



Rejoice Together in Church This Easter

Viet Nam Veterans Day



Viet Nam Nurses Memorial in Washington, DC

By Dr. R. Pletsch

We have a special day to honor those that were called to serve during the VietNam War era. Some people forget it was not always unpopular as it was in its final years. The US sent troops when the French were defeated in the battlefield and quit. During this cold war time, many felt the US was right to stop the spread of Communism.

The total of about 8.75 million men and women served in uniform from 1965 to 1973. During this time, 2.7 million served throughout Southeast Asia. Many people are aware that about 58,000 died during the conflict. These heroes are recognized at The Wall in Washington DC, where the names are carved into the stone. The number has changed during the years as there are efforts to find the remains of those still missing. When the remains are identified, the names are added to The Wall. Some of these military members were listed as POWs or MIAs. There are still about 1,500 still missing. These families still suffer.

It is estimated that about 150,000 were wounded. Some sadly returned to be diagnosed with effects of "Agent Orange" and PTSD, both which can be debilitating. The 2 year draft was still in effect but many enlisted for a three year term. In many cases, the enlistee could pick training or the unit to join. Those actually serving in Viet Nam were only about 25% drafted.

Many of the things about the war are open for interpretation. Some feel we did not get all of our POWs returned. The reasons are complex but only 591 of 766 that were registered in Hanoi were

repatriated.

When the Iron Curtain fell, many KGB files were opened and reports claim that many POWs were in small camps in the jungle and some were actually sent to China and Russia and many of these died. One KGB report said that North VietNam had to be convinced three times from seeking peace. It claims they helped convince the North Vietnamese to hang on because the peace movement in the United States was a good sign for them. True or not, it is self-serving to the KGB and the Soviet Union.

In this short history, I would be remiss not to correct one misconception held by many. This famous picture of the helicopters extracting people from the roofs of buildings in 1975 did not indicate that was the end of our involvement in the war. We had signed a peace treaty and pulled our people out in 1973. The North Vietnamese ignored the peace treaty and militarily defeated the South because we no longer gave them the arms to defend themselves and all their factories were destroyed during the war. The helicopters were in Saigon in 1975 on a humanitarian mission. They were trying to save as many of those who had been our allies as they could. Saigon had been surrounded and would soon fall. It is well documented that after the US withdrew, wars continued also in Thailand, Cambodia and Laos among others as they became "the killing fields". Records show that more in Southeast Asia died in the two years following the peace treaty.

If this raises your interest, you could delve deeper on the internet. Final thought is, we should honor these Vets no matter what job they served, whether they were combat pilots, infantry, office workers, medical staff or just took care of the latrines. Like the song says, "All gave some, some gave all".

Library Program On Common Scams

Attorney General Kwame Raoul's Community Outreach Team will present a program, "Common Scams & How To Avoid Them" at the McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st. on Tuesday, April 7th at 11 a.m. Topics will include rights and actions against health care fraud and home repair scams.

Free Events At Dan Ryan Woods

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will conduct Crafternoon is scheduled for Friday, April 10th at 11 a.m. Try your hand at different crafts suitable for people of all abilities

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

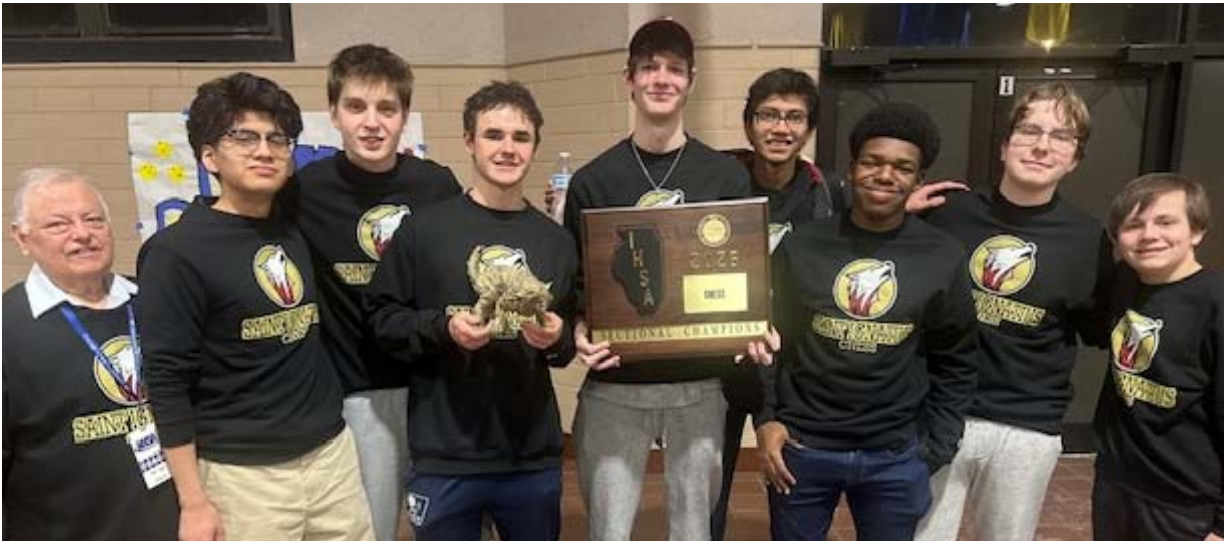
Saint Ignatius Wins Ninth Chess Conference Title



Saint Ignatius College Prep earned the Chicago Chess Conference Championship title for the ninth year in a row under the coaching of Hector Hernandez. Ten teams participated in the 2025-2026 season including Brother Rice, De La Salle, De Paul, Francis W. Parker, Latin, Marist, Mt. Carmel, St. Ignatius, St. Patrick and St. Rita.

The team also secured the IHSA Sectional championship for the third time in five years. During this season, Coach Hernandez was honored with the Chicago Chess Foundation's Lifetime Legacy in Coaching award and the Chicago Chess Conference's Legacy Award for his 13 years of service as President from 2013-2025.

Pictured are Coach Hector Hernandez, G. Sexton, D. Millar, B. Corbitt, W. Atwood, Z. Kovalchuk, F. Miske, A. Sutherland, J. Hernandez, G. Flynn and Assistant Moderator S. Cahill.



The Saint Ignatius chess team displays their IHSA Sectional Champion's plaque. Front row: Coach Hector Hernandez, J. Hernandez, Z. Kovalchuk, and B. Corbitt. Back row: D. Millar, D. Batres, W. Atwood and G. Sexton.

Cooldest Products Made in Illinois

The field of contenders for the 2026 title of The Coolest Thing Made in Illinois has been narrowed further, with voters choosing the Top 8 products to move ahead in the annual "Makers Madness" contest. Hosted by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association and sponsored by Comcast Business, the bracket-style tournament celebrates the incredible work of manufacturers.

Manufacturing is the largest contributor of any industry to the state's Gross Domestic Product, supporting nearly a third of all jobs and generating more than \$580 billion for the state's economy.

The original field of more than 100 nominees has been whittled down to the Top 8, which are: NASA Standard Initiator made by Chemring Energetic Devices in Downers Grove; Kinder Bueno manufactured by Ferrero in Bloomington; John Deere Combine made by John Deere in East Moline; ADA Bus Transport Seat manufactured by Freedman by Lippert in Chicago; MQ-25 Stingray made by The Boeing Company in Mascoutah; Duck Skimmer made by Elastec in

Carmi; Aerapy PPR HVAC UV Systems manufactured by Aerapy in St. Charles; and Curved Blazed Diffraction Grating manufactured by Inprentus, Inc. in Champaign.

The Top 8 matchups are as follows:

Bracket A: (1) NASA Standard Initiator (Chemring Energetic Devices, Downers Grove) v. (3) Kinder Bueno (Ferrero, Bloomington)

Bracket B: (1) John Deere Combine (John Deere, East Moline) v. (3) ADA Bus Transport Seat (Freedman by Lippert, Chicago)

Bracket C: (1) MQ-25 Stingray (The Boeing Company, Mascoutah) v. (3) Duck Skimmer (Elastec, Carmi)

Bracket D: (1) Aerapy PPR HVAC UV Systems (Aerapy, St. Charles) v. (3) Curved Blazed Diffraction Grating (Inprentus, Inc., Champaign)

Voting for this round is now open at www.makersmadness11.com through 11:59 p.m. on April 5th. Voters may cast one vote per day in each of the four matchups between individual products. The contest will culminate with an awards ceremony at the Governor's Mansion on April 15th.

CCPSA Meeting At Kelly High

The Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability will hold a special meeting with Superintendent Larry Snelling to discuss the Chicago Police Department's rules for interacting with ICE and CBP during federal immigration enforcement at Thomas Kelly College Prep, 4136 S. California on Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, visit ccpsa.chicago.gov.

Dean's List At Augustana

Augustana College announced more than 1,200 students were named to the Dean's List for the 2025-2026 fall semester. A grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a four-point scale is required.

Local honorees are Cristian Guerrero, Gian-n Ponce de Leon, Samantha Golab, Agustin Ortega, Abigail Plachta and Charlotte Stec.

Pappas Study Condemns Runaway Property Taxes

Cook County property taxes have grown at twice the rate of inflation over the past three decades, forcing home and business owners to turn over an ever-greater percentage of their annual earnings to local governments, according to a study released Monday by Treasurer Maria Pappas. During those 30 years, property taxes imposed in Cook County grew by 182% to \$19.2 billion, while inflation rose by less than 91% and average wages grew by 161%. The study notes that the Illinois Department of Revenue is working on a comprehensive property tax report and suggests now is the time for Illinois lawmakers to pass significant tax reform and find ways for local taxing agencies to cut spending.

"The annual increases in taxes are relentless, taking more and more money out of peoples' pockets," Pappas said. "I see it every day in my office, with people wondering how they are going to pay their tax bills or even whether they can stay in their homes."

"Illinois in 2025 had the dubious distinction of having the highest residential property tax rate in the nation," Pappas said. "Chicago also has the highest commercial rate in the U.S. It's time for the governor, state lawmakers and local government leaders to come up with a reform plan that works for taxpayers — rather than produce another report that gets put on a shelf to gather cobwebs."

Property taxes skyrocketed despite a state law designed to limit tax increases, primarily because government leaders have exploited loopholes in the law.

Key among those loopholes is placing no limits

on property tax increases in special taxing districts, where a portion of property tax money is set aside to subsidize private development and job creation. Taxes in those tax increment finance districts, which have dramatically multiplied over the years, grew more than 1,000%, exceeding \$1.8 billion in tax year 2024.

Also driving up taxes faster than inflation, and wage growth, was a 189% increase in taxes imposed by K-12 school districts that far outstripped the 91% inflation rate. School districts levied more than \$10.5 billion in taxes in 2024, accounting for nearly 55% of the total county property tax burden.

The study, "How State Laws Failed to Stop Decades of Skyrocketing Property Taxes: A Case for Reform," notes that state legislators have long been aware of the unsustainable upward trajectory in property taxes, but despite producing a slew of studies and legislative initiatives, have failed to provide relief for businesses and homeowners.

In some cases, state government made the problem worse by enhancing local government pension benefits and lowering the share of state revenue passed along to cities and villages, whose taxes increased by 201% over the 30-year period.

Lei Graduates

Zhuo Lei has earned a Master of Science in Analytics from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

Lei was among approximately 7,200 students to be presented degrees during the Institute's 269th Commencement exercises.

Church Services

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH 3745 S. Paulina

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m. with Pastor Carlos Ortiz.

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH 3658 S. Honore (773) 376-5370

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

ST. BRUNO CHURCH 48th & Harding

ST. RICHARD CHURCH 50th & Kostner

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

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

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

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

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

Activation Program For 35th Street

The City of Chicago is investing \$2.5 million in small businesses on the 35th Street Commercial Corridor thanks to an opportunity secured by the McKinley Park Development Council. Funds include \$1.8 million for property improvements, as well as opportunities for beautification, marketing, entrepreneurship education, and services to support small businesses.

McKinley Park is one of 12 community areas in the city selected for this opportunity through the Department of Planning and Development's new Commercial Corridor Storefront Activation Program.

Qualified storefronts and current or prospective businesses located within the grant area are eligible for the program, which makes construction grants directly to businesses. The eligible area extends along 35th Street from Leavitt to Ashland and on Archer Avenue from the

35th/Archer L Station to Damen Avenue.

Successful grant applicants can be reimbursed for up to 75% of total eligible project costs. Eligible projects include facade improvements, mechanical upgrades like HVAC and electrical work, buildouts to support new businesses in vacant buildings, and more. Locally owned businesses catering to everyday needs are preferred. Chains and other national entities are ineligible.

The program will prioritize applications that show strong community support, benefit to the neighborhood, and project readiness. Interested businesses and storefront owners can apply directly to the city for property improvement funds.

Dean's List At Aurora University

Aurora University has named the following Chicago students to the Dean's List for the fall 2025 semester. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a 3.6 grade-point average or higher are honored.

Scholars and their major are: Ashley Castle, Nursing; Holly Frazzini, Psychology; Iliana Here-dia, Criminal Justice; Andrea Lewis, Psychology; Isabelle Medina, Nursing and Pamela Medina, Early Childhood Special Education with ESL/Bilingual.

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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.

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 am. to 5 p.m. Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Spring Story Time & Egg Hunt for families on Saturday, April 11th from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join Ms. Rachel in the Reading Garden for a 15-minute, all-ages spring story time before the annual egg hunt.

Little Learners Story Time for ages 0 to 5. Join us on Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. for 30 minutes of songs, movements, and stories. Play time follows.

Body Safety for Kids ages 6 to 13 on Thursday, April 9th from 4 to 5 p.m. Join Carolina Morales, bilingual education specialist to learn about body safety, feelings, consent, safe and unsafe touch and relationships. Snacks provided.

Science Stories in the Park for ages 5 to 12, presented by Shedd Aquarium on Saturday, April 25th, 10 to 11:30 a.m. After nature stories with Ms. Rachel. Shedd educators will lead participants in hands-on activities.

Lego Club for ages 6 to 13 on Thursdays, April 2nd & 16th from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and Tuesday, April 21st from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Complete one of our design challenges or let your imagination run wild. Bricks and materials will be provided.

Family Fun series, ages 3 to 13 on Tuesday, April 6th from 3 to 4 p.m. and Tuesday, April 14th from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. A drop-in activity which may include a smple STEM or craft activity, building materials, puzzles, toys, or a coloring bonanza. Parent or adult guardian must be present.

Film Screening of "Wish" (2023, PG) on Monday, April 13th from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Asha and

Star confront a formidable foe to save her community.

Film Screening of "Zootopia 2" (2025, PG) on Friday, April 17th from 12 to 2 p.m. Detectives Judy and Nick find themselves on the trail of a mysterious reptile who turns the mammal metropolis upside down.

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

TWEEN/TEEN

Gamer's Choice for ages 12 to 16 on Wednesdays, April 15th & 22nd from 3 to 5. Students can hang out, play games and snack.

Teen Yap n' Snack: HSA H.S. on Wednesday, April 8th from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. ages 13 - 19.

Teen Craft n' Snack: DIY Pressed Flower Bookmarks for ages 14-19 on Thursday, April 23rd from 3 to 5 p.m.

ADULTS

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

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.

Workers' Cottage History Workshop on Saturday, April 4th from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Learn how to research the history of your house, focusing on workers' cottages. We'll cover free online and physical sources for building histories and past residents, with techniques that can also apply to other historic homes.

Fraud Prevention for seniors ages 18+ on Tuesday, April 7th at 11 a.m. The Illinois Attorney General's Office protects consumers' rights and can assist when things go wrong.

Coping Through Creativity with Kesem on Saturday, April 18th from 2 to 4 p.m. Wellness House collaborates with Kesem-University of Chicago to provide an afternoon of activities, connection, and games for children, while parents and caregivers are invited to enjoy a concurrent program focused on relaxation. Snacks and fun will be included.

Film Screening of "Flight Risk" (2024, R) on Friday, April 10th from 12 to 1:30 p.m. A pilot transports an Air Marshal accompanying a fugitive to trial. As they cross the Alaskan wilderness, tensions soar and trust is tested.

Adult Craft Club: "Spring Wall Pocket" on Sunday, April 19th from 2 to 3 p.m. Join Ms. Shelley in making an economical Spring wall pocket from basic household supplies. Registration is required. Children will not be permitted.

ALL AGES

McKinley Park Music School Recitals, all ages on Sundays, April 12th and 26th from 1 to 4 p.m.

Visit chipublib.org to register.

Mexican Museum Offers Programs



Photo provided by The National Museum of Mexican Art

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

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

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

Join us for the next Late Wednesday on May 6th until 8 p.m. Enjoy the museum after hours with extended access to the galleries.

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

Download the Bloomberg Connects app and dive into our digital guide ahead of your visit. The free arts and culture app features visual descriptions, supplemental videos, art highlights from our Permanent Collection.

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

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

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

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

The 32nd Annual Sor Juana Festival continues, celebrating women who keep fighting for access, equality, and justice. Themed "Knowledge as Resistance; the festival highlights first-voice activists, educators, community leaders, and artists.

A Conversation with Arely Morales on Saturday, April 4th at 2 p.m. Visual artist Arely Morales joins Curatorial and Exhibitions Associate Elisa Soto for a dialogue on her large-scale portraits, which explore themes of identity, immigration, labor, and the Latino experience.

Join us at Aguijon Theatre for the U.S. Premiere of S.A.B.R.O.S.A. on Friday and Saturday, April 24th & 25th at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20. The darkly comedic one-woman performance confronts the reality of street harassment.

Studio Saturday: Natural Watercolors on April 11th from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children ages 7-12 will learn how to turn earth and mineral pigments into beautiful watercolor paints to create abstract artwork.

Listos para el museo: Watercolor Flowers on Saturday, April 11th from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Families with children 6 and under are invited to create a unique bouquet of paper flowers using coffee filters, markers, and pipe cleaners.

Imaginarte Summer Camp on June 22nd to July 24th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students will have the opportunity to learn about Mexican art and culture while expressing themselves through various media, including visual and performing arts.

Escuelita de Arte for ages 10 to 12, July 27th to 31st from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students will explore galleries and learn about Mexican art and culture through a new art technique. They will participate in painting, printmaking, sculpting, and more, and take home their creations.

Visit nationalmuseum ofmexicanart.org for more information.

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.

Family Story Time on Tuesdays through May 26th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Join us for picture books, stories, songs and a simple craft or play time. For children up to 5 years old.

Baby Lapsit Story Time and Play on Wednesdays through April 22nd and May 6th to 27th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join Mx. Dannie for stories, songs and other fun activities as we practice literacy skills and build a love for books. For babies up to 18 months and their families. Siblings are welcome.

Adult Crafting Corner on Wednesday, April 8th from 4 to 5 p.m.

LEGO Club on Thursdays, April 2nd to May 28th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for families with children age 6 and up.

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

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

Teen Hideaway on Tuesdays, April 14th to 28th and Thursdays, April 2nd to 30th from 5 to 7 p.m. Explore art media, technology, crafts and games.

Visit chipublib.org to register.

Ridge Library Plans Programs

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

KIDS

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

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

"Earth Day Program & Free Tree Pick-Up" on Saturday, April 25th at 11 a.m. Celebrate Earth Day with a story and craft.

Stories and Songs children will listen to stories, sing songs and move to music. Play time follows each session. Early arrivals can color or do a puzzle for ages 15 months to 4 years with a caregiver on Wednesdays, April 15th & 22nd from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

TEENS

Teen Volunteer Hours on Wednesday, April 29th from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Make handmade cards, prepare crafts for the library and more. Bring any forms you need signed.

ADULTS

The adult book club meets on the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. The April 9th topic is "Poverty by America" by Matthew Desmond.

Saturday Game Day through May 30th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring a game or play one of ours: UNO, Skip-bo, Mexican

Train, Scrabble, Outburst, Upwards, Rummy 500, Canasta, Chess, Checkers, Sorry and more. No registration is needed.

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

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

Homeowner/Renters/Condo Insurance 101 on Tuesday, April 7th from 6 to 7 p.m. Attendees will get an overview of property insurance basics and coverage options.

Games People Play on Thursdays, through June 4th from 2 to 4 p.m. Once a month we will play only Scrabble, Yahtzee or Trivia games for the two-hour session. Light refreshments will be available. Feel free to bring a treat as well. As always, bring one of your own games or use one of ours.

SENIORS

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

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

Register for events at chipublib.org/events.

Programs at Beverly Arts Center

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

Chicago Repertory Ballet announces it's Spring Performance Series with Le Sacre du Printemps (The Rite of Spring) set to Igor Stravinsky's iconic score on Saturday, May 2nd at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

R.E.S.P.E.C.T: A Tribute to Aretha Franklin is scheduled for Friday, May 8th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

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

The awards reception for ART COMP 49 is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th from 2 to 4 p.m.

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

Performances of Singin' in the Rain JR are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, April 16th & April 17th at 7 p.m., Sat-

Spring Events At Lincoln Park Zoo



Photo provided by Lincoln Park Zoo

Lincoln Park Zoo, 2001 N. Clark st. will conduct Sunset Garden Tours on the second Thursday evening of each month through October.

The content will be geared towards adults. The cost is \$20.

Egg-Stravaganza on Saturday, April 4th from 7:45 to 11:45 a.m. \$25, all ages. Children ages 1 to 8 can scoop up colorful eggs, smile for a photo with the Easter Bunny and enjoy kid-friendly musical entertainment.

Spring Into Bloom on Thursday, April 9th from 6 to 7 p.m. Enjoy the season's first flowers, including tulips, daffodils, and spring flowering trees like magnolias and cherries.

Sensory-Friendly Morning, all ages on Sunday, April 26th, 8 to 10 a.m.

River-North Fests will present Saturday Night at the Zoo with karaoke, photo booths, and pop-up bars on Saturday, May 2nd, 6:30 to 10 p.m. \$15 for nonmembers age 21+.

The Language of Flowers on Thursday, May 14th from 6 to 7 p.m. Explore the folklore and symbolism behind popular spring flowers like lilacs, irises, and flowering dogwoods.

Immerse yourself in a restorative Sound Meditation session among native plants and skyline views on select Saturdays, May 17th to Oct. 17th from 9 to 10 a.m. Jay Taylor blends singing bowls, gentle breathwork, and guided relaxation in a welcoming space. No specific training

is required. An after-hours celebration for the 21+ crowd is scheduled for Friday, May 22nd from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Adults Night Out: Block Party features games, music, and good times. Play mini golf, ride the Ferris Wheel and Giant Fun Slide and dance to a live DJ while visiting your favorite animals.

Sunshine Season starts Memorial Day Weekend, May 22nd to 25th from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission, all ages. Summer Kickoff is a free and family-friendly celebration on Memorial Day weekend that brings rides and attractions, including the Ferris Wheel and Giant Fun Slide. Guests of all ages can enjoy a range of free daily programming.

The 2026 Run for the Zoo is scheduled for Sunday, May 31st with a 10K Run, 5K Run/Walk and Kids' Course. \$24.99+, all ages. This year's spotlight belongs to the eastern black rhinoceros. The race medal and race shirt will feature this iconic animal.

For registration, visit lpzoo.org.

CPD Graduates 248 Officers

Chicago Police Department Superintendent Larry Snelling celebrated the graduation and promotion of 248 recruits from the Police Academy during a ceremony held at Navy Pier on March 31st.

The graduating class includes 248 new recruits in addition to 48 newly promoted detectives, 75 sergeants, 25 lieutenants, 15 evidence technicians, four captains, eight field training officers, and 12 members of the command staff.

Graduates receive six months of training that focuses on report writing, law, ethics, investigatory stops, control tactics, firearms, and physical fitness.

The recruit graduates are now deployed to districts throughout the city as Probationary Police Officers for field training and calls for service.

Guitar Concert



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

Celebrating His Love

At Eastertime we are reminded of the love our Heavenly Father bestows upon each and every one of us.

May Easter bring God's greatest gifts to you and your loved ones.



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Masses at St. Barbara

Bridgeport — 2859 S. Throop

Easter Sunday Masses

Rosary: Sunday, 5:30 AM

6 AM & 9:30 AM Sunday Masses

Weekday Schedule (Chapel)

Tue., Thurs., & Sat. 8 AM Mass

Masses at St. Therese

Chinatown — 218 W. Alexander

Easter Sunday Masses

8 AM in English
10:30 AM in English

Weekday Schedule

Mon., Wed., & Fri. 8 AM Mass

Easter Sunday - April 5, 2026

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

Holy Thursday, St. Barbara, 7pm Mass, Church open Midnight

Good Friday, St. Barbara, 3pm Stations, 7pm, Service

Holy Saturday, St. Barbara, 11:30 am Basket Blessing

St. Therese, 7:30 pm Easter Vigil

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Continued from Page 3

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION LoanDepot.com, LLC Plaintiff vs. Vertrezeel Rodgers; The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Jackie Nadenik; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants; Defendant 25 CH 4609 CALENDAR 62 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on May 11, 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. 20-30-418-026-0000 Commonly known as 7622 S. Marshfield Avenue, Chicago, IL 60620. The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a common interest community unit, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection(g) of Section 189.5 of the Condominium Property Act. 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, Marinucci Law Group, PC, 2215 Enterprise Drive, Suite 1512, Westchester, Illinois 60154. (312) 940-8580. 23-04421 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13284480

BOE Selects Dr. M. King

The Chicago Board of Education selected Macqueline King, Ed.D., a District educator and leader for more than 30 years, to serve as CEO of Chicago Public Schools. She served as interim superintendent/CEO since June 11, 2025 and will remain interim until her three-year contract takes effect July 1, 2026.

Dr. King advanced a \$10 billion Board-approved Fiscal Year 2025 District budget, maintained stability amid immigration enforcement activity, and prioritized students' academic opportunities, safety and well being.

Dr. King began her career in CPS as a teacher, later earned her National Board Certification, before becoming a principal at Alexandre Dumas Elementary School before it closed in 2013. She then served as principal of Courtenay Language Arts Center in Uptown which had merged with another neighborhood school.

From 2022 to 2025, Dr. King served as Senior Director of Education Policy for the Office of the Mayor.

Back of the Yards Schedules Programs

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

CHILDREN

Little Readers Book Club for ages 4 & up on Thursdays, through April 9th to 30th from 5 to 6 p.m. Play phonics and word games.

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

Bilingual Story Time for ages 0 to 5 on Saturdays, April 4th & 11th from 2 to 3 p.m. We'll share songs, rhymes and books, plus craft activities in English and Spanish.

Club Create for ages 3 to 13 on Tuesdays, April 7th and 28th from 6 to 7 p.m. An afternoon program for kids and tweens to unleash their creativity.

Reading is an Adventure for ages 3 to 6 on Thursdays, April 2nd to 16th and 30th from 6 to 7 p.m. Practice letter sounds, syllables and simple words through reading aloud and playing phonics games while eating a snack.

Kids' Cooking Demo for ages 5 to 13 on Wednesdays, April 15th from 4 to 5 p.m. Join the children's staff to learn how to make some yummy snacks.

Pokeman Pop up for ages 6 to 13 on Monday, April 20th from 4 to 5 p.m. Enjoy a variety of Pokemon - themed activities including craft projects, a scavenger hunt, games

Police Beat 912 Plans Meeting

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

The semi-monthly meeting provides an opportunity meet beat officers, discuss problems and crime conditions, review crime statistics and learn crime reduction strategies.

For additional information contact the Community Policing office at (312) 747-3501 or email caps.009district@chicago police.org.

and more.

Manga Mania for ages 3 to 12 on Thursday, April 23rd from 6 to 7 p.m. Dress up as your favorite anime character, share your favorite books, fan theories of your artwork. Snacks are provided

ADULTS

A Stitch in Time Crochet Club Tuesdays through April 28th from 6 to 7 p.m. "A stitch in time saves nine" inspired this relaxed crochet club.

Polished Professional Job and Volunteer Fair for ages 16 to 24 on Saturday, April 11th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Make connections with organizations looking for young professionals. Receive a hygiene kit to polish up for future interest.

Adult Book Club "Such a Fun Age" by Kiley Reid on Thursday, April 16th from 6 to 7 p.m. Reid crafts a nuanced portrait of a young black woman struggling to define herself.

ALL AGES

Earth Day Celebration and Community Clean Up for all ages on Saturday, April 25th from 2 to 3 p.m. Celebrate Earth Day / Day of the children with a community clean up around the library and fun crafts. Light refreshments will be served. Service hours are available.

CINEMA

Film Screening of "Better Off Dead" (1985) on Friday, April 3rd from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. After his girlfriend ditches him for a boorish ski jock, Lane decides that suicide is the only answer. However, his inept attempts bring him only more agony and embarrassment. © Paramount Pictures - 97 Minutes - MPAA Rating: PG.

Visit chipublib.org to register.

Literacy Center Invites Tutors

Aquinas Literacy Center, 1751 W. 35th st. invites volunteers to tutor an adult newcomer in the English language.

Pre-service training is provided and a two-hour weekly commitment is required.

Email Sabrina@aquinasliteracycenter.org or call (773) 927-0512.

Heritage Museum of Asian Art



Photo provided by Heritage Museum of Asian Art

The Heritage Museum of Asian Art, 3500 S. Morgan st., has scheduled Free Admission Night on Friday, April 17th from 5 to 8 p.m. The tour will start at 6 p.m. from the reception desk. The event offers wine and appetizer.

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

Fold and Dye: The Art of Orizomegami on Sunday, April 12th from 2 to 4 p.m. Join artist Pamela Martinez for a 2-hour workshop. Participants will learn four basic folding techniques and use non-toxic dyes to create geometric patterns revealed when the paper is unfolded. The cost is \$65.

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

Morning Asia is a hybrid (online and in-person) program series that introduces art organizations, artists, and residency programs from across Asia. Through talks, presentations, and conversations, the series

intend to foster cultural exchange and build connections between local communities and international art networks.

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

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

Qingming Festival (Tomb-Sweeping Day) is a traditional Chinese holiday dedicated to honoring ancestors. Families visit graves, clean tombs, and make offerings as acts of remembrance, while also marking the arrival of spring. Engage in storytelling through lectures and workshops.

Paper Offering in Asia: "Qingming Special" on Sunday, April 5th from 2 to 4 p.m. Join us to appreciate the delicate artistry of this tradition through a lecture and hands-on experience. Pay as you can.

Four-Panel Comics Workshop on Saturday, April 11th from 2 to 4 p.m. This workshop introduces participants to the classic Eastern narrative structure of Kishōten-ketsu. Pay as you can.

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

Chinatown Library Schedules Programs

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

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

Multilingual Playgroup on Fridays, April 3rd & 17th, May 1st & 15th from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. A bi-weekly playgroup for children, ages 0 to 5 who speak Mandarin or Cantonese Chinese.

Poetry Exquisite Corpse for high school teens on Saturday, April 4th from 2 to 3 p.m. Typically it is a collaborative drawing game, but we'll be playing with a poetry twist. All materials will be provided.

Family Game Day for ages 3 & up on Mondays, April 6th to 20th and May 4th from 4 to 5 p.m. Get together to play cards, board games and more.

Family Story Time for ages 0 to 5 on Thursdays April 2nd, April 23rd through May 14th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Support your child's pre-literacy skills through songs, stories and play.

Tween Club on Thursdays, April 9th and May 7th from 4 to 5 p.m. An after-school session to hang out, do homework, participate in a craft, enjoy a snack, or socialize with library friends.

Parachute Play for ages 0 to 3 on Friday, April 10th from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Join us for songs, stories and parachute movement.

Film Screening of "Peter Rabbit" (2018) on Saturday, April 11th from 1 to 3 p.m. The stubborn and naughty Peter Rabbit causes chaos in the home and garden of an irritable human named Mr. McGregor. Their rivalry grows even more heated when they both fall in love with a new neighbor. © Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. - 100 minutes - Rated PG

ESL: English Conversation Circle for adults

18+ on Saturday, April 18th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn to be more confident speaking in English, gain new vocabulary, meet new people, and have fun!

Urban Fishing 101 for teens and adults on Saturday, April 18th from 1 to 2 p.m. Join Jonathan Schlesinger, the Chicago Urban Fishing Program Coordinator with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, to learn about the fish found in Chicago. Registration is encouraged but not required.

Book Swap for adults on Sunday, April 19th help find cancer early, before it causes serious problems. When cancer is found early, it is easier to treat.

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

Identity Theft, Fraud & Scams with the Illinois Comptroller's Office on Tuesday, April 7th from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Learn how to identify scams, protect against identity theft, and what to do if you become a victim. Presented by the Illinois Comptroller's Office. Registration is suggested at (312) 747-8013.

Assistance With "Senior Freeze"

12th Ward senior homeowners (over 65 years of age and have a total household annual income of \$65,000 or less in the 2024 calendar year) are invited to the ward office, 3868 S. Archer for assistance with completing a "Senior Freeze" Property Tax Exemption application.

No appointment needed. Must bring photo ID and copy of 2024 income tax return. Apply by April 21st.

Office hours are Monday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed for lunch from 1 to 2 p.m.

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

City Promotes Theater Of Mind

On March 25th, Mayor Brandon Johnson marked the debut of Theater of the Mind, an immersive experience developed by the Goodman Theatre. Civic and cultural leaders celebrated opening night and the completion of the City-backed transformation of space within the Reid Murdoch Building into a multi-room theatrical environment.

Theater of the Mind was co-created by Grammy, Academy, and Tony Award-winning musician and artist David Byrne and philanthropist Mala Gaonkar, whose work explores the intersection of neuroscience, storytelling, and human perception. Directed by Andrew Scoville, Theater of the Mind invites participants through a sequence of rooms designed to engage multiple senses and challenge assumptions about how people understand the world around them.

The Johnson administration contributed \$250,000 to support the project through a Community Development Grant.

Learn more at <https://theaterofthemind-chicago.com/>.

Gage Park Library Schedules Programs

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

CHILDREN

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

"Loteria" a traditional Mexican game similar to bingo on Tuesday, April 7th from 4 to 5 p.m. Ages 3 & up will enjoy colorful game boards and iconic illustrations to win fun prizes.

After-school Fun: "Slime Time" on Tuesday, April 14th from 4 to 5 p.m.

After-school Fun: "DIY Suncatcher" for ages 3 to 13 on Tuesday, April 21st

Free Screening For Cancer

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

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

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

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).

CHILDREN

Messy Art: Scrappy Snips, Monday, April 6th, 6 to 7 p.m. Inspired by the paper cut illustrations of children's book authors' Lois Ehlert and Oge Mora, create a collage, just like these library favorites. For families with children of all ages.

Family Story Time on Thursdays through April 30th from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Start your day with

stories, songs and fun for the whole family. For children 0 to 5 and their caregivers

Explore Nature with the Shedd Aquarium on Saturday, April 11th from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Meet outside the Archer Park fieldhouse. Join us as we explore nature with educators from the Shedd Aquarium. Listen to stories about parks and nature, and then participate in hands-on activities. Registration is required. For kids 5 to 12 and their caregivers.

LEGO Club on Monday, April 20th from 6 to 7 p.m. Put your engineering skills to the test with one of our challenges. For children 5 and up.

TWEENS & TEENS

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

Tween Tuesday on April 7th Pom Pom Pen Tops and April 21st for Squishes from 4 to 5 p.m. Materials and snacks will be provided. For ages 10 - 14.

Teen Volunteer Hours on Thursdays, April 2nd and 30th from 4 to 5 p.m. Earn 1 volunteer hour while helping at your library. Remember to bring your time sheet. Grades 6-12.

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

ADULTS

Spring Concert on Wednesday, April 4th from 3 to 4 p.m. Enjoy the music of Classic Latin Guitar musician, Francisco Romero.

Crime Book Club on Wednesday, April 8th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Join our new monthly Crime Book club for a discussion of "Truly Deviant" by Maureen Johnson. Books are available at the Circulation Desk.

Bilingual Poetry Workshop with Brighton Park Poets on Saturday, April 11th from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Workshop responding to the work of poet, playwright and theater director Federico Garcia Lorca.

Craft Lab on Monday, April 13th at 6 p.m. Bag Charms. Come out to try a new craft, socialize, and have fun. All materials are provided. Register online.

Illinois Department of Insurance; Auto Insurance 101 on Wednesday, April 15th on 2 p.m. Attendees will learn about the auto insurance coverage and claims process.

Estate Planning on Monday, April 27th at 1 p.m. (English), 2 p.m. (Spanish). Participants will learn the purpose of core documents like wills, powers of attorney, health care directives, and basic trusts.



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