

U-46's Dr. Suzanne Johnson Named a 'Superintendent to Watch' by National Group

School District U-46 Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Johnson was named to the National School Public Relations Association's (NSPRA's) list of "Superintendents to Watch." Each year, NSPRA recognizes superintendents with fewer than five years of experience who demonstrate dynamic, fast-paced leadership with strong communication at its core. The selection process was highly competitive, with a deep field of outstanding nominees, from which only 30 superintendents nationwide were selected. "These leaders understand that communication is not just about sharing information. It is about building relationships," said NSPRA Executive Director Barbara M. Hunter, APR. [CONTINUE READING](#)



March Click & Connect Submissions

Promote your news, events, deals, and announcements in our next issue!

- **Deadline:** February 25
- **Submit to:** post@elginchamber.com
- **Cost:** FREE to all Elgin Area Chamber members

[CLICK HERE](#) to review submission specs and browse past issues.

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Best. News. Ever. The official Girl Scout cookie season for our local council, Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois, has started! Best of all, profits from every Girl Scout Cookie purchase stay local, helping Girl Scouts in our area test their limits, try new things, and grow confidence. You can purchase your favorite treats from, in a variety of ways:

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More information - Code Requirements

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You are invited to attend Life in Business, a complimentary workshop on business planning strategies designed specifically for entrepreneurs like you to address the sustainability of your business, your ability to retire comfortably, and the financial security of your family.

Presented by Tyler Breed

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Topics covered include:

- 01** Strategies to reward and retain top talent in your organization
- 02** Business Succession
- 03** Maximizing after-tax income to owners and their families



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Tyler Breed is a Financial advisor with Eagle Strategies LLC and an Agent for New York Life Insurance Company. Amy Flota* is an Agent for New York Life Insurance Company.



For additional information:

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This seminar and sales presentation is for informational purposes only. This represents an understanding of generally applicable rules. New York Life Insurance Company, its agents or employees may not give legal, tax or accounting advice. Attendees should consult their own professional advisors prior to implementing any planning strategies. SMRU 510738 (exp. 4.1.2026)

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LAVELLE LAW breakfast BRIEFS

New Year, New Employment Laws: Key Illinois Changes Effective 2026

February 18, 2026

7:45 AM - 9:00 AM

1933 N. Meacham Rd., Suite 127, Schaumburg, IL 60173

Join Lavelle Law for a focused seminar dedicated to the major new employment-related laws that took effect in Illinois on January 1, 2026. While over 280 new laws were enacted statewide, this session zeroes in on the critical updates that directly impact employers, workplace policies, hiring, and HR practices.



This is a free seminar but registration is required as seating is limited.
Register via Eventbrite.

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Kane County Animal Control has announced the 2026 dates for its popular low-cost, drive-through rabies vaccination and microchip clinics [Learn More](#)



PAPA JOHNS

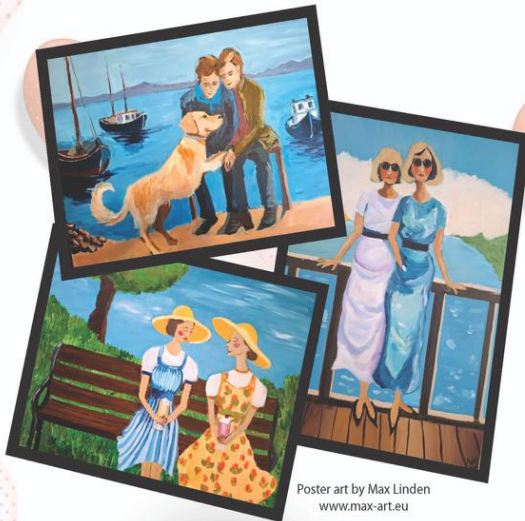
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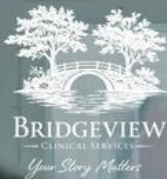
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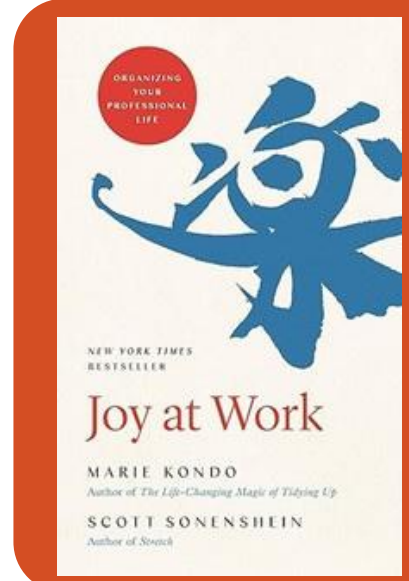
Business Book of the Month / El Libro de Negocios del Mes

Joy At Work / La felicidad en el trabajo

Author: Mario Kondo **Date of Publication:** 2020 **Publisher:** Little, Brown Spark

Favorite Quote: "We can truly spark joy in our work life only when we have put every aspect of it in order." / <<Solo podemos generar verdadera alegría en nuestra vida profesional cuando hemos puesto en orden todos los aspectos que la componen.>>

With 2026 underway, professionals are looking for a fresh start, yet, cluttered desks, overflowing inboxes, and scattered priorities can quickly derail all of that. Thankfully, Marie Kondo's Joy at Work, co-written with organizational psychologist Scott Sonenshein, offers a guide to reordering your workspace to support a more intentional and fulfilling work life. With her calm and encouraging voice, Kondo shows that it's not just about neatness, but about creating space for what truly matters. [CONTINUE READING](#)





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Business and Career Services provides equal access to all job seekers. MCIP is funded through a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) grant awarded by the Kane County Office of Community Reinvestment.

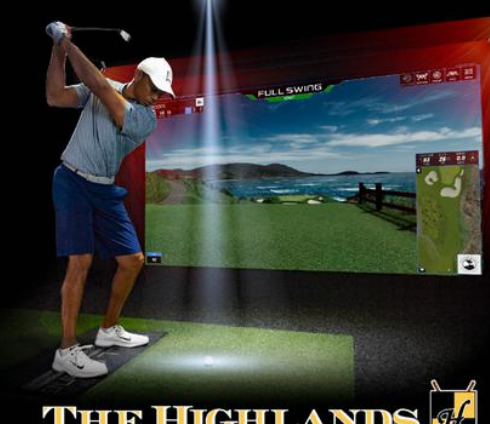
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!



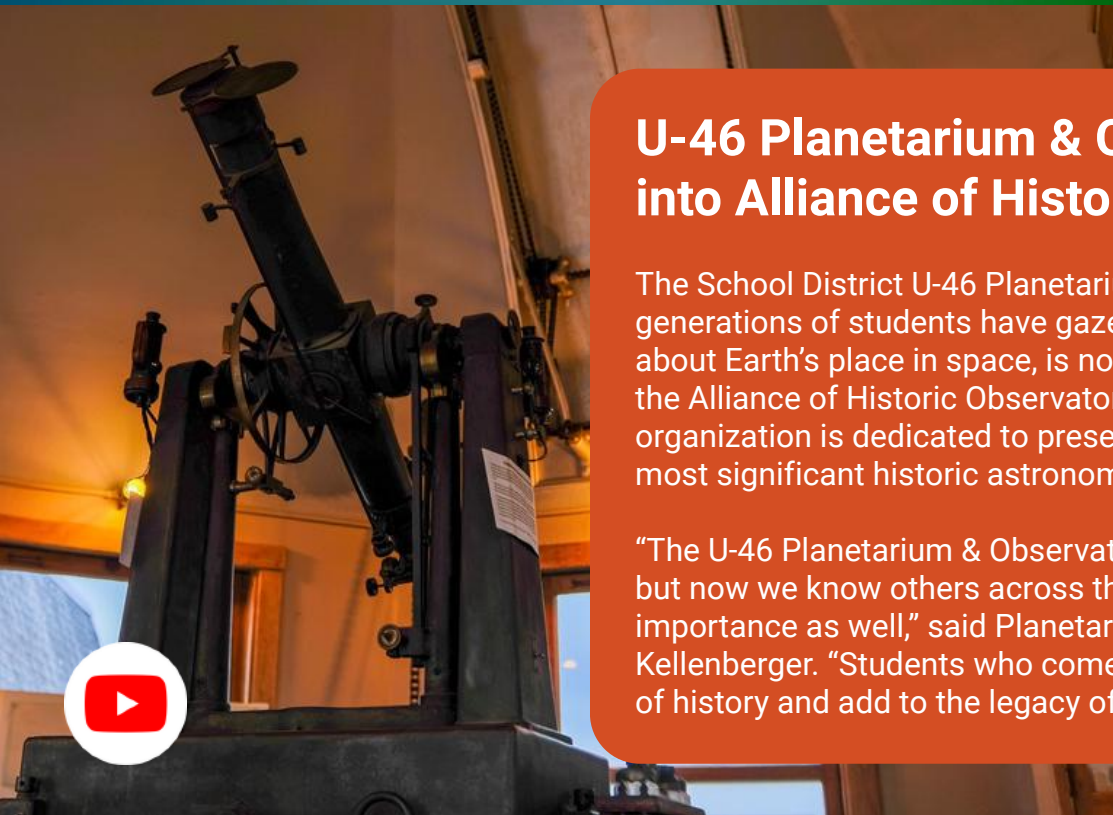
The IRS will begin accepting tax returns on January 26

Contact us for assistance!

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U-46 Planetarium & Observatory Inducted into Alliance of Historic Observatories

The School District U-46 Planetarium & Observatory, where generations of students have gazed at the stars while learning about Earth's place in space, is now recognized as a member of the Alliance of Historic Observatories (AHO). The international organization is dedicated to preserving and advancing the world's most significant historic astronomical sites.

"The U-46 Planetarium & Observatory is a special treasure for us, but now we know others across the globe recognize its importance as well," said Planetarium teacher Joseph Kellenberger. "Students who come here get to experience a part of history and add to the legacy of the facility." [Continue Reading](#)

Castle Connolly Top Doctors® Names Orthollinois as #2 Orthopedic Practice in Illinois



Castle Connolly Medical, Ltd., America's trusted source for identifying Top Doctors, has selected Orthollinois for inclusion in its highly selective list of Castle Connolly Top Orthopedic Practices in Illinois in its 2026 Castle Connolly Accolades.

Orthollinois has ranked second highest in the state of Illinois among Orthopedic practices and is a Top Five medical practice. Castle Connolly Accolades recognize health systems, hospitals, and physician practices that demonstrate

excellence in delivering high-quality healthcare through their top-ranked Castle Connolly Top Doctors. Castle Connolly Accolades are awarded to institutions based on the number of Top Doctors nationwide, by state, and across major metropolitan areas. [Continue Reading](#)



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5th Annual
Healthcare Heroes
valentine's day card drive

This Valentine's Day, let's show extra appreciation for those working in health care. State Representative Suzanne Ness and State Representative Anna Moeller are collecting valentines and notes of gratitude to share with health care workers who serve our community.

Accepting Handmade/Homemade cards until Friday, Feb. 6th

Collection Sites

♥ **State Representative Suzanne Ness**
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♥ **State Representative Anna Moeller**
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9:00 A.M. - NOON

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State Senator Cristina Castro



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I'm offering a special Valentine's menu featuring something for everyone — including gluten-free, keto, and vegan options. You'll also find custom decorated sugar cookies and delicate, flavor-packed macarons that make perfect gifts or dessert table showstoppers. The deadline to place orders is February 8, and availability is limited, so be sure to secure your spot as soon as possible. To browse the Valentine's Day menu or ask any questions, please call Daria at 312-610-9033. **Let's make this Valentine's Day extra delicious!**

Join us for the 2026 Fellowship Housing Gala!




On Saturday, March 7, 2026, celebrate hope and transformation at Belvedere Events & Banquets in Elk Grove Village. Enjoy an elegant evening featuring fine dining, a cocktail hour, silent and live auctions, wine pull, and inspiring entertainment. Your presence helps empower at-risk single moms and their children as they build stability, confidence, and a brighter future. Together we can change the future for generations to come. Registration closes February 22, 2026. **More information at bit.ly/fh gala26**

Pallet to Palate

EVENT
MARCH
31

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✉ Nancy Coleman (colemanace@align4edu.org)
Terry Stroh (terry.stroh@central301.net)

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FEBRERO/FEBRUARY



5

CREA UN CURRÍCULUM QUE DÉ RESULTADO
CREATE A RESUME THAT WORKS

5 - 6 PM

CARPENTERSVILLE

CENTRO de INFORMACIÓN
ANTHONY GASCA
OUTREACH MANAGER

12

CUIDADO FAMILIAR CON APOYO ECONÓMICO
FAMILY CAREGIVING WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

5 - 6 PM

ELGIN

European Service At Home
OKSANA KRUSHELNYTSKA
ESAH

19

ELIGIENDO LA CARRERA ADECUADA
CHOOSING THE RIGHT CAREER PATH

5 - 6 PM

CARPENTERSVILLE

CENTRO de INFORMACIÓN
ANTHONY GASCA
OUTREACH MANAGER

21

PRIMEROS AUXILIOS PARA LA SALUD MENTAL
MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

9 AM - 3 PM

HANOVER PARK

Kenneth Young Center
CENTRO DE INFORMACION &
KENNETH YOUNG CENTER

26

TUTELA PARA TUS HIJOS
GUARDIANSHIP FOR YOUR KIDS

5 - 6 PM

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FEBRERO/FEBRUARY 5, 12, 19, 21, 26

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REGISTRATION PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED



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Register TODAY! Marklund's Inaugural Run, Walk & Roll- Elgin on April 26th!

Be part of something new and inspiring in our community! Join the Inaugural Run, Walk & Roll 5K/1 Mile- Elgin, an event for everyone. Whether you race or cheer from the sidelines, you'll help kick off a fun, inclusive community tradition. Register or donate to support a great cause and make history with us. <https://p2p.onecause.com/rwrelgin/>

Marklund is a nonprofit organization serving children and adults with profound disabilities and special healthcare needs. Proceeds from this event support life-enhancing programs and services for individuals with complex medical and developmental needs.



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Ribs, Pulled Pork, Sausage AND MORE
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www.ThreeFiresCouncil.org/BigGameBBQ

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60
YEARS



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improving financial success

ECKER CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Leading Individuals to a Healthier Life

WINTER COAT DRIVE

Help Keep Our Community Warm



Scarves | Gloves | Boots | Coats

As winter temperatures drop, many individuals and families in our community are in need of warm winter coats.

We are accepting
 New or gently used winter gear for both children and adults

Drop-Off Information

Ecker Center For Behavioral Health | 1845 Grandstand Pl, Elgin, IL 60123
 Monday - Friday | 8 AM - 5 PM
 2nd Floor - Reception or Leave Coats by Coat Rack

Your donation can help someone stay warm, safe, and healthy this winter.
 Thank you for supporting our community!

Step Into 2026 on Solid Ground—Schedule Your Free Janitorial or Office Maintenance Services



CUSTOM JANITORIAL & FLOOR CARE

Tailored Services. Pristine Floors. Guaranteed Reliability.

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- Commercial Carpet & Floor Care
- Customized Service Plans



Ongoing Floor Maintenance

High-traffic floors need more than occasional cleaning. We offer ongoing maintenance plans that protect your flooring investment and maintain a polished appearance, including:

- Monthly or quarterly floor care
- Carpet maintenance for traffic lanes and work areas
- VCT, tile & grout, and corrective carpet cleaning

Call Us At: 847-741-3090 or Visit Us At: www.mastercleaninc.com



Pencak Silat Workshop

Saturday, February 14th, 11:00a

Discover Pencak Silat, an Indonesian, full-body, fighting form combining strikes, kicks, grappling, and throwing.

You will be introduced to basic techniques and principles and begin to recognize the underlying advantages and disadvantages of the motion rather than memorizing specific techniques. Wear something comfortable. Knowing how to fall is not required but it helps.

Workshop is open to all skill and experience levels. Suggested for adults and mature youth. \$40 per person.

Minimum participants required



BRING A FRIEND!



Qigong Meditation

Saturday, February 21st 11:00a

Qigong is a free-form Chinese martial art with plentiful, non-movement and meditative ways to practice it. Sifu Jason will introduce or refamiliarize you to the art of Qigong and lead you in peaceful and meditative practices and movement exercises. Invite a friend to join you as you relax and learn about your internal channels, Kan and Li, through Qigong Meditation. The workshop is open to all skill levels. \$40 per person.

Pre-registration is preferred but drop-ins are always welcome. 847-888-8866 or email southelginbudokan@att.net.

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