

# FOX VALLEY



Exploring Life in the Fox

## Big Hearts of FOX VALLEY



Making a difference in our  
community by providing needed  
items to local children.



## INTERVIEW WITH **Jennifer Mobley**

### FOUNDER & PRESIDENT OF BIG HEARTS OF FOX VALLEY

- AURORA VETERANS DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY | BATAVIA CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS FESTIVAL
- ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS PARADE IN ST. CHARLES | GENEVA CHRISTMAS WALK & HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR
- NORTHERN NIGHTS TREES AND LIGHTS | FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AT PHILLIPS PARK IN AURORA

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# F Train to Brooklyn Cocktail Recipe

BY JAVIER VILLANEUVA, THE WILDFLOWER SQUAD



*My passion for learning, teaching and history is undeniable, but I was struggling financially, so I began moonlighting as a bartender just to make ends meet, and unexpectedly fell madly in love with every aspect of the bar business.*

*For my squad and I it is about so much more than making a great cocktail. It's about memories, music, history and sharing those moments, ensuring you embrace the present, reflect on the past and securing a bright future.*

*Javier is the President/Historian for The Wildflower Squad which is Bartending Service for Private Events as well as offering consulting for Bar owners who can be reached at 1-630-809-7692 or by email at [bookus@wildflowersquad.com](mailto:bookus@wildflowersquad.com).*

Paying tribute to an original cocktail, the Brooklyn. I have always been incredibly interested in this, sometimes forgotten, but beautiful classic cocktail. I infuse the rye whiskey with seasonal herbs and citrus, and call it the F train to Brooklyn, because I'm a huge office fan!

Here's the hero of the classic cocktail, the Brooklyn. Jacob A. "Jack" Grohusko (1876-1943) was born in England to a Russian Jewish family and brought to New York as an infant. He worked in hotel bars in New York until around 1900, when he found a long-term gig at Baracca's restaurant, in Lower Manhattan.

It is unclear if Grohusko's Brooklyn Cocktail, one of many drinks over the years to bear that name, was his own creation. He lived in Hoboken, New Jersey, not Brooklyn. Victor Baracca, however, the proprietor of the restaurant, lived in Brooklyn, so it's at possible that he asked Grohusko to come up with something to match the venerable Manhattan.

Grohusko's version of the Brooklyn, with some tweaking, would outlast all the other similarly-named cocktails, largely though its inclusion in the canonical Savoy Cocktail Book of 1930.

Enjoy the good vibes

- 2 oz. Infused Redwood Empire Rye
- .5 oz Ramazzotti Amaro
- 1 Full Eyedropper Angostura Bitters
- 1/2 barspoon in luxardo

Add all ingredients to your copper, or glass yari. Add ice and stir for 20 seconds, strain into chilled coupe glass, or rocks glass and express lemon. ■



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# Featured Dishes

Must try appetizers, entrees, desserts or cocktails available at local Fox Valley restaurants.



## ◀ Old Fashioned Cocktail

1910 in downtown Geneva is a modern whiskey bar with an Old Fashioned cocktail. It is the signature cocktail of 1910 and is crafted unlike any other Old Fashioned in the area. They infuse tobacco leaves with bitters and hand smoke an orange peel to give it a smokey flavor. It's topped with a premium Luxardo cherry! They are offered at \$6 on Whiskey Wednesday!!

1910 Geneva  
30 W. State Street  
Geneva, IL 60134  
1-630-845-9100



## ◀ Raspberry Dream-Mosa

Berry sorbet, champagne and fresh raspberries!

Brunch Café St. Charles  
172 S. 1st Street  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
1-630-940-2814



## ◀ Hong Kong Style Salmon

Sweet & sour dashi broth - Chinese broccoli - mushrooms - toasted sesame. 3 course Prix Fixe Menu \$37.95 includes soup or salad, entree, and dessert denoted with a PF.

Catch 35 Naperville  
35 S Washington St.  
Naperville, IL 60540  
1-630-717-3500



▲  
**Roasted Squash Ravioli**

Chef Recommendation – Lobster, shrimp, & scallops with Butternut Squash, Tomato, Tarragon, Parmesan, Lobster Sauce. Pairs well with our November Wine of the Month – Gewürztraminer Sauvignon Blanc.

Cooper’s Hawk Winery & Restaurant  
 3710 E Main St.  
 St Charles, IL 60174  
 1-630-940-1000



▲  
**EPH Nachos**

Choice of Crispy Pork Belly or Chicken Tinga, on top of House Made Tortilla Chips with Bacon, Cheddar, EPH Cheese Sauce, Black Beans, Fresh Jalapenos, Fresh Salsa, Shredded Lettuce, Green Onions and Chipotle Sour Cream.

Elgin Public House  
 219 E Chicago Street  
 Elgin, IL 60120  
 1-847-468-8810



▲  
**New York Strip**

NY Strip with hummus and grilled vegetables.

Eden on the River  
 1 Illinois Street  
 St. Charles, IL 60174  
 1-630-945-3332



▲  
**Enchiladas**

Grilled Chicken Breast & Spinach rolled into Corn Tortillas then smothered with our Homemade White Jalapeno Cheese Sauce, with Refried Beans & Spanish Rice. Perfect cold weather comfort food meal.

El Puente  
 112 Main Street  
 Charles, IL 60174  
 1-630-377-8884



## ◀ Peas on Toast

Smashed sweet peas | fresh mozzarella | basil pesto | toast | evoo | lemon | peas shoots.

GIA MIA  
3 N. 3rd Street,  
Geneva, IL 60134  
1-630-405-5544

## Spinach and Kale Salad ▶

The Spinach and Kale Salad is a crowd favorite! With herb goat cheese, Bermuda onion, caramelized pecans, shaved radish, heirloom tomatoes, homemade croutons, and a sherry vinaigrette, this salad is the perfect starter to your delectable dinner.

Harvest Restaurant  
at Pheasant Run Resort  
4051 E. Main Street  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
1-630-584-6300



## ◀ Crab Louie Salad

Romaine | Napa Cabbage | Radicchio | Avocado | Heirloom Tomato | Asparagus | Jumbo Lump Crab | Hard Boiled Eggs | Radish | Chives | Louie Dressing.

Livia Italian Eatery  
207 S. 3rd Street  
Geneva, IL 60134  
1-630-402-6444



## ◀ Dubliner Burger

Reams beef, grilled pineapple, Irish cheddar, crispy onions, BBQ sauce and bacon on an artisan brioche bun.

McNally's Irish Pub  
109 W. Main Street  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
1-630-513-6300

## Coconut Panna Cotta ▶

Kumquat sorbet, salty candies pistachio, pomegranate, and mint.

Niche  
14 S 3rd St  
Geneva, IL 60134  
1-630-262-1000



## ◀ Red Pepper Pimento Cheese Spread

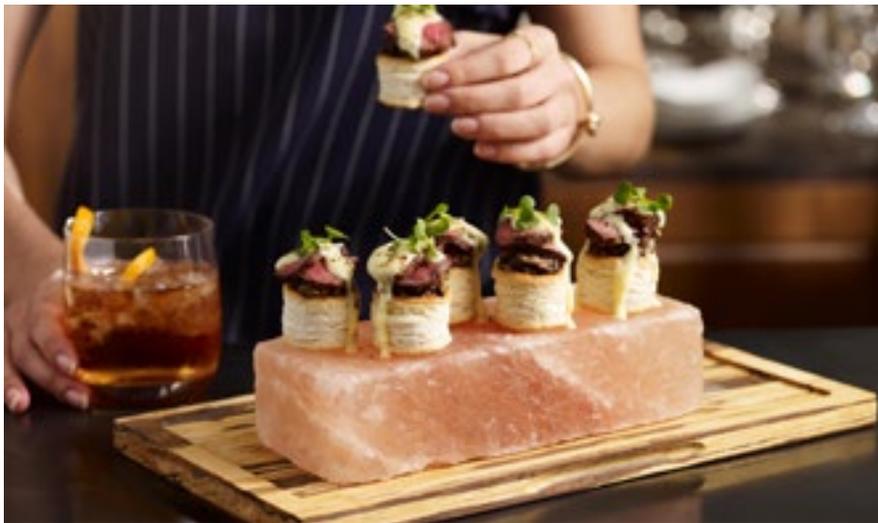
Creole-inspired Red Pepper Pimento Cheese Spread served with crackers and vegetables.

The Office  
201 E Main St.  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
1-630-549-0287



▲ **Our B.Y.O.** (build your own) Burrito takes the lead as our #1 attraction! Enjoy a full size burrito made with your choice of protein and your favorite ingredients and top it off with your favorite garnishes at the salsa bar all made fresh daily! We recommend the carne asada burrito!

Salsa Verde  
1850 Lincoln Hwy  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
1-630-444-0673  
(Also has locations in Batavia, Oswego and Yorkville)



## ▲ Filet Wellington Bites

Thin-Sliced Filet, Bacon Duxelle, Crisp Pastry & Béarnaise.

Sullivan's Steakhouse  
244 S Main Street  
Naperville, IL 60540  
1-630-305-0230



## ▲ Mountain Kingdoms of Nepal

Minced chicken mixed with our own Nepalese spices and herbs stuffed in a thin flour wrap, steamed and served with Nepalese Chutney.

Taste of The Himalayas  
110 N. 3rd Street  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
1-630-444-1575 ■

# Aurora Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony



## VETERANS DAY PARADE

The City of Aurora recognizes the dedication of local military service men and women that have served our country at the annual Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, November 11, 2019.

## PARADE FESTIVITIES

The parade steps-off at the corner of Benton and Broadway at 10:15 a.m., ending at the G.A.R. Memorial Hall, where the “Honoring All Who Served” ceremony takes place. The ceremony includes a military rifle salute by veteran organizations at 11 a.m., the exact time the armistice was signed that ended WWI.

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information on this event, please contact the City of Aurora Special Events Division:  
(630) 256-3370 | [Events@aurora-il.org](mailto:Events@aurora-il.org)

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39W963 Midan Dr. Unit 1  
Elburn, IL 60119

# Geneva History Museum Events



## History of the Fabyan Forest Preserve

The Geneva History Museum will host a November Brown Bag Program “The History of the Fabyan Forest Preserve at noon on Tuesday, November 12 at 113 South Third Street. In honor of the 80th anniversary of Kane County’s acquisition of the Fabyan Estate, Vivian Lasken, Director of the Fabyan Villa & Japanese Garden, will share stories of Fabyan Forest Preserve’s history. Registration is \$5/person or \$3/museum members and can be made at [GenevaHistoryMuseum.org](http://GenevaHistoryMuseum.org) or by calling 630-232-4951.

## Champagne Brunch Fundraiser at The Little Traveler

Kick-off your holiday season in the Atrium Café at 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 14 with a special Italian-themed brunch fundraiser for the restoration of the Geneva History Museum’s 18th century Neapolitan Crèche. The nativity was originally purchased in Italy by Kate Raftery, founder of The Little Traveler, in the 1930s and put on display in her shop each holiday season. Hear unique stories

behind this masterpiece and hidden symbolism. Limited seats available. Registration is \$30/person and can be made through The Little Traveler at 630-232-4200 or at LittleTraveler.com. Includes a goody bag with shopping coupons and the opportunity to be the first of the season to view the Crèche at the Geneva History Museum that afternoon.

## **Annual Geneva Giving Trees & 18th Century Crèche Display**

Visit the Geneva History Museum from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays from November 26 to December 21 to view a gallery full of Christmas trees decorated by local nonprofits. Vote for your favorite with your dollars, all proceeds are given to the charities and the top voted tree gets to keep all of their winnings. Marvel at our 18th century Crèche, a historic nativity scene originally displayed at The Little Traveler since the 1930s. The Geneva History Museum is located at 113 South Third Street and is a nonprofit organization with a mission to preserve and share Geneva's evolving story while inspiring and engaging the community. For more information or to vote for trees online visit [GenevaHistoryMuseum.org](http://GenevaHistoryMuseum.org) or call 630-232-4951. ■

# Naperville Park District to Offer Other Nature-friendly Activities in November and December



Knoch Knolls Nature Center will begin its winter hours on November 1, which are: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The Center also will be open on Sundays during November from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., but closed on Sundays during December, January and February.

The next Adult Hike with a Naturalist is planned for Wednesday, November 6 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at Knoch Knolls Park, meeting at the Nature Center at 320 Knoch Knolls Road. View the fall landscape, learn about wildlife in the area and enjoy the fresh air. The hike is free but registration is required. Register at [www.napervilleparks.org](http://www.napervilleparks.org).

Families can learn about Great Horned Owls and other owls in our area on Saturday, November 16 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. at the "Owl Prowl" Family Nature Nights event at Knoch Knolls Nature Center. Make a craft, go on a hike to listen and look for owls, and learn about their special adaptations for hunting at night. The per- person cost is \$8 for Naperville Park District residents and \$12 for nonresidents and registration is available at [www.napervilleparks.org](http://www.napervilleparks.org).

Nature Discovery Days begin November 23 and 24 from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and run monthly through March. The November theme is Illinois Mammals, with fun, hands-on activities, games, crafts, experiments, nature books and more for children accompanied by an adult. The December Nature Discovery Days theme is All About Evergreens and will be offered Saturday, December 14 and 21 from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. This is a free, drop-in event with no registration required. At least one adult must attend with each family.

Another family or group event with a holiday focus is the Winter Craft Workshop on Saturday, December 7, where families or scout troops can make nature-themed gifts and

holiday items from recycled materials. At least one adult must attend with each family or group. The per-person cost is \$4 for residents and 8\$ for nonresidents.

Beginning November 18 through February 1, holiday light recycling will be available at Knoch Knolls Nature Center, Fort Hill Activity Center, Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center and Springbrook Golf Course Golf Shop. Drop off nonworking holiday lights at these locations as the Naperville Park District partners with Elgin Recycling to transport them where they can be broken down into reusable materials and kept out of the landfill. Lights only please, no plastic bags. ■



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# Elgin History Museum Events

## Cobblestone Construction Celebration

**NOVEMBER 9 FROM 2:00 - 4:00PM**

Save the Cobblestone—Build the Neighborhood.

Tour the Nancy Kimball Cobblestone at 302 West Chicago St. in Elgin and view the latest upgrades to the 1846 building. The new furnace and radiant heat are installed. Plumbing and electric are roughed in. The south facade is finished!

Enjoy hot cider, and donuts while you learn about the work that has been done and what is left on the punchlist. Special awards for contractors and volunteers. Renovations are expected to be completed by 2020 and the space will be used as a community education space for nearby schools as well as adult learners, a gallery to feature local history, and a meeting/office space.

Why is this building important? The Nancy Kimball house is the oldest cobblestone building in Elgin, and one of the last ones left standing. It was built for the widow of one of Elgin's founders, Joseph Kimball by her sons, William and Samuel. The Kimball brothers later served as mayors of the city. This building is unique and important to Elgin as one of the last old architectural styles left in Elgin, with 16 inch thick cobblestone walls,

The Nancy Kimball Cobblestone will be a source of neighborhood pride and a project that promotes architectural preservation and adaptive re-use.

## Fox River artist Joel Sheesley to speak at Gail Borden Public Library on November 4 before exhibit ends at Elgin History Museum on November 15.

Under The Conservation Foundation's Fox River Education and Outreach Initiative, Wheaton artist Joel Sheesley has painted the beauty of the river in all its moods and seasons for the past three years. Sunrise, sunset, in flood, in ice, in summer, in autumn, these paintings show you places you know and others you want to find and experience for yourself. Joel has painted Fox River landscapes from West Dundee, IL in the north all the way down to Ottawa, IL where the





Fox joins the Illinois River. Through “A Fox River Testimony” art exhibit, the foundation hopes to broaden interest in the health of the Fox River by appealing to the river’s esthetic value.

In this Gail Borden Public Library program on November 4 at 7pm, Sheesley will discuss the details of how he creates this beautiful art work and share some of his experiences in the field.

Approximately 30 selected works of “A Fox River Testimony” are on display at the Elgin History Museum from September 13-November 15. This is the last stop for this traveling exhibit, touring since 2018. Sheesley, an Emeritus Professor of Art at Wheaton College, has chronicled his field experiences along with photos of the paintings in a 160-page coffee table book entitled “A Fox River Testimony,” which is available for purchase at the exhibit. Interested buyers may also purchase paintings, and selected high-quality prints. The exhibit is on view Wednesday through Saturday from 11am to 4pm at the Elgin History Museum, 360 Park Street, Elgin.

## **Victorian Holiday Tea with Holiday Harmony Strolling Carolers FREE for Everyone DECEMBER 7 FROM 1:00 - 3:00PM**

Celebrate the holidays during this annual tradition at the Elgin History Museum. Holiday treats, punch, and tea will be served. The atmosphere will be even more festive with the Holiday Harmony Strolling Carolers dressed in their crisp array of Dickens’ finery (right down to top hats, hoop skirts and pantaloons) and performing joyous renditions of seasonal favorites.

Holiday Harmony’s professional singers come together at the holidays to spread holiday cheer! Their repertoire encompasses the most loved traditional carols, plus the new standards that would set even old Scrooge’s foot a-tapping.



# FOX VALLEY SPECIAL RECREATION FOUNDATION HOSTS 8th Annual Northern Nights, Trees, and Lights Fundraiser



To benefit the Fox Valley Special Recreation Association (FVSRA), the Fox Valley Special Recreation Foundation (FVSRF) will host its 8th Annual Northern Nights, Trees, and Lights fundraiser on Friday, November 15th, 2019, at the Q Center in St. Charles, IL.

Proceeds from Northern Nights will support FVSRF, which in turn supports the recreation, leisure and social opportunities provided for individuals with disabilities by the FVSRA.

The event features silent and live auctions with a wide variety of prizes, which are beautifully packaged and go for top dollar, gaining exposure and recognition to all who donate. Tickets for the event are sold out, but anyone



can bid on the silent auction items from their cell phone or computer starting November 8th, 2019. Winners do not need to be present at the event. See the link below to start bidding on the silent auction items <https://one.bidpal.net/nntl2019/welcome> ■





# Naper Settlement Events and Programs

Naper Settlement is pleased to present the following events and programs during November and December 2019. General museum admission is at a reduced winter rate of \$5.25 for adults, \$4.75 for seniors (62+) and \$4 for youth (4-12). Naperville residents with proof of residency, children under 4 and members are free. For more information about a specific event, please visit our website at [www.NaperSettlement.org](http://www.NaperSettlement.org).

## Weed Ladies Winter Sale

Thursday – Saturday, November 7 – 9 • 10 AM–4 PM  
Sunday, November 10 • 1–4 PM

The Weed Ladies winter sale features holiday-themed floral arrangements and accessories. Admission to the sale is free.



## History Speaks Lecture Series: A Peek into the American Indian Way of Life through Their History and Oral Traditions

Sunday, November 10 • 4–5 PM

Non-Members: \$10/adult, \$9/youth (4-12) and students

Members: \$8/adult, \$7/ youth (4-12)

Presenter Kim Sigafus (Ojibwa) will drum, sing, and present Native culture past and present. This lecture will be held in Century Memorial Chapel.

## **Cup of Cheer™ House Walk, Holiday Market, & Tea**

Thursday, December 5 & Friday, December 6  
• 9 AM–4 PM

\$55/Thursday; \$40/Friday

The Martin Mitchell Mansion will be one of the homes featured on this year's Cup of Cheer™ House Walk. This National Historic Landmark will be expertly decorated for the holidays by the Naperville Garden Club. For more information on Cup of Cheer™, visit [www.NapervilleGardenClub.org](http://www.NapervilleGardenClub.org)

## **Yuletide Festival & Fair**

December 5-8, 12-15, & 19-22 • Hours vary  
Free Admission

Make your holiday merry and bright at the new Yuletide Festival and Fair! Experience the joy of

the holiday season with live entertainment, art and craft vendors, wintry food and beverages, twinkling lights, and more! Learn more at [www.NaperSettlement.org/Yuletide](http://www.NaperSettlement.org/Yuletide)

## **Martin Mitchell Mansion Holiday Tours**

Saturdays, December 7, 14, 21 • 9–11 AM  
\$10/Adult, \$8/Members; registration required

Get in a festive holiday mood when you tour the Martin Mitchell mansion, decorated by the Naperville Garden Club. Recommended for ages 12 and up.

History Speaks Lecture Series: The Hidden History of Dickens' A Christmas Carol  
Sunday, December 8 • 4–5 PM

Non-Members: \$10/adult, \$9/youth (4-12) and students

Members: \$8/adult, \$7/ youth (4-12)

Author and presenter Rochelle Pennington shares the stories and history behind this Christmas classic. ■



# Electric Christmas Parade Extends Parade Entry Deadline



The deadline for entry in the St. Charles Electric Christmas Parade has been extended. Businesses and organizations with interest in being a part of this event should return completed forms to the St. Charles Business Alliance office in the St. Charles Municipal Building no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 8.

The parade steps off on Main Street at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 30.

Businesses, non-profits, and organizations that would like to enter the parade may do so by completing and returning the parade entry form, certificate of insurance and an entry fee. The application fee is \$275 for businesses, \$150 for St. Charles businesses and \$25 for non-profits. Certificates of insurance must name the St. Charles Business Alliance AND the City of St. Charles as additional insured. Applications can be downloaded at [www.stcholidayhomecoming.com](http://www.stcholidayhomecoming.com).

## Schedule of Activities

### Friday, Nov. 29, 2019

- Lighting of the Lights on the 1st Street Plaza, 5:00 p.m.



**Saturday, Nov. 30, 2019**

- Free Holiday Movie at the Arcada Theatre: The Grinch. Movie starts 10 a.m. Doors open- 9 a.m.
- Free Horse-Drawn Trolley Rides on 1st St. Plaza, 1-4 p.m.
- Visit with Santa on the 1st Street Plaza, 1 – 4 p.m.
- Live Holiday Window Displays on Main and 1st Street, 1-5 p.m.
- Electric Christmas Parade on Main Street, 5:30 p.m.

Santa's House will open 1-4 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday afternoon starting, Nov. 30 until Dec. 22. All Holiday Homecoming events and activities are free of charge. ■



# Geneva Christmas Walk & Holiday House Tour



Tradition and surprise. It wouldn't be Christmas without them, and Geneva's Christmas Walk and House Tour offer both. This year both are supported by Little Red Barn Door.

Friday evening, December 6 begins with Graham's Chocolates First Candy Cane of the season being presented with great fanfare followed by the arrival of Santa Lucia, the Swedish symbol of the season, who will offer Swedish cookies to merry-makers. The new Christmas Tree on the Courthouse lawn is lit and then young and young at heart will wait with anticipation as Santa Claus arrives. Santa and his trusted elf will then open their gingerbread home for visits from excited children while All Chocolate Kitchen recreates their record breaking candy cane.

Serenaded by carolers, families stroll Geneva's historic marketplace, nibbling on fresh-roasted chestnuts, and dodging into brightly lit shops and restaurants along the way.



Those who aren't downtown, might be touring holiday-decked homes. The Christmas House Tour (Dec. 6; 10 am-8 pm & Dec. 7; 10 am-5 pm) also another tradition, but thanks to the diversity of homes and the creativity of local designers, it's filled with unexpected treats.

**Eagle Brook Charmer:**

Situated on a quiet cul-de-sac amid towering trees, this cedar and stone home is decked out for the season. Built in 1996, this 3,508 square foot home exudes hospitality and lightheartedness. The homeowners are creative, enjoy projects and appreciate a flea market find. Many of those finds have been incorporated into the home during remodels, both inside and out.

*Festively decorated by The Little Traveler (630.232.4200).*

**English Cottage:** This English cottage family home built in 1928, is loaded with personality, warmth and charm. Family mementos and photographs have been wonderfully blended with antiques and relaxing furnishings to create a comfortable home full of laughter and love.

*Festively decorated by Geneva Garden Club (630.742.1217) and Plandscape, Inc. (630.365.2558) with contributor Country Naturals (630.232.1172).*

**Custom Home:** Found on a friendly neighborhood street, this 2008 home has a bit of whimsy at every turn. As you enter the expansive foyer, architectural details such as transom windows, plantation shutters, oak hardwood floors and iron spindles, that lead





to the second floor, catch your eye. ***Festively decorated by Floral Wonders (630.945.6559) and Neri Landscape (630.443.4722) with contributor Little Red Barn Door (630.402.0072).***

**Historic gem:** Sheltered under thick trees, almost hidden from the road, sits this historic farmhouse and barn. Through the renovations, the homeowners preserved the early 1900's home's charming simplicity, but also brought it into the 21st century by opening the layout and adding French doors and windows for extra light. The result is a timeless home with modern amenities that cater to the family's lifestyle.

***Festively decorated by Gatherings By Design (630.880.8792) and Plandscape, Inc. (630.365.2558) with contributor Cocoon (630.232.8340).***

**Architectural Beauty:** An exquisite grand door entices you into this exceptional abode. Built in 2004, this home is full of precision workmanship. The terra cotta tile, archways and wrought iron are a reference to the homeowner's Spanish heritage. Crown molding, transom windows and glazed ceilings are just a few of the WOWs you will see throughout the home.

***Festively decorated by Strawflower Shop/Rug***

***Merchant (630.232.7141) with contributor Town & Country Gardens (630.232.6685).***

Tickets include a holiday tea and are available for \$35. Proceeds are used to decorate Geneva for the holiday season. Purchase at the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, 8 South Third St., online at [genevachamber.com](http://genevachamber.com) or at any of the locations listed below (in Geneva unless indicated otherwise). Call 630.232.6060 to pre-order over the phone. Tickets will not be for sale at the homes.

**Cocoon**, 212 S. Third St. – 630.232.8340

**Country Naturals**, 316 Campbell St. – 630.232.1172

**Floral Wonders**, 200 S. Third St. – 630-945-6559

**Heinz Brothers Greenhouse**, 2010 E Main St., St. Charles – 630.377.6288

**Little Red Barn Door**, 227 S. Third St., Ste. 205 – 630-402-0072

**Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory**, 1308 Commons Dr. – 630.208.1484

**The Little Traveler (gift gallery)**, 404 S Third St. – 630.232.4200

Please note: the above locations accept cash and check (made payable to Geneva Chamber). This event may sell out. ■

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# Experience The Magic Of Batavia At Annual Lights Festival



The holiday lights will be shining brightly in downtown Batavia on Sunday, December 1 as the Batavia Park District kicks off the season with the Celebration of Lights Festival from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Batavia Riverwalk.

Start your holiday gift-giving with making some fun kids crafts inside the Government Center from 5:00-7:00 pm and then take a tractor-pulled wagon ride around the Riverwalk to view all the twinkling lights. Craig Foltos and the Batavia Community Band will lead everyone in a community sing-a-long at 5:15 p.m. and Santa will arrive at approximately 5:30 pm. Following the ceremonial tree lighting, the Peg Bond Center will be open as a warming house from 5:45-7:00 p.m. and kids can visit with Santa and receive a free gift. The event also includes free roasted chestnuts, a bake sale courtesy of the Batavia Fire Department and family photo opportunities throughout the Riverwalk. The Depot Museum will also be 'Lighting Up the Bank' at 6:00 pm as part of their Depot Museum Expan-

sion Project Fundraiser and have some fun old-fashioned ornament making in the Museum from 5:00-7:00 pm.

Another special feature of the festival is Christmas Tree Lane – 25 trees decorated by local organizations located throughout the Riverwalk. You can help determine the “People’s Choice” tree from noon on Monday, November 25 through Saturday, November 30 at noon. View photos of all 25 trees on the Batavia Park District’s Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/BataviaParkDistrict](http://www.facebook.com/BataviaParkDistrict) and “like” your favorite to submit your vote! The winning tree will be announced online on November 30 and on stage during the announcements with Santa and Mayor Schielke during the festival!

The festival is presented by the Batavia Park District in partnership with the Batavia Chamber of Commerce, Batavia MainStreet, the City of Batavia and the Batavia Police Department.

The Celebration of Lights Festival planning committee would also like to thank our festival sponsors Northwestern Medicine All of Us, Raising Cane’s Chicken Fingers, Tanglewood Hills-Toll Brothers, BATV and Yolo Glow Novelties.

## Schedule of Events:

5:00 - 7:00 pm

- Free hayrides with food or \$1 cash donation (proceeds directly benefit the Batavia Food Pantry)
- Free roasted chestnuts
- Family photo opportunity at the main stage of Peg Bond Center
- Hot dogs and hot chocolate for sale
- Holiday Craft Activities inside City Council Chambers
- Old fashioned ornament making for all ages at the Depot Museum, main level
- Performance by the Batavia Community Band

5:15 pm

- Community sing-a-long led by Craig Foltos, Foltos Tonsorial Parlor, accompa-



nied by the Batavia Community Band

- 5:30 pm
  - Arrival of Santa
  - Welcome by Mayor Schielke & Ceremonial Tree Lighting
- 5:45 pm
  - Santa’s Warming House: Visit Santa at the Peg Bond Center warming house and receive a treat from Santa (children under 10 while supplies last)
  - Announcement of Christmas Tree Lane Winner
  - Announcement of Batavia MainStreet’s Downtown Window Contest
- 6:00 pm
  - Light Up the Bank at the Depot Museum
- 6:15 – 7:15 pm
  - Story Hour hosted by the Batavia Public Library at the Gustafson Research Center, located in the lower level of the Batavia Depot Museum
- Special Features:
  - Christmas Tree Lane-Twenty five holiday trees are decorated by local organizations and businesses.

For more information, please contact the Batavia Park District office at 630-879-5235 or make a donation to the ‘Light Up the Bank’ Depot Museum Expansion Project Fundraiser, visit [bataviahistoricalsociety.org](http://bataviahistoricalsociety.org). ■

# Festival of Lights at Phillips Park in Aurora November 22nd - December 26th



One of the largest free outdoor drive-through holiday light displays in Northern Illinois, the Aurora Festival of Lights, returns for its 13th year in 2019 with even more dazzling displays that will delight both adults and children.

Buses are welcome! Clearance is 13 feet, 6 inches.

Presented in partnership between the Rotary Club of Aurora and the City of Aurora, this signature winter event is a drive through of more than one mile of spectacular lighted displays at Phillips Park, 1000 Ray Moses Drive, Aurora, IL 60505. We have new displays every year – come see the new dancing arcs and the expanded Ice Rink. You will also enjoy Santa's Toy Factory, Old Man Winter, elves and reindeer, holiday trains, gigantic snowflakes, beautiful lighted swags on the fence line surrounding the zoo and other seasonal favorites.

Last year we had over 30,000 cars visit the four-week event. The festival is free, but the Rotary Club does accept donations that benefit local charities. This FREE drive-through light show is open every night from the day after Thanksgiving through the day after Christmas.

7 days a week 5 pm – 9 pm

Phillips Park  
1000 Ray Moses Drive  
Aurora IL 60505



# St. Charles History Museum November and December Events



## **Music at the Museum: Ryan Carney Cello Trio**

Friday, November 8, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Join us for a special evening of music, appetizers, and drinks as we welcome the Ryan Carney Cello Trio to the Museum as part of our Music at the Museum series. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., with the performance beginning at 6:30 p.m. Single tickets available for \$25, couple tickets for \$40. Each ticket purchased includes food and two drink tickets per person.

Ryan is a local bassist and cellist who earned his Bachelor of Music at Northern Illinois University and Master of Music from Indiana University. He has appeared with the Fox Valley Symphony, Rockford Symphony, Kish-

waukee Symphony, Wheaton Symphony and lists of others. His Trio features Shannon Adams on Piano and Chris Palmerin on percussion.

## **Holiday Hotspot Open House**

Friday, November 30, 3 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Heading out to the St. Charles Electric Lights Parade? Stop into the Museum to warm up with us! We'll be offering free cookies and cider, face painting, a kids craft, and more. Plus, be sure to get your photo taken with our special guest, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer! No cost for admission – but donations are appreciated.

## **Party Like It's 1933 Whiskey Tasting and Fundraiser**

Saturday, December 7, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Join the Fox Valley Whiskey Society at the St. Charles History Museum on Saturday, December 7th for our "Party Like It's 1933" Fundraiser. Learn about Prohibition and how it and Whiskey helped shape the Fox Valley all while dining on food from local restaurants and sampling Whiskey from Old Forester, Woodford Reserve, Old Overholt and Four Roses. Tickets available for \$50 per person. A 50/50 raffle will take place at the event as well.

For more information on these events and to purchase tickets, visit [stcmuseum.org/events](http://stcmuseum.org/events). ■



# North Central College

## November Events



**Nov. 1, Exhibit:** Now through Nov. 10, explore “Inside Out, Outside In,” an installation created by artist Donna Castellanos that transforms everyday objects into a work of art. Experience familiar objects in a way you have never seen before. Visitors are welcome to contribute to the exhibit in the community interactive area by using vintage typewriters to share memories, stories and insights. This exhibit is free and open to the public; and located at the Schoenherr Gallery, 171 E. Chicago Ave. The exhibit is open Monday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. To learn more about the exhibit, contact Gallery Director Nickole C. Lanham at 630-637-5375 or [nclanham@noctrl.edu](mailto:nclanham@noctrl.edu).

**Nov. 1, Transfer Info. Session:** Transfer info sessions are for prospective transfer students interested in learning more about academic choices, transfer admission process, scholarships and financial aid. These sessions also offer students the opportunity for an unofficial transcript evaluation or an on-the-spot admission decision. Both are on a first-come, first-serve basis and require a completed application and transcripts. For more information and to register call 630-637-5800 or visit [northcentralcollege.edu/visit](http://northcentralcollege.edu/visit).

**Nov. 1, Concert:** On Nov. 1 from 8—10 p.m., vibraphonist Brad Stirtz will be

joined on stage by members of North Central's jazz studies program. Stirtz is a jazz and percussion educator that has travelled the world performing. Currently, he works as the director of worship and music at Peace Lutheran Church and is a 30-year faculty member at the Birch Creek Percussion Camp in Wisconsin. This event is hosted at the Madden Theatre, 171 E. Chicago Ave. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](http://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 1, Concert:** On Nov. 1 beginning at 7 p.m., soulful Syrian-American vocalist Bassel Almadani and ensemble will perform at Koten Chapel, 329 E. School St. Over 20 percent of their merchandise proceeds will be donated to humanitarian relief through the Karam Foundation. Tickets are \$15 for an adult and free with a North Central College ID. For more information, visit <https://www.theunionnetwork.com/event>.

**Nov. 3, Exhibit:** Throughout the month of November, North Central College's Oesterle Library Gallery will host an exhibit entitled, "Exploration 2019." The exhibit is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. This exhibit—located at 320 E. School St.—showcases works by Chicago Calligraphy Collective (CCC). To learn more about the exhibit, call the box office at 630-637-SHOW(7469) or visit [northcentralcollege.edu/show](http://northcentralcollege.edu/show).

**Nov. 6, Concert:** On Nov. 6 from 7–9 p.m. at Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave., violinist Vijay Gupta and composer Reena Esmail will perform the world premiere of Esmail's Concerto for violin with the Neuqua Valley High School orchestra. Gupta, a recipient of the MacArthur Genius Award and Esmail a Kennedy Center Citizen Artist, will also talk with the audience about their experiences as artists. Tickets range from \$10-50. For more information, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](http://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 8, Performing Arts:** From Nov. 8—17, North Central College will host William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in Meiley-Swallow Hall, 31 S. Ellsworth St. Friday performances will be from 7:30-10 p.m., and Sunday performances will be from 2-4:30 p.m. There will be two showings on Saturdays; the earlier performance runs 2-4:30 p.m., with evening performances running from 7:30-10 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](http://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 9, Sporting Event:** On Nov. 9, the North Central College football team will face off against Illinois Wesleyan University. The game will be hosted at the Benedetti-Wehrli Stadium beginning at 1 p.m. For more information, visit [northcentralcardinals.com/schedule](http://northcentralcardinals.com/schedule).

**Nov. 9, Concert:** On Nov. 9 from 8–10 p.m., the Chicago Sinfonietta presents "Love + Light: The Diwali Celebration Returns." East meets West in this performance of Beethoven's "Leonore Overture No. 3" and Stravinsky's "Firebird Suite," in addition to an Indian dance performance. Dr. Lakshminarayana Subramaniam and guest conductor Sameer Patel, assistant conductor of the San Diego Symphony fuse the traditions of southern India with Western Classics. Tickets range from \$10-62. The concert venue will be located at Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](http://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 13, First-Generation Visit Day:** First-generation visit days are for prospective first-generation college students, which are defined as neither parent having a four-year college degree. Students will meet with Cardinal First program mentors and learn how North Central will support them throughout their journey at the College. The program includes a presentation and lunch with current first-generation students. For more information and to register visit [northcentralcollege.edu/visit](http://northcentralcollege.edu/visit).

**Nov. 15, Exhibit:** Throughout the month of November, North Central will host Zelene Schlosberg's exhibit at its Schoenherr Gallery, 171 E. Chicago Ave. Drawing inspiration from the East and the West, ancient and contemporary, Schlosberg creates a provocative exhibit. Gallery hours of operation include Monday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public. To learn more about the exhibit, contact Gallery Director Nickole C. Lanham at 630-637-5375 or [nclanham@noctrl.edu](mailto:nclanham@noctrl.edu).

**Nov. 15, Freshman Visit Day:** High school students and their parents or guardians are invited to attend North Central College's visit day in the Wentz Concert Hall lobby at the Fine & Performing Arts Center, 171 E. Chicago Ave. Visitors can attend a morning session with check-in at 9:15 a.m. There are opportunities to take a walking tour and attend informative sessions on financial aid, academic highlights and student life, with optional tours of athletic and fine arts facilities. For more information and to register call 630-637-5800 or visit <https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/visit>.

**Nov. 15, Concert:** On Nov. 15 from 8–10 p.m., enjoy "the next great voice on soprano saxophone" according to Cadence Magazine, in an evening with jazz saxophonist Mitch Paliga. He has recorded over 30 original compositions and arrangements in his career and is a founding member of the Chicago Jazz Composers Collective. Members of North Central's jazz studies program will join Paliga on stage. This event costs \$17 for seniors and students and \$22 for adults. The concert venue will be located at Madden Theatre, 171 E. Chicago Ave. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](http://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 16, Concert:** On Nov. 16 from 7:30–9:30 p.m., internationally renowned violinist Rachel Barton Pine joins the DuPage Symphony Orchestra (DSO) to perform "Remarkable Russians." Incorporating musical elements from Armenia, the Ottoman Empire, Soviet Union and more, this performance is sure to leave

audience members feeling exhilarated. Tickets range from \$15-43. The concert venue will be located at Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](http://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).



**Nov. 19, Concert:** On Nov. 19 from noon to 1:30 p.m., North Central College Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir and student soloists will perform the "Woodwind Spectacular" at Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave. For more information, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](http://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 20, Event:** Barstool Politics will take place on Nov. 20, from 6:30–8 p.m., at the theatre in Meiley-Swallow Hall, 31 S. Ellsworth St. Professors William Muck, Tom Cavenagh, Suzanne Chod, Phil Barker and alumnus Nick McGuire '12 will host the live show discussing current political issues. Potential topics include the ongoing impeachment inquiry, foreign policy issues surrounding Syria and the Ukraine, Brexit, the state of the Trump presidency and major cases brought before the Supreme Court this term. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Christine M. Drover at [cmdrover@noctrl.edu](mailto:cmdrover@noctrl.edu) or visit <http://calendar.noctrl.edu/event>.



**Nov. 20, Event:** On Nov. 20 beginning at 7 p.m., former United States Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley will be signing her book "With All Due Respect: Defending America with Grit and Grace" at Pfeiffer Hall, 310 E. Benton Ave. This free event is hosted by Anderson's Bookshop and open to the public. Haley will

read from the book and discuss the most significant events of our time. For more information, visit <https://www.andersonsbookshop.com/event>.

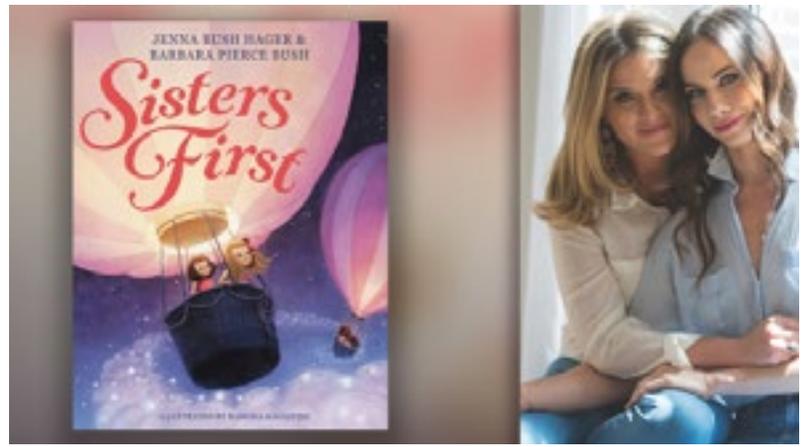
**Nov. 21, Concert:** On Nov. 21 from 7:30–9:30 p.m., North Central College’s jazz studies program presents, “The Fall Great Evening Jazz.” They will be performing ensembles, including the jazz combos, big band and vocal jazz ensemble in Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](https://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 22, Concert:** On Nov. 22 from 7:30–9:30 p.m., North Central College’s Concert Choir, Women’s Chorale, Chamber Singers, Cardinal Chorus and guest instrumental musicians will collaborate in the “Explore the Sound Holiday Concert.” This event is hosted at Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](https://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 22, Concert:** On Nov. 22 beginning at 7 p.m., Country Americana group Maybe April will perform at Koten Chapel, 329 E. School St. The group is made up of Katy DuBois also known as Bishop and Alaina Stacey. Tickets are \$15 for an adult and free with a North Central College ID. For more information, visit <https://www.theunionnetwork.com/event>.

**Nov. 23, Improv Comedy:** On Nov. 23 from 8–9 p.m., Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood perform an improv performance where the audience suggests original scenes, songs and more. This performance is in Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave. Tickets range from \$50-60. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](https://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 24, Event:** On Nov. 24 beginning at 2 p.m., former first daughters Jenna Bush Hager and Barbara Pierce Bush will be signing their first children’s book “Sisters First” at Pfeiffer Hall, 310 E. Benton Ave. This free event is hosted by



Anderson’s Bookshop and open to the public. Hager and Bush will read from the book and discuss what it was like growing up together in the White House. For more information, visit <https://www.andersonsbookshop.com/event>.

**Nov. 25, Concert:** In their concert to wrap up the fall semester, North Central Concert Winds, Wind Orchestra and Chamber Singers will perform a wide-range of music including both standard literature and contemporary music. This concert will be located at Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave., from 7–10 p.m. Tickets range from \$3-5. For more information, visit [finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event](https://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event).

**Nov. 26, Transfer Info. Session:** Transfer info sessions are for prospective transfer students interested in learning more about academic choices, transfer admission process, scholarships and financial aid. These sessions also offer students the opportunity for an unofficial transcript evaluation or an on-the-spot admission decision. Both are on a first-come, first-serve basis and require a completed application and transcripts. For more information and to register call 630-637-5800 or visit [northcentralcollege.edu/visit](https://northcentralcollege.edu/visit). ■

# Geneva Park District



## Join Us for an Old-Fashioned Christmas on the Farm

The Geneva Park District invites you to celebrate the holidays with some of the pleasures of Christmas past on December 14 from 4:30 – 6:30 pm at Peck Farm Park. Gather around the fireplace inside the historic Peck House and listen to a story from Mrs. Claus, stay warm outside by the fire in George's Circle, enjoy Christmas Carolers and ice sculpting in the courtyard, and even meet Santa Claus himself!

Christmas on the Farm admission is free; however, some food and activities may have a small fee. Dress for the weather, as this event will happen rain, snow, or shine.

Peck Farm Park is located at 4038 Kaneville Road, Geneva, IL 60134. For more information, call 630-232-4542 or visit [genevaparks.org](http://genevaparks.org).



## **NEW! Holiday Movie Night featuring The Polar Express**

The Geneva Park District invites you to celebrate the season at its new Holiday Movie Night featuring The Polar Express. Enjoy a special night of holiday magic as you watch this beloved classic on the big screen at Playhouse 38, sip hot chocolate “as thick and rich as melted chocolate bars,” and have the chance to meet and take a picture with Santa Claus!

The Holiday Movie Night featuring The Polar Express will be held on December 19 and December 20 from 6:00 – 8:30 pm at Playhouse 38, 321 Stevens Street, Suite P, Geneva, Illinois. Tickets are \$12 each. Additional snacks, soda, water, beer, and wine will be available for purchase. Pre-registration is recommended.

For more information or to register, please call 630-232-4542 or [visit genevaparks.org](http://visit.genevaparks.org).

lifestyle



*Ann Marie Guenther is known as Naperville's Most Organized woman and the Face of Facebook! Ann Marie declares that clutter is unproductive and sucks the money out of your bank account as well as the time out of your day. That Girl Organizes keeps homes and businesses productive all over Chicagoland. Check out her video on Facebook for more tips at [www.Facebook/thatgirlorganizes.guru](http://www.Facebook/thatgirlorganizes.guru) or [That-GirlOrganizes.com](http://That-GirlOrganizes.com). Questions about organizing? Call 630.673.3637*



## Stop Clutter In It's Tracks

BY ANN MARIE GUENTHER, OWNER OF THAT GIRL ORGANIZES

What do you love about the holidays, I mean, really love? What if you could have more of that and less of the other stuff? I learned a harsh lesson long ago.

Protect your family by protecting your time. Do you want to go to a party every weekend, bake dozens of cookies for cookie exchanges and attend multiple other events? Probably not. Let me tell you a story about saying, "no."

Over ten years ago, when I had three children under the age of 5, my family had minimized our lives, particularly the toys of our children's toys. After learning of the hazards of plastics, I rid of all of them and only had wood, metal, or natural toys. I was an aspiring tree hugger, and I wanted better for our babies. That Christmas, I told my mother-in-law that the kids would like Montessori toys, \$ for their future cars and education. She laughed. I didn't know what was so funny!

Christmas morning grandma smiled as the kiddos opened boxes of bright and colorful plastic "deals" she had picked up. I don't have much of a poker face so that she may have gotten the gist. The kiddos did say, "thank you," by-the-way. I'm not a monster!

The next morning Grandma came over to watch the older kiddos while I ran an errand. Just as she arrived, she may have noticed that my trunk was full of everything she bought for my children. "What are you doing? "Returning a few items so I can buy the kiddos some things they need." So I shut my trunk and left. I'm not a bit@#, but "no" means "no!"

Do you know what happened for every other birthday and Christmas from there on out? She purchased what we needed for our children often get money which is allowing them to go to buy new sports gear, attend events, and helping to fund their automobile accounts! Tough love works. Be strict and say, "NO!" By-the-way, my parents never had a problem with out gift ideas for their grandbabies.

Here are some ideas for consumables, experiences, and things to help you gift-give for all ages without creating clutter:

**Consumables:** Coffee beans, homemade hot cocoa mix, homemade cookie mix, DIY lotion, sugar scrub

#### **EXPERIENCES:**

**Ice Cream:** Take a friend to the ice-cream store and spend an hour hanging out!

**Hike:** Take your friend, big or little on a hike for an afternoon, pack a lunch and enjoy the company and scenery!

**Ice Skating:** You can take anyone (except maybe great-grandma) to the rink. Grab some cocoa, and you are golden!

**Movies:** Take anyone to a film of their choice; let them pick out their favorite snacks!

**Comedy or Improv:** There are lots of local improv and comedy shows. Laugh away!

**Laser Tag, Mini Golf or Airsoft:** Are you ready for some competition? These are all fun, depending on how much time you have.

**Camping:** Get your marshmallows and matches out! Enjoy the great outdoors!

#### **On the more \$\$\$ side:**

Massage, dinner, pizza making class, sky-diving, concert tickets, theme park passes, tickets to a sporting event.

**Things:** Consider asking the receiver what he or she needs, then get it! How simple is that?

Gift giving is easier than you think and can be enjoyable for all parties, plus buying events creates less clutter, less cleaning while giving SO much more! Be a game-changer! (It took five years for the adults in my hubby's family to stop buying gifts (unneeded junk) because I refused! Tough love works, LOL...eventually!

That Girl Organizes helps crazed Moms donate and organize according to learning style, so you have everything at your fingertips by helping you donate items you Do NOT love, need or use!

**Use code #Turkeyslivehere for \$50 off.** Call 630.672.3637 to get on the schedule. Don't forget that your spare bedroom may need a touch up before your relatives use it! ■



*Ami Christianson is the owner of "One Salon and Bridal Company in St. Charles." A full service salon offering organic hair coloring, hair extensions, facials, lash extensions, waxing, spray tanning, specializing in bridal hairstyling and air brush makeup. Ami realized the demand for Brides, and clients to have all the services they are looking for in ONE convenient location. Her salon styling team has won numerous awards including "The Knot Hall of Fame", the best of "Wedding Wire", and is Rated as A Top Wedding Vendor in the USA.*



# Hair Extensions..... Hotter Than EVER!

BY AMI CHRISTIANSON, OWNER OF ONE SALON AND BRIDAL COMPANY

So many different types of hair extensions...this can be over whelming. So, let me help you understand.

When I was first reintroduced to hair extensions several years ago I was more than a little Leary. I had personally seen so many clients that had breakage from a certain type that I will not name in this blog.

As a professional I will not install extensions that would cause any sort of damage to your hair. Having said that, I personally had tape in extensions installed into my hair. I then wore them for the next 3 years. (Having them re-taped every 8 weeks or so.) I not only loved the additional length, I really was thrilled with the additional volume. At that this time in my life I had a autoimmune disease that was affecting my hair. My hair was thin and had no vol-

---

ume, or movement. Hair extensions are often times not only used for additional length, but more often for added volume to fine or thinning hair.

Since then I have researched many different hair extension companies. I recommend Babe Tape in extensions. They are the best in quality. 100% Remy hair, this means the hair won't get knotted. Some hair extensions are not laid root to end throughout the extensions causing them to knot up after a few washes. Root to end hair is called, "Remy Hair" this is the highest quality of hair and means the hair cuticle is all going the same direction. Seamless tape in extensions installation only takes approximately 1 hour. This of course depends on how many you have are having installed. Having them removed

and retaped,..well that can take a couple of hours.

The medical grade adhesive is designed for hair, so with proper care or won't weaken til you're ready to remove it with a special bond remover. The hair extensions can typically be reused 3 times making this a more affordable process when comparing it to other types of extensions.

When all is said and done your own hair will not be damaged. For me...this is the most important part of any process or hair service.

"Your hair has to have integrity and health."  
"It has to be healthy to be beautiful."

Ami Christianson

[www.theonesalon.com](http://www.theonesalon.com) ■



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Meet Vanessa Kapus the owner of Aquaduct Plumbing Services and is also in the process of starting a new business venture currently in development. Besides running a successful business, Vanessa is a Mom of two smart, funny and handsome boys ages 7 and 4 who's been married for 6 years to her husband and biggest supporter, Jason Kapus.



# Host Thanksgiving Like a Boss

BY VANESSA KAPUS, FOUNDER OF THE LOCAL MOMS

Let's not sugar coat it, hosting Thanksgiving dinner can be overwhelming no matter if it is your first time or your twentieth. Planning and preparation are the key to a successful Thanksgiving dinner. Hopefully with our helpful tips below, you can spend less time in the kitchen and more time enjoying yourself.

## TIPS FOR HOSTING LIKE A BOSS:

1. Start planning your menu now. Pinterest has printable planners that can help keep you organised.
2. Get your recipes out. Mom and grandma's favorite recipes are a must at thanksgiving.
3. Start your grocery list. Organize your list by product; meats, dairy, frozen etc. That way you don't spend money on extra items you don't need.
4. Plan your grocery shopping at least 5 days in advance. The sales should be out by then.
5. Make any dishes that can freeze well or stay in fridge 2-3 days in ad-

- 
- vance. This will save you time and your sanity.
  6. Utilize your crockpot to keep food warm. That way you are keeping your oven open for the turkey.
  7. Make sure your house is clean two days prior (i know hard when you have kids)
  8. Make sure your adult beverages are chilled the night before.
  9. Don't forget about bags of ice.
  10. Feed the kids first. That way the adults can enjoy their food.
  11. Have your guests bring their favorite dish.

12. Don't forget the dessert. No shame in ordering from a bakery.
13. Set the table at least one day before.
14. Assign seats. You can make thanksgiving place cards for your guests. That way everyone is more comfortable.
15. Lastly, enjoy yourself and your guests! It's hard work hosting a thanksgiving feast.

From our families to yours, Happy Thanksgiving, from THE LOCAL MOMS. For more information on THE LOCAL MOMS, follow us on Facebook and Instagram! ■



## Your Garage Door Specialist



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*Tomas Szklarski has spent most of his life working in Television/Film Production. He learned how to think on his feet as well as how to stay cool when things don't quite go as you planned, which is important when working with dogs. A few years ago he decided he needed a change. He created Waggy Tails with the ultimate goal to open a dog daycare facility in the area. He enrolled in Catch Canine Trainers Academy to study dog training to learn all he can about dogs. He is a certified PetTech instructor in Pet CPR, First Aid and Care. He also volunteers with a local open intake shelter, his experiences from volunteering have helped to guide his mission to help dogs stay out of shelters. [www.waggytails.pet](http://www.waggytails.pet)*



## What To Look for in a Pet Professional

TOMAS SZKLARSKI, OWNER OF WAGGY TAILS

It seems sometimes that everyone is a dog walker or sitter when you start talking about it. Popular pet apps have made it seem that walking or sitting is just a side gig, that anybody can do it and everyone, pet and parent, will be happy.

If you google search, you can find countless stories of dogs getting lost, hurt or even dying while in the care of pet sitters from those apps. The issues aren't even just related to the apps, you can have issues if you hire a professional looking company who then sends someone out who isn't a trained dog walker or sitter.

So, what makes a good dog walker or sitter? That is a question you should ask, just like you would ask about anyone performing a service for you, whether it's an electrician, plumber or carpenter for example. For those services, you would look for certifications, are they part of the union, are they insured and bonded, do they have experience? What can you look for in a pet professional? It's not as easy of an answer honestly, there are no regulations for pet care.

There are some organizations like the International Boarding and Pet Services Association (IBPSA) and National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS) who have online libraries for pet professionals who join to learn and study, they host webinars about pet related things, a pet professional can

even take tests through these organizations to get a certificate in a certain area of pet care.

I own a pet sitting company, I am a member of IBPSA and NAPPS. I also am a Pet Tech Certified Instructor in Pet CPR, First Aid and Care. I also am studying dog training through Catch Canine Trainers Academy, and I volunteer with a local shelter. Most pet professionals will not have all of these qualifications and that is okay. I am in the process of opening up a dog day-care facility, so I have gone through all these steps to be ready for that.

What should pet professionals have then? Every pet professional should be Pet CPR and First Aid certified from some organization. Pet Tech is the premiere company when it comes to this, but they aren't the only ones.

A pet professional should be part of NAPPS or one of the other pet sitting organizations to show that they care about learning and keeping up to date with the best care for you dog.

Insurance is another big thing, it is important, you wouldn't let a plumber in if they weren't insured, right? So why would you do that with the care of your pet? Things happen, but that is what insurance is for to help cover any losses, in case something terrible happens, whether to your pet or your home. Having insurance also shows that whoever you hire is serious about it, they took the time to find insurance specific to the pet industry.

Your pet professional should also have some experience handling dogs, whether through volunteering, handling dogs with a rescue or working with a trainer. A true pet professional should understand how dogs think and know how to handle difficult situations.

Finally, don't ever hire anyone to work with your dog if they don't ask to do a meet and greet first. Not every dog is friendly to everyone, you don't want the first time your dog

meets a stranger to be while you are not there. Sometimes bad things happen in that situation like a bite, you can't believe your dog would do that, but now your dog has a bite record possibly and could potentially be put down. Granted, that is an extreme case, but it happens more often than you think.

One of my clients is a reactive dog, she can't stand people coming to the door and will literally rip your head off if you make it past the door. So, you might be thinking, how do you even enter a house like that. This is what I did. Since the door opened into the house, I knew I had that barrier of protection because this dog could only push the door closed.

With the owner's permission, I opened the door a crack, threw in some treats and closed the door and walked away. Then I waited to let this dog calm down. Went back to the door, opened it a crack and threw some more treats in and closed the door and walked away. I repeated this for a half hour till this dog let me in. It took time, but I understand working with dogs is not always a quick process.

The key to this was letting this dog have the choice of when to let me in, when this dog was ready to. There was a real chance I would not have been successful, and that was okay, because my belief is letting the dog choose. This dog had to come to the conclusion on it's own that I wasn't a threat, we are best buds now, this dog always greets me at the door with a waggy tail and ready to go on another adventure with me.

Whoever you choose to watch your dog, make sure they are qualified, the risks are too great to take a chance, sometimes only to save a few bucks. The horror stories are out there, I don't want any dog to be the next one. ■



**Big  
Hearts**  
of FOX VALLEY

Making a difference in our community by providing needed items to local children.

Big Hearts of Fox Valley NED is a...

# Interview with **JENNIFER MOBLEY,** Founder & President of **Big Hearts of Fox Valley**

BY KEVIN KETCHUM

*What sparked the idea to start the Christmas Gifts for Children in need at St. Charles School District 303?*

**Jennifer Mobley:** My husband and I opened Excel Automotive Repair in 2014. We knew that giving back to our community was going to play a large part of owning our own business. It was Christmas time and as we looked at our kids presents under our tree, we wondered if there were kids in our area that might not have anything under their tree. We reached out to our kids elementary school social worker to see if there was even a need for a Christmas sponsorship program. Turns out there was.

*How many years have you been doing it?*

**Jennifer Mobley:** We started the Christmas sponsorship program in 2014 so this will be our 6th year.

*Since starting, how much increase in community involvement and participation have you seen over the years?*

**Jennifer Mobley:** We started small with only a few D303 schools, so when we first started sponsoring children we had very little community participation.

Over the years it's grown quite a bit. Last year with the community's help, we were able to provide gifts for 443 children. Over 600 community volunteers came out to the wrapping party to wrap over 2400 gifts. Several businesses helped to sponsor the wrapping party. Even our St. Charles Mayor Ray Rogina shows up every year. We also are fortunate to have St. Charles city police and fire departments lend a hand.







*You also named your organization Big Hearts of Fox Valley this year. How did you decide on the name?*

**Jennifer Mobley:** Last year, our sponsors who bought gifts for 10 or more children were called our big heart sponsors. It just seemed fitting to name it Big Hearts of Fox Valley.

*Big Hearts of Fox Valley also recently received 501(c)3 status by the State of Illinois. How hard was the process to become an official designated non-profit?*

**Jennifer Mobley:** Getting our 501(c)3 status was not an easy task. With the help of Tardella & Company, it took lots of hard work but it finally paid off when we got approved in less than 2 months. We had letters of recommendation from school officials from district 303 as well as a letter of recommendation from Mayor Rogina.

*What's are your organization's goals for 2019?*

**Jennifer Mobley:** The goals for this year were to become an official 501(c)3 non profit. We also wanted to include all of the middle school students in need of sponsorship in our program. Last year, it included all of our elementary schools





as well as 50 kids from each middle school.

**Will you be expanding the program into other school districts?**

**Jennifer Mobley:** We have a 5 year plan in place to be able to put this program into other school districts in the Fox Valley Area. Our focus for now is to help the children of D303 not only for Christmas but in other ways next year. This program was made with growth in mind with our process being pretty cookie cutter so we could expand to other school districts. In order to grow we would also need a liaison from each additional school district to participate and work under the Big Hearts of Fox Valley umbrella.

**Any exciting plans or will you be having any additional new events in 2020?**

**Jennifer Mobley:** I think the big plan for 2020 is to find a way to help the high school

kids. We will be working with school officials and students from each high school to implement the program.

**For companies and anyone reading this, how can they become a sponsor or volunteer?**

**Jennifer Mobley:** Go to Big Hearts of Fox Valley website [bigheartsofvalley.org](http://bigheartsofvalley.org). You can help by making a donation. You can also learn more about our sponsorship programs and volunteering opportunities. ■



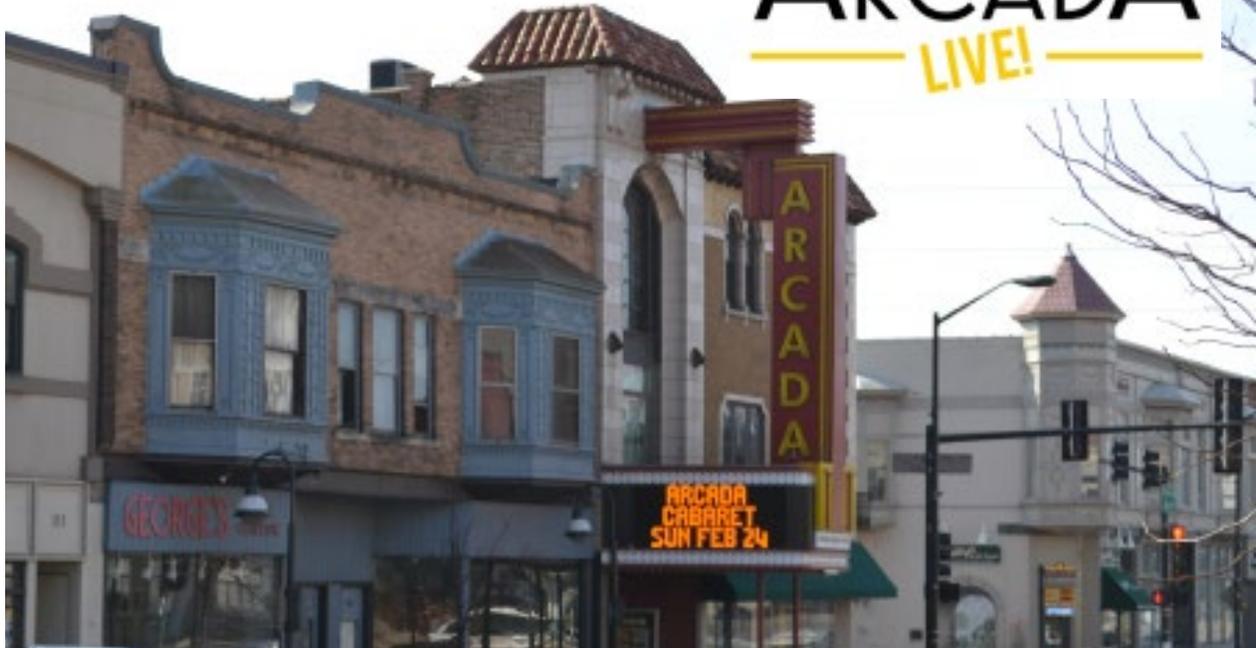
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## Upcoming Shows at The Arcada



### Daughtry

As the frontman for the band bearing his name, Daughtry has become one of the most visible and consistent rock & roll torchbearers of the 21st Century. Since rising to prominence on the fifth season of American Idol, he has released four albums, all of which reached the Billboard Top Ten and have combined sales over 8 million copies in the U.S.

THURSDAY, NOV 7, 7:30 PM



### Accept With Special Guest The Outfit

Teutonic metallers ACCEPT could already claim big worldwide success with "Blood Of The Nations" and "Stalingrad", but with "Blind Rage", they reached the pinnacle of their career in the form of the pole position, a #1 album. Besides #1 in Germany, ACCEPT also hit #1 in Finland as well as several top 10 positions; Czech Republic, Hungary, Sweden, Switzerland the UK and last but not least the US.

FRIDAY, NOV 08, 8:00 PM



## Winger Featuring Janet Gardner Formerly Of Vixen

Winger is a hard rock band from New York City. Their debut album, Winger, came out on Atlantic Record's label in 1988 and achieved platinum status in the United

States and gold in Japan and Canada. It spawned such hits as "Seventeen" and "Headed for a Heartbreak." The band toured for over a years with Bad Company, Scorpions, Cinderella, Bon Jovi, Poison, Skid Row and Tesla. ...

SATURDAY, NOV 09, 8:00 PM



## Chazz Palminteri Appears In His One Man Show: A Bronx Tale

A Bronx Tale is an autobiographical one-man show written and performed by Chazz Palminteri. It tells

the coming-of-age story of Calogero Anello, a young New Yorker torn between the temptations of organized crime and the values of his hardworking father.

SUNDAY, NOV 10, 3:00 PM



## Tony Orlando

Tony Orlando is one of America's most endearing and enduring iconic stars. Few entertainers have excelled in so many realms as Tony has: a top selling

recording artist, songwriter, concert headliner, network television star, Motion Picture actor, Broadway performer and author.

SUNDAY, NOV 10, 7:30 PM



## Moody Blues' John Lodge

From the iconic "Days of Future Passed" to Today, John Lodge is Vocalist, Songwriter and Bass Player in the Moody Blues. Catch the incredible show that will bring you Classic Moody Blues hits from the 'Core 7 Albums', and so much more,

from a career spanning over 5 decades! On tour to support his 'Best of album 'B Yond.'

THURSDAY, NOV 14, 7:30 PM



## America With Special Guest Tom Fuller – Friday

Founding members, Gerry Beckley and Dewey Bunnell (along with former band mate Dan Peek) met in high school in London in the late 1960s and quickly harmo-

nized their way to the top of the charts on the strength of their signature song "A Horse With No Name." Forty plus years later, these friends are still making music together, touring the world and thrilling audiences with their timeless sound.

FRIDAY, NOV 15 & SATURDAY NOV 16, 8:00 PM



## Bronx Wanderers Direct From Las Vegas

The Bronx Wanderers, the hottest show in Vegas, take you on a journey of the greatest music of our time. The story is about a family that delivers a passionate

heart-pumping mix of of Rock N' Roll's great American Songbook from the first generation right through today's current hit-makers. Buckle your seat belts because THE BRONX WANDERERS bring a high octane, toe tapping, dancing in the aisles experience that you won't want to miss! And yes, THE DANCE FLOOR WILL BE OPEN!

SUNDAY, NOV 17, 5:00 PM



### **Patty Smyth Of Scandal**

Back on the road and raring to play for fans new and old! Come out and here the classics like, "The Warrior", "Only the Young", "All I want", and "Another Bad Love".

THURSDAY, NOV 21, 7:30 PM



### **The Uncle Louie Variety Show**

The Uncle Louie variety show comedy has been taking the Italian american communities by storm. They been making people laugh for years with their characters and sketches to put smiles on peoples faces and bring back memories of growing up Italian.

SUNDAY, NOV 24  
5:00 P



### **Pink Floyd Nite With Echoes of Pompeii**

Echoes of Pompeii returns to the Arcada Theater with hits like "Another Brick in the Wall", "Hey You", "Dark Side of the Moon", "Money", "Wish You Were Here",

"Welcome to the Machine", and many others!

FRIDAY, NOV 22, 8:00 PM



### **Humble Pie**

Best known for blazing a trail of high-octane hits like "I Don't Need No Doctor," "Natural Born Boogie, and "30 Days in the Hole," as well as for their acclaimed albums Performance Rockin' the

Fillmore and Smokin,' rock icons Humble Pie represent the very pinnacle of early '70s British blues-rock.

SATURDAY, NOV 23  
8:00 PM



### **A Night Of Zeppelin With Kashmir**

KASHMIR is a very entertaining show bringing only the best of LED ZEPPELIN to their fans. KASHMIR seeks to re-create the experience of a 70's Zeppelin show utilizing authentic vintage stage gear, costumes, and special effects, with great attention to detail in a non pretentious way.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 27  
7:30 PM



**An Evening With Deacon Blues: The All-Star Tribute To Steely Dan Featuring Blues Hall Of Fame Inductee Corky Siegel**

Eleven stellar musicians, composers and educators based in Chicago, they share a unique passion for the Becker/Fagen repository, better known to the world as Steely Dan. ...

FRIDAY, NOV 29, 8:00 PM



**Cornerstones Of Rock: The Buckinghams, The Ides Of March, The New Colony Six, The Cryan' Shames, And The Shadows Of Knight**

Cornerstones of Rock featuring The Buckinghams, The Cryan Shames, The New Colony Six, The Shadows of Knight, The Ides of March and other surprise guests!!! The first special in the series will bring together Chicago area's iconic rock groups of the 1960s and '70s for a once-in-a-lifetime concert special.

SATURDAY, NOV 30, 8:00 PM ■

For tickets, call 630-962-7000 or visit [www.oshows.com](http://www.oshows.com).

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# A CHRISTMAS CAROL THE MUSICAL

## November 29 – December 15, 2019

Fridays at 8pm · Saturdays at 3pm & 8pm · Sundays at 3pm



BrightSide Theatre, Naperville's only professional theatre performing in the historic downtown district, opens their 9th Season – Guilty Pleasures –with this family friendly holiday musical - A Christmas Carol the Musical. Performing at the Theatre at Meiley-Swallow Hall at North Central College, 31 S. Ellsworth Street in Naperville November 29 – December 15. Tickets are on sale now at [www.brightsidedtheatre.com](http://www.brightsidedtheatre.com), or by phone at 630-447-TIXS (8497). The press performance is Friday, November 29 at 8pm.

The holiday season is just not the same without a bit of Scrooge! Playing for ten years at New York's Madison Square Garden, Charles Dickens' classic gets the full Broadway treatment by Broadway heavy hitters, Alan Menken (Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Disney's The Little Mermaid, Little Shop of Horrors, Sister Act) and Lynn Ahrens (Ragtime, Seussical, Once on This Island) as they reawaken the true spirit of Christmas with a heart-stirring tale of beauty and redemption.

A Christmas Carol the Musical is a spectacular adaptation of Charles Dickens' well-known story of Ebenezer Scrooge as a prosperous curmudgeon who believes that personal wealth is far more valuable than the happiness and comfort of others,

greeting Christmas cheer with an infuriated "Bah! Humbug!" However, thanks to the guidance of three ghosts, Scrooge recognizes his faults and greets Christmas morning with a cheerful, "Happy Christmas!" A Christmas Carol the Musical is an ideal guilty pleasure for your family to create a beautiful holiday experience.

A talented ensemble of actors makes up the Cast of A Christmas Carol the Musical:

Stan Austin, Michelle Bollinger, Jonathan Booth, Sarah Breidenbach, Luke Brock, Andrew Buel, Cooper Carlisle, Dana Clouser, Miranda Colin, Michael Crowell, Kelley Dale, Juliana Filapek, Myrrh Gobenciong, Jane Hoshell, Kitty Karn, Amanda Kornak, Thomas Mansour, Robert McDonough, Katy Mitchell, Sean Rhead Christine Ronna, Ella Schuler, Querron Smith, Tyler Sonkin, Ben Weiss, and Willa Zatzblum.

Location: Theatre at Meiley-Swallow Hall at North Central College, 31 S. Ellsworth Street, Naperville. IL 60540

Dates: November 29-December 15, 2019  
Press Performance/Opening: Friday, November 29 at 8 pm

Curtain Times: Fridays at 8pm, \*\*Saturdays at 3pm and 8pm & Sundays at 3pm \*\*\*Saturday matinees at 3 pm are Newly Added Performances!!\*\*  
Tickets: \$30 Discounts: Students/Seniors\$25.Groups 10+ /\$23-\$25. Tickets are on sale now at [www.brightsidtheatre.com](http://www.brightsidtheatre.com), by phone 630-447-TIXS (8497) or the night of the performance at the box office at the Theatre at Meiley-Swallow Hall at North Central College. ■



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# Pheasant Run Resort Announces November Mainstage Theatre Performances

Pheasant Run Resort, a welcoming enclave located in St. Charles, announces Mainstage Theatre performances and family packed fun throughout the month of October. Perfect for a getaway or staycation, Pheasant Run has everything you need to enjoy family fun all summer long! Other resort amenities include five restaurants, lively indoor replica of New Orleans' iconic Bourbon Street, theater, comedy club, spa and indoor/outdoor pool.



## **The Moods - Friday, November 15th at 8pm**

Presented by United Talent. Award-winning recording and performing artists since 1995, entertaining across the country and abroad, The Moods are a singing group consisting of three guys dedicated to the fine art of harmony and choreography. They're known for their vocal styling, but are equally accomplished in theater and on the big screen. They have collectively written songs, performed and arranged background vocals for other artists and television and radio commercials.



## **American English - Saturday, November 16th at 8pm**

Presented by United Talent. American English is simply the best Beatles tribute story of our time. At the inception of the band, they were voted "number one" by thousands of Beatles fans as winners of sound alike contests at Beatlefest® for three consecutive years. They have also won Illinois Entertainer of the Year and have been voted "Best Tribute Band" three of the last four years by their fans in the Chicagoland area. Their demand here and abroad, coupled with their spectacular fan base, has anchored them into a professional setting, and launched them into larger venues and theaters worldwide.



### Film Screening: The Girl Who Wore Freedom - Sunday, November 17th at 3pm

A new feature length documentary, The Girl Who Wore Freedom, captures stunning first-hand accounts of the French citizens living under Nazi occupation. This fundraising event will feature a connection to St. Charles through artifacts provided by the St. Charles History Museum as well as a silent auction to help raise money for the film. Your participation in this screening will help shape the future of the film and provide an opportunity to bring this powerful story to more people. The Girl Who Wore Freedom is an unconventional love story between the people of Normandy, France and the American GI's who freed them from German occupation. It is told by those that lived it. Memories of hardship, death, heroism, and love. \$20 suggested donation.



### Brass From The Past Ft. Tower of Power's vocalist Lenny Williams - Saturday, November 23rd at 8pm

Presented by United Talent. Brass From The Past is a tribute

to the legends of rock and soul and is the hottest horn band in the Midwest. Brass From The Past includes musicians who have performed with The Temptations, Ray Charles, Bob Hope, and

many other acts. Boasting an unstoppable 6-piece horn section, tight 4-piece rhythm section, and 3 powerful singers who command the stage, this is no ordinary band!

Lenny Williams is a singer-songwriter and musician best known for his work during the 1970s. He was the lead vocalist for R&B/soul group Tower of Power.



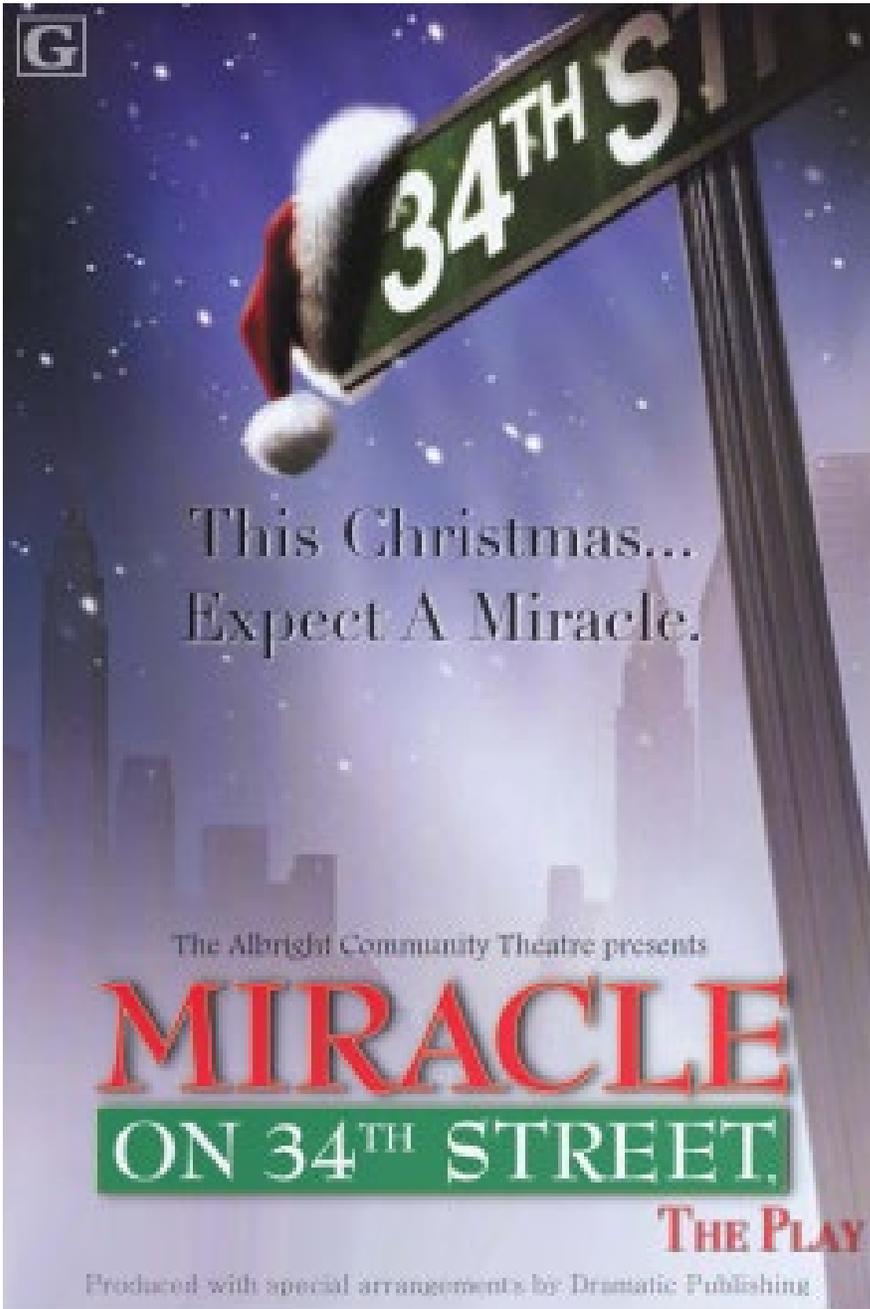
### Think Floyd USA - Friday, November 30th at 8pm

Presented by United Talent. Think Floyd USA celebrates the music of Pink Floyd with a full-production tribute performance that showcases an energetic and phenomenally gifted cast alongside mesmerizing light production. Featuring nine passionate pro musicians and vocalists, Think Floyd USA still has several dedicated founding members who began the journey together in 2004. Satisfying both those who love the major hits like "Wish You Were Here" and fans craving deep cuts like "Astronomy Domine," Think Floyd USA hits the stage with passion and joy, and often performs albums in their entirety. Buy tickets HERE.

Dinner and show packages also available for most performances. For more details on the Mainstage Theatre performances, please visit <https://www.pheasantrun.com/entertainment/mainstage-theater>. ■

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# The Albright Community Theatre Presents Miracle on 34th



Adapted from the novel by Valentine Davies and the hit MGM film, this musical play tells the classic tale of Kris Kringle, a charming elderly gentleman who stumbles into a job as the department store Santa Claus at Macy's in New York City. Kris unleashes waves of good will with Macy's customers and the commercial world of New York City when he ignores instructions to steer parents to goods that Macy's sells, and instead refers them to other stores to find exactly what their child has asked for. Seen as deluded and dangerous by Macy's vocational counselor, Kris ends up in a court competency hearing to prove to the world that he is in fact Santa Claus. Especially at stake is one little girl's, Susan Walker, belief that dreams really do come true if you will open your heart and believe.

December 6,7,8,13,14,15  
Fridays at 7:30  
Saturdays at 2:30pm and 7:30 pm  
Sundays at 2:30

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors and are available online at [albrighttheatre.com](http://albrighttheatre.com)

Directed by Elizabeth Hilgart  
Produced by special arrangement with the Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois.

[Get Your Tickets](#)

The Albright Community Theatre  
100 N Island Ave, 3rd Floor  
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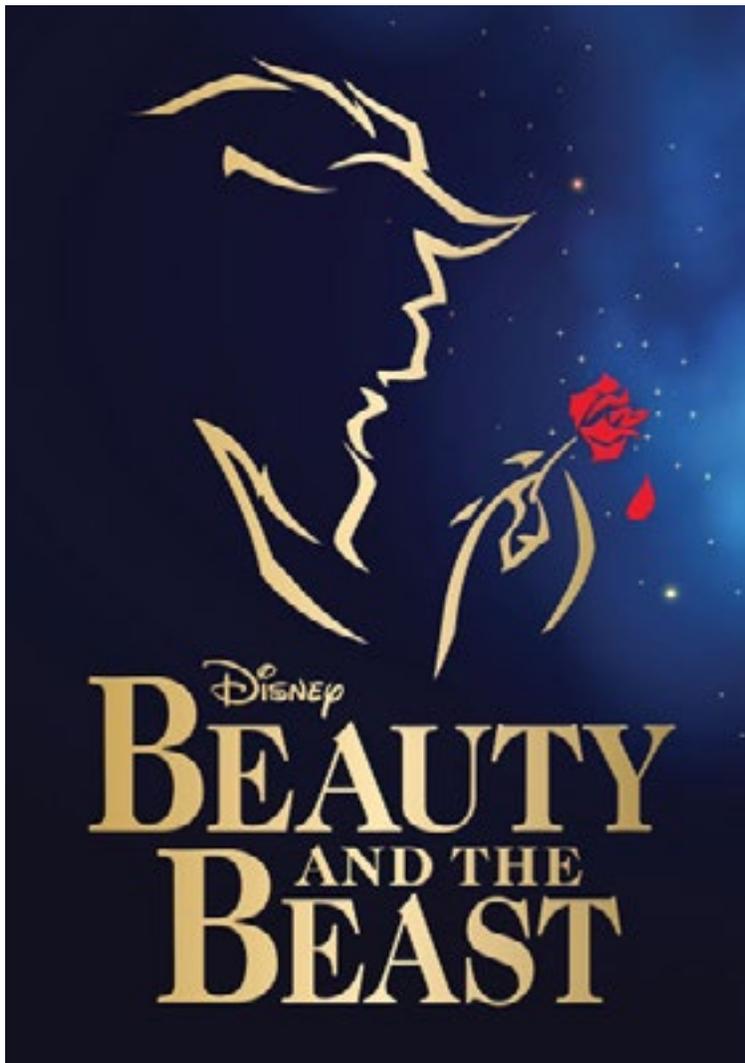
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# Be Paramount's Guest This Holiday Season



## Step Inside Disney's Beauty And The Beast, Paramount's Next Holiday Season Blockbuster, Nov 13-Jan 19

Great dancing candlesticks! Just wait to see what Aurora's Paramount Theatre has in store for Disney's Beauty and the Beast, November 13, 2019-January 19, 2020 at the beautiful Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd. in Aurora. Press opening is Friday, November 22, at 8 p.m.

The Beast, Belle and everyone's favorite enchanted castle characters from one of our most beloved animated films will come to incredible new life at Paramount, ready to thrill, entertain and amaze young and old alike. Per usual, Paramount has big plans for Beauty and the Beast, with a blockbuster

production sure to ignite imaginations, enthrall senses, excite emotions and literally open pages to so much possibility. Entire families will be enchanted by classic song-and-dance numbers like "Be Our Guest," "Belle" and "Beauty and the Beast."

Returning to direct and co-choreograph her fourth holiday season spectacular in a row is Paramount's Amber Mak, hot on the heels of last season's The Wizard of Oz, which earned her Jeff nominations for Best Musical/ Large and Best Director, her eye-popping Elf The Musical, and her puppet-filled The Little Mermaid before that.

Paramount favorite Paul-Jordan Jansen, who won hearts last season as the Cowardly Lion in The Wizard of Oz, and earned the Jeff Award for Best Actor in a Musical as Sweeney Todd in 2017, also returns as the Beast. Making her Chicago debut as Belle is Beth Stafford Laird, a veteran of the first national tours of Anastasia, Newsies and Ghost The Musical, and the international tour of Beauty and the Beast.

Celebrate the power and wonder of live theater at the majestic Paramount where a two-

story Christmas tree and spectacular lobby also await, decorated to create memories for a lifetime. Previews of *Beauty and the Beast* start November 13. Press opening is Friday, November 22 at 8 p.m. Performances run through January 19: Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 7 p.m.; Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sundays at 1 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Exceptions: No 1:30 p.m. matinee Wednesday, November 13. No show Thursday, November 28 (Thanksgiving). Added shows Friday, November 29 at 3 p.m. and Tuesday, December 17 at 7 p.m. No shows Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas). Added matinees Thursday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m., December 26 at 1:30 p.m. and Tuesday, December 31 at 3 p.m. Note: All Friday performances in January (January 3, 10 and 17) begin at 7 p.m. Saturday show times in January (January 4, 11 and 18) are 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Single tickets are \$36 to \$74. For tickets, visit [ParamountAurora.com](http://ParamountAurora.com), call (630) 896-6666, or stop by the Paramount box office Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. *Beauty and the Beast* is recommended for ages 5 and up for including some scary moments.

Note: Paramount offers live, real-time ASL interpretation for patrons who are deaf or hard of hearing at one performance of each Broadway Series production. *Beauty and the Beast* will be presented with live ASL interpretation on Friday, December 27 at 8 p.m. Patrons can purchase \$30 tickets with

special seating for this performance with the code ASLPARAMOUNT. Or, ask the box office about a discounted subscription package for Paramount's three remaining ASL interpreted Broadway performances during the 2019-20 season.

## **The Second City's Holiday Revue: The Good, the Bad & The Ugly Sweater Nov 29-Dec 22**

Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.; Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m.  
In the Copley Theatre in the North Island Center, 8 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora  
Tickets: \$37

It's the most depress...no...sorrow...no...wonderful time of the year! Take a handful of The Second City's best and brightest comedians, roll 'em around in some tinsel and eggnog, throw in your ugliest holiday sweater and before you can say "Aunt Shirley is drunk and trying to put antlers on the dog again," you've got another holiday show ready to roast the chestnuts outta all the things we lovingly loathe about the holiday season. Don't miss Paramount's annual end-of-year holiday tradition bringing The Second City's renowned brand of festive hilarity to downtown Aurora's 173-seat Copley Theatre, a stage so intimate you're never more than 70 feet from all those seasonal songs and hilarious skits. Note: this production is for audiences 18 years and older due to strong adult language and content. ■



# Fine Line Creative Arts Center Upcoming Events



## Carol Irving - A Weavers Journal of Endangered Wildflowers Through November 23rd

The Kavanagh Gallery at Fine Line Creative Arts Center is pleased to host a fantastic collection of 12 woven panels entitled *A Weavers Journal of Endangered Wildflowers* by fiber artist Carol Irving.

Carol was born and raised in Detroit. At the age of 24, after earning a degree in Botany, she moved to Michigan. She learned to weave while in college and began to explore this art form in her spare time. Over the years, Carol has taken many classes and workshops from noted weavers, as well as winning awards and honors in juried arts and fiber shows. Her work has been included in a recently published book, *The Art of Weaving*.

The panels in this collection are a reflection of Carol's interests, travels and research in the botanical world of Michigan. Carol has said that she hopes to bring attention to Michigan's many wildflowers and the real danger that many could be lost.

*A Weavers Journal of Endangered Wildflowers* will be open to the public Monday - Saturday (10 am - 5 pm) from October 17 until November 23. As with all gallery exhibitions at Fine Line, there is no admission fee.

## Arts for Veterans – Special event Saturday November 23rd 12 -4 pm

Fine Line Creative Arts Center in St. Charles will be hosting an afternoon aimed specially at veterans on Saturday November 23. This is the inaugural year of event that Fine Line hopes will become an annual event bringing together veterans.

The afternoon will commence with lunch at 12 noon following which there is an opportunity to try something creative. Some spaces are available for painting, chain maille jewelry and bookbinding.

This program has been several years in the making, Program Director Jodi Younglove explains. "When we first looked at a program for veterans, we needed to answer two questions. The first was if this would be something of interest to veterans, the second was how to fund the program. We have been fortunate in obtaining a grant from the Fisher Foundation to fund the program this year, so our second question has been answered. For the first question, time will tell! As this is our test year, we really hope for a successful afternoon so we can continue the program."

The Fine Line community knows the value art can have for both the individual and the wider community. This is their small way to give thanks to our veterans.

If you are a veteran and are interested in joining Fine Line and other veterans on November 23, please contact Jodi at Fine Line Creative Arts Center. You can call during business hours at 630-584-9443 or email [jodi@fineline.org](mailto:jodi@fineline.org). Spaces are limited so don't delay.

## David Roth Saturday, November 23rd

Doors Open at 7.00pm  
Concert begins at 7.30 pm

In 2017, David Roth played to a sold out audience at Fine Line. It's been two years but David is back!

Poignant to improbable, holistic to hilarious (think James Taylor meets Jon Stewart), David has taken his songs, experience, and expertise to a wide variety of venues in this and other countries for the last three decades. His work has found its way to Carnegie Hall, the United Nations, several Chicken Soup for the Soul books, the Kennedy Center, Peter, Paul, & Mary and Kingston Trio CDs, the Kerrville and Falcon Ridge Folk Festivals (top honors at both "Emerging Artist" competitions), NASA's Goddard Space Center (his song "Rocket Science" sailed on the space shuttle Atlantis in 2009), the Rise Up Singing and Rise Again (sequel) songbooks, and 14 CDs on the Wind River and Stockfisch (Germany) labels.

David's unique songs, offbeat observations and moving stories strike a chord in the hearts and minds of all who see him. If you have not seen David perform now is your chance, and if you have seen him perform before you know it's going to be a great night. Join us on November 23 as we welcome a Chicago native back to the Land of the Lincoln.

Tickets \$20.00 per person. For further information and to purchase tickets visit [www.fineline.org](http://www.fineline.org) or call 630-584-9443.

Fine Line Creative Arts Center  
37W570 Bolcum Rd,  
St. Charles, IL 60175

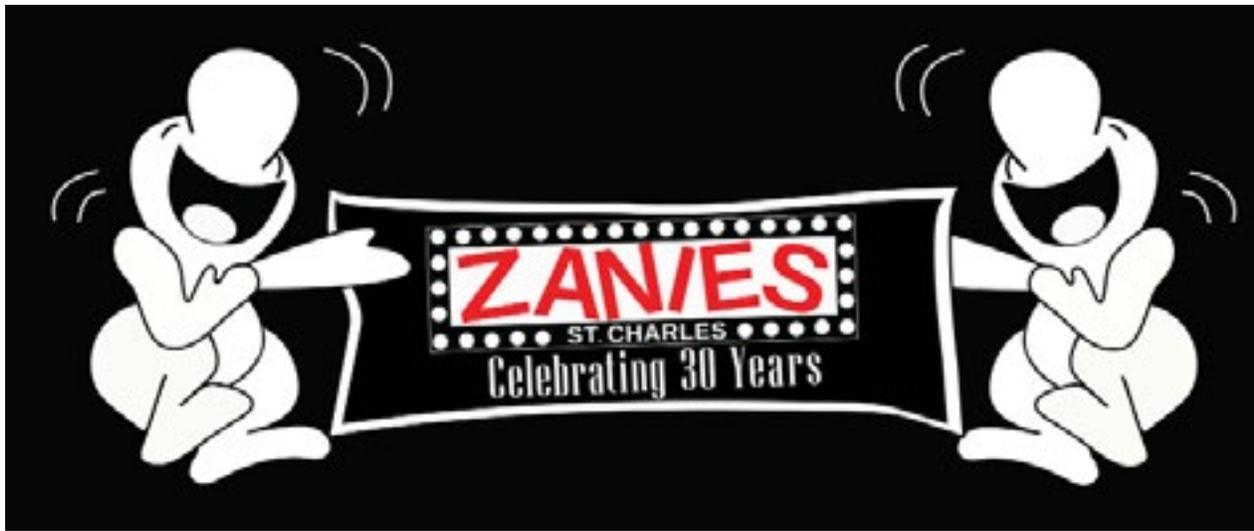


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## Upcoming Shows



### **Dobie Maxwell** **Fri, Nov. 1 to Sat, Nov. 2**

Unique is the best way to describe Dobie Maxwell. He speaks in gusts and prowls the stage with such an abundance of material and experience that no two of his shows are exactly alike. He has a background in radio as a former morning show host in cities around the country and has appeared on popular TV shows like 'Entertainment Tonight,' 'The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson,' 'Comedy.tv,' and 'The Oprah Winfrey Show.' Yes, Oprah. He's even moonlighted as a stand-up comedy instructor, including our own Comedy Dojo in recent years. Join us in welcoming back one of the most exciting, polished and energetic performers to have crossed our stage. Unmissable!



### **Michael Palascak** **Thu, Nov. 7 to Sat, Nov. 9**

He appeared on the Zanies radar in 2009 when he won the Sierra Mist Comedy Competition at The Taste of Chicago. Although now living in Los Angeles, MICHAEL appears regularly at Zanies. Performances on every major late night TV show (including Late Night with David Letterman, The Tonight Show, and Conan) have made him a national phenomenon and last year MICHAEL was one of five finalists on Last Comic Standing on NBC-TV. His comedy bits are played regularly on Sirius FM Radio and Pandora.

**Show Start Times:**  
**Thursday and Friday 8:00 pm**  
**Saturday 7:30 pm and 9:45 pm**  
**Saturday 7:30 & 9:45 pm**



## **Derek Hughes**

### **Thu, Nov. 14, 2019 to Sat, Nov. 16**

The live performances of celebrated conjurer, “Stand Up Magician” Derek Hughes, have been lauded by audiences and critics alike, with the New York Times calling him “thoroughly entertaining.” Hughes has performed his magic on MTV, VH1, Comedy Central, and CW’s Penn & Teller:Fool Us. He’s a consulting producer onTRUtv’s hit magic series, The Carbonaro Effect and was a finalist on season 10 of NBC’s America’s Got Talent.



## **Chris Cotton**

### **Thu, Nov. 21, 2019 to Sat, Nov. 23**

Chris began performing Stand Up Comedy in the same city he was born and raised in (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). Chris worked as a Digital Creator at Comedy Central, while co-starring in Comedy Central: Every Damn Day. Chris has worked with many of the best national headliners including Artie Lange, Keith Robinson, Godfrey, Bret Ernst, Tommy Davidson, Kevin Hart, Judah Frielander, and Hannibal Burress. His Stand-Up Comedy Set topics include pop culture, current events, being married, and growing up in the city. Equipped with an easy going style, Chris is rapidly gaining popularity. Former Co-Host of the Artie Quitter Podcast with Artie Lange.



## **Larry Reeb**

### **Wed, Nov. 27, Fri Nov. 29 and Sat Nov.30**

Known as UNCLE LAR’, LARRY REEB is the wise-cracking black sheep, politically incorrect relative everyone knows. Like any concerned relative UNCLE LAR’ wants to help. So in his own twisted way he does. He gives you “tips”. UNCLE LAR’ offers tips on everything from marriage to lotteries to children. Always topping them off with, “That’s a tip from your UNCLE LAR’.”

Where others cringe, REEB thrives. His sharp wit was custom built to handle hecklers. During a performance a regretful drunk once shouted “talk about sex.” Larry retorted, “your parents shouldn’t have had it”, and of course capped it with, “that another tip from your UNCLE LAR’.” ■



*William P. Boznos is the founding attorney of Boznos Law. He brings a unique 360 degree perspective to its advice and advocacy. He has served as in house senior counsel for a Fortune 500 Company for over a decade. In addition, he has served as Director of Human Resources and Vice President of Human Resources for both privately held and large publicly held companies for years, including Harrah's Casinos, the largest gaming operation in the world. This unique background gave him an unprecedented access to company CEO's, human resources departments, and the corporate insight you need. He has represented both individuals and business owners.*



## New Overtime Rates To Go Into Effect January 1, 2020

BY BILL BOZNOS, BOZNOS LAW OFFICE

The Department of Labor has FINALLY settled on new rules for overtime that will have a profound impact on the employment landscape for both employers and employees.

As you may recall from the many posts Boznos Law has made on this subject, the original overtime level of pay was set at \$433/week (\$23,660 annually). This level of pay applies to administrative professionals, executives and professionals. As long as an employee performed certain defined job tasks and was paid at least \$23,660 a year, they were considered "exempt" from the overtime laws. In 2015, the Obama administration proposed new rules for the overtime exemption, asking the Department of Labor to raise the salary threshold to \$913/

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week (\$47,476 annually). Many employers immediately jumped to increase salary levels to avoid paying overtime. The problem was that the Obama administration proposal ran into court challenges and was put on indefinite hold until it could be re-evaluated again. Facing a backlash from employers decrying these high salary levels, the Department of Labor opened up for public comment the proposed levels. Most small and medium sized businesses were firmly against raising the levels so high as injurious to their business operations and profit levels.

**Now, the Department of Labor has issued new guidelines for overtime pay that are likely to withstand challenge. Effective January 1, 2020, the new overtime salary threshold will increase to \$684/week or \$35,568 annually. The final rule also allows employers to use non-discretionary bonuses and incentive payments, paid at least annually, to satisfy up to 10% of the salary threshold.**

Employers should be preparing to the proposed changes to the overtime levels now. Consider taking the following steps to conduct an internal audit in preparation for the coming changes:

- Review payroll records and identify employees classified as “exempt” or “non-exempt”;
- Review salary information from

salaried employees. Identify employees making at least \$23,660 per year but less than \$35,568 per year. These are the employees that will be most likely affected by the proposed changes;

- Determine whether a salary increase to \$35,568 per year is possible for employees impacted by the proposed changes, or whether the employee will become “non-exempt” once the final rule becomes effective;
- Analyze the hours worked by employees who may become non-exempt and determine how many hours, on average, are worked in excess of 40 each week;
- If these employees frequently work more than 40 hours per week, determine whether it is possible to reallocate or reduce job duties to keep hours worked at 40 per week.

With over 34 years’ experience in advising employers and employees on workplace issues, let Boznos Law work with you to ensure you are ready to meet the challenges posed by the changes to the employment laws. Call Bill Boznos today at (630) 375-1958 or contact us at [www.boznoslawoffice.com/contact-us](http://www.boznoslawoffice.com/contact-us) through our website. ■

out +  
about



## Fox River Distilling Company's 5th Year Anniversary





**M McNALLY'S IRISH WHISKEY TASTING**

**SINGLE POT STILL**  
Single pot still is the only type of whiskey that is exclusively made in Ireland. When single malt is produced from 100% natural barley, grain and still whiskey, with a mix of malted and unmalted barley. The most popular grain for whisky is a distinctive golden-brown or 'pot still' character.

**KNAPPOGUE CASTLE**  
From 1840s Ireland is an American who, in the 1920s, purchased and with his wife, returned to Irish single malted-whiskey. The first imported into the US (Whiskey which he aged and bottled for sale). Knappogue recently began to release age (distilled) bottles, rather than single aging their bottles. This is a single malt whiskey that is triple distilled and aged for 12 years in oak casks.

**YELLOW SPOT**  
An innovation in the US in May of 2012, Yellow Spot is being introduced again after not being bottled since the 1920's. This is a single pot still whiskey that is distilled in Ireland. Whiskey that has been triple distilled & has. This is not bottled in its own barrels that rather it is a combination of whiskeys that have aged in American oak barrels. Spanish oak or cherry or Spanish oak. Whiskey after which is triple distilled and aged for a minimum of 12 years. This has been the reason February 2012 in the US as those that are enjoying the whiskey in their own words are finally used!

**WHISKEY**  
There are three of them, some that are the same, especially grain and malted with lots of different ingredients and finished with water.

**FLAVOR**  
The grain is equally truly with a substantial body and a robust taste.

**FINISH**  
The finish is long and sweet with notes of honey and dried apricot.

**SMOKE**  
Black and heavily with notes of peat and pine.

**PALATE**  
The grain is equally truly with a substantial body and a robust taste.

**FINISH**  
The finish is long and sweet with notes of honey and dried apricot.



Irish Whiskey Tasting at McNally's Irish Pub

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