Compassion in action

UBAM brings Christmas cheer to seniors

By Joan Hadac

In a holiday season awash in thousands of donated toys for indigent children, members of the United Business Association of Midway want to make sure that one segment of the population—senior citizens in need—is not forgotten.

“lt’s sad so many seniors are alone and some of them have family. It’s heartbreaking,” said longtime UBAM Executive Director Anita Cummings, who led the group’s annual Something for Seniors fundraiser, held last week at Red Barrel in Archer Heights.

This year, UBAM’s efforts will see as many as 60 food baskets delivered to elderly men and women in need—senior citizens their main focus of the Christmas season.

“I think it’s wonderful,” said Jennifer Adams, a Chicago Lawn resident whose elderly neighbor once benefited from the annual charity drive. “[My neighbor] was a widow for many years, and her only child lived in California. She was poor, and in the years before she passed away, she struggled. The groceries she received were a real boost for her—in a material sense, but far more in the sense that it warmed her heart to know that someone out there cared for her—that she wasn’t forgotten—and that it was local business owners who did it.”

UBAM serves a wide section of the Southwest Side, from 1-55 to 79th Street and Kedzie west to the city limits. Those owning businesses outside the city limits are welcome to become affiliate members. It’s 150 members and affiliates are small-business owners to large employers such as Southwest Airlines.

“Midway Airport and its prosperity are important to UBAM. This is one way of giving back to the community,” Cummings said.
SANDRA CUNNINGHAM

Sandra Cunningham, age 75, passed away December 8.
Cherished daughter of the late Daisy (nee Smith) and the late Homer Cunningham; loving sister of Jerry (Debby) Cunningham, Retha Dynek and Rebecca Murray; dear aunt of Marsha Klimek, Robert (Dori) Van Overmeiren. Kriete; doting grandfather of Izzy; loving great-grandpa of Gustavo, Airin, Haley, Alex and Aydin; cherished great-grandpa of the late Edward Klimek; fond brother of Robert (Dori) Van Overmeiren.

GRACIA MURILLO


KRYSZTOF RATULOWSKI

Krzysztof Ratulowski, age 40, passed away December 8.
Beloved husband of Barbara Cichor-Ratulowski; loving dad of Lu -karz and Eukator Ratulowski; cherished son of Maria (nee Bednarz) and Boleslaw Ratulowski; dear brother of Janusz (Jolanta) Ratulowski, Joseph (Joszef) Gasienska-Samek, Bogdan Ratulowski and Andzej Rat ulowski; adored son-in-law of Maria Cichorz. Also sur -ived by nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, relatives and friends. Member of Polish Highlanders of America Kolos® 30 Ciche.

TADEUZ SZAFLSKAR

Tadeusz Szaflskarz, age 67, passed away December 11.
Beloved husband of Janina (nee Zuzek); loving father of Kataryzyna Szaflskarz and Stanislaw Szaflskarz. Preceded in death by his parents Jan and Helena Szaflarski.

THOMAS A. KLIMEK


MARK VAN OVERMEIREN

Mark Van Overmeiren, age 58, passed away December 8.
Beloved husband of Jacqueline (nee Billings); loving father of Mark (Yolanda) Krueger; doting grandfather of Izzy; loving brother of Robert (Dori) Van Overmeiren. Services private for family.

CARL C. GROT

Carl C. Groth, age 69, passed away December 12.
Beloved husband of Donna (nee Du gen Groth); loving dad of Meghan (Mike) Groth, Thad (Patricia) Groth and the late Colleen (Ben) Hill; dear Tia Tac Papa of Jacob Carl, Julie Ann, Cal lope, Collette and Samantha. Also sur -ived by relatives and friends.

EUGENIA JOHNSON

Eugenia Johnson (nee Caban), age 76, of Chicago, 2440 W. 25th St. Passed away December 11.
Beloved wife of the late Raul Lopez and the late Darrel Johnson; loving moth er of Ivan Raul (Margie Salazar) Lopez and Rafael Murillo. Gracia will be truly missed by her many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

JOSEPH LEWIS ADAMS

Joseph Lewis Adams, age 84, of La Grange, passed away December 11. Marine Corps Veteran. Beloved husband of the late Dolores (nee Mitick); loving father of Jeanine Adams, Jodi Adams and Jill Adams.

BERTHA B. ARASZEWSKI

Bertha B. Araszewski (nee Lelewicz), age 95, of Chicago, Brighton Park com munity. Passed away December 10. Retired machine operator for F&K Candy Company. Beloved wife of the late Walter J. Araszewski; loving mother of Mary Ann (Walter) Sangaila, Gloria (late Joseph) Burger and Walter Jr. (Barbara) Araszewski; dearest grandmother of Sara (Thomas) Novilas, Laura Sangai la, Joseph Jr. (Jaime) Burger, Dr. John (Danielle) Burger, Rebecca, Melissa and Jessica Araszewski; great grand mother of Henry, Joseph Jr. (Jaime) Burger, Dr. John (Danielle) Burger, Rebecca, Melissa and Jessica Araszewski; great grand mother of Henry, Joseph Jr. (Jaime) Burger, Dr. John (Danielle) Burger, Rebecca, Melissa and Jessica Araszewski.

SOULA “ATHANASIA” BEROUKA

Soulia “Athanasia” Berouka (nee Makris), age 76, passed away December 9.
Beloved wife of the late Paul “Apostolis” Berouka; loving mother of Maria (Domenic) Kosteris and Lazarus Berouka; dear Yiayia of Paul and Evan; cherished daughter of the late Sophronia and the late Hlia Makris; fond sister of Aliki (Vonla) Makris, Nikos (Sephe) Makris and Georgia (Dimitri) Georgiopoulos. Also survived by nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

ANNA DZIELSKI

Anna Dzieliski, age 92, passed away December 12.
Visitation was held December 16 at Damas-Kaminski Funeral Home & Crematorium, 7861 S. 88th Avenue, Justice. Funeral was held December 17, prayers from the funeral home to Our Lady Mother of the Church Polish Mission, 116 Hilton Street, Willow Springs, for Mass. In termemorial Resurrection Cemetery, Justice.

PAT ECONOM

Pat Econom, age 80, passed away August 14.
Beloved husband of the late Steve Econom, loving mom of Bill Econom and Nancy Econom; dear sister of the late Niko, the late Voula (the late Niko), the late Vassos (the late James) and Anna (the late Steve). Fond aunt of many nieces and nephews.

ROBERT SCOTT GEMBER

Robert Scott Gember, age 63, of Lockport, passed away December 5, at the home of his mother, Doris Gember, sur rounded by the love of family. Robert had been suffering with chronic health issues for some time and is now at peace. Robert was known to most as Bob. Bob was dedicated to helping people with HIV and AIDS.

GRACIA MURILLO


BELTRON J. BRONIEWICZ

Robert J. Broniewicz, age 77, passed away December 8.
Beloved husband of Barbara (nee Grota) Broniewicz; loving father of Rob ert (Darlene) Broniewicz, II, Timothy (Martha) Broniewicz and Jennifer (Todd) Merek; devoted brother of Branden 8.

JOSEPH LEWIS ADAMS

Joseph Lewis Adams, age 84, of La Grange, passed away December 11. Marine Corps Veteran. Beloved husband of the late Dolores (nee Mitick); loving father of Jeanine Adams, Jodi Adams and Jill Adams.

Funeral Arrangements are private. Entrusted to Foran Minick; loving father of Jeanine Adams, Jodi Adams and Jill Adams.

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Library now open on Sundays

Chicago Lawn Branch is first on SW Side

By Joan Hadac

The Chicago Lawn Branch Library is one of nine CPL branches across the city that will now be open on Sundays, starting Dec. 22.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot and CPL Commissioner Andrea Telli made the announcement earlier this week at a branch on the North Side.

Officials said that the Lightfoot Administration will continue to roll out implementation of Sunday hours throughout 2020 in all 81 of CPL’s branch locations.

The move fulfills a pledge made by Lightfoot when she was a mayoral candidate earlier this year.

The mayor’s announcement did not indicate exactly what Sunday hours would look like, but an employee at the Chicago Lawn Branch, 6120 S. Kedzie, said the facility will be open from 1 to 5 p.m.

Officials also did not say if the expanded hours will be made possible by hiring new CPL staff or by simply juggling existing resources.

“For Chicago to thrive, we need all of our residents – especially our young people – connected to rich, engaging, and safe environments where they can be empowered to explore their passions and develop their talents,” Lightfoot said. “Our libraries are critical to helping us achieve that vision.”

No one reached by the Greater Southwest News-Herald could remember when any branch library on the Southwest Side had Sunday hours. Neither longtime CPL employees or even retirees who had worked in the system since the 1970s could recall.

Decades ago, the Chicago Lawn Historical Society’s Annual Tea was held at the branch, 6120 S. Kedzie, on Sundays—but it was not open to the general public.

The mayor and Telli first announced the planned Sunday hours expansion in June 2019 as part of an ongoing effort by CPL and the Mayor’s Office to ensure library services are more equitable and accessible for all Chicagoans.

Southwest Side library users seemed to like the idea of Sunday hours.

“Sunday hours are coming to the wonderful CPL locations on the Southwest Side,” said Estefania Alberto, Jim Kalicki also lives nearby, but wondered about what Sunday hours would mean for traffic.

“Parking in this neighborhood is bad enough already, and it’s terrible on Sunday,” he said. “Every one is off work and people are coming over to visit, so you can’t park anywhere on the street. I like that the library is open more hours, but I wonder if it may make parking even worse.”

Jaime Rodrigues said he thinks opening the library on Sunday is a good idea because “it may bring a few more people to Kedzie, which could help the stores and restaurants that are open. I’m all for it.”

Chicago Lawn is the only Southwest Side branch thus far to expand to Sunday hours. The others are Portage-Cragin, Northtown, Dunning, Little Italy, Toman, Hall, Whitney Young and West Pullman, and Chicago Lawn.

Legler Regional, which will open next year with Sunday hours, is currently in circulation, removing barriers to basic library access, especially for youth and low-income patrons.

The mayor and Telli first announced the planned Sunday hours expansion at the annual neighborhood meeting in June 2019 as part of an ongoing effort by CPL and the Mayor’s Office to ensure library services are more equitable and accessible for all Chicagoans.

In the past year, CPL has also expanded several co-use branches that include senior housing attached to branch libraries in partnership with Chicago Housing Authority and expanded their YOLOmedia teen program to sites across the city with the help of a grant from the Comcast Foundation’s Internet Essentials program.

In addition, CPL will open the West Side’s first regional library since the 1970s with the renovation and reopening of Legler Regional Library next year.

Officials said that the Sunday hours expansion at CPL builds on a series of efforts made by the Lightfoot administration to increase access to resources across the city such as establishing mobile city halls, banning water shut-offs and expanding the Neighborhood Opportunity Fund.

Tim Hadac contributed to this story.
Cops seek man missing since July

From staff reports

Police continue to seek a 42-year-old man missing since July—known to frequently visit the Gage Park neighborhood. Jason Havemeyer is a white man who stands about 5-foot-11 and weighs about 185 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes. Havemeyer has been known to hang around 51st and Kedzie, as well as north suburban Lake County.

Those with information on Havemeyer’s current location are encouraged to notify CPD Area Central Detectives at (312) 747-8380.

Burglars strike in Chicago Lawn

From staff reports

Six residential burglars in Chicago Lawn in recent weeks have prompted police to issue a community alert.

Police said that some of the heists were from homes, others from garages.

Crime scenes include:
- 6000 block of South Sawyer on Nov. 21.
- 6100 block of South Albany on Nov. 27.
- 6200 block of South Albany on Nov. 30.
- 6200 block of South Sawyer on Dec. 1.
- 6200 block of South Kolin on Dec. 2.
- 6200 block of South Kedzie on Dec. 6.

The burglars have been described as a black man age 25-35, 5-foot-8 to 6-foot-2 and 170-190 pounds.

Those with useful information to share about the crimes are encouraged to call CPD Area Central detectives at (312) 747-8382 and refer to crime pattern P19-1-408.

Police advise everyone:
- Keep the perimeter of your property well lit.
- Report suspicious activity immediately.
- Keep doors and windows secured.
- Immediately repair any broken windows, doors or locks.

If video surveillance is available, save and make a copy of the incident for investigating detectives.

Make your neighbors aware of the crimes.

If you are a victim do not touch anything; call police immediately.

If approached by a witness to the incident, request contact information.

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FREE ESTIMATES • 10 YR. PARTS LIFETIME ON HEAT EXCHANGERS
FURNACE & BOILER CLEAN & CHECK $69.95
WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS
Furnaces, Air Conditioning, Boilers & Hot Water Tanks
AIRPORT Heating & Cooling 773-582-0044 Licensed & Insured 6219 West 63rd Street

POLICE REPORTS

Man shot himself in groin, cops say

A shooting initially reported to police as a drive by was later determined to be self-inflicted, a CPD spokesman said. The victim, a 19-year-old man, initially told police he was walking down a sidewalk in the 7700 block of South Kenton at 5:55 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 when he was shot in the groin by a gunman in a passing vehicle. The victim was transported to Advocate Christ Medical Center, where he was listed in stable condition. Police later said that further investigation showed that the wound was self-inflicted. They did not say how they arrived at that conclusion or whether the injury was intentional or not.

Claim man dragged woman by the hair

A 27-year-old Back of the Yards man was charged with domestic battery and violating an order of protection after he was arrested at a home in the 4500 block of South Marshfield at 2:25 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9. Antonio E. Gutierrez allegedly grabbed a 34-year-old woman by the hair and threw her to the floor. A CPD spokesman said that Gutierrez had locked the victim out of her home, and that she was trying to climb back in through a window when Gutierrez grabbed her. According to public records, Gutierrez has been arrested three times by CPD this year—one in January and a domestic violence charge and once in April for allegedly violating an order of protection.

Charge woman with DUI after crash

A 27-year-old Pilsen woman was charged with DUI, failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident, leaving the scene of an accident and driving without insurance after she was arrested in the 2300 block of South Artesian at 12:33 a.m. Monday, Dec. 9. Karena Emma Silva, of the 2000 block of West 21st Street, allegedly drove a Jeep that swerved into oncoming traffic and struck another vehicle before crashing into a fence and a tree in the 3300 block of South Western. Police that Silva “hopped” from the vehicle and slipped through a nearby gateway before officers combing the area took her into custody. According to police records, Silva was arrested in 2017 near 45th and Wood and charged with reckless driving and carrying open alcohol in a vehicle.

Traffic stop leads to drug charges

A 31-year-old West Lawn man was charged with cocaine possession and possession of cannabis after he was arrested during a traffic stop in the 5700 block of South Austin at 8:10 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9. Samuel J. Mustari, of the 6400 block of South Kolin, allegedly had possession of drugs that were found in a search of the vehicle. He also was cited for running a stop sign, driving on a suspended license and driving without insurance.

Say man admitted firing gun

A 21-year-old Archer Heights man was charged with aggravated unlawful use of a firearm and discharge of a firearm with ill intent after he was arrested in the 2600 block of West 40th Place at 7:24 a.m. Friday, Dec. 6. Bryan Padilla Gonzalez, of the 4700 block of South Kilpatrick, allegedly fired a pistol at an alleyway and ditched it in an alley. Police responding to a ShotSpotter alert said they found a gun and that Padilla Gonzalez admitted firing it, but said he had not fired it at anyone.

Pat-down leads to gun charge

A 19-year-old Gage Park man was charged with aggravated unlawful use of a weapon after he was arrested in the 2300 block of West 51st Street at 7:40 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9. Charles D. Marrero, of the 5000 block of South Campbell, allegedly was found to be in possession of a pistol without a CCL or FOID card. Police on patrol observed Marrero look in their direction and walked quickly away while holding his front jacket area—where a bulge was located.

Claim man sought for vehicle theft

A 34-year-old Summit man was charged with forgery after he was arrested in the 4500 block of South Western at 1:14 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11. Juan C. Santa Cruz, of the 7500 block of West 61st Street, allegedly used an alias to attempt to sell a vehicle with an altered title of registration, a CPD spokesman said.

Woman hit with gun, drug charge

An 18-year-old Pilsen woman was charged with aggravated unlawful use of a weapon and possession of cannabis after she was arrested in the 3700 block of South Western at 11:39 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10. Laura Adriana Leal, of the 2300 block of South Leavitt, allegedly was found to be in possession of a loaded firearm and cannabis during a search of her vehicle during a traffic stop.

Claim man was on CTA train tracks

A 28-year-old West Side man was charged with criminal trespass to state land after he was arrested in the 3500 block of South Oakley at 11:13 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4. Joseph R. Johnson, of the 1000 block of South St. Louis, allegedly ran on CTA train tracks. According to public records, Johnson has been arrested seven times by CPD since 2014—for once for violating parole by making contact with street gang members and twice for delivery of heroin near a public park or school.

Crime reports courtesy of swchicagopost.com.

Police report information is provided by law enforcement agencies. Charges are not evidence of guilt. They are a record of police actions taken, and people charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
Misericordia’s Christmas pop-up shop returns to Beverly Arts Center

Chicago

The Oak Lawn location will span 13,551 square feet and offer state-of-the-art equipment for every fitness level, including cardio machines, strength equipment, dumbbells and designated areas for stretching, HIIT, body weight training and more. Certified personal trainers will be available for members looking for one-on-one fitness coaching, and every membership comes with a free personal training start up session. On an ongoing basis, personal training sessions start as low as $30.

If you see a new business in town or wonder what happened to an old favorite, drop me a line at bobbong@hotmail.com. You can track business openings and closings at http://bobbongonbusiness.com/

TRUTH IN TAXATION NOTICE
Notice of proposed Tax Levy by the governing Commission of the Southwest Guaranteed Home Equity Program II of the South Side of Chicago, Illinois ("the Program"). A public hearing to approve the proposed property tax levy for the Program area for 2020 will be held on the 20th day of December 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the Southwest Guaranteed Home Equity Program Office, 8140 S. Kedzie Ave. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Jeremy McGhee, Office Manager, 8140 S. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, IL 60652 (773) 436-9105. The amount of the Property tax extended for said Program in the calendar year 2019 was set in a amount not to exceed .047 of the equalized assessed value of the real estate subject to such levy, the following amount for 2020: $201,571

Jeremy McGhee
Office Manager Southwestern Guaranteed Home Equity Program
Chicago, IL 60652

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given by the Governing Commission (the "Commission") of the Southwest Guaranteed Home Equity Program of Chicago, Cook County Illinois ("the Program") that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Program for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2020 is on file and conveniently available for public inspection at 8140 S. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 5:00 P.M. on the 20th day of December 2019 at 8140 S. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, IL 60652. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Jeremy McGhee, Office Manager, at (773) 436-9105. Governing Commission of the Southwest Guaranteed Home Equity Program of Chicago, Cook County Illinois

SOUTHWEST GUARANTEED HOME EQUITY PROGRAM
BUDGET Year 2020

Revenues

| Bond Interest | 15,530.15 |
| Real Estate Tax Levy | 201,571.00 |
| Interest Income | 20,085.39 |
| Apportionment Fees | 300.00 |
| Interest Checking | 43.60 |
| Total Revenue | 326,500.00 |

Expenditures

| Accounting & Audit | 2,100.00 |
| Advertising & Marketing | 1000.00 |
| Auto Mileage | 50.00 |
| Parking & Tolls | 50.00 |
| Apraisal Services | 5,000.00 |
| Bank Charges | 100.00 |
| Data & Communication | 3,500.00 |
| Web Hosting | 165.00 |
| Fees/Learning Permit | 200.00 |
| Insurance | 500.00 |
| Investment in Fixed Assets | 250.00 |
| Legal Fees | 2,000.00 |
| Board Meeting Expenses | 17,500.00 |
| Office Supplies & Equipment | 2,500.00 |

Total Expenditures | 101,805.00 |
Total Revenues | 328,500.00 |
Total Assets | 3,319,950.28

SPORTS

Comings & Goings

Bob Bong

Duke’s Demolished

All that remains of Duke’s Drive-In at 81st and Harlem Avenue in Bridgeview is the faded sign after demolition crews spent part of last week knocking down the iconic drive-in to make way for a Panera Bread. – Greater Southwest News-Herald photo by Bob Bong

BUSINESS
President Trump is a Trump triumph

RAY HANANIA

In the 2020 Democratic Primary, Sen. Bernie Sanders lost.

President Trump is not a smooth-talking politician. He doesn’t play the same game most career politicians do on the national level where they carefully wordsmith their views to satiate the public. They do terrible things, but smile and smoothtalk their way into acceptance. Like lie about the Afghan war. We’re just learning a decade later that they lied about our progress the way they lied about the Vietnam War.

They also lied about the Iran War, arguing Saddam Hussein, a tyrant funded by the U.S. until he went for Reps. Deanne Mazzochi (R-Elmhurst), House, as well as the Senate. Springfield Republican Reps. Tim Hadac, Blumenshine has filed. For his “Yes” vote to increase the Motor Fuel Tax, and Arview has taken him away from such votes.

He has slim to no chance of even getting close to the power of Republican incumbents.

What is different, and therefore newsworthy, is that Bourne would have surely faced a far more viable and well-funded opponent in the recent past if she’d sided with the majority Demo-

cratic Party to double the state’s Motor Fuel Tax.

But former Gov. Bruce Rauner and his vindicator, Mike Murphy were two more “Yes” votes for the 19 cent-per-gallon gas hike to fund infrastructure projects during the past spring legislative session.

Dorsey’s primary challenge is not really news. He’s slim to no chance of even getting close to the power of Republican incumbents.

For example, the multi-million-dollar money pipeline from wealthy Republican activist Richard Uihlein to Dave Proff’s Liberty Principles PAC has been shut off. Except for the $2 million he gave Daley to run for mayor of Chicago earlier this year, Illinois’ richest resident, Ken Griffin, has been mostly quiet.

Those three men contributed over $200 million to campaigns since 2013. That’s a lot of cash to put the fear into anyone who crosses them. It’s why almost all of the Republicans who voted for the 2017 tax hike and the override of Rauner’s veto decided not to run again, lest they be primaried to death. But it’s not going to be much of a primary if his opponent, David Paul Blumenshine (R-Normal) doesn’t start raising money. Blumenshine reported bringing in $350 during the third quar-

For Trump,_pairwise elimination is like the impeachment of President Bill Clinton. But that is a lie, too. Clinton testified under oath and lied when he said he had never sex with Monica Lewinsky. He lied to Congress and he lied to the American people. He tried to cover it up until it was impossible to do so and admitted wrongdoing. Lewinsky wasn’t just some girlfriend. She was a major player in this story and she was killed. He was convicted of lying to the Congress and le
ter Shrum called the Trump impeachment “‘the most political legal proceeding in American history”.

But former Gov. Bruce Rauner and his vindicator, Mike Murphy were two more “Yes” votes for the 19 cent-per-gallon gas hike to fund infrastructure projects during the past spring legislative session.

The races where you are seeing sharp dis

agreement over the tax hikes are mainly in
general election contests. For instance, Travis Breeden (R-Utica) has already repeatedly criti

cized freshman Rep. Lance Yednock (D-Ottawa) for his “Yes” vote to increase the Motor Fuel Tax. Then again, Rep. Sue Scherer (D-Decatur) voted for the tax hikes and is so far running unopposed for the first time ever.

What we’ve discovered is that when ultra-rich, anti-tax activists sit on the sidelines after a tax increase, few if any viable Republican protest candidates emerge on their own.

Richard Miller also publishes Capitol Fax, a daily political newsletter, and CapitolFax.com.
Kids ring in the season

Piety, history and culture carried the day recently at Catholic schools across the Southwest Side. Students at Queen of the Universe and St. Mary Star of the Sea dressed in authentic 16th century Mexican attire to help honor Our Lady of Guadalupe. Children at St. Bede made a poster showing their excitement over the coming of Christ’s birthday celebration.

— Supplied photos

Merry Christmas!
Feliz Navidad!
Wesołych Świąt!

From
Gloria Dei
Lutheran Church
5259 S. Major • 773-767-2771
Pastor Steven Anderson
Gloria Dei Lutheran Congregation

Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7pm
(Service of Lessons & Music);

Christmas Day, December 25th at 9:30am

Merry Christmas!
Feliz Navidad!
Wesołych Świąt!

From
Gloria Dei
Lutheran Church
of Chicago
Pastor Steven Anderson
Gloria Dei Lutheran Congregation
5259 S. Major • 773-767-2771

Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7pm
(English & Spanish; 8:00p-Polish)

Christmas Day Masses:
7:30a & 10:30a - English; 9:00a-Polish; 12:30p & 6:00p-Spanish

Our Lady of the Snows Parish
4810 S. Leamington Ave - 773-582-2266
Reverend Stanley Rataj, Pastor
Deacon Franco Foti, Pastoral Associate

ST. FAUSTINA KOWALSKA PARISH
5252 S. Austin Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60638
1-773-767-2411
Rev. Can. Ted Dzieszko, Pastor

2019 Christmas Mass Schedule
in St. Camillus Church
5300 W. 55th, Chicago, IL 60638

December 24 – Christmas Eve
9:30 am (Polish), 10:00 pm (English)
& 12:00 am (midnight) (Polish)

December 25 – Christmas Day
7:30 am (Polish), 9:00 am (English),
& 10:30 am (Polish)

in St. Jane de Chantal Church
5251 S. McVicker Ave., Chicago, IL 60638

December 24 – Christmas Eve
8:00 am (Polish), 4:30 pm (English),
10:00 pm (English)
& 12:00 am (midnight) (Polish)

December 25 – Christmas Day
7:30 am (English), 9:00 am (Polish),
10:30 am (English) & 12:30 pm (Polish)

A blessed & merry Christmas to all!

St. Symphorosa
Church
6135 S. Austin
Christmas Mass Schedule:
Christmas Eve:
4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day:
7:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Merry Christmas
From
CrossRoads
Community Church
5433 S Austin Ave • 773-767-9066
email crossroadschurch@crcc1.net

Join us on Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 25th for a
special worship service at 11 a.m.
Free continental breakfast served
at 10 a.m.

Merry Christmas
Feliz Navidad
from
the Parish of Saint
Bede the Venerable
4440 W 83rd St • 773-884-2000
Christmas Eve - Mass at 4 p.m. (English)
Mass at 6 p.m. (Spanish)
Christmas Day - Mass at 10 a.m. (English)
Mass at 12 p.m. (Spanish)

Blessed Christmas &
Happy New Year!
From
Gloria Dei
Lutheran Church
of Chicago
Pastor Steven Anderson
Gloria Dei Lutheran Congregation
5259 S. Major • 773-767-2771

Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7pm
(Service of Lessons & Music);

Christmas Day, December 25th at 9:30am
Jose Burgos wins national award

From staff reports

Catalyst Maria High School head soccer coach Jose Burgos has been named the first-ever winner of the Champion Coach Recognition Program—an awards program to recognize coaches putting positive coaching values into action within their teams and their communities.

The announcement was made earlier this month by SportsEngine Inc., an NBC Sports Group company and the leading provider of sport relationship management software—in part of sport management software—by SportsEngine, a subsidiary of NBC Sports Group. The announcement was made earlier this month by SportsEngine Inc., an NBC Sports Group company and the leading provider of sport relationship management software—in part of sport management software—by SportsEngine, a subsidiary of NBC Sports Group.

Nominations for youth sports coaches who embody the values promoted by TrueSport—sportsmanship, character-building and life skills, and clean and healthy performance—were accepted earlier this fall through the SportsEngine website. Nominations could include high school, middle school or club team coaches of athletes between the ages of 5 to 18.

Burgos joined Catalyst Maria as Head Soccer Coach and Spanish teacher in 2018. He was recognized for creating a strong, supportive team community within the school and within the community-at-large to provide physical and psychological safety for his athletes.

Born in Chile, Burgos emphasizes the idea of soccer as “family” and “community” rather than just a game. He organized the first-ever Catalyst Futsal Cup for 6-8 graders to begin broadening the impact and opportunities that soccer can provide for the youth in the community. Additionally, earlier this fall, Burgos initiated a GoFundMe page to begin raising funds for the under-represented school and soccer program.

Burgos received a surprise visit at Catalyst Maria, 67th and California, from TrueSport Athlete Ambassador and three-time Olympic Javelin thrower Kara Winger. During the visit, Burgos was presented with the award and was recognized in front of student-athletes, school staff, fellow coaches and Burgos’ family.

“Coach Jose’s love of soccer is matched only by his love for people and helping people find and become their best selves,” stated Joel Farran, who nominated Burgos. “Spend any time with Jose and you will experience his energy and passion to be infectious. The community, the school, the sport—and most importantly, the youth—are fortunate to have Coach Jose on their side.”

“At TrueSport, we recognize the crucial role great coaches play in facilitating the growth and development of our young athletes who serve as future leaders and will shape our communities. Dedicated and well-informed coaches are critical to transforming an athlete’s childhood sporting experience into a lifetime of positive skills and character preparation,” stated Dr. Jennifer Royer, Director of TrueSport and Elite Education. “We are honored to be able to partner with TrueSport to recognize the coaches that are making a positive impact in the lives of youth athletes.”

Coach Burgos shares his proud moment with his soccer squad. — Supplied photo

Ertz is U.S. Soccer Female Player of the Year

From staff reports

In a year in which she proved to be one of the most impactful players in all of women’s soccer, USWNT and Chicago Red Stars midfielder Julie Ertz has been voted the 2019 U.S. Soccer Female Player of the Year.

This is the second time in her career Ertz has won the award.

“It’s been a whirlwind of a year and one that I’m extremely grateful for,” Ertz said. “U.S. Soccer’s ‘My team lifted me up in so many ways and our experiences on and off the field in 2019 just encapsulate the love I have for the National Team and for wearing this crest and what it represents.”

In 2019, Ertz started 22 games for the USA, the most on the team. She was a key member of the U.S. WNT’s World Cup-winning squad where she played in six of the seven matches. Ertz scored her first career World Cup goal against Chile in a group stage game, a headed goal assisted by fellow Red Stars teammate Tierna Davidson. Ertz and the rest of the U.S. defense only conceded three goals the entire tournament and shut out the Netherlands in the World Cup Final.

Ertz continued her run of form for Chicago. She played every minute in her 14 starts for the Red Stars this season as team captain. Ertz provided a late game-tying assist against Portland in April and maintained a 72.3 percent pass success rate. Defensive- ly, she and the Red Stars de-
Merry Christmas

May you have the spirit of Christmas which is Peace, the gladness of Christmas which is Hope, and the Heart of Christmas which is Love.

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Christmas Eve: 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm
Christmas Day: 7:30 am, 9:30 am and 11:30 am
Mother McAuley senior guard Jenna Badali drives to the hoop during the Macs’ 46-33 win over Providence on Dec. 5.

Mother McAuley forward Janie Ternes looks to shoot the ball during last week’s win over Providence.

Mother McAuley senior Margert McDonald plays tough defense against a Providence ball-handler.
Going cold

11-point second half dooms
Chargers in loss to Lockport

By Randy Whalen
Correspondent

Coming off a lopsided loss at the beginning of last week, Stagg was determined to play much better against a familiar foe.

For the better part of the game, the Chargers didn’t do that, as they fell to Lockport. The game started with a 50-47 win in a SouthWest Suburban Conference crossover on Dec. 12 in Lockport.

Laila Barakat poured in a game-high 22 points for Stagg, but 19 of those came in the first half for the sophomore point guard. The loss was the fourth in the past six games for the Chargers (5-3).

“I don’t know what happened in the second half,” Barakat said. “They had some different girls on me, and we started knocking them down. I was feeling hot. It was a good game to start; it was fun.”

In the end, it was only fun for the Porters. It was truly a team effort for them as senior center Jenna Cotter (5 rebounds), was fouled and calmly made a free throw. The score was knotted at 19-19 a minute into the second half.

Barakat scored a career-high 26 points on Nov. 26 in a 74-71 loss at Plainfield North at the Hinsdale South Tournament. She scored 19 points more, she said. She was the backcourt player of the team out the door, and knowing that she had six points in the second half.

“When we knew we had to make it a game tonight, we just had to come out with a lot more energy. We know what we are capable of, we just had to do it and bit stepped up at the end. Her free throws were pretty clutch.”

Last year, Lockport lost its last game to Lockport. Stagg opened last season at Lockport (9-3), which has seven of its nine victories by 10 points or less. The nine wins also matched the Porters total of last season.

The Chargers, who graduated four starters from last season’s 23-8 team, are trying to find their way with all new pieces and players filling more significant roles than they did in 2018-19.

“Yes, we played better than we did to open the week,” Stagg coach Bill Turner said. “The problem is we have to do it for 36 minutes. We played well in the first half, we have to carry that through the whole game.”

The Chargers looked unstoppable in the first half behind Barakat, whose 19 points helped them stake it to a 36-25 lead. They extended the lead to 39-27 on a 3-pointer by sophomore forward Gail Korbitz (13 points) with 5:45 left in the third quarter, but Lockport ended the quarter on a 9-2 run to close within 41-36 after three.

Stagg held a 45-38 lead after a trey by senior forward Samantha Webb (7 points) with 5:39 to play in the game. Webb got another bucket with 4:36 remaining in the game to give the Chargers a 47-42 lead, but they never scored again.

Cutler (5 rebounds), who had six points in the first quarter, and junior forward Elena Knebel (8 points, 4 rebounds) scored on a 10-0 run to increase their largest lead at 36-23 with 59 seconds left in the fourth quarter.

“Stagg still had an opportunity to tie, but shot an air ball against good defensive pressure just before the buzzer and the Porters celebrated the victory.”

“The girls at halftime about their effort on the defensive end and their effort on the glass,” said Lockport coach Dan Kelly, who saw his team out-rebound Stagg 18 to 5 in the second half. “As for slowing down [Barakat], we challenged Charlotte Fahrner to help take her off her game and for the post players to step up in the paint and get the rebounds.”

The score was knotted at 19-19 a minute into the second half. Then Barakat scored nine points in a 17-4 blitz that gave the Chargers their largest lead at 36-23 with 59 seconds left in the half.

“We challenged the girls at halftime about their effort on the defensive end and their effort on the glass,” said Lockport coach Dan Kelly, who saw his team out-rebound Stagg 18 to 5 in the second half.

“We answered the call,” said Miller, who had six points in the second half. “As for slowing down [Barakat], we challenged Charlotte Fahrner to help take her off her game and for the post players to step up in the paint and get the rebounds.”

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Keeping Christmas traditions alive

I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas. On Christmas Eve we do our Wigilia (Christmas Eve dinner). It starts with breaking of the oplatek—wishing peace, health and happiness to our guests. My husband smokes fish, and we enjoy it along with herring and pierogi. We try and keep the tradition going, but I can’t make it to midnight mass.

The next “Freebies for Families” event will be at Zoe’s Place, 5351 S. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 471-1429. “Freebies for Families” event will be at Zoe’s Place, 5351 S. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 471-1429. Participants attend the 9:30 p.m. show and get a free family meal. The next “Freebies for Families” event will be at Zoe’s Place, 5351 S. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 471-1429.

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The big day is almost here

It won’t be long now before the big day arrives. The red suit makes his appearance. Each year I get farther and farther behind. At least I have the little people done. The big ones might be getting coal.

Every year I tease Timmy, telling him I got him toilet paper and socks. It’s funny to see how upset he gets. Later on I give him his presents wrapped and under the tree. Although when you think about it, if you run out, toilet paper would come in handy.

This year is the first time in the 48 years I have lived in this neighborhood that my pack of dogs didn’t unwrap the front porch. I know I have heard about porch pirates and I see it on the news but I just didn’t think it would happen here. I guess I was wrong. It’s just so sad that people have to do that.

I have been working on my Saran Wrap ball for that game that’s so popular on Facebook. We played last year on Christmas Eve. It was so much fun that Timmy asked if we could do it again this year. I have been wrapping for about two weeks now using dollars, quarters, lottery tickets, candy, socks, gloves—anything small I can throw in there. I am hoping to make a full roll of Saran Wrap.

If you are planning on doing it, wrap tightly and cut the Saran Wrap often. Wrap in different directions. You wear it tightly and cut the Saran Wrap often.

Kristen was lucky to find oven mitts for kids, so Timmy has a better chance this year. Maybe next year Alex can play too. The full instructions can be found at kristeninreadingbooks.com. I am making a big pot of chili today. And that just warms me up.

St. Simon the Apostle’s Feast Day Banquet raised $22,067. Thanks to everyone that supported the event. The money will be used for the upkeep and repairs to the parish.

We need more thoughtful conversations and less misguided accusations.

We all have so much in common. I am hoping all will see the light of reason. What the world needs now is love, sweet love. Have you seen all the beautiful Christmas decorations in our neighborhoods? It is so fun to drive around and see all the enchanting creativity.

Be careful if you drive down Central Park Avenue, especially between 63rd Street and 59th Street. This street is filled with dangerous potholes. I mentioned it in a previous column after a lot of people called me about it. If you want to experience what it must have been like to be the coach, drive down this treacherous street.

My neighbor and I have been reporting to the city’s website calling the aldermen since last summer, but nothing has been done. We’ve given up on the street being repaired before the year’s end.

The West Lawn Branch Library, 4020 W. 63rd St., will be showing the movie How to Train Your Dragon on Saturday, Dec. 21 at 2:30 p.m. The movie starts on Saturday, Dec. 21 at 2:30 p.m. and runs through the following week.

The next “Freebies for Families” event will be at Zoe’s Place, 5351 S. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 471-1429. Participants attend the 9:30 p.m. show and get a free family meal. The next “Freebies for Families” event will be at Zoe’s Place, 5351 S. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 471-1429. Participants attend the 9:30 p.m. show and get a free family meal. The next “Freebies for Families” event will be at Zoe’s Place, 5351 S. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 471-1429. Participants attend the 9:30 p.m. show and get a free family meal. The next “Freebies for Families” event will be at Zoe’s Place, 5351 S. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 471-1429. Participants attend the 9:30 p.m. show and get a free family meal. The next “Freebies for Families” event will be at Zoe’s Place, 5351 S. Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 471-1429.
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- Hickory Hills
- or email resume to:
- accounting@vitosandnikkis2.com

#### Thank You

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### 63rd / Kilpatrick - 2 Car Garage $200 month
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**Real Estate**

**INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION**


Registration is ongoing for park programs starting in January. It’s a great way to get out of the house, no matter what your age. The Riverside Park Fitness Center, 2936 W. 85th St, is offering a free program from 7:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday from Monday, Dec. 30 to Saturday, Jan. 4. These sessions are open to adults 18 and older. You are invited to come in and try out the equipment to see what would excite you. For more information, call (312) 747-6177.

The Teen Leadership Club at Durkin Park, 844 S. Kedzie, is looking for new members ages 13 to 17, so why not join in? They will meet from 6 to 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday from Jan. 8 to March 11. This club combines service to the park with fun activities for teens. Leaders of skill, creativity and leadership will plan and guide with each other. There’s no charge to belong to this club. For more information, call (773) 284-7316.

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**Library, parks offering plenty to do**

**Jovan Hadac**

Southwest News-Herald

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**Use a Secure Connection**

Only connect toys over secure, password-protected Wi-Fi or VPN (virtual private network) to avoid using public connections, which may easily allow unwanted access to the toy’s data collection.

---

**Check, Please**

Don’t assume privacy settings are set by default; check the parental controls for your child’s toy and turn them on. If you believe your child’s information has been shared or misused, file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. Be aware of parental control tools and safety measures the toy has in place like limiting who your child can communicate with.

---

**Stay Up to Date**

Find out if the company will continue to contact you if there are any security breaches or software updates to protect your toy’s security. Also check to see if the company will install software updates and security patches in a timely manner.

---

**Be wary of internet-connected toys, BBB says**

- Teddy bears once filled with stuffing are now hard drives filled with personal information.
- Batteries used to power a toy connected to the Internet may be vulnerable to hacking.
- Smart devices may be vulnerable to hacking.
- Parents should be aware of the potential security risks before purchasing another toy.

---

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• Real Estate

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**More information, call (773) 284-7316.**
run at Ald. Burke. Earlier this year, two García protégés ran against Burke for alderman. Against almost all political predictions and despite being under federal indictment for allegedly using his position as alderman to steer legal business to his law firm, Burke thundered to victory—capturing more votes than his two young challengers combined.

Burke has maintained his innocence, and his federal case continues to move forward. Also filing in the 14th Ward Democratic race is Alicia Elena Martinez, an Archer Heights resident.

In the 12th Ward, Democratic voters will see a rematch. Incumbent Antonio “Tony” Muñoz—who also serves as state senator in the First District—will be challenged by George Cardenas, who serves as the ward’s alderman. Both men are McKinley Park residents. In 2016, Muñoz successfully beat back a Cardenas challenge.

In the 15th Ward, incumbent Democratic chief Raymond López—a Brighton Park resident who also serves as alderman—will be challenged by Back of the Yards residents Edgar Flores and Orits Davis Jr.

In the 23rd Ward, the transfer of power that began when longtime Ald. Michael R. Zalewski resigned in 2018 favor of Silvana Taabares, is about to be completed. Zalewski, the incumbent Democratic committeeperson, has not filed for re-election. Tabares has and will run unopposed.

In all other Southwest Side wards, the incumbent Democratic committeepersons are running unopposed. On the Republican side, only four Southwest Side wards—the 13th, 15th, 18th and 23rd—have even one candidate for committeeperson.

The Star and The Polar Express explore the reason for the season

The Chicago Lawn Branch Library, 6220 S. Kedzie will be screening two Christmas-themed movies to start off Christmas week.

The Star (2017) will be shown from 10 a.m. to noon Monday, Dec. 23. In this movie, an adventurous donkey goes on an epic journey to see the birth of Jesus. The movie is one hour and 26 minutes long and is rated PG.

The Polar Express (2004), will be shown from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 23. When a doubting boy takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole, he embarks on a journey of self-discovery that shows him that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe. The movie is rated G and is one hour and 40 minutes long.

For more information, call (312) 747-0639.

The Muppet Christmas Carol gives a new twist on a classic

A film screening of the 1992 movie The Muppet Christmas Carol will take place from noon to 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23 at the Brighton Park Branch Library, 4314 S. Archer.

This is the Muppets’ version of the Dickens holiday classic about a miser who’s visited by three ghosts and features Kermit the Frog as the penny-pincher’s hard-working and loyal employ- ee. This Walt Disney Picture is rated G and is one hour and 15 minutes long. Everyone is invited to sit down and enjoy the movie.

For more information, call (312) 747-9595.

Teens invited to decorate cookies for the holidays

The Back of the Yards Branch Library, 211 W. 47th St. is offering Holiday Cookie Decorating from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23. Teens can join the library staff for a festive snack by decorating store bought cookies with icing and sprinkles.

For more information, call (312) 747-9595.

Tri-lingual Christmas concert coming to St. Richard Parish

A Christmas concert in English, Spanish and Polish will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22 at St. Richard Church, 5032 S. Kostner.

A fan favorite, The Polar Express, will be shown from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 23. When a doubting boy takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole, he embarks on a journey of self-discovery that shows him that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe. The movie is rated G and is one hour and 40 minutes long.

For more information, call (312) 747-0639.

Bethany Baptist to host children’s Christmas program

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For more information, call (312) 747-9595.
6165 S. Archer
(At Austin)
(773) 582-9300

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IMMEDIATE POSSESSION!
Beautiful 3 bedroom, 1.5 baths brick ranch with a 3 season attached room to the 2.5 detached brick garage, full finished basement. Call 773-582-9300 for more information.

4810 S. AVERS AVE - PRICE REDUCED
IMMEDIATE POSSESSION!
Archer Heights special 2 bedroom Chicago brick bungalow with full unfini
ished attic; 1 bath on the 1st floor, half finished family room in basement, 2 car garage. Quick possession. Call 773-582-9300 for more details.

6133 W. 64TH PLACE UNIT 3D
Immediate possession! Well Maintained 2 bedroom condo & 1 bath on 3rd floor. Pets allowed (under 30 pounds). Assigned 1 parking space. Call 773-582-9300 for more details.

6012 W. 55TH STREET
FOR SALE OR FOR RENT!

4772 S. ARCHER AVE.
INVESTORS NEEDED! Price to sell huge corner commercial property Archer & Lawndale. Zoned C-2-1. There is a 2 story frame house plus 2 car garage; 19,500 SF of land. Huge traffic count. Call 773-582-9300.

6918 W. ARCHER AVE - PRICE REDUCED
Immediate Possession! PRIME LOCATION!!! Corner brick with 2 attached stores formally a drug store on a 35 X 125 lot and the other one 30 X 125 with 3 offices and a full basement. Parking in rear and across the street at Taco Bell for 10-12 cars. Zoning is B-3-1. Two A/C compressors on the roof 1-15 ton and 1-10 ton. Roof on medical center done on 2014. There are 4 wash rooms. There is an alarm system. Building is vacant and priced to sell.

APARTMENTS/HOUSES FOR RENT IN GARFIELD RIDGE
GOOD CREDIT, NO SMOKING, NO PETS. CALL 773-582-9300 FOR DETAILS!

Call For a Free Market Analysis