

AI For Dummies



By Dr. R. Pletsch

There are a lot of people that have learned from the series "AI For Dummies". In some cases it did not help. But it is known to help others get a simple understanding of subjects like Algebra, Golf, Muslimism, Olympics, and War. Name a subject, and the title — for Dummies is on or has been available for many students. It is commonly accepted that the average newspaper is written at about the 5th grade level. But here's the rub, the average 5th grader in the United States reads closer to a 3rd grade level. These stats can vary by the author and what you are testing for. The results have been somewhat consistent for many years.

Those of us old timers remember UNIVAC, IBM cards, early computer programs, and its use to retrieve data. Proponents of AI want us to believe this is different and in some ways it is. But basically it is still just retrieving data. The programs work faster than most people and can store

many more facts in their programs. The retrieval systems have vastly improved.

The big money is trying to get the most data into its AI equipment. If it is not entered into the machine, it just does not exist in its world. It is used to help predict results based on prior performance. In these days of gambling on everything, it is easy to see why the big gambling houses never lose in the long haul..

So who are the great winners? Those whose companies can store the most data and avoid false facts from being entered into their systems. If you can convince your AI that there is no God, how can we have rights depended on a diety? What if you can teach a system to reproduce itself and, therefore, try to prevent its own death? What happens if they play with moral systems? If the program believes abortion is good, how can any murder be bad?

These are all perplexing issues that many betting on AI are already set to be working on. Big money is expecting many jobs to take over for people.. Then, they will have no questions asked by their employees, because they programmed the employees. A very old axiom can be used in this scenario "garbage in, garbage out".

Most of us have seen the commercials where the head of household is talking to his AI machine in a seemingly normal conversation to an inanimate object. What is scary is they answer each other "I love you".

Local Artist In St. Charles Show



Clearing artist Anne Nordhaus-Bike (center) has a painting titled "High Summer Perfect Peaches" in the St. Charles, IL, Arts Council's show Taste of Summer, which runs at the ARC Gallery through Aug. 30th. She was joined by fellow artist Alexandra Stevenson (left), who also is exhibiting in the show and art enthusiast Carol Mitchell (right).

Photo Contest For Forest Preserves



Photo provided by the Cook County Forest Preserves

Green sweat bee smooth blue aster, Deer Grove, Mike Mulcahy, Sept. 24th.

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will sponsor its 2026 Photo Contest on July 31st.

Photographers may submit up to five images captured within the Forest Preserves, including Brookfield Zoo Chicago and Chicago Botanic Garden. Winning photographs will be featured in the Forest Preserves' 2027 wall calendar, social media channels and other publications. Photos should feature landscapes, plants, insects, birds or other wildlife, and people enjoying the outdoors. Entries must be submitted through the online contest platform through Aug. 16th and meet all requirements.

Entries will be evaluated on the quality of the image and its ability to capture the spirit of the Forest Preserves. Fifteen winning photos will be selected for the 2027 calendar, which includes one for the cover, one for each month, and one each for Brookfield Zoo Chicago and Chicago Botanic Garden.

Winning photographers will receive 10 copies of the 2027 calendar and a prize package of Tickets to Brookfield Zoo Chicago, Chicago Botanic Garden and GoApe Zipline & Adventure Park, Free one-night cabin stay at any of the Forest Preserves' campgrounds, One-hour kayak rental for two people at Maple Lake, One-hour kayak rental for two people at Busse Lake, Tampier Lake or Skokie Lagoons, One round of golf at any Forest Preserves golf course and more.

Judges will also select up to 24 runner-up images that may be featured in the Forest Way newsletter, on Forest Preserves social media channels and on fpdcc.com.

There is no fee to enter. Contest rules, category information, submission requirements and voting details are available at fpdcc.com/photo-contest.

County Down Payment Assistance Program

The Cook County Bureau of Economic Development's Department of Planning and Development launched a third phase of its Down Payment Assistance Program.

The approved allocation of \$2 million will assist residents in the homebuying process.

The Program provides subsidies equal to 5% of the final first loan amount, up to \$25,000. Subsidies can assist with down payments, closing costs or interest-rate buydowns for homes in Cook County.

Assistance is provided as a forgivable second loan over a five-year term.

Eligibility criteria and guidance include: Households with an annual income at or below 120% of the Area Median Income are eligible. For a family of four, this is \$145,800.

For those buying in Disproportionately Impacted Areas or Qualified Census Tracts, there is no income limit. Applicants must have a minimum credit score of 620.

All first-time homebuyers, must complete a course through a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-approved housing counseling agency before closing.

Homes may include single-family, townhomes or condominiums.

Club 720 will host biweekly virtual workshops that will educate homebuyers about eligibility, how to apply and work with participating lenders.

The third phase of the Program is built upon the success of a \$3 million pilot program that launched in 2024 and assisted in the purchase of nearly 200 homes, and an \$8.6 million Phase II that assisted with the purchase of over 500 homes.

For more information, visit club720.org/cook-county-dpa/.

Property Tax Appeal Season

The Cook County Board of Review will officially open the 2026 property tax appeal season on Monday, July 27th, providing homeowners, businesses, and property owners the opportunity to appeal their property assessments.

Property owners may file an appeal online through the Board of Review's website at cook-countyboardofreview.com during their township's designated filing period. Appeals may also be filed by attorneys or tax representatives acting on behalf of property owners. There is no fee for filing an appeal.

The Board of Review serves as the second level of appeal in the Cook County property tax assessment process, independently reviewing decisions made by the comparable properties, market value, property characteristics, and other relevant documentation.

The Board of Review also offers a variety of free resources to assist taxpayers, including: Online appeal filing, Educational guides and videos, Community outreach events, Assistance through the Board's Help Desk and Information sessions conducted throughout Cook County.

For township filing dates, appeal information, additional resources, visit www.cookcounty-boardofreview.com, call (312) 603-5542.

Assistance With Down Payment

The Cook County Bureau of Economic Development's Department of Planning and Development announced the launch of a third phase of the Down Payment Assistance Program on July 20th.

A \$3 million pilot program launched in 2024 and assisted in the purchase of nearly 200 homes and an \$8.6 million Phase II that assisted with the purchase of over 500 homes.

Participants received an average of \$15,000 in assistance, and 80% were first-time homebuyers. The program allowed buyers to access homes priced from \$200,000 to \$400,000.

The program provides subsidies equal to 5% of the home's sale price, up to \$25,000. Subsidies can assist with down payments, closing costs or interest-rate buydowns for homes located in Cook County.

Assistance is provided as a forgivable second loan over a five-year term. For more information, visit club720.org/cook-county-dpa/.

Moss Honored

Tyler Moss was named to the Dean's List at Minnesota State University for the spring semester.

A 3.5 to 3.99 average to qualify for academic honor is required and undergraduate students must be enrolled for 12 credit hours.

Radojevich Graduates

The University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh's 152nd spring commencement celebrated the achievements of 1,100 students on May 16th. Aleah C. Radojevich was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education.

Mei Honored

Jason Mei, Class of 2028 was named to the dean's list at Tufts University of Medford, MA for the spring 2026 semester. A semester grade point average 3.4 or greater is required.

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, Aug. 5th 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.

Teen Fun Night At Park 596

The Chicago Park District will conduct Teen Fun Night at Park No. 596, 4830 S. Western ave. on Monday, Aug. 3rd from 4 to 7 p.m. Teens will enjoy a night of laser tag and silent party.

Missing Middle Housing Approved



Photo provided by the City of Chicago

Fourteen multi-unit residential buildings will be constructed in East Garfield Park and McKinley Park through financial support and City land sales approved by City Council on July 15th.

Part of the Department of Planning and Development's Missing Middle infill housing initiative, the 40 market-rate units will be constructed by two minority-led development teams and collectively represent \$15 million in new investment. Developer and project details include:

Citizens Building a Better Community, East Garfield Park. The \$10.6 million project will replace four vacant lots with six three-flats and three four-flats on the 300 block of South Homan Avenue, 3300 block of West Gladys Avenue and 3500 blocks of West Adams Street

and West Jackson Boulevard. Encompassing .63 acres and collectively valued at \$104,100, the parcels will be sold for \$1 each.

M3 Chicago, McKinley Park. The \$4.4 million project will replace five vacant lots with five two-flats on the 2400 block of W. 34th Place. Encompassing .34 acres and collectively valued at \$119,620, the parcels will be sold for \$1 each.

City assistance includes \$150,000 per unit to help ensure purchase prices are commensurate with neighborhood buying power.

The Missing Middle program incentivizes redevelopment of vacant City lots with walk-up buildings that have gone "missing" due to decades of disinvestment. For more information, visit <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/missing-middle/home.html>

Kayak Tour of Bubbly Creek

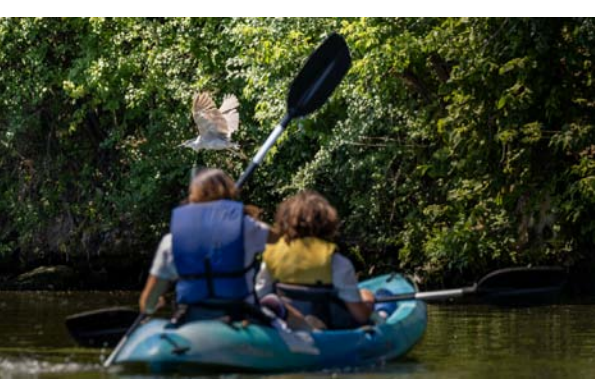


Photo credit to Shedd Aquarium

McKinley Park community members are invited to explore the Chicago River from a new perspective with Shedd Aquarium's guided kayak tours along Bubbly Creek.

Every Wednesday night through September from 5 to 7 p.m., Shedd experts will conduct a quiet river journey with a focus on wildlife spotting, insight into ongoing research and habitat restoration projects.

Registration fee is \$10.

Summer Fair In Chinatown

The 46th Annual Chinatown Summer Fair will be held on Wentworth ave. from Cermak ave. to 24th place on Saturday, July 25th from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday, July 26th from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

This neighborhood street festival will open with a lion dance procession at 12:30 p.m., a welcome at 1 p.m. on the main stage, followed by Asian performances, kung fu demonstrations, samplings from restaurants & gift shops, arts & crafts exhibits, street vendors and a children's area. Admission is free.

Pilates In Pink At Ping Park

The Chicago Park District will perform Pilates in Pink at Ping Tom Park, 1700 S. Wentworth on Wednesday, Aug. 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Register for this event at <https://endurance.cui.active.com/event-reg/select-race?e=97134611>

The wellness experience allows teens and adults to enjoy an R&B themed Pilates session, matcha, health and wellness vendors.

Christmas In July At Griffin MSI



Photo credit: Griffin Museum of Science and Industry

The Griffin Museum of Science and Industry, 5700 S. DuSable Lake Shore Drive has scheduled a Christmas in July celebration from Thursday, July 23rd through Sunday, July 26th with festive activities, savings and an early look at this year's *Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light* exhibit and events.

A winter wonderland in the Rotunda will feature holiday music, photo opportunity and an icy liquid nitrogen live science show. Holiday cookies will be available in Museum Kitchen. On Friday, July 24th, visitors can participate in hands-

on holiday-themed science activities with the education team including a mobile Fab Lab for guests to laser cut their own ornaments.

The 84th annual *Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light* opens Saturday, Nov. 7th with the annual Tree Lighting and Cultural Festival. Naughty or Nice: Family Edition Saturday, Dec. 19th, 5-9 p.m., features face painting, a meet-and-greet with Santa and festive fun for all ages. This is in addition to the annual Naughty or Nice: 21+ Adults Only event Thursday, Dec. 10th, 6-10 p.m., featuring cocktails and after-hours access to exhibits.

Starting July 23rd holiday discounts include: 10% off \$50 and \$100 Griffin Museum gift cards that can be used for general admission, camps and special exhibits with code: XMASGIFT.

20% off Naughty or Nice tickets (both versions) purchased through Thursday, Aug. 6th with code: JULYXMAS.

Adult: \$35; Child (2-12 years old): \$28; Children under 2: free.

A 14-month Griffin MSI membership for the price of 12, plus a holiday gift (available starting Saturday, Nov. 7th) when purchased through Friday, July 31 with code: 14MONTHS.

Membership includes exclusive access to Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light during morning hours on Saturday, Nov. 14th and evening hours on Wednesday, Dec. 16th, featuring Santa Claus, holiday treats, special activities and more.

Zheng Honored

Daniel Zheng of Chicago has been named to the University at Buffalo's spring 2026 dean's list.

To qualify, full-time undergraduate students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.600 while completing a minimum of 12 UB letter-graded credit hours.

BrightonParkLIFE.com

To complement our weekly edition The Brighton Park-McKinley Park Life has launched a website. On it can be found general information about us, recent and past issues, advertising information. Send neighborhood interest stories, student accomplishments, civic organization events to brightonparklife@aol.com.

Opinions expressed by guest editorials may not represent the viewpoints held by the publisher of the Brighton Park - McKinley Park Life Newspaper.

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Continued from Page 3

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS: COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FREDDIE MAC SEASONED CREDIT RISK TRANSFER TRUST, SERIES 2021-2 Plaintiff vs. CARRIE W. JOHNSON, JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK ONE, N.A., CITY OF CHICAGO Defendant 26 CH 337 CALENDAR 58 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on August 31, 2026, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell, in person, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 20-08-428-019-0000 AND 20-08-428-023-0000. Commonly known as 856 W. 54TH PL., CHICAGO, IL 60609. The real estate is: multi family residence. The successful purchaser is entitled to possession of the property only. The purchaser may only obtain possession of units within the multi-unit property occupied by individuals named in the order of possession. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% (or 25% if so ordered in the Judgment of Foreclosure) down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property is sold AS IS subject to all liens or encumbrances. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the circuit court case record, property tax record and the title record to verify all information before bidding. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER THE ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125, 25-02895. INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13291157

Ridge Library Plans Programs

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

FAMILIES
“Family Bingo” on Monday, Aug. 10th from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For families with children ages 4 and up.

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.
LEGO Builder's Club on Tuesdays through July 28th from 2 to 3 p.m. Ages 5-10.
Summer Kids' Crafts on Monday, July 27th from 2 to 3 p.m. Ages 6-10.
Goodman Theater for

the Young on Wednesday, July 29th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. ages 3-8. “The Lizard y El Sol”.
Babbling Babies Story Time on Thursday, July 23rd from 1 to 1:30 p.m.

ADULTS
The adult book club meets on the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. The Aug. 13th title is “Dogland” by Tommy Tomlinson.
Spanish Book Club on the first Thursday of each month from 1 to 2 p.m.
Learn to Play Mahjong on Wednesdays from 12:30 to 2 p.m. This beginner-friendly program will teach the basics of game-play, tile identification and strategies.

Watercolor postcards on Sunday, Aug. 2nd at 2 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 15th at 2 p.m. Patrons will design and paint a watercolor postcard inspired by the city of Chicago.

Register for events at chipublib.org/events.

Obituaries

RUDOLPH BRISENO who was born on May 29th, 1945, passed away on July 11th at the age of 81. He was the father of Rudolph Brisen0 Jr., brother of Ted Brisen0 of Victoria, TX., Ernest Rubio, Clara Dennison, Sylvia Miranda, Rose Spacucello, Patricia Andris, and Rebecca Rubio and uncle of many. Memorial service was held July 19th at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave., Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director.



RAYMOND R. CASTRO of Chicago passed away on July 14th at the age of 64. He is survived by his daughter, Vanessa Castro (Gonzalez); grandson, Malachi; mother, Carmen Castro; brother, Noel; and sisters, Magdalena, Sylvia, Edith, Sandra, and Maribel. He was preceded in death by his father, Hijinio Castro. Visitation was held July 17th at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave.; Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Funeral Mass was celebrated July 18th at Immaculate Conception Church, 2755 W. 44th st.



JUANA M. FLORES who was born on June 24th, 1944, passed away on July 12th at the age of 82. Visitation will be held Friday, July 24th from 4 to 8 p.m. at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave.; Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Visitation will be held Saturday, July 25th from 10 to 11 a.m. at St. Adrian Church, 7000 S. Washtenaw. Funeral Mass will follow. Interment will be at St. Casimir Cemetery, 4401 W. 111th st.

Gage Park Library Schedules Programs

The Gage Park Branch Library, 2807 W. 55th st., has scheduled programs for all ages. 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 to register for the following programs.

CHILDREN
Craft Club for ages to 13 on Wednesday, July 29th from 4 to 5 p.m. Get creative with us.

FAMILIES
Family Story Time on Monday, July 27th from 11 to 11:30 a.m. For kids 0 to 6 and their caregivers.

Public Feedback For IDOT Survey

The Illinois Department of Transportation is asking the public for their feedback on the state's transportation system and the agency's performance through the annual Traveler Opinion Survey. Available through Tuesday, Aug. 11, the survey is available online by clicking <https://go.uis.edu/Traveler2026> or visiting idot.illinois.gov. Conducted in partnership with the University of Illinois Springfield, the survey is an opportunity for people to provide their opinion on a wide range of topics including road conditions, ice and snow removal, planning priorities, electronic vehicles and more.

Back of the Yards Schedules Programs

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

CHILDREN
Kid's Sewing Craft on Wednesday, July 29th from 4 to 5 p.m. Learn the basics of machine sewing and more, all levels welcome. All sewing materials are provided. Participants are encouraged to bring clothing and materials, if desired. Get a project pre-sewn with the machine by the librarian, and complete the project by hand sewing it using kid's needles.

Fun with Reading on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. Ages 2 to 8.

Outdoor Play on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Ages 3 to 12.

Story Time at Coffeehouses on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. Ages 0 to 5.

STEAM Kids for ages 3 to 12 on Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m.

Family Story Time on

Saturdays at 2 p.m. Ages 0 to 5.

End of the Summer Party on Friday, July 31st, 2 p.m. All ages.

TEEN
Zine Making Workshop on Friday, July 24th from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Instant Photography on Monday, July 27th from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

ADULTS
A Stitch in Time Crochet Club on Tuesdays, July 28th, Aug. 4th & 11th from 6 to 7 p.m. We have yarn and crochet hooks to share! Bring your own project or start one based on one of our ideas!

Yoga with Chicago Tunes on Saturday, July 25th from 10 to 10:45 a.m.

Adult Book Club on Thursdays, July 23rd and Aug. 20th from 6 to 7 p.m. Visit chipublib.org to register.

Summer Events At Brookfield Zoo



Photo credit © Brookfield Zoo Chicago

Brookfield Zoo Chicago is offering summer fun for all ages with seasonal attractions, wildlife experiences and live entertainment. Visiting hours are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

The American flamingos get the opportunity to strut their stuff at Formal Pool 10 a.m. each day, with a return walk back to The Swamp at 2:45 p.m. Having daytime experiences provides variety and enrichment for the flamingos, and you may even see them interact with pelicans.

Themed children's birthday party experiences are designed to make celebrations stress-free. Bookings include food and drink, themed decorations, gift bags for guests, party setup and cleanup. Celebrate with a butterfly or dinosaur theme.

Dolphin Discovery offers daily shows at 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. Giraffe Feeding Adventures will be daily at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. (weather permitting).

Nature Stage programming offers free up-close encounters with Animal Ambassadors during training sessions at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. daily.

Guests can come face-to-face with 35 life-sized dinosaurs throughout Zoo grounds. Dinos! also includes opportunities to explore a massive rib-cage tunnel, climb on a giant fossil, dig for ancient discoveries, snap epic photos and find prehistoric pals and more.

Wildlife Walking Tours Dinosaur Discovery at 10 a.m. or African Safari at 1 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Sundays.

Dinos After Dark on July 11th. Explore the Zoo and see all the dinos in the night air, enjoy unlimited carousel and Ferris Wheel rides.

Roaring Nights featuring Blues Traveler July 24th. Concert tickets include live music plus free parking, unlimited Carousel and Ferris Wheel rides and Zoo admission.

Run Event At Marquette Park

The Chicago Park District will conduct Go Run Chicago at Marquette Park, 6743 S. Kedzie on Saturday, July 25th from 9 to 11 a.m.

The community partnership with the Chicago Area Runners Association encourages active lifestyle.

Register at www.GoRunChicago.org.

mission.

Zoo Uncorked on Aug. 22nd. This after-hours event for guests ages 21 and over offers elevated flights and bites paired with Zoo Chat and live music. From 4-8 p.m., guests will receive a passport to explore the Zoo and try a variety of animal-themed cocktails and mocktails. Event tickets are required in advance and include free parking, unlimited Carousel and Ferris Wheel rides, live entertainment and more.

Guests can find event schedules, ticket information, animal updates and more by visiting brookfieldzoo.org.

Church Services

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Mass scheduled for Thursday, July 23rd, St. Bruno, 8 a.m., Misa Diaria.
Friday, July 24th: St. Richard Church, 8 a.m. Daily Mass and 6 p.m. Polish Mass.
Saturday, July 25th, St. Bruno, 8 a.m. Polish Mass, and 4:30 p.m. Mass.
Sunday, July 26th, St. Richard Mass: 7:30 a.m. Polish, 9 a.m. English, and 10:30 a.m.
St. Bruno Mass: 10:30 a.m. Polish, 12:30 p.m. Spanish, and 7 p.m.



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