

Art



–**First Fridays.** Take a stroll to treat yourself to a wide range of artistic forms, and explore Geneva's best Art Galleries! "First Fridays" happens each "First Friday" of each month from 6 to 9 p.m.

–**Through Feb. 27. WHIMSY,** a fanciful or fantastic device, object or creation Art Show at the Norris Cultural Arts Center, 1040 Dunham Road, St. Charles; phone (630) 584-7200. Gallery hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. **Artist reception, Sunday, Feb. 14, 2 to 4 p.m.**

Concerts

–**Saturday, Feb. 27, 6 p.m.** The Greater St. Charles Education Foundation will host its annual fundraiser, "Celebrating Education and All That Jazz," at the elegant Royal Fox Country Club in St. Charles. All proceeds from the event will benefit students in D303. Features live jazz from student musicians from East and North high schools as well as dinner and dancing. Tickets are \$65 each. Live and silent auction. Raffle tickets, \$25 each or five for \$100. For more information, www.stceducation.com, or call Nadia Blanc-Daley at (847) 488-0699 or email info@stceducation.com.

–**Tuesday, Feb. 16. Concert and Symphonic Bands** will be performing concerts at North High School. Free and open to the public.

–**Tuesday, Feb. 23. The Thompson School Band and North Varsity Band and Wind Symphony** will perform in concert at North High School Free and open to the public.

Dance



–**Various Dates:** St. Charles Singles Club—Singles age 40 and better from all towns are invited to attend dances on the second, fourth and fifth Mondays of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Riverside Receptions, 35 North River Lane, Geneva. Admission is \$8 for DJ dances and \$10 for band dances. The club is non-profit and celebrating its 33rd year. Call Larry at (847) 340-6647 or visit www.stcharlessinglesclub.com.

Forest Preserve

The following events all take place at Kline Creek Farm. Call (630) 876-5900 for registration information.

–**Saturdays, Feb. 13 and 20, Blacksmithing Demonstrations.** Stop by the wagon shed to see the blacksmith repair equipment and demonstrate the tools and techniques of the trade. From 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Registration not required.

–**Thursdays, Feb. 11 and 18 through Sundays, Feb. 14 and 21, Courting in the 1890s.** Hear excerpts from love letters written in the late 19th century, and learn about the role that a home's parlor played in courtship. Tours begin on the hour From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kline Creek Farm. Free.

–**Saturday, Feb. 13, Fancywork Day.** See lace making, tatting and other handwork demonstrations, and receive a pattern for a small purse. Tours begin on the hour, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kline Creek Farm.

Miscellaneous

–**February.** Girl Scouts, experience the fun of making old-fashioned molasses candy in a historic farmhouse at "Taffy Pulling Party" programs in February at Kline Creek Farm in West Chicago. During a taffy party, Girl Scouts measure the ingredients and help prepare the candy. After it is cooked, they work together to stretch and pull the candy as it cools and wrap some up to enjoy at home. While touring the farmhouse, girls discover what life was like for their 19th-century counterparts. The program costs \$7 per girl and is appropriate for those in first grade through sixth grade. Several dates are available, including afternoons and weekends. Registration is coordinated through the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana. To find out dates and to register, visit www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org, and click on "Calendar of Events."

–**Friday, Feb. 12.** Curious about the natural world around you? Bring your family to **Elgin Public Museum's Science Night.** Different stations will be set up around the museum for kids and adults to conduct experiments, experience demonstrations and partake in discussions about this month's topic: Geology. Participants will crack open geodes, watch volcanoes explode, discover magnetic minerals in unusual places and so much more! From 6 to 8 p.m., cost \$2 per person, free to members. Located in Elgin's Lords Park at 225 Grand Boulevard. No registration required.

–**Saturday, Feb. 13, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Need that perfect dress for a special occasion? Going on a fancy Valentine's Day date? Want an elegant wedding dress for your wedding? Have you been searching for a unique prom dress? Bartlett High School's Girls Track and Field team will be holding its first annual Dress Sale, featuring over 800 new gowns! Formal, evening, and bridesmaid dresses are only \$10, while wedding gowns can be purchased for a mere \$50. You cannot beat these deals! The Dress Sale will be held in Bartlett High School's cafeteria, located at 701 Schick Road, Bartlett.

–**Sunday, Feb. 14, 1 to 4 p.m.** Take a step or two back in time and join in for the only sure way to beat cabin fever—Fireside Fun! Discover the Durant family's hearty prairie lifestyle while exploring the splendor that is the community's history. Persons of all ages are encouraged to bask in the open hearth's glow and savor the warm embrace of pioneer hospitality. The Durant House Museum and Pioneer Sholes School are located in LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve on Dean Street. For more information, call (630) 377-6424 or visit ppfv.org. No registration necessary. Admission, \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

–**Monday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.** Children will have the opportunity to learn the art of **Orienteering in this interactive walk through the streets** of historic Geneva. By using compasses, they will crack 'the code' and find hidden markers between the Geneva History Center and the Geneva Public Library. Offered in conjunction with the Geneva History Center's exhibition, Scouting: A Century of Values, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. Free.

–**Saturday Feb. 20 and Sunday, March 7.** Advanced reservations are now being taken for Garfield Farm Museum's two popular winter seminars, **Native Plant Management Seminar** Saturday, Feb. 20, and **Sunday March 7 for the Antique Apple Tree Grafting Seminar.** Native prairie, woodland and wetland plants and their care will be discussed all day with guest presenters. Fee \$50 includes lunch and numerous handouts. At the March Grafting seminar, participants will make three antique apple tree grafts to take home and plant. Fee \$30, with instruction by Wisconsin orchardist, Dan Bussey. Reservations can be made by calling (630) 584-8485 or e-mail info@garfieldfarm.org. Garfield Farm Museum is located five miles west of Geneva, off Route 38 on Garfield Road.

–**Saturday, Feb. 20.** The Association for Individual Development (AID) will host the 2010 "Battle of the Bags" Cornhole Tournament at its Elgin Training Center, 1135 Bowes Road, Elgin. Registration begins at 1 p.m., and will last until the tournament starts at 2 p.m. Entry fee, \$40 per team or \$20 for individual players who will be placed randomly with partners at the end of the registration. The winning team will take home \$200. Second- and third-place teams will also get prizes. Each team guaranteed to play at least two games. Food served throughout event, along with 50/50 raffles throughout the day. Affordable sponsorship opportunities offered. All proceeds from this event go to benefit the over 20 programs that AID offers to people with developmental disabilities, mental illness or those in need of crisis intervention services.

–**Saturday, Feb. 20, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. North Cheerleading Clinic 2010,** North High School gymnasium. Performance immediately following, 3 to 4 p.m. (by grade level). Cost, \$30 per participant, non-refundable. Make checks payable to SCN Cheer Boosters. Add \$5 late fee is paid day of clinic. Learn sideline cheers, stunts, jumps, dances and team-building activities taught by the North "North Stars" Cheerleaders. Receive a t-shirt to wear when performing for parents. Performance schedule will be given out a check-in. Athletic shoes and clothing, a must! Parents are highly encouraged to attend the performance and/or will need to pick up their child immediately following. Pre-registration preferred, but registration at the door accepted. Pack child a

sack lunch; snack and drink will be provided. Mail fee and completed registration form by Feb. 16 to Jackie Swift, 6N460 Ferson Woods Drive St. Charles, IL 60175. Call Jackie at 308-8892 or jackie.swift67@yahoo.com.

–**Saturday, Feb. 20, 2 p.m.** The Geneva History Center hosts Art Historian Professor Jeff Mishur of Art Excursions, for a **discussion of artist Norman Rockwell.** Admission is \$5 for nonmembers and \$3 for members, with all proceeds benefiting the Geneva History Center, 113 South Third Street, Geneva. For more information, call (630) 232-4951.

–**Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 27 and 28.** The Greater Chicago Soap Box Derby Association will be holding their **annual indoor soap box derby race** at Maywood Park Race Track in Melrose Park. No charge for spectators and a concession stand available. Racing will start each day at 9 a.m. and run until 5 p.m. Soap Box Derby racing is for boys and girls ages 8 to 17. Racers will be competing against each other in gravity powered cars as they compete for a chance to earn a rally spot for the upcoming National race held in Akron, Ohio during the month of July. Anyone interested in competing in this event can find more information on their website. There are also several club cars for anyone who would like to borrow a car for the weekend. Cars are given out on a first-come, first-serve basis, and can be reserved by calling (630) 841-8832.

Outdoors



–**Saturday, Feb. 20.** The historic Fabyan Japanese Garden blooming with snow! Join in for a series of insightful guided walks at 1 p.m. Japanese Gardens are designed to be enjoyed throughout the year and the **frosty Winter Walk** is a refreshing exploration of the Fabyans' historic Eden. Fabyan staff will lead tours highlighting the 100-year-old garden's delicate beauty. In addition to examining Japanese garden theory, tours will touch on Fabyans' fascinating history. Warm beverages will be provided. Bundle up and be prepared to stroll through snow. Snow is a requirement for this tour, so please call (630) 377-6424 the morning of the tour to confirm. Tour admission is \$2 per person; please meet at the garden's West gate. Located in the Fabyan West Forest Preserve, Route 31 Geneva, just North of Fabyan Parkway.

Saturday, Feb. 20. Webelos Cub Scout Geologist and Naturalist. It may be cold out there—but that is no reason to stay cooped up inside! Bundle up and get ready for a fun afternoon completing your Naturalist and Geologist Pin requirements with our team from Elgin Public Museum and Hawthorne Hill Nature Center. Take a hike in the woods, watch a volcano model erupt, solve rock mysteries and more! Please dress for the weather and bring a water bottle and snack. The workshop is from 1 to 4 p.m., and costs \$15 per scout. Avoid disappointment and register early; registration must be complete by Feb. 15. Call (847) 741-6655.

Theatre



–**Various Dates.** Noble Fool Theatricals presents Tom Dudzick's hilarious and touching family comedy **Over the Tavern**, directed by John Gawlik, at the Pheasant Run Resort Mainstage Theater, 4051 E. Main Street, Charles, (630) 584-6342. Over the Tavern will preview Thursday, Feb. 4 through Friday, Feb. 12. The show will open Saturday evening, Feb. 13, and continue through Sunday, March 28. Tickets are priced at \$29 on Fridays (and additional Thursday performances), and at \$39 on Saturdays and Sundays.

–**Feb. 18 to 28.** CYT Chicago (Kane County) proudly presents **The Little Mermaid**, at Huntley High School Performing Arts Center, 13719 Harmony Road, Huntley. Thursdays, Feb. 18 and 25, 9:30 and 11:45 a.m.; Fridays, Feb. 19 and 26, 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 20, 21 and 28, 2 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 27, 6 p.m. Tickets, (847) 516-2298, or visit www.cytchicago.org. Cost, \$9 to \$12 presale, plus \$2 at the door. Group, child, senior and school discounts available.

–**Friday, Feb. 19 to Sunday, Feb. 21.** East High School Theatre Department to present **The Family Man.** Performed on the Norris Cultural Arts stage on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, at 2 p.m. Norris Cultural Arts Center, 1040 Dunham Road. Admission available at door. Call (630) 377-4754 for more information.