through Feb. 2nd, weather permitting. Admission is free, with reservations required for each 90-minute skating session, which runs from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. daily.

Free ice-skating lessons are offered from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. These lessons are made possible by the McDonald's Active Lifestyles Endowment and provided by the Chicago Youth Foundation. Refer to MillenniumPark.org for hours of operation, lesson details, and to reserve skate times.

## Winter Session At Park 596

Park No. 596 at 4830 S. Western ave. will conduct a Winter session of activities from Jan. 6th through March 16th. Participants may choose from Early Childhood Development, Pre-school and Elementary Art, Children's Sports, Yoga, Physical Fitness and more.

Visit chicagoparkdistrict.com at Park 596 for more information and registration.

### 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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## Archer Heights Library Schedules Programs

The Archer Heights Branch Library, 5055 S. Archer has scheduled a wide range of informative programs.

### ALL AGES

Technology Help is available Drop-in (first come, first served when adult librarian is on duty) or by appointment. Get help with your devices, computer questions, using online library resources (eBooks, databases, job resources).

Family Bingo Night on Wednesday, March 26th at 6 p.m.

### CHILDREN

Family Story Time for children 0 to 5 and their caregivers feature stories, songs and fun on Thursdays, Jan. 9th - March 20th at 11 a.m.

Story Time with a Police Officer Thursday, Feb. 6th at 11 a.m. for ages 0 to 5 and their caregivers.

Let's Make 2nd Tuesdays at 4 p.m. Jan. 14th Paper Lucha Libre Masks, Feb. 11th, Valentine Day Cards, March 11th, String Pull art. For ages 8 to 12.

LEGO Club Mondays, Jan. 6th - Feb. 24th ages 5 and up.

### TEENS

Do you need community services hours? Ask about our Teen Volunteer Program.

Work 'n Waffles for ages 10 to 19 is offered on Wednesdays, Jan. 8th & 22nd, Feb. 5th & 26th and March 19th from 4 to 5 p.m. Visit our meeting room and make a waffle and have other snacks while you work. Bring headphones for quiet study time or work on a project with others. Teen laptops will be available for in-library use.

Research Help with a Librarian high school students who need help with research for a school assignment can request an appointment with our Teen Librarian to review databases, printed sources and other resources. Call (312) 747-9241 to make an appointment.

Craft Squad Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Come in to work on a new craft each week. Materials and snacks will be provided.

### ADULTS

Craft Lab on 2nd Mondays at 6 p.m. Jan. 13th: Macrame Gnomes - create a winter gnome with one basic macrame knot. Feb. 10th: Painting Party - paint onto canvases with pre-drawn flowers. Great for beginners. March 10th: Bargello Bookmarks - try this modern version of needlepoint embroidery on plastic canvas to create a bookmark. All materials will be provided. Register online or at the circulation desk.

Film Screenings. Join us for a movie and popcorn. Watch PBS documentaries featuring prominent Chicago stories. No registration needed. Monday, Feb. 24th at 6 p.m. Ida B. Wells in celebration of Black History Month. Monday, March 17th at 6 p.m. *James Addams: Together We Rise*, on celebration of Women's History Month.

Wednesday Book Club 4th Wednesdays at 1 p.m. Join us for these upcoming titles: Jan. 22nd - *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. Feb. 26th, *Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri. March 19th: *The Ride of Her Life* by Elizabeth Letts. Contact Jeannine for more information. Pick up copies of the book at the circulation desk. No registration needed.

Beading Time meets 1st Saturdays at 2 p.m. Jan. 4th & Feb. 1st. Create jewelry and ornaments with beads and wire. Bring your own materials or use ours. Register at the front desk.

### SENIORS

Thursday, Feb. 20th at 1 p.m. The Dye Shrinky Disks. Create fun Shrinky Dinks in a tie dye-esque pattern. All materials will be provided. Coffee and tea will be served. Register online or at the circulation desk starting Jan. 16th.

Game Cafe - 1st Thursdays at 1 p.m. Jan. 2nd, Feb. 6th and March 6th. Play classic card or board games, socialize, and have fun. Coffee and tea will be served. No registration needed.

### Adult Programs At Archer Park

Archer Park, 4901 S. Archer offers active adults programming for ages 60+ on Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Activities include: special events, workshops and seminars, crafts and hobbies, fitness, bingo and social time.

## Illumination At Morton Arboretum



Photo provided by Morton Arboretum

2024 Illumination: Tree Lights at The Morton Arboretum, 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle is open through Jan. 4th. Exciting features and immersive installations will delight all ages along a one-mile path that is fully ADA compliant. The exhibition features 17 displays, including one new experience, enhancements to one returning feature and two features in new locations.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m.; last entry at 8:30 p.m. (last entry 7:30 p.m. on Electric Illumination nights).

Visit the *Of the Earth* sculptures to see how glistening snow transforms the sculptures. Then warm up in the library, exploring the books and periodicals from the botanical and horticultural collections. The library, free to all visitors, in the Administration and Research Building is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Give the gift of nature in all four seasons with a membership to The Morton Arboretum. Use code HOL2024E at checkout for any new 1-year Morton-level gift membership purchase and receive \$10 off your order.

Through child-led nature play and exploration, and developmentally-appropriate activities such as storytelling and sharing time, Junior Expedition on Wednesdays, Jan. 8th offers children ages 3 to 5 years the freedom to learn. Explore the science of the seasons through story times, experiments, and short hikes in The Science of the Seasons, Jan. 15th and 22nd, a program for children ages 3 to 5 years.

Get in shape and kick off the new year with winter running and walking through the Pine Pacer Challenger during month of January. Warm up this winter with a gourmet five-course dinner in The Ginkgo Room, paired with whiskey tastings from Kentucky distilleries Green River Whiskey and Bardstown Bourbon, Whiskey Dinner on Jan. 17th and 18th.

Develop the skills to identify winter trees using clues found in buds, fruits, leaf scars, bark and branching patterns in Winter Tree Identification, Jan. 9th online and Jan. 18th in person. Hike the Arboretum under the light of a full moon in Guided Hike on Jan. 13th. Experience the healing and wellness promoting effects of shinrin-yoku, the practice of bathing the senses in the atmosphere of the forest in Forest Therapy Walks on Jan. 18th.

Explore the Arboretum with your canine companion on the next Dog Admission Day, Jan. 19th. For more information, visit [mortonarb.org/illumination](http://mortonarb.org/illumination).

## Ridge Library Plans Programs

The Garfield Ridge Branch, 6347 S. Archer, has scheduled interesting programs.

Morning Stories for ages up to 4 are recited on the first Saturdays of each month at 10:30 a.m. Featuring a simple story, new song and familiar nursery rhyme. Playtime follows.

Baby Time will share books, songs and play on Friday, Jan. 3rd to 31st from 10 to 11 a.m.

"Games People Play" will be offered for adults on Thursdays, Jan. 9th to May 29th from 2 to 4 p.m. Bring your own games or use one of ours. Featuring chess, Scrabble, UNO, board games, Pinochle and Canasta.

Saturday Game Day for adults and seniors on Dec. 28th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring a game or play one of ours: UNO, Skip-bo, Mexican Train, Canasta, Chess, Checkers, Sorry and more.

Lego Free Build for ages 5 to 10 on Saturday, Dec. 28th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Bring your imagination, we'll supply the Lego bricks.

Noon Year's Eve Party for toddlers to ages 13 on Tuesday, Dec. 31st from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Have fun making party hats and noisemakers as we get ready for a countdown to 12 noon, with a balloon drop.

January Toddler Programs are scheduled for Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Topics are Jan. 13th - Block Party - duplos, wooden and foam blocks. Jan 20th - library is closed. Jan. 27th - Time for Tots. Programs on Wednesday at

10:30 a.m. include: stories, rhymes, songs and a craft. Jan. 8th - Play Day, toys, puzzles and pretend play. Jan. 15th Play Doh - dress to get messy. Jan. 23rd, 1,2,3, paint - dress to get messy. Jan. 29th, Stories, songs and playtime.

Illustrious Illustrators for ages 6 to 13 Tuesdays, Jan. 14th to Feb. 25th at 4:30 p.m. Each week meet a different published illustrator and learn a new art skill. Afterward enjoy time creating art in their style. The schedule include: Jan. 14th, Jess Hannigan; Jan. 21st, Sergio Ruzzier; Jan. 28th, Breanna Carzoo; Feb. 4th, TBA; Feb. 11th, X. Fang; Feb. 18th, Felicitia Sala and Feb. 25th, Jashar Awan. Online registration is required.

An adult book discussion of *The Golden Gate* by Amy Chua is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 9th at 6 p.m. In Berkeley, California, in 1944, Homicide Detective Al Sullivan has just left the swanky Claremont Hotel after a drink in the bar when a presidential candidate is assassinated in one of the rooms upstairs. Copies are available at the circulation desk.

The Poet's Corner is a place to recite your original poems or read a favorite poets' work on Saturdays, Jan. 25th, Feb. 22nd, March 29th and April 26th at 2 p.m. Participants will receive a writing prompt to work on for the next session. We will focus on the poetry of Mary Oliver and copies of her books will be available to check out. Copies of various poets are available to examine and take home. Share your writing process and what inspires.

Tween Vinyl Cutter for ages 10 to 12 on Monday, Jan. 13th at 4 p.m. Learn how to use a vinyl cutter to create a fun stickers. Participants will receive a metal water bottle to decorate. Registration required.

Time for Tots, ages 15 months to 3-1/2 years on Monday, Jan. 27th at 10:30 p.m. Join us for stories, songs, rhymes and a themed craft to take home. Early arrivals can color, build puzzles and play with toys. Registration required.

Family Escape Room for ages 8 and over on Monday, Jan. 27th at 4 p.m. Work together to solve puzzles and break into a locked safe.

Chess and LEGOs for ages 5 and over on Wednesdays, Jan. 8th - 29th from 4 to 5 p.m. Engage with LEGO challenges or find a friend to practice your chess skills with.

Register for events at [chipublib.org/events](http://chipublib.org/events).

## Obituaries



**AMAL CENTERS, SR.**, who was born in Chicago in 1957, passed away on Dec. 16th at the age of 67. Survivors are his wife Judy; son, Amal Jr. (Karin); siblings, Quida, Gladys, and Billy. He was preceded in death by his parents, Louis and Frankie Mae Centers, who resided in Hazard, Kentucky. For over 40 years, he was a cornerstone of the Scouting program, serving as a Troop Scoutmaster, Assistant District Commissioner, and mentor to more than 75 Eagle Scouts. Amal was an active participant of Immaculate Conception Church Men's Club

and member of the Knights of Columbus Council 4698. He spent over 38 years as a truck driver, Union Steward and longtime member of Teamsters Local 701. Before his civilian career, Amal served as a Combat Engineer in the U.S. Army and was a member of the American Legion Post #735.

Visitation was held Dec. 21st at Foran Funeral Home. Services included military honors, and a Broken Arrow Ceremony by the Boy's Scouts of America.

**ROSA PUEBLA** who was born on June 4th, 1934, passed away on Dec. 21st at the age of 90. Visitation will be held Sunday, Dec. 29th from 2 to 8 p.m. at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave., Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Funeral Mass will be celebrated Monday, Dec. 30th, 10:30 a.m. at St. Pancratius Church, 4025 S. Sacramento Church. Interment will be at Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Stickney.

## Museum of Asian Art Schedules Programs



The Heritage Museum of Asian Art, 3500 S. Morgan st. will offer 3rd Friday Free Admission Museum Night on Jan. 17th from 5 to 8 p.m. The event offers wine and appetizers in addition to an engaging tour led by a museum docent at 6 p.m.

"We Have All Been Transformed by Dragons" will be held on Saturday, Jan. 11th from 2 to 4 p.m. This free session includes writing, discussion, and qigong, fostering a connection with the concept of flow. We will delve into dragons' roles in Chinese-style fortune telling.

The Great Zodiac Animal Race: Collaborative Performance on Friday, Jan. 21st from 6 to 8 p.m. The performance will begin right after the 3rd Friday Free Admission Museum Tour, which runs from 6 to 6:45 p.m. Join us for a magical evening of puppetry and dance in a collaborative performance by Tom Lee and Yoshinojo Fujima, aka

Rika Lin. If the Sky Could Dream: "Dragonatomy" is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 25th from 2 to 4 p.m. We will search for dragons in the galleries, movement, music and ourselves.

**SACRED HEART IN THANKSGIVING NEVER-FAIL NOVENA**

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised loved, adored, glorified throughout the world now and forever. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day, on the ninth day your prayers will be answered. Publication must be promised. Thank you for prayers answered.

C.M.

## New Exhibit At Shedd Aquarium



Photo Credit: Shedd Aquarium/Brenna Hernandez

### Police Beat 912 Plans Meeting

The Chicago Police Department 9th District will conduct a public meeting for Beat 912 at the McKinley Park Field House, 2210 W. Pershing rd. on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. beginning Jan. 8th.

Residents are invited to meet their beat officers, discuss problems and crime conditions, receive crime stats and learn crime reduction strategies.

For additional information contact the Community Policing office at (312) 747-3501.

Shedd Aquarium's rotunda space returns with a new exhibit, Wonder of Water, featuring two habitats brimming with activity - one freshwater and one saltwater ecosystem. The diverse exhibits feature live corals, freshwater plants and a colorful array of fishes, designed to be ever-changing.

The planted freshwater exhibit features more than 5,000 fish amongst a variety of 50 lush plant species, some over 7 feet tall. On the marine side, colorful corals live, in colonies that come in stunning shapes and sizes with 1,500 reef fishes. Guests will see the differences and surprising similarities between fresh and saltwater environments.

Both habitats are thriving ecosystems that will evolve in slight ways

### Job Centers At City Colleges

The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership and City Colleges of Chicago announced the third co-location of an American Job Center.

The AJC on Daley College property has moved into the main building, at 7500 S. Pulaski.

A new AJC located in the Malcolm X College's West Campus, 4624 W. Madison.

These locations join the already established AJC at Truman College, 1145 W. Wilson, Suite 1917.

A range of employment services are available for adult and youth career seekers and employers, whether starting a career, looking for funding for training, or seeking to hire a local team. For more information about the network, visit [LevelUpAJC.org](http://LevelUpAJC.org). For more information about City Colleges of Chicago, visit [www.ccc.edu](http://www.ccc.edu) or call (773) COLLEGE.

*From Our Family To Yours*

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

**Masses at St. Therese**  
*Chinatown — 218 W. Alexander*  
Sunday Masses  
8AM & 10:30AM in English

**Weekday Schedule**  
Mon., Wed., & Fri. 8 AM Mass  
December 29, 2024

**St. Barbara: 312-842-7979 St. Therese: 312-842-6777 School 312-326-2837**

New Year's Eve Mass at 5:00 PM at St. Therese  
Followed by Benediction and HotPot

New Year's Day: 9:30 AM at St. Barbara Church  
10:00 AM (English) at St. Therese Church

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**Real Estate For Sale**  
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-1 Plaintiff, -v- CARMELO LAJUNAS; DANIEL LAJUNAS; CAPITAL ONE, N.A. S/B/M NETBANK, INC., CITY OF CHICAGO, Defendants. 2023CH02269 4343 SOUTH DRAKE AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60632

**NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to a Judgment of foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 10/9/2024, an agent of Auction.com LLC will at 12:00 PM on February 5, 2025 located at 100 N LaSalle Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606, sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.

Commonly known as 4343 SOUTH DRAKE AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60632  
Property Index No. 19-02-401-018-0000  
The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence. The judgment amount was \$211,256.37 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds, must be paid within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed in the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC (312) 346-9088 please refer to file number 23-14133L.

Auction.com LLC 100 N LaSalle Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit [www.auction.com](http://www.auction.com)  
Attorney File No. 23-14133L Case Number: 2023CH02269

**NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**  
13254428

**Real Estate For Sale**  
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17 CH 4971 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. Bank National Association as Legal Title Trustee for Truman 2016 SC6 Title Trust Plaintiff vs. Ernestine Tripp; Brandon Tripp; Shry L. Tripp; Felicia Tripp; Nickia A. Tripp; Shinda N. Tripp; Thomas P. Quinn, as special Representative for Eugene Tripp Defendant  
17 CH 4971 CALENDAR 62  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on February 3, 2025, at the hour 11:00 A.M., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:  
LOTS 48 AND 49 IN HOUGH AND REED'S ADDITION TO WASHINGTON HEIGHTS, SAID ADDITION BEING A SUBDIVISION OF LOT 17 IN BLOCK 4 IN WASHINGTON HEIGHTS AND THAT PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 LYING NORTH OF THE SOUTH 100 ACRES OF SAID SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 37 NORTH RANGE 14 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, (EXCEPT RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY), IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
P.L.N. 25-08-302-020-0000.  
Commonly known as 9969 South Beverly Avenue, Chicago, IL 60643.  
The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.  
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates P.A., 1771 West Dixie Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563. (630) 453-6960. 1460-190227  
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION [intercountyjudicialsales.com](http://intercountyjudicialsales.com) 13257956

**Free Play Reading At The Newberry**

Join the Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton for a reading of Sierra Rosetta's original play, *From the Old Wood Forest*, presented by Dancing Pony Productions on Saturday, Jan. 11th from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The script will be published as part of an anthology marking ten years of the Yale Indigenous Performing Arts Program's Young Native Playwrights Conference. A local drum will play an honor song to open the reading. A brief Q&A afterwards will collect audience reaction and feedback.

Dancing Pony is a boutique production company based in Chicago that develops and creates theater, film, music and music video projects for a variety of clients. Among them was a 2024 live production of Madeline Sayet's original play, *Where We Belong*.

The program is free and open to all. Advance registration required at [newberry.org](http://newberry.org). For more information, call (312) 255-3592.

**Holiday Season At Griffin MSI**



Photo Credit: Griffin Museum of Science and Industry

Griffin Museum of Science and Industry's annual tradition, *Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light*, through Monday, Jan. 6th, 2025. Tickets for Museum visits and events are now available at [msichicago.org](http://msichicago.org).

*Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light* features more than 50 trees and displays decorated by volunteers to represent the holiday traditions from cultures around the globe. This year's show will feature the photographic work of snowflake scientist and Caltech Physicist Ken Libbrecht, accompanied by a range of on-site programs and events for all ages.

Winter Break Camps: Students from Pre-K through 8th grades are invited to learn about winter science with Winter Break Camps. These week-long camps offer hands-on STE(A)M activities run by Griffin MSI's Education team like creating winter-themed crafts with 3D printers, vinyl cutters and more in the Wagner Family Fab Lab. Camps run Monday, Dec. 30th, through Friday, Jan. 3rd from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (with no camp on Jan. 1st).

Every 30 minutes, Museum guests can experience the magic of snowfall amid Christmas trees in the North Court, near the Grand Tree.

**Free Services For Seniors**

Chicagoans age 60 and over who need help at home may contact the DFSS Senior Services Division at [aging@cityofchicago.org](http://aging@cityofchicago.org) or (312) 744-4016.

Free Chore services include: short-term temporary light home-making tasks like cleaning, laundry, shopping and self-care tasks like bathing, grooming or dressing after recovering from an illness or life transition.

Heavy-duty - a one-time deep cleaning, removing trash or clutter, packing items and moving furniture.

**Jazz Links Jam Session**

A Jazz Links Jam session for students ages 9 to 19 will be held at the Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Court on Wednesday, Jan. 8th from 5 to 7 p.m.

Historically, jam sessions take place after hours in the clubs, making it impossible for student musicians to participate.

Students perform with one another and with the Jazz Links house band, which includes world-class, professional jazz musicians. The event is free and open to the public. Future sessions are scheduled for Feb. 12th, March 12th, April 9th and May 14th.

For more information, [www.JazzInChicago.org](http://www.JazzInChicago.org).

**McKinley Library Schedules Programs**

The McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st. has scheduled interesting and informative programs. Hours are: Monday and Wednesday, 12 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

Nightfall Story Time (online) Mondays, 6 p.m., ages 0-5, enjoy stories and songs. Online registration required.

STEM Explorers will consider computer science, physics, electricity, forensics and various STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities on Saturday, Dec. 28th from 1 to 2 p.m. Participants engage in hands-on projects designed to develop life

skills and STEM competencies. For ages 9 to 15, but siblings are always welcome. This program is made possible by Illinois Extension College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences of University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

An adult book discussion of "My Brilliant Friend" by Elena Ferrante is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 29th from 6 to 7 p.m. Themes are centered on social class, identity and female friendships. Explore why this story was deemed "The Best Book of the Century" by the New York Times. Copies are available at the front desk.

Visit [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org) to register.

**Church Services**

**BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
3532 S. Hoyne  
(773) 523-7911  
[bethanychicago.org](http://bethanychicago.org)  
Ministering in McKinley Park since 1888

Sunday, Worship service, 10 a.m., visiting speaker. Bilingual service.

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Bible study in Spanish.

Wednesday, Awana kids club and Youth Group are on Christmas / New Years break. Clubs will reconvene on Jan. 22nd.

Saturday Gathering for Spanish speakers, 5:30 p.m.

**ST. BRUNO CHURCH**  
48th & Harding  
**ST. RICHARD CHURCH**  
50th & Kostner

New Year's Eve Tuesday, Dec. 31st, 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass in English at St. Bruno.

New Year's Day, Wednesday, Jan. 1st, 7:30 a.m. Mass in Polish at St. Richard; 9 a.m. Mass in English at St. Richard; 10:30 a.m. Mass in Spanish at St. Richard; 10:30 a.m. Mass in Polish at St. Bruno and 12:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish at St. Bruno.

**Brighton Park Library Schedules Programs**

The Brighton Park Branch Library, 4314 S. Archer has scheduled engaging 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.

Workshops with Brighton Park Poets will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month where participants discuss source poems, respond to prompts and share their work. The facilitator is bilingual (English, Spanish).  
Story time with Mx.

Dannie for children up to 2nd grade and their families are conducted on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for stories, songs and other fun activities.

Adult Book Discussions are held on the third Friday of the month from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Family Crafting Time is scheduled for Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Build Legos, make a craft, create art or play a board game

Visit [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org) to register.

**Holiday Enrichment At Brookfield Zoo**



Photo provided by Brookfield Zoo Chicago

Brookfield Zoo Chicago celebrated the holiday season by treating animals with holiday-themed enrichment, which provides positive stimulation that benefits mental and physical health. Enrichment, can also include meeting needs through sensory behaviors, foraging, exploration and cognitive activities. Above - Hudson the polar bear making a special delivery.

Guests will be delighted with more than two million lights when the Zoo reopens this Thursday for Holiday Magic. This weekend marks the last days of the 43rd annual event, which is open from 3 to 9 p.m. on Dec. 26th to 31st. Details are available at [brookfieldzoo.org/events](http://brookfieldzoo.org/events).

**Flower Show At Lincoln Park**

The Lincoln Park Conservatory, 2391 N. Stockton dr. will present "Champagne Toast" Winter Flower Show Wednesdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Jan. 5th.

The display features poinsettia varieties such as 'Autumn Leaves', 'Jubilee Pink', 'Ice Crystal', and 'Maren', all of which capture the theme in unique shades of apricot, gold and pink. Fresh cut fir trees adorn the room and hanging baskets of dichondra float like chandeliers.

Free registration is required at [lincolnparkconservatory.org/conservatory-reservations/](http://lincolnparkconservatory.org/conservatory-reservations/) or call (773) 883-7275.

**Application For LIHEAP Now Open**

Applications for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will be accepted through Aug. 15th, 2025, or until funds are exhausted.

The energy bill assistance program will provide \$226 million to eligible families to assist with natural gas, propane, electricity bills and furnace assistance.

Income-eligible families can apply by visiting [helpillinoisfamilies.com](http://helpillinoisfamilies.com) or call 1-833-711-0374 for assistance in 30 languages.

LIHEAP customers of Peoples Gas will also receive a monthly discount on their natural gas bill through the new Low Income Discount Rates. Visit <https://www.powerbilldiscount.com/> for more details.

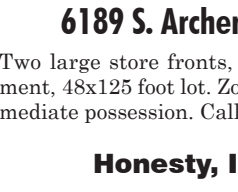
**Happy New Year From Our Family to Yours!**



**Summit - SOLD** 5 Room aluminum sided Raised Ranch - 3BR, 1.5 baths, full semi finished basement, 2 car detached garage. Immediate possession. Call (773) 582-9300 for more details.



**6604 S. Kolin - Under Contract** Great Location in West Lawn two story brick, two flat. First floor features 2 bedrooms, 1 full bath, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen. Second floor features 1 bedroom, 1 bath, living room and kitchen. There are 2 stoves, 2 Refrigerators, 2 window air conditioners, separate electric circuit breaker boxes. Newer Windows. Two cars detached garage. Immediate Possession. PROPERTY IS SOLD AS-IS. Make your appointment today at (773) 582-9300.



**6189 S. Archer Ave. - Price Reduced**  
Two large store fronts, 2 baths, GFA, CA, partial basement, 48x125 foot lot. Zoning is B3-1. Parking in rear. Immediate possession. Call (773) 583-9300 for more details.

**Honesty, Integrity, Service**  
**(773) 582-9300**  
**6165 S. ARCHER**  
(At Austin)  
CALL FOR A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS.

**Use The Want Ads**  
(773) 523-3663  
Deadline Tuesday 12 p.m. noon

**BRIGHTON PARK BRICK TWO FLAT**  
Half block to Archer Ave.  
Each unit 6 rooms, 3 bedrooms.  
2 car brick garage,  
30 foot corner lot  
Call Valle Realty (312) 806-4201



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[www.scenictreeapts.com](http://www.scenictreeapts.com)  
apply online!

**Silver Skates Event At McKinley Park**



The Chicago Park District will conduct its Annual Silver Skates Speed Skating Competition at McKinley Park, 2210 W. Pershing rd. on Wednesday, Jan. 8th from 5 to 7 p.m. Adult skaters in the Annual Silver Skates Speed Skating Competition! Adult skaters are invited to an 18 & over meet following the children's meet. Participants must wear gloves, long sleeves, and a bicycle or hockey helmet. Figure, hockey or speed skates are required. Skates will be available free of charge. Registration will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis to the first 20 participants from each age group and gender. Register at [chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://chicagoparkdistrict.com). Participants under the age of 18 must be registered by a parent or guardian.

**Repair Program For Home Heating Units**

The Chicago Department of Housing Emergency Heating Repair Program provides a grant for low-moderate income, owner-occupied residential buildings of one to four units.

The program is limited to the repair/replacement service of a heating system. Grant funds are limited and provided on a first-come, first served basis to income-qualified Chicago residential property owners.

Applicant(s) Property Requirements: Applicant(s) must be on deed title for at least one year starting from the application date.

The eligible owner-occupied property must be located in Chicago. Property must be in habitable condition. Property cannot be at risk of foreclosure. All utilities must be current and in working order

How to Apply: until April 1, 2025, interested homeowners with email access can begin their application process on-line at [www.chicago.gov/ehrp](http://www.chicago.gov/ehrp), by calling 311, or through the CHI311 app. A status letter will be provided upon completion.

A paper application package can be downloaded from [www.chicago.gov/ehrp](http://www.chicago.gov/ehrp) or requested by mail by calling the City's 311 line.

**Comedy Show At Beverly Arts Ctr.**

Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th st. will present Laugh your way into 2025, with Mike Toomey's New Year's Eve Comedy Show! on Tuesday, Dec. 31st at 6 pm.  
Visit [beverlyartscenter.com](http://beverlyartscenter.com) or call (773) 445-3838.

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[PALERMOSOF63RD.COM](http://PALERMOSOF63RD.COM)

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Limit one coupon per order. Exp. 1/31/26.

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**Catering Package**  
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