



## NEWS & EVENTS FROM SKYLINE VILLAGE CHICAGO July - August 2013



### How Skyline Village Serves You

We are a collaborative nonprofit community organization created and run by neighbors for neighbors to support one another and to enhance our quality of life in our neighborhoods: Streeterville, the Gold Coast, River North, and the New Eastside.

OUR MISSION is to enrich the lives of our members through unique cultural, educational and social activities designed to take advantage of the vast resources of our vibrant city. We initiate programs and provide access to community information our members have indicated they want and need to stay actively engaged and connected.

Our regular NEWSLETTERS are transmitted bi-monthly at the beginning of the 2 month period. In addition, we send periodic UPDATES to assure that you are kept current with what is happening in our neighborhood, as well as to serve as "reminders" of upcoming events and activities. Hope to see you soon at one of our events. We welcome your comments and suggestions at [svcchgo@gmail.com](mailto:svcchgo@gmail.com).

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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#### RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

or join SVC by sending a check for :

**\$60.00**  
**(individual)**

**\$90.00**  
**(couple)**

To:  
 Skyline Village  
 Chicago  
 P.O. Box 11757,

It's summer and Skyline Village Chicago has a lot going on. The Events Committee has planned some extraordinary programs. Read on for details of a guided tour of the Ebony Collection of High Fashion at the Chicago History Museum and be sure to sign up now for a space at the cooking demonstration at The Carlton Club. This special event is for members only and there are only so many spots. So, if you haven't joined Skyline Village yet and would enjoy visiting the exclusive Carlton Club, now is the time to join.

Chicago, IL  
60611

From the start, our commitment has been to bring people together, to socialize, to play, laugh and learn together. Men (only!) are getting together for the ROMEO lunches and women are enjoying Sticks and Strings and Not Just a Book Club ((actually, the book club boasts having a gentleman among us, and others (or more men) would be welcome)). Everyone enjoys our morning walks. Is there something you're interested in doing and need help to get started? We want to help you make it happen! Most exciting about what we are doing is the opportunities we are creating for people to meet each other right here in our neighborhood and the friendships that have blossomed.

In the April issue of our newsletter we announced the launch of our Neighbor Helping Neighbor program. We weren't surprised when a number of you, our wonderful members, stepped up to the plate to learn more, to be 'vetted' and are now ready to reach out to those who might need a little help. This is at the heart of our mission. If you are an SVC member, let Barbara Kite or Nancy Almquist know if you need help and they will work hard to find a good match for you. Skyline is all about connecting people in our neighborhood.

These connections extend out to our community partners. We are excited about our most recent collaboration with Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Skyline Village Chicago is included in a grant that geriatrician Dr. Lee Lindquist recently received from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). The name of the project is Advance Planning for Home Services for Seniors. The Skyline Board of Directors and our Volunteer Committee are excited about working on this project and will be telling you more after July 19th, when the project team holds its first meeting.

Finally, I recently moderated a panel discussion about financial insecurity and the elderly. Gay Roberts joined me at the seminar where we spoke to Director of the Illinois Department on Aging, John Holton, about Skyline Village Chicago and the important role that Villages play in helping older people take charge of their lives. The panel discussion highlighted the importance of individual planning as well as the implications of policy decisions on financial security/insecurity. This fall, Skyline will be holding sessions on this topic that we hope will be of interest to you, our members, and neighbors.



SVC Members Gay Roberts, Phyllis Mitzen & Director  
of the Illinois Department on Aging, John Holton

I hope you are all enjoying our Chicago summer, filled with music, festivals,  
beaches and sunshine.

Best, Phyllis

Phyllis Mitzen, President  
[mitzen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mitzen@sbcglobal.net) or 312-957-6060

## SKYLINE VILLAGE PROGRAMS

### OPEN TO ALL

#### Chicago History Museum: 50 Years of Ebony Fashion Fair

**Skyline Village Chicago Invites You to a Special Guided Tour  
Inspiring Beauty: 50 Years of Ebony Fashion Fair  
Chicago History Museum  
160 N. Clark St.  
Wednesday - July 17 - 2:00pm**



**Join us for a special guided tour of this unique exhibit featuring  
more than 60 stunning garments from fashion icons such as Yves  
St. Laurent, Oscar de la Renta, Pierre Cardin, Patrick Kelly and**

**Christian Dior. Cost for the guided tour is \$13.00 for Skyline Village Chicago members (\$20 for non-members)\*\***

**RSVP to [rsvp@skylinevillagechicago.org](mailto:rsvp@skylinevillagechicago.org)**

**no later than Friday July 12**

**to let us know you plan to join us on this fascinating tour of history and fashion. Questions? Call us at 312-957-6060**

**Send your check made out to Skyline Village Chicago to: PO Box 11757, Chicago, IL 60611.**

## **MEMBERS ONLY**

### **The Skyline Neighbor Helping Neighbor Program Open for business and growing!!**

Skyline's recently introduced Neighbor Helping Neighbor volunteer assistance program is rapidly winning kudos from members. A phone bank has been established to assist members in getting help from member volunteers when and where they need it. Guidelines for such services include helping with grocery and pharmacy shopping, accompanying members to hospital and doctor appointments, picking up books at the Water Tower library, and visits to homes, nursing homes or hospitals.

How successful is the program? Here's what a satisfied 'customer' recently wrote to Skyline

*Dear Phyllis, Nancy and everyone involved:*

*I have been very happy with Skyline Village in its first level of performance as a social activity and opportunity to meet neighbors. How fortunate for me that our Village now has wonderful volunteers who help each other through the Neighbor Helping Neighbor program, just in time to meet my need.*

*Years ago my gastroenterologist let me take a taxi and go back to my office after my periodic routine procedure. But Northwestern no longer allows this. I called Nancy Almquist, co-chair of the Neighbor Helping neighbor Program and without hesitation, she volunteered to pick me up herself. Not only did the hospital release me because she was there, but also she and I stopped for coffee on the way home and now I have a new friend.*

*Although I hope I won't need this service very often in the near*

*term, it is fantastic to know it is there, for all of us.*

*Heartfelt thanks to Nancy and Skyline Village!*

*Judy Karlov*

*Skyline Village Member*

**If you or any other Skyline member needs neighborly assistance, don't hesitate to contact Nancy or Barbara at 312-957-6060, leave your name, phone number and the best time to reach you.**

**\*\*\*This program is only available to SVC members. Please join us as a member if you want to avail yourself of this or any other of our other programs. Send a check for \$60 for an individual or \$90 for a couple to:  
Skyline Village Chicago, P.O. Box 11757, Chicago, IL 60611.**

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### **NEW DINING GROUP**

Many SVC members have expressed an interest in starting a monthly dining group. With so many wonderful restaurants right in our own neighborhood, it will be great fun to explore new dining opportunities with other SVC friends. If you are interested in participating, please contact **Charlene Conarty** at [apja@rcn.com](mailto:apja@rcn.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SVC: MORE THAN JUST A BOOK CLUB**

**Wednesday - July 8 - 4 PM  
Prentice Hospital - 2nd Floor Cafeteria  
(Look for us around the corner on the Chicago Ave. side)**

We are reading *The Space Between Us* by Thirty Umrigar. This is a poignant novel about the relationship between a wealthy woman and her servant, offering a revealing look at class and gender roles in modern India. Phyllis Mitzen will lead this discussion

Last month we read *His Majesty: George Washington* by Joseph Ellis. Sandra Wilson led the discussion and we agreed that we would never have picked this book without her encouragement. We all agreed that Ellis's description of our first president's life opened our eyes to the character and accomplishments of the man who shaped our nation during extremely tumultuous times.

Our discussions are lively and informative. The wonderful thing about our book group is that after having our discussion I've learned something I didn't know about the book, the characters or the author. The book club is

free, non-members are welcome to join us for two sessions and then we ask that you join Skyline Village.

We'll be selecting books at our next meeting for upcoming months.

\*\*PS Our usual meeting date is the first Wednesday of the month, but due to the July 4th holiday week, we moved it back a week.

For more information contact Phyllis Mitzen at [mitzen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mitzen@sbcglobal.net)

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### **STICKS & STRINGS - THE KNITTING GROUP**

What's "Sticks and Strings"? The Skyline Village knitting group. We meet at noon every first and third Tuesday of the month. We share patterns, stitches, yarns, ideas and solve world problems. We also have a lot of laughs - we've enjoyed our new friendships and would like other Skyline Village knitters to join us. Each person brings her own sandwich/salad and the hostess furnishes beverages and a few snacks. We have all levels of knitters, even a beginner who practices knitting and soon will be working on a small project.

For more information contact Katie Sowle, at [ksowle@msn.com](mailto:ksowle@msn.com) or 312-787-3766. Or email SVC at [rsvp@skylinevillagechicago.org](mailto:rsvp@skylinevillagechicago.org) and put "Knitting" in the subject line.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **ASIAN ART STUDY GROUP**

This is a fully subscribed study group for Asian Art devotees and collectors. Our members have the opportunity to learn about and explore the lending library at the Japanese Information Center.

If you are interested in this topic, please email [Carolferstman@aol.com](mailto:Carolferstman@aol.com).

Please provide your name, email address & phone number.

### **IN ADDITION THE GROUP HAS PLANNED A SPECIAL SUMMER PROGRAM OPEN TO ALL SKYLINE VILLAGE MEMBERS**

Skyline Village Chicago Asian Art Study Group has planned a hands-on, educational, light hearted summer program for our enjoyment. This program will teach us about and allow us to engage in our performing two ancient Japanese crafts, Origami and Calligraphy.

**The program will be held at the  
Japanese Information Center,  
under the Consulate General of Japan of Chicago,  
737 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1000,  
Chicago 60611,  
August 8th fro 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
RSVP is required by July 23rd to Carolferstman@aol.com ;**

Please include the exact spelling of your name along with your RSVP, as the Japanese Information Center will be preparing a personalized treat for each attendee. You will be learning about the unique settings where calligraphy pens and the specialized ink are prepared, the history of and application of Origami & Calligraphy.

Please come and challenge your artistic talents at this upcoming program!!

We are looking forward to seeing you at this event and hope you will forward your ideas for future programs for the SVC Asian Art Study Group, along with your RSVP. I hope you are enjoying this beautiful summer!!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

## **GAMES!! WE HAVE GAMES!**

SCRABBLE is taking a break for the summer, but will return in September. In the meantime, we are still looking for more BRIDGE and CANASTA players to make a game. Please let us know what interests you and your level of play. Would you be willing to teach beginners?

We are always happy to have new players, so for details or to join the group, please contact Sandy Herman at 312-643-1217 or [rsvp@skylinevillagechicago.org](mailto:rsvp@skylinevillagechicago.org).

Please note "Games" in the subject line. Gamers must be members of SVC but you may come twice to try us out before joining.

## **FEATURE ARTICLE**

### **WHY ARE YOU A MEMBER?**

Ask ten members of Skyline Village Chicago why they joined and continue to renew, you might get ten different answers. You might also hear a



pattern of similar reasons. We ask this question of you and hope you'll share with us why being a member of Skyline Village is important to you. How has it made your life better? What new friend(s) do you have now...people you never would have met if not for Skyline Village? What new activity or interest do you enjoy because of Skyline Village? We look forward to hearing from and we thank Gay Roberts for sharing her thoughts with us:

***Finally accepting the inevitability of getting older, and not very gracefully (as in skinny jeans and leggings)I realized that I was a very lucky lady. Although things are breaking and wearing out, I can quickly get them fixed and/or replaced utilizing all the great doctors in our Streeterville/Gold Coast area. Luckily my reliable friends, always generous with their time, take me, pick me up, and keep me company as needed. I know I'm lucky in this regard, but so many others are really alone and need assistance: to doctor appointments, shopping, with paperwork...you name it. And then I learned about Skyline Village Chicago and their incredible mission. I attended a few of the compelling programs and knew I wanted to be a part of this developing, exciting, important, and affordable organization. I love the variety of activities where I've met great people. I also hope to bring my talent and experience to the organization serving as a committed member of the Board of Directors of SVC.***

***Gay Roberts, Board Member  
Skyline Village Chicago***

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### **SVC IS LOOKING FOR FEATURE WRITERS**

We happen to know that some of our members are writers. And, we certainly know that our members have a wealth of information...and opinions...to share with others. We would love to hear from you. You've seen articles in past newsletter issues written by members and we want to feature more. You can either email an article for consideration or let us know if you have an idea for an article. Please send to Karen Ross at [kross850@aol.com](mailto:kross850@aol.com)

All submissions are subject to board and editorial approval for publication. We look forward to hearing from you.

Karen Ross  
SVC Newsletter Editor

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**



**WELCOME NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ON-GOING SUPPORT!**

**We're delighted that you have joined and are supporting our Village**

<b>Rosalind Chaleff</b>	<b>60611</b>
<b>Ed Cooper</b>	<b>60611</b>
<b>Melinda Daniels</b>	<b>60611</b>
<b>Leslie Grammer</b>	<b>60610</b>
<b>Mittie Parrino</b>	<b>60610</b>
<b>Robert and Marcia Schenck</b>	<b>60611</b>
<b>Helene Scolnick</b>	<b>60611</b>
<b>Stenka Stevens</b>	<b>60611</b>

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## **COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMS**

Thanks to our Community Partner, SOAR , for these items we thought would be of interest to you:

**Safety and Security  
CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy)**

Thursday - July 18 - 7:00 PM  
Access Living - 115 W. Chicago Ave.

In a change from beat numbers, the meeting now will be referred to as Sector 30. Everyone is invited to attend and ask questions of representatives from the Chicago Police Department's 18th District. For more information click [Here](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lake Shore Park Advisory Committee**

The Lake Shore Park Advisory Committee's meeting, ordinarily on the second Monday of the month, has been rescheduled for Monday, June 24, 4 p.m. at the field house, 808 N. Lake Shore. For Park information click [here](#)

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### **850 N. Lakeshore Drive (Former Lakeshore Athletic Club)**

Many neighbors have inquired about construction at 850 N. Lake Shore Drive (former Lakeshore Athletic Club) since developers abandoned their plan to create senior housing. Apologies for this late report, but here is the [May 10 story](#) from Crain's Chicago Business

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Broadway in Chicago Water Tower Place**

Visiting grandchildren, nephews, nieces or young friends? Dr. Seuss makes appearances throughout the summer at Broadway In Chicago Water Tower Place.

[Dr. Seuss Information](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Northwestern Memorial Physicians Group Fitness Classes Begin July 8**

Northwestern Memorial Physicians Group has fitness classes starting on July 8th. Registration is open for a month after classes begin and fees for participants registering late will be prorated. Classes are offered quarterly.

A full line of fitness classes for mature adults including:

Gentle Yoga  
Chair Yoga  
Pilates  
Low -Impact Aerobics  
Nia  
Tai Chi  
Strength and Balance

Classes are small and instructors are well-trained. Individual modifications are offered, as needed.

Wellness Classes include:

Guided Mindful Meditation  
Qi Gong Meditation  
Mind-Body Pain Management  
Tobacco Cessation Group Programs  
Detox/Cleansing Programs.

For information on classes, fees and registration, please go to:

<http://classes.nmh.org/listing/all>

To register by phone, please call 312-926-8400.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Center for Life and Learning at Fourth Presbyterian Church  
126 E. Chestnut**

Summer schedule begins on Monday, July 8. Excursions, films, fitness and more are offered to people 60+ years. For information visit or call Ashley Elskusat 312-981-3387

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