



## Lower Expectations On State Standards



By Dr. R. Pletsch

Illinois Policy printed an article by Hannah Schmid last month. It helped bring attention to the fact that the State Board of Education approved a plan to lower the score needed to be considered proficient in Reading and Math.

The students in Illinois have not been doing well for years. The latest available data was the 2024 State test. It indicated only 41% of students in grades 3 - 8 could read on level. It was only 31% in 11th grade. In Math, only 28% in grades 3 - 8 met the standards and in the 11th grade, 26% met the standards.

The State appears to be trying to show improvement and they are using the new standards and are including it in last year's test which will be released in October. With the new "cut scores," now 53% will be considered proficient in Reading and 38% in Math on the 2025 scores. The scores and charts are available on the internet.

Test scores can be misleading to those not accustomed to working with them. They are important indicators of growth and often used by

parents to choose a school or even a neighborhood to move to.

The State's argument for doing this is, that the "2022 State Standard Mapping Study" conducted by National Center for Educational Statistics noted that Illinois has one of the higher proficiency standards among the states. Therefore, the State Board believes lowering the standards to be more closely compared to other states. A problem is that some parents and students will believe great gains were made because of the old comparing apples and oranges.

Ms. Schmid states that changing the score will help Illinois compare more favorably to other states, but time would be better spent improving the students' abilities. The states of New York and California have also lowered their expectations from their traditional tests. There are articles available on the internet if you are interested in those states.

Parents should understand that the questions are still the same. Their scores will still be the same from 2025, but the interpretation of those scores will be raised. For example, 10 correct may have been not proficient and now will be improving proficiency. So the wording will be more important than the raw score. While this test score may not be accurate compared to your older students who graduated, so don't compare them. But it is appropriate to compare their 2025 score with the 2026 score they will be taking this Spring. Your teachers will explain this if you ask them.

## Boy Scout Troop 1441 at Owasippe



Members of Boy Scout Troop 1441 of the Pathway to Adventure Council, sponsored by St. Mary Star of the Sea Holy Name Society recently attended a week-long Summer Camping trip at the Owasippe Scout Reservation Twin Lakes, Michigan. Activities included a daily flag raising, Troop Site duties, hikes and a visit to the Camp Owasippe Museum. Scout earned the following Merit Badges, Environmental Science, Exploration, Insect Study, Space Exploration, Photography and Weather. Partial Merit Badges were Fire Safety, Orienteering, Safety, Communication, Emergency Preparedness, Pioneering, Swimming and Robotics. Scouts and leaders enjoyed Maui Monday night complete with a leaders cook-off, games, music, skill contests and Troop to Troop competitions and a Scout Master's belly flop competition.

Any boys ages 11 to 17 from any school who are interested in Scouting can bring a parent to a weekly Troop meeting held on Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 pm at St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish, 6435 S. Kilbourn in Dugan Hall. For further information in English, call Ed Melkonian at (312) 316-5825 or in Spanish, Angie Kozel at (773) 851-7855. In front row are Scouts Gabriel Hernandez, Ricardo Santana and Andres Burgos. Back row: Ed Melkonian (Asst. Scout Master), Minerva Gonzales (Committee Member) and John Massura (Scout Master).

### Programs At Beverly Arts Ctr.

The Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th st. has scheduled 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. 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.

## 25th Anniversary of 9/11 Attacks



Evergreen Academy Middle School held a commemoration for the 25th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. The students viewed a tribute to those who passed away and staff members told of their experiences while teaching on that day. Shown are Mr. Basco, Dr. Pletsch, Ms. McLean, Mrs. DeGiacomo, Principal Mrs. Strok, Mr. Kanelos, Mr. Sawicki and Ms. Polak.

## 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

### SNHU Announces President's List

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

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.70 and above 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 grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Sergio Ruiz (60632), Alyssa Estrada (60632), Omar Rivera (60632), Isaiah Aguirre (60638), Caleb Beasley (60608), Jennifer Hayes (60609), Joshua Logan (60638), Beatriz Aguilera (60632), Rafael Calderon (60632), Armando Lara (60608), Dejun Zeng (60608) and Destiny Neal (60608).

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.

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.

### Free Days At Children's Museum

Kids Free Day will be available at Chicago Children's Museum of Navy Pier on Fridays, Sept. 25th and Nov. 1st at 10 a.m.

Join us to explore the museum, our fall Castle exhibit, and programming in the Art Studio, Tinkering Lab and Pritzker Playspace. All kids (17 years or younger) receive free admission.

### 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.

## Haunted History In Jackson Park



Photo provided by Chicago Parks Foundation

The Chicago Parks Foundation will conduct a Haunted History Walking Tour in Jackson Park on Saturday, Sept. 26th from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Join us for a guided tour through some of Jackson Park's most beautiful and historically significant spaces, culminating at the Obama Presidential Center campus. Led by Chicago historian and ghost expert, Tony Szabelski. Learn about the area's roots in the World's Columbian Exposition and other spooky stories.

Tsukimi: Moon Viewing Festival at Osaka Garden on Saturday, Sept. 26th from 8 to 11 p.m. Enjoy an evening of poems under the moon read by the Haiku Society of America and Regina Harris Baiocchi of Chicago's Haiku Festival. Master shodo calligrapher Heikun Oda will perform a "big brush" calligraphy demonstration. Learn more about these crafts and discover your own harvest moon poems. Register at [chicagoparksfoundation.org](http://chicagoparksfoundation.org).

### Bookmark Design Drawing Contest

Cook County students in kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to show off their creativity in three second annual Project Rainbow Bookmark Contest.

Winners will receive a Kindle Colorsoft Kids and have their designs named the Official Bookmarks of Cook County for the 2026-27 school year. One winner will be chosen from each category: grades K-3 and grades 4-6. Winners will have their bookmark designs printed and distributed at the Cook County Building, 118 N. Clark st. in November and receive an official resolution honoring their work.

To view contest rules and enter, visit <https://projectrainbow.cook-countyil.gov/bookmark-contest/> and submit your design by Oct. 9th.

### Second Chance Summit Planned

Mariyana T. Spyropoulos Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County has scheduled a Second Chance Summit Expungement and Sealing Fair on Saturday, Oct. 10th from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kennedy King College, 740 W. 63rd st.

## Heritage Museum Of Asian Art

The Heritage Museum of Asian Art, 3500 S. Morgan st. will present the Guild of American Papercutters Members' Exhibition Oct. 7th to Nov. 7th. Cutting East to West celebrates the diversity and creativity of papercut art. Originating in Asia, papercutting has traveled across cultures and generations, evolving into distinct regional traditions, techniques, and contemporary forms. Featuring 48 artists from across the United States and abroad, the exhibition presents time-honored practices and innovative new approaches.

The Opening Reception of "Cutting East to West" is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 16th from 6 to 8 p.m. Papercutting on Stage: Kamishibai Workshop will be conducted from 2 to 4 p.m. Explore papercutting as a form of theater through kamishibai, a Japanese storytelling tradition in which illustrated cards are presented within a small portable stage, and Victorian paper theaters. Participants will learn papercutting techniques and create a layered artist-book stage. \$45.

Chinese Papercutting Across Cultures will be conducted on Saturday, Oct. 24th from 2 to 4 p.m. Learn traditional Chinese papercutting and create your own artwork inspired by your culture, family, faith, nature, or personal story. \$45.

Intro to Wycinanki The Polish Folk Art of Papercutting is scheduled for Oct. 25th from 2 to 4 p.m. Create two paper-cuttings of your own, with artist Sam Wróbel. \$45.

A mid-autumn festival gathering in memory of Andy Hoi-Csiu Chan is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 25th from 6 to 9 p.m. Join us for an

evening of food, memories, and discovery honoring Chicago artist Andy Hoi-Csiu Chan. For more than fifty years, he was a master of traditional Chinese painting. Cost is optional.

An Introduction to Japanese Embroidery will be held on Friday, Oct. 9th from 6 to 8 p.m. Discover the tradition of Japanese embroidery, or Nihon Shishu, through a hands-on introduction to its materials, visual language, and foundational techniques. \$50.

For more information and tickets, visit [www.heritageasianart.org](http://www.heritageasianart.org). (312) 842-8884.

### Award Grants To Preserve History

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board, overseen by Illinois Secretary of State and State Archivist Alexi Giannoulas, has awarded grants to six historical records repositories and organizations to preserve, digitize and expand public access to archival materials documenting Illinois history and culture.

The grants support projects that range from digitizing aging film and audio collections to preserving archaeological data and making the history of Illinois' deaf and Filipino American communities more accessible.

Funding was provided through a State Board Programming Grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Since 2010, ISHRAB has awarded grants to archives and cultural institutions to help preserve and provide access to significant records.

## New Events At History Museum

The Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark st. has scheduled interesting events.

Visit our exhibition *Injustice: The Trial for the Murder of Emmett Till*, to see courtroom sketches drawn by Franklin McMahon that capture the 1955 trial in a Mississippi courtroom where photography was not permitted.

McMahon was born in 1921 in Chicago and worked as a cartoonist and illustrator after serving in World War II. His ink-wash drawings of the trial for Emmett Till's murderers were published in the October 3, 1955, issue of *Life* magazine.

His career as an artist-reporter, covered notable events including the Chicago Seven Trial, the Second Vatican Council, and Senate Watergate hearings. His drawing technique allowed him to interact with his subjects and captured different angles, moods and drama.

A Walking Tour, "Glitterati on the Gold Coast" is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 26th from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Gaze at ornate architecture by Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Sullivan and take in Chicago's early mansions. \$25 Walking Tour of Lincoln Park's Lost History on Sunday, Sept. 27th from 12 to 1:30 p.m. With guide and researcher Tony Szabelski, explore the park's history from the Couch Tomb to the tragic deaths along the High Bridge

and the site of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. \$25.

Commemorative Day for Latine Heritage Month on Saturday, Oct. 3rd from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. A day of learning, interactive activities, and community connections. Included with general admission.

Walking Tour of Pilsen Murals on Saturday, Oct. 3rd from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Experience Pilsen's murals with local poet and artist Luis Tubens. \$25.

Walking Tour of Humboldt Park on Saturday, Oct. 10th from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Join professional guide and local resident Eduardo Arocho on a walk through Humboldt Park, the center of Puerto Rican culture. \$25.

Walking Tour and Sheffield Stroll on Sunday, Oct. 18th from 12 to 2 p.m. Join volunteer guide Dave Gudewicz to explore the history of the Sheffield/DePaul neighborhood, which was once home to immigrants, then wealthy Victorian-era families, and is now home to a university and its students. \$25.

*Aqui en Chicago* closing program on Sunday, Nov. 8th from 12 to 4 p.m. A day full of fun activities, tours, talks, music and more. Included with general admission.

Public hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, 12 to 5 p.m. For more information, visit [chicagohistory.org](http://chicagohistory.org).

## Child Passenger Safety Week

The Illinois State Police reminds parents and caregivers that properly securing children in the appropriate car seat, booster seat, or seat belt is one of the most important steps they can take to protect a child in a vehicle. Illinois recognizes Sept. 21st-27th as Child Passenger Safety Week.

Recent crashes demonstrate the devastating consequences that can occur when children are not properly restrained.

Sept. 6th, Troopers responded to a crash on I-57 in Cook County. An infant died and four other children were injured. None of the children were restrained in a child safety seat.

Sept. 12th, Troopers responded to a crash in Ogle County where a child was killed in a rollover crash on I-39. Three children in that vehicle were not properly restrained and one was ejected, causing fatal injuries.

Properly securing children begins with choosing the correct restraint for their age and size. Rear-facing seats provide protection for infants and young children. Forward-facing seats with a harness and tether protect children who have outgrown rear-facing seats. Booster seats properly position a vehicle's lap-and-shoulder belt for older children.

In Illinois, children

under the age of eight must be properly secured in an appropriate restraint system. Children under age two must ride in a properly fitted rear-facing child restraint system unless they weigh forty pounds or more or are forty inches or taller.

For more information, visit ISP's Traffic Safety website at <https://isp.illinois.gov>

### Oktoberfest At Play Garden

McKinley Community Play Garden, 3518-28 S. Wolcott ave. will conduct its annual Oktoberfest celebration for adults on Saturday, Sept. 26th from 6 to 10 p.m. Features include food, drinks and live music from local band Amateur Samurai.

Participants will enjoy a silent auction for gift certificates from Altitude Jump Park and Chile Torreado, five cozy fire pits and a community sing-along.

Proceeds will support garden maintenance and community programming.

Entrance donation is \$30 online or at the door (includes two drink tickets). Additional drink tickets are \$5 each. Purchase tickets at [mkplaygarden.eventbrite.com](http://mkplaygarden.eventbrite.com)

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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.

“Tot Play Time” Saturdays, Oct. 10th to 24th at 9:30 a.m. Ages 0-5 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.

Art in the Library Families Together on Saturdays through Oct. 24th from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Families can attend any session to create mixed media art with their children. This session focuses on artists Mary Cassatt, Margaret Burroughs, Romare Bearden, Suzuki Harunobu and Jacob Lawrence. Once you have your inspiration, kids will draw a picture on watercolor paper and then fill in using markers, colored pencils, paint brushes and water, patterned paper and more. Sup-

plies will be available. For ages 3 to 13.

### 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. “Family Lore” on Nov. 12th and “Absolution” on Dec. 10th.

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.

Saturday Game Day through Nov. 28th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This is a drop-in program. Bring a game or play one of ours. UNO, Skip-bo, Mexican Train, Canasta, Chess, Checkers, Sorry and more. Players gather on adult side of building as space allows. No registration is needed. Make new friends.

Games People Play on Thursdays through Dec. 10th from 2 to 4 p.m. We play Scrabble, Dominoes, Sorry UNO, Yahtzee, cards, trivia, Canasta, Mexican Train and more.

Planner Meet Up on Saturday, Oct. 3rd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring your own journal/planner, stickers, washi tape and gel pens.

Register for events at chipublib.org/events.

## 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.

This Thursday (9/24) is World Gorilla Day! Gorillas are not only the largest primate on Earth but also share 98% of our DNA, making them one of our closest relatives in the animal kingdom. They also live in complex social groups led by a silverback. Guests can witness those dynamics at the James & Elizabeth Bramsen Tropical Forests, where the family gorilla group recently welcomed new females.

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 ribcage tunnel and come face-to-face with life size dinosaurs.

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

During Hispanic Heritage Month, we are hosting a free online series of

guest speakers on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. to learn from the following leaders in conservation:

Sept. 30th: Laura Abondano Franco is a Colombian primatologist, conservationist, and Assistant Teaching Professor in Biology and Project Dragonfly at Miami University. Her work focuses on the ecology, behavior, and conservation of tropical biodiversity, particularly South American primates.

Oct. 7th: Lili Tobar Gonzalez is a biologist from the Autonomus University of Nuevo León, México, specializing in bird conservation, environmental education, and science communication.

Oct. 14th: Dr. Luis Padilla is President & CEO of the Omaha Zoological Society, leading Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, and the Lee G. Simmons Wildlife Safari Park since 2022.

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 Bootastic costume parades, trick-or-treating stations on the East Mall, inflatable, 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, 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.

Grab your glow sticks and running shoes and join us on Saturday, Nov. 14th for Reindeer Run! With a 2-mile course within the Zoo, you can “fun run” under the lights and be the first to see Holiday Magic. Only those walking or running need to be registered. Strollers are welcome and children riding in strollers are free. Early bird discount pricing ends after Sept. 30th. Visit brookfieldzoo.org for more information.

### 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/

## 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).

Grab & Go - Due to our Community Room being used for early voting, we will be offering activities for our patrons to take home. Starting Monday, Oct. 12th, pick up your Grab & Go from the Adult Reference Desk. One per patron, while supplies last. Kids, ages 6 - 12, Pipe Cleaner Ninjas; Tweens, ages 10-14, Mystery Craft; Teens, grades 9-12, Dungeon Crawl Classics RPG, also Oct. 19th & 26th. Adult Mini Canvas Artwork Magnet, also Oct. 19th & 26th. Adult Spice Kit: Cinnamon

### TWEENS & TEENS

Teen Volunteer Hours Thursdays, Sept. 24th, Oct. 8th and Tuesday, Oct. 27th from 4 to 5 p.m. Earn 1 volunteer hour while helping at your library. Bring your timesheet. Grades 6 - 12 only.

Tween Tuesday Oct. 6th features “Galaxy Jars” from 4 to p.m. Materials and snacks will be provided. For ages 10-14 only.

### CHILDREN

Family Story time on Thursdays, Sept. 24th and Oct. 1st from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Stories, songs and fun for the whole family. For children 0 to 5 and their caregivers.

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.

One Book, One Story time on Thursday, Oct. 8th from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. 3-2-1... Blast off with us on a space-themed story time adventure for young explorers. Join the fun as we read, sing and talk about what it's like to sparkle like a star and live on our amazing planet.

Family Story time at Archer Park, 4901 S. Kilbourn on Thursdays, Oct. 15th, 22nd and 29th from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Stories, songs and fun for children 0 to 5 and their caregivers.

### ADULTS

Adult Book Discussion of “Orbital” by Samantha Harvey on Wednesday, Oct. 28th from 1 to 2 p.m. and “The Night Watchman” by Louise Erdrich on Nov. 25th Copies 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 online.

Grab and Go: Spice Club Kits (Ginger Powder) on Monday, 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.

“Behind Us We Are You” an artist on talk with Atlan Arceo-Witzi on Monday, Oct. 5th at 6

p.m. Exploring everyday rituals, icons, symbols, and communication his works redefine midwestern identity as a hybrid of ancient and contemporary life. A showcase of his work will be on display during October.

Watch N' Craft “Dolores” on Wednesday, Oct. 7th from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Join us for a special screening of Peter Bratt's “Dolores” (2017) while you make your own activist gear.

“South Side Memories” by author Gloria Golec on Saturday, Oct. 10th from 2 to 3 p.m. Celebrate Polish-American Heritage Month, with a presentation by local author, Gloria Golec. She will discuss her book, the writing and publishing process and her Archer Heights neighborhood. She will also lead a writing exercise that includes a discussion about memories. Register online.

Crime Book Club 2026. Discuss mystery, thriller and true crime books on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 11th, “Killers of the Flower Moon” by David Grann. Dec. 9th, “Harlem Shuffle” by Colson Whitehead. Books available at the circulation desk. No registration required.

### CINEMA

Join us on Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Snacks available while supplies last. Sept. 27th, “Coco” (PG), “Beetlejuice” Oct. 4th and “Clue” Oct. 11th. “Mean Girls” Day on Saturday, Oct. 3rd at 2 p.m. Join us for special screening while making your own burn book. Even though it's Saturday, we encourage you to wear pink. Register online. Visit chipublib.org.

### Girls Day of Play At Local Parks

The Chicago Park District will conduct Girls Day of P.L.A.Y. at Marquette Park, 6743 S. Kedzie and Ping Tom Park, 1700 S. Wentworth on Friday, Sept. 25th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Girls have the opportunity to engage in sports, arts and crafts and fun. This free event is available during a free public school day. Participants should pack a water bottle, lunch and snack, wear gym shoes and comfortable clothes. Ping Tom Park also offers swimming.

### Archery Class At Ryan Woods

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will conduct Teen Exploration Day: Archery at Dan Ryan Woods Grove 5, 83rd & Western on Wednesday, Oct. 7th from 4 to 6 p.m.

Learn from certified staff. For ages 10 & up. Junior archery is available for children under age 10. Search fpdcc.com.

## Obituaries



**GUADALUPE ANTUNEZ** who was born on June 25th, 1948, passed away on Sept. 17th at the age of 78. Visitation with service to follow will be held Monday, Sept. 28th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave.; Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Interment will be at St. Mary's Cemetery, 87th & Hamlin, Evergreen Park, IL.



**FRANK ALVAREZ ESQUIVEL** who was born on Feb. 11th, 1942, in Saginaw, Michigan to Sally Alvarez and Celzo Esquivel as the second child, passed away on Sept. 16th at the age of 84. Frank was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Celzo Jr and Steven Esquivel, sisters Irene Mohica and Toniann Conn, sons-in-law Ramon Ferrel and Carlos (Mario) Garcia; sister-in-law and brother-in law Anne and Joe Maleszka. Survivors are his wife Theresa Esquivel of 65 years; daughters Shirley Ferrel, Mary “Garcia” (Juan Contreras) and Christine Morales (Mario Morales Sr.); 14 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Visitation was held Sept. 21st at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer ave.; Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Funeral Mass was celebrated Sept. 22nd at St. Gall Catholic Church, 5511 S. Sawyer. Interment was at St. Adalbert Cemetery, 6800 N. Milwaukee ave., Niles, IL.



**AGUSTIN ARROYO** who was born on May 6th, 1970 passed away on Sept. 19th at the age of 56. Visitation will be held Friday, Sept. 25th from 3 to 8 p.m. at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer. Funeral Mass will be celebrated Saturday, Sept. 26th, 11:30 a.m. at St. Paul Catholic Church, 2127 W. 22nd pl. Interment will be at St. Mary's Cemetery, 87th & Hamlin ave., Evergreen Park, IL.



**GERALD EDWARD DOROSZ, JR.** long time McKinley Park area resident, passed away suddenly on Sept. 12th at the age of 68. He was a student at Longfellow Grammer School and Kelly High School. Son of Rita & late Gerald Dorosz Sr.; brother of Deborah (Abel Jr.) Gallegos, Donna (Jesse) Echevarria and Michael Dorosz Sr.; uncle of Abel Gallegos III, Leticia Gallegos, Erica, Jessica, Matthew, and Jacob Echevarria, Michael Dorosz Jr. and great uncle of Mikayla Gallegos, Jayden and Catalina Echevarria, Bradley Echevarria, Michael Dorosz, Michael Dorosz III and Jade Dorosz. A private cremation was entrusted to Wollschlager Funeral Home, 3604 S. Hoyne ave., Cynthia A. Wollschlager, Funeral Director.

### STEAM Program At Library Center

ScienceConnections will conduct STEAM-Powered Saturday at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State st. on Oct. 3rd from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Take part in a wide range of activities that will help you learn more about the STEAM in the world around us. With activities from our partners: Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago Architecture Center, Griffin Museum of Science and Industry, Lincoln Park Zoo and Shedd Aquarium, LEGO building, an area for ages 3 to 11 and their families



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