



# Times

## CALENDAR

All events are held at the Old Town Triangle Center unless otherwise designated. Meetings are open to all members.

### TRIANGLE EVENTS

- May 11, 7:00 p.m.**  
OTTA Board Meeting
- May 17, 7:00 p.m.**  
Neighborhood Improvements Meeting
- May 18, 7:00 p.m.**  
HD/PZ Meeting
- May 27, 7:00 p.m.**  
CAPS Meeting
- June 24, 7:00 p.m.**  
CAPS Meeting

### OPENINGS

- June 6, 2:00-5:00 p.m.**  
The Student Show

### SPECIAL EVENTS

- May 21, 7:00 p.m.**  
St. Pauls United Church of Christ  
2335 N. Orchard Street  
An Evening of A Capella with the  
Lincoln Park High School Chamber Singers
- June 8, 5:00-7:00 p.m.**  
30 W. Huron  
Whole Foods Features the  
61<sup>st</sup> Annual Old Town Art Fair
- June 11, 7:00-10:00 p.m.**  
New Leaf Studio, 1818 N. Wells St.  
First Sight, Friday Night
- June 12-13 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**  
The 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Old Town Art Fair
- June 18, 6:30 p.m.**  
The Old Town Art Fair Thank You Party

THE OLD TOWN TRIANGLE TIMES  
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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE TRIANGLE

### ART FAIR 2010

### NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

### SAFETY

### ART GALLERY

### MEMBERSHIP

### ART FAIR 2010

CHRIS BEER, GENERAL CHAIR

Hard to believe, but the 61st Old Town Art Fair is just around the corner and there is so much to share. Let's begin with the kick-off event.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.** PROMOTIONAL PARTY AT WHOLE FOODS, 30 W. HURON Whole Foods will host a second annual promotional party to kick off the 61st Old Town Art Fair. The event will take place at their downtown facility, 30 E. Huron, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. About ten exhibiting artists will be on hand to display (and sell) their artwork; while Whole Foods Staff circulates with wine and canapés for guests. Shirley will be there with all of the Old Town books and free posters for visitors. Whole Foods will offer free parking in their lot adjoining the store. Do try to attend. It is a fun event and offers an opportunity for a sneak peek at what's ahead.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 7:00 – 10:00 P.M.** *ON THE ROAD AGAIN* Friends, neighbors, and party-goers are invited to kick up their heels at *First Sight Friday Night*, a pre-art fair gala and silent auction at the New Leaf Studio, 1818 N. Wells. This year, *First Sight* offers many special features: canapés from Old Town's favorite *Perennial Restaurant* and a cocktail created especially for the event *One More for the Road*, with vodka donated by Southern Wine and Spirits; music by the rocking Andrew Pratt Trio; an after-party bash (cash bar) at *Perennial*—just across the street; and, of course, the *piece de resistance*, a silent auction in which some of the fair's finest artists will participate. Shirley Baugher, Paige Hungerford, and Jacqui Thams will chair the event, aided by the glamorous and effervescent Candace Jordan (Candid Candace). Tickets are \$65 if purchased in advance; \$70 at the door. Order online until June 9 at [www.oldtownartfair.com](http://www.oldtownartfair.com), or send a check payable to OTTA to:

Old Town Triangle Association  
Attn: First Sight, Friday Night  
1763 N. North Park Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60614

**SATURDAY, JUNE 12 & SUNDAY, JUNE 13 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.** THE 61ST OLD TOWN ART FAIR What can we say: it's bigger, its better, and its grander than ever! Two hundred sixty artists (juried from over 750 applicants) will display their outstanding paintings, sculptures, glass works, jewelry, pottery, and wood pieces. Food vendors will tantalize your taste buds and some of the most exciting groups on Chicago's music scene will be on hand to entertain you. Kids can create their own masterpieces at the Children's Corner. Strollers may walk through the urban gardens of Old Town, and shoppers can tuck away a memento or two from the merchandise table. **DON'T MISS IT!**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 6:30 P.M.** THE THANK YOU PARTY You wined and dined. You purchased art. You made the fair work in so many ways. Now, it's our turn to thank you. Cruise on over to the Triangle on the 18th and munch away on the fabulous party fare provided by Pete Rose and company. There will be dancing in the street and fun galore with friends and neighbors. All we need to make it perfect is YOU! →p2

## ➔ P1 A FEW THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE FAIR

**THE GATES COMMITTEE** Here are a few Q and A items most often asked by fairgoers and volunteers about the all-important **Gates Committee**. Thanks to Emily Rose, Fair Vice-Chair, and Gates Captains Rachel Strassner and Anne Wiltse for supplying the information.

### Q: How many gates does the Art Fair have?

A: There are seven gates, with the main gate located at Lincoln Avenue and Wisconsin.

### Q: How many volunteers will work the gates during the Fair?

A: Over 300 volunteers work the gates each year. This is amazing. Other groups who have fairs cannot believe that this many people agree to help out on this all-important committee—for the love of the neighborhood and for the programs that the fair supports: the Menomonee Club, the local schools, and the preservation of trees and parkways.

### Q: Who are the gate captains and what exactly do they do?

A: The gate captains are a dedicated group of people who rally the volunteers and who manage the huge crowds who pass through. It's a hard job, the captains make it fun—so much fun, the gates people just keep coming back. Some of the gates captains have been on the job for ten years or more.

### Q: What's so special about the gates that people keep volunteering?

A: Believe it or not, it's fun to work the gates. You get to meet people and be part of a fun atmosphere. And—the gates captains are so enthusiastic about their role that they inspire a lot of loyalty.

### Q: Emily, you and Chris work so hard to make the fair a success, what inspires your dedication and energy?

A: We love being involved with the great group of people who make this fair happen. Everyone from the OTTA who plays a role in the art fair contributes to the success of the event, and creates a camaraderie that is so gratifying. We wouldn't miss it.

### Q: How can someone get involved in the fair?

A: Just e-mail [volunteer@oldtownartfair.org](mailto:volunteer@oldtownartfair.org) to sign up or to get additional information. **T**

## GROUNDS AND SECURITY

**DAN BALDWIN, CHAIR** Dan has been volunteering for the Old Town Art Fair longer than even he can remember. His role is crucial in the execution of the event, the safety of artists and neighbors, and the general enjoyment of patrons who attend the fair. Dan has a couple of suggestions that he recommends for residents to help prepare for the event and enjoy the week-end.

- Sweep up the parkway and street in front of your home.
- Take a few minutes to clean up leaves from the sewers and drains before the fair. This will prevent flooding should we have rain.
- Give up your car for the week-end. Once street closings go into effect, you will not be able to drive through the fair grounds—that includes in and out of alleys. If you need to use your car during the week-end, it would be best to find a place outside the Triangle to park.
- If you have a bike, and if you ride, this is a great way to get around. There are bike paths on Lincoln Avenue that will take you almost anywhere.
- Art Fair is all about having a great time with family, friends, and neighbors; so stock up on red cups share some iced tea, lemonade, and perhaps a beer or two with those who stop by.
- Mostly—enjoy the week-end. Go to the First Sight Party, check out the art on Saturday and Sunday, catch an act at the Music Stage, and have fun! **T**

## NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

DIRK VOS, CHAIR

Old Town is known for its Art Fair, its houses, its cultural offerings, and its ambience. It is also famous among urban gardeners for its trees. Preserving the beauty of the Old Town neighborhood through attention to our parkway trees has long been an objective of the Old Town Triangle Association.

The trees on the parkways are city property. Maintenance of the parkways and parkway trees is the responsibility of the property owner adjacent to the parkway. Removal or replacement of parkway trees is done free of charge by the city.

To encourage Triangle property owners to take pride in our neighborhood by actively maintaining the parkway trees, the Old Town Triangle Association

established its Triangle Parkways Tree Program in 2006.

### TRIANGLE PARKWAY TREE PROGRAM

The Triangle selected The Care of Trees as the Association's preferred provider for tree services beyond those provided free of charge by the City. By working through the Triangle Association, property owners and residents are able to take

advantage of this arrangement to both simplify tree care and to also receive a financial benefit from the Triangle if The Care of Trees is selected by the owner/resident to provide services.

To participate in the Triangle Parkways Tree Program, owners and residents:

1. Should contact the Triangle Office, Leslie Wolfe or Shirley Baugher at (312) 337-1938. ➔ P4

The Old Town Triangle Association **Times** is published ten times a year by Old Town Triangle Association Bounded by Clark Street, North Avenue, and the ghost of Ogden Avenue

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### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday—10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please feel free to contact Administrators Shirley Baugher or Leslie Wolfe at the office during those hours.

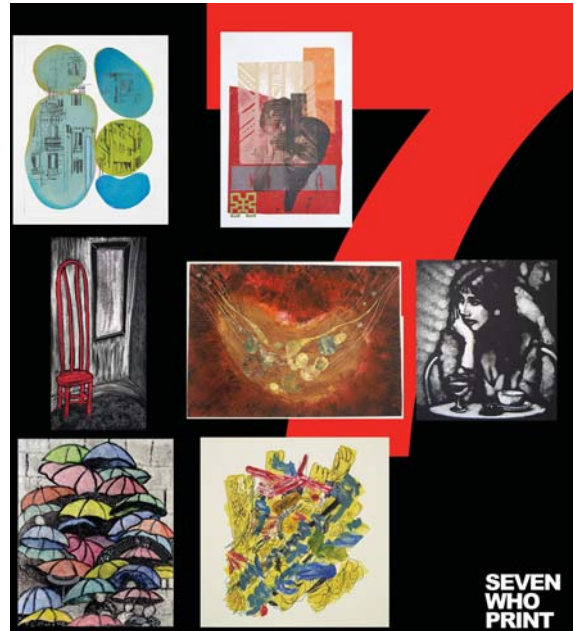
### OFFICERS

FERN BOMCHILL DAVIS, President  
PHILIP GRAFF, First Vice-President  
CHRISTINA BEER, Second Vice-President  
CHRISTINA BEER, Secretary  
JOHN KNOCHE, Treasurer

### DIRECTORS

SUE APEY  
DEBBIE DAY  
ALICE HUFF  
JEFF PINES  
JACQUI THAMS  
DIRK VOS

Leatrice Basile-Lazarus, Rita Price, Al Turowitz, Judy Zeddies, Julie Cowan, Avis Neiman, and Bill Neebe (deceased) ♪ Julie Cowan, one of the printmakers, wrote this about the show. ♪ “We are 7 artists, all printmakers, working in a studio together. Although it seems we work mostly in monotypes, each of us employs varied subject matter and techniques. A monotype is a one-of-a-kind printmaking technique that yields a single impression, a bit like a hybrid between painting and printmaking, but the visual effects can only be achieved through the print process. One of our colleagues, Bill Neebe\*, passed away this past year, and we are mounting this exhibition in his honor. ♪ Leatrice Basile-Lazarus is a teacher, artist, and printmaker, whose works include polyester-plate lithography-based monoprints, some with chine collé, hand-coloring and additional embellishment. Leatrice holds a Masters degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. ♪ Rita Price works in many print mediums including solar-plate etching and monotype. A traditionally trained printmaker, she now prefers to “mix it up a little”, often employing various techniques into one print. Rita teaches art at the North Shore Art League in Winnetka. She has a MFA in Printmaking from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. ♪ Al Turowitz works for a major medical products corporation, and he is an avid printmaker. He draws upon his many photos of Parisian cafés for his monotypes and colored pencil drawings. ♪ Judy Zeddies shows collagraph and monotype printmaking, some with chine collé and/or hand-coloring. Judy teaches art at Lill Street Art Center in Chicago and the North Shore Art League in Winnetka. She has a MFA in Printmaking & Drawing from Northern Illinois University. ♪ Julie Cowan is a graphic and web designer, artist and printmaker. Architectural themes are often a starting point for her monotypes and mixed media pieces. She is based in Evanston, Illinois. ♪ Avis Lee Neiman does non-traditional monotypes that she hand-colors. Her vibrant outdoor scenes match her outgoing personality. Avis was trained at the School of the Art Institute, and now enjoys studio classes in Winnetka and Florida. ♪ Bill Neebe (1923-2009) was an illustrator, graphic designer, painter & printmaker. Trained as an illustrator at the School of the Art Institute and the Institute of Design at IIT, Bill embraced a “subconscious surrealism” after he retired from the workforce to concentrate on art full-time. The show will include abstract monotypes by Bill”. ♪ *Seven Who Print* will be on display in the Triangle Gallery, 1763 N. North Park Avenue, through June 2. ™



MAY  
**seven  
who print**



JUNE  
**annual old town art school  
student and instructor exhibit**

Once again, we come to what is arguably our most popular gallery show: the Student/Instructor Exhibition. Each year, students in the Old Town Art School are invited to submit one piece of work which they created during the past year. Their paintings, plus one from their respective instructors: Robert Brasher, Marie Burke, Grace Cole, Tom Francesconi, Didier Nolet, and Kay Smith; will be presented in a month-long exhibition in the Triangle Gallery. This year, the show will open on June 2, 2010, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Triangle Gallery with a formal reception open to the public. The works will be shown throughout the month of June, and we hope you will all drop by to enjoy the creations of this very talented group ™



**GIVE  
IT A  
SHOT,  
ENROLL**

**OLD TOWN ART SCHOOL  
SPRING AND SUMMER SESSIONS**

Spring sessions began March 22, end June 3. Summer sessions begin June 22, end August 28. Class schedules are available at the Triangle Center and online at [oldtowntriangle.com](http://oldtowntriangle.com).





## → P2

2. Provide your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address. Also provide the address and exact location of the tree(s) you would like to have assessed for special maintenance needs or removal/replacement.
3. The Triangle maintains a running list of requests from owners/residents for assistance on a first come, first served basis.
4. At the Triangle's request and expense, The Care of Trees will assess the identified tree(s) and recommend a professional solution.
5. If The Care of Trees recommends that the tree be removed and/or replaced, the owner/resident should contact the City Department of Forestry to request removal and/or replacement. It is strongly recommended that this request also be documented in writing with copies to the Alderman and the Old Town Triangle Association.
6. If The Care of Trees determines that the tree does not need to be removed, but requires maintenance work, such as trimming, The Care of Trees will give an estimate of the cost to the owner/resident concerned and to the Triangle.
7. If the owner/resident decides to contract with The Care of Trees for the work, the Triangle will split the cost (80% owner/resident and 20% Triangle), subject to annual budgetary constraints of the Triangle. The owner/resident has the option of using another provider, however in this case, the Triangle will not share in the cost of the work.

## CAPS

SHIRLEY BAUGHER, LIAISON

The monthly CAPS meeting took place on April 22, 2010 with Officer Edward (Chaser) Garrett presiding. 18th District Commander Kenneth Angarone was in attendance.

### I-Clear Report Summary

It was noted that thefts in the neighborhood were up by 120 percent over the previous month (from 20 to 44). He noted specifically a number of thefts that have taken place in the locker room at the Xsport Fitness facility. They have questioned and arrested several gym employees. Most of the other thefts occurred from smash and grabs in cars parked on Stockton and Cannon Drives. There were, however, three thefts reported in the neighborhood: one on Willow, one on Eugenie, and one on North Park. These incidences, following a pattern, occurred late in the afternoon when no one was home. In the case of the North Park incident, someone heard breaking glass and called the police, but the victim refused to make an identification; so no arrest was made.

With respect to all of these incidents, the officers made the following admonishments:

- Do NOT to leave anything on car seats, especially items that can be pawned or sold.
- If you are ordering goods of any kind, have the package deliv-

### BRETT WOLF TEACHES JUDO TO KIDS WITH DISABILITIES

You might not think kids could go from wheelchairs to judo mats—but they can; and our favorite sensei, **Brett Wolf**, is the person who makes it happen. Brett runs one of the most successful junior judo programs in the country through the Menomonee Club in Old Town. His students



have participated in meets nation-wide and have won more than 150 junior national medals. He is justifiably proud of his kids' achievements. But this is nothing compared to the sense of pride he feels when he stands before a class at the Blair Early Childhood Center—a school whose students have serious developmental and physical disabilities: cerebral palsy, autism, spina bifida, and Down Syndrome. Many of these

children have to be lifted from their wheelchairs onto mats, and once on the mats, they perform like pros.


“Just watching these kids inspires and energizes me” says Brett. “No pity party here.”

The judo program at Blair is for children in pre-kindergarten and first grade. It is one of several offered to severely disabled kids in the Chicago Public Schools. The program is made possible by World Sport Chicago, and was originally

- ered to your work place if no one is home. Seeing packages left on doorsteps on behind screens is an invitation to perpetrators.
- Keep your windows closed and locked when you are away from home. Open windows are another invitation.
  - Be proactive. If you see suspicious activity, call 911. You can call anonymously, or call from a cell phone which comes from a tower and cannot be traced. Give the dispatcher a description of the suspicious character and stay on the phone until the officers arrive. This gives them a better idea of what is happening, and a better chance of apprehending a perpetrator.

Officer Wu reported that the robberies occurring in the banks on Chicago & State and on Eugenie & Wells were carried out by the same person. The individual was apprehended and charged with both crimes. He is currently in custody.

Drivers blowing through the Stop sign at Eugenie & Wells continue and at Menomonee & Sedgwick continue to be a problem. Officers are giving special attention to these offenders, and they have issued a number of citations.

As summer approaches, officers are keeping a special eye on evening activities on the LaSalle playlot. They recommend that the school post a sign saying NO BALL OFF THE WALL. There is already a sign stating that the playlot is closed after school hours and that trespassers are subject to arrest. 

tion, anyone who participates in judo benefits both physically and emotionally.

The sport is particularly well-suited for people with visual impairments because so many of the movements involve touch, balance, and momentum. Students who never dreamed they could throw another kid, or even an instructor, to the ground are amazed at what they can learn to do. Along with enhanced physical prowess comes a huge boost in self-confidence and a sense of pride in their accomplishments. Their ability to focus and work as a group is also improved.

There are 24 students in the two judo classes at Blair, and they can achieve almost anything taught to a non-disabled group. They can fall, throw, and move gracefully on the mat. "It's not just for show," says Brett.

USA Judo is committed to making this program happen for students with disabilities; and they have learned that barriers disappear once a kid puts on a gi and walks onto the mat. Bravo, Brett!

## NEW LEAF THEATRE PUTTING DOWN ROOTS IN LINCOLN PARK

The **New Leaf Theatre** is an emerging storefront theatre company, currently in its eighth season. In residence at the Lincoln Park Cultural Center, a Chicago Park District building, New Leaf is poised to take the next step artistically, financially, and as a member of Chicago's thriving arts community.

New Leaf was begun in 2001 to provide opportunities for emerging theatre artists. The founders were

and are dedicated to personal and artistic challenge, and honesty. At first, the company performed one-act plays in festivals sponsored by the Chicago Park District. They were quickly approached by the Director of the Lincoln Park Cultural Center (LPCC) and invited to become the Center's resident theatre company. Thus, a sustainable theatre company was formed.

New Leaf has been at LPCC for eight years now. They have produced 20 plays and two festivals of original one-act pieces. They have also had three world premieres, two productions named to year-end top ten lists, and four non-Equity Joseph Jefferson Award Nominations.

Among their offerings were: *Brilliant Traces*, by Cindy Lou Johnson; *As It Is in Heaven*, by Arlene Hutton (both Jeff nominated); *The Permanent Way*, by David Hare; *The Dining Room*, by A. R. Gurney; *Six Years*, by Sharr White; *Touch*, by Toni Press-Coffman; and *The Long Count*, an original work devised by the company. Artistic Director **Jessica Hutchinson**, says that the company has an ambitious program lined up for the 2010-11 season.

## TEENY TINY PRODUCTIONS

Teeny Tiny Productions creates small car events, including the *Tres Petite Concours*, exhibitions of micro and minicars; and the *Petite Concours: The Art of Small Cars* Invitationals. These outdoor, week-long events take place in historic city neighborhoods, bringing the charm of vintage small cars to densely populated, but easily accessible areas. They emphasize the

human scale of cars-to-people and the symmetry between vintage vehicles and historic buildings. These exhibitions and invitationals piggyback with other, long-established summer festivals which attract large audiences.

Two *Tres Petites Concours* events are scheduled in the Old Town area this summer, one in the 1700 block of N. Fern Court June 12-13 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. during the Old Town Art Fair; and another in the 900 block of West Armitage on July 15-18 from 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. These are fascinating and fun events, and you won't want to miss them.

## AROUND THE 'HOOD

We were sorry to see longtime neighborhood favorite **Savories** depart from 1651 N. Wells, and we were worried about where Karen Loop, Inara Carroll, Paul Fahrenkrog, Rick Greenwood, Blair Hull, and other members of the Breakfast Club would sip coffee and work the NYT Crossword Puzzle every morning. Still don't know where they've parked their laptops, but I'm on it. Meantime, we've learned that the **Homemade Pizza Company** has signed a five-year lease and is moving into the space, probably in the early fall. We also understand that they make a very good product (this from three neighbors whose palates I trust implicitly).

Also taking up residence in Old Town's Pipers Alley is **Chipotle**, a Mexican restaurant specializing in burritos and tacos. The restaurant is known for its large burritos and use of natural ingredients. In 2009,

it was ranked as one of the fastest-growing companies in the United States. All of Chipotle's restaurants are company-owned rather than franchised; and, as of April 2010, there were 976 operating throughout the United States and Canada. Founder Steve Ellis attended the Culinary Institute of America and later worked for Jeremiah Tower at Stars in San Francisco. He is still chairman and co-CEO of the company.

Chipotle has a number of vegetarian options, including rice, black beans, fajita vegetables, salsa, guacamole, and cheese. The cheese is processed with vegetable-based rennet in order to be suitable for vegetarians. There are many meat and poultry offerings as well. No opening date has been announced.

**ALDERMAN VI DALEY** announces that there will be a **one-day sale** of City stickers at her office on **June 19, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Residential parking stickers will also be available. Both City stickers and residential may be purchased online year-round.

## NEIGHBORS BEWARE!

On May 3, 2010, at 8:00 a.m., there was an **attempted child luring** in the 1800 block of North Hudson Avenue. Two male white Hispanic offenders, approximately 25-30 years of age, with short black hair and brown eyes attempted to lure the victim to their vehicle as the victim was walking to school. The offender's vehicle is tan in color with rust spots around the door handles and some rust spots on the body of the vehicle. The license plate is **→p8**



# the sounds of music

A musical tribute to Spring a choral concert  
& readings: *The Giving Tree*, *There was an Old Lady*,  
and *Joseph had a Little Overcoat*

The Giving Tree with Jeff Weaver, Phil Wasik, & Amy Ewaldt



Jeff Weaver & Phil Wasik: *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat*



The Lincoln Elementary Choir





The Lincoln Park High School Chamber Singers



Franklin Fine Arts Center Choir



Shirley Baugher  
& Amy Ewaldt  
There Was an  
Old Lady

Walter Payton  
College Prep-  
Sounds  
of Sweetness



Jeff Weaver, Phil  
Wasik, & Amy  
Ewaldt: The  
Giving  
Tree



of out-of-state origin and contains the number 8 more than once.

The 18th District Police has also issued a **credit card scam alert**. The scam is taking place in buildings housing large numbers of senior citizens. Offenders are one African American female and one African American male. Usually the female contacts the victims, states that their credit cards have been compromised, and asks for personal information, e.g., SS# and credit card number for verification. The Police warn that you should NOT give personal information over the telephone. If the credit card company really calls, they will NOT ask for a social security number. Do NOT give your credit cards or credit card numbers to anyone. Hang up the phone and call police.

Yet another scam is being perpetrated in the neighborhood—this time where adult classes are being taught. The last incident occurred at the Church of the Three Crosses in early May when a yoga class was in session. A well-dressed African American woman entered the room during a break and expressed interest in the group. She asked a number of pertinent questions about the class and indicated that she would return and join. When the class was not paying atten-

tion, she rifled through the women's purses and took their cash—no credit cards or personal belongings. It was later learned that an individual matching the perpetrator's description had also pulled a similar operation at the Buddhist Temple and St. Michael's Church. So be on the lookout for this individual, and if she comes in feigning in a class or activity, call 911. Stay on the phone until officers arrive.

Neighbor **Corinne Svoboda** reports that our local **Treasure Island** doing planting around the trees in their 1600 block of North Wells and that they are planning to install containers of plants and flowers along their property up to the loading dock. Our thanks to TI for helping to beautify the neighborhood.

#### NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS LINCOLN PARK HIGH SCHOOL

- On **Thursday, May 20**, the choral groups of LPHS will present a **Spring Choral Concert**. The concert will take place in the school's auditorium at 7:00 p.m.
- On **Friday, May 21**, the LPHS Chamber Singers will present **An Evening of A Capella** featuring choral music by Tomas Luis de Victoria, Henry Purcell, Greg Jasperse, John Rutter, Sting, Moses Hogan and more. The concert will take place

in St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 2335 N. Orchard Street at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free.

LASALLE LANGUAGE ACADEMY has just completed a special multi-disciplinary program featuring architecture, design, drawing, and writing. Program components included:

- Classroom presentations by architects introducing the students to basic architecture skills and architecture's relationship to geometry
- Classroom presentations by an artist or architect on observing and recording architecture using drawing
- Neighborhood tours to acquaint students with buildings of architectural significance in Old Town
- A visit to the Chicago History Museum and the Chicago Architecture Foundation
- Classroom activities in which students will sketch designs for buildings they would like to construct, incorporating architectural details they have heard about and observed
- Completion of building projects using a variety of materials
- Written pieces about their architecture projects
- An exhibition of the students' writing, building, and art projects.


The program elicited a great deal of interest and drew praise from students, teachers, and parents.

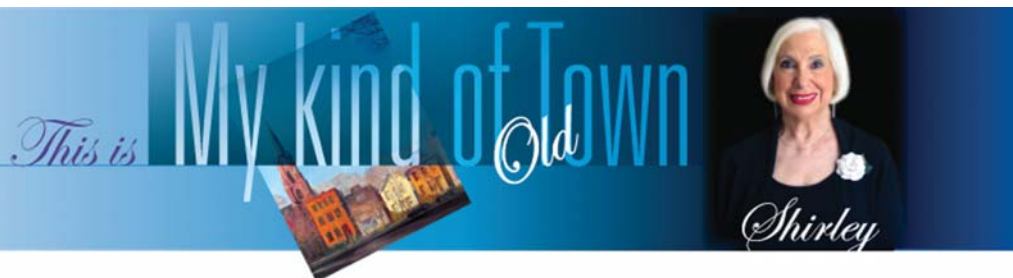
#### WALTER PAYTON COLLEGE PREP HIGH SCHOOL

The concert choir from Walter Payton College Prep, under the direction of Music Department Chair **Jeff Weaver**, took top honors at a citywide competition in late April. The day after the competition, Jeff received a call from the choral director of the Chicago Symphony inviting their group to audition for an opportunity to sing with the orchestra. Acclaimed conductor Ricardo Muti would be present.

On the appointed day, Jeff and the choir members stepped onto the stage at Orchestra Hall and sang their hearts out. The next day, they learned that they had been chosen to perform with the Chicago Symphony at Orchestra Hall on June 8. Congratulations to these outstanding performers. And special kudos to Old Town's own Jeff Weaver. He is, quite simply, the best.

Keep up with news of the Old Town neighborhood by going on to Shirley's blog, **chicagonow My Kind of Old Town**

It will come out weekly and cover all kinds of Old Town happenings. 





**AN OLD TOWN ODYSSEY**

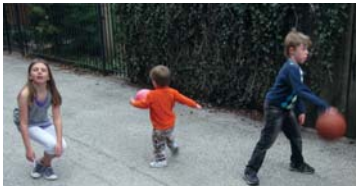
*The flowers appear on the earth;  
The time of the singing of the birds is come,  
And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land*

KING JAMES BIBLE

I've always wondered what the "voice of the turtle" sounds like. (Other translations talk of *the cooing of turtledoves*, and *the cooing of the mourning dove*). I suppose these make more sense. But springtime is not about sense. It's about magic. So I set out to find the magic—and the "voice of the turtle" in Old Town.

**ODYSSEY: PART 1**

I walked out my door onto Crilly Court, and there was a group of children playing basketball. As I watched, **Stephanie Thams** leaned back, aimed, and executed a perfect fadeaway jumper. She was rewarded with a resounding YES! from the other players on the "team". Little **Oliver Ziol**, who stands about three feet nothing, retrieved the ball, tossed it up somewhere in the direction of the basket, and hoped for the best. He missed, but still got a satisfied "way to go" (from his dad) Pint-sized **Lauren Herman** is just too tiny to even think about any kind of elevation from her



miniature soccer ball—so her obliging dad, Mark, lifted her up, and bam, she executed a spot-on dunk! Meantime, the older and more experienced **Miles Ziol** pondered his next shot.

Could this be the "voice of the turtle"?



**ODYSSEY: PART 2**

After high (and low) fiving the basketball players, I walked on up North Park to the Old Town Triangle Center. Just outside the Triangle door, I stopped short. The **Carolyn Tree** was blooming!

Let me tell you a little about the Carolyn Tree. It was planted a couple of years ago in memory of the late **Carolyn Blackmon**, one of the most amazing women ever to live in Old Town. She was smart, funny, and magical. She knew how to do so many things—like bake a cherry pie, make an orchid bloom, banish squirrels from gardens, cajole tribes of Northwest Indians to carve a totem for the front of the Field Museum (where she was



Education Director for many years), turn the raucous little town of Peoria, Illinois into a city of culture, and chair the Old Town Art Fair. As I said, she was amazing.

But, back to the tree. Carolyn loved trees. She planted many of the trees in our yard on Crilly Court and named them after old movie stars. She nurtured the trees on her St. Paul parkway. She photographed trees. So, what else could we do when she left us but plant

a Carolyn Tree, a white crabapple. I have to say, that was one stubborn tree, and so pitiful looking that for two years, I was convinced it was dead.

I've heard that talking to plants makes them grow, so I began having little conversations with "Carolyn". I asked her to spread her branches, open a leaf or two, do something to give me a sign. She refused. Finally, this past March, I gave up. "Okay, Carolyn", I conceded, "you win. You don't have to bloom. I guess crooked branches and a spindly trunk are beautiful; and I love you anyway".

Well, on that magical (there's that word again) April morning when I walked to the Triangle, there was Carolyn, covered with flowers. She had bloomed—on her own terms, and in her own time.

Was this the "voice of the turtle"?

**ODYSSEY PART 3: ELIZA**

George Bernard Shaw had his fair lady, Eliza Doolittle. I have mine, **Eliza Burk**, a little three (and one-half) year-old who pops into the Triangle office with her dad every few days to say hello and select a pink Tootsie pop. I have known her since she was born, and every time I see her, she is more beautiful than the time before. She reminds me of a song from *Paint Your Wagon...her heart was made of holidays, her smile was made of dawn; her laughter was an April song that echoes on and on...* She came by that April morning to tell me about her day. Of course her Dad had to repeat every word because Eliza tends to whisper when she reveals things in confidence.

Maybe, just maybe, little Eliza's whisper was the "voice of the turtle".



**ODYSSEY PART 4: AN OLD TOWN ORIGINAL**

After Eliza left, I started paging through the *Chicago Sun Times* to see what juicy tid-bits my friend **Elizabeth Hamel** had put on her "Social Circuit" page. Who should I see smiling up at me but the incomparable **Candace Jordan**, the quintessential → **p10**

from → p 9

**POST Script**  
 BY SHIRLEY BAUGHER



Old Towner. You’ve heard of people who are said to “have it all”. Usually, they don’t, but Candace really does. She’s gorgeous, she’s charming, she’s friendly, generous, and funny. She’s also the darling of Chicago’s social set. And there, on page 35, I learned that she is a dramatist. The Victory Gardens Theater had produced her one-act, semi-autobiographical piece entitled *A Facebook Fairytale* for its fundraiser at the Fairmont Hotel. It was directed by Victory Garden’s long-time artistic director **Dennis Zacek**. She shared the stage with Second City co-founder **Bernie Sahlins** and radio star **Peter Sagal**. Her oeuvre got rave reviews from none other than venerable theater critic **Richard Christiansen**.

This had to be a “voice of the turtle” moment.



**ODYSSEY PART 5:  
 THE END OF A PERFECT DAY**

By now, this “voice of the turtle” hunt was getting a little tiring. I decided to take a break and head over to *Perennial* for a **Chef Ryan Poli** dinner fix. Lovely **Kate** greeted me when I walked in. The smiling and affable **Ben Sherman** led me to my booth (well yes, I do have my own booth). Everybody else: **Ian, Emily, Tyrone, Stephen, Patrick, Eric, Natalie, and Clinton (Rob and Kevin weren’t there that night)** stopped by for hugs and kisses. I sat back in happy anticipation. Dinner arrived, and it was superb, as usual. As I was reaching for another forkful of Chef’s silky, hand-made linguine with clam sauce, I stopped with my fork in mid-air. I had experienced my “aha” moment.

The **courtyard basketball game**, the **Carolyn Tree**, my darling **Eliza**, gorgeous **Candace**, the one and only **Perennial**—these were all the “voice of the turtle” in Old Town. And if you look, and listen, and savor the moment, you can experience it too. **T**

