



# MONTGOMERY MESSENGER

The Publication of the Residents of Montgomery Place Retirement Community  
5550 South Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, 60637

May 2025, Vol. 34, No. 5

Never at a loss for words

<https://montgomeryplace.org/montgomery-messenger/>

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## CELEBRATING MAY

**M**y father never gave Mom a Mother's Day present. He said he made her a mother on Mother's Day, so that was his gift for all time! It was up to us, her daughters, to provide the recognition and the cards.



My mother's name was Rose, so roses always figured in her gifts—a card featuring roses, a handkerchief or scarf, or even a rose bouquet. One year my sister gave Mom a single rose in a beer stein, as my mother's maiden name was Stein. So Rose Stein it was. My sister was also very good at finding jewelry with roses, perhaps earrings, a necklace, or bracelet. In grade school I'd draw flowers on my Mother's Day cards, calling them roses, though I'm not sure they were accurate representations. (My mother was a hoarder of cards and letters from her daughters and granddaughters. I found boxes of them after her passing.) I recall buying a small tablet holder decorated with an ivory-colored rose for my mother's saccharine tablets. My mom took saccharine in her coffee—never sugar—as she was continually on a diet, though she'd have cream in her coffee!

It is true that my older sister was born May 14, Mother's Day in 1933, but she was supposed to be an April baby—at least according to my parents' reckoning. The doctors also thought that she was a ten-month baby. Apparently, she enjoyed being in the womb and just was not

ready to depart. A good friend tried to help my mother by driving her over the most pitted streets in their Chicago neighborhood, thinking that the jarring might give my sister the idea that she should emerge. It took a little while, but on Mother's Day, my older sister was born. She was the good child—quiet, well mannered, loved sitting and playing with her doll, and never seeming to get dirty. Everyone in the neighborhood wanted her hand-me-downs.

When I came along seven years later, I was the opposite, requiring knee patches on my slacks. I seemed to run and fall a lot and loved making mud pies in our backyard. I was also born early—nearly born in the taxi cab, as my mother used to tell me—just missing Memorial Day which was celebrated on May 30 before Congress moved the date to the last Monday in May. Now, sometimes I have the holiday celebration, but this year it is my older daughter's birthday that falls on this holiday, May 26. As you can see, May is an important month for me. My two daughters are both May babies and my first granddaughter is also a May baby.

May is a beautiful month to be born. It is usually reliably balmy. We generally plant our gardens after Mother's Day and that is when the Hyde Park Garden Fair is held. I'm looking forward to our own beautiful garden blooming once again,

*Natalie Goldberg*

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*Sunrise over the East Garden, Montgomery Place, April 2025*

I begin by welcoming in our spring and our summer and our fall with all the joy that these three seasons bring to us in the great outdoors.

And a special happy spring to our Montgomery Place gardeners.

Gardening season is here. We have scheduled trips to the Hyde Park Garden Fair (May 16), Gethsemane Garden Center (May 20), and Lowe's (May 22). See the Special Events calendar on page 22 for departure times for these trips.

For those who aren't familiar with Gethsemane, you should know that it is the most fabulous one-of-a-kind garden shop in the world—or at least in Chicago. It is a bit more expensive than other stores, so I recommend not going there for tomatoes, peppers, herbs, etc., but to buy the many fantastic plants that will knock your socks off. You don't have to have a gardening space at MP to join the trip to Gethsemane—they have wonderful house plants, too.

Our third trip is to Lowe's located at 8411 S Holland Road. This is a switch from our trips to Home Depot. I know that politics should not enter into gardening decisions, but it becomes a bit hard to ignore headlines like "Home Depot billionaire to fund Trump even if he is convicted."

The residents' garden consists of plots, boxes, and pots. I'm checking with last year's gardeners and I know that there will be some boxes and pots available. There are a few residents who have more than one gardening box/pot, and they may be asked to give up one of their extra spaces so that we can expand our number of resident gardeners.

Gardening at Montgomery Place is a wondrous thing. Please reach out to me if you would like a garden spot or to have a tour of the Garden. I'd be delighted to show you what is available and to show you other wonderful parts of our very special garden.

*Patricia Northcott*

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## OUT AND ABOUT

**A**s always, sign up in the trip book for all the events you wish to attend. The times listed are the departure times. Please be prompt and come at least 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to leave. “Tickets required” means you are responsible for obtaining your own tickets. If you need help, contact Marisol at 4546.

♦ Tuesday, May 6, Good Memories Choir at Fourth Presbyterian Church. This choir is a fun, welcoming community for adults with early dementia and their caregivers. Free.

♦ Wednesday, May 7, noon. Chicago Shakespeare Theater presents *Hymn*, a play about two men from two very different neighborhoods who meet as strangers, but before long are singing the same tune. Benny is a loner anchored by his wife and children. Gil longs to fulfill his potential. They form a deep bond, but as cracks appear in their fragile lives, they start to realize that true

courage comes in many forms. Set on Chicago’s South Side and brimming with the sounds of R&B, gospel, and house music, this soulful play takes an honest look at love, faith, and friendship in all of life’s beautiful complexities. Tickets required.

♦ Friday, May 9, 12:30 p.m. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra presents Mahler 6 conducted by Jaap van Zweden. The CSO brings the soaring emotional peaks and valleys of Mahler’s Sixth Symphony to Chicago audiences before performing it on Amsterdam’s Concertgebouw stage. The “hammer blows of fate” in the finale seem to foreshadow the tragedies in Mahler’s life, including his own fatal illness. But the symphony brims with life’s pleasures, too, from memories of mountain pastures to a rapturous portrait of the composer’s wife, Alma. Tickets required.

♦ Saturday, May 10, Court Theatre, 1:30 p.m. *Berlin* is a mosaic of intersecting narratives set in the decline of Weimar Germany. It is 1928. Fascism is taking hold; revolutionaries are organizing; creatives are trying to capture the ineffable nature of their changing city; and—as everything falls apart—everyone is faced with a choice: abandon Berlin or fight to survive. Set almost 100 years ago, *Berlin* speaks to our current moment, and our future, with undeniable urgency. Tickets required.

♦ Saturday, May 10, Chicago Sinfonietta, 6 p.m. *Tonal Transformation* is the final subscription concert for the 2024-25 season. Maestra Mei-Ann Chen’s program features transformative collaborations of musical styles, instrumentation, and inspiration. Chicago Sinfonietta pays tribute to those that allow us to transform our art form for the better. Tickets required.

♦ Sunday, May 11, Goodman Theatre, 1 p.m. *Bust* is a new play by Zora Howard. Retta and Reggie are enjoying their usual evening on the porch when a longtime

## CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE

**Editor:** Lois Baron

**Contributors:** Barbara Asner, Lois Baron, Laurieann Chutis, Barbara Dwyer, Gretchen Falk, Paula Givan, Natalie Goldberg, Allen Lang, Susan Meschel, Stan Moore, Richard Muller, Jay Neal, Patricia Northcott, Stuart Rankin, Ollie Solomon, Sheri Steinberg, Fran Vandervoort, Ida Watanabe, Helen Wolkow

**Staff Contributor:** Mark Mullahy

**Calendars:** Barbara Dwyer

**Layout:** Carolyn Allen

**Production:** Marisol Fernandez

**Editor Next Month:**

**Paula Givan**



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*Out & About from p. 3*

neighbor is pulled over by the police just before turning into his driveway. Everything goes as expected—until the unexpected happens. Tensions escalate and eventually erupt, transporting us to a startling conclusion. Tickets required.

♦ Sunday, May 11, Symphony Center, 2 p.m. Symphony Center Piano Series presents a recital by Evgeny Kissin. Mixing grandeur and intimacy, Kissin presents a signature repertoire by Bach and Chopin, plus a set of Shostakovich selections, each strikingly vivid in character and mood. Tickets required.

♦ Thursday, May 15, eight merged Sounds Good! Choirs at Fourth Presbyterian Church, 1 p.m. This choir is a fun, welcoming community where older adults enhance their well-being through the joy of music. The program for this concert is Broadway favorites such as *Oh What A Beautiful Morning*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Somewhere*, and others. Free.

♦ Friday, May 16, Hyde Park Garden Fair, 10 a.m. The Hyde Park Garden Fair began in May 1959. It is the oldest garden fair in the Chicago area. This is your chance to purchase plants for your Montgomery Place garden plot. The funds raised by the sale of plants are used for neighborhood projects. (see page 2)

♦ Saturday, May 17, Met Live in HD, 11 a.m. *Salome* is Strauss's one-act tragedy that gives the biblical story—already filtered through the beautiful and strange imagination of Oscar Wilde's play—a psychologically perceptive, Victorian-era setting rich in symbolism and subtle shades of darkness and light. Tickets required.

♦ Sunday, May 18, KAM Isaiah Israel, 2:30 p.m. The Hyde Park Sounds Good! Choir includes five Montgomery Place residents. See the musical lineup in the May 15 description above. Free.

♦ Tuesday, May 20, Gethsemane Gardens, 9:30 a.m. Gethsemane Gardens is an old Andersonville garden center. This is the chance to purchase plants for your garden plot, pot, or box, and house plants for your apartment. (see page 2).

♦ Wednesday, May 21, Art Institute of Chicago, 1 p.m. "Frida Kahlo's Month in Paris" explores Kahlo's brief and only trip to Europe and her influential encounter with American avant-garde bookbinder Mary Reynolds. Also featured is a selection of 58 ancient Roman sculptures from Italy's storied Torlonia Collection. The Torlonia Collection is largest private collection of Roman marble sculptures in Italy, rivaling the collections at the Capitoline and Vatican Museums. Admission for seniors is \$14 plus \$5 for "Frida Kahlo's Month in Paris," but we usually have enough members to take the nonmembers as their guests.

♦ Thursday, May 22, Lowe's, 9:30 a.m. Lowe's is the place to purchase the usual garden plants such as tomatoes and peppers and seeds. (see page 2)

♦ Thursday, May 22, Guided tour of Oak Woods Cemetery, 1 p.m. Oak Woods Cemetery is the final resting place of several notable Americans, including Harold Washington, Ida B. Wells, Jesse Owens, and Enrico Fermi. Additionally, it is the site of a Civil War mass grave and memorial for Confederate prisoners of war from Camp Douglas, known as the Confederate Mound. Free.

♦ Friday, May 30, Lunch outing at Ascione Bistro, noon. Gaetano Ascione opened this Hyde Park bistro in 2019, bringing an authentic taste of Italy to Hyde Park.

♦ Saturday, May 31, Met Live in HD, 11 a.m. Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* is one of the greatest masterpieces of comedy within music and has been described as the "opera buffa of all opere buffe." After two centuries, it remains a popular work. Tickets required.

*Barbara Dwyer*



## NEW ARRIVALS

**Chuck and Roberta Bernstein** moved into apartment 713 (phone 4592) on February 4, 2025. Roberta is a native Hyde Parker. After her father was drafted into WWII, her mother gave up their Hyde Park apartment and moved back in with her parents, also in Hyde Park. Roberta's earliest memory is of her father's return from Europe in November 1945. She says she was so scared she peed on the floor. The family moved to Jeffrey Manor, a tight-knit community of WWII veterans' families in new homes purchased on the GI Bill.

Chuck is also a native South Sider. His family lived in South Shore, in an apartment adjacent to the apartments of his mother's father and his father's mother. He often wondered why Grandma and Grandpa didn't get married. Chuck and Roberta first met as students at Bowen High School. They remet when both were in college at U of C and once again at Sinai Temple when Roberta was working and Chuck was in law school at DePaul. That time everything clicked; they married and settled down at 79th Street and South Shore Drive. Later they bought a condo at Hedgerow, 54th Street and Hyde Park Boulevard, where they lived until they came to Montgomery Place.

Chuck practiced law for fifty years. The concept of a condominium was new and he became involved in establishing laws for condos. He supervised the conversion of many rental buildings to condos. Roberta's equally long career had six segments: French teacher at Bowen High School; English teacher at Akiba Schechter Jewish Day School; assistant to Rabbi Perelmuter and then to the executive director at KAM Isaiah Israel Congregation; Executive Director at Congregation Rodfei Zedek; "big mama" to astrophysics students at the

University of Chicago; and a similar role with graduate students at the UIC Medical School.

Chuck is a self-described genealogy addict. He researched and wrote several books about his family and other families. He was a founder of the Chicago Jewish Historical Society and the National Museum of American Jewish History. Roberta and her sister found their father's letters home written during World War II and published them as the eyewitness account of a Jewish soldier: *Somewhere in Europe: The World War II Letters of Sam Lesner*. The sisters gave a Friday night lecture about their book in 2023. Roberta taught a dance aerobics class, and she writes a regular column for the U of C alumni magazine.

The Bernsteins have three sons: Eddie, in Florida; Louis, a current Hyde Parker and a onetime student of Fran Vandervoort; and Henry, on the North Side. Welcome to Montgomery Place, Roberta and Chuck!

*Paula Givan*



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/2	Jamie Redfield
5/5	Monica Schwartz
5/7	Catherine Townsend
5/16	Doris Johnson
5/18	Louise Anderson
5/21	Hans Betz
5/22	Suzanne Allender
5/22	Anne Seiden
5/28	John Bowen
5/29	Natalie Goldberg

## ANESTHESIA

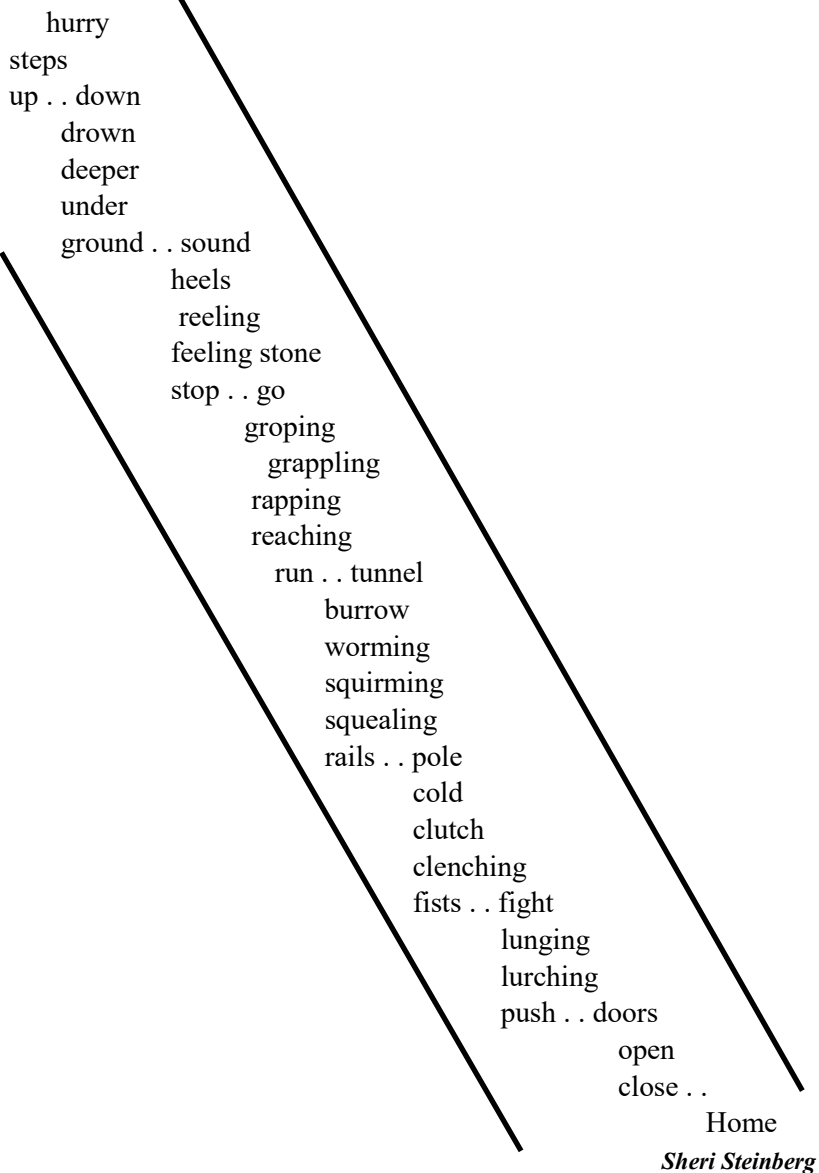
I gave them access  
to my open heart  
through my open mouth.  
At three, alone and cold,  
abandoning myself  
to become what  
they wanted—  
the anesthetized object  
of their mutilation,  
the dupe  
of their lie.

Gratitude for their cloying  
question: “Does this  
smell like what your  
mother wears  
when she goes out?”  
becoming the weight and  
whiff of rubber mask  
commandeering  
my breath and  
silencing my protests  
at being tricked.

And, on waking,  
still protesting,  
“They lied. Why?”  
and refusing to  
put anything in my  
mouth, protesting  
the loss not of  
the tonsils I didn’t  
even know I’d had,  
but of my voice  
and trusting heart.

But the truth of time  
belied the lie, and  
I never stopped  
feeling, never  
forsook myself,

## RAPID TRANSIT



hurry  
steps  
up . . down  
drown  
deeper  
under  
ground . . sound  
heels  
reeling  
feeling stone  
stop . . go  
groping  
grappling  
rapping  
reaching  
run . . tunnel  
burrow  
worming  
squirming  
squealing  
rails . . pole  
cold  
clutch  
clenching  
fists . . fight  
lunging  
lurching  
push . . doors  
open  
close . .  
Home  
*Sheri Steinberg*

and now speak  
from my open heart  
through my open mouth  
in my own voice  
of, despite them,  
trust and self-love.

*Sheri Steinberg*



## MMM MARK'S MONTGOMERY MOMENTS

**H**ello May! Can you believe it's already May? Time sure does seem to be flying by. Just when we thought April was a full month, along comes May, packed with celebrations, reflections, and meaningful moments.

In May, we honor and appreciate so many important people and causes: teachers, nurses, mothers, our armed forces, and even Star Wars (May the 4th be with you!). We recognize World Bee Day, National Day of Prayer, Memorial Day, and National Wine Day, and let's not forget the ever-iconic Kentucky Derby. May is a month that reminds us of the richness and diversity of our communities.

Here at Montgomery Place, as we continue to highlight our core values, May brings us to a powerful and essential one: *Caring*. Just as we did with *integrity* and *engagement*, we now take a deeper look at what it means to care and how it shows up in our daily lives. The attributes of caring are many; among the most meaningful are *empathy*, *kindness*, *trustworthiness*, *reliability*, and *supportiveness*.

To care is to be present, to pause and listen, to walk in another's shoes. It's in the simple acts—a smile, a greeting, a helping hand—that we build a culture rooted in compassion and connection. As we engage with one another, let's continue to show that we are not just a community, but a family—willing to serve and to lean on one another when needed.

When I think about the people we celebrate in May—moms, teachers, and nurses—I see the essence of caring. They demonstrate attentiveness, patience, and a deep commitment to others. And those same qualities live here, within Montgomery Place, in each of you. As we move through this beautiful month, let's continue to live out our values, lifting one another up and strengthening the spirit of Montgomery Place together.

Happy May to all and thank you for the care you give and the heart you share.

*Mark Mullahy, CEO*

## MUSIC IN THE EAST ROOM



♦ Saturday mornings, from 11 a.m. to noon, Laura Fenster invites you to observe her rehearsal. She requests that you do not ask questions as she rehearses. Questions will be accepted before and after her rehearsal.

♦ Saturday, May 3, the students in the University of Chicago Piano Program will perform at 2 p.m.

♦ Saturday, May 10, the students in the University of Chicago Vocal Studies Program will perform at 2 p.m.

♦ Saturday, May 18, the students in the University of Chicago Chamber Music Program will perform at 2 p.m.

♦ Saturday, May 24, Amy Wurtz will perform at 2 p.m. She is the conductor of the Hyde Park Sounds Good! Choir. She is also a fervent advocate for new music.

*Barbara Dwyer*



## CALLING ALL THESPIANS

**O**n Monday, May 19 at 1 p.m. Come to the Game Room for the first meeting of the drama group and enjoy *The Matchmaker* by Thornton Wilder. In this farce, Horace Vandergelder, a merchant in Yonkers, New York, wants to remarry. He hires a matchmaker, a widow who yearns for her own second chance with him. He also stands in the way of his niece's wedding hopes, and his two clerks want their own adventure. All parties converge in a restaurant with comic chaos and discoveries.

The Drama Group plan is for everyone to read the play aloud together. Scripts will be provided for all.

*Natalie Goldberg for the Drama Group*

## RESIDENTS' COUNCIL ELECTION

**I**t is time for the Residents' Council Election. The Council consists of 12 members elected to two-year terms and two alternates elected to one year terms. Every year the term of six members of the Council and both alternates expires, requiring the election of replacements to fill those vacancies.

All Independent Living residents are Residents' Association members and are entitled to participate in the nomination and election of the six Council members and two alternates. Nominees must have resided at Montgomery Place for at least three months. Council members and alternates whose terms are expiring are eligible for renomination.

A nominator must seek the nominee's consent in advance and the nominee must sign the nomination form. You may nominate yourself.

To nominate someone, enter your name and theirs on a nomination form. Use a separate form for each nominee. The deadline for turning in nominations is May 18.

The Election Committee will compile a list of candidates and distribute the election ballots on May 25. You may vote for up to eight candidates. The six candidates with the most votes will fill the six Council vacancies and the next two will serve as the first and second alternates.

The deadline for returning ballots to the box across from the Front Desk is June 1. The Election Committee will count the votes and post the results on the bulletin board by the US mailboxes on June 18. The new Council members will take office at the close of the Residents' Association meeting on June 19.

*Richard Muller, Chair, Election Committee*

**SOUNDS GOOD!**  
CHOIR

# BROADWAY

THE SOUNDS GOOD CHOIR PRESENTS BROADWAY!

THE SOUNDS GOOD CHOIR PRESENTS BROADWAY!

FIRST SPRING CHORUS CONCERT SPRING CHORUS CONCERT

**HYDE PARK**  
Sunday, May 18 | 3 PM  
Conducted by Amy Wurtz  
Accompanied by Michael Oldham  
KAM Isaiah Israel Congregation  
5039 S. Greenwood Ave., Chicago

Full Concert Schedule

All ages are welcome  
Free concert! No tickets or pre-registration required.

Sounds Good is Chicagoland's largest "no audition" choral program for adults 55+



## HANDS OFF!

Nine of us boarded the Montgomery Place bus April 5 to join the “Hands Off!” demonstration at the Daley Plaza. When we got off the bus, people were everywhere. Daley Plaza seemed too crowded to even get near—crowds flowed into the streets. “Hands Off!” signs competed with “Save our Democracy” and a large cardboard Trump caricature. People were wrapped in flags of all sorts and babies in strollers had signs. Our group finally made it into the Plaza, but we still couldn’t hear the speeches.



*Lois Baron, Marifran Carlson, Sheri Steinberg, Becky Kruse, Joyce Mannis, Barbara Gardner, Eleanor Littman, Gretchen Falk*

The crowd chanted “Hands Off!”

After an hour, it was time for the march. Joyce Mannis went to march with her daughter, and six of us set off. Masses of people headed toward State Street, and then we went south.

Lois Baron, who opted to skip the march, viewed it from a restaurant. From there she saw “rivers of people flowing up State Street.” The six of us in this river had to work to not lose anyone in the crowd. In answer to “What does Democracy look like?” the crowd shouted, “This is what Democracy looks like!”

We were just part of hundreds of demonstrations across the country. According to the *New York Times*, 600,000 people signed up nationwide. There were probably many more who came—to even small towns across the country. My niece participated in one in Albany, Oregon, and said there were

protests all across Oregon in towns large and small, red and blue alike.

This was the first protest march I have been to in many years. It was a day to remember.

*Gretchen Falk*

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## RUMMAGE SALE: END OF JUNE!

Spring is the time of transition and change. This is a good time to simplify and clear out furniture and kitchen and office equipment that could be great treasures at the sale. All clean and usable items are welcome. For now, keep these items under your bed or up in a closet. Maintenance staff will pick up smaller items before the sale. Large items will be moved on the day of the sale. Call me at 4638 about any large items to make arrangements.

The dates for the rummage sale will be in the *June Messenger*. We will need volunteers to staff the three-day sale. Please sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board.

*Laurieann Chutis, Rummage Sale Coordinator*

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## BOOKLOVERS

Our selection for May is *Still Life*, Louise Penny's 2005 debut novel. We have secured ten copies of the book from the Blackstone Library and those registered with the Federal Talking Books program will get a tape or download of the book.

*Still Life* introduces Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec. This book, one of 20 in a series, is the winner of the New Blood Dagger, Arthur Ellis, Barry Anthony, and Dilys awards. Gamache and his team are called to a rural village south of Montreal to investigate a suspicious death in the woods. The locals are certain it is a tragic hunting accident, but Gamache smells something foul in these remote woods and is soon certain the victim died at the hands of someone more sinister than a careless bowhunter. What do you think?

Louise Penny was born in Toronto in 1958 and grew up reading mystery writers. After receiving a BA in radio and television, she embarked on an 18-year career as a radio host and journalist with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). In 1996 she left CBC to take up writing. After attempting a historical novel that she had difficulty finishing, she switched to mystery writing. Her first novel, *Still Life*, won many awards; she continues to write to this day.



## GREENHOUSE GROWINGS-ON

Good news! Patricia Northcott's wooden goanna lizard has been found! Mary Burks located our dear guardian of the plants hidden away on a top ledge of the trellis in the center section of the Greenhouse that houses cacti, succulents, and the vining hoyo plant.

Residents have been labeling their pots, a new resident brought his pots down into the pot storage area, and other residents have taken their plants back to their apartments. A resident offered her white and mixed white and purple orchids for adoption since they were not doing well in her apartment's south exposure. They were immediately adopted! The east box in the Greenhouse is a good place for orchids. If you want to grow orchids but have a southern exposure in your apartment, put your name on the pot and care for them in the Greenhouse, where we all can enjoy their beauty.

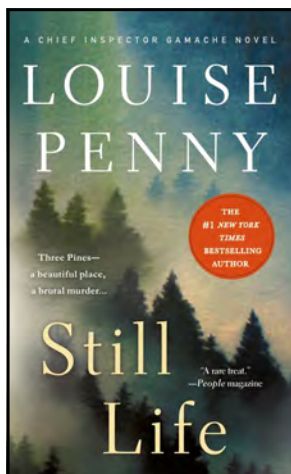
I will plan an adoption day when all plants with no name will be available for giveaway to residents and staff to adopt and care for either in the Greenhouse or at home.

Please take the time to make visits to see our flowering friends and take advantage of our work area and tools. If you want to volunteer for Spring cleaning, please call me at 4638.

*Laurieann Chutis, Coordinator, Greenhouse*

Join us on Monday, May 26, at 3 p.m. in the East Room to discuss *Still Life* and to get a copy of the book for next month.

*Laurieann Chutis,*  
*Coordinator, Booklovers*





## FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS

**T**he Friday Night Speakers program has been a tradition at Montgomery Place for years, and we cordially invite you to attend the following Fridays at 7:15 p.m. in the East Room.

♦ May 2, Douglas Bishop, introduced by Bernie Strauss, is Professor of Radiation and Cellular Oncology and Professor of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology at the University of Chicago's Department of Radiation and Cellular Oncology. He is particularly interested in meiosis, the process of cell division that creates eggs and sperm. He will speak on "Connecting Chromosomes to Make Babies."

♦ May 16, Deborah Caldwell-Stone, introduced by Fran Vandervoort, is Director of the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom and the Freedom to Read Foundation. She works closely with librarians and educators on issues of intellectual freedom and privacy. The title of her talk is "Book Banning."

♦ May 23, Julia Bachrach, introduced by Fran Vandervoort, is a historian and historic preservation consultant. She has authored several books, including *The City in a Garden: A History of Chicago's Parks*, and *Inspired by Nature*. She will speak on "Prairie Style in Chicago's Parks."

The next Speakers Committee meeting will be on Thursday, June 12 at 11 a.m. in the Game Room. Please join us and share your ideas about possible speakers.

*Sheri Steinberg*

## CHOICES: PART 3

This is the third of a three-part reflection on Helen's decision to move to Montgomery Place.

**I** understand how many seniors have reservations about moving into a senior living community. They worry that they may be looked at as incompetent, they worry that they will lose their independence, they are concerned about their privacy, or they worry they might not fit in. I understand all those concerns because I had them also. After living here almost four years, I can tell you none of those things happened. If I want privacy, I stay in my apartment. If I want company, I can go to activities, or happy hour, or to the Lobby, and I will see people.

When I go out for a walk, nobody asks me where I am going or when I will be back. I know that I have my independence, but I am living in a safer environment than if I were living alone. I know I am not isolated. Recently several friends told me they were moving to senior living communities. They wanted to be the ones to make the decisions while they still could. "We didn't want to wait until it was too late."

Is senior community living perfect? No! There are things I don't like. Some things I would do differently. Then I remember that living in a house and being responsible for everything wasn't always easy or perfect either! Living here at this age and stage in my life is a better choice. My children feel better knowing I am in a more protected environment. Living here frees me up to make choices as to how I want to spend my time and my energy.

For me, and for many others, we are happy and grateful to be living in a senior community. We consider this community our home and are invested in making sure it is well run. For me, senior living is a very good choice!

*Helen Sue Wolkow*

## GRATITUDE

Gratitude always seems to be lauded as one of the secrets to successful aging. In our daily communal morning services, we chant prayers thanking God for such things as guiding us on our paths, making us free, restoring sight to the blind, vigor to the weary, and so forth. I imagine most religions recite similar prayers. Sometimes these can be quite abstract.

A couple of years ago I discovered an unexpected benefit of gratitude. I was on my way to the airport when I received a text from Southwest Airlines saying that my flight to Boston was delayed. Included was a new boarding pass with a later departure time. When I arrived at Midway Airport my gate was crowded, so I sat a few gates farther away. I did get another texted boarding pass with the original departure time, which I dismissed as just the old one.

All of a sudden, I heard a loud announcement: “Will Alice Solomon please come to the gate?” Engrossed in my book, I had missed the revised boarding announcement altogether; the plane was

indeed departing at the original time. As I hurried over to the gate, I decided on plan B: If I had to sit in a middle seat, I would choose the first one I could find between two slender people and be one of the first off the plane.

There was another late-boarding woman with me on the ramp just outside the door. She was furious, complaining about how she was losing the priority seat she had paid extra for, and how the airline shouldn’t be allowed to do this. What “this” I wondered: not allowed to actually leave on time? I, on the other hand, struggled not to laugh in her face. I was so happy, euphoric even. I had heard them call me! I made it onto the plane!

I was going to my family’s Passover celebration! I would see all my children and grandchildren! Jonathan would lead us in a thoughtful seder. We would do us: Sing two or three melodies for each song, eat too much delicious food, transition from the Hallel (hymns of praise) to our favorite Hebrew rounds, and finally to Columbia College Glee Club songs.

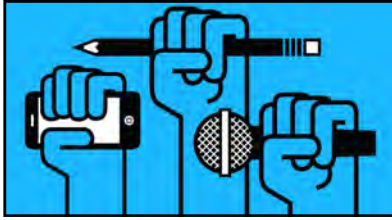
We boarded. I marched up the aisle. In row 6 there was a slender young woman quietly reading at the window seat. A gigantic satchel occupied the middle seat, and in the aisle seat, the satchel’s owner was not simply averting her eyes (big whoop, we all do that), but had curled herself into a shawl so completely that you couldn’t even see her face. Empowered by my euphoria, I made straight for that middle seat, forcing Darth Vader on the aisle to stow her satchel under the seat where it belonged.

Could it be that gratitude has the power to make a pushover like me bold?

*Ollie Solomon*







## FREEDOM OF THE PRESS DAY

**O**n May 3 we will celebrate National Freedom of the Press Day. This day is an important recognition of one of our fundamental rights as enumerated in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution. It is meant to pay homage to the journalists who have dedicated themselves to spreading accurate news accounts and opinions across the nation and around the world. In some cases, reporters have given their lives for this cause.

It is especially important that we recognize this day in light of the current political environment. We now face a movement that seeks to suppress the freedom to accurately report a variety of facts, views, and opinions. Some political leaders have said “the press is the enemy of the people.” Other politicians routinely refer to any news that presents a critical view of the administration’s prevailing viewpoints as “fake news.”

Freedom of the press is an important part of our country’s history. The abolitionist movement was indebted to newspapers published by Frederick Douglass (*The North Star*), William Lloyd Garrison (*The Liberator*), and Benjamin Lundy. Journalists were also instrumental in ending child labor and in the promotion of workers’ rights in the late 19th and early 20th century. The black press, including, the *Chicago Defender* and the *Philadelphia Enquirer*, helped drive the Great Migration by spreading the news of better-paying jobs in the North to poverty-stricken workers in the South.

In the middle of the 20th century, journalists helped spearhead the civil rights, women’s, and gay rights movements. Newspapers and news commentators were instrumental in presenting full coverage of the Vietnam War. In short, the free press makes governments accountable to the people.

Freedom of the press is a special privilege we have enjoyed throughout our history. With the accurate reporting and greater knowledge journalists give us, citizens are more fully aware of issues affecting them and can more fully participate in the democratic process.

*Ida Watanabe*

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## HEWSON SWIFT CONCERTS

**H**ewson Swift concerts are presented on Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. in the Lounge and on Channel 4/4.1. Join us for an hour or more of wonderful music on CD or DVD.

♦ May 7, Susan Meschel presents acts 1 and 2 of Mozart’s *The Abduction from the Seraglio* with Chorus and Orchestra Bayerischen Staatsoper, Karl Bohm, conductor. DVD. 1 hour 40 minutes.

♦ May 14, Susan Meschel presents act 3 of Mozart’s *The Abduction from the Seraglio*. DVD. 45 minutes.

♦ May 21, Barbara Asner presents Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring* and Bartok’s Concerto for Orchestra. Berliner Philharmoniker and London Philharmonic Orchestra. Bernard Haitlink, conductor. CD. 1 hour 15 minutes.

♦ May 28, Barbara Asner presents Dvořák’s symphony no 8 and Czech Suite. The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Zdenek Macal, conductor. CD. 1 hour.

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

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

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## WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

As an exchange teacher at School 238 in Leningrad (now Saint Petersburg) in 1971, I crossed historic Decembrist Square enroute from the Astoria Hotel where I was staying. Dominating the square is an equestrian statue of Peter the Great, who, after traveling west in 1697 and visiting the shipyards of Amsterdam and London, initiated a number of modernizing, westernizing reforms. In 1825 the Decembrist Revolt took place there: a group of officers and aristocrats hoped to establish a constitutional monarchy upon the death of Tsar Alexander I. The revolt failed, participants were punished, and reactionary Nikolas I became tsar. But the revolt inspired future generations of rebels. Across the river Neva to the north, I could see the Peter-Paul fortress where rebels were kept before trial or indefinitely governing

One of the Peter-Paul prisoners was Nikolai Chernyshevsky, who, although less well known in the West than the Dostoevsky-Tolstoy-Turgenev triumvirate, arguably had the most impact on Russian social history. He was born in Saratov to devout Russian Orthodox parents and was educated in the town's seminary. A move to Russia's intellectual hub, Saint Petersburg, coincided with his loss of faith and his attraction to Western pragmatists like William James and French and German socialists like Fourier and Feuerbach. Chernyshevsky's articles critical of tsarist repression landed him in prison. He switched to fiction, and in 1863 produced the novel *What Is to Be Done?* The manuscript, which he had written in prison, was left inadvertently in a taxi by his editor Nekrasov but, ironically, was retrieved by unsuspecting police.

To avoid tsarist censorship of his novel, Chernyshevsky conceals social criticism beneath the love triangle surface story of the

novel. But it appears in the dialogues among the characters, including Rakhmetov, who embodies the principles of the "new men." The author also uses dreams as a narrative technique and draws in readers by making us complicit in the ideas and action. Women's liberation also is a theme illustrated by Vera Pavlovna in her pre-nuptial negotiation with her partner Lopukhov. A dream of hers indicates that she's not really in love with her husband but wants to be. Reason and passion are at odds. The "what is to be done?" of the novel's title is answered both on the personal and social levels. The love triangle is resolved by the suicide of Vera's husband and her marriage to her lover. The answer to the social question is illustrated by the success of Vera's collectivist dress-sewing workshops, miniature socialist utopias whose workers are self-governing and equitably paid.

Uses of Chernyshevsky's novel were immediate and are ongoing. Russian radicals of the 1860s were unimpressed by Tsar Alexander II's reforms and assassinated him in 1881. Dostoevsky's anti-nihilist novel *The Possessed* describes rebels who assassinate one of their own who has grown soft on rebellion. And his novella *Notes from Underground*, with its unnamed irrational narrator, can be seen as a parody of Chernyshevsky's rational ones. Lenin entitled his revolutionary manifesto of 1902 *What Is to Be Done?*

A recent item in *The New York Times* indicates that Xi Jinping, the Chinese president, is reading Chernyshevsky's novel, "digging into [its] . . . language of revolution as he prepares to deal with Trump." In today's fraught relation with Russia, with cultural and educational exchanges still ongoing (according to Wikipedia), the question remains in more urgent form: What is to be done?

Stan Moore

## LOVE AND MARRIAGE IN A DIFFERENT CULTURE

**M**y maternal grandparents' family lived in Austria for about 100 years. My grandfather moved to Budapest, Hungary and set up a business manufacturing ice and delivering ice slabs to his customers, which included hospitals and factories. This service was quite important because electricity for refrigeration was not available. The slabs were packed in carts pulled by two horses. The horses were covered with wool blankets, which were very useful later during WWII.

My grandparents admired everything in Austria and never learned to speak Hungarian. My grandmother used to go to Vienna to the dentist. To her, everything east of the Danube River was barbaric. Grandfather was a kind despot. Everybody had to obey his will and decisions.

They raised three daughters. The daughters had French and piano lessons. They could play tennis and meet people only with chaperones. When the daughters came of marriageable age, Grandfather hired a matchmaker who supplied a list of bachelors of good families. He selected the bridegrooms and the daughters had to obey. As the daughters received substantial dowries, they were considered a good catch.

The oldest daughter, Irma, was married first, of course. She married a very handsome man who had no profession. Grandfather took him into the business as a partner.

The second daughter, Elsa, rebelled against the rules. She somehow manipulated Grandfather to choose the man she liked from the list. She also sent back on a cart all the presents the previous suitor had given her.

Aunt Elsa married Martin Mandl, whose family owned a store that sold eggs. Martin Mandl became an engineer and planned to go to the World's Fair in New York. Once in



New York, Martin was able to send an invitation and visa to Elsa and his small daughters. Aunt Elsa followed him in 1942. This was a dangerous trip during WWII. She boarded the last ship leaving Lisbon, Portugal. That ship was torpedoed on its way home. The Mandl family settled in Aurora, Illinois and raised three daughters.

Martin had a brother, Julius, who was very interested in the third daughter, Magda (my mother). Grandfather strictly forbade that relationship. My mother married according to Grandfather's wishes. Grandfather respected my father, Jenő Kollman, for his talent in finance.

Some 60 years later, Aunt Elsa's daughter Eva was getting married. There were many relatives from New York who were surprised by a snowstorm on that day in the spring. As we were making arrangements for who would provide housing for the New York relatives, I sat in the hall of the hotel.

After a time, an elderly man walked up and looked at my face for a few minutes. He came closer and asked if I was the daughter of Jenő Kollman. I asked, "How did you know?" He said I resembled Jenő and they knew one another in grade school. The man, Julius Mandl, came closer and his face changed, became sad. There were tears in his eyes, and he said, "I could have been your father." I hugged him and wished him well.

*Susan Meschel*



*The Execution of Emperor Maximilian*

Edouard Manet, 1868

## POOR MAXIMILIAN

**P**oor Maximilian. Born the younger brother of Emperor Franz Joseph I of Austria of the House of Habsburg-Lorraine, he would always be the “spare.” But he had a large personality. He was charming, talented, competitive, and well educated. He wanted to have a top job. These characteristics and lots of conflicting motives in unsettled political situations eventually brought him, in his early thirties, to be Emperor of Mexico.

After the French suffered a defeat at the battle of Puebla (Cinco de Mayo), they regrouped and were able to occupy Mexico City. Maximilian soon arrived to take control of the government. Since Maximilian was a descendant of Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor, King of Spain when the Spaniards conquered the Aztecs and first brought Mexico into the Spanish empire, Maximilian seemed a good candidate for the conservatives’ plans for monarchy in Mexico. Maximilian was interested in the

job, but only with guarantees of French support.

Liberal and conservative forces were struggling for dominance in Mexico during their civil war and Benito Juárez, a liberal, had prevailed. However, the French and Mexican monarchists found a way to intervene militarily with the intention of regime change. With brokering by Napoleon III, Maximilian was invited to become the Emperor of Mexico in 1864 after a bogus election that purported to show Mexican people supported him.

But the price was very high for Maximilian. Although he had extracted promises from Napoleon III to militarily support him, he was to be entirely dependent on Napoleon. Emperor Franz Joseph isolated his younger brother by forcing him to renounce any rights to the Austrian throne or as an archduke of Austria. Maximilian reluctantly agreed to the “Family Pact.”

Indeed, he was in a precarious position from the beginning and showed his lack of understanding by offering amnesty to Juárez and the post of prime minister. Juárez refused and continued to assert his role as the legitimate head of the Mexican state. He never left Mexico’s territory and appointed a representative to the U.S. government, to be an advocate for the Mexican republic, even as the U.S. was embroiled in its own civil war. All of this denied Maximilian assertion of legitimacy as ruler. He alienated all the conservative forces and promoted liberal programs, issuing many laws which were simply revivals of previous Mexican legislation.

American sympathy lay with Benito Juárez and the U.S. government refused to recognize the Empire. American volunteers kept joining the Mexican republican troops who were fighting French troops who had intervened. This brought in a surge of republican guerrilla activity and soon France saw they were fighting a war they could not win. They reneged on their support for Maximillian's Empire.

With all avenues closing, Maximilian decided to increase focus on military operations as the last of the French troops were leaving. His attack on Querétaro was unsuccessful and Maximillian was captured. He was tried and sentenced to death for attempting to overthrow the Mexican government, along with his generals Miramón and Mejía. A number of the crowned heads of Europe and prominent figures such as Victor Hugo and Giuseppe Garibaldi sent telegrams and letters to Mexico requesting that the emperor's life be spared.

Although he respected Maximilian on a personal level, Juárez refused to commute the sentence because he wanted to make clear that Mexico would not tolerate any more foreign invasions. Others offered plans for escape through bribing jailers, but Maximillian refused any escape without the two generals.

On June 19, 1867, at 6:40 a.m., Maximillian and Generals Miramón and Mejía were executed by firing squad. Maximillian spoke only in Spanish and gave each of his executioners a gold coin in traditional European aristocratic fashion. His last words were, "I forgive everyone, and I ask everyone to forgive me. May my blood which is about to be spilled end the bloodshed which has been experienced in my new motherland. Long live Mexico! Long live its independence!"

He was 34 years old.

*Lois Baron*

## DINING COMMITTEE

Mary O'Connor led the April Dining Committee meeting. There has been a lot of positive feedback about staff and about food, particularly regarding the soups and steak as well as the always good salmon. There have been requests to bring back hot dogs for dinner, for more fish, and for a large bowl of soup on the dinner menu. There have been criticisms about the mushroom/tofu tower and sandwiches as well as the vegetarian wrap. These are being worked on.

It was suggested that a dietitian be invited to make a presentation, and that the four-week dinner menu cycle be revamped. This work in progress is on the upswing.

The Culinary Corner meets every Thursday at 1 p.m. in the East Room. Mary is the presenter and it is a great forum for giving feedback and getting information.

The next Dining Committee meeting will be at 2:15 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14 in the East Room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

*Jay Neal, Chair, Dining Committee*

## IN MEMORIAM

Sandy Gnippe  
Caroline Herzenberg  
Jean Snyder  
Thelma Sturgis  
Barbara Wilson

## MAY FILMS

Film Committee selections are shown each Monday, most Thursdays, and most weekends in the Lounge and on Channel 4.1. Many films benefit from viewing in the Lounge on the big screen. All Film Committee movies start at 7:15 p.m. The committee meets the first Thursday of each month in the Game Room at 2 p.m. This month the theme for weekend movies is Gene Hackman.



New Zealand, Whakaari / White Island volcanic eruption of 2019 in which 22 lives were lost, the film viscerally recounts a day when ordinary people were called upon to do extraordinary things, placing this tragic event within the larger context of nature, resilience, and the power of our shared humanity. 1 hour 38 minutes.

♦ May 22, *No Direction Home*, 2005.

Documentary that traces the life of Bob Dylan and his impact on 20th-century American popular music and culture. It focuses on the period between Dylan's arrival in New York and his "retirement" from touring after his motorcycle accident in July of 1966, through the controversy about going electric. 3 hours 30 minutes.

♦ May 29, *The Philadelphia Eleven*, 2003.

A documentary about the first women ordained as priests in the Episcopal Church. It was an act of civil disobedience as they were ordained despite the Church's prohibition at that time against female priests. After much backlash, the canonical law was changed in 1976, and the earlier ordinations were approved. 1 hour 26 minutes.

## Foreign Language Films

♦ May 1, *The Artist*, 2011. A French comedy drama in the style of a black-and-white silent film or part-talkie. Starring Jean Dujardin and B  r  nice Bejo. Focus is on the relationship between 1927 and 1932 of a rising young actress and an older silent film star as silent cinema falls out of fashion. 1 hour 40 minutes.

♦ May 15, *Perfect Days*, 2023. A Japanese/German drama directed by Wim Wenders and Takuma Takasaki. Hirayama, a public toilet cleaner in Tokyo, has a structured, repetitive routine each day, starting at dawn. He uses his spare time to listen to music, read books and see the beauty in all things. Some encounters cause him to reflect on himself. 2 hours 4 minutes.

## Monday Films

♦ May 5, *Shakespeare in Love*, 1998. A period romantic comedy starring Gwyneth Paltrow, Joseph Fiennes, Geoffrey Rush, Colin Firth, Ben Affleck and Judi Dench. It depicts a fictional love affair involving William Shakespeare (Fiennes) and Viola de Lesseps (Paltrow) during the writing of *Romeo and Juliet*. 2 hours.

♦ May 12, *The Apprentice*, 2024. An independent biographical film that examines Donald Trump's career as a real estate businessman in New York City in the 1970s and 1980s, including his relationship with Roy Cohn. It received praise from critics; Trump described it as a "defamatory, politically disgusting hatchet job" intended to harm his presidential campaign. 2 hours.

♦ May 19, *A Complete Unknown*, 2024. A biographical musical drama about singer-songwriter Bob Dylan from his earliest folk music success until the controversy over his use of electric instruments. Starring Timoth  e Chalamet, who performs the music himself. 2 hours 20 minutes.

♦ May 26, *The Whale*, 2022. A psychological drama about a morbidly obese housebound English teacher, (Brendan Fraser) who tries to restore his relationship with his teenage daughter whom he abandoned eight years earlier. 2 hours.

## Thursday Documentaries

♦ May 8, *The Volcano: Escape from Whakaari*, 2022. A close examination of the



### Weekend Theme Films: Gene Hackman

Gene Hackman made so many great films; we are showing a different one every weekend night during May.

♦ May 3, *Runaway Jury*, 2003. Lawyer Wendell Rohr (Dustin Hoffman) is pitted against shady jury consultant Rankin Fitch (Gene Hackman), who stacks the jury with people sympathetic to the defense. Meanwhile, two jurors (John Cusack and Rachel Weisz) seem to be able to sway the jury any way they want in a trial against a gun manufacturer. 2 hours 7 minutes.

♦ May 4, *The Conversation*, 1974. A neo-noir mystery with Gene Hackman as a surveillance expert who faces a moral dilemma when his recordings reveal a potential murder. 1 hour 53 minutes.

♦ May 10, *The French Connection*, 1971. A neo-noir action thriller starring Hackman, Roy Scheider, and Fernando Rey. New York Police Department detectives Jimmy "Popeye" Doyle and Buddy "Cloudy" Russo pursue wealthy French heroin smuggler Alain Charnier. 1 hour 45 minutes.

♦ May 11, *The Royal Tenenbaums*, 2001. A comedy-drama starring Danny Glover, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ben Stiller, Luke Wilson, Anjelica Huston, and Owen Wilson. Three gifted siblings experience great success in youth and even greater disappointment and failure in adulthood. Their eccentric father, Royal Tenenbaum (Hackman), leaves them in their adolescence and returns after they are grown, falsely claiming he has a terminal illness. He works on reconciling with his children and ex-wife. 1 hour 50 minutes.

♦ May 17, *The Bird Cage*, 1996. Mike Nichols's comedy starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane as a gay couple whose son is set to marry the daughter of a conservative senator (Gene Hackman) and his wife (Dianne Wiest). 2 hours.

♦ May 18, *Unforgiven*, 1992. A revisionist Western, produced, directed, and starring Clint Eastwood as an aging outlaw and killer who takes on one more job years after

turning to farming. Co-starring Gene Hackman, Morgan Freeman, and Richard Harris. 2 hours 11 minutes.

♦ May 24, *Mississippi Burning*, 1988. A crime thriller loosely based on the 1964 investigation of the deaths of Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner in Mississippi. Gene Hackman and Willem Dafoe, FBI agents investigating the disappearance of three civil rights workers in fictional Jessup County, Mississippi, are met with hostility by the town's residents, local police, and the Ku Klux Klan. 2 hours 8 minutes.

♦ May 25, *Heist*, 2001. A crime drama written and directed by David Mamet and starring Gene Hackman, Danny DeVito, and Delroy Lindo. Roger Ebert wrote, "*Heist* is the kind of caper movie that was made before special effects replaced wit, construction and intelligence. This movie is made out of fresh ingredients, not cake mix." 1 hour 50 minutes.

♦ May 31, *The Poseidon Adventure*, 1972. A disaster movie with an ensemble cast including five Oscar winners: Gene Hackman, Ernest Borgnine, Jack Albertson, Shelley Winters, and Red Buttons. An aging luxury liner on its last voyage is overturned with the crew and passengers trapped inside. A preacher (Hackman) attempts to lead a small group to safety. 2 hours.

♦ June 1, *Hoosiers*, 1986. An American sports drama, starring Gene Hackman as Dorman Dale, a new coach with spotty past. Costars are Barbara Hershey and Dennis Hopper, whose role as a basketball-loving, town drunk won him an Academy Award. It tells the story of a small-town Indiana high school basketball team and its journey to the state championship. 1 hour 55 minutes.

### Your Suggestions

We invite your suggestions for films you would like to see. Come to a committee meeting at 2 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month or send a Wikipedia listing to any member of the committee.

*Lois Baron for the Film Committee*

## **FRIENDS TO THE END: SYLVAN MARKMAN AND STUART RANKIN**

I first met Sylvan when we were freshman at Ohio State University. We were both history majors and that led to identical classes for almost four years. We struck up a friendship almost immediately as we walked the Oval to classes at University Hall. Sylvan was fairly tall, a very handsome young man with a great sense of humor and a ready smile. We often studied together for exams which paid off with better than average grades.

Sylvan pledged a popular Jewish fraternity; I think it was ZBT. This turned out to be an interesting twist in about three years. In the meantime, my new girlfriend Marlene Owens and I saw Sylvan and his girlfriend socially quite often. Sylvan was from New York City and very sophisticated compared to most of my Ohio classmates. He was from a wealthy family and his parents visited him several times a year. They invited me to dinner at the Neil House a few times with two other friends who were also from New York. His parents' nickname for Sylvan was Prince. He used to blush whenever they used that name.

I got to know one of his buddies from New York named Hanlin. They had been friends since Sylvan arrived in the US when he was 12 years old. One day Hanlin told me about Sylvan's early life.

Sylvan was born in Amsterdam in 1938. His father and uncle were successful jewelers held in high esteem by their neighbors. As Hitler's troops got closer to Holland, Sylvan's uncle tried to persuade his brother, Sylvan's father, to flee to the US. His parents decided to stay; his aunt and uncle fled to New York City, where he continued to work in the jewelry business.

In 1941 it was obvious that the Nazis would invade Holland. Sylvan's parents had waited

too long to escape but they did have time to save their son. Mr. Markman offered to turn his jewelry business over to a neighboring Catholic family if they would take their son in as one of their own. The family already had seven children. They agreed and not long after Mr. and Mrs. Markman were apprehended by the Gestapo, forced on a train, and never seen again. Sylvan lived as a Catholic youngster throughout the war. He had a picture of himself sitting on the lap of a German officer on his motorcycle. The facade obviously worked.

When the war ended Sylvan's uncle came for him and took him to New York. He and his wife adopted Sylvan and nicknamed him Prince. His uncle was a wealthy man with a financial interest in ships that carried cargo to and from Europe under a Panamanian flag. Sylvan and I were scheduled to work our way to Portugal on one of the ships and spend some time in Europe. Marlene and I were engaged by that time. She said, "if you go, I may not be here when you get back." That ended my trip to Europe.

Somehow, Sylvan ended up at Ohio State University. He was not only my classmate and good friend, but he also lived two blocks from me off campus. A few times when I stopped by he would speak through the door. He would state that he wasn't feeling well, but he would be okay. I'd ask if I could help and did he need anything? He said he would manage his illness and see me the next day. It wasn't until later that I learned he had bouts with depression and the demons from his past.

When Marlene was campaigning for Homecoming Queen at OSU in 1960, Sylvan convinced one of his frat brothers, who owned a convertible, to drive Marlene around campus. He also drove her and me, as

her escort, into the stadium for her grand entry as the queen. Her mother and father were there as well.

Her father, Jesse Owens, spoke, and of course was well known as a famous OSU Olympian. He proclaimed to Marlene, "Remember, sweetheart, this could only happen in America." Those words brought him a standing ovation from 83,000 fans in the Ohio stadium known as the Horseshoe.

Upon graduation Sylvan and I went our separate ways. I had a commitment to the US Army, and he joined a production company in New York. We stayed in touch, however, and visited with him over the years in New

York and in California where he moved early in his film production career. Sylvan was always in good spirits and he with his current wife, and Marlene and I, always had a great time together.

Sylvan was married four times and spent a fortune trying to find a cure for his third wife who eventually succumbed to cancer. He just couldn't shake the demons from his youth. He was one of the millions of casualties of World War II. He passed away from prostate cancer when only 71 years old. He was a very dear friend, and we miss him to this day.

*Stuart Rankin*



## INTERNATIONAL HARRY POTTER DAY IS MAY 2

We were both reading at the long table at 57th Street Books, me and a boy of about twelve. I came across a line in my book that made me laugh out loud. The kid looked up from his book.

"Are you reading Harry Potter too?" he asked.

*Allen Lang*

# SPECIAL EVENTS IN



FRIDAY	2	7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKER DOUGLAS BISHOP (P. 11)
SATURDAY	3	2:00 PM	EAST ROOM	U OF C STUDENTS PIANO PROGRAM (P. 7)
TUESDAY	6	11:15 AM	BUS	GOOD MEMORIES CHOIR, 4TH PRES CHURCH (P. 3)
WEDNESDAY	7	9:00 AM	LLLC: COSTCO HEARING TEST CLINIC-LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE. SIGNUP SHEET IN RESIDENT SERVICES OFFICE	
WEDNESDAY	7	NOON	BUS	SHAKESPEARE THEATER, <i>HYMN</i> (P. 3)
FRIDAY	9	12:30 PM	BUS	CSO, MAHLER 6 (P. 3)
SATURDAY	10	1:30	BUS	COURT THEATRE, <i>BERLIN</i> (P. 3)
		2:00 PM	EAST ROOM	U OF C STUDENTS VOCAL STUDIES PROGRAM (P. 7)
		6:00 PM	BUS	SINFONIETTA, <i>TONAL TRANSFORMATIONS</i> (P. 3)
SUNDAY	11	NOON-1:30 PM	DINING ROOM	MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON
		2:00-3:30 PM		(TWO SEATINGS)
		1:00 PM	BUS	GOODMAN THEATRE, <i>BUST</i> (P. 3)
		2:00 PM	BUS	CSO PIANO SERIES, EVGENY KISSIN (P. 3)
THURSDAY	15	1:00 PM	BUS	SOUNDS GOOD! CHOIRS AT 4TH PRES CHURCH (P. 4)
FRIDAY	16	10:00 AM	BUS	HYDE PARK GARDEN FAIR (PP. 2, 4)
		7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKER DEBORAH CALDWELL-STONE (P. 11)
SATURDAY	17	11:00 AM	BUS	MET LIVE IN HD, <i>SALOME</i> (P. 4)
SUNDAY	18	2:00 PM	EAST ROOM	U OF C STUDENTS CHAMBER MUSIC (P. 7)
		2:30 PM	BUS	SOUNDS GOOD! HYDE PARK CHOIR AT KAMII (P. 4)
MONDAY	19	1:00 PM	GAME ROOM	DRAMA GROUP, <i>THE MATCHMAKER</i> (P. 8)
TUESDAY	20	9:30 AM	BUS	GETHSEMANE GARDEN CENTER (PP. 2, 4)
WEDNESDAY	21	1:00 PM	BUS	ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO, "FRIDA KAHLO" (P. 4)
THURSDAY	22	9:30 AM	BUS	LOWE'S (PP. 2, 4)
		1:00 PM	BUS	TOUR OF OAK WOODS CEMETERY (P. 4)
FRIDAY	23	7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKER JULIA BACHRACH (P. 11)
SATURDAY	24	2:00 PM	EAST ROOM	RECITAL BY PIANIST AMY WURTZ (P. 7)
MONDAY	26	11:30 AM-1 PM	DINING ROOM	MEMORIAL DAY BARBECUE BUFFET (TWO SEATINGS)
		1:00-3:00 PM		RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
FRIDAY	30	NOON	BUS	LUNCH OUTING, ASCIONE BISTRO (P. 4)
SATURDAY	31	11:00 AM	BUS	MET LIVE IN HD, <i>IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA</i> (P. 4)

# REGULAR EVENTS IN MAY

**PLEASE NOTE: On pages 23-24, any event listed without a specific date or dates occurs on that day of the week every week. Events listed with specific dates occur on those dates only.**

M/W/F	9:30-10:30 AM	THIRD FLOOR	WELLNESS CLINIC
M/F	10:15-10:45 AM	EAST ROOM	WAKE UP AND STRETCH
T/Th	1:30-2:30 PM	THIRD FLOOR	WELLNESS CLINIC
M/W/F	11:00 AM	EAST ROOM	TONE IT UP!
T/Th	11:00 AM	LLLC	FLEX AND FLOW
M/F	1:00 PM	LLLC	STRETCH AND MOBILITY
T/Th	1:00 PM	POOL	WATER AEROBICS
<b>MONDAY</b>			
5, 12, 19	10:00 AM-NOON	BUS	HYDE PARK ERRANDS AND SHOPPING
	1:30 PM	EAST ROOM	YOGA
12, 26	2:30 PM	GAME ROOM	SCRABBLE
5, 19	3:00-4:00 PM	EAST ROOM	TOWN MEETING
26	3:00-4:00 PM	EAST ROOM	BOOKLOVERS GROUP (p. 10)
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4	FILM COMMITTEE MOVIE (p. 18)
<b>TUESDAY</b>			
27	9:30 AM-NOON	THERAPY ROOM	AUDIOLOGIST
6	10:00 AM	EAST ROOM	ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
	10:30 AM	EAST ROOM	BALANCE AND MOBILITY
	11:00 AM	ZOOM	MEDITATION (LAURIEANN CHUTIS)
	11:00 AM	LLLC	FLUIDITY AND MOVEMENT
	11:00 AM	EAST ROOM	TAI CHI
	1:00-3:00 PM	CAFÉ	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
	2:00-3:00 PM	EAST ROOM	CURRENT EVENTS
	3:30-4:30 PM	LOUNGE	WINE AND CHEESE
6	7:15-8:15 PM	EAST ROOM	SINGALONG
27	7:15	EAST ROOM	SHORT STORY GROUP
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>			
	10:00 AM-NOON	BUS	HYDE PARK ERRANDS AND SHOPPING
	10:15-11:00AM	EAST ROOM	MEDITATION WITH SHAWN
9	10:00-11:00 AM	LIBRARY	LIBRARY COMMITTEE
	10:45 AM-NOON	GAME ROOM	HYDE PARK BANK
	10:30-10:55 AM	CHAPEL	INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHAPEL SERVICE
	11:00 AM	CHAPEL	BIBLE STUDY
	1:00-2:00 PM	LLLC	BALANCE AND MOBILITY



7, 21	1:00-2:00 PM	EAST ROOM	RACE RELATIONS
7	1:00-2:00 PM	LOUNGE	WELLNESS LECTURE
7, 14, 28	2:00 PM	CHAPEL	ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNION SERVICE
21	2:00 PM	CHAPEL	ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS
14	2:15-3:15 PM	EAST ROOM	DINING COMMITTEE (p. 17)
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE	HEWSON SWIFT CONCERTS (p. 13)
<b>THURSDAY</b>			
	10:00 AM	BUS	MARIANO'S SHOPPING
	10:00 AM-NOON	VARIES	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE; APPOINTMENTS NEEDED
	10:00-11:00 AM	EAST ROOM	ADVANCED BALANCE TRAINING
1	11:00 AM-NOON	GAME ROOM	MESSENGER PLANNING MEETING
	11:00 AM	EAST ROOM	YOGA
8	11:00 AM	GAME ROOM	FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS COMMITTEE (p.11)
22	NOON	DINING ROOM	RESIDENTS' BIRTHDAY LUNCH
	1:00 PM	EAST ROOM	CULINARY CORNER (p. 17)
	1:30 PM	GAME ROOM	MAH-JONGG
1	2:00 PM	GAME ROOM	FILM COMMITTEE (p. 18)
15	3:15 PM	EAST ROOM	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
	3:30 -4:30 PM	LOUNGE	HAPPY HOUR
15	7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	RESIDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING
1, 15	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4.1	FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILMS (p. 18)
8, 22, 29	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4.1	DOCUMENTARY FILMS (p. 18)
<b>FRIDAY</b>			
2	9:00 AM	BUS	COSTCO SHOPPING
9, 16, 23, 30	10:00 AM-NOON	BUS	HYDE PARK ERRANDS AND SHOPPING
	9:15-11:30 AM	STUDIO	DRAWING AND PAINTING CLASS
	NOON -1:00 PM	LOUNGE	WELLNESS EDUCATIONAL SESSION
	1:00 PM	EAST ROOM	STRETCHING AND MOBILITY
2, 16	1:00 PM	CHAPEL	ADAPTING TO AGING
	4:15 PM	EAST ROOM	SHABBAT SERVICE
2, 16, 23	7:15 PM	EAST ROOM	FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS (p. x)
<b>SATURDAY</b>			
	8 AM-4 PM	BUS	RELIGIOUS TRANSPORTATION
	11:00 AM-NOON	EAST ROOM	LAURA FENSTER'S OPEN REHEARSAL (p. 7)
	1:30 PM	GAME ROOM	MAH-JONGG
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4.1	WEEKEND THEMED FILMS (p. 19)
<b>SUNDAY</b>			
	8 AM-4 PM	BUS	RELIGIOUS TRANSPORTATION
	11:00 AM-NOON	CHAPEL	CHAPEL SERVICE
	1:30 PM	GAME ROOM	CHESS
	7:15 PM	LOUNGE/CH 4.1	WEEKEND THEMED FILMS (p. 19)