

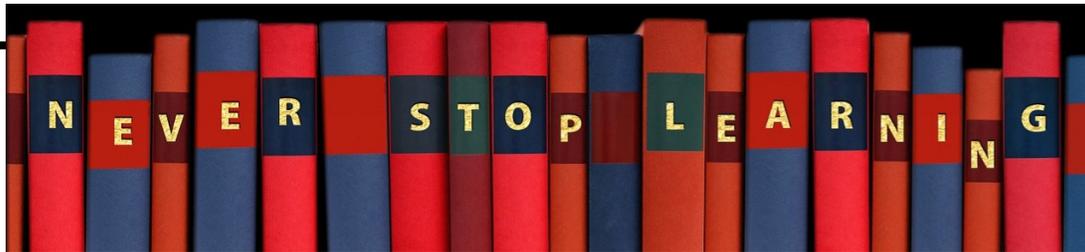


# MONTGOMERY MESSENGER

The Publication of the Residents of Montgomery Place Retirement Community  
5550 South Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, 60637  
February 2026, Vol. 35, No. 2  
Never at a loss for words  
<https://www.montgomeryplace.org/newsletter>

## REMEMBERING STAN MOORE

Stan Moore moved to Montgomery Place in June 2016 and his first *Messenger* article, “Teaching through Tiananmen,” was published in February 2017. After that, he wrote several pieces each year; from June 2020 until his death last month, he wrote for the *Messenger* almost every month, a total of about 75 articles and poems. He even left one behind for this month! Stan educated and entertained us all with tales of his prodigious travels, to China, Russia, the Stans, Scotland, Greece, Crete, Sicily, India, Cape Cod. He brought to life his family and the remarkable friends he made everywhere he went. He wrote about Shakespeare, Camus and Daoud, Boccaccio, and of course his beloved Herman Melville. We published pictures of him with the Kazakh ambassador to the US, meeting Colin Powell, and wearing his Herman Melville socks. He wrote about Stan’s Donuts and Novak Djokovic and the night he spent in the Rockford jail. He wrote poems called “I Like Birds” and “Ode to a Cinnamon Roll.” The *Messenger* staff remains awed by and so grateful to this most prolific, erudite, and engaging *Messenger* contributor.



## TREKKING WITH SHERPAS IN NEPAL

A recent *National Geographic* features Nima Rinji Sherpa, at 18 years old the youngest person to climb all of the fourteen highest mountains in the world. Like other young sherpas, he aspires, with his father’s support, to advance from commercial porter to paid professional athlete, to be a voice for the sherpa community, and to attract brands like those that sponsor Western football, basketball, and soccer players. He has recently partnered with the United Nations Development Programme, signed a book deal,

and founded a company to make souvenirs out of trash removed from Mount Everest.

Several years ago, my youngest brother and I flew from Bangkok to Kathmandu to meet our middle brother, a mountain climber, who had arranged a trek with a sherpa company. He had just shared high tea with Tenzing Norgay, the guide and companion of Edmund Hillary who, in 1953, was first to summit Mount Everest. The famous sherpa, my brother said, could hardly move a few

*Sherpas from p. 1*

steps without being asked for his autograph. High on that celebrity contact, we took off from Bangkok, but the plane began to wobble. The pilot returned to Bangkok, and we boarded a more reliable aircraft.

Sano, our sirdar (“leader”) recruited several sherpas as porters, guides, and companions. Mine was Ang Phuri. Another, P. K. Sherpa, had to be replaced at the last minute because Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter had just landed in Kathmandu and required his trekking services. Bike rides in Kathmandu took us to Monkey Temple, inhabited by frolicking monkeys, and to the Shivalaya (“Home of Shiva”) Secondary School. We began our climb through alternating lush grassy and rocky land. We dined at a bamboo table that a strong sherpa carried on his back. The sherpas pitched our tents at night and, at dawn, brought tea while we were still in our sleeping bags.

We passed prayer wheels and mani walls (sacred stone structures inscribed with Buddhist prayers) clockwise according to custom. Joining our party were two sherpani women and a boy we called The Basket because of the large basket he carried on his back. We visited a house of Ang Phuri’s family, where a fire burned in its center and the smoke drifted aloft through a hole in the thatched roof. We crossed the torrential Dudh Kosi on a makeshift bamboo bridge. In Namche Bazaar, the highest market town that was having its weekly market, we transferred our gear to yaks. At Tengboche monastery a monk emerged, and with a little money from our sirdar, disappeared into the depths of the temple and reemerged, unwrapping the tapering skull and claw of an alleged yeti.

At our Dingboche camp at 14,753 feet, boy monks from the nearby monastery had rigged up a snow slide. They easily glided down it, where we awkward Westerners

consistently fell off. The Chukhung teahouse at the end of a glacier marked our highest ascent at 15,538 feet, though I scrambled up a slope behind Ang Phuri to 16,000 feet. The Everest summit was still six miles away.

On the descent we passed a purple-clad monk under a purple parasol. The Everest summit disappeared. We felt the euphoria of oxygen filling our lungs. At night I dreamed I was a member of the royal family. At the mountainous Lukla airport we said goodbye to the superbly athletic sherpas, who had become our friends.

*Stan Moore*

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## FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS

**Y**ou are invited to attend Friday Night Speakers at 7:15 p.m. in the East Room. Two lectures are planned for February.

◆ February 6, Marcelous Pittman and Julia Rickert, introduced by Liz Rickert, will speak on “Finding Justice in Chicago: 20 years of wrongful incarceration.” Marcelous was 18 in 2001 when he was arrested for shooting a police officer. He was framed and wrongfully convicted in 2005 and sentenced to 80 years in prison. He was exonerated in 2022 and was issued a Certificate of Innocence in 2024. Julia, who served as Marcelous’s attorney, is a partner at Loevy & Loevy, a law firm that specializes in civil rights cases.

◆ February 27, Sandra Gadson, MD, introduced by Deanna Pearson Brown, is a nephrologist and hypertension specialist. She is a graduate of the Meharry Medical College School of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee and before her recent retirement she practiced at Nephrology Associates of Northern Illinois and Indiana. She will speak on “Kidney Health.”

*Liz Rickert and Deanna Pearson Brown*

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## OUT AND ABOUT

**A**s always, sign up in the trip book for all the events you wish to attend. The times listed are the departure times. “Tickets Required” means you are responsible for obtaining your own tickets.

- ◆ Sunday, February 1, 1:30 p.m. The Civic Orchestra performs Elgar’s *In the South (Alassio)*, a tribute to the glories of ancient Rome, and Lutosławski’s Concerto for Orchestra, which closes a collaborative program with the Kenwood Academy Orchestra. Free, but reservations are required. Sign the trip book to make a reservation.
- ◆ Wednesday, February 4, 1 p.m. Lyric Opera presents Mozart’s *Così fan tutte*, a rom-com opera. Two officers, convinced all women are fickle in love, hatch a plan to switch places and woo each other’s fiancées

in disguise—but the women know exactly what they’re up to from the start. Tickets required.

- ◆ Friday, February 6, 12:30 p.m. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra performs Debussy’s *La Mer* and *Lost Coast*, performed by guest cellist Gabriel Cabezas. The program concludes with Debussy’s *Images*. Tickets required.
- ◆ Friday, February 6, 7 p.m. UChicago Presents hosts musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra performing a program inspired by the theme of climate change, plus Sibelius’s rarely performed Piano Quintet in G minor. Tickets required.
- ◆ Tuesday, February 10, 10 a.m. A trip to the State of Illinois Motor Vehicle Facility to update State of Illinois driver’s licenses and ID cards, apply for Real IDs, and update voter registration. See page 12 for all the details.

## CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE

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**Calendars:** Eleanor Littman

**Layout:** Carolyn Allen

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**Editor Next Month:** Lois Baron



- ◆ Wednesday, February 11, 1 p.m. Lyric Opera presents Richard Strauss’s *Salome* in Sir David McVicar’s decadent production, which is set in pre-WWII fascist Italy and shines a harsh light on the timeless greed and entitlement of the elite. Tickets required.
- ◆ Thursday, February 12, 7 p.m. Court Theatre presents August Strindberg’s *Miss Julie*. Miss Julie wants to abandon her upper class, aristocratic life and escape the expectations that trap her. Jean, her servant, wants to climb the social ladder and rise through the ranks of society. Over the course of a wine-soaked evening, the two jockey for position, using sex, status, and strategy to collide and combust. Tickets required.
- ◆ Friday, February 13, noon. This month’s lunch outing is to Ed’s Potsticker House.

*continued on p. 4*

*Out & About, from p. 3*

Ed's serves Mandarin Chinese dishes. There is an extensive menu with vegetarian options. This restaurant has been featured on TV to show what Northern Chinese eat on Chinese New Year's.

◆ Wednesday, February 18, 9 a.m. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra presents an open rehearsal for seniors and veterans. Klaus Mäkelä will conduct works by Sebelius and Richard Strauss. Sign the trip book to make a reservation. Free.

◆ Wednesday, February 18, noon. The Royal Shakespeare Company presents *Hamnet* at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre. Agnes Hathaway, a natural healer, meets the Latin tutor William Shakespeare. Drawn together by powerful but hidden impulses, they create a life together and make a family. When the plague steals 11-year-old Hamnet from his loving parents, they must each confront their loss alone. And yet, out of the greatest suffering, something of extraordinary wonder is born. Tickets required.

◆ Sunday, February 22, 2 p.m. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra piano series presents Marc-André Hamelin performing works by Charles Ives, the *Concord Sonatas*, Scriabin's Fourth Piano Sonata, and Schumann's *Fantasy Pieces*. Tickets required.

◆ Sunday, February 22, 1 p.m. The Goodman Theatre presents *Holiday*, a play about making a choice between living your life on your own terms or conforming to the expectations of others. *Holiday* is also about insiders and outsiders and finding your own people. Tickets required.

◆ Wednesday, February 25, 1 p.m. Visit Shedd Aquarium and look nature in the eye. See aquatic animals like sharks, turtles,

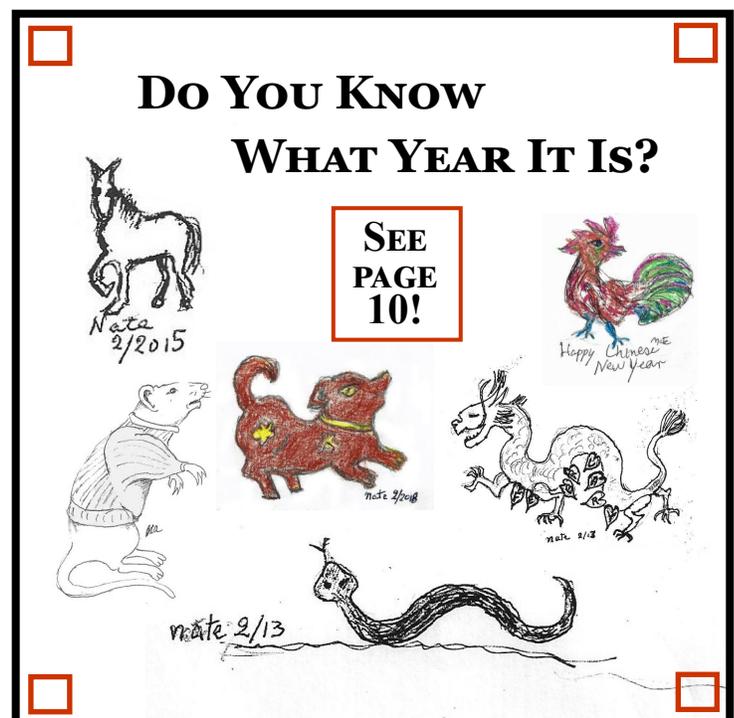
beluga whales, penguins, and sea otters. Free day.

◆ Saturday, February 28, 1 p.m. The Joffrey Ballet presents *American Icons*, honoring influential voices that shaped contemporary dance in the 20th century. *Icons* brings together works by Joffrey Ballet cofounders Robert Joffrey and Gerald Arpino, along with celebrated choreographers Glen Tetley and Martha Graham. Tickets required.

◆ Saturday, February 28, 1:30 p.m. Court Theatre; see entry for February 12.

◆ Sunday, March 1, 1:30 p.m. Civic Orchestra performs at the South Shore Cultural Center, presenting works by three titans of Black excellence in American music, George Walker, Ulysses Kay, and Florence Price, plus Antonin Dvořák's Seventh Symphony. Free, but reservations are required. Sign the trip book to make your reservation.

Barbara Dwyer



## BLACK HISTORY IS AMERICAN HISTORY

At first glance, this title may seem redundant but a closer look back at the volumes written about American history will reveal that scant attention has been paid to the lives and experiences of Black people in this country over the last 250 years.

In fact, Black people have been a part of this country from the very beginning, before America was America. In the first English settlement at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1619 there were reportedly 20 or so black Africans who had been kidnapped from Angola, West Africa. By the time the nation was founded and the Constitution was approved in 1787, there were approximately 700,000 enslaved persons living in the United States.

They were not mentioned in the founding documents, like the Declaration of Independence, which declares “all men are created equal and are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” It is silent about the enslaved Africans who were present in the country at the time. Out of about 3.9 million people, about one out of five was enslaved. Of the 55 delegates who wrote the Constitution, 25 were slaveholders who profited from the free labor of their slaves. This free labor cultivating tobacco and cotton was the economic engine and foundation of America’s wealth. History has paid scant attention to the contribution that slave labor made to the formation of this country.

The prevailing narrative over the years described Black people in dehumanizing terms as primitive, childlike, of low intellect, and requiring supervision and management by others. Little is recorded about the creativity, ingenuity, and courage of the enslaved. The truth is they resisted enslavement and valiantly fought for freedom, individually and collectively. The

fight is demonstrated by the slave rebellions: Gabriel Prosser in 1800 in Virginia, Denmark Vesey in 1822 in South Carolina, and Nat Turner in 1831 in Virginia. In addition, individual slaves devised ingenious ways to escape slavery. In 1849, after his wife and children were sold off, Henry Brown mailed himself in a wooden crate from Virginia to the Abolition Society, arriving 27 hours later in Philadelphia. He became known as Henry Box Brown. He lectured in favor of abolition and earned a living as an entertainer in the US and England.

Others’ stories of courage include that of Harriet Tubman, called “Moses,” who guided 70-odd slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad. She also served as a spy for the Union Army during the Civil War and participated in rescuing over 700 slaves in one night’s mission.

From the first arrivals in Jamestown to the heroic raids of Harriet Tubman, the contributions of Black Americans have shaped every era of our nation’s existence. Black history is not a footnote to the American narrative; it is the heartbeat of the American story.

*Ida Watanabe*



## NEW ARRIVALS

**Tom Walsh** moved into apartment 813 (phone 4677) on August 29, 2025. Tom is returning to his South Side roots. He's still a loyal White Sox fan, though he moved to the northern suburbs where he was surrounded by Cubs fans. (He also is a Bears fan and dismayed at their probable move to Arlington Heights.) All of his schooling was on the South Side—De LaSalle for high school and Illinois Institute of Technology with a major in economics. Today you might see him watching the news. It is most important to him to stay informed.

Tom grew up with three sisters; two are still living and he talks with them often and occasionally meets them for lunch. Both moved to the suburbs, one to the south and one to the west. His parents were family oriented, so he remembers spending time with his extended family. While he was growing up, his aunts and uncles lived close by. Tom recalls how his neighborhood had many kids around his age, so there was always a group willing to play baseball—Chicago softball style with a 16-inch ball.

All his life Tom was a hard worker. While attending grade school, he had a paper route for a local newspaper, which he delivered after school twice weekly. In high school and college, he had a variety of jobs; working for the park district clearing the beach was one job that took him outdoors, which he enjoyed.

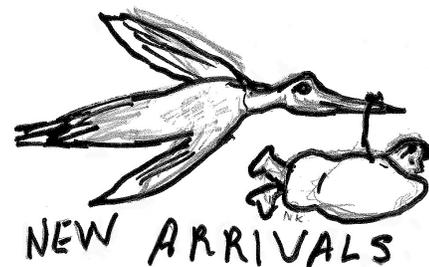
After completing his degree, Tom started his own insurance agency. For recreation, he enjoyed golfing with friends. Tom met his late wife Ann while with friends, and from first sight, he knew she was the woman he wanted to marry. Ann, a nurse, worked in a

hospital on the North Side, so they first moved to Evanston, then to Skokie, and finally to Wilmette. Together they raised two daughters, Megan and Mary. They each have two children. Megan, who lives in Hyde Park, with her family, followed in her mother's footsteps and became a nurse. Her older sister Mary lives in Pennsylvania with her family.

Tom is proud of his Irish roots. He admits to doing a little Irish dancing when he was young, and enjoys a variety of Irish music. He has family still in Ireland, and has traveled to Ireland with his family to connect with relatives and see the beauty of the island.

Tom's wife died six years ago, and he was living alone in Wilmette when his younger daughter Megan asked him to move to Montgomery Place so she can see him often, and he can be near two of his grandchildren. Tom loves dogs. While he was growing up and while raising his family, he always had a pet dog. While he doesn't have a dog any longer, he likes watching the dogs in the building. Tom also enjoys being near the lake. Welcome to Montgomery Place, Tom. We are glad you are here.

*Natalie Goldberg*



**Joel Haugen and Delores Scott** moved into apartment 1213 (phone 4626) on October 7, 2025. I was incredibly impressed by how fully they are moved in; no boxes full of stuff sitting about, everything beautifully arranged!

They are longtime residents of Chicago and Hyde Park. Delores moved here as a young child from Mississippi with her family. Joel came from Minnesota to attend college at the University of Chicago. He returned home to finish college in Minnesota. Then he came back to Chicago for graduate school and stayed. He has spent most of his career in information technology and programming. He has a son, a daughter, and a grandson from a previous marriage; they live in the area.

Delores arrived with her family at five or six years of age, and she grew up on the West Side. She worked for the Illinois Department of Public Aid. She started as a typist and subsequently, with time and education—some of it at the University of Illinois—she became a caseworker and eventually a supervisor. In the 1980s she began working with the AIDS Foundation to help people who had the AIDS virus, work she found intensely moving. Delores has also been very involved with volunteer work at Rainbow/Push.

Delores and Joel met 20 years ago at a jazz and blues music bar they both frequented, brought together by their shared love of the music. They married in 2017.

Joel loves cycling and belongs to a number of formal groups. His primary one is the Major Taylor Cycling Club of Chicago, named for a famed African American racer of the late 1800s and early 1900s. He also volunteers with the Chicago Greeter

Program. Visitors apply online to tour the city with a local. Joel specializes in Hyde Park and Pilsen (for the murals!). He has learned a lot about the city, and he's currently reading two books from the Montgomery Place Library, *The Chicago River* by David M. Solzman and *Chicago: A Biography* by Dominic A. Pacyga.

About moving in to Montgomery Place they say, "We're happy here. No big adjustments. We still go for the same walks."

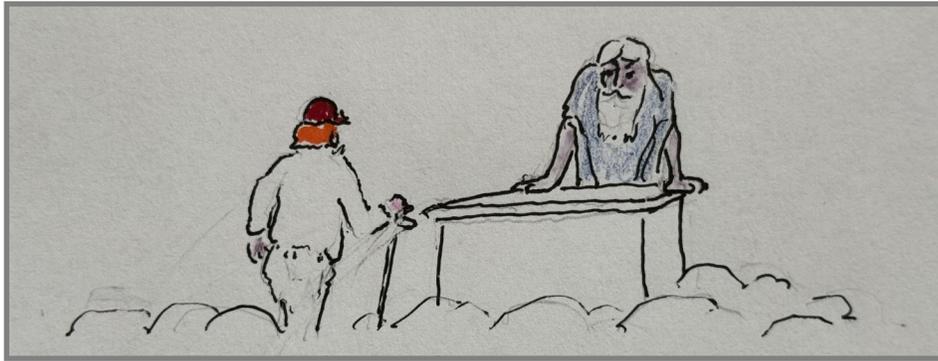
*Diane Wallace*

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2/2 Meg Wichser
- 2/8 Nancy Reed
- 2/10 Frieda Stillerman
- 2/12 Marion Krentz
- 2/13 Barbara Asner
- 2/13 Pat Herron
- 2/13 Louise Schiff
- 2/17 Eileen Trafimow
- 2/19 Nalini Perera
- 2/23 Chester Perkowski



## DONALD MEETS ST. PETER AT THE PEARLY GATES



**St. Peter:** Where do you think you're going?

**Donald:** I'd like to get into heaven. You wouldn't believe the great deals I made to get this far.

**St. Peter:** You're joking. You know you broke all of the Ten Commandments!

**Donald:** Not all of them. I honored my father and my mother.

**St. Peter:** To a degree, but even so, one out of ten doesn't cut it.

**Donald:** But I got immunity from the Supreme Court!

**St. Peter:** They could not grant you immunity for your sins. Some of them will be joining you for violating their oaths, for greed, and for the multitude of sins they permitted you to commit.

**Donald:** I got a FIFA Peace Prize and a great woman gave me her Nobel Peace Prize.

**St. Peter:** And how do you think a couple of laughable bribes would make up for the millions of God's children who were murdered, starved, reduced to abject poverty, and stripped of their human rights by your orders?

**Donald:** I got a deal! At the end I confessed and did some penance a friendly priest gave me. I got forgiveness!

**St. Peter:** Not a chance; you were unable to have any "sorrow for your sins" and "firm purpose of amendment," two out of three of the conditions for forgiveness.

**Donald:** I tried to make America great again . . . .

**St. Peter:** Your first shift in hell will be to travel back in time, starting November 1, 2023. You will live in the Gaza city tunnels as a wounded, orphaned toddler. Try using your English to explain who you were to Hamas.

*Pete Dowd*



### A DROP-IN SUPPORT GROUP FOR RESIDENTS

Are you interested in being part of a group conversation about the experience of caring for a loved one who has significant needs and health challenges? Your personal investment in caregiving is important and the impact on your wellbeing should not be underestimated. You shouldn't have to struggle alone.

We are creating a twice-weekly support group for Montgomery Place residents who care for another. Initially, I will convene and facilitate the group with the goal of processing the myriad emotions and practical challenges inherent in the role of caregiving. Rev. Catherine Healy will also contribute. We will start with a loosely structured, drop-in format. Please join in and help shape the experience!

We will meet every Wednesday and Friday in February in the chaplains' office, Wednesdays 10 to 11 a.m. and Fridays 3 to 4 p.m. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Questions? Please contact me at extension 4104, or by email at [lkeppert@churchhomechicago.org](mailto:lkeppert@churchhomechicago.org).

*Chaplain Lin Sanford Keppert*

### BOOKLOVERS

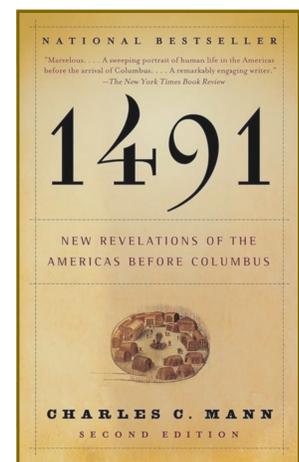
In February, we are reading *1491: New Revelations of the Americas before Columbus* by Charles C. Mann. The book dramatically alters the understanding of the Americas before Columbus's arrival in 1492. Based on research across various scientific fields, it argues that the continent was far from a pristine wilderness and was home to large, sophisticated, and environmentally impactful indigenous populations.

The author presents evidence that there were more people living in the Americas than in Europe in 1491, many residing in large, complex urban centers. The book explores the demography, origins of pre-Columbian peoples, and sophisticated agricultural practices, as well as the deliberate use of fire to shape landscapes. It also highlights the immense and devastating impact of diseases brought by Europeans.

Charles C. Mann is a correspondent for *Science* and *The Atlantic Monthly*. A three-time National Magazine Award finalist, he has won awards from the American Bar Association and the Margaret Sanger Foundation, among others. Reviews for this book are overwhelmingly positive. Mann lives with his wife and their children in Amherst, Massachusetts.

Come to our meeting on Monday, February 23 at 3 p.m. in the East Room to discuss this book and get a copy of the book for the next month.

*Lauriann Chutis,*  
*Booklovers Coordinator*



## THE YEAR OF THE HORSE

As legend has it, a long, long time ago, the Jade Emperor sponsored a race for all the animals in the world. The top 12 finishers got positions in the Chinese Zodiac, and even now, each lunar new year's day marks the beginning of a year named for one of those animals. February 17, 2026, is the first day of the Year of the Horse, which runs until February 5, 2027. Previous Horse years in which you might have been born have been January 30, 1930-February 16, 1931; February 15, 1942-February 4, 1943; February 3, 1954-January 23, 1955; and January 21, 1966-February 8, 1967.

All tellings I have found of the great race story emphasize how the slithery Snake edged out the Horse for sixth place by hiding out, unnoticed, in the Horse's hoof. The Snake got a free ride to the finish line and jumped ahead of the Horse at the very last second. But why didn't the powerful, speedy Horse do better than sixth? OK, the Dragon I understand; it could fly. Maybe the Tiger; they're pretty fast. But the Rat? The Rabbit? The OX? How in the Sam Hill did the Ox beat the Horse? And what happened to the Cheetah, the Sea Lion, the Peregrine? Apparently lots of cheating went on, and some of the animals got distracted by this and that. Oh well, so be it.



If you were born in a Year of the Horse, you're thought to be Horse-like: brave, strong, energetic, sociable, popular, and adventurous. A few famous Horses are Isaac Newton, Theodore Roosevelt, Nelson Mandela, Sandra Day O'Connor, Barbra Streisand, Paul McCartney, Doris Kearns Goodwin. Sounds like a terrific sign to this Monkey.

*Paula Givan*



## DINING COMMITTEE

Ten residents attended the January meeting. Several residents faithfully attend the meetings each month with detailed concerns and possible solutions; their input is appreciated.

### Positive Comments:

- ◆ Special holiday menus received mostly positive reviews. It is recommended that in the future servers pass each appetizer more than once.
- ◆ Fish tacos were a hit.
- ◆ Turkey pot roast with parslid carrots, good.
- ◆ Thumbs up for Swiss chard and cornbread.

### Areas Needing Attention:

- ◆ Food temperatures at dinner, particularly the 4:30 p.m. service. Despite being mentioned at the last few meetings, temperatures continue to be frequently brought up as a problem. Unidine has promised to address the low temperatures by checking heat sensors of the hot food storage tables, stirring food before putting it on the plate, and checking the temperature of the plates before plating. Hopefully these steps will result in warmer food and positive comments We will revisit food temperatures at the February meeting.
- ◆ Bland items, particularly vegetables and starches.
- ◆ Chicken items, for example teriyaki chicken, could use a revamp. They are frequently dry, poorly seasoned, not cut into appropriate-sized pieces.
- ◆ Recommend providing a picture of the daily special on the overhead screen at the entry to the Dining Room.
- ◆ Delivery meals should have a more appetizing presentation.

**Unidine Report:**

- ◆ Still attempting to eliminate temporary staff. Current turnover is 55% annually.
- ◆ Paper comment cards will be introduced to make commenting easier.
- ◆ If you use smiley face comments, be sure to include your name in order to receive personal follow-up.
- ◆ A Winter Menu nutritional information manual is now available. Check with Mary if you would like to see detailed nutritional information for daily specials.

In summary: Some gains have been made, particularly in the variety of menu items available and preparation. However, issues such as temperature, food delivery, and attention from waitstaff remain problems. The next meeting will be February 11 at 2:15 p.m. Looking forward to having you attend.

*Shirley Wilson-Sigler, Co-chair, Dining Committee*

**LOST AND FOUND ON A WINDY DAY**

**O**n Saturday evening, a lens popped out of my glasses. What to do? The next day was Sunday, and the following day Martin Luther King Day. I knew my local optometrist would be closed on Sunday and had no idea about Monday. I had a dinner engagement on Sunday, and a friend visiting on Monday, and I felt like a goon wearing the glasses with the missing lens.

I thought about canceling my dates, but not too happily. So, Sunday morning I asked Google for a nearby optometrist that would be open on Sunday. There was a LensCrafters open in Delano Court on Roosevelt Road. I had been there about 20 years ago and remembered there was an underground parking lot.

The day was bitterly cold, and I didn't know how well I could see without my glasses, but I decided to try it. It turned out things were only

slightly blurry, so I was able to drive there and park above ground as it was still fairly early.

The temperature according to my car was just 8 degrees. But when I got out of my car I was nearly blown away by the wind. I couldn't guess what the wind chill was at that spot. I could have been in Antarctica.

Then I saw a sign telling me to pay using the QR code. I filled in the information but couldn't submit it. I flagged down a security car whose driver told me not to worry, probably it was broken. I took his advice and went on to LensCrafters. When almost there, I realized I had dropped one of my gloves. Fearing it had blown away I looked all around and then gave up, only to find it waiting for me near the entrance to the store.

Feeling somewhat relieved I went in and spoke to someone who arranged for a technician to fix my glasses. Sigh. We chatted for a bit, and she told me a friend of hers had told her, "You make your own day." I felt that applied to me as I had overcome hesitations and losses to reach this point.

They returned my glasses fixed, no charge, and I headed back to Montgomery Place. When I got to my apartment I saw a tiny dark spot on my sofa. It was the missing screw.

*Charlene Posner*



## WHY YOU SHOULD GO TO THE DMV WITH MONTGOMERY PLACE

### Reason 1: Special Service

**O**n Tuesday, February 10, at 10 a.m., Montgomery Place is providing transportation to the Chicago South Secretary of State Facility/Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) at 9901 S. Martin Luther King Jr Drive. The MP Concierge and transportation staff will help residents navigate the DMV and obtain priority service for seniors and people with disabilities. *Please Note: There is not time on this trip for residents to take a vision, written, or road test to renew or obtain a driver's license.*

### Reason 2: Driver's License/Real ID

**S**tarting February 1, 2026, airplane travelers who do not have a REAL ID or valid passport have to pay \$45 for a trip up to 10 days and \$90 for a longer trip. A REAL ID can be an Illinois driver's license or an Illinois-issued ID card. A REAL ID has a small gold star in the top right corner of your driver's license or state-issued ID card.

Even if you have a REAL ID from another state, if you now live in Illinois, you must apply in person for an Illinois REAL ID. To get a REAL ID on this trip, you will need to bring the following documents:

- ◆ One document with your full legal name, date of birth, and citizenship or lawful status like a passport, birth certificate, or permanent resident card.
- ◆ One document with your full Social Security number, such as your Social Security card, a W-2 with your full number, or a 1099. (This requirement is waived if you have a valid Illinois driver's license or state ID and have previously provided your Social Security card.)
- ◆ Two documents to prove your Illinois residency, such as a bank statement, rental agreement, utility bill, or voter registration card.

- ◆ One document to verify your written signature, such as your current driver's license, a credit or debit card, a passport, or a canceled check.

Visit <https://realid.ilsos.gov/checklist.html> to see other examples of documents you can use, or call 800-252-8980. There is no fee for the REAL ID card for persons 65 or older or persons with disabilities.

### Reason 3: Voter Registration

**A**t the DMV you can register to vote in Illinois or, if you are already a registered Illinois voter, you can update your voting address.

### Voter Registration Without a DMV Visit

Voter registration or changing your voting address can also be done online at [ova.elections.il.gov/](http://ova.elections.il.gov/) or by mail.

At the February 4 and 18 meetings of Montgomery Place Acts (1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Lounge) we will have copies of the mail-in Illinois Voter Registration forms to complete and send (postage required) to the Chicago Board of Elections.

Montgomery Place is an official voting place for the March 17, 2026 Illinois Primary. To receive a full primary ballot and vote at the Montgomery Place precinct without signing a change of address affidavit, you need to mail your Voting Registration Form 27 days before the election (February 18, 2026).

We will have news-boosting postcards ready for addressing at the February 4 and 18 meetings of Montgomery Place Acts, along with good, democracy-building fellowship.

*Getting out the vote starts at home!*

*Eleanor Littman*

## WINTER OLYMPICS ITALIAN STYLE

Get ready for the Opening Ceremony of the 2026 Winter Olympics, officially the XXV Winter Olympic Games on February 6 in Milan, Italy, a celebration Italian style with tenor Andrea Bocelli, pop star Mariah Carey, the Parade of Athletes and three hours of entertainment. If you are like me, you will be glued to the television from very early morning till late at night. (Some events start at midnight CST!) This year, I will need to keep my laptop close at hand. Popular sports in this premier international multisport event can be viewed in real time on NBC but some competitions are streaming only. For organizing your own viewing schedule, check the NBC website. From February 6 to 22, you can find digital exclusives and featured highlights.

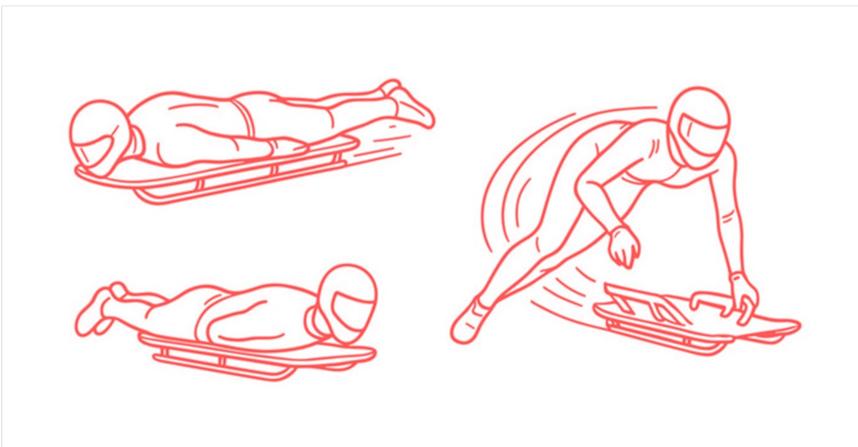
This Olympics promises to be a tour of northern Italy, as sports venues stretch across Lombardy and northeast Italy. I counted 14 venues spread across eight different locations. There are five separate stadiums, five different arenas, a snow park, an aerials and moguls park, a venue for ski jumping and another for snowboarding, as well as space for three different kinds of skating: hockey, speed, and my favorite, figure skating. The United States is sending 16 athletes to compete in ice dancing, pairs, and men's and women's singles. I have high expectations for standout performances.

The 2026 Olympics introduces Ski Mountaineering (Skimo), featuring two fast-paced sprint events (men's and women's) and a mixed relay, combining uphill climbs with skins (strips of fabric that attach to the bottom of skis for traction), on-foot sections with skis on packs, and downhill runs, emphasizing quick transitions and technical skill in a short, intense format. It promises to be exciting to watch. Also, there will be a new focus on gender equality, including Women's Doubles Luge, Women's Large Hill Ski Jumping, and Dual Moguls (men's and women's) in Freestyle Skiing, plus a Mixed Team Skeleton event. For this last event, a man and woman from the same nation compete in a relay-style race.

I have special admiration for the skeleton athletes. Like bobsled and luge, in skeleton the athletes start standing up and holding a special handle, and once given the green light, have 30 seconds for a 25- to 40-meter sprint before taking control of their sledge. Unlike bobsled and luge, skeleton athletes dive onto the sledge headfirst. Racers control speed and direction with just tiny movements of their head, shoulders, and toes and reach speeds of up to 130–140 km/hour. This is faster than a roller coaster ride! It's not named for the ride being hard on the human skeleton; it dates to 1892 when a new type of sledge was introduced, a metal frame resembling the structure of the human skeleton. This sport is nothing like the sleds I remember loving as a child or the toboggan slides in the Cook County Forest Preserves.

The Closing Ceremony will be broadcast on February 22, starting at 8 p.m. CST on NBC. I don't know about your plans, but I will be *incommunicado* and glued to my TV.

*Natalie Goldberg*





### THREE PILES OF VALENTINE CARDS

**M**y greatest memory of Valentine's Day did not happen when I was dating or in a romantic relationship. It happened when I was a hospice chaplain.

Lupita was one of my hospice patients. She was eight years old. She and her family came to the United States when she was two, after she was diagnosed with leukemia. They wanted the best possible care for her, even though they had very little money. Lupita was assigned to me because I was both the Spanish-speaking chaplain and the pediatric chaplain.

She lived with her mother, father, and two brothers in a very small apartment in a not-so-safe near-west suburb of Chicago. As with any pediatric hospice patient, my first visit began with her parents. After speaking with her mother—over a

delicious homemade tamale—I was invited to meet Lupita.

When I entered her room, I found a small, bald-headed girl sitting at the foot of her bed, eating Ruffles Cheddar & Sour Cream potato chips and washing them down with a Coke. She was busy writing cards.

After asking if I could visit with her, I asked what she was doing. She told me she was making Valentine's Day cards for her classmates. She explained that she hadn't been able to go to school because of how sick she had been, and she missed her friends terribly.

I saw that the cards were arranged in three piles and asked her why. She told me one pile was for the boys, one for

the girls, and one for her family. When I noticed that the pile for the boys was much larger than the one for the girls, I teased her about it. She giggled and blushed.

What struck me most was the care she took with each card. She told me, very matter-of-factly, that Valentine's Day is about love—and since she knew she was going to die soon, she needed to tell people how much she loved them, even if they were “just classmates.”

When I left that day, her mother thanked me for making Lupita laugh. She said she hadn't heard her laugh like that in a very long time. Over the next six weeks, I had the honor of walking with Lupita and her family until the day she died.

Valentine's Day is usually associated with love—most often romantic love. Looking back to the original St. Valentine, however, the history is somewhat unclear. There were likely three men named Valentine who lived and were martyred around the same time. One was said to have been killed for

performing marriages after the emperor had banned them. Another, whose reason for martyrdom is unknown, was believed to have healed the jailer's blind daughter before his execution and to have signed notes “your Valentine.” Very little is known about the third. What links them is that their deaths are all associated with February 14.

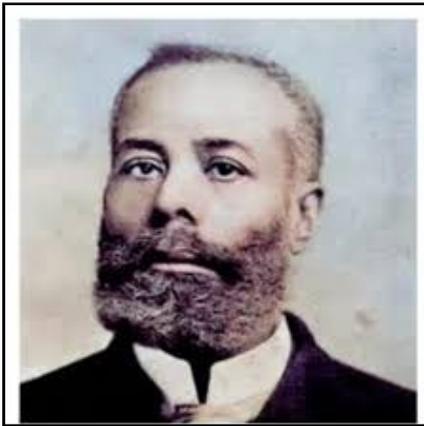
St. Valentine was recognized as a saint in several Christian traditions, though he was removed from the church calendar in the 1960s because of the uncertainty surrounding his story. Yet in the secular world, Valentine's Day continues to be widely celebrated—and that is something worth honoring.

Whether love is expressed through romance, as in the couples St. Valentine was said to have married, or through friendship and family, as in the cards Lupita so carefully wrote, love matters. Perhaps now more than ever, love—freely given, thoughtfully expressed, and courageously lived—is something we all need.

*Gina Volpe*



## BLACK INVENTORS AND SCIENTISTS I BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW (INSTALLMENT 8)

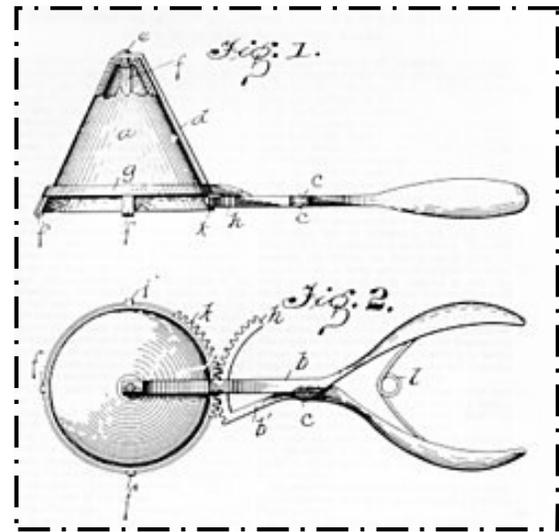


**M**ichael Croslin invented what many of us use daily to check our blood pressure. He invented the Medtek 410, which revolutionized blood pressure monitoring with computerized technology. Before his invention, medical professionals had to estimate pressure based on guesswork and the patient's vital signs. Croslin's device measured the motion of the blood itself, produced results on a crystal readout, and could be calibrated digitally. He also invented the 420, which automatically adjusts for surrounding noise and air pressure while monitoring an individual's pulse. These inventions greatly improved the accuracy and efficacy of medical treatments.



*Medtek 410 Automatic Blood Pressure Machine*

In 1978, Croslin founded Medtek Corporation in Princeton, New Jersey, to produce and distribute his inventions, enabling him to profit from his own work.



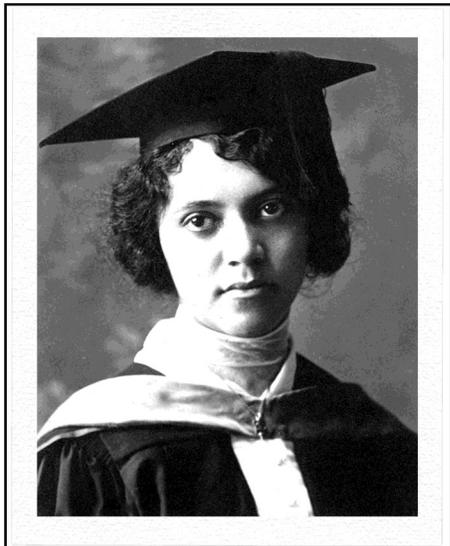
*Ice Cream Mold and Disher*

**L**adles and spoons were never the right tools for serving ice cream. **Alfred Cralle** noticed this while working in a hotel in Pittsburgh. He went on to develop a purpose-built tool for the job, known today as the ice cream scoop.



In February 1897 he was awarded a patent for the "ice cream mold and disher," a scoop with a built-in scraper to allow for one-handed operation.

Cralle's invention spread very quickly, and few people knew the creative mind behind the design. Like many inventors, particularly those of color, he never profited from his idea. However, he made a lot of people happy.



**A**lice Ball was a chemist who, in 1914-1916, developed an injectable oil extract through modification of the chaulmoogra tree oil's chemical properties. It was the most effective treatment for leprosy until antibiotics were developed in the 1940s. She was the first woman to receive a master's degree from the University of Hawaii and the first female chemistry instructor at the university. Alice Ball's full potential was never realized; her life was cut short when she died of accidental chlorine gas inhalation at age 24.

In 2016, *Hawai'i Magazine* placed Ball on its list of the most influential women in Hawaiian history. In 2019, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine added her name to the frieze atop its main building along with Florence Nightingale and Marie Curie.

*Stuart Rankin*

## NOT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY RESIDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING

Note: This is a personal summary of the main issues raised in the meeting and is not to be confused with any official statement or document.

**A**ll members of the Council except Stuart Rankin were present. Morag Fullilove, chair of the Board, was also present.

In response to Paula Givan's request, Mary Naftzger has agreed to manage the battery box. Ollie Solomon and Rona Strahilevitz volunteered to be our contacts with The Friends of Bret Harte School.

Morag informed the Council that Montgomery Place is private property and that ICE representatives could not enter the building without a warrant. Richard added that if they did have a warrant, we should have a sign identifying a separate room as one that also could not be entered without a warrant.

Paula informed the Council that three residents had asked that residents wear name tags, and our CEO had asked for the opinion of the Council. The Council strongly objected and suggested that the administration should consistently update the photograph books in the Library. The Council agreed that the new curtains in the Dining Room were attractive but did not do much to lessen the noise level; they thought the dance floor should be removed.

*Richard Muller*

## HEWSON SWIFT CONCERTS

**H**ewson Swift concerts are presented on Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. in the Lounge and on Channel 4.1. Join us for an hour or more of wonderful music on CD or DVD.



◆ February 4, Doris Smith presents “Total Praise,” classic hymns for piano, Joseph Joubert, pianist. CD. 1 hour 10 minutes.

◆ February 11, Barbara Asner presents Donizetti’s *L’elisir d’amore* with Roberto Alagna, Angela Georghiu, Roberto Scaltriti, and Simone Alaimo, Orchestre de l’Opéra National de Lyon, Evelino Pidò, conductor. DVD. 2 hours 5 minutes.

◆ February 18, Fran Vandervoort presents Mozart piano concertos 6, 15, and 27. Chamber Orchestra of Europe, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, piano and director. CD. 1 hour 15 minutes.

◆ February 25, Barbara Asner presents Dvořák’s string quartets in G major and E flat major. Pacifica Quartet. CD. 1 hour 15 minutes.

If you would like to share your recorded music on a Wednesday evening, please contact Barbara Asner at 4618 or Fran Vandervoort at 4396.

*Barbara Asner and Fran Vandervoort,  
Co-Chairs, Hewson Swift Concerts*



## EVENTS IN THE EAST ROOM

◆ Monday, February 9, 3:30 p.m., lecture by KAMII Cantor David Berger speaking about Jewish History through Its Artifacts, Part 2. Part 1 was a big success, and Part 2 will be super interesting even if you missed Part 1.

◆ Saturday, February 14, 2 p.m. Piano recital by University of Chicago students.

◆ Saturday, February 21, 2 p.m. Piano recital by George Cooper, the director of the Lutheran School of Theology Gospel Choir. He is the Assistant Minister of Music for St. Mark AME Zion, and the Assistant Minister of Music at the Congregational Church of Park Manor. In 2009, Mr. Cooper founded the Ella Sheppard School of Music.

◆ Saturday, February 21, 7 p.m. A preview of Gilbert and Sullivan’s *The Gondoliers* will be presented. Since 1889 *The Gondoliers* has delighted audiences with its memorable score and its political satire cleverly tucked into Gilbert’s witty plot line. The public performances will be at Mandel Hall in March.

*Barbara Dwyer*

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## MARK’S MONTGOMERY MOMENTS A YEAR OF COMMUNITY, CONNECTION, AND LOOKING AHEAD

**F**ebruary often invites reflection—on relationships, appreciation, and the moments that make a place feel like home. This month feels especially meaningful for me, as I recently celebrated my one-year anniversary at Montgomery Place. It is hard to believe how quickly the year has gone by, and even harder to capture fully how grateful I am for the residents, staff, and families who have made this past year so rewarding.

When I arrived at Montgomery Place, I quickly learned that this community is defined not just by a beautiful location or a long history, but by the people who bring it to life every day. Whether through thoughtful conversations, shared laughter, or meaningful feedback, you have helped shape Montgomery Place into a community that continues to grow and evolve.

I am equally thankful for our dedicated staff. Over the past year, I have seen firsthand the professionalism, compassion, and teamwork that define our culture. From frontline caregivers to support teams and leadership, your commitment to excellence and genuine care for residents does not go unnoticed. The strength of Montgomery Place is built on your daily efforts, and I am deeply appreciative of all that you do.

Looking back on the past year, we have much to be proud of. Together, we have continued to strengthen our focus on wellness, expanded opportunities for engagement and connection, and invested time and energy into listening—really listening—to what matters most to our residents. We have worked to enhance communication, improve services, and build partnerships that support both current needs and long-term goals. Most importantly, we have done this as a community.

With exciting developments in our Hyde Park neighborhood, continued enhancements to programming, and a shared commitment to growth and innovation, Montgomery Place is well positioned for a strong and vibrant future. My goal remains simple: to ensure Montgomery Place continues to be a place where residents feel valued, supported, and proud to call it home.

Thank you for welcoming me, challenging me, and partnering with me over this past

year. I am truly honored to be part of this community and excited for what lies ahead. Here's to year two—and to many more Montgomery Moments to come.

*Mark Mullahy, CEO*

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### **RUMMAGE SALE MARCH 25-27**

**W**e need your help now to make this a great rummage sale! February is a perfect time to get some exercise by taking a fresh look at your closets, dresser drawers, and shelves to decide what you haven't used in the last season or year. As long as it is clean and not broken, it can be a treasure for our rummage sale. If you find clothes you haven't worn in a year, consider donating them to the rummage sale. This is a good time to simplify and clear out items in your apartment that just take up space. If you are a new arrival, you may realize you brought too much from your old home and it doesn't all fit here. We take it all, from thimbles to sofas.

For now, since space is limited, keep the items under your bed or in a closet. The week before the sale, the LLC will be set aside to collect and sort items other than furniture in preparation for the sale. Concierge Nakiya Weeden will have staff pick up the items from your apartment. Furniture will be moved to the East Room on the day of the sale by Abel Juarez, Environmental Services Manager.

Volunteers are needed to sort donations and to staff the sale. A volunteer signup sheet is on the bulletin board. Call me at 4638 about those large items and volunteering.

*Laurieann Chutis, Rummage Sale Coordinator*

## FEBRUARY FILMS

Film Committee selections are shown Mondays, Thursdays, and weekends at 7:15 p.m. in the Lounge and on Channel 4.1. The Film Committee meets the first Thursday of each month in the Game Room at 2 p.m.

### Monday Films

◆ February 2, *Blue Moon*, 2025. A comedy-drama that takes place on one of the last nights in the life of Broadway songwriter Lorenz Hart (Ethan Hawke). It is opening night of *Oklahoma!* Having slipped out of the theater early, Hart holds court in Sardi's bar, waiting for the crowd to come in. 1 hour 20 minutes.

◆ February 9, *Power of the Dog*, 2021. A psychological drama written and directed by Jane Campion. This is the first film directed by a woman to receive more than ten Academy Award nominations, and Campion is the first woman to receive more than one Academy Award nomination for Best Director. 2 hours 6 minutes.

◆ February 6, *Jay Kelly*, 2025. Movie star Jay Kelly (George Clooney) and his devoted manager Ron Sukenick (Adam Sandler) embark on an unexpectedly profound journey through Europe. The men confront choices they've made, relationships with loved ones, and the legacies they'll leave behind. 2 hours 12 minutes.

◆ February 23, *Charlie's War*, 2007. An American biographical comedy-drama about US Congressman Charlie Wilson and a CIA operative whose efforts led to Operation Cyclone, a program to organize and support the Afghan mujahideen during the Soviet-Afghan War (1979-89). 1 hour 40 minutes.



### Thursday Foreign Language Films

◆ February 12, *Sentimental Value*, 2025. Norwegian with English subtitles. An aging filmmaker returns to his family home in Oslo after years away. He wants to make a film with his actress daughter. The film explores the tensions between artistic expression and personal connection. A bracingly mature work, already receiving nominations and awards. 2 hours 13 minutes.

◆ February 19, *Left-Handed Girl*, 2025. Mandarin with English subtitles. A single mother, Shu-Fen moves with her two daughters, 5-year-old I-Jing (who is left-handed) and adolescent I-Ann, to Taipei to start a noodle stand at a night market. The family navigates financial difficulty and family tensions. 1 hour 48 minutes.

### Thursday Documentaries

◆ February 5, *80th Anniversary of Rodgers and Hammerstein*, 2024. Beginning with their first collaboration on *Oklahoma!* in 1943, Rodgers and Hammerstein revolutionized Broadway by integrating music and dance with well-crafted storylines to create a new form of musical theater. 1 hour.

◆ February 26, *Sketches of Frank Gehry*, 2006. A film about the life and work of the Canadian American architect Frank Gehry, featuring various Gehry-designed buildings, starting with his own residence, one of the first works that brought him to notoriety. 1 hour 26 minutes.

### Weekend Theme, Musicals

◆ February 7, *Oklahoma*, 1955. Based on the musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein set in Oklahoma Territory around 1900. Laurey Williams (Shirley Jones) has two

rival suitors, Curly McLain (Gordon MacRae) and the sinister farmhand Jud Fry (Rod Steiger). A secondary story concerns Laurey's friend Ado Annie and cowboy Will Parker. 2 hours 25 minutes.

◆ February 8, *Carousel*, 1956. Based on the musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Billy Bigelow (Gordon MacRae) is the carousel barker and Julie Jordan (Shirley Jones) is the worker from a nearby mill who fall in love. When they marry, both are unemployed, which strains their relationship. 2 hours 8 minutes.

◆ February 14, *Broken Circle Breakdown*, 2012. Two musicians in a bluegrass band in Belgium, Elise and Didier, fall in love at first sight. He talks, she listens. He's a romantic atheist; she's a religious realist. When their daughter becomes seriously ill, their love is put on trial. 2 hours 9 minutes.

◆ February 15, *Merrily We Roll Along*, 2025. The film version of the Tony Award-winning revival of the Stephen Sondheim musical. It follows the story of three friends' lives, exploring themes of friendship, ambition, and betrayal. 2 hours 25 minutes.

◆ February 21, *Phantom of the Opera*, 2004. The mysterious masked genius who haunts the Paris Opera House becomes obsessively devoted to the soprano Christine Daaé. As he mentors her to stardom, his love turns dark, forcing Christine to choose between compassion for the Phantom and her love for Raoul, the noble vicomte. 2 hours 25 minutes.

◆ February 22, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, 1980. Starring Donny Osmond as Joseph and Richard Attenborough as Jacob, this musical brings

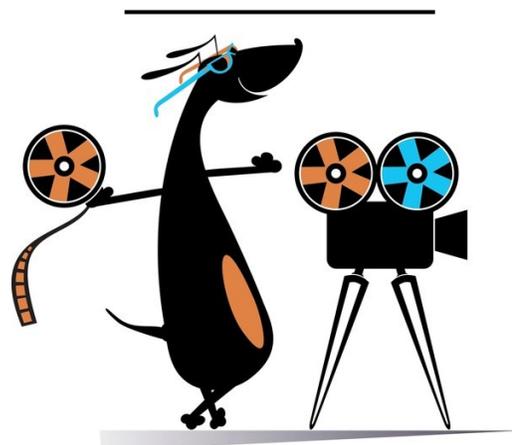
the biblical story vividly to life. It blends pop, rock, and calypso styles as Joseph rises from betrayed brother to powerful leader in Egypt. 1 hour 15 minutes.

◆ February 28, *Cabaret*, 1972. Directed and choreographed by Bob Fosse. In 1931 Berlin, the last days of the Weimar Republic, American Sally Bowles (Liza Minnelli) performs at the Kit Kat Klub, where Joel Grey is the master of ceremonies. Briton Brian Roberts (Michael York) moves into the boardinghouse where Sally lives. 2 hours.

◆ March 1, *A Chorus Line*, 1985. A behind-the-scenes musical set during a Broadway audition, where dancers bare their personal histories, fears, and dreams as they compete for a coveted spot in the chorus. The film explores ambition, sacrifice, identity, and the emotional cost of a life in show business. 2 hours.

If you wish to suggest a film, come to a committee meeting or send your suggestion with a Wikipedia article to a committee member, Lois Baron, Natalie Goldberg, Joyce Mannis, Gina Volpe, or Helen Wolkow.

*Lois Baron, Natalie Goldberg, and Gina Volpe  
for the Film Committee*



## GREENHOUSE GROWINGS-ON

**F**ebruary is a great time to offset the cold gray days by joining in at the Greenhouse in a variety of ways. It is your place of nature to enjoy year-round. In the past weeks, my Christmas cactus welcomed everyone at the entrance with its bright pink and red flowers.

The Greenhouse is your indoor garden in the winter. Some plants may need repotting to a larger pot or dividing into smaller pots to be given as gifts. All the materials and tools in the Greenhouse are yours to use with your plants. No charge, no permission, just come in and use the supplies. (Pots with names on them belong to residents and are not to be taken.) We just ask that you clean the tools and return them to where you found them.

Christopher Barnard continues to spray plants for the mealybug infestation. If you do not want your plant sprayed, let me know. We need more volunteers for this ongoing job. It's good exercise and the Greenhouse is a great place to spend time.

I want to develop an emergency/temporary plant caregiver volunteer team. Sometimes people are hospitalized or go on a vacation and have no one to care for their plants for a short time. If we had such a team, plants could be temporarily housed in the Greenhouse with a someone to watch over them.

If you are interested in being involved, please contact me at 4638 or see me in the Greenhouse. Drop by! If you find the fan or lights turned off, please use the switch at the door from the Studio to the Greenhouse to turn both on. They keep the plants warm and growing.

*Laurieann Chutis, Greenhouse Manager*




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## GRATITUDE

**I** am grateful to all the people who lit my path to come to Montgomery Place. To my granddaughter, Iris, who at age 13 found a Montgomery Place advertisement on the internet and brought us the floor plans of three apartments to choose from. She recommended that we rent a one-bedroom apartment because it was less expensive.

I am grateful to Anita Lebowitz, who told me she was very happy here and became a dear friend. I am grateful to Anna Mary Wallace, who was the first resident to invite us for dinner and made us feel welcome, and to Helen Wolkow, who invited me for dinner at her home, where we shared our stories.

I came to Montgomery Place with a wonderful life mate who was losing his brilliant mind to dementia and was rapidly deteriorating. I was frightened. I felt alone, and unsure that we could make it here. I know now it was one of the best decisions I have made in my adult life.

I feel joy when I walk to the Point each morning. We are so lucky to have this beautiful location. I feel gratitude when I come down for dinner and meet good friends as well as new

residents. I feel joy when I water my little garden box outside in our shared garden and watch my flowers bloom. I am inspired by the many cultural, intellectual, and physical activities that nurture our minds, bodies, and souls.

But more than all of that, it is the *people* that make this place feel like a true home. The diversity, the kindness, the acceptance of each one of us, the support, the intellectual discussions, and more.

I also greatly appreciate the wonderful people who work here. They are kind, helpful and caring. The front desk staff is always eager to help. Our drivers, the maintenance people, and many others. All are a great source of support.

And last but not least I am grateful to the many residents and staff members that stood by me during a very painful and difficult time.

*Rona Strahilevitz*

**IN MEMORY OF RENEE NICOLE GOOD**

**T**hey called her a domestic terrorist, a dark and angry disruptor of the peace. They lied. She was a mother, a wife and a citizen who was exercising her right to protest the invasion of her city by armed and masked ICE agents. She was protesting the behavior of these agents whose cruelty seemed emboldened by their anonymity as they indiscriminately snatched her neighbors from the streets. She was standing in support of her neighbors, regardless of their race, color, or creed. She expressed no animosity toward the agents. In fact, she told them, "I'm not mad at you." That did not matter. She did not matter. Her humanity did not matter. A masked agent took her life. Tell me, who is the terrorist?

*Ida Watanabe*



**IN MEMORIAM**

- Louise Anderson
- Timothy Fiala
- Ann Kieran
- Stan Moore
- Carrie Soloway (former resident)
- Barry Thorson

## LANGSTON HUGHES

Langston Hughes, a poet and writer, was born on February 1, 1901. He was one of the most important figures of the Harlem Renaissance. He lived and worked on the top floor of a brownstone at 20 East 127th Street for the last 20 years of his life. When he first came to New York to attend Columbia College, (1921-1922) he lived at the Harlem YMCA and was later a feature editor for its newsletter, *The New Sign*, beginning in 1931. His fascination with Harlem is evident in his writing, focusing on the neighborhood and the people he encountered there. He would later be referred to as the “Poet Laureate of Harlem.” Hughes said, “More than Paris, or the Shakespeare country, or Berlin, or the Alps, I wanted to see Harlem, the greatest Negro city in the world.”

In the early 2000s, I had the pleasure to work at the Harlem YMCA, leading their capital campaign to restore the beautiful and historic building that had been funded by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and Julius Rosenwald. Built in 1931-1932, across the street from the original, now overcrowded, facility built in 1919, the new building at 180 West 135th Street became one of the largest and best-equipped African American YMCA facilities in the country .

During the Harlem Renaissance, the Harlem YMCA served as a vital cultural and intellectual sanctuary often referred to as the “living room of the Harlem Renaissance.” The concept for the building was that it should be a “luxurious men’s club.” Beyond the sports facilities and pool, it had a billiards room, a lounge, a library, art by famous black painters of the time, and a café—all of which provided spaces for Hughes, and others, such as Claude McKay, Ralph Ellison, Richard Wright, and James Baldwin, to use it as a literary hub to exchange ideas with peers. Even those who did not live at the Y used the space for that purpose.



Hughes was editor of *The New Sign* beginning in 1931 when the new YMCA building was going up. He no longer lived there, but found ideas, opinions and content in his discussions at the Y, which became material for the newsletter. He was also a columnist for the NAACP.

The Great Migration transformed Harlem from a largely white middle-class neighborhood into the premier global center of Black culture, politics, and intellectual life in the early 20th century and it was where Langston Hughes found the life he wanted to live. And he did it well.

## HARLEM

by Langston Hughes

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up  
like a raisin in the sun?  
Or fester like a sore—  
And then run?  
Or crust and sugar over—  
like a syrupy sweet

Maybe it just sags  
like a heavy load.

Or does it explode?

Lois Baron

# SPECIAL EVENTS IN

SUNDAY	1	1:30 PM	BUS	CIVIC ORCHESTRA AT KENWOOD ACADEMY (P. 3)
WEDNESDAY	4	1:00 PM	BUS	LYRIC OPERA, <i>COSI FAN TUTTE</i> (P. 3)
FRIDAY	6	12:30 PM	BUS	CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (P. 3)
		7:00 PM	BUS	UCHICAGO PRESENTS: CSO CHAMBER MUSIC (P. 3)
		7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS MARCELOUS PITTMAN AND JULIA RICKERT (P. 2)
MONDAY	9	3:30 PM	EAST ROOM	LECTURE BY KAMII CANTOR DAVID BERGER (P. 18)
TUESDAY	10	10:00 AM	BUS	TRIP TO DMV FOR REAL ID, VOTER REGISTRATION (P. 12)
WEDNESDAY	11	1:00 PM	BUS	LYRIC OPERA, <i>SALOME</i> (P. 3)
THURSDAY	12	7:00 PM	BUS	COURT THEATRE, <i>MISS JULIE</i> (P. 3)
FRIDAY	13	NOON	BUS	LUNCH OUTING, ED'S POTSTICKER HOUSE (P. 3)
SATURDAY	14	2:00 PM	EAST ROOM	U OF C PIANO STUDENTS RECITAL (P. 18)
WEDNESDAY	18	9:00 AM	BUS	OPEN REHEARSAL AT CHICAGO SYMPHONY (P. 4)
		NOON	BUS	CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER, <i>HAMNET</i> (P. 4)
SATURDAY	21	2:00 PM	EAST ROOM	PIANIST GEORGE COOPER (P. 18)
		7:00 PM	EAST ROOM	PREVIEW OF <i>THE GONDOLIERS</i> (P. 18)
SUNDAY	22	1:00 PM	BUS	CSO PIANO SERIES, MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN (P. 4)
		2:00 PM	BUS	GOODMAN THEATRE, <i>HOLIDAY</i> (P. 4)
WEDNESDAY	25	1:00 PM	BUS	SHEDD AQUARIUM (P. 4)
FRIDAY	27	7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKER SANDRA GADSON, MD (P. 2)
SATURDAY	28	1:00 PM	BUS	JOFFREY BALLET, <i>AMERICAN ICONS</i> (P. 4)
		1:30 PM	BUS	COURT THEATRE, <i>MISS JULIE</i> (P. 4)
SUNDAY, MARCH 1		1:30 PM	BUS	CIVIC ORCHESTRA AT SOUTH SHORE CULTURAL CENTER (P. 4)

# REGULAR EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

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## PLEASE NOTE

**Any event listed on the Regular Events calendar without a specific date or dates occurs on that day of the week every week. Events listed with specific dates occur on those dates only.**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>2, 9, 16, 23</b>		<b>PRESIDENTS' DAY 2/16</b>
	8:00 AM-NOON	BUS	PRE-ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION
	9:30 AM-12:30 PM	BUS	HYDE PARK ERRANDS/SHOPPING
	9:30-10:30 AM	THIRD FLOOR	WELLNESS CLINIC
	10:15-10:45 AM	EAST ROOM	WAKE UP AND STRETCH
	11:00 AM-NOON	EAST ROOM	TONE IT UP!
	12:30 -1:30 PM	GAME ROOM	PLAYREADERS
	1:00-1:45 PM	SHAWN'S PLACE	STRETCH AND MOBILITY
	1:30 -2:30 PM	EAST ROOM	YOGA WITH SARAH
2, 16	3:00-4:00 PM	EAST ROOM	TOWN HALL MEETING
23	3:00-4:00 PM	EAST ROOM	BOOKLOVERS GROUP (P. 11)
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4	FILM COMMITTEE FILM (P. 20)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>3, 10, 17, 24</b>		
	8:00 AM-NOON	BUS	PRE-ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION
	8:00 AM-4:00 PM	BUS	SHUTTLE SERVICE TO U OF C SENIOR CLINIC
3	10:00 AM	GAME ROOM	ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
	10:30-11:00 AM	LLLC	BALANCE AND MOBILITY
	11:00 AM-NOON	EAST ROOM	TAI CHI WITH VENUS
	11:00-11:25 AM	LLLC	FLEX AND FLOW
	11:00 AM	ZOOM	MEDITATION (LAURIEANN CHUTIS)
	11:30 AM-NOON	LLLC	FLUIDITY IN MOVEMENT
	1:00-1:45 PM	POOL	AQUA AEROBICS
	1:00-3:00 PM	CAFÉ	IT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
3, 17	1:00-1:30 PM	EAST ROOM	CULINARY CORNER
	1:30-2:20 PM	THIRD FLOOR	WELLNESS CLINIC

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	2:00-3:00 PM	EAST ROOM	CURRENT EVENTS
	3:30-4:30 PM	LOUNGE	WINE AND CHEESE
3	7:15-8:15 PM	EAST ROOM	SINGALONG
24	7:15-8:15 PM	EAST ROOM	SHORT STORY GROUP
<b>WEDNESDAY 4, 11, 18, 25</b>			
	8:00 AM-NOON	BUS	PRE-ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION
	9:30 AM-12:30 PM	BUS	HYDE PARK ERRANDS/SHOPPING
	9:30-10:30 AM	THIRD FLOOR	WELLNESS CLINIC
11	10:00 AM	LIBRARY	LIBRARY COMMITTEE
<b>NEW</b>	10:00-11:00 AM	CHAPLAINS' OFFICE	CARING FOR THE RESIDENT CAREGIVER (P. 9)
	10:15-10:45 AM	EAST ROOM	MEDITATION WITH SHAWN
	11:00 AM-NOON	EAST ROOM	TONE IT UP!
	11:00 AM	CHAPEL	BIBLE STUDY
4, 18, 25	1:00-2:00 PM	SHAWN'S PLACE	BALANCE AND MOBILITY
11	1:00-2:00 PM	LOUNGE	WELLNESS LECTURE
4, 18	1:00-2:30 PM	LOUNGE	MONTGOMERY PLACE ACTS (P. 12)
11, 25	1:00-2:00 PM	EAST ROOM	RACE RELATIONS
	2:00 PM	CHAPEL	ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICE
11	2:15-3:15 PM	EAST ROOM	DINING COMMITTEE (P. 11)
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/ CH 4	HEWSON SWIFT CONCERTS (P. 18)
<b>THURSDAY 5, 12, 19, 26</b>			
<b>LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY 2/12 IL HOLIDAY</b>			
	8:00 AM-NOON	BUS	PRE-ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION
	10:00 AM-NOON	BUS	MARIANO'S SHOPPING
	10:00 AM-NOON	APPT FRONT DESK	IT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
	10:15-10:45 AM	LLLC	ADVANCED BALANCE TRAINING
	11:00 AM-NOON	EAST ROOM	YOGA WITH SARAH
	11:00-11:30 AM	LLLC	FLEX AND FLOW
12	11:00 AM	GAME ROOM	SPEAKERS COMMITTEE
26	NOON	DINING ROOM	RESIDENTS' BIRTHDAY LUNCH
	1:00 -1:45 PM	POOL	AQUA AEROBICS
	1:30-2:20 PM	THIRD FLOOR	WELLNESS CLINIC

12, 19, 26	1:30 PM	GAME ROOM	MAH-JONGG
5	1:30 PM	LOUNGE	MAH-JONGG
5	2:00 PM	GAME ROOM	FILM COMMITTEE (P. 20)
	2:15 PM	ART STUDIO	WATERCOLOR STUDIO
19	2:30 PM	EAST ROOM	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
	3:30-4:30	EAST ROOM	HAPPY HOUR
19	7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	RESIDENTS' COUNCIL
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4.1	DOCUMENTARY/FOREIGN FILMS (P. 20)

**FRIDAY****6, 13, 20, 27**

	9:15-11:30 AM	ART STUDIO	DRAWING AND PAINTING CLASS
	8:00 AM-NOON	BUS	PRE-ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION
6	9:30 AM	BUS	COSTCO SHOPPING
13, 20, 27	9:30 AM-12:30 PM	BUS	HYDE PARK ERRANDS/SHOPPING
	9:30-10:30 AM	THIRD FLOOR	WELLNESS CLINIC
	10:15-10:45 AM	EAST ROOM	WAKE UP AND STRETCH
	11:00 AM-NOON	EAST ROOM	TONE IT UP!
	1:00-1:45 PM	SHAWN'S PLACE	STRETCH AND MOBILITY
	1:00-2:00 PM	CHAPEL	ADAPTING TO AGING CONVERSATION
	2:00-3:00 PM	EAST ROOM	TAI CHI WITH VENUS
<b>NEW</b>	3:00-4:00 PM	CHAPLAINS' OFFICE	CARING FOR THE RESIDENT CAREGIVER (P. 9)
	4:15 PM	EAST ROOM	SHABBAT SERVICE
6, 27	7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS (P. 2)

**SATURDAY****7, 14, 21, 28**

	8:00 AM-4:00 PM	BUS	RELIGIOUS & MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION
	1:30 PM	GAME ROOM	MAH-JONGG
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4.1	WEEKEND THEMED FILMS (P. 21)

**SUNDAY****1, 8, 15, 22**

	8:00 AM-4:00 PM	BUS	RELIGIOUS & MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION
	11:00 AM-NOON	CHAPEL	CHAPEL SERVICE
	1:30 PM	GAME ROOM	CHESS
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4.1	WEEKEND THEMED FILMS (P. 21)