

Missing Children, A Complex Problem



By Dr. R. Pletsch

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has been very active again this year. They work with every law enforcement agency in their efforts to find all those under 21 who have been reported as being missing. The 2024 report indicates almost 30,000 reported missing, combine this with the others missing and still not found over the years, this comes to about 350,000 under the age of 21 still missing.

The agency works very closely with the FBI. Official statistics show that since 2024, the FBI has returned about 6,200 children to their families. This gives hope to those families who are suffering. To indicate the magnitude of the problem, 2700 of these returned children were victims of child exploitation.

The FBI arrested 1,700 child predators, over 300 as human traffickers. They dismantled 764 related criminal networks and closed 3.8 million pedafile accounts. While these statistics are high, it is even more tragic. Government records show more than 300,000 unaccompanied immigrant children that were turned over to unvetted sponsors during the "open borders". These children were "lost track of" or part of the millions that just never made contact with Border Patrol.

Many have expressed fear that many of these children are used in the drug industry and others in the sex exploitation industry and some were even sold to people who may or may not have honorable intentions.

The ICE agents have been accused of much.

But those who have had children returned are grateful. Several politicians are on record as saying that some people with good intentions are protesting against ICE agents. It is preventing their humanitarian efforts for these missing children.

In looking for confirmed cases filed against ICE agents, there is a problem. Many never make official reports. We see on TV many anecdotal reports, which are mainly from protestors and home videos. There are many immigration lawyers advertising on the internet but they, in general, warn about articles that are unconfirmed by the reporters. Think if you are charged for something seen on a video. There are two videos released to the press. However, on these videos it is clear that at least 50 other people are using their phones to film, too. It is a worry because the judges might declare almost anything, especially now with AI. We, individually, would make up our minds using our own experiences.

The government websites have set up many tiplines. One indicates it has five thousand incidents reported by ICE agents. However these are anonymous. There are tiplines also to turn in people with children you believe are not part of their families. This could be helpful finding children but they must investigate, not just arrest.

One of the most successful programs has been that 1.6 million undocumented immigrants have gotten their free money and tickets, went home, with paperwork saying they returned on their own and may at a future date be allowed to immigrate legally. Amongst the arguments you will see on various podcasts are that some sanctuary jurisdictions let no immigrant be arrested. No matter how much empathy many polls show, this is too extreme just as arresting everyone on the tip line would be counterproductive. I hope this gives you a little bit of what is going on. Look things up yourself. A good start is US Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Troop 1441 Order of the Arrow Unit Election



On March 19th, members of Boy Scout Troop 1441, sponsored by St. Mary of the Sea Holy Name Society held their Order of the Arrow Unit elections to recommend a Scout to be voted into the local Iron Horse Chapter of the Order of the Arrow of the Takhone Lodge, Pathway to Adventure Council. After being approved by the Troop's Scout Master, plus meeting all O/A requirements, and securing a vote of 51% of the Youth members of the Troop, a candidate is then qualified to join. Star (Rank) Scout Lucas Kozel was voted in and moves onto the next step of a official Call Out. For more information on the Order of the Arrow, contact Glen Ritter at (773) 406-3736

Pictured are Unit Election Youth Team Members Joshua Ritter, Brendan McNamara, Lucas Kozel, John Massura (Scout Master) and Unit Election Adult Team Member Glen Ritter.

Programs at Beverly Arts Center

The Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th st. has scheduled the 59th Annual Auction on Saturday, April 25th, a night of cocktails, music, dancing, savorys and sweets, live & silent auctions. Tickets are \$150.

Chicago Repertory Ballet announces it's Spring Performance Series with Le Sacre du Printemps (The Rite of Spring) set to Igor Stravinsky's iconic score on Saturday, May 2nd at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35. R.E.S.P.E.C.T.: A Tribute to Aretha Franklin is scheduled for Friday, May 8th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

Celebrate Mother's Day Weekend with an unforgettable night of legendary soul. Soundtracks of a Generation features vocalist LaShera Moore Ellis, backed by a 10-piece band led by Music Director and guitarist Chris Forte.

The open application period for ART COMP 49 will close on midnight, Wednesday, April 1st. This annual juried gallery exhibition celebrates the talent and creativity of local artists. The entry fee is \$20, or \$15 for college students.

The awards reception

is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th from 2 to 4 p.m.

Step back in time with Motor City "The Motown Review" on Friday and Saturday, April 3rd & 4th at 7:30 p.m. and April 4th at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$35. Unforgettable hits of your favorite artists, include: The Supremes, Marvin Gaye, The Four Tops, Tammi Terrell, Smokey Robinson and The Miracles, Martha and The Vandellas, Mary Wells and The Temptations. The Night of Classics features timeless hits, stunning performances and elaborate costuming.

Performances of Singin' in the Rain JR are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, April 16th & April 17th at 7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, April 18th & 19th at 3 p.m. Directed by Carrie Hartman, tickets are \$15.

The "Greatest Movie Musical of All Time" is adapted by Broadway legends Betty Comden and Adolph Green, from their original award-winning screenplay.

Visit thebeverlyartscenter.com or by calling (773) 445-3838.

Artist Call For DuSable Statue



Photo credit by Chicago Park District

Chicago's first permanent non-Native settler Jean Baptiste Point DuSable will be memorialized with a full body, figurative statue to be unveiled at the forthcoming opening of the DuSable Park, near the mouth of the Chicago River and the shore of Lake Michigan at 451 N. Lake Shore Drive.

The Request for Qualifications currently open to artists or artist teams interested in submitting qualifications for the public art commission at the future 3.44-acre DuSable Park.

The Chicago Park District, in partnership with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, is soliciting the design and fabrication of the history and legacy of the Haitian pioneer who established a thriving trading post in Chicago in the late 18th century.

The park will also feature public art installations offering unique artistic interpretations honoring DuSable, his Potawatomi wife and cultural ambassador Kitiyawa and indigenous voices.

The budget for this permanent artwork is \$498,500, and is inclusive of all costs and fees associated with design, engineering, fabrication, site preparation, installation, and related expenses.

The Chicago Park District will select three finalists from submissions to present to an artist selection panel composed of Park District staff and members of the DuSable Park Steering Committee. A \$500 honorarium will be provided to the final three candidates to develop the presentation. The chosen artist will be contacted by May 22nd.

Deadline for RFQ is April 13th at 11:59 p.m.

SBA Loans For Storm Victims

The U.S. Small Business Administration has approved a disaster declaration for the severe storms and flooding that impacted six counties in northeastern Illinois from Aug. 16th-18th, 2025. This declaration will allow homeowners, renters, businesses, and certain non-profit organizations to apply for low-interest loans to help cover damages not covered by insurance.

The declaration includes the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will. SBA staff will opened a Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to allow disaster survivors to obtain assistance in applying for physical damage loans and Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

Homeowners and renters can apply for up to \$500,000 in low-interest loans to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners or renters can apply for up to \$100,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property such as appliances and furniture. Businesses and some not-for-profits can borrow up to \$2 million for physical damages.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is Friday, May 15th. The deadline to return economic injury applications

is Wednesday, Dec. 16th. Residents can apply for the disaster assistance at one of the SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center Ward offices or online at sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance.

U.S. Small Business Administration City of Chicago Downtown Office (appointment only), 332 S. Michigan avenue, Suite 600, (312) 353-4528.

23rd Ward Ald. Silvana Tabares Office, 5680 S Archer ave., Suite 100 through April 2nd and May 5th to 16th.

12th Ward Ald. Julia M. Ramirez, 3868 S. Archer ave., April 3rd to 18th.

14th Ward Ald. Jeylu B. Gutierrez, 3124 W. 59th st., April 3rd to 18th. To apply online, visit sba.gov/disaster. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomer.service@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance.

Moss Honored

Minnesota State University has named Tyler Moss to the Honor List for the 2025 fall semester.

A 3.5 to 3.9 grade point average is required for at least 12 credit hours for the semester.

16 Coolest Products Made in Illinois

With nearly 80,000 votes cast, the field of contenders competing in the seventh annual "Makers Madness" contest has been narrowed to the Top 16. Hosted by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, the bracket-style tournament allows voters to decide which product is The Coolest Thing Made in Illinois.

Presented by Comcast Business, the competition celebrates the work of manufacturers who have long served as the backbone of our state's economy. Manufacturing is the largest contributor of any industry to the state's Gross Domestic Product, supporting nearly a third of all jobs and contributing more than \$580 billion to the state's economy each year.

More than 100 products were nominated for the 2026 title of The Coolest Thing Made in Illinois. Following two weeks of voting, the field has been narrowed to the Top 16. The top four vote-getters from the initial round of voting are NASA Standard Initiator made by Chemring Energetic Devices in Downers Grove; John Deere Combine made by John Deere in East Moline; 6000-RLA Ice Flaker manufactured by Howe Corporation in Chicago; and NERDS Juicy Gummy Clusters made by Ferrara Candy Company in Chicago.

The Top 16 matchups are as follows:

Bracket A: (1) NASA Standard Initiator (Chemring Energetic Devices, Downers Grove) v. (4) Gindo's Whiskey Acres Maple Bourbon Whiskey Sauce (Gindo's Spice of Life, St. Charles) (2) 6000-RLA Ice Flaker (Howe Corporation, Chicago) v. (3) Kinder Bueno (Ferrero, Bloomington)

Bracket B: (1) John Deere Combine (John Deere, East Moline) v. (4) CHEESEWICH Colby Jack Cheese and Hard Salami (Cheesewich Ltd., Hodgkins)

(2) Advanced Quantum Computing Ultra-High Vacuum Chamber (Meyer Tool & Manufacturing, Oak Lawn) v. (3) ADA Bus Transport Seat (Freedman by Lippert, Chicago)

Bracket C: (1) MQ-25 Stingray (The Boeing Company, Mascoutah) v. (4) ROHN Self-Supporting Tower (ROHN Products, LLC, Peoria)

(2) Adobo and Sazon All-Purpose Seasoning (La Criolla Inc., Alsip) v.

(3) Duck Skimmer (Elastic, Carmi)

Bracket D: (1) NERDS Juicy Gummy Clusters (Ferrara Candy Company, Chicago) v. (4) Aerapy PPR HVAC UV System (Aerapy, Elk Grove Village)

(2) Aerosol Spray Cheese (Bernier Food & Beverage, Dakota) v. (3) Curved Blazed Diffraction Grating (Inprentus, Inc., Champaign)

Voting for the next round is now open and will take place at www.makersmadnessil.com through 11:59 p.m. on March 29th. Voters may cast one vote per day in each of the eight head-to-head matchups between individual products. Consecutive rounds of voting will take place each week, with vote totals reset to zero at the beginning of each round. The contest will culminate with an awards ceremony at the Governor's Mansion on April 15 when The Coolest Thing Made in Illinois will be named.

Last year's champion was the Aerial Firefighting Helicopter Refill Pump, a pump that provides rapid and reliable water access for aerial firefighting teams, made by MTH pumps in Plano. Previous contest winners include the Komatsu mining truck made by Komatsu in Peoria; the Rosenberg Moon Habitat by Ingersoll Machine Tools in Rockford; Rivian's all-electric R1T truck made in Normal; the Self-Regulating Traffic Signal Heater by Termico Technologies in Elk Grove Village; and the 797F Mining Truck, the world's largest mechanical truck, manufactured by Caterpillar, Inc. in Decatur.

The Illinois Manufacturers' Association is the oldest and largest state manufacturing trade association in the United States, representing nearly 4,000 companies and facilities. For more information, visit <https://ima-net.org/>.

Guitar Concert



The Archer Heights Branch Library, 5055 S. Archer will present a Spring Guitar Concert featuring Nicaraguan Francisco Romero on Saturday, April 4th at 3 p.m. Romero will be showcasing classic and Latin music.

Free Events At Dan Ryan Woods

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will conduct Conservation at Home: "Seed Swap and Plant Exchange" on Saturday, March 28th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dan Ryan Woods Pavilion, 87th & Western.

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, April 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.

Nature plant presentations are followed by seed and plant sharing. All are welcome. Bring a mug, a warm beverage will be provided.

Crafternoon is scheduled for Friday, April 10th at 11 a.m. Try your hand at different crafts suitable for people of all abilities

Wellness in the Woods: Yoga will be conducted on Saturday, April 11th at 11 a.m. The free one-hour indoor class is focused on building stability, flexibility and relaxation through the practices of breath-work, mindful movement and meditation. Come dressed comfortably in active wear with a mat and a blanket/towel for kneeling.

Visit fpdcc.com.

Fish Fry At Blessed Sacrament

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Parish, 3745 S. Paulina, will conduct a Fish Fry in the church hall on Friday, March 27th from 5 to 8 p.m. sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

The menu features \$15 Fish Dinner (includes salad, pasta, dinner roll, dessert, & beverage), \$15 Shrimp Dinner (includes salad, pasta, dinner roll, dessert, & beverage), \$15 Fish Soup (includes dessert & beverage), and \$15 Stuffed Poblano Pepper with rice (includes dessert & beverage). Carry outs will be available.

Author Talk At Library Center



Photo provided by the Chicago Public Library

Economist and author Misty L. Heggeness will discuss her new book, "Swiftynomics: How Women Mastermind and Redefine Our Economy" at the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State st. on Monday, March 30th from 6 to 7 p.m.

A feminist romp through pop culture that illuminates how women influence and shape the economy, "Swiftynomics" assesses the economic lives of everyday American women through the stories of groundbreakers like Taylor Swift.

Heggeness digs into the data, reveals women's hidden economic contributions and aspirations,

explores reforms regarding caregiving and gendered labor and offers advice for women to thrive in an economy not built for them.

Heggeness will be in conversation with writer, editor and journalist, Britt Julious.

This event will also take place live on CPL's YouTube channel and CPL's Facebook page.

Civic Meeting In McKinley Park

The McKinley Park Civic Association will be hosting Comfort at Home during its next meeting in the auditorium of the McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st. on Wednesday, April 1st at 6 p.m.

Pre registration is not required as this is an open meeting for all neighborhood residents. For more information, email mckinleyparkcivicassociation68@gmail.com

Escho Honored

Zoe Escho has been named to the Deans' List at Drake University of Des Moines, Iowa. Honorees must have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher during the Fall 2025 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.

Archer Heights Library Schedules Programs

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

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).

Messy Art “Papier Mache Masks” on Monday, March 30th from 6 to 7 p.m. We provide all the supplies. For families with children of all ages.

CHILDREN

Family Story Time on Thursday, March 26th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Stories, songs and fun for the whole family. For children 0 to 5 and their caregivers.

TWEENS & TEENS

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.

Teen Volunteer Hour on Thursday, March 26th from 4 to 5 p.m. Earn 1 volunteer hour while helping at your library.

Back of the Yards Schedules Programs

The Back of the Yards Branch Library, 2111 W. 47th st. has scheduled the following events.

CHILDREN

Little Readers Book Club for ages 4 & up on Thursdays, through April 30th from 5 to 6 p.m. Play phonics and word games.

Bilingual Story Time for ages 0 to 5 on Saturday, March 28th from 2 to 3 p.m. We'll share songs, rhymes and books, plus craft activities in English and Spanish.

SitStayRead for ages 5 to 9 on Tuesday, April 14th from 5 to 6 p.m. Kids can practice their reading skills with Certified Reading Assistance Dogs! Participants will need an adult parent or guardian present to sign a permission form.

CINEMA

Film Screening of “In a World...” (2014) on Friday, March 27th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. An ambitious young vocal coach makes a play for stardom with the help of her irasci-

ble sister and a talented sound technician, only to get caught up in a treacherous battle of egos after stealing a job from a seasoned pro with a fierce reputation. ©Sony Pictures Entertainment - 93 Minutes - MPAA Rating: R

Teacher in the Library Wednesdays from 4 to 7 p.m. and Sundays, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

ADULTS

Craft Lab Grab & Go: Artist Trading Card on Monday, March 30th, all day. We will be making Artist Trading Cards, miniature works of art that are created to be traded to other artists, not sold. They can be made using any medium and are traditionally traded in sessions or online. Pick-up kit at the Reference Desk, while supplies last.

Grab and Go: Spice Club Kits (Za'atar) on Monday, March 30th. Each kit will include a sample of the spice, as well as recipes and information on its cultural and historical significance.

Adult Book Discussion of “Lady Tan’s Circle of Women: by Lisa See on Wednesday, April 22nd from 1 to 2 p.m.

Introduction to Artificial Intelligence on Wednesday, April 1st from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Presenters from the AI Safety Awareness Project will explain the current state of AI capabilities.

CINEMA

Film Screening of “Peter Rabbit” (2018) on Sunday, March 29th from 2 to 4 p.m. Snacks available while supplies last. ©Columbia Pictures Industries Inc - 100 Min - PG. English subtitles for the deaf and hard of hearing will be available.

Mexican Museum Offers Programs



Photo provided by The National Museum of Mexican Art

The National Museum of Mexican Art, 1852 W. 19th st. has scheduled a wide range of programs for families that provides opportunity to explore the galleries while learning about Mexican art and culture.

Visit Hoy Cultura en nuestra comunidad: Ray Patlan in Chicago 1968-1975. The exhibition highlights early painting, drawings, photographs, and personal belongings.

Rieles y Raices: Traqueños in Chicago and the Midwest in the Xicago Gallery is on exhibit through April 26th.

Join us for the next Late Wednesday on April 1st until 8 p.m. Enjoy the museum after hours with extended access to the galleries.

Adults ages 55+ are invited for Viva la Vida: Jewelry Making, followed by an art-making activity on Thursday, March 26th, at 10 a.m. We will draw inspiration from the Wixárika community's artwork and create jewelry with beads.

The Annual survey of Museum-Goers is now open to understand how we can make Mexican art and culture more meaningful.

Download the Bloomberg Connects app and dive into our digital guide

ahead of your visit. The free arts and culture app features visual descriptions, supplemental videos, art highlights from our Permanent Collection.

Gala de Arte will be celebrated on Friday, May 1st, at the Aon Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier.

The opening reception for *Images of Faith: 3000 years of Spiritual Expressions in Mexico* will be held on Friday, April 24th from 6 to 8 p.m. This exhibition features ancient artifacts and contemporary icons that trace three millennia of spiritual beliefs and sacred rituals in Mexico.

On Saturday, April 11th, Ana Teresa Fernández will premiere *SOS* at Ohio Street Beach during EXPO Chicago: a large-scale performance where 800 handheld mirrors flash sunlight in Morse code, transforming the international distress signal into “Save Our Seas.”

Festival del Niño will return to Harrison Park on Saturday, June 6th with engaging art activities, carnival games, and entertainment, especially for children.

Visit nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org for more details.

Ridge Library Plans Programs

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

KIDS

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.

Homeschool Family Meet Up on second Friday of the month from 1 to 2 p.m. Games and activities will be available for families with kids ages 6 to 13.

Bunny Tales for ages 18 months to age 4 with a caregiver on Monday, March 30th from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Registration required. Make a bunny craft to take home. “Earth Day Program & Free Tree Pick-Up” on Saturday, April 25th at 11 a.m. Celebrate Earth Day with a story and craft.

TEENS

Teen Volunteer Hours on Wednesday, April 28th from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Make handmade cards, prepare crafts for the library and more. Bring any forms you need signed.

ADULTS

Games People Play is scheduled for Sunday, March 29th from 2 to 4 p.m. Bring your own games or borrow one of ours - Chess, Scrabble, UNO, Board games, cards, Pinochle, Canasta and more.

The adult book club meets on the second Thursday of the month at

6 p.m. The April 9th topic is “Poverty by America” by Matthew Desmond. “Brain Games”: Sticker by Number Puzzle on Saturday, March 28th at 11:30 a.m. Brain games are activities and puzzles designed to help with memory, cognitive function and mental stimulation.

Saturday Game Day through May 9th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring a game or play one of ours: UNO, Skip-bo, Mexican Train, Scrabble, Outburst, Upwards, Rummy 500, Canasta, Chess, Checkers, Sorry and more. No registration is needed.

New Device Advice on Tuesdays, through April 28th from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Library staff will help set up a new device, teach the basics, connect to Wi-Fi, change settings and answer questions.

Spanish Book Club on the first Thursday of each month from 1 to 2 p.m.

SENIORS

Coffee Hour on Thursday, April 23rd from 1 to 2 p.m. Guest speaker, Celeste, our travel guru will discuss her trip from England, Wales and Scotland. Refreshments will be provided.

Identity Theft Program on Thursday, April 30th at 12:30 p.m. Learn the ways your ID information can be stolen and what you can do to prevent that from happening. Presented by the Cook County's Sheriff Office.

Register for events at chipublib.org/events.

Heritage Museum of Asian Art



Photo provided by Heritage Museum of Asian Art

The Heritage Museum of Asian Art, 3500 S. Morgan st., has scheduled

Free Admission Night on Friday, April 17th from 5 to 8 p.m. The tour will start at 6 p.m. from the reception desk. The event offers wine and appetizer.

Kimono Insights features History of Production and Fashion, Then and Now on Tuesday, March 31st from 7 to 8 p.m. Celebrate the arrival of spring by learning about the kimono, Japan's traditional garment, with specialist Ayako Yoshimura. Online, pay what you can.

In Japanese culture, flower viewing is the tradition of gathering to enjoy the fleeting beauty of cherry blossoms in spring. Celebrate the arrival of spring with special events, featuring seasonal traditions, hands-on workshops, and cultural experiences.

Wagashi Workshop on Friday, April 10th from 6 to 8 p.m. Discover the beauty of traditional Japanese sweets in this hands-on Nerikiri workshop. Wagashi are delicate confections that reflect the changing seasons and are traditionally served during Japanese tea ceremonies. The cost is \$68.

Fold and Dye: The Art of Orizomegami on Sunday, April 12th from 2 to 4 p.m. Join artist Pamela Martinez for a 2-hour workshop. Participants will learn four basic folding techniques and use non-toxic dyes to create

geometric patterns revealed when the paper is unfolded. The cost is \$65.

Discover Japanese in 60 Minutes: Beginner Japanese on Saturday, April 18th from 10 to 11:30 a.m. This workshop is designed for beginners and introduces practical Japanese phrases along with cultural insights that participants can use immediately. The cost is \$25.

Morning Asia is a hybrid (online and in-person) program series that introduces art organizations, artists, and residency programs from across Asia. Through talks, presentations, and conversations, the series intend to foster cultural exchange and build connections between local communities and international art networks.

Understand East Asia Art Scene on Sunday, April 12th from 7 to 8 p.m. (Online). Seoul-based artist Anna Han will share firsthand reflections on residencies including Tokyo Arts and Space and the SeMA Nanji Residency. Pay as you can.

Introduction to Tokyo Arts and Space on Wednesday, April 22nd from 7 to 8 p.m. Register for online Meeting Link. Pay as you can.

For more information and tickets, visit www.heritageasianart.org. (312) 842-8884.

Free Concert At Hubbard H.S.

Chicago Artopia will present a free community concert by a Duo Chinoiserie at the Hubbard High School Auditorium, 6200 S. Hamlin on Sunday, March 29th at 3 p.m.

Founded in 2016, Duo Chinoiserie features Chinese guzheng virtuosos Xia Jing and classical guitarist Hu Bin.

Parking is available across the street, behind the school, and on nearby side streets. RSVP is required at www.chicagoartopia.org/events.

Chinatown Library Schedules Programs

The Chinatown Branch Library, 2100 S. Wentworth ave. has scheduled interesting programs.

Parachute Play on Friday, March 27th from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Songs, stories and movement for ages to 3 with their caregiver.

Game On: Board Game Play for ages 13 & up on the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Golden Karaoke: K-Pop on Friday, March 27th from 3 to 4 p.m. Join us for BTS and Black-Pink, to K-Pop Demon Hunters. Light refreshments will be available.

Utility Discounts Info Session on Monday, March 30th from 6 to 7 p.m. Learn from Legal Action Chicago about Illinois' Low Income Discount Rates programs. Peoples Gas and Comed customers earning up to 300% of the Federal

Poverty Level are eligible for up to 83% off of their utility bills. Learn about the programs' benefits, eligibility criteria, and application process.

Family Story Time for ages 0 to 5 on Thursday, March 26th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Support your child's pre-literacy skills through songs, stories and play. For children 0 to 5 and their caregivers.

Family STEAM Day: Winter Slime for ages 6 to 13 on Thursday, March 26th from 4 to 5 p.m.

Film Screening of “Bend It Like Beckham” (2002) on Saturday, March 28th from 1 to 3 p.m. 18 year-old Jesminder's parents want her to be a conventional Indian girl. But she just wants to play soccer like her hero, David Beckham. ©Twentieth Century Fox - 110 minutes- Rated PG-13

Drop In Table-Top Role Playing Games on Saturday, March 28th from 3 to 4:30 p.m. the game will be the indie RPG Kaiju Girls, where players take on the roles of teenage girls who, if they get too stressed, will turn into monsters. All materials will be provided. For teens in high school.

Film Screening of “Battle of the Sexes” (2017) on Sunday, March 29th from 2 to 4 p.m. This sports docudrama recreates the legendary 1973 tennis match between Billie Jean King and Bobby Riggs. ©Twentieth Century Fox (2017) -121 minutes- Rated PG-13

STEAM Play for ages 6 & up on Monday, March 30th from 4 to 5 p.m. Build a structure with Magna-Tiles or LEGO® and more.

Identity Theft, Fraud & Scams with the Illinois Comptroller's Office on Tuesday, April 7th from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Learn how to identify scams, protect against identity theft, and what to do if you become a victim. Presented by the Illinois Comptroller's Office.

Registration is suggested at (312) 747-8013.

Court Calendar

Mariyana T. Spyropoulos announced that the 2026 court calendar is available online as a free digital download.

Visit cookcounty-clerkofcourt.org.

Museum Pass For 12th Ward Residents



The 2026 Constituent Education Resource Card, also known as the “Museum Pass,” is now available to 12th Ward resident. Residents can request an access letter at 3868 S. Archer ave., (773) 475-6783 or email ward12@cityofchicago.org. Proof of 12th Ward residency and first date of pass usage must be provided.

Passes allow free entry for up to 4 guests to Adler Planetarium, Art Institute of Chicago, Brookfield Zoo Chicago, Chicago Botanic Garden, Chicago Children's Museum, Chicago History Museum, DuSable Black History Museum, Field Museum, Griffin Museum of Sci-

ence and Industry, Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, Lincoln Park Zoo, Museum of Contemporary Art, National Museum of Mexican Art, National Museum of Puerto Rican Art & Culture, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum and Shedd Aquarium.

Visit museumsinthe park.org/constituentcard for instructions.

Prom Clothing Available Free

Project Embrace will conduct a Prom Fit Give-away for high school seniors at Instituto, 2520 S. Western ave. on Saturday, April 11th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Over 2,000+ dresses, suits, ties and shirts will be available. No reservation needed.

For more information, contact Viviana at (773) 890-0055 or V.Gonzalez@IDPL.org.

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•TIRES •TRANSMISSION

Attention 12th Ward Residents:

SCAM ALERT: Beware of this water filter selling scam. A company is leaving these “Community Water Test” kits at front doors claiming your water is contaminated. They are trying to sell you a whole home filter system with a subscription for new filters. This has nothing to do with the city or the Department of Water Management (DWM).

If you are concerned about the potential of elevated lead levels in your home's water, you can call 3-1-1 to request a FREE DWM-certified water sample test kit or visit: www.chicagowaterquality.org.

The DWM test kit consists of three bottles, a mailing box, and instructions. Follow the instructions included in your kit for collecting water samples in your home, put the bottles in the shipping box and place it in a location (such as the entryway or front door) for pick-up by Department of Water Management (DWM) staff.

You can also request in-person testing by a DWM representative. Call 3-1-1 and a representative will reach out to you to schedule a visit. You should request to see identification verifying they are from DWM.

The City of Chicago has a new program that will replace lead service lines completely free for homeowners who qualify. More info on the **Equity Lead Service Line Replacement Program** at: www.leadsafechicago.org

For more information contact our office at (773)-475-6783 or ward12@cityofchicago.org

Continued from Page 3

Real Estate For Sale
★★★★★★★★★★

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SANTANDER BANK N.A. Plaintiff, -v- UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF BERTHA R. WARD, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, JOHN LYDON, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, FOR BERTHA R. WARD (DECEASED), MILTON COVINGTON, MARCUS COVINGTON, MARLON COVINGTON Defendants 2022CH06000 7545 S WENTWORTH CHICAGO, IL 60620 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 22, 2026, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 24, 2026, at the Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor, Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 7545 S WENTWORTH, CHICAGO, IL 60620 Property Index No. 20-28-404-018-0000 The real estate is improved with a residence. Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. 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 accordance with 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 to 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. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-22-01606 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2022CH06000 TJSC#: 46-242 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. Case # 2022CH06000 13283818

Law at Library
Online Series

The Chicago Bar Association, Chicago Public Library, and Evanston Public Library are offering free monthly virtual information series to answer legal questions and provide practical resources and insights into today's legal issues.

The Wednesday, April 15th topic is, "Environmental Updates Affecting Your Community" from 6 to 7 p.m.

This event takes place on Zoom. Register at least 24 hours in advance at chipublib.org. You'll receive an email link to the secure Zoom meeting about 24 hours before the meeting. Automatic transcription is included.

Literacy Center
Invites Tutors

Aquinas Literacy Center, 1751 W. 35th st. invites volunteers to tutor an adult newcomer in the English language. Pre-service training is provided and a two-hour weekly commitment is required. Email Sabrina@aquinasliteracycenter.org or call (773) 927-0512.

Midway C of C
Schedules Meeting

The Midway Chamber of Commerce will conduct a General Meeting at the Wintrust Sports Complex, 5449 W. 65th st. on Tuesday, April 7th from 12 to 2 p.m. Register at midway-chamber.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.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Little Learners Story Time, ages 0-5, Friday, March 27th, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Join us for 30 minutes of songs, movements and stories. Play time follows. Spring Concert with Song Chen, all ages, on Saturday, March 28th from 2 to 5 p.m. Celebrate the season with an afternoon of music, community, and joy.

Family Nintendo Switch, ages 8+, on Sunday, March 29th, 1 to 3 p.m. Choose from our collection of games, like Mario Kart and Minecraft. Parents/caregivers must be present for kids under age 11.

Teacher in the Library returns on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 p.m.

ADULTS

The Adult Book Club will discuss "Malibu Rising" on Wednesday, April 22nd from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

CINEMA

Film Screening of "Interstellar" (2014, PG-13) on Thursday, March 26th, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. A team of explorers undertakes the most important mission in human history, traveling beyond this galaxy to discover whether mankind has a future.

Film Screening of "Novocaine" (2025, R) on Saturday, March 28th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. When the girl of his dreams is kidnapped, everyman Nate turns his inability to feel pain into an unexpected strength.

Visit chipublib.org to register.

Church Services

BLESSED
SACRAMENT PARISH
3745 S. Paulina

Saturday, March 28th. Vigil Masses: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, 4 p.m. English, 6 p.m. Spanish.

Sunday, March 29th Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 9 a.m. English, 11 a.m. Spanish, and 1 p.m. Spanish.

The Sacred Triduum April 2nd Holy Thursday, 7 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to follow until 10 p.m.

April 3rd Good Friday 9 a.m. Outdoor Living Stations of the Cross, 12 p.m. Stations of the Cross, English, 7 p.m. Liturgy of the Passion & Death of the Lord.

April 4th Holy Saturday, 12 p.m. Blessing of Easter Baskets. 8 p.m. Easter Vigil.

April 5th Easter Sunday 9 a.m. English, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Spanish.

HOLY CROSS EV.
LUTHERAN CHURCH
3116 S. Racine Ave.
(773) 523-3838

Ministering in Bridgeport since 1886 Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m. with Pastor Carlos Ortiz.

BETHANY BAPTIST
CHURCH

3532 S. Hoyne
(773) 523-7911
bethanychicago.org

Ministering in McKinley Park since 1888

Sunday, 10 a.m., Worship Service: the speaker is Ernest Gray who will address the topic of Palm Sunday.

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., dinner and Bible study. Discussion will be centered on Sunday's sermon topic.

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., AWANA kids clubs (3 yrs. - 6th grade) and Youth Group (7th - 12th grades).

ST. ANDREW
LUTHERAN CHURCH

3658 S. Honore
Adam Gawel, Pastor
(773) 376-5370

www.standrewchicago.org Join us for services Palm Sunday, March 29th at 9:30 a.m., Maundy Thursday, April 2nd at 7 p.m. Good Friday, April 3rd, 7 p.m. and Easter Sunday, April 5th, 9:30 a.m.

ST. BRUNO CHURCH
48th & Harding

ST. RICHARD
CHURCH
50th & Kostner

Mass schedules for Holy Triduum and Easter. Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Trilingual at 7 p.m. St. Richard Church.

Good Friday, The Passion of the Lord Services. St. Richard - 3 p.m. English, 6 p.m. Spanish and 7:30 p.m. Polish. St. Bruno - 4:30 p.m. English, 6 p.m. Polish and 7:30 p.m. Spanish.

Holy Saturday, Blessing of the Easter Baskets. St. Richard at 10 and 11 a.m. St. Bruno at 12 and 1 p.m.

Easter Vigil Mass, Trilingual 7 p.m. at St. Bruno.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord. St. Richard Masses: 6 a.m. Polish, 9 a.m. English, 10:30 a.m. Spanish. St. Bruno Masses: 10:30 a.m. Polish and 12:30 p.m. Spanish.

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 Wednesday, April 8th from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. The semi-monthly meeting provides an opportunity meet beat officers, discuss problems and crime conditions, review crime statistics and learn crime reduction strategies. For additional information contact the Community Policing office at (312) 747-3501 or email caps.009district@chicago police.org.

Egg Hunt At
West Lawn

The Chicago Park District will conduct an Egg Hunt at West Lawn Park, 4233 W. 65th st. on Saturday, March 28th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Games, prizes and picture with Bunny will add to the fun.

Dinos! Exhibit At
Brookfield Zoo Chgo.



Photo credit © Brookfield Zoo Chicago

Beginning May 22nd, Brookfield Zoo Chicago guests can come face-to-face with 35 life-size dinosaurs in an all-new Dinos! experience that builds on an assortment of new experiences, treats and animal habitats.

Dinos! invites guests to explore a massive rib-cage tunnel, climb on a giant fossil, dig for ancient discoveries, snap epic photos and find prehistoric pals throughout the Zoo—all experiences included with admission during the Zoo's hours through Oct. 25th.

Guests can also journey through the world of dinosaurs at the "Ultimate T. Rex" virtual reality experience, featuring encounters with tyrannosaurus, triceratops and more in a 360-degree view with motion chairs. The Zoo will expand its 2026 event calendar with the two-mile Dino Dash fun run on May 30 and a pajama party Dinos After Dark on July 11th. Details and tickets for these after-hours events are available at brookfield-zoo.org/events.

Gage Park Library
Schedules Programs

The Gage Park Branch Library, 2807 W. 55th st., has scheduled exciting programs for all ages. Hours are Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Call (312) 747-0032 or visit www.chipublib.org for more information and to register for the following programs.

CHILDREN

SitStayRead for ages 6 to 9 on Thursday, April 9th from 5 to 6 p.m. Kids can come practice their reading skills with Certified Reading Assistance Dogs. Only children can register, an adult parent or guardian must sign a permission form.

FAMILIES

Family Game Day on Saturday, March 28th

Free Screening
For Cancer

Cook County residents over the age of 40, can schedule a free prostate and breast cancer screening during their birthday month.

Cancer screenings are important because they help find cancer early, before it causes serious problems. When cancer is found early, it is easier to treat.

Call (312) 864-4289 to schedule your appointment.

Go Run At
Marquette Park

The Chicago Park District will conduct Go Run Chicago at Marquette Park, 6743 S. Kedzie on Saturday, April 4th from 9 to 11 a.m.

Go Run is a community partnership between the Chicago Area Runners Association and Chicago Park District. Register in advance at www.GoRunChicago.org beginning Friday at 3 p.m. the week prior.

Food Pantry At
Lady of Fatima

Our Lady of Fatima, 2751 W. 38th place operates a food pantry in partnership with the Greater Chicago Food Depository on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

Serving residents of 60632, 60608 and 60609. Bring reusable bags.

For more information email ourladyoffatima foodpantry@gmail.com

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.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

The Southwest Collective community box is available for patrons to take or leave toiletries and non-perishable food items.

Teen Hideaway on Tuesday, March 31st and Thursday, March 26th from 5 to 7 p.m. Drop in and explore art media, technology, crafts and games.

Family Story Time on Tuesdays through May 5th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Join us for picture books, stories, songs and a simple craft or play time. For children up to 5 years old.

Baby Lapsit Story Time and Play on Wednesdays through April 22nd and May 6th & 13th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join Mx. Dannie for

stories, songs and other fun activities as we practice literacy skills and build a love for books. For babies up to 18 months and their families. Siblings are welcome.

Adult Crafting Corner on Sunday, March 29th from 2 to 3 p.m. and Wednesday, April 8th from 4 to 5 p.m.

LEGO Club on Thursdays, March 26th and April 2nd to May 21st from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for families with children age 6 and up.

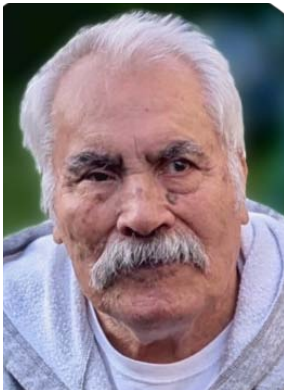
Toddler Time and Play Time on Mondays, March 30th and April 13th to May 18th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Ages 18 months to 3 years and their caregivers will sing songs, read stories and do fun activities to build early literacy skills.

Teen Internship Fair on Tuesday, March 31st from 5 to 7 p.m. Meet representatives from various organizations offering summer internships. Learn how to apply for positions, earn money, and grow your professional skills. Organizations in attendance include: The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago Housing Authority, The Field Museum, Forest Preserves of Cook County, My Chi. My Future, and more.

Free Homework Help is available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Visit chipublib.org to register.

Obituaries



JUAN F. CAHUE who was born on June 22nd, 1945, passed away on March 19th at the age of 80. Visitation was held March 23rd at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave.; Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Funeral Mass was celebrated March 24th at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, 3721 W. 62nd st. Interment was at St. Casimir Cemetery, 4401 W. 111th st.

JESSE D. VILLANUEVA who was born on May 10th, 2005, passed away on March 23rd at the age of 20. Visitation will be held Monday, March 30th from 2 to 8 p.m. at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave.; Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Funeral Mass will be celebrated Tuesday, March 31st, 10 a.m. at St. Rita of Cascia Church, 6243 S. Fairfield. Interment will be at St. Mary's Cemetery, 87th & Hamlin, Evergreen Park, IL.

Colorectal Cancer
Awareness Month

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network thanks Gov. Pritzker for prioritizing colorectal cancer control funding in his budget proposal and urges legislators to prioritize passing a budget that includes funding to ease the burden of cancer.

As lawmakers make their way through the budget process, ACS CAN calls on the legislature to include \$2 million for colorectal and lung cancer screenings. This funding would help more Illinoisans detect and treat colorectal cancer early, when treatment is more effective and less expensive, and support related patient navigation services.

In 2026, an estimated 6,160 Illinois residents will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 2,080 will pass away. Studies have shown that colonoscopies reduce the number of cases by 40% and mortality by 60%. Join the fight by visiting www.fightcancer.org.

Free Workshops
On Finances

Aquinas Literacy Center, 1751 W. 35th st., will conduct a Financial Literacy Workshop Series on Tuesdays, April 7th to 28th from noon to 1 p.m. A financial literacy expert from Byline Bank will explain simple tools to manage money in everyday life.

Topics include, Session 1: Your relationship with money. Session 2: Budgeting and planning your money. Session 3: Credit and how it works. Session 4: Saving money for the future.

No finance or banking knowledge is needed.

To register email patrick@aquinasliteracy-center.org.

Beats 815 & 821
Plan Meetings

Chicago Police Department Beats 815 & 821 will conduct a public meeting at the Archer Park Field House, 4901 S. Kilbourn on Wednesday, April 1st at 7 p.m.

Boundaries for 815 are 38th st to 55th st. / Pulaski rd to Cicero ave. 821 boundaries are 38th st. to 51st st. / Pulaski rd. to Kedzie ave.

For more information, contact (312) 747-8724 or email at caps.008district@chicagopolice.org.



Rent In The ‘Burbs!

We invite you to visit this quiet residential community located near the forest preserves in Palos Hills. Scenic Tree is convenient to shopping and dining at Orland Park and Chicago Ridge, excellent school district, Moraine Valley Community College and Midway Airport.

- Free Heat
 - Private Patio or Balcony
 - Intercom Entry
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