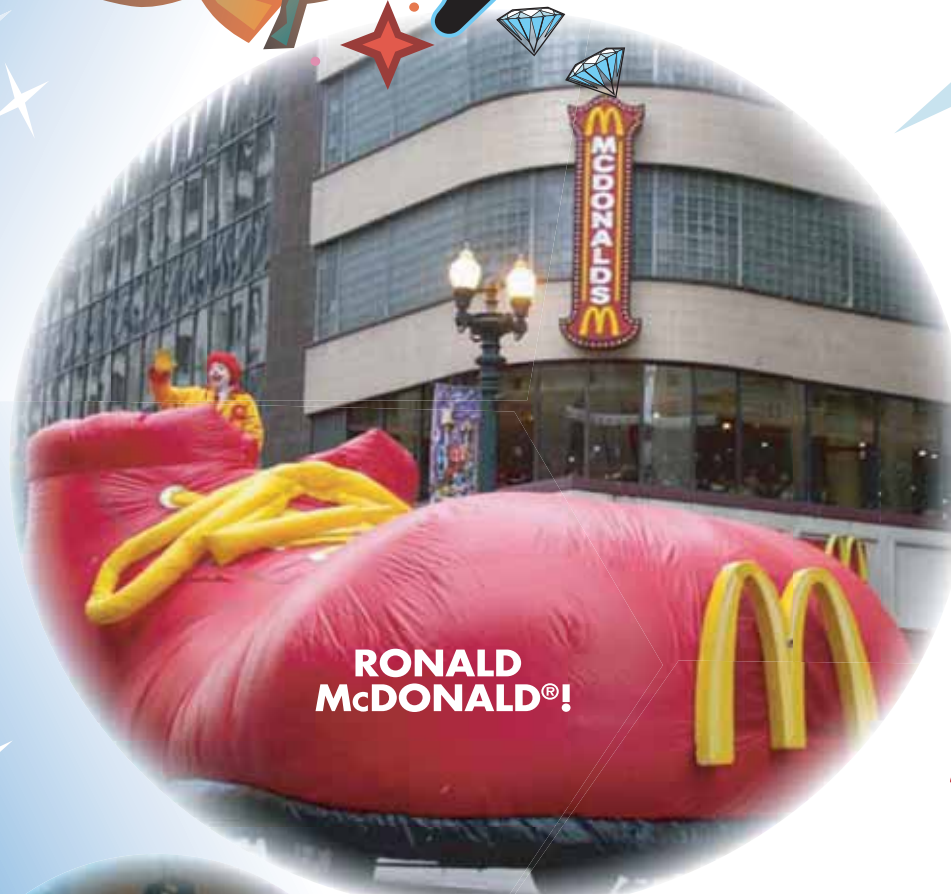


McDonald's® *Celebrating*
a 75-Year Tradition!

McDonald's®
Thanksgiving Parade



Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 27
8 a.m.-11 a.m. on State Street

(between Congress and Randolph)

Plus LIVE broadcast on
WGN-TV9, WGN-TV9.1 and WGN America



The Chicago Cast of
JERSEY BOYS!



The Chicago
Cast of
DIRTY
DANCING!

Photo: David Scheinmann



Celebrating 75 Years of a Storied

2008 McDonald's® Thanksgiving Parade

Date: Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 2008
Start Time: 8:00 a.m. - CST
Location: State Street from Congress to Randolph
Broadcast: Live broadcast local on WGN-TV9 and WGN-DT 9.1
 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. CST
 National broadcast on WGN America
 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. CST
Contact: Chicago Festival Association - 312-235-2217
 www.chicagofestivals.org
Welcome: Honorary Grand Marshal Ronald McDonald®
Opening: Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey

12 Giant Inflatables - Presented by Case New Holland

- Case Construction presents Garfield
- Case Construction presents Popeye
- Case IH presents Curious George
- Case IH presents Elmo
- Case IH presents Tom Turkey
- Kobelco presents Arthur
- Kobelco presents Grover
- New Holland Agriculture presents Cookie Monster
- New Holland Agriculture presents Cow Jumped Over the Moon
- New Holland Agriculture presents Paddington Bear
- New Holland Construction presents Animal
- New Holland Construction presents Bob the Builder

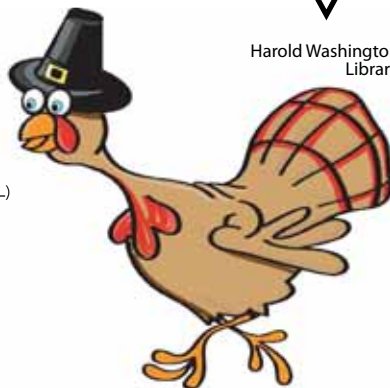


Official McDonald's® Thanksgiving Parade Marching Band

- Proviso East High School (Maywood, IL)

24 Marching Bands - Presented by Columbia College Chicago

- Columbia College Chicago presents Abilene High School (Abilene, KS)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Bucyrus High School (Bucyrus, OH)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Columbia High School (Columbia, MS)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Cullman High School (Cullman, AL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents DeKalb High School (DeKalb, IL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Francis Howell Viking High School (Saint Charles, MO)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Hazelwood West High School (Hazelwood, MO)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Joliet American Legion Band (Joliet, IL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Marist High School (Chicago, IL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Miramar High School (Miramar, FL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Mosinee High School (Mosinee, WI)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Mundelein High School (Mundelein, IL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Navy Band Great Lakes (Great Lakes, IL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents NorthWood High School (Nappanee, IN)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Pearl River Community College (Poplarville, MS)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Providence Catholic High School (New Lenox, IL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Robertsedale High School (Robertsedale, AL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Sauk Prairie High School (Prairie du Sac, WI)
- Columbia College Chicago presents St. Laurence High School (Burbank, IL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Tuslaw High School (Massillon, OH)
- Columbia College Chicago presents U-46 Unified Marching Band (Bartlett, IL)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Wauwatosa East High School (Wauwatosa, WI)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Wilmot Union High School (Worthington, MN)
- Columbia College Chicago presents Worthington High School (Maywood, IL)



15 Equestrian Units - 7 Presented by MB Financial Bank

- MB Financial Bank presents Bertand's Miniature Horse Ranch
- MB Financial Bank presents Budweiser Clydesdales
- MB Financial Bank presents Goodman Theatre "A Christmas Carol"
- MB Financial Bank presents Mid America Cowgirls Rodeo Drill Team
- MB Financial Bank presents Red Hats & Purple Chaps aka Galloping Grannies
- MB Financial Bank presents Southern Ohio Ladies Aside
- MB Financial Bank presents Zydeco Cowboyz and Cowgirlz
- Humana presents Double L Equestrian Service
- Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament



- Museum of Science & Industry presents Loos Tales Foodlink Chuck Wagon
- The Hancock Observatory presents Midstates Mule & Donkey Show Society
- Illinois Appaloosa Association
- International Horseman's League
- Timmerman's Drill Team
- Wisconsin Arabian Horse Association

32 Specialty Units, 16 presented by C.D. Peacock and 2 presented by SA Peck

- C.D. Peacock presents All Midwest Choir & Color Guard
- C.D. Peacock presents Angel Drill Team
- C.D. Peacock presents Boliviamanta Dance Ensemble
- C.D. Peacock presents Chicago Human Rhythm Project
- C.D. Peacock presents Chi-Town Cheer and Tumble
- C.D. Peacock presents Crystal Lake Strikers Drumline
- C.D. Peacock presents Extreme Outlawz Cheer & Dance
- C.D. Peacock presents Holni Polish Highlanders Dancers & Singers Group
- C.D. Peacock presents Kidz Clog & Cloggin' Craze
- C.D. Peacock presents Marilyn Majors Drum Corps
- C.D. Peacock presents Orpheus Hellenic Folklore Society
- C.D. Peacock presents Puerto Rican Congress/Lasiting Impressions Hispanic Dance
- C.D. Peacock presents The Windy City Rollers
- C.D. Peacock presents Thistle and Heather Highland Dancers
- C.D. Peacock presents United Studios of Self Defense
- S.A. Peck presents AmeriCheer & AmeriDance All American Spirit Team
- S.A. Peck presents S.T.Y.L.E. Creative & Performing Arts Youth Program
- Case IH presents Magnum 180 'Stars and Stripes' Tractor
- Chicago Sun-Times presents Hromovystia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble
- Dicks Last Resort of Chicago
- Divine Performing Arts - The Spectacular presents Mid USA Falun Dafa Assoc.
- Kinsale Contracting Group presents McNulty Irish Dancers
- Macy's presents the Mobile Azalea Trailmaids
- MB Financial presents Mini Coopers
- McDonald's® Community Firetruck
- McDonald's® presents Jesse White Tumbling Team
- Navy Pier Trolley
- Museum of Science & Industry presents Renacer Boliviano Folkloric Dance Troupe
- Pizano's Pizza & Pasta
- Ronald McDonald® House Charities presents The Caremobile
- The Barefoot Hawaiian
- Top Hat Marching Orchestra

14 Floats

- 115 Bourbon Street presents "The Candy Train"
- Chicago 2016
- Chicago Park District presents "Holiday Highlights"
- Columbia College Chicago presents The Jazz Ensemble "Thanks for the Arts"
- Christkindlmarket presents "The Flexible Flyer"
- Ensemble Espanol Spanish Dance Theater
- Horseshoe Casino presents "Holiday Horseshoe"
- McDonald's® Big Red Shoe
- McDonald's® Snow Globe
- MouthpieceSports.com presents "The Gingerbread Man"
- Navy Pier presents "Go A Little Overboard"
- WLIT The Holiday Lite presents The Santa Float
- Von Heidecke's Chicago Festival Ballet presents "The Nutcracker"
- WGN TV9

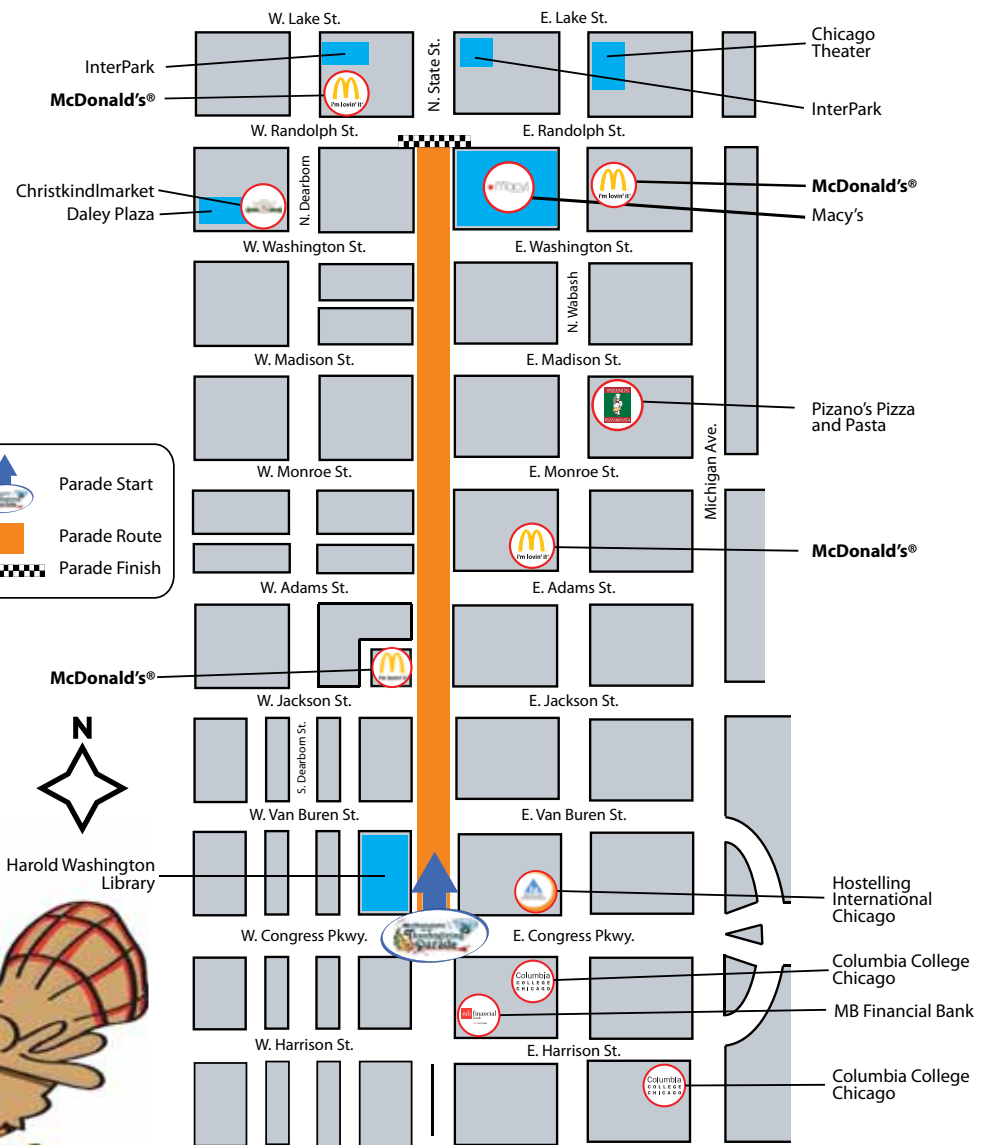
7 Staged Performances

- C.D. Peacock presents Chicagoland Fred Astaire Dance Studio
- C.D. Peacock presents Drury Lane Oakbrook Theatre's performance of "Mame"
- C.D. Peacock presents Drury Lane Water Tower Theatre's performance of "Meet Me in St. Louis"
- C.D. Peacock presents Circle Theatre's performance of "Gentleman Prefer Blondes"
- S.A. Peck presents Light Opera Works performance of "The Music Man"
- S.A. Peck presents Theatre at the Center's performance of "A Wonderful Life"
- Broadway in Chicago performance from "Dirty Dancing - The Classic Story on Stage"



Honored Guests

- CM Punk from World Wrestling Entertainment
- Honorary Grand Marshal Ronald McDonald®
- Hyatt Regency Chicago presents Miss Illinois/Miss Chicago - Katie Lorenz
- Hyatt Regency Chicago presents Miss Illinois Outstanding Teen - Emily Travis
- McDonald's® Owners of Chicagoland & NW Indiana President Ron Lofton
- The Chicago cast of "The Jersey Boys"
- The Harlem Globetrotters



NOT TO SCALE

Holiday Tradition



photo by: Dennis Grabow

Ronald McDonald® and a cast of thousands are proud to bring you the historic 75th edition of the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade, marching down State Street on Thanksgiving Day, November 27th from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. CST. Awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus, over 400,000 street side spectators and 75 million cable homes will be moving their feet to the melodic carols of marching bands, gazing skyward at the gigantic inflatable helium balloons making their way down State Street, and waving at the talented entertainers in decorative floats dispensing holiday cheer. There is fun to be had by all at the biggest holiday parade in the Midwest!

This year's parade is bigger and better than ever, including appearances by the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales (also celebrating their 75th anniversary), the Chicago casts of "Jersey Boys" and "Dirty Dancing," the flame-twirling Barefoot Hawaiians, current World Wrestling Entertainment™ Superstar CM Punk, and the Red Hats

and Purple Chaps.

Spectators will be wowed with the acrobatics of the Jesse White Tumbling Team, the toe-tapping tunes of the Official McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade Band performed by Proviso East High School, and the rhythmic movements of Renacer Boliviano Folkloric, plus an over-the-top opening performance by the stars of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey®.

The McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade is the only city parade to feature a multitude of balloons every year and this year will feature 12 sky-scraping giant characters soaring above State Street. Twenty-five marching bands from 10 states will also participate.


Starting as the Christmas Caravan in the 1930s, the parade was created to help lift the spirits of residents suffering through the Great Depression. The parade moved to State Street in 1935, as economic conditions forced the floats to be pulled along with trolley carts. Through the

years, the parade has seen a few changes, but has always remained a staple in Downtown Chicago. McDonald's has participated in the parade for over 20 years and was title sponsor of the parade from 1984-1989 and the past two years.

WGN-TV9 and WGN-DT 9.1 will air the parade live and in high definition from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. CST on Thursday, Nov. 27. WGN America will also broadcast the parade nationally, establishing it as one of only three parades in the country to be covered live, in its entirety, on a national television broadcast.

For more information about the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade, contact the Chicago Festival Association at (312) 235-2217 or log on to www.chicagofestivals.org.

McDonald's is the title sponsor of the 2008 Thanksgiving Parade. Supporting sponsors include Columbia College Chicago, Case New Holland, C.D. Peacock, S.A. Peck & Co., and MB Financial.




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sweet chocolate
steamy espresso

BRING THIS
COUPON IN FOR
A FREE SMALL
HOT MOCHA

enjoy from
11/28 - 12/3



i'm lovin' it®

Valid at participating McDonald's of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana from 11/28/08 - 12/3/08. Limit one small hot McCafé Mocha or small Premium Roast Coffee per person per visit. Void where prohibited. May not be valid for custom orders. Cash value 1/20 of 1¢. Free coffee not valid with any other offer, coupon, discount or as part of an Extra Value Meal®. Coupon may not be transferred, copied or duplicated in any way or transmitted via electronic media. © 2008 McDonald's Printed in the United States of America.

McDONALD'S® THANKSGIVING PARADE GIFT TO COMMUNITY

The local McDonald's Owners of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana and McDonald's Corp. are proud to be title sponsors of the 2008 McDonald's® Thanksgiving Parade.

McDonald's, the leading quick service restaurant group, continues its commitment to community partnerships, including support of institutions and traditions such as Chicago's annual parade.

Ron Lofton, President of the local McDonald's Owners of Chicagoland & NW Indiana association, said, "We look forward to providing a lot of excitement and spreading important messages about charity and kids throughout the holiday season."

McDonald's proudly supports Ronald McDonald House Charities® and its core programs. Locally, Ronald McDonald House Charities has three Ronald McDonald Houses® in the Chicago area, with a fourth house soon to open. Ronald McDonald Houses across the globe provide a home-away-from-home for families of seriously ill children who receive treatment at nearby hospitals.

Local Ronald McDonald Houses include: Ronald McDonald House near Children's Memorial Hospital, Ronald McDonald House near University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald House near Loyola University Medical Center. A new house is opening in December near Advocate Hope Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn.

Chicago is also home to a Ronald McDonald Care Mobile®, one of 32 across the globe. The state-of-the-art Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is a custom designed vehicle that delivers cost effective primary medical care directly to underserved children in their own neighborhood, taking one more step toward the goal of improving the health and well-being of the children in our communities. The Care Mobile has served over 2,500 kids since February of this year.

The local McDonald's Owners of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana also support community events such as the McDonald's L.A.T.E. Ride, benefiting Friends of the Parks; the McDonald's Kids Triathlon, which also helps support Team in Training, benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society; the McDonald's Girls Shootout supporting high school athletics; free "Get Movin' with Ronald McDonald" educational programs for schools; free workouts on the Great Lawn at Millennium Park; plus McDonald's Chinatown Summer Fair.

McDonald's wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season!

McCAFÉ ADDS TO THE WARMTH OF THE HOLIDAYS

The local McDonald's Owners of Chicagoland and NW Indiana are proud to unveil McCafé in over 300 McDonald's Chicagoland/NW Indiana restaurants, with more locations to follow before the end of 2008.

"Consumers love our premium roast coffee and we're so proud to now offer espresso-based drinks, as well as hot chocolate and caramel beverages, during the holiday season and year-round," says Ron Lofton, president of the local McDonald's Owners of Chicagoland & NW Indiana association.

New products will include: hot chocolate, iced and hot mochas, vanilla cappuccino, caramel iced latte, and hazelnut latte to name a few. Whole or non-fat milk available. All at affordable prices!

The McCafé concept has met rave reviews in Europe, Asia, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada.

"Adding to the warmth of Midwesterners, we're proud to launch McCafé locally this holiday season," adds Lofton.

PIZANO'S

One of the pioneers of the pizza inland movement was Rudy Malnati, who in 1943 established Pizzeria Uno on Chicago's near north side. An unpretentious lower level bar and restaurant, Pizzeria Uno quickly developed a substantial following among pizza lovers around Chicago and led to the establishment of Pizzeria Due, a more upscale version of Uno.

Later the son of Rudy Malnati Jr., followed in his father's footsteps and established his own pizza trend, Pizano's Pizza and Pasta in early 1997. Pizano's offer a superb deep dish and thin crust pizza. Even to this day the crust is made from the original family recipe, which is known only by his mother and is well protected by her. Offered alongside their outstanding pizzas, homemade sauces, pasta dishes, Italian chicken specials, sandwiches and salads are served to satisfy all appetites.

Recently, Pizano's has been recognized by various media sources for their one of a kind pizza. They have been named the #1 thin crust in Chicago by Oprah, spotlighted by the Chicago Sun-Times, and named as one of the "top 10 thin crusts in the United States" by USA Today. Pizano's has also been featured on various television stations such as Channel 7 during their Action News at 5 Hungry Hound segment, NBC Channel 5, and CBS Channel 2.

As of now, Pizano's has three locations, two are in the heart of Chicago. The original location is in the Gold Coast at 864 N. State Street, their second location is in the loop at 61 E. Madison, and a third location in Glenview, IL. With the ambiance of old fashioned family dining, Pizano's continues the tradition of great food at reasonable prices and maintaining the deliciousness that customers have come to know and love.

S.A.PECK & CO

S.A.Peck & Co. a diamond importer and fine jewelry manufacturer has been a Chicago institution since 1921, and now you can buy diamonds at internet prices at S.A.Peck & Co.

When you buy from S.A.Peck, & Co. you buy the way jewelers buy...direct from the source. Buying diamonds in extremely large quantities in their New York buying offices is the first of many economies in making S.A.Peck & Co. jewelry.

Normally, diamonds go from the diamond mines to a diamond cutter, then to a polisher, an importer, a manufacturer, a wholesaler, a retailer and finally to the consumer. S.A.Peck & Co. buys diamonds direct from the cutter, eliminating four steps of middlemen to save you money. As a result, you can buy with confidence knowing that at S.A.Peck, you can now buy diamonds at internet prices on Michigan Avenue.

S.A.Peck & Co. guarantees that their customers will buy at the best price or they will refund the buyer's money within 30 days.

In 2003 S.A.Peck & Co. moved from the landmark Pittsfield Building to 342 N. Michigan Avenue (corner of Michigan and Wacker) where they continue their tradition as Chicago's value priced quality diamond house.

Stop in during your next stroll down Michigan Avenue and treat yourself to S.A.Peck & Co.'s vast bridal collection as well as their \$50 million diamond inventory, mountings, color stone and diamond jewelry and pearls.

S.A.Peck & Co. also offers repair and appraisal services.

WGN-TV

Chicago's Very Own WGN-TV is proud to once again be the home for a grand Chicago tradition with the broadcast of the 75th annual McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade! Kids of all ages will kick off the holiday season watching three hours of fun and festivities on WGN, live and in high definition, Thursday, November 27 starting at 8am! Robin Baumgarten and Paul Konrad from WGN Morning News will serve as parade co-hosts.

Robin and Paul, along with WGN's Marcella Raymond reporting from street-side, will capture all of the parade's exciting sights and sounds as it rolls down Chicago's legendary State Street, including Chicago's favorite clown "Bozo" and several members of the WGN News team appearing on the WGN-TV float. The three-hour McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade will also air live nationally on WGN America starting at 9am ET (6am PT).

Celebrating 60 years of broadcasting, WGN-TV is Chicago's Very Own for good reason. WGN first televised the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade (originally the State Street Christmas Parade) in 1966. Today, from sports to news to community service to programming, the station embodies everything that is Chicago, with ownership based in Chicago. WGN Sports brings home more than a 140 games from the Chicago Cubs, White Sox, Bulls and Blackhawks. WGN News, featuring Chicago's most trusted meteorologist Tom Skilling, delivers the latest local news and information Morning, Midday, 5:30pm and Nine. Community projects like WGN-TV Children's Charities have distributed more than \$30 million to Chicago area organizations. WGN-TV is home to The CW Television Network and carries a diverse slate of programming including America's Next Top Model, Smallville and 90210 as well as locally-produced specials like the Chicago Auto Show, Stories of Hope: Facing Breast Cancer, and the annual holiday favorite Bozo, Gar & Ray: WGN TV Classics.

Happy Holidays from the entire WGN-TV family!

93.9 WLIT, THE HOLIDAY LITE, IS CHICAGO'S HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

93.9 WLIT, The Holiday Lite, is Chicago's Home for the Holidays, playing wall-to-wall Christmas Music all season long. Welcoming Santa back to Chicago is the Holiday Lite's mascot, Edison the Lite-Nosed Reindeer and the Holiday Lite Elf Patrol.

WLIT is granting Christmas Wishes all season long. Whether it's a plane ticket to visit Grandma or toys for the kids, visit WLIT.com, Keyword: Wish, and tell us how we can help make YOUR holiday season a little brighter!

Melissa Forman drives you to work each weekday morning from 5:30am to 9am and workdays are always better when you work with Robin Rock and 93.9 The Lite!

NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION OF JOUSTING AND DINING IN SCHAUMBURG

Romance and chivalry on New Year's Eve? You'll find it at Medieval Times in Schaumburg. Ring in 2008 as 'Royalty' amongst all of the splendor, pomp and pageantry of the 11th Century!

Enjoy the activity begins in the Great Hall of their beautifully decorated castle. After the 'Call to Table' you will witness inside the Grand Ceremonial Arena all of the heart pounding drama, dazzling romance, amazing horsemanship, lance shattering jousting and daring hand-to-hand combat of the two hour dinner and tournament all while dining on a sumptuous four course medieval feast fit for a King.

At the New Year's Eve special performance, the legend of a kingdom is threatened by treachery, but ultimately strengthened by courage that thunders into the Grand Ceremonial Arena. While the show has all the action and glorious pageantry, guests will experience a Princess's love for a handsome, gallant knight – and a riveting confrontation between a turncoat warrior and a surprise defender of the crown.

The story begins with the battle-weary King and his stalwart Marshal and Knights returning to the Castle after a fierce clash with an invading army. The attackers have been defeated, but the King's brother paid for the victory with his life. The King calls for a grand tournament to determine the realm's new champion. As a four-course feast is served up to hungry guests, the Knights spar in tournament games and jousts. Hanging over the lavish spectacle is an ominous warning from the royal soothsayer – the restless spirit of the slain Prince will not know peace until his treacherous murder is avenged.

As the plot unfolds with shocking twists and turns, truth, honor and love eventually triumph over evil, and peace is restored to the kingdom. An unexpected event in the final minutes of the show rocks the crowd, and brings them to their feet in a deafening wave of thunderous cheers.

Following the performance, the Hall of Arms comes alive with music and dancing while a DJ plays hits from the past and present as they begin the countdown to the New Year. Try out in their 'Medieval Idol' Karaoke contest and compete for prizes. Toast the New Year with champagne, party favors, and a balloon drop at midnight followed by a continental breakfast.

Medieval Times is more than a dinner attraction especially on New Year's Eve – it's a window in time where the glory, chivalry, valor and honor of old burst to life in thrilling authentic tournament action. All tickets for this performance are \$69.95 per person. Tax and gratuity are additional.

For those who would rather be asleep at midnight, their 6:00 pm dinner and tournament is truly ideal for guests of all ages! Enjoy their exciting 2-hour show at an earlier kid friendly time. Adults are \$55.95 and children 12 and under are \$39.95 for this performance (before tax and gratuity).

Medieval Times is conveniently located at the intersection of I-90 and Roselle Road in Schaumburg. Call now or visit them on the web at www.medievaltimes.com to make your reservations for a New Year's Eve you won't soon forget.

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL CHICAGO

Chicago's great downtown hostel, the J.Ira and Nicki Harris Family Hostel operated by Hostelling International Chicago, is excited to be a sponsor of The McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade, a great Chicago tradition. The hostel is a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving the Chicago community through tourism and education. We provide exceptional accommodations for travelers from around the country and the world at our convenient downtown location, at the corner of Congress and Wabash. Amazingly, the cost for staying at the hostel starts at only \$28 a night! Travelers enjoy shared, spacious, dormitory-style rooms in a clean, safe, and comfortable environment. Cultural exchange is always present, especially in the morning at the hostel's free continental breakfast. Travelers rated HI-Chicago the Best Large Hostel in the World 2006 and 2007.

During 2008, the hostel will host over 85,000 overnights, fulfilling its mission to open up the wonders of Chicago to a world of travelers, especially young and adventurous ones. The Harris Hostel is one in a network of 75 Hostelling International hostels in the USA and over 4000 hostels worldwide. Hostelling International is the leader in budget accommodations. Get out and see the USA and the world by enjoying hostels as a way to make your adventures go farther.

Hostelling International Chicago is also deeply committed to educating the Chicago area's young people about cultural understanding while teaching them to live together with respect and appreciation for difference. Hostelling International Chicago partners with teachers and youth leaders throughout Chicagoland to bring our cultural learning curricula into their classrooms. Each year over 1500 students become better prepared for the diversity of adult life both locally and internationally at the hostel.

To learn more about Chicago's exceptional hostel, check us out at www.hichicago.org.

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Birthday Parties/Groups: 312.595.5987
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*** 13th Annual ***
Christkindlmarket Chicago
November 27 - December 24, 2008

A Traditional German American Holiday Market
Open Daily for Holiday Fun! Admission is Free!

Featuring: Traditional Ornaments & Toys ★ Nutcrackers
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 Food, Glühwein & Beer ★ and much more!

Christkindlmarket Chicago is located at Daley Plaza -
Between Washington, Clark & Dearborn Streets

Opening Hours:
 Mondays - Thursdays 11 am - 8 pm
 Fridays - Saturdays 11 am - 9 pm
 Sundays 11 am - 8 pm

Special Hours:
 Thanksgiving Day, November 27 11 am - 4 pm
 Christmas Eve, December 24 11 am - 4 pm

For further information please contact us at
312.494.2175 or visit www.christkindlmarket.com

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 AHK
 In cooperation with
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 Richard M. Daley, Mayor

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KIDS & TEENS ARE FREE!

Limit 1 kid/teen 18 & under at discounted rate per 1 full paying adult admission. Must mention code THKTF at time of purchase to receive discount. Not valid for gift certificates or when combined with any other offer. Additional restrictions may apply. Reservations are required. Valid at the Schaumburg Castle only. Expires 12/31/08. Not Valid for New Years Eve at 9:00

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MEDIAEVALTIMES.COM

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON

LOOKING FOR A PARTY WORTH HEADING OUT FOR ON NEW YEAR'S EVE?

Then we have the party for you! Hyatt Regency Chicago is hosting the best New Year's Eve celebration in the city. You're invited to join us for cocktails, cuisine, live entertainment, games, prizes, and all the countdown festivities. Call 312-239-4536 for more information.

HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO ON THE RIVERWALK

Hyatt Regency Chicago 151 E. Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60601 www.chicagoregency.hyatt.com

神韻 DIVINE PERFORMING ARTS

CHINESE NEW YEAR SPECTACULAR
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"Extravagantly beautiful... brilliant choreography."
 - Broadway World

"Spectacular performance"
 - Chicago Tribune

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Presented by Mid-USA Falun Dafa Association & Sound of Hope Radio NFP
Ticket are 20% OFF till 11/30 with code TG20

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

The Chicago Park District, in its 8th consecutive season with the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade, is pleased to celebrate the new holiday season with the City of Chicago.

In 2009 the Chicago Park District will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary. As one of the oldest and financially largest park districts in the nation, the Chicago Park District manages over 7600 acres of parkland that includes 26 miles of Chicago's lakefront, more than 600 acres of natural areas, 16 historic lagoons, 250 field houses, two world-class conservatories and thousands of special events, sports and entertaining programs. The Park District's mission is to enhance the quality of life in Chicago by becoming the leading provider of recreation and leisure opportunities, while providing safe, inviting and beautifully maintained parks and facilities, creating a customer focused and responsive park system. The Chicago Park District is committed to offering park patrons an open, active, green and connected park system. With over 570 parks across Chicago, the Park District offers programs and events year round.

The Park District is proud to have the Davis Square Park Marching Band under the direction of Vernon Lloyd participating in the parade. The band started in 2008, and dozens of excited young people come to practice after school everyday. Mr. Lloyd and the young musicians proudly represent the Chicago Park District at events and parades around the City of Chicago.

To find out more information about the programs and special events offered in your neighborhood, go to www.chicagoparkdistrict.com or call 312.742.play.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

Columbia College Chicago is one of the foremost visual, performing, and media arts colleges in the nation – and a cultural jewel in Chicago's South Loop. Each year, more than 300,000 patrons attend Columbia's cultural events, making the school one of Chicago's premier presenters of diverse arts programming.

The college annually presents hundreds of performances, screenings, installations, readings, and exhibits by innovative visual artists, filmmakers, musicians, dancers, and writers. The Chicago Jazz Ensemble®, directed by Jon Faddis, regularly presents jazz greats in concert. The Dance Center features world-renowned dance companies, such as David Dorfman Dance, Trisha Brown, and Japan Dance Now. The annual Story Week (in March) and Creative Nonfiction Week (in October) attract writers and readers alike.

The Museum of Contemporary Photography presents the works of master photographers like Dorothea Lange, David Anderson, and Michael Wolf. The college's 10 other galleries exhibit visual and interdisciplinary art from working artists around the globe.

Columbia's "Conversations in the Arts" series brings cultural icons like Julie Andrews, James Earl Jones, Edward James Olmos, and Salman Rushdie to Chicago for intimate conversations in small-theater settings.

This year's college-wide initiative and the Beats go on ... celebrates the cultural legacy of the Beat Generation with dozens of presentations, including the display of Jack Kerouac's iconic typescript scroll of *On the Road*.

Columbia presented over 700 student programs last year alone. The Hair Trigger anthology, edited by Fiction Writing students, has won 23 national awards over the last 29 years for top student-run publications. Columbia is also home to award-winning radio and television stations, newspapers, magazines, and recording companies.

Columbia's faculty includes best-selling authors, Fulbright scholars, Pulitzer-Prize winners, and six Guggenheim Fellows – more than any other college. In the last five years, Columbia alumni received 33 Emmy nominations.

The college's nearly 12,500 students apply from 47 different states and 41 countries, making Columbia the largest and most diverse private arts and media college in the nation.

The college is also an integral contributor to the vibrancy of the South Loop, acting as its largest property owner. The college occupies over 2.5 million square feet of space in 22 buildings – with 2,700 students living on campus in five innovative residence centers. Columbia makes a financial impact of nearly \$300 million annually on the Chicago economy.

Founded in 1890 as a communications school for women, Columbia transitioned in 1963 to a liberal arts college with a "hands-on minds-on" approach to arts and media education. Under the leadership of President Warrick L. Carter, Ph.D., Columbia continues to aggressively pursue its mission of bringing a multiplicity of voices into the creation of culture through its diverse students and alumni. For further information, visit www.colum.edu.

CHICAGOLAND TOASTMASTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN 75TH ANNUAL MCDONALD'S® THANKSGIVING PARADE

"Speak with Confidence" is the theme of this year's parade participation by the Chicagoland members of Toastmasters International.

Chicagoland Toastmasters (District 30) proudly boasts 3,500 members in 160 clubs spread throughout Chicago and its suburbs. For the third year in a row, over 50 Toastmasters will serve as parade announcers, positioned on custom-built platforms, demonstrating their public speaking skills by entertaining the crowd and identifying parade participants as they pass by. Additionally, other Toastmaster's members will be stationed along the Thanksgiving Parade route, at the street level, to cheer on the marchers and hand out information about the organization.

Toastmasters International is a worldwide organization dedicated to improving members' communication and leadership skills. With over 200,000 members in 90 countries, it is the world's leading personal and professional development association. Toastmasters' clubs usually consist of 20-30 members who meet weekly or bi-weekly to practice a wide variety of speaking and leadership skills. Some clubs hold their meetings in the evening, others on weekends or early in the morning. No matter what your personal schedule may be, there is likely a club nearby that will fit right into your schedule!

New members are always welcome and are gradually eased into the fun of public speaking. First, you might volunteer to tell a short joke to open a meeting, or you may decide to try your hand at impromptu speaking - always on general subjects that require no special knowledge. Next, you can prepare and present a speech of your own on any topic you wish: your favorite hobby, your job, or the wonderful vacation you just experienced. Whatever your current skill level and comfort level, there is a place for you in this amazing organization!

For more information on joining a group that truly makes public speaking fun, call 1-888-8WE-SPEAK or visit www.toastmasters.org for the name and contact information of the club nearest you. And, most importantly, look for a friendly Toastmaster at the 75th Annual McDonald's® Thanksgiving Parade!

THE BIG EASY ON CHICAGO'S SOUTHSIDE- 115 BOURBON STREET

Imagine a place where you can sit outside dining on steak, pasta, jambalaya, gumbo and more while watching the sunset. Imagine after dinner, being able to walk just a few feet and see a national concert or that Sox or Bears game on big screens everywhere you turn or tossing bean bags and bocce balls. Imagine after the concert, walking a few feet more and losing yourself in the sound and lights of a nightclub and dancing until 3:00am or have the option of catching a regional band's live show on another stage. Imagine a place where you don't have to pay to park, a place where they bring your car to you when you're ready to leave.

That's 115 Bourbon Street, a 40,000 square foot Mardi Gras Themed Family Entertainment Complex located on the Southwest side of Chicago in Merrionette Park, Illinois.

Remember the Chicago White Sox in the World Series, 115 Bourbon Street was the place to see the games. Last year with the Chicago Bears on the road to the Super Bowl, 115 Bourbon Street had Bears Fever, cheering on the home team is a customer favorite at this entertainment complex.

Nine years ago, brothers Nick and Vince DiNovo along with their father Anthony didn't set out to build "the south side's largest entertainment complex". Their idea was much simpler.

"We wanted to build a family owned business where we could work with our friends and provide the community a place where they could come with their friends and family, enjoy dinner, watch some sports, relax outside and see some entertainment," says owner Nick DiNovo, "So, we took a chance and built 115 Bourbon Street."

Stop in at 115 Bourbon Street and meet their very own alligator for everyone to visit when walking in the front doors. Stay for Mardi Gras at Midnight when the staff celebrates with the crowds by throwing out beads, t-shirts, hats and more for their bars and balconies.

Whether you are visiting 115 Bourbon Street for its extensive menu of American fare with a touch of New Orleans Cajun Flair, it's Beer Garden, to watch the Sox, Bulls, Bears and, yes, even the Cubs or you came to see your favorite band, to dance in the Nightclub or attending a benefit, have a business meeting or a holiday party remember, it's the place for everyone and don't forget "It's all about the beads!"

For more information on 115 Bourbon Street, visit www.115BourbonStreet.com.

DIVINE PERFORMING ARTS (DPA)

The people of China once saw their culture as divinely bestowed, and Divine Performing Arts (DPA reflects that belief. Based in New York, DPA is a nonprofit organization that is independent of China's communist regime, under which the traditional arts have suffered for decades.

DPA presents classical Chinese dance and music in gloriously colorful and exhilarating shows. An art form some three millennia old, Chinese dance is refreshingly dynamic and expressive. Ancient legends and heroic figures come to life through its leaps, spins, and delicate gestures.

Each season, DPA premieres over a dozen new dances and songs. The DPA orchestra performs all-original compositions while combining classical Western and Chinese instruments as has never been done before. State-of-the art, animated digital backdrops conjure up blossoming landscapes and celestial palaces.

Chicago Tribune commented "(The backdrops) not only evoke soothing, pastoral landscapes, but include moving images that zoom around the screen with cinematic ingenuity."

In the past three years, DPA has toured to nearly 70 cities in twenty countries and has won acclaim worldwide.

Donn Murphy, the President of the National Theatre in Washington, D.C., comments that the shows are "...a highly professional, well thought out and beautifully produced presentation! This is not only entertainment, but a valuable cross-over cultural event: a strong, gracious gesture toward international understanding, in an all-too-troubled world."

Invited by mid USA Falun Dafa Association and Sound of Hope Radio, NFP, the DPA: Chinese New Year Spectacular will grace the stage of Chicago for the 4th time with a new production.

DPA: Chinese New Year Spectacular

When: 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 27; 2 pm Dec. 28

Where: Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Drive

Price: \$38-\$198;

Information/ticket: <http://Chicago-Shows.com>; 312-225-5120.

13TH ANNUAL CHRISTKINDLMARKET CHICAGO AT DALEY PLAZA

Starting November 27th and open daily until December 24th, this free event will get everyone in the holiday spirit. Experience one of the greatest holiday festivals here in downtown Chicago! Christkindlmarket Chicago, with its cheerful sights, sounds and tastes, has become the largest holiday market outside of Germany and draws thousands of visitors every year from the Midwest, across the nation and abroad!

The old world charm of Christkindlmarket Chicago lends an authentic and traditional feeling to the modern and fast paced world of downtown Chicago. The Christkindlmarket transforms Daley Plaza into a charming holiday village that offers unique shopping and exceptional culinary experiences with over 50 vendors, festive live entertainment and a good helping of German Gemütlichkeit.

Christkindlmarket Chicago hosts a one-of-a-kind shopping experience with distinctive holiday gifts, glass, wood, and straw ornaments, high quality hand-made jewelry, clothing and wooden crafts with vendors and products from Germany, Europe, North and South America.

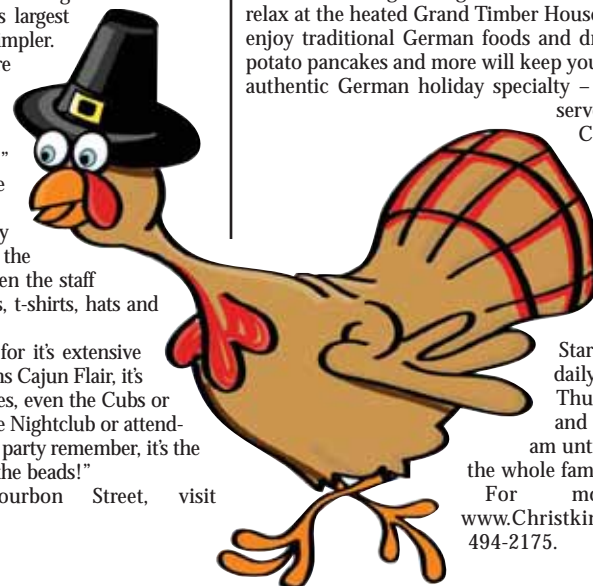
After strolling through the charming red and white striped huts, relax at the heated Grand Timber House or Festival Tent where you can enjoy traditional German foods and drinks. Schnitzel, brats, strudel, potato pancakes and more will keep your stomach full and a taste of the authentic German holiday specialty – Glühwein (a hot spiced wine) served in the signature collectible

Christkindlmarket mug will warm you through and through.

Visit the Christkindlmarket right after the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade for a sneak peek on November 27th, when it opens at 11 am until 4 pm.

Starting November 27th and open daily until December 24th, Sunday – Thursday from 11 am until 8 pm and Fridays and Saturdays from 11 am until 9 pm. This free event will get the whole family in the holiday spirit.

For more information visit www.Christkindlmarket.com or call (312) 494-2175.





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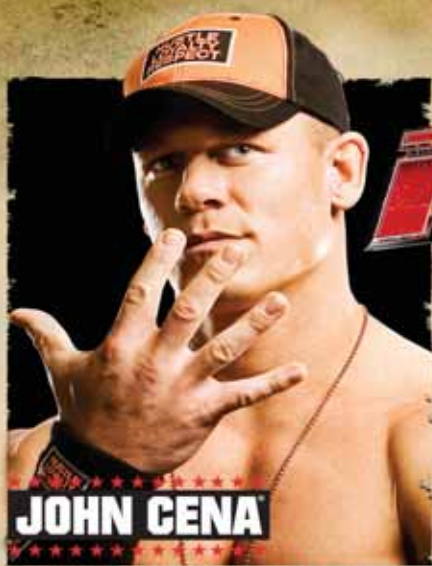
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Columbia College Chicago

the South Loop's gateway to the arts....

Columbia College Chicago is pleased to support the 2008 McDonald's® Thanksgiving Parade.

Columbia College Chicago is the largest and most diverse arts and media college in the nation and one of Chicago's foremost presenters of arts programming—offering hundreds of dance, music and theater performances, as well as film screenings, readings, gallery exhibits and public lectures to more than 300,000 patrons each year.

Check our calendar for the full schedule of events:
colum.edu/events

Columbia

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INNOVATION IN THE VISUAL, PERFORMING, MEDIA, AND COMMUNICATION ARTS


SELECTED EVENTS:

MUSIC
The Chicago Jazz Ensemble® performs with Paquito D'Rivera (Dec. 12); CJE vocalist Bobbi Wilsyn joins for *The Great American Songbook* (Feb. 20)

DANCE
Japan Dance Now (Feb. 5-7);
The Seldoms (Feb. 26-28);
Mordine & Company Dance Theater (Feb. 26-28)

THEATER
The Pirates of Penzance (Feb. 18-Mar. 1)

LECTURES
Conversations in the Arts: The Founders Lectures, with Sir Ken Robinson (Dec. 2) and Anna Deavere Smith (Jan. 27)



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The MOUTHPIECESPORTS social community also gives fans a chance to show their love of the game through interaction with other fans and even athletes. Create a profile where you can post pictures, blogs, and videos, and dish about whatever interests you. You can even leave a message for your favorite player to read.

As a newcomer to the Chicago sports scene, MOUTHPIECESPORTS.COM is honored to be a part of the tradition of the Thanksgiving Day Parade! We are excited to share this special holiday with such a great sports town and our new home!

Visit MOUTHPIECESPORTS.COM and go behind the sports scenes to hear the voice of the athletes.

VON HEIDECKE'S NUTCRACKER

The Nutcracker is a time-honored tradition for thousands of Chicagoland families, and one of the most innovative, colorful and professional Nutcrackers is that of Von Heidecke's Chicago Festival Ballet.

World renowned choreographer Kenneth von Heidecke's Nutcracker will light up the stage on Nov. 30 at the Rialto Square Theater in Joliet and on Dec. 19th, 20th and 21st at the McAninch Performing Arts Center at College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn. All performances are accompanied live by the New Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Kirk Muspratt.

Von Heidecke is the protégé of legendary Prima Ballerina Assoluta, Maria Tallchief, who endorses von Heidecke's Nutcracker. She says, "Balanchine's version of The Nutcracker is considered the best, and von Heidecke's version measures up to that beautifully. It is truly magical." Tallchief was the original Sugarplum Fairy in George Balanchine's 1954 version of "The Nutcracker," and today, she is the Artistic Advisor to the Chicago Festival Ballet.

Von Heidecke's School of Ballet, with studios in Joliet, Naperville and Chicago was named by Dance Spirit Magazine in New York as one of the top four best ballet schools in the entire Chicago metro area. More than 30 of von Heidecke's students have gone on to professional careers. One of his former students was featured in a principal role in the film, "Center Stage".

Last year, Von Heidecke was inducted into the Fox Valley Arts Hall of Fame and over the last few years, has appeared on WGN, NBC, ABC, WTTW and many film documentaries. Currently, filmmaker Stuart Meyer is filming a documentary on the life and career of Kenneth von Heidecke. For information on the school, phone 630-527-1052. For Nutcracker tickets; phone Rialto Square Theatre, Joliet at 815-726-6600, or McAninch Arts Center, Glen Ellyn at 630-942-4000.



DICK'S LAST RESORT

There's no better place to celebrate the holidays in Chicago than at Dick's Last Resort. For the third straight year, Dick's is taking their holiday spirit to the streets by joining the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade. To show how "Fired up" they are to be a part of the parade; the staff of Dick's is manning a red vintage fire engine as their float. Not just any fire engine though, it's the "Academy Rig," which is the 1966 E-One Pumper fire engine that was formerly the City of Chicago Fire Department's training engine.

Dick's Last Resort has been helping Chicagoans celebrate the holiday season for 20 years – from private and corporate parties to their famous Jimmy Buffet, Mardi Gras or even the New Year's Eve bash. What ever the occasion, Dick's will be slinging stiff cocktails, hosting napkin fights and serving stainless steel buckets of ribs, chicken, catfish and shrimp to tourist types and lost locals. The new location in Marina City opened October 30, 2008 and will be continuing all these traditions. Stop by for Sunday brunch, which includes a Beatles tribute band, a Bloody Mary bar and all you can eat homestyle eats.

Dick's Last Resort is located in the Marina City towers at 315 N. Dearborn at the River.

C.D. PEACOCK

Since its founding in 1837, C.D. Peacock has been Chicago's premier source of luxury: fine diamonds, jewelry, timepieces and giftware. Today, with five Chicagoland locations, the privately-owned watch and jewelry retailer continues to surpass its client's expectations with a commitment to service, selection and satisfaction that is truly hard to come by.

The House of Peacock first opened its doors on February 9, 1837, the same year Chicago was incorporated as a city with a population of 4,000. Founder Elijah Peacock, a skilled third generation watch and jewelry repairman, was lauded by his contemporaries for using his craft to repair pocket watches.

When the great fire engulfed the city in 1871, headlines read, "Chicago in Ruin." Fortunately the House of Peacock survived; all the valuable merchandise had been locked in a fireproof vault.

Eighteen years later, Elijah passed the mantle to his son, Charles Daniel, and in 1889, the name was changed to C.D. Peacock. As the city grew, C.D. Peacock expanded along with it.

From the earliest days, C.D. Peacock's record books read like a veritable Who's Who of Chicago: George M. Pullman; Potter Palmer, Marshall Field, Mary Todd Lincoln. Today, C.D. Peacock continues to cater discreetly to celebrities from Chicago and all parts of the United States.

Chicagoans who understand luxury keep coming back to C.D. Peacock for unending selections of the most prestigious Swiss watch brands including Rolex, Patek Philippe, Corum, and Panerai.

World famous jewelry designers like Hearts on Fire, Kwiat, Mikimoto, Roberto Coin, and Di Modolo add to the glitter.

C.D. Peacock has always maintained a strong commitment to its loyal clientele. We believe that a client, like a fine diamond, should be forever. With our ongoing commitment to them, C.D. Peacock plans to be serving the Chicago area for another 171 years, at least.

WHAT YOU SHOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT MB FINANCIAL BANK

Since 1911, MB has had a successful history in the Chicago area. In 2001, the name of the bank changed to "MB Financial Bank." MB Financial Bank resulted from the merger of Manufacturers Bank and MidCity National Bank, two well-managed Chicago banks.

They have withstood business cycle downturns in the past and are well-positioned to successfully navigate this one. Economic peaks (expansions) and valleys (recessions) are natural parts of the U.S. business cycle, as are stock market ups and downs.

MB is profitable, well-capitalized and exceeds all of the capital requirements established by regulators. Simply defined, "capital" is the money a business has saved for a "rainy day," and is available to build its business.

Their loan portfolio has a healthy mix of commercial, industrial, real estate and consumer loans. MB did not participate in sub-prime lending, and they carefully watch their concentrations in any one type of lending.

MB Financial Bank is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). That means that the FDIC insures the deposits of MB Financial Bank customers up to the maximum limits allowed by law. Plus, MB is a member of the CDARS network, and through the network can help individuals obtain FDIC insurance on deposits up to \$50 million.

Locally-operated, MB Financial Bank is committed to the communities it serves. With over 70 locations in the Chicago metropolitan area, MB has been delivering competitive personalized service to both businesses and neighborhood residents for nearly 100 years.

To learn more, go to www.mbfinc.com, call 1.888.i bank mb (1.888.422.6562) or, stop by any of MB's locations, most open seven days a week.

CHICAGO FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION'S ADOPT-A-SOLDIER PROGRAM

The Chicago Festival Association is proud to announce its support of the National Leadership Foundation's Adopt-a-Soldier Program.

Adopt-a-Soldier is a national program designed to match troops going overseas with individuals willing to provide monthly care packages. Volunteers must commit to delivering at least one package per month for the duration of a troop's tour, providing toiletries, food items and other useful supplies to soldiers who might otherwise never receive a package from the states.

NLF founder Elliot Goldman says the Adopt-a-Soldier program provides volunteers with monthly e-mail reminders and suggestions, including creative ideas for holiday gift packages.

"It is amazing how much the smallest reminder of home can mean to our brave soldiers," said Goldman. "And it's been our experience that the volunteers get nearly as much out of this program as the soldiers they are supporting."

Adopt-a-Soldier places primary focus on unmarried soldiers with little or no family support. If funding and volunteer levels allow, the program then works to distribute care packages to married soldiers, with privates and corporals receiving priority over non-commissioned officers and officers.

"Some of the men and women serving our country are literally orphans, having joined the military after aging out of the foster care system. Others have little or no family back home," Goldman said. "With the Adopt-a-Soldier program, we can be like family to the members of our military serving overseas, and show respect and support for their efforts on our behalf."

The NLF Adopt-a-Soldier was founded in 2006, and has provided support for military personnel from the 110th Cavalry 4th Infantry Division, and the 4227th Apache Attack Helicopter Squad.

The Adopt a Soldier is currently looking for funding to support volunteer efforts in the Chicago area. For more information on how you can contribute to this important effort, log onto the NLF website at: www.nationalleadershipfoundation.org.

HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO

Celebrate the New Year at Hyatt Regency Chicago and the best party of the year!

Hyatt Regency Chicago and 104.3 JACK FM present a New Year's Eve celebration truly worthy of gathering all your friends, counting down to the New Year, and letting us entertain you all night. There is much to celebrate! If you are looking for a great night ringing in the New Year with a good time and good friends, not to mention hosted by the best Chicago hotel and radio station, then this is the celebration for you.

Tickets include open bar, dinner buffet with open seating, live acclaimed Chicago band – 7th Heaven, JACK-FM games, party favors, countdown festivities, and great prizes. Hours are 9pm-1:30am and attire is semi-formal.

Hotel/party packages are available. Prices will increase as event approaches, so get your tickets and packages today!

For more information, call 312-239-4536 to speak to a New Year's Eve Coordinator.

Visit Ticketweb.com for ticket only purchases.

Just looking for hotel accommodations for New Year's Eve or pre/post NYE? Hyatt Regency Chicago has some great rates available. Call 312-239-4536 for details.





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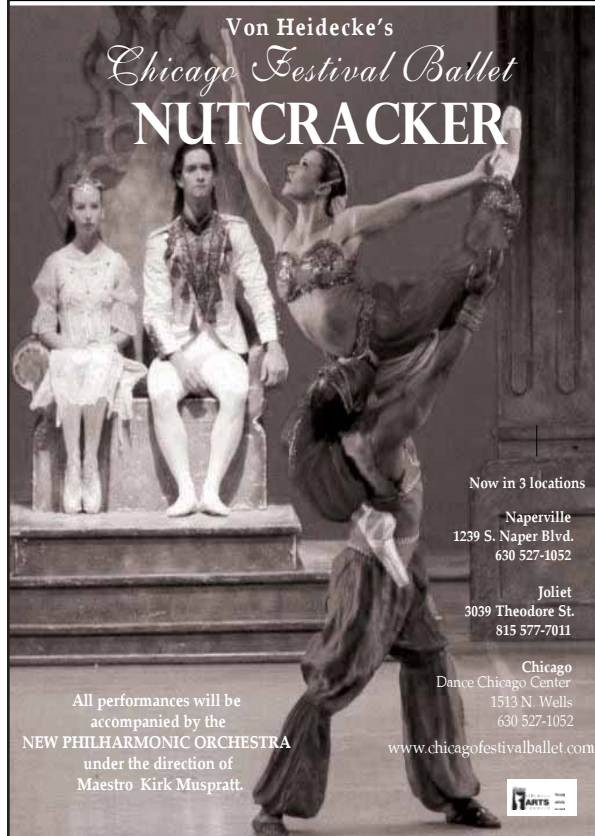



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Joliet	Rialto Square Theatre box office 815 726-6600	Sun., Nov. 30 at 2 PM
Glen Ellyn	McAninch Arts Center box office 630 942-4000	Fri., Dec 19, 7 PM Sat., Dec 20, 2 & 7 PM Sun., Dec 21, 2 & 7 PM

LASALLE COUNTY

Starved Rock.....just the beginning

Welcome to the magnificent beauty of LaSalle County located in North Central Illinois. A tapestry woven with threads of history, nature, tradition and progress embellished with gems of waterways, parks, landscapes and townscapes. Enjoy the breathtaking vistas of Starved Rock and Matthiessen state parks with cascading waterfalls, canyons and bluffs that nature has carved out over time. Breathe in nature and experience the lush woodlands, abundant wildlife and picturesque beauty of the landscape. Watch with awe as the majestic bald eagle soars overhead. Follow the footsteps of Lincoln, Wild Bill Hickok or Chief Shabbona and experience how they touched the lives of LaSalle county residents or take a trip to yesteryear aboard a horse drawn canal boat on the historic Illinois-Michigan canal.

LaSalle County has earned the title of "Illinois' Oldest Water Park" because of the abundance of rivers, lakes, boating and fishing recreation. No need to worry if you are a land lover, we offer cross country skiing, hiking, biking, horseback riding or a relaxing round of golf. Thrill seeker? Perhaps skydiving or river rafting is more your style. If sport doesn't suit you, try a museum, an old time theater or live community theater; perhaps a garden walk, historic mansion tour or sipping a glass of wine at one of our wineries.

Whether you commune with nature, attend the many fairs or festivals, prefer to shop the many fine retail or antique shops or tickle your taste buds with our culinary cuisine and wine, LaSalle County offers the magic of the past entwined with the adventure of the present. www.enjoylasallecounty.com

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CNH (CASE NEW HOLLAND)

CNH (Case New Holland), a leading global manufacturer of agricultural and construction equipment based in Burr Ridge, Ill., is looking forward to its return to the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade – this time as a major sponsor.

"We again welcome the opportunity to be part of such a storied Chicago tradition, this year as sponsor of 12 giant inflatable character balloons in the parade," said Gualberto Ranieri, Vice President of Communications for CNH. "Each of our well renowned brands will be represented at the event as they help keep the parade's popular character balloons flying high."

Here's the lineup by brand:

- Case IH Agriculture – Tom Turkey, Elmo and Curious George
- New Holland Agriculture – Cookie Monster, Cow Jumped Over the Moon and Paddington Bear
- Case Construction – Garfield and Popeye
- New Holland Construction – Animal and Bob the Builder
- Kobelco Construction – Arthur and Grover

In addition, the parade will feature a Case IH "Stars & Stripes" Magnum limited edition tractor, a specially painted and badged Case IH Magnum 180. It commemorates the significant innovation, manufacturing and productivity successes celebrated by the brand during 165 years of continuous agricultural equipment production in Racine, Wis.

The Stars & Stripes Magnum also marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Cyrus McCormick, whose Virginia Reaper introduced mechanization into grain harvest and helped kick off agriculture's "industrial revolution."

Majority-owned by Fiat Group, Italy's largest industrial concern, CNH was formed in 1999 when Case Corporation and New Holland NV merged.

The merger created one of the world's leading manufacturers of agricultural tractors, hay and forage and crop production equipment and combine and specialty harvesters. On the construction side, it serves a diverse customer base in key applications, including mass excavation, construction and landscaping with crawler and wheeled excavators, backhoes, skid steer loaders, dozers, graders, rough-terrain forklifts and telehandlers.

Supported by 39 manufacturing facilities in North America, Europe, Latin America, China, India and Uzbekistan, CNH employs more than 28,000 and moves its products through more than 11,000 dealers in 160 countries.

The company's CNH Capital is one of the world's biggest equipment finance operations. CNH Parts & Service provides dealers and customers with a complete line of genuine CNH parts and components along with full-service maintenance programs and industry-leading warranties to help keep equipment running smoothly.

CNH customers are growing, and the company invests regularly to help them grow, leveraging international resources to provide quality and reliability improvements with strong dealer and customer support.



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For more information about any of our Fletcher Jones dealerships in Chicago, visit us any time on the web at www.fjchicago.com. We're confident that once you experience the Fletcher Jones commitment to customer satisfaction, you'll see why we say "a Fletcher Jones dealership, second to none."

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MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

The Museum's Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light has been dazzling families for 67 years, and has become a beloved holiday tradition for many Chicago families. This year, the celebration runs from Nov. 14, 2008 to Jan. 4, 2009 and is presented by American Family Insurance and PepsiCo Chicago.

Christmas Around the World began in 1942, with a dozen trees decorated as a salute to American allies during World War II. Now the exhibition has grown to include more than 50 trees decorated by volunteers from Chicago's ethnic communities to reflect holiday traditions from around the globe. Holidays of Light, in its 13th year, is a display of holidays that celebrate light or enlightenment, such as Diwali and Hanukkah.

This year, in honor of the Museum's 75th Anniversary, the annual holiday display is themed "Celebrating 75 Years of Museum Memories." The Museum's grand 45-foot tree is adorned with shimmering ornaments that represent the Museum's iconic exhibits and more than 25,000 lights. More than 50 trees, all representing different countries, are displayed throughout the Museum's Main Floor. You can take in various dance and choral performances, as well as special events throughout the duration of the exhibit.

During your visit, see how we've decked the halls of Smart Home: Green + Wired, Powered by ComEd and Warmed by Peoples Gas. The GREENEST HOME IN CHICAGO will feature elegant and environmentally-friendly holiday decorations. (Requires a separate timed-entry ticket.)

Don't forget to download our Trees and Traditions podcast at www.msichicago.org to enhance your experience, and while you're online look for our special "Share the Memories" two-for-one ticket offer! Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light is included in general admission.

NAVY PIER

Here are some of the fun-loving characters from Bank of America Winter WonderFest at Navy Pier. This is one of Chicago's most spectacular holiday events, now in its 8th season at Navy Pier.

Aboard the float, there's Patch, Navy Pier's mascot dog, handsomely clad in his favorite holiday garb!

Patch has gone A LITTLE OVERBOARD and brought along the Candyman, the Toymaker, and all of his Winter WonderFest friends to give you a preview of who you'll find strolling through Navy Pier to entertain you and yours during this wonderful month long celebration of the season.

Every year, thousands of families from around the world make Bank of America Winter WonderFest part of their holiday tradition.

Families can enjoy a huge indoor skating rink, stunning lights and decorations, plus new holiday attractions, exciting rides...games...carolers, choirs, dance performances and so much more! It's a great place to Go A Little Overboard with family fun this holiday season.

Okay, Patch - we'll see you back at Navy Pier for the 8th Annual Bank of America Winter WonderFest from December 5 through January 4!

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