



## January 6th After the Hearings



By Dr. R. Pletsch

The Jan. 6th incident at the US Capitol has many in the nation still divided. I found this time that even some of my neighbors did not believe that the FBI admitted that they had 26 operatives mixed through the crowd at the Capitol. I believe this may have been caused because people did not observe the hearings. John Daniel Davidson, a Senior editor at The Federalist, gave a speech in Anchorage, Alaska and was adapted for Imprimis, a publication of Hillsdale College. He found items many are still not aware of. So I used his article to try and bring light to the entire situation. The House Select Committee was not "must see tv" by the average citizen. Many relied on the clips the press issued.

The 800 page official report was questioned before it was even written. Nancy Pelosi rejected the two Republican Representatives, Jim Jordan and Jim Banks, and appointed Liz Cheney and Adam Kinzinger, who were anti-Trump Republicans. Therefore, many believed only one side was represented.

This week I had the opportunity to speak with college students from Kansas and Minnesota. I used the same article by Davidson to see which facts were not common knowledge. Some had learned of the FBI informants in the crowd, but few knew no one asked why the Capitol Police Chief was never told of this fact.

The report calls for Trump to be charged with Supreme Dereliction of Duty for not responding to the violence quicker. The report claims it took over three hours, but the New York Times declared it to actually be about 25 minutes.

Few of the students knew that more than 40,000 hours of security footage, that was kept under lock by the House Democrats Leadership, were excluded from the Committee inquiry. These tapes were later revealed after the midterm elections and it contradicted much of sworn testimony. Another issue is they could not understand that Trump had offered 10,000 National Guardsmen to protect the Capitol days before the protest. Why was this offer refused? Few knew the Committee was told that such a message was nonexistent. There is also an issue that they intercepted an email that someone I will redact sent to his family "I'm at the Capitol and I had helped orchestrate what is presently going on". Despite this it was never followed up by the Committee.

The college students knew that President Trump pardoned about 1,500 that were arrested for the event and were still being held. But most were unaware that President Biden the morning he left office had issued a "Presumptive Pardon" -- which had no historic precedent, to all the members and staff of the Select Committee on January 6th and to all the US Capitol Police and the DC Metropolitan Police officers who testified before the Committee.

Many of the students seemed shocked by this and wondered aloud why it was necessary and what about the one protester that they knew was killed by a cop. The truth is I don't know. But that family may never have justice.

You can look these items up but also look at the 140 page report by The New Committee of the House of Representatives formed after the midterms. If you desire more information, an intelligent way to go about it is to double check the facts and like you do when preparing for debate, take the other side of what you believe. Try to prove your facts wrong. If you can't do it, you can formulate an opinion that says you were right. This article was not intended to give a final report, just to open discussion.

## Free Admission At Shedd Aquarium



Photo Credit: ©Shedd Aquarium

Shedd Aquarium offers free admission to Illinois residents on Free Tuesday Evenings: 5-9 p.m. on March 25th, April 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th; May 6th, 13th 20th and 27th.

From March 22nd - 30th Shedd will stay open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. so guests can enjoy more time for a spring break staycation. Chicago residents enjoy a discounted standard rate. Advanced ticket reservations are encouraged.

In Shedd's historic rotunda, Wonder of Water two towering salt-water and freshwater habitats display live corals, freshwater plants and an array of colorful fishes. In Amazon Rising, guests are transported to a biodiversity hotspot for encounters with an anaconda, river stingrays,

poison dart frogs and piranhas. Live programs give guests the opportunity to watch animal caretakers feed arapaima or electric eels and learn about their behaviors.

Admission includes daily Animal Spotlights to join caretakers as they highlight adaptations of dolphins, beluga whales, sea lions and more in the Abbott Oceanarium and touch experiences to discover the textures of different animals.

Advance reservations are recommended due to the high demand. There is a \$5 convenience fee per order for Free Day reservations made online. However, you can reserve tickets by phone at no extra cost by calling (312) 939-2438.

For the latest information, visit [shedd.aquarium.org](http://shedd.aquarium.org).

## Marist Journalists Win High Honors

Marist High School's student journalists have been recognized for their outstanding work, earning awards in seven categories at the Scholastic Press Association contest. Competing against top high school publications across the city, Marist's writers, editors and broadcasters demonstrated excellence in reporting, storytelling and digital media.

The honored works include: News Story - Ethan Froylan, "Final Exam Weight". Special Coverage - Ava Krueger, Aubrey Rowe, Mike Philip, "Stressed Out Student Athletes".

Staff Editorial - Ethan Froylan, "Marist Students Need More Sleep". Sports Feature - Mike Philip, Aubrey Rowe, Molly Julian, "Former RedHawks Compete at National Championship".

Sports News Story - Nick Larson, "Varsity Basketball Swishes into Season". Broadcast Sports Feature - Gavin Looney and Brooke Kilroy, "Meet Will Denny". Excellence in Overall Website - MHS Media Staff.

"These awards reflect the hard work and talent of our student journalists," said Susan Carlson, faculty adviser for Marist's MHS Media

group. "Our students are dedicated to producing quality journalism that informs and engages our school community. It's an honor to see their efforts recognized on such a competitive stage."

A veteran broadcast journalist, Ms. Carlson has served as a radio reporter, morning show anchor, television traffic reporter, and news anchor for major Chicago outlets, including WGN-TV, WBBM-TV, and WMAQ-TV. Her distinguished career includes five local Emmy Awards, an Edward R. Murrow Award, and the Chicagoland Achievement in Radio Award for "Best News Reporter." Under her leadership, Marist's student journalists continue to uphold the highest standards of reporting and storytelling.

The Scholastic Press Association contest provides student publications with professional critiques and evaluations in categories such as page design, story layout, photography and editorial content. Schools participate to gain insights into improving their publications and to celebrate journalistic excellence.

For more information, visit the student run media page: <https://mhs-media.marist.net/>

## New Programs At Brookfield Zoo Chicago



Photo credit Brookfield Zoo Chicago

Brookfield Zoo Chicago invites everyone to enjoy experiences that evoke the feeling of a tropical staycation. Guests can marvel at flamingos in the Swamp and watch dolphins at Seven Seas. The Living Coast offers an immersive underwater world to explore, including a habitat that recently welcomed more than 75 new fish. Colorful species include queen angelfish, Spanish hogfish and Pistachio the sea turtle.

Opportunities to engage with the natural world include an observation at pollinators at the new honeybee observation hives or visit koalas Brumby and Willum as they experience their first Chicago winter. Virtual learning opportunities through programs like the Zoo Adventure Passport and its resources for teachers are available at [brookfieldzoo.org/education](http://brookfieldzoo.org/education).

On Saturday and Sunday, April 12th & 13th, celebrate Earth Month and the arrival of spring at Brookfield Zoo Chicago's first-ever Spring Fest - a weekend filled with fun, fresh air and unforgettable experiences. Enjoy performances from eight live acts, shop from art vendors and explore family-friendly activities for all ages. This event is free with general admission.

The Spring Fest Fair will showcase works for sale by local artists.

Bartlett Tree Experts will be offering a complimentary Tree Doctor Clinic with tips and resources on growing and keeping your trees healthy. On Sunday, April 13th at 11 a.m. Bartlett will cohost a community tree planting, just west of the Carousel. Join us at Spring Fest for the official launch of a new partnership with the Original Rainbow Cone on the East Mall.

Celebrate spring, conservation and the beauty of the natural world with Spring Colors and Wild Impressions stations. Color in vibrant animal designs and add your fin-

gerprint to collaborative masterpiece. Create butterfly finger puppets at the craft station in the Hamill Family Play Zoo. Delight in a special onsite activation from Grizz Pest Control and explore Spring Fest photo ops through the zoo.

Animal Care professionals will provide Zoo Chats throughout the weekend.

Learn the secrets of successful birdwatching from seasoned professionals. A free 30-minute tour through the zoo will be offered twice per day of the event. Signups will be available soon.

Take a ride on seasonal attractions (open weather permitting). Separate fees apply for these experiences.

For those setting health and wellness goals, the Zoo's 235 acres offer ample space to explore. Such time in nature extends beyond physical benefits to support cognitive, emotional and social development and well-being. Guests are encouraged to explore the five walking paths available as a map on [brookfieldzoo.org/visit](http://brookfieldzoo.org/visit).

Through the Animal Adoption program, community members support the care and well-being of animals throughout the Zoo as well as research and conservation efforts. More information is available at [brookfieldzoo.org/donate](http://brookfieldzoo.org/donate).

Parking and attraction fees still apply on free days. More information is available at [brookfieldzoo.org/visit](http://brookfieldzoo.org/visit).

## Exemptions For Property Tax Bill

The Cook County Assessor's Office will offer virtual events in English and Spanish for homeowners to learn about exemptions that contribute to lowering a homeowner's property tax bill. Applications for the 2024 tax year are due by Monday, April 21st and encouraged to apply online.

The CCAO regularly hosts events for homeowners who may have questions about their eligibility for exemptions at [cookcountyassessor.com/ventlist](http://cookcountyassessor.com/ventlist).

In March and April, the CCAO will also host several virtual exemptions events in both English and Spanish. This ensures that even those homeowners who are unable to attend an in-person event will have the opportunity to learn

information and ask questions about exemptions.

Future events include: Friday, March 28th, 1 to 2 p.m., English. Register at [bit.ly/ccao032825](http://bit.ly/ccao032825).

Monday, March 31st, 6 to 7 p.m., Spanish. Register at [bit.ly/ccao0331](http://bit.ly/ccao0331).

Monday, March 31st, 7 to 8 p.m., English. Register [bit.ly/ccao033125](http://bit.ly/ccao033125).

Tuesday, April 1st, 12 to 1 p.m., English. Livestream available on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/AARP Illinois and YouTube https://www.youtube.com/@aarpillinois9783>.

Friday, April 4th, 12 to 1 p.m., Spanish. Livestream available on Facebook and YouTube.

Applications can be downloaded at [www.cookcountyassessor.com/exemptions](http://www.cookcountyassessor.com/exemptions).

## New Exhibits At Field Museum



Photo provided by Field Museum

Africa Fashion is now open at the Field Museum, 1400 S. DuSable Lake Shore Drive. Over 180 works from 20 countries, including couture, textiles, and jewelry are on view many for the first time in the U.S.

All of the flightless birds alive today evolved from ancestors who could fly and later lost that ability.

In a new study, Field Museum researchers compared the feathers and bodies of different species of flightless birds to their closest relatives who can still fly. They were able to determine which features change first when birds evolve to be flightless, and which traits take more time for evolution to alter.

When the United States entered World War II in 1941, women began joining the workforce in unprecedented numbers, including factories and mills that had been occupied predominantly by men. This shift included the steel industry, where thousands of women supported the

war effort.

In 1943, a group of women steelworkers at Cleveland-Cliffs' Indiana Harbor steel mill (known as Inland Steel during World War II) signed a plate to memorialize their contribution to the war effort. The plate was forgotten for decades until it was recently rediscovered in the floor of the steel mill. It is now on display in the newest exhibit, *Steelmakers*.

Field Explorers (grades K-8) and PlayLab Summer Camps (ages 3-6) will join museum experts and scientists for up-close encounters with collections. Register at [www.fieldmuseum.org](http://www.fieldmuseum.org).

Meet a Scientist: Color Birds on Friday, March 21st from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Meet scientists leading our research in birds. Then, check out specimens that teach the importance of color in camouflage, attracting mates and identifying species.

## CSO Announces 2025 Season

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association announces 2024/25 Season programming for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Center Presents March 21st (Jazz) Bill Charlap Trio; March 23rd (Musicnow) Jimmy Lopez: Inner Dialogues; March 20th - 22nd (CSO) Hursa, Trpceski & Rachmaninov; April 10th - 13th, CSOXe The Jeffrey Ballet; April 15th, Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain; May 7th, Mutter, Bronfman & Ferrandez; May 31st, An American Suite; June 19th - 24th, Muti Conducts Verdi Requiem and June 26th - 28th, Back to the Future in Concert.

Main floor tickets start at \$39. Visit [CSO.org](http://CSO.org) or call (312) 294-3000.

## Spring Programs At Park District

The Chicago Park District Spring Program session has begun. Visit [chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://chicagoparkdistrict.com) to view the registration checklist.

Youth employment opportunities are supported in part by Amazon, and the annual Teen Opportunity Fairs will welcome ages 13 to 19 to explore opportunities. Offerings include jobs for 16 and up, and job readiness programs for ages 13 to 15.

The Brighton Park Community Campus, 4830 S. Western ave. will host a Teen Opportunity Fair for deaf and hard of hearing individuals on Saturday March, 22nd.

Chicago teen events are free this spring with Laser Tag, Silent Disco, and Video Game events for 13- to 18-year-olds. Brands Park, 3285 N. Elston ave. will host

Laser Elimination on Friday, March 28th, from 6 to 8 p.m., Broadway Armory Park will host the E-Sports and Dueling DJ Party.

The Summer Job Application for Lifeguards is open and we invite you to apply for the opportunity to work beach or pool side this summer. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/ApplyNOW-Lifeguard>.

The boxing program will host over 100 boxers ages 9 and older in the Fosco Park gymnasium, 1312 S. Racine ave., to compete in the Citywide Boxing Tournament from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, March 25th - 27th. A series of matches will determine the overall champion in each weight class.

## 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, May 7th 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](mailto:caps.008district@chicagopolice.org).

## Museum of Asian Art Schedules Programs



The Heritage Museum of Asian Art, 3500 S. Morgan st. will offer 3rd Friday Free Admission Museum Night on March 21st from 5 to 8 p.m. The event offers wine and appetizers in addition to an engaging tour led by a museum docent at 6 p.m.

The Museum is now open Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This provides one extra day to explore the rich cultures

of Asia in two open galleries. The Tang San Cai pottery in the Main Hall Gallery or Ming Dynasty Warriors in the Ming Gallery.

New opening house are Wednesdays through Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Reservations are required at [heritageasianart.org](http://heritageasianart.org).

## Girls Softball At Hoyne Park

Omega Delta Baseball and Softball will sponsor a Girls Softball league for ages 7 to 18 at Hoyne Park, 3417 S. Hamilton beginning April 26th.

For more information, contact Danny Gaichas, League Director, or call (773) 851-2213 or email [dgaichas@kempfer.com](mailto:dgaichas@kempfer.com)

## Chancellor Honors

The University of Mississippi announced Chicago students named to the Chancellor's Fall 2024 Honor Roll, which is reserved for those who earn a semester CPS of 3.75-4.0.

Honorees are Jacalyn Burros, in the B.A. in Psychology program and David Zamora in the B.B.A. in Finance program.

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](mailto: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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## Ridge Library Plans Programs

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

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.

An in-person screening of the Mather's Grow-It Together Garden Program is scheduled for Wednesdays, April 9th, May 14th and June 11th from 1 to 2 p.m. This online garden club is for adults 50 years and older who are interested in hydroponic gardening. Experience the joys of gardening with fresh herbs and vegetables in the comfort of your home with Grow-It-Together Garden Kits. Registration for kits is currently on backorder. You can still attend club meetings even if you do not have a kit.

"Games People Play" will be offered for adults on Thursdays through May 29th from 2 to 4 p.m. Bring your own games or use one of ours. Featuring chess, Scrabble, UNO, board games, Pinochle and Canasta.

The Poet's Corner is a place to recite your original poems or read a favorite poets' work on Saturdays, March 29th and April 26th at 2 p.m. Participants will receive a writing prompt to work on for the next session. We will focus on the poetry of Mary Oliver and copies of her books will be available to check out. Copies of various poets are available to examine and take home. Share your writing process and what inspires.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, April 7th at 10:30 a.m. to discuss "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus. Set in 1960's California, the topic concerns a female scientist whose career is questioned by the idea that a woman's place is in the home. However, she finds herself starring as host of the country's most beloved cooking show. Copies are also available at Archer Branch Library.

The award-winning Chicago Mini Musicians will conduct an interactive music class for ages 2 to 4 on Saturday, March 29th from 10 to 11 a.m.

Children will explore a variety of handheld instruments like shaker eggs, rhythm sticks and sand blocks, along with colorful props.

Senior Drop-In Games will be played on Saturdays through May 31st from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring a game or borrow some of ours.

Ages 5 to 12 will learn how to make their own stop motion animated videos on Monday, March 24th and Thursday, March 27th at 2 p.m. Time to share will be held at the end of each session.

Pajama Storytime for ages 2 to 5 will feature songs and books on Thursday, March 20th at 6 p.m.

The Adult Book Club will meet on Thursday, April 10th at 6 p.m. to discuss "American Midnight" by Adam Hochschild.

March Poetry Prompts are due by March 29th. Create a poem about "Water" - suggested words to use include waves, sea, ocean, waterfall, river, lake, fish, rocks, swimming, foam, crest and surf. Think about textures, sounds, emotions and expressions.

March Toddler programs - Time for Tots on Monday, March 31st from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Stories, rhymes, songs and a craft. Stories & Songs on Wednesday, March 26th from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Play Day on March 19th. Stories, songs and play time. For children ages 15 months to 3.5 years with a caregiver.

Teen Designs: Tote Bags on Friday, March 21st at 2:45 p.m. Customize a tote bag using our vinyl cutter or fabric markers.

Stop Motion Animated Videos for ages 6 to 12 will be made on Monday, March 24th and Thursday, March 27th at 2 p.m.

Pajama Storytime for ages 2 to 5 is set for Thursday, March 20th at 6 p.m. We share songs, play with scarves and share books.

Design a Spring Tote Bag for your books (adults and seniors) is scheduled for Saturday, April 12th from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Supplies will be provided. Space is limited, registration required.

Register for events at [chipublib.org/events](http://chipublib.org/events).

## Assessor Releases Permits Dataset



The Cook County Assessor's Office released a new public dataset containing building permits submitted by municipalities.

This release creates access to the data for all permits stored in iasWorld, the office's system of record. Publishing the data allows users to search (for example, for a specific municipality), filter, sort, and download the data. More than half a million rows of permit data are included in the dataset.

"In line with our longstanding commitment to transparency in assessments, my office regularly releases new data to the public. This release continues that commitment," said Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi. "I hope researchers, reporters, and Cook County residents can explore this information to learn more about how our property tax system works."

Permits list new construction and changes to a property that can change its assessed value and grow the tax base. The CCAO receives permits from municipalities and sorts them, determining whether the kind of work done on the property is likely to result in a new assessed value. If it is, a field inspection may take place.

Permits are also used to administer the Home Improvement Exemption. When homeowners add an improvement to their home, they aren't taxed on up to \$75,000 of the added value for up to four years. The CCAO automatically applies this exemption after receiving a building permit and conducting a field check on

the property. Over the last six years, the CCAO has hired more staff, implemented new technology, and improved our processes to better capture accurate data from permits.

In addition to the release of this dataset, our office has made several other recent changes to eliminate bottlenecks and improve accuracy in our permit processing.

In the fourth quarter of 2024, we conducted an audit of 27,000 permits in our system. We found that around a third of these permits needed a second look. These will be processed and field inspected over the course of 2025 to bring any missing value onto the tax rolls.

Permit processes have been streamlined, allowing our office to begin work on 2025 permits at the end of 2024. With this head start on permit processing, our field inspectors will have to conduct fewer field inspections when townships open for reassessment, ensuring that our work is more accurate and efficient.

Since 2020, our office has contracted with Pushpin, a company that develops change detection technology. This kind of technology takes images of land from satellites and drones and determines whether there's been a change. For us, it's a useful safeguard. If we don't receive permit data for a property from a municipality, these images can help us determine whether there's been new construction and let us know if we should send a field inspector to the site. In 2025, we will continue using Pushpin to flag possible properties for inspection.

In the last year, we have hired a dozen new employees in the Data Integrity department, which is responsible for taking in and processing permits. This includes 7 residential field inspectors, 2 permit specialists, and 3 industrial/commercial field inspectors, bringing our total number of Data Integrity employees to 37. For FY2025, we were given the budget for an additional 3 industrial/commercial field inspectors, whom we plan to hire over the course of the year. By increasing our staffing levels, we are ensuring that permits will be processed and inspected for changes in a timely manner.

### Police Beat 922 Plans Meeting

The Chicago Police Department 9th District will conduct a public meeting for Beat 922 at the Brighton Park Community Campus, 4830 S. Western on Tuesday, March 25th from 6 to 7 p.m.

The Community Policing Office will share crime statistics, teach crime fighting strategies and listen to issues.

A "Kids Only" table full of crafts and activities will entertain them while the adults engage in the meetings.

### Social Benefits Small Business

The McKinley Park Development Council and 12th Ward Alderwoman Julia Ramirez will sponsor a Small Business Social at the Chicago Badminton Academy, 2600 W. 35th st. on Monday, March 31st from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For more information, call (773) 475-6783 or email [sabrina@the12thward.org](mailto:sabrina@the12thward.org).

## Archer Heights Library Schedules Programs

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

### 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).

Family Bingo Night on Wednesday, March 26th at 6 p.m.

### CHILDREN

Let's Make 2nd Tuesdays at 4 p.m. For ages 8 to 12.

LEGO Club Mondays at 4 p.m. through March 31st, ages 6 and up.

Family Story Time for children 0 to 5 and their caregivers will be offered on Thursdays, March 20th and 27th from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Start your day with stories, songs and fun.

Let's Make: Sun Catchers for ages 8 to 12 on Tuesday, April 1st from 4 to 5 p.m. Get creative and join us for a new craft each month. Materials are provided.

Popcorn Reading for ages 6 and up on Wednesdays, May 14th from 6 to 7 p.m. Practice your reading skills at our read aloud group. Snacks are provided.

### TEENS

Do you need community services hours? Ask about our Teen Volunteer Program.

Research Help with a Librarian 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.

Craft Squad Wednesday, March 26th at 4 p.m. Come in to work on a new craft each week. Materials and snacks will be provided.

### Spring Break Teen Bash

MyChi.MyFuture will conduct the Spring Forward Teen Bash at the Aon Ballroom in Navy Pier, 840 E. Grand ave. on Saturday, March 29th from 12 to 4 p.m.

The event will feature: Special musical performances, including DJs, Free pizza and snacks, Airbrush Tattoos, Activations and activities, Screen printing t-shirts, Exclusive merchandise, Video games, Giveaways, including tickets to Lollapalooza and a resource expo.

A job and resource fair will precede the Bash. This event is for Chicago residents ages 13-19. Register at [explore.mychimifuture.org](http://explore.mychimifuture.org).

### Insights Into City Workforce

The City of Chicago's Office of Budget and Management announces the launch of its Workforce Vacancy Data Dashboard at <https://www.chicago.gov/>.

This interactive tool provides an accessible, user-friendly way to explore vacancy data across all City departments. This data will be updated on the first of each month and will also be available at <https://data.cityofchicago.org/>

## LEAP Sessions At Lincoln Park Zoo



Photo provided by Lincoln Park Zoo

LEAP Sessions (Learn, Explore, and Play) at Lincoln Park Zoo lets ages 2-4 explore the natural world through play.

Young ones guide the way in digging, creating art, playing with parts, or listening to stories. Commit to nine-week sessions on Wednesdays or Thursdays through May 15th, or attend stand-alone Saturday classes on March 29th, April 12th and 26th, or May 10th. These sessions take place at Pritzker Family Children's Zoo and Farm-in-

the-Zoo. Cost is \$21 for each stand-alone class. Celebrate with the family-favorite Spring Egg-Stravaganza on the morning of Sunday, April 19th, featuring egg hunt, lawn games, free carousel and train rides, photos with the Easter Bunny, and animal chats from zoo experts, \$25 person. Tickets for timed-entry egg hunts are also available for children ages 1-8.

Lincoln Park Zoo is home to two pygmy hippos, Annie and Pogo. Learn about these endangered animals and what you can do to help them both here and in the wild.

A Free Memory Enrichment Event is designed for people living with dementia plus their loved ones and care partners. Participants will socialize, explore nature, enjoy crafts and games, and move to the music. This hour-long program, takes place on the third Friday of each month. Sign up for session on March 21st or April 18th at [lpzoo.org](http://lpzoo.org).

### Gamer's Universe Showdown Series

Gamer's Universe Showdown Series, a monthly esports celebration leading up to the 2025 edition of Gamer's Universe will be staged for the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State on Saturdays, March 29th, April 19th and May 24th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Chicago Teen Gamer's Guild will run a monthly Mario Kart 8 Deluxe tournament, plus a rotating series of fighting game tournaments. February is Guilty Gear Strive.

SquidWest will host Splatoon 3 locals. You just need to bring your switch, copy of the game, headset, and controller.

A variety of free-play stations throughout the day will feature favorite competitive and non-competitive games.

No registration is required for any of the tournaments or activities. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Registration for Mario Kart 8 begins at noon, and the tournament will start at 12:30 pm.

Guilty Gear Strive registration begins at 1:30 pm, and the tournament will start at 2:00 pm.

Splatoon 3 will run throughout the day, but arrive early to get a spot. For more information, visit [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org)

the-Zoo. Cost is \$21 for each stand-alone class.

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Lincoln Park Zoo offers chats, animals enrichment and special activities during Awareness Day that include Earth Day on April 22nd and Arbor Day on April 25th.

For more information, visit [lpzoo.org](http://lpzoo.org).

### SACRED HEART IN THANKSGIVING NEVER-FAIL NOVENA

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C.M.



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Bridgeport — 2859 S. Throop  
Saturday, 5 PM,  
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  
Sunday Masses  
8 AM in English  
10:30 AM in English  
**Weekday Schedule**  
Mon., Wed., & Fri. 8 AM Mass  
March 23, 2025

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Fridays at 7 PM

March 28 & April 11 at St. Barbara - March 21 & April 4 at St. Therese

MANDARIN MASS - Sunday, March 23  
12:30 PM at St. Therese

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

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Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICES, LLC Plaintiff, vs. DAVID VILLA, STATE OF ILLINOIS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS Defendants...

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Jazz Concerts At Marquette Park
The Chicago Park District will present a free concert by the Marquette Park Quintet: Giggin; II at 6743 S. Kedzie on Friday, March 21st at 6 p.m.

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICES, LLC Plaintiff, vs. DAVID VILLA, STATE OF ILLINOIS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS Defendants...

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Productions At Lyric Opera
Lyric Opera's new season is an enchanting mix of new, contemporary works and familiar, classic productions. The season continues with Puccini's La Boheme, through April 12th; Issy Mazzoli's The Listeners, March 30th - April 11th and a Wondrous Sound, April 16th & 19th.

Real Estate For Sale

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Problem Gambling Awareness Month
The Illinois Gaming Board Administrator reminds Illinoisans that March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month. The agency is working with the Illinois Department of Human Services and others in bringing awareness to gambling addiction and recovery.

Application For OSC Summer Jobs

The Chicago Department of Family and Support Services announces the launch of the 2025 One Summer Chicago application portal, marking another major expansion of the City's youth employment initiatives.

The collaborative youth employment program partners with local businesses, nonprofits and city agencies to provide paid work experiences for young people ages 14-24 over six weeks during the summer. Key Programs include: Chicago Youth Service Corps - Employs youth ages 16-24 year-round, focusing on leadership development and civic engagement; ChicagoAbility - Engages youth ages 14-15 in project-based learning and skill-building experiences and Summer Youth Employment Program - Provides job placements and training opportunities for youth ages 16-24 to build skills and gain career experience.

For more information or to apply, visit OneSummerChicago.org.

Free Remote Business Expo
The Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection announced the free remote Chicago Small Business Expo will be held on Thursday, March 27th from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A series of webinars led by industry experts and government officials will offer insights into funding opportunities and growth strategies for current and future business owners.

The keynote speaker will be Brenda Palms, President and CEO of the North Lawndale Employment Network and Sweet Beginnings, LLC. To learn more and register, visit Chicago.gov/Biz-Expo.

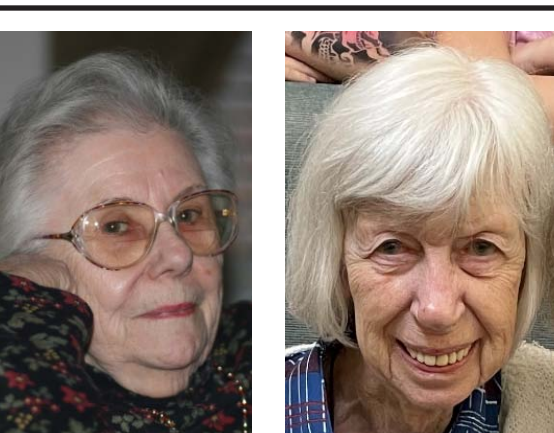
Topics will include Accessing Capital: Funding options and financial resources available to entrepreneurs and Navigating Government Resources: Available programs, grants and regulatory support at the local, state and federal levels.

Lawyers Offer Phone Advice
The Chicago Bar Association is reminding the public that attorneys are available to provide legal assistance online or over the telephone. The CBA sponsors a monthly "Call A Lawyer" program through the Lawyer Referral Service, making attorneys available to take calls from the public. On Saturday, April 19th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, the public may call (312) 554-2001 and explain their situation to an attorney.

Problem Gambling Awareness Month
The Illinois Gaming Board Administrator reminds Illinoisans that March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month. The agency is working with the Illinois Department of Human Services and others in bringing awareness to gambling addiction and recovery. IGB operates a voluntary Self-Exclusion Program for Problem Gamblers which allows individuals to exclude themselves from casinos and sportsbooks. As of March 2025, a total of 15,613 individuals placed themselves on the Self-Exclusion Program list. The IGB website provides information about responsible gambling resources and how to enroll in the Self-Exclusion Program.

Anyone who believes they or a loved one has a gambling problem should visit Are You Really Winning - Illinois Helpline (helplineil.org) for information. Problem gambling counseling and referral services can be accessed by calling 1-800-GAMBLER or by texting GAMBL to 833234. The IGB encourages Illinoisans to bet safely and responsibly by staying within their limits and only patronizing approved Illinois sports wagering, video gaming and casino operators. The IGB will conduct its next scheduled regular meeting on April 24th. To view agendas, minutes, meetings, and other information, visit igb.illinois.gov.

Obituaries



CLARA VICTORIA (MAREK) KINDERS passed away in Frederick, Maryland on March 4th at the age of 96. She was born on August 5, 1928, to Michael & Agnes (Truta) Marek, along with 10 siblings. Raised in Chicago, she attended public schools. Clara dropped out of high school at the age of 16 to manage the household during World War II. In 1948, she married Robert Peter Kinders, a highly decorated combat veteran who had served with the U.S. Army in Europe. The couple settled into family life with the births of their sons Robert J. and Mark A., both of whom were influenced by their parents to pursue professional careers: Bob, an internationally recognized cancer researcher and Mark, a university senior executive.

Survivors are her sister, Alice Marx of Chicago. She was preceded in death by her sisters Sophie Marek, Mary Ricker, Anne Barzyk, Adeline Bailey, and Bernice McCormick, and brothers Frank, Freddie, Joey and Mickey.

Survivors are her son Robert and daughter-in-law Patricia in Frederick, and son Mark and his wife Linda of Bend, Oregon. She also celebrated her grandchildren and great grandchildren: Christian, Melinda and Katie of Lawrence, Kansas; Casey and Teresa of Meridian, Mississippi, and their children Cameron, Christian, Vivie, Nate, and Myles; grandson Matthew of Bend, Oregon, and granddaughter Christina Michalowski of Roseville, California.

Funeral service will be held at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer. Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director on Thursday, March 20th at 10 a.m. Graveside will follow at Resurrection Cemetery, 7100 S. Archer rd., Justice at 11 a.m.

Clara will be interred next to her husband Robert, who passed away in 2000, and near the plots of her in-laws, Peter and Violet Kinders.

Free Service For Income Tax
Ladder Up will provide free income tax preparation services to qualifying individuals and families at the Brighton Park Branch Library, 4314 S. Archer on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tax site is on a first come first served walk-in basis. For more details on income guidelines and documentation required, visit goladderup.org.

ONE SUMMER CHICAGO SUMMER JOBS FOR YOUTH 14-24 APPLY NOW OneSummerChicago.org



CLAUDETTE KULIK who was born on Aug. 1st, 1937, passed away on March 16th at the age of 87. She was the wife of late Lawrence; sister of late Harold and Joan (Lang), Stanley and Sandra Szafranowski; aunt of Tracey, Jennifer, Douglas and Lisa. Visitation will be held Friday, March 21st from 4 to 8 p.m. at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer, Jonathan Siedlecki, owner-director. Funeral Mass will be celebrated Saturday, March 22nd, 10:30 a.m. at Claudette's longtime parish, Five Holy Martyrs, 4327 S. Richmond. Interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery, 7100 S. Archer road.

Survivors are her son Robert and daughter-in-law Patricia in Frederick, and son Mark and his wife Linda of Bend, Oregon. She also celebrated her grandchildren and great grandchildren: Christian, Melinda and Katie of Lawrence, Kansas; Casey and Teresa of Meridian, Mississippi, and their children Cameron, Christian, Vivie, Nate, and Myles; grandson Matthew of Bend, Oregon, and granddaughter Christina Michalowski of Roseville, California.

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ONE SUMMER CHICAGO SUMMER JOBS FOR YOUTH 14-24 APPLY NOW OneSummerChicago.org



## Nature Play Day At Ryan Woods



Photo provided by Forest Preserves of Cook County

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will conduct Open Nature Play Day at Dan Ryan Woods, 87th & Western on Wednesday, April 9th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy the play space while helping your children connect with nature. Enjoy stories, art and exploration. Visit [fpdcc.com](http://fpdcc.com)

## Brighton Park Library Schedules Programs

The Brighton Park Branch Library, 4314 S. Archer has scheduled engaging programs. Hours are Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday noon to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Middle Ground for 6 to 8th grade students is offered on Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. through May 19th. Play video games on Nintendo Switch, make crafts, make art and hang out after school. Earn service hours for attendance.

Baby Lapsit Story Time and Play is available on Wednesdays through April 23rd from

11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join Mx. Dannie for stories, songs and other fun activities, practice literacy skills and build a love for books. For babies up to 18 months and their families. Siblings are welcome.

Teen Hiway is available on Tuesday, March 25th plus Thursdays through March 27th from 5 to 7 p.m. Read in the teen area, create art or learn to use the 3D Printer, button maker, sewing machine or vinyl cutter. Board games are also available.

LEGO and DUPLO Club will meet on Thursdays through May 29th from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Build your own design or try out a design challenge. Work on your own or as a team. We supply the LEGO and DUPLO bricks and you supply the imagination. For families with children 3 years old and up.

Ars Poetica: Bilingual Poetry Workshop with Brighton Park Poets on Sunday, April 6th from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Participants will compose their own in response to source materials.

Visit [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org) to register.

## McKinley Library Schedules Programs

The McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st. has scheduled interesting and informative programs. Hours are: Monday and Wednesday, 12 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

LEGO Club for ages 6 to 13 is scheduled for Thursday, March 20th from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Bricks and materials will be provided.

Tween/Teen YOUmedia: Open Lab (ages 11 - 18) most Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. Students can hang out, play games, snack and use laptops and digital equipment.

Family Nintendo Switch for ages 8 & up will be enjoyed on Sunday, March 30th from 11 to 3 p.m. Kids under age 11 must be accompanied by an adult.

Little Learners Story Time for ages to 5 and their caregiver will meet on Fridays through April 25th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Play time will follow songs and stories.

Family Fun with kids ages 3 to 13 will feature a drop-in activity which may include a simple STEM or craft activity, building materials, puzzles, toys or a coloring bonanza. Parent or adult guardian must be present. Dates are Saturday, March 22nd, 2 to 3:30 p.m. and Monday, March 24th, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

An Adult Book Discussion of Agatha Christie: An Elusive Woman by Lucy Worsley is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Copies are available at the front desk.

STEM Explorers with University of Illinois will be held on Monday, March 24th; Saturday, March 29th and Monday, March 31st from 1 to 3 p.m. Join Ozo, the curious space explorer, on a journey through the solar system, discovering planets and cosmic wonders.

## Spring Flower Show At Garfield Park



Photo provided by Chicago Park District

Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park ave. will present its Spring Flower Show, "Rooted in Mystery" through May 11th that explores the critical parts of plants that we don't usually see. In addition to finding and delivering water and nutrition to the leaves and stems, roots perform many lesser known but important functions. For instance, plants "talk" to each other via chemical and electrical signals emitted by their roots to aid in survival. Visitors will learn about the different types of roots while enjoying a display of spring plants, including azaleas, pansies, snapdragons, astilbe, baptisia, hydrangeas, and 26 varieties of tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday to Sunday and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Free registration is required at <https://garfieldconservatory.org>.

All materials will be provided. For ages 9 to 15, but siblings are always welcome.

A series of nutrition/exercise lessons for adults will be taught on Tuesdays, April 1st through May 20th at 11 a.m. Participants will learn about increasing fruit and vegetable consumption, increasing physical activity, cooking skills, and saving money on food. No registration is required.

A LEGO and DUPLO Club for families with children 3 years and up is scheduled for Thursdays through May 8th from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Film Screening of Alien: Romulus (R) on Friday, March 21st from 1 to 3 p.m. While scavenging the deep ends of a derelict space station, a group of young space colonizers encounter the most terrifying life form in the universe.

Visit [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org) to register.

### Bird Walks At Dan Ryan Woods

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will conduct a Bird Walk at Dan Ryan Woods, 87th & Western on Wednesdays, April 2nd, 9th, 23rd and 30th at 7 a.m.

Join a naturalist to look for migrant and resident birds. A limited supply of binoculars are available for loan. Refreshments will follow. Visit [fpdcc.com](http://fpdcc.com).

### Mass For Youth

Sts. Bruno & Richard Parish will celebrate Youth Masses on March 23rd.

9 a.m. Mass in English will be celebrated at St. Richard, 50th & Kostner. 12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass will be celebrated at St. Bruno Church, 48th & Harding.



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### 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 the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

At the May 14th meeting, residents are invited to meet their beat officers, discuss problems and crime conditions, receive crime stats and learn crime reduction strategies.

For additional information contact the Community Policing office at (312) 747-3501.

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