

US and Venezuela Sign Huge Oil Deal



By Dr. R. Pletsch

I recently attended a large function of adults. I asked some of them if they like the deal with Venezuela. Most I asked had no idea what I was talking about. A few heard something, they don't really know what happened.

In an effort to make it known to more people, I used The Global Podcast, BBC, and Newsmax. In short, this is a deal we should all know about. Some recent history of Venezuela is that at one time, it was the wealthiest country in South America and the most Democratic. In 1958, during the time of the Castro revolution in Cuba, the party in power became unpopular and other parties worked to get rid of them. In 1999, Socialist Hugo Chavez was elected to start a new government. If you would like to read about this, there are plenty of books about the subject, both pro and con.

Chavez and his government began to give themselves more power and become more Socialist. They took control of the National Assembly, the Supreme Court and the Justice Department and controlled all national elec-

tions. Then the government took over the country's most profitable business -- oil.

When Chavez died in 2013, he had already named his successor and that was Nicolas Maduro. There were some questions asked, but being in control of all the branches of government, his choice of Maduro was elected. Then reelected in 2018 and 2024. These were turbulent and often bloody times for the people.

The United States made a raid, arrested Maduro and helped acting president Delcy Rodriguez put down some riots and sent millions of pounds of food to feed the people. This new government signed a series of agreements with the United States that gave the US control of 66 billion barrels of oil for international companies to invest in, allowing companies like Chevron, who had been one of the biggest suppliers in Venezuela, to fix the infrastructure of the old pumping machines.

These oil reserves in Venezuela are extra-heavy crude. This is hard to extract and refine. When the US companies were in charge, they pumped up to 3.5 million barrels a day. But since they took it over and did not upgrade the fields, they are pumping less than a million barrels a day.

We have gained vast amounts of oil reserves and by allowing companies to upgrade the systems, the people of Venezuela hope to gain back the many high paying jobs they once had. The BBC believes that it might take 12 to 24 months, but that oil prices could go way down.

Your Property Taxes

By The Cook County Treasurer

Each year, thousands of property owners in Cook County are late paying their taxes. That can put their homes in danger of being included in the annual state-mandated tax sale, a problem to avoid.

Since 2005, my office has allowed you to sign up a relative or anyone you choose to receive copies of certified delinquency notices a month before the Annual Tax Sale. That way, you're more likely to be aware of an impending tax sale so you can act and prevent your taxes from being sold.

If you register for the Third-Party Notification program, the person you designate will receive a mailed copy of your delinquency notice from my office.

The program is designed for all homeowners and may be particularly helpful for: Relatives, Senior citizens, People with disabilities or special needs, People with long-term, serious health issues and People who are away from their homes for extended periods of time.

You can enroll in the program by downloading a short form at cookcountytreasurer.com. Simply print the form, fill it out and mail it to my office at 118 N. Clark Street, Room 112, Chicago, IL 60602.

The program is a safety net because it allows other family members and trusted individuals

and institutions such as churches, temples, mosques or not-for-profit organizations to be designated as third parties. The program is not for mortgage companies or banks.

Enroll at any time. However, applications received less than two weeks prior to the mailing of certified notices of delinquent taxes may not be processed before delinquency notifications are mailed.

The Annual Tax Sale must occur about 13 months after your Second Installment tax due date. Once that date is set, my office will send certified notices to property owners whose unpaid tax bills will be auctioned off unless paid in full before the sale.

The third party you designate to receive duplicate copies of delinquency notices assumes no liability for paying your taxes. You, as a property owner, are still responsible. The hope is that the third-party designee will follow up with you to determine if you received your delinquency notice and are arranging to pay your taxes before they're offered at the tax sale.

The program renews automatically and is free to all residential property owners. Under state law, there's a five-dollar registration fee for non-residential properties. You may designate only one person or entity to receive third-party notices, and you may cancel at any time.

Registering for the Third-Party Notification program is a simple measure that takes minutes but could prevent hours of aggravation if your taxes are sold.

Hispanic Heritage

The Midway Market place at Archer and Narragansett will conduct a Hispanic Heritage Celebration on Sunday, Sept. 20th from 12 to 4 p.m.

For more information, visit MidwayChamber.org.

MPCA Neighborhood Garden Contest Winners



The McKinley Park Civic Association conducted its First Annual Neighborhood Garden Contest on Sept. 2nd. Each winner received an Awards Certificate as well as a \$100 Home Depot Giftcard. Pictured are Daniel Beenn, MPCA Vice President; Jeanette Bigos, Container Gardens; Vyll Loquinte, Vegetable Gardens; Angela Duenas, Multi Family Residential; Alicia Krok, Single Family Residential; Christopher Bania, MPCA President and Sylvia Cortez, MPCA Secretary.

Brookfield Zoo Schedules Events



Photo credit © Brookfield Zoo Chicago

Wildlife and seasonal traditions come together at Brookfield Zoo Chicago for festive fun this fall and winter. From fall festivals and Halloween fun to holiday traditions and opportunities to discover new wildlife, guests can fill the months ahead with experiences for every generation. The lineup now through January includes returning favorites, new celebrations and a day at the Zoo.

Fall hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends. Hours and information are available at brookfieldzoo.org/visit.

Don't miss your last chance to see the dinosaurs before they go extinct on Oct. 25th. Guests can dig for fossils, journey through a massive rib-cage tunnel and come face-to-face with life size dinosaurs.

Throughout September, Zoo members receive special offers, giveaways, discounts and more as a thank you for their support. The celebration will conclude with opportunities to meet Animal Ambassadors and with each visit, earning a raffle entry for the chance to win a one-year membership, a Wild Connections experience or free admission for 10 guests.

Grandparents Day Launches Senior Sundays powered by Uber* Guests can enjoy a new discount offered on site for buy-one-get-one senior admission on Sundays through Nov. 22nd.

Sept. 19th – 20th: Oktoberfest presented by Leinenkugel. Prost! to family-friendly fun music, games, giveaways and more. This German-style event will feature a seasonal menu with bratwursts, specialty beers, pretzels with cheese and more available for purchase.

Sept. 26th: Hispanic Heritage Fest returns with live music, cuisine, cultural performances, bilingual experiences, Zoo Chats featuring animals native to Latin America and more.

Oct. 3rd – 25th: Boo! at the Zoo. This family-friendly Halloween celebration is packed with thrills, festive decorations, Halloween-themed photo opps, animal enrichment and more fun for all ages. Weekend programming includes Boats-tastic costume parades, trick-or-treating stations on the East Mall, inflatables, purchasable pumpkin decorating experience and more.

Select Dates Oct. 4th – 31st: Haunted Walking Tours* Recommended for guests ages 13 and older, these 4 p.m. guided tours explore the Zoo's southwest corridor while sharing stories.

Oct. 5th: Conservation Leadership Awards Dinner*. The Board of Trustees and Women's Board invite guests to the Four Seasons Chicago for an evening recognizing individuals and organizations making a lasting difference for wildlife, communities and conservation. Tickets are available now.

Oct. 17th: Cook County Military & Veterans Resource Fair* from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Advance registration and proof of military service are encouraged.

Oct. 24th: Boo! Brunch*. This Halloween celebration features a festive buffet with brunch favorites and a signature witches' brew lemonade. Tickets include Zoo admission, pumpkin decorating, face painting, themed photo opps and more. Advance reservations are required for 10 a.m. or noon seatings.

Visit brookfieldzoo.org for more information.

SNHU Announces 2026 Dean's List

Southern New Hampshire University congratulates the following students on being named to the Summer 2026 Dean's List.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are honored. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms.

Matthew Calderon (60638), Paula Celik (60608), Adrian Alvarez (60632), Diana Martinez (60632), Theresa Majka (60632) and Nandavihar Solleti (60608).

Forest Preserves of Cook County

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will celebrate with Party for the Preserves, a collection of free events at Camp Bullfrog Lake, Camp Shabbona Woods, Thatcher Woods and Powderhorn Lake on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 26th & 27th.

Fall is the perfect season to get hooked on fishing, September and October are among the best months to fish local lakes and ponds, according to Steve Silic, senior fisheries ecologist with the Forest Preserves. As water temperatures drop and daylight shrinks, fish sense winter approaching.

While the Leaves Change, the Prairie Blooms. Across the Forest Preserves. September and early autumn bring blooms from asters, goldenrods, blazing stars, gentians and false foxgloves, while some grasses flower and set seed and other plants begin the transformations that will carry them toward winter.

Prairie habitat once covered roughly 60% of Illinois and 73% of Cook County, more than 441,000 acres. Today, the Forest Preserves protects and restores some of the only prairie and grassland left in the county, about 1,591 acres. These remnant prairies include notable variations: black soil, sand, gravel hill, and dolomite. Some of the most stunning displays are Bartel Grassland, Carl R. Hansen Woods, Somme Prairie Nature Preserve, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, and Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve.

Western End of Salt Creek Trail Officially Reopened. After three years of being closed due to Illinois Tollway construction on I-294, the Salt Creek Trail is now fully open. The trail was widened and resurfaced, and a new railing was installed.

Hispanic Heritage Comes Alive in the Forest Preserves. Feel the beat of Aztec drums, learn about the journey of monarch butterflies to Mexico and celebrate Hispanic cultures and traditions through music, dance, art, nature and storytelling at locations across Cook County through Oct. 12th.

Free Mental Health Resources Available. If you or someone you know is struggling with their mental health, call or text #988, or chat at 988lifeline.org, to get immediate support. Find more resources at nami.org.

Grab Your Binoculars for a Weekend of Urban Birding. Watch the tree-tops this September as fall migration brings waves of birds through Cook County. The Urban Birding Festival, Sept. 18th-20th, features guided outings, workshops, presentations and opportunities to discover the diversity flying through Chicagoland. The Forest Preserves provides the forests, wetlands and prairies that give migrating birds places to rest and refuel along their journeys south.

Join our naturalists for fun, educational offerings in person and via Zoom! Learn about moths, the history of Skokie Lagoons, and how to dye buckthorn. Take the family to meet our Ambassador Animals, watch an Aztec dance performance, and create musical instruments. Search for owls, paddle under the moonlight, work on landscape needle felting and more. Check online events at <https://fpdcc.com/downloads/guides/FPCC-Fall-Guide-2026>

MPDC Schedules Fall Programs

The McKinley Park Development Council announces that Brick of Chicago Walking Tour in McKinley Park on Saturday, Sept. 19th from 2:30 to 4:15 p.m. Meet at 1965 W. Pershing rd. Purchase a \$28 ticket at Brick of Chicago at <https://www.brickofchicago.com>, if needed use the promo code BRICKSFORALL for a \$20 ticket. The tour will run, rain or shine. Bring a water bottle and sun protection.

The McKinley Community Play Garden, 3518 S. Wolcott will conduct a Community Potluck on Tuesday, Sept. 22nd at 6 p.m. If possible, bring a food item to share.

Oktoberfest at the Play Garden on Saturday, Sept. 26th from 6 to 10 p.m. featuring founders' bourbon slush, local beer, food, a sing-along, and silent auction. This is a 21+ event with a suggested donation of \$30 person. Proceeds fund events such as Spookyfest and the spring egg hunt.

Project Rainbow's Bookmark Contest

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and the County's Emmy Award-winning Project Rainbow initiative are inviting students to submit their designs for the second annual Bookmark Design Contest, opening this fall for the 2026–27 school year.

Students in kindergarten through sixth grade are encouraged to submit original bookmark designs inspired by books, reading or community pride. Each student may submit only one entry, created independently, through the online entry form through 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9th.

The contest returns after a successful launch year, in which dozens of students from across Cook County submitted designs celebrating their love of reading. Last year's winners — Myra M. (Grades K–3), Ava P. (Grades 4–6) and honorable mention Zoey F.P. — saw their artwork become the official bookmarks of Cook County, displayed as stand-up banners in the Cook County Building and honored with a Board resolution.

One winner will be selected in each of two categories: Grades K–3 and Grades 4–6. Each winner will receive a Kindle Colorsoft Kids reader, a certificate, a Project Rainbow T-shirt and their winning design will be printed and distributed at the Cook County Building in celebration of National Book Month in October.

Winners' artwork will also be featured as stand-up banners in the Cook County Building lobby and displayed on the Project Rainbow website.

Winners will be honored with an official Cook County Board resolution commemorating their achievement.

Winners will be notified by email by Nov. 2nd.

To view last year's winning designs or to participate in this year's contest, visit: projectrainbow.cookcountyil.gov/bookmark-contest

Doggie Date Night



Photo provided by the Cook County Forest Preserve

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will conduct Doggie Date Night at Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center, 87th & Western on Friday, Oct. 2nd from 3 to 7 p.m. Features include costume dog parade, crafts, photo booth and raffle prizes. Dogs must be friendly and remain on leash.

Community Learning At Aquinas Literacy

Aquinas Literacy Center, 1751 W. 35th st. will conduct Growing Together: Gardening for Community and Well-Being on Wednesday, Sept. 30th from 1 to 2 p.m. Participants will discover how plants work together through companion planting, pest management, and garden ecosystems. No registration is required.

English Language Studio an ongoing weekly program on Tuesdays from 12 noon to 1 p.m. A welcoming, interactive space for English learners to practice communication through conversation, games, storytelling, everyday situations and creative activities. No registration is required.

Conversation Cafe, an ongoing drop-in group on Thursdays 10 to 11 a.m. at Aquinas Literacy Center and Saturdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at McKinley Park Branch Library. Each session features engaging topics and interactive activities designed to strengthen speaking and listening skills. No registration is required.

Special Conversation Cafe at Casa Guanajuato, 3661 S. Archer on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd from 10 to 11 a.m. English learners of all levels are welcome.

Stories That Connect Us. Beginning in October, Aquinas will offer a 6-week video storytelling course focused on creating community.

Participants will learn how to develop, film, and edit their own short video stories while exploring experiences, ideas, and perspectives. No previous experience is necessary.

For more information, call (773) 927-0512 or email patrick@aquinasliteracycenter.org.

Jazz Institute Offers Concerts

The Jazz Institute of Chicago's Emerging Artists Project has scheduled several free programs.

On Sunday, Sept. 27th take a cruise down the Chicago River while enjoying the sounds of Dev Shaw and the Ghetto Space Band from 5:30 to 7 p.m. To purchase tickets, visit chicagojazzline.com.

For more information, visit jazzinchicago.org.

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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).

TWEENS & TEENS

Teen Volunteer Hours Thursday, Sept. 24th from 4 to 5 p.m. Earn 1 volunteer hour while helping at your library. Bring your timesheet. Grades 6 - 12 only.

CHILDREN

Matinee Movies, Thursdays, 2 to 4 p.m. Join us for family films and snacks. Family Movie, Sunday, Sept. 27th "Coco". Snacks available while supplies last.

Family Story time on Thursdays, Sept. 17th and 24th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Stories, songs and fun for the whole family. For children 0 to 5 and their caregivers.

Paper Cup Rocket Launcher on Tuesday, Sept. 22nd at 12 p.m. Make a set of paper cups decorated as rockets. They launch with rubber bands.

Messy Art: Paper Bag Pinata on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd at 6 p.m. Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by making paper bag pinates.

LEGO Club on Monday, Sept. 28th from 6 to 7 p.m. Put your engineering skills to the test with one of our challenges or use your imagination to build your own creations. For ages 5 and up.

ADULTS

Adult Book Discussion of "The Great Divide" by Cristina Henriquez on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd from 1 to 2 p.m. Copies are available at the Circulation Desk.

Adult Book Discussion on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd from 1 to 2 p.m. Join a friendly conversation of "The Great Divide" by Christina Henriquez. Books are available at the circulation desk.

Watch N' Craft Project Hail Mary on Saturday, Sept. 26th from 1 to 4 p.m. Create mini-galaxy magnets while watching Project Hail Mary on the big screen. Register on-line.

Grab and Go: Spice Club Kits (Ginger Powder) on Mondays to Sept. 28th from 12 to 8 p.m. Visit the Adult Reference Desk for a spice kit that will include a sample plus recipes and information.

CINEMA

Join us on Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Snacks available while supplies last. Sept. 20th, "La Bamba" (PG-13) and Sept. 27th, "Coco" (PG).

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, with summer programs for children ages 7 and up.

The exhibition *Where Memory Lives: 40 Years of Día de Muertos*, opens on Friday, Sept. 25th in the Main Gallery. This exhibition looks back through the Permanent Collection to trace the evolution of Day of the Dead and the Museum itself.

This year's exhibition honors Dr. Gilberto Cárdenas (1947-2026), a scholar, pioneer of Chicano Studies, and friend of the Museum. The exhibition opens with a reception on Friday, Sept. 25th from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Visit these thought-provoking exhibitions: *Xochicaco: Floating Gardens of the Chicago River* and *México* in the Xicágo Gallery through Oct. 4th.

Vivir la Tierra: Acquisitions from the Permanent Collection 2010-2026, in the Rubin & Paula Torres Gallery through Feb. 7th.

Nuestras Historias: Stories of Mexican Identity from the Permanent Collection, ongoing.

This month's educational programs feature engaging art-making activities. Studio Saturday: Xochimilco Boats on Saturday, Sept. 19th from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Ages 7 - 12.

Listos para el museo: Pinta tu *Trajinera* on Saturday, Sept. 19th from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Ages 6 and under.

Viva la Vida: Painting with Paper on Thursday, Sept. 24th from 10 a.m. to

12 noon or 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Ages 55+.

The annual Festival del Arte Popular will run Oct. 13th to 18th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended hours until 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 15th. Each artist brings unique techniques and folk art.

Join artist Socorro Carlos, Colectivo Fuentes Rojas, and members of Stitches of the Soul, NMMA's quilting and fiber arts group, for hands-on workshops on Saturdays, Oct. 17th and 31st from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participants will create a 14" x 14" textile honoring missing persons while supporting the Fuentes Rojas Collective's work. Visit nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org to sign up.

Early Bird tickets for the 12th annual Día de los Muertos: Love Never Dies Ball on Nov. 7th are available through Sept. 18th.

Join us for an Open House on Friday, Sept. 18th from 5 to 7 p.m. to celebrate the first anniversary of Yollocalli Fire Station, the home of youth initiative, Yollocalli Arts Reach. Enjoy free art activities, snacks, and DJ sets by Yollocalli DJ students.

Join us on Friday, Oct. 16th from 6 to 8 p.m. at the opening reception for ¡TINTA ARDIENTE! Igniting Community

Through Collective Action, a new exhibition in the Xicágo Gallery. The exhibition brings selections from the Instituto Gráfico de Chicago's print collection, objects, event documentation, and traces of print histories from Mexico and Chicago. Let us know if you plan to attend at nationalmuseumofmexicanart.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 for ages 0 to 5on Fridays to Sept. 25th at 10:30 a.m. for 30 minutes of songs, movements, and stories. Play time follows.

Family Nintendo Switch (ages 8+) on Sunday, Sept. 27th from 1 to 3 p.m.

Teacher in the Library, Monday to Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. Schedule is subject to change.

McKinley Park Music School Recital on Sunday, Sept. 20th from 1 to 4 p.m.

TWEEN/TEEN

Need service hours? Ask the front desk for a volunteer application, ages 12-17.

Teen Gamer's Choice on Wednesdays, Sept. 23rd & 30th from 3 to 5 p.m. We have Nintendo games such as Princess Peach: Showtime!, Minecraft, Mario Wonder and more. For ages 12 to 16.

LEGO Club on Thursday, Sept. 17th from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Complete our design challenges or let your imagination run wild. LEGO bricks and materials are provided. For kids 6 to 13.

STEAM DAY on Thursdays, Oct. 8th & Nov. 12th from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. A fun, story powered introduction to science, technology, engi-

neering, art and math for young learners presented by FIRST STAR FORCE. Each session starts with an engaging picture book read aloud, followed by an activity inspired by the story. For ages 6 to 10.

Spy Science on Monday, Sept. 21st from 4 to 5 p.m. Uncover the science behind popular secret agent tricks like reflective glasses and color-decoded messages. Participants receive their own science kit from Griffin Museum of Science and Industry, while supplies last. For kids 6 to 13 and their caregivers.

ADULTS

A Dance & Movement class for older adults will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26th from 1 to 2 p.m. Join us for gentle stretches to improve flexibility and mobility. Easy-to-follow, music based movement routines.

ESL Conversation Cafe with Aquinas Literacy Center, ages 18+ on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Practice English in a friendly space and improve speaking and listening skills. Ask librarians to register. Tutoring is also available.

Adult Book Club: "The Book Club for Troublesome Women" on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Plus Size Clothing Swap on Saturday, Sept. 19th from 2 to 4 p.m. Sizes XL - 6X. Shoes, jewelry, handbags, and accessories. All genders are welcome. Donations not required to participate.

Visit chipublib.org to register.

Obituaries



ANGELITA ANAYA who was born on Nov. 1st, 1951, passed away on Sept. 12th at the age of 74. Visitation was held Sept. 16th at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave.; Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director.



ANNA LUKASZCZYK (nee Plewa) who was born on Jan. 1st, 1939, passed away on Sept. 14th at the age of 87. She was the wife of late Stanislaw Lukaszczyk; mother of Grace Fuks and Andrew (Anna) Lukaszczyk; grandmother of Joseph A. Fuks Jr., Kassandra (Adam) Hehn, Alyssa Fuks, late Matthew Lukaszczyk and Patricia Lukaszczyk; great grandmother of Adam M. Hehn Jr.; daughter of late Julia & late Antoni Plewa; sister of late Jan, late Maria (late Jozef) Mikolajczyk, Elzbieta (late Kazimierz) Lapczynski, Aniela (late Henryk) Zadora, Franciszek (late Krystyna) Plewa, Boleslaw Plewa and late Stanislaw Plewa. Visitation will be held Friday, Sept. 18th from 4 to 8 p.m. at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave.; Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Funeral Mass will be celebrated Saturday, Sept. 19th, 10 a.m. at St. Bruno Church, 48th & Harding ave. Interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery, 7201 S. Archer rd., Justice.

World Music Festival Line Up

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events announced the lineup for the 2026 World Music Festival Chicago, taking place Friday, Sept. 25th, through Sunday, Oct. 4th, at venues across the city. The annual festival celebrates the sounds, traditions and artistry of musicians from Chicago and around the world, offering audiences opportunities to experience musical traditions spanning continents and generations.

The Ragamala celebration takes place in the Preston Bradley Hall within the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington from Friday, Sept. 25th at 6 p.m. through Saturday, Sept. 26th at 8 a.m.

The festival concludes Sunday, Oct. 4th, with the Global Peace Party at Humboldt Park Fieldhouse, 1440 N. Humboldt blvd. The free, all-ages celebration runs from noon to 5 p.m. and features performances by the Mary Hazboun Ensemble, representing Chicago and Palestine; Ghana's Gyedu-Blay Ambolley; and Puerto Rico's El Laberinto del Coco. For info, Chicago.gov/DCASE.

Fall Events At Navy Pier



Photo provided by Navy Pier

Chicago Live Festival returns to Navy Pier for its sixth year with free performances on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 19th & 20th. Enjoy music, dance, and theater featuring 100+ artists across

five stages including The Second City, Joffrey Ballet, Trinity Irish Dancers and Anthony Rapp.

Wintrust Winter WonderFest returns to Navy Pier on Friday, Nov. 27th to Sunday, Jan. 3rd. Winter fun with festive attractions, rides, games, and more. Save 40% on tickets before prices increase.

For more information, visit <https://navypier.org>

Resource Fair For Military

The Cook County Department of Veterans Affairs will sponsor a Military and Veterans Resource Fair at Discovery Center at the Brookfield Golf rd. on Saturday, Oct. 17th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Attendees can connect with local, state, federal and nonprofit organizations offering assistance with health care and wellness programs, employment, education services, benefits and more.

Attendees are encouraged to show proof of military service. Bring one of the following, if available: DD Form 214 with photo ID, veteran ID card or military CAC. Zoo admission and parking are free for event attendees during Military Appreciation Day. Visit brookfieldzoo.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.

Family Story Time on Mondays through Nov. 23rd from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Join us for a story time full of books, songs and rhymes for ages 2 to 8.

LEGO Club on Tuesdays through Nov. 10th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Ask a librarian for a build challenge and display your creations. LEGO bricks will be provided for use in the library. Ages 6 to 13.

Baby Story Time on Wednesdays through Nov. 11th, 11 to 11:30 a.m. A gentle story time of songs, rhymes and stories aimed at babies 0 to 18 months and an engaged grownup. Siblings always welcome!

Teen Volunteer Club on Saturday, Sept. 19th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you need service/volunteer hours for school or are looking to help out your community. Materials will be provided, but bring your timesheets. For ages 13 to 19.

After-School Reading Practice on Mondays, Sept. 21st to Nov. 30th from 4 to 5 p.m. All levels of experience are welcome! Each week, we will rotate between popcorn reading in groups, word games and one-on-one assistance. Afterward, we'll enjoy a simple craft or sensory play time. For ages 6 to 13.

Discussion Of Mental Health

Mariyana T. Spyropoulos, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County will conduct a Mental Health Summit at their Maywood Courthouse, 1500 Maybook dr. on Tuesday, Sept. 22nd from 4:30 to 8 p.m.

Topics include emergency hospital orders, mental health services, power of attorney, special needs trust, firearm restraining orders, crisis intervention, and guardianship.

Register at cookcountyclerkofcourt.org/events

SAVE THE DATE

Mariyana T. Spyropoulos
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

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Ridge Library Plans Programs

The Garfield Ridge Branch Library, 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 Fridays, Oct. 9th and Nov. 13th from 1 to 2 p.m. Games and activities are available for kids while caregivers can join in the fun or chat and share resources. For ages 6 to 13.
Play Doh Fun! Wednesday, Sept. 23rd at 10:30 a.m. Ages 2 to 4 years. Registration required. Using rollers, cookie cutters and other manipulatives, children can be creative.
“Tot Play Time” Saturdays, Sept. 19th and Oct. 10th to 24th at 9:30 a.m. Ages 0-4 years. Babies and toddlers will have fun, educational toys to choose from while older

kids can play with Duplo blocks, magnetic tiles, puzzles and pretend play toys. No registration is required.
Children’s LEGO Club: Build an Airplane on Thursday, Sept. 17th from 3 to 4 p.m. Ages 7 to 13. Each registered child will get a kit to build an airplane to take home.

ADULTS
Spanish Book Club on the first Thursday of each month from 1 to 2 p.m.
Learn to Play Chinese Mahjong on Wednesdays during September and October from 12:30 to 2 p.m.
Adult Book Discussion of “Lone Women” by Victor LaValle on Thursday, Oct. 8th from 6 to 7 p.m.
Senior Chair Yoga Fall Fridays with Ms. Kim through Oct. 2nd from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Register at (312) 747-6094 or in person for each session.
Register for events at chippublib.org/events.

Open Studios



Image: SuRa Dupart – Green Sun Drummer, foam acrylic paint sculpture with black frame 54"x 40"x 6". Provided by Bridgeport Art Center

The Bridgeport Art Center, 1200 W. 35th st. will conduct 3rd Fridays Open Studio on Sept. 18th from 7 to 10 p.m. Visit bridgeportart.com or call (773) 843-9000 for more information.

Jazz Festival In Hyde Park

The Hyde Park Jazz Festival announce the 2026 HPJF lineup. The 20th Anniversary Festival will once again be held in architecturally unique venues across the Hyde Park, Kenwood, and Washington Park neighborhoods. The lineup features 37 free performances on Sept. 26th-27th. Venues include: Smart Museum, Rockefeller Chapel, Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, Hyde Park Bank, Hyde Park Union Church, The DuSable Black History Museum and Education Center, Augustana Church, and the Midway Plaisance. Festival kicks off with Chicago’s own Orbert Davis (trumpet), who played the first note in the first Hyde Park Jazz Festival in 2007.

Special guest and visiting musician projects include: rising star trumpeter Brandon Woody’s Upendo with Imani Grace (vocals), Troy Long (piano), Michael Saunders (bass), Quincy Phillips (drums); pianist Kris Davis Trio with Johnathan Blake (drums) and Robert Hurst (bass); trumpeter Amir ElSaffar New Quartet with Ole Mathisen (tenor saxophone), Tania Gianouli (microtonal piano), Tomas Fujiwara (drums); alto saxophonist and New Orleans Big Chief Donald Harrison Quartet with Dan Kaufman (piano), Nori Naraoka (bass), Brian Richburg (drums); pianist Emmet Cohen Presents: Miles and Coltrane at 100 with Benny Benack (trumpet),

Tivon Pennicott (tenor saxophone), Reuben Rogers (bass), Joe Farnsworth (drums); cornetist/trumpets Rob Mazurek Prismatic Trio with Jason Adasiewicz (vibraphone), Victor Vieira-Branco (vibraphone); and young trumpet phenom Skylar Tang Quartet with William Schwartzman (piano), John Murray (bass), and Ethan Oliver (drums); Joshua Abrams & Sharon Udoh: Wonder, Wonder at the Neubauer Collegium and percussionist Pedrito Martinez with Alfredo Rodriguez’s Quintet; Chicago tenor saxophonist Geof Bradfield will present Open and Close with visiting Bay Area musicians Ben Goldberg (clarinet) and Myra Melford (piano) along with Chicago’s Dana Hall (drums and cymbals).

The annual Rockefeller Chapel performance will feature a solo performance by tenor saxophonist Joshua Redman. The Festival is free but attendees are asked to consider a \$10 person donation to support Jazz. Performances on Saturday, Sept. 26th run from 1 to 11 p.m. in multiple venues. Performances on Sunday, Sept. 27th run from 1 to 7 p.m. on the Midway Plaisance. For additional information visit www.hydeparkjazzfestival.org

Workforce And Resource Fair

The Brighton Park Neighborhood Network will conduct a Workforce & Resource Fair at the BPNC Service Center, 4000 S. Archer on Thursday, Oct. 1st from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Participants will have access to: Information on Workforce Trainings, Employment Opportunities, Resume Support, Free Professional Headshots, Community Resources, Free Office Attire, Raffles and more.

For more information, contact mmartinez@bpncchicago.org.

Autumn Dance At St. Richard

Sts. Bruno & Richard’s Parish will sponsor an Autumn Dance at 5030 S. Kostner on Saturday, Oct. 24th from 6 p.m. to midnight.

The cost of \$50 person includes dinner, live music, DJ and raffle prizes.

For more information or to purchase tickets call the parish office (773) 585-1221.

Community Potluck At Play Garden

The McKinley Community Play Garden, 3518 S. Wolcott will conduct a Community Potluck on Tuesday, Sept. 22nd at 6 p.m.

All are welcome. Bring food or snacks to share. Drinks, plates, utensils and napkins will be provided.

Play Streets On Sept. 19th

envision Community Services will conduct Play Streets at 48th & Rockwell on Saturday, Sept. 19th from 12 to 3 p.m. Families will enjoy games, music, bouncy house, plant and art station, food and resources. For more information contact veronica@eecs.chicago.org.

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.

Crafting Corner for adults on Wednesdays, Sept. 30th; Oct. 21st and 28th; Nov. 4th to 18th from 4 to 5 p.m. and Sun-

days, Sept. 20th and Oct. 4th from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Family Story Time on Tuesdays through Nov. 17th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join us for picture books, stories, songs and a simple craft or play time. For families with children up to 5 years old.
Toddler Time and Play Time on Wednesdays through Nov. 11th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. We sing songs, read stories and do fun activities to build early literacy skills! For ages 18 months to 3 years and their caregivers.
Visit chippublib.org to register.

Nature Play Day At Ryan Woods



Photo provided by Forest Preserve of Cook County

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will conduct Nature Play Day at Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center, 87th & Western and on Friday, Sept. 25th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Help your children connect with nature through stories, art and exploration. Visit fpdcc.com

Free Days At Chicago Museums

Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark st. Free for Illinois residents on Sept. 24th; chicagohistory.org.

Griffin Museum of Science and Industry, 5700 S. DuSable Lake Shore Drive. Free for Illinois residents on Sept. 20th-23rd and 27th to 30th; griffinmsi.org.

Heritage Museum of Asian Art, 3500 S. Morgan st. Free admission on the third Friday of each month; heritageasianart.org.

Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, 2430 N. Cannon dr. Free for Illinois residents on Sept. 17th-18th, 21st-25th and 28th-30th; naturemuseum.org.

Free All Year Long
Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington st.; chicago.gov.

Chicago Fed Money Museum, 230 S. LaSalle

Programs At Beverly Arts Ctr.

The Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th st. has scheduled The Stevie Wonder Experience is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 18th & 19th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 for non-members.
Second Hand News, a Fleetwood Mac Tribute will perform an evening of timeless music on Friday, Sept. 25th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 for non-members.
Upcoming events include Sept. 17th: Old House Lecture Series. Sept. 26th: Beverly Art Walk. Oct. 9th-Nov. 24th: Chicago Kids Co. Presents The Tortoise and the Hare. Oct. 10th: Petty Kings: A Tribute to Tom Petty. Oct. 17th: Sons of Chicago Tribute. Oct. 24th: Smiley Tillmon Band. Nov. 7th: Chicago Jazz Philharmonic & Orbert Davis.
Visit thebeverlyarts-center.com or by calling (773) 445-3838.

Central American Independence Day

The Cook County Treasurer and the Consuls General from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica commemorate Central American Independence with a reception after the noon-time flag raising. The event featured traditional Central American music and dance.

Observed annually on Sept. 15th, the event commemorates the independence of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Costa Rica from Spanish colonial rule in 1821.

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 Chinatown Renaissance Man, The Life and Art of Andy Hoi-Csiu Chan now on view through Oct. 4th. Since 2025, the museum has worked with Andy Chan’s family to preserve his archive of 30,000 items, including photographs, documents, artworks, tools, personal objects, and VHS recordings. A program in his memory is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 25th from 6 to 9 p.m.

Free admission on Friday, Sept. 18th from 5 to 8 p.m. Enjoy wine and appetizer. Guided tour start at 6 p.m.

Introduction to Chinese Ceramics on Saturday, Oct. 4th from 2 to 4

p.m. Join us for an engaging lecture and hands-on workshop led by artist Xiao Qin.

Introduction to Japanese Embroidery on Friday, Oct. 9th from 6 to 8 p.m. Discover the tradition of Japanese embroidery, through an introduction to its materials, visual language, and techniques. \$50.

Kintsugi for Beginners on Friday, Sept. 18th from 6 to 8:30 p.m. This beginner’s workshop introduces the art of Kintsugi, a Japanese technique of repairing broken ceramics with gold-infused lacquer, emphasizing the beauty of imperfections. \$120.

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

Urge Public To Get Vaccinated

The Illinois Department of Public Health released fall respiratory virus immunization guidance based on recommendations by a group of 20 experts spanning infectious diseases, pediatrics, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, nursing, pharmacy, and public health.

IDPH also endorsed the routine, non-seasonal adult and maternal immunization schedules.

As the fall respiratory virus season begins, IDPH’s Seasonal Respiratory Illness Dashboard provides information on COVID-19, flu, and RSV activity. Uninsured or underinsured residents are encouraged to contact their local health department or to use IDPH’s Vaccine Locator Dashboard at <https://dph.illinois.gov> for information on where to find no-cost vaccines.

IDPH recommends the following immunization guidance for the 2026-2027 respiratory virus season:

Flu vaccination is recommended for all people ages 6 months and older.

RSV immunization is recommended for: All pregnant people during weeks 32 through 36 of pregnancy if not previously vaccinated. The maternal vaccination season has been extended and should go from September through March 1st.

All infants under the age of 8 months without maternal RSV vaccine protection entering their first RSV season. Children ages 8 months through 19 months who

are at increased risk for severe RSV disease and entering their second RSV season.

Adults ages 50 years through 74 years at increased risk of severe RSV disease if not previously vaccinated. All adults ages 75 years and older if not previously vaccinated.

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for: All children ages 6 months through 23 months. Children ages 2 years through 18 years in certain risk groups, or if desired.

All pregnant people and those who are planning pregnancy, those who are postpartum (after pregnancy), or during lactation. All adults 19 years and older.

Free Programs At Architecture Ctr.

The Chicago Architecture Center, 111 E. Wacker Drive will conduct We Build! through Oct. 4th from 1 to 5 p.m., a hands-on program for 6th-8th grade students who are introduced to architecture and design.

Open House Chicago is a free public festival that offers rare behind-the-scenes access to sites of architectural, historical and cultural significance on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 17th & 18th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event also spotlights businesses, organizations and creative leaders contributing to the vitality of Chicago’s diverse neighborhoods.

Register at www.architecture.org/



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