HINSDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRESENTS:
HELPING HANDS HELPING LIVES DINNER & AUCTION
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016 6:00 – 9:30 PM
TO BENEFIT BRIDGE COMMUNITIES AND REBUILDING TOGETHER
Welcome!

We are pleased you have joined us this evening for the fifth Hinsdale United Methodist Church Helping Hands, Helping Lives Dinner and Auction.

Those of you who have attended one of our previous Dinner and Auction events know you are in for an entertaining evening. Our focus tonight is to enjoy some wonderful food as well as each other’s company, while raising money for two worthy life-changing causes. Bridge Communities and Rebuilding Together have been important missions supported by HUMC over many years. Neither of these missions are funded through our annual operating budget; but instead are funded by special offerings and through tonight’s auction, which we hold about every three years.

So please take a couple of minutes to read the auction book, identify an item or two (or four or five!) that you must have, and start bidding! Please be generous!

Thanks again for being here and for your continued support of the many mission projects we do here at HUMC. We ARE making a difference, “one family at a time,” in the case of Bridge Communities and Rebuilding Together.

And a special thank you to:

- All our Corporate Sponsors that donated items and gift certificates. Please consider them in your future purchasing decisions.
- All the church members and friends who have contributed their time, talents, homes, and items for the Auction. You are the heart and soul of our success again, as you have been so often in the past.
- To all the people who have volunteered their time and talent to making this event possible.
- To all of you here tonight for your support in helping us achieve our financial goals that will enable HUMC to continue its partnership with Bridge Communities and Rebuilding Together.

Thanks again to all,

Dick Kingman
Chair, Dinner/Auction Committee
A Brief Background of the Organizations Supported by Your Generosity Tonight

Rebuilding Together:

Rebuilding Together is the nation’s leading nonprofit working to improve the homes and lives of low-income homeowners. One of the culminating events is National Rebuilding Day on the last Saturday in April. On that day, we join thousands of volunteers all across America to repair and rehabilitate homes for elderly and lower income families.

HUMC’s Role with Rebuilding Together:

HUMC has sponsored a home for more than a decade—this requires $5,000 and many volunteer hours! Our leadership team starts the planning in December when our homeowner is selected. Then they work with the homeowner to assess the needed repairs and create a plan to obtain all of the materials and plan the logistics to ensure a successful one-day amazing home make-over. For those who want to make a huge difference in a person's life and quality of living, please plan to join your HUMC team for our next rebuilding date on Saturday, April 29. In 2016, we helped Mildred who is an exuberant 86-year old storyteller and cares for her sister with dementia and two great granddaughters. She has had three hip replacements and has both bone and sickle cell cancer. Despite these hardships, she finds joy in baking and was truly grateful for the amazing repairs we were able to accomplish. Our day included projects for every skill level utilizing about 30 volunteers, led by professionals in our congregation. It's a truly "hands-on" mission that makes a huge difference in the lives of the families we have had the opportunity to serve.

Bridge Communities:

The mission of Bridge Communities is to transition homeless families to self-sufficiency by working with partners to provide mentoring, housing, and supportive services. Bridge currently provides transitional housing to nearly 150 homeless DuPage County families each year. During the two years each family spends in the program, they are able to save money, learn budgeting skills, and obtain better employment, so they can live self-sufficiently once they graduate. Bridge provides a broad array of critical services (case management, employment counseling, tutoring, counseling and services for children and youth).

HUMC’s Role with Bridge Communities:

HUMC has been a Program Partner with Bridge Communities for over 16 years. The current family we are serving consists of a mother (you will meet Sterling this evening) and her three children. Our sponsorship of a family entails raising about $10,000 per year to pay for rent and support the Bridge program services. And our mentor team (three lay members of HUMC) works with the family weekly to develop and track the agreed upon budget and employment plans to reach the goal of self-sufficiency at the end of the two year program duration. All of our families have been single Moms with one or more pre-school and/or school age children. They typically entered the program with no job, or a very insecure and low paying job, lots of debt, and no place to live. Upon leaving the program most had improved their financial situation materially and have been able to provide a better future for themselves and their family.
LIST OF DONORS

We wish to thank the many business friends whose donations have helped to make our fundraiser a success:

Adelle’s Restaurant, Wheaton
Alixandra Collections
Amber Café, Westmont
Antico Posto, Oak Brook
Athena Restaurant
Best Western Plus Oakbrook Inn.
Blueberry Hill Breakfast Cafe & Pancake House
Bluemercury, Inc.
Bottle & Bottega, Glen Ellyn
Burger King Restaurants
Butterfield’s Pancake House, Oakbrook Terrace
California Pizza Kitchen
Campus Colors
Carlucci Restaurant, Downers Grove
Carrabba’s Italian Grill, Woodridge
Chicago Marriott Oak Brook Hotel
Chicago Marriott Southwest at Burr Ridge
CiNe
Clara’s Restaurant, Woodridge
Clarendon Hills Fire Department
Comfort Suites Oakbrook Terrace
Cooper’s Hawk Winery & Restaurant
Corner Bakery Café, Hinsdale
Cucinova, Westmont
Devon Seafood + Steak
Eddie Merlot’s
Egg Harbor Café
Enchanted Castle
English Garden Flower Shop
Five Seasons Family Sports Club, Burr Ridge
Fontano’s Subs, Hinsdale
Fox’s in Hinsdale
Fred Astaire Dance Studio, Burr Ridge
Fuller’s Home and Hardware
Fuller’s Service Center, Hinsdale
Giordano’s of Oakbrook Terrace
Golden Basket Restaurant, Westmont
Grill 89, Westmont
Hilgrove Tap, Western Springs
Hinsdale Fruit Store
Hinsdale Fire Department
Hinsdale Flower Shop
Hinsdale Police Department
Hollywood Blvd Cinema
Home Run Inn
Il Poggiolo Restaurant
Il Vicolo Trattoria, Oak Park
James Joseph Experience
Jane’s Blue Iris Ltd.
Jewel/Osco, Clarendon Hills
Kramer Foods
Little Goat Diner
Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant
Maya Del Sol Restaurant, Oak Park
Meson Sabika
Midtown Athletic Club, Willowbrook
Mon Ami Gabi
Nabuki Restaurant
Palmer Place Restaurant
Papa Passero’s
Paramount Theatre, Aurora
Park Grill, Chicago
Parkers’ Restaurant, Downers Grove
Phillip’s Flowers and Gifts
Pinstripes, Oak Brook
Poor Phil’s Shell Bar, Oak Park
Red Roof Inn Plus, Willowbrook
Scapa Italian Kitchen
Seasons 52 Restaurant
SpringHill Suites by Marriott
Standard Market
Starbucks, Clarendon Hills
Tanta Restaurant, Chicago
Tap House Grill
The Academy of Dance Arts
The Country House Restaurants
The Drake Hotel
The Palmer House Hilton
The Patio Restaurants
The Theatre of Western Springs
Topaz Café
Velvet Touch Pet Salon
Vera Bradley at Oakbrook Center
Vern Goers’ Greenhouse
Vie Restaurant
Wok ‘n Fire Restaurant
Woodgrain Pizzeria, Westmont
Zabler Design Jewelers
Zazu Salon and Day Spa
Tonight’s Events

Guest Registration
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Silent Auction
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Welcome
6:25 PM

Prayer
6:30 PM

Special Guests
6:35 PM

Dinner
6:40 PM – 7:30 PM

Heads or Tails
7:50 PM

Live Auction
8:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Check Out
9:10 PM – 9:30 PM
THE SILENT AUCTION

AUCTION ITEM(S)  OPENING BID

PERSONAL CARE AND WEAR

A1 BEAUTY TREATMENT  $60.00
Your beauty is not everlasting, if unattended, so you need to hydrate and nourish your skin. A custom facial is what you need. You can do no better than head to James Joseph Experience, your salon and spa in downtown Hinsdale. This gift card will get you a Hydra Facial with Janet. Sooo luxurious; you glow, girl. Now, mirror, mirror, on the wall, who is fairest of us all?
The gift card will expire on February 12th, 2017.
Value: $175.00
Donated by: James Joseph Experience

A2 HAIRCUT AND PEDICURE  $35.00
Head to Toes, make yourself spiffy at Zazu Salon and Day Spa. This gift certificate qualifies you for a haircut from Gabi and a pedicure from Joy. You could avail yourself of other salon and spa personal care services while there, but be prepared to pay up. Give yourself that bearable lightness of being, though you won't really be walking on air.
The gift card is valid through March, 2017.
Value: $100.00
Donated by: Zazu Salon and Day Spa

A3 ZABLER DESIGN JEWELERS GIFT CERTIFICATE  $35.00
“Everybody must get stoned” – so proclaimed the 2016 Nobel Laureate for Literature. So follow the yellow brick road to the land of imperial topaz, black opal, and blue zircon. Then, use this $100.00 gift certificate, good toward the purchase of a single, in-stock jewelry item costing $200.00 or more at Zabler Design Jewelers in Clarendon Hills, your destination for fine jewelry, fine gems, and antique jewelry. Their jewelry designs are really works of art. You also get a bonus jar of cleaner for your precious stones. (Actually, I don't think that Bob Dylan was speaking of jewelry in the lyrics of “Rainy Day Woman”.) Please yourself, or ingratiate yourself with someone for whom you care a lot.
Redeem by November 12th, 2017.
Value: $100.00
Donated by: Zabler Design Jewelers

A4 HOMEMADE STARBURST WALL HANGING – OR - BABY QUILT  $25.00
Greens, violets, blues; these are the featured colors on a gold-glittered white background in this quilted Starburst wall hanging. The 100% cotton quilt is based on a 41”x41” square, with corners truncated to make an eight-sided figure. You could choose to mount this on a wall; but alternatively, it would make a beautiful baby quilt for a special little girl. Wait a minute – baby boys like quilts too, you know.
Value: $75.00
Donated by: Susan Steffens
A5 HAND MADE JEWELRY SET
This three-piece Flowered Glory set of jewelry consists of a 19” necklace, an 8” bracelet, and vintage earrings made by Cynthia Solomon. The necklace and bracelet were made from vintage crystal beads, and are closed by vintage sterling clasps. The centerpiece of the bracelet is a painted ceramic floral feature. Each earring is a veritable efflorescence of crystal beads. “You've got the look, you've got the hook”, quoth Prince.

Value: $135.00
Donated by: Cynthia Solomon

A6 HAND MADE JEWELRY NECKLACE
This 18” necklace, comprised of Around the World baubles with a sterling silver clasp, was made by Cynthia Solomon. A string of large, spherical painted beads is interspersed with small turquoise stones and pearl-like painted beads. Just really banging, girlfriend!

Value: $75.00
Donated by: Cynthia Solomon

A7 GIFT CARDS FOR MASSAGES OR FACIALS
These two gift certificate cards for Massage LuXe, Willowbrook, can be used for two one-hour therapeutic massages or LuXe facials. Choose to get either a Swedish massage or a Deep-tissue massage and your mind and body will be relaxed and de-stressed, leaving you calmed, serene, and delighted. When Nirvana beckons; you must follow. The LuXe facial offers the option of the Pore Refining Facial, the Seaweed Facial, or the Glycolic Peel for cleaning and hydrating your skin, and balancing your complexion. “Beauty's only skin deep” – the Temptations knew the score.

Value: $150.00
Donated by: Beth Clawson

A8 WOMAN'S GIFT BASKET OF SKIN CARE PRODUCTS
Are you ready for all this? This basket contains your basic cornucopia of opulently indulgent self-care products from Bluemercury, an American luxury beauty retailer offering makeup, skin and hair care, and bath and body products. You get a jar of Moroccanoil Weightless Hydrating Mask, a tube of Moroccanoil Hand Cream, a bottle of Moroccanoil Dry Body Oil, a jar of Kiehl's Blue Herbal Gel Cleanser, a jar of Kiehl's Multi-Corrective Cream, a tube of Kiehl's Brushless Shave Cream, and two pouches of Sugar Lip Serum. This beauty care stuff is hard work, actually, even if you want to feel that “You are a natural beauty, unaffected”. Prince does his best to flatter you.

Value: $200.00
Donated by: Bluemercury, Inc.

A9 WOMAN'S QUILTED LEATHER CROSSBODY BAG
This quilted leather bag, claret with black trim and a brass clasp, is equipped with a long black strap for crossbody carrying. It is the Quilted Tess Crossbody model (9”x6”) from Vera Bradley at Oakbrook Center. Shorten the strap and wear it as a traditional shoulder bag. The interior is divided into two main compartments separated by a zippered middle pocket. There are also six card slip pockets. Very stylish; suitable for a busy day, or for a night out. Can the very stylish bag lady secure the very stylish pad at P.A.D.S.? Nobility will be obliged.
A dust bag for storage is enclosed.

Value: $198.00
Donated by: Vera Bradley at Oakbrook Center.
SERVICES

B1 PET CARE FROM VELVET TOUCH  $20.00
For the discriminating pet owner, Velvet Touch Pet Salon in Hinsdale offers the ultimate in pet grooming and high quality spa services. It also offers a great selection of specialty pet products. This allows you to treat your beloved companion with the fawning attention that it so richly deserves. Should you be forced to separate yourself from the darling creature for any length of time, Velvet Touch also offers Pet Boarding and Doggie Daycare services. The gift certificate entitles the winning bidder to $50 worth of products or services, and is valid to August 1st, 2017. Why not give your Rottweiler that “fresh, fruity fragrance” with the “Plum-Perfect Cream Rinse”?
Value: $50.00
Donated by: Velvet Touch Pet Salon

B2 AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION  $25.00
Your winning bid earns you two one-way trips to/from either O'Hare or Midway Airport, courtesy of Peter and Ann Sadler. So if “you're leaving on a jet plane, and you don't know when you'll be back again”, don't pay the steep price for long-term parking at the airport; rely on the Sadlers to get you there. They are even willing to drive Miss Daisy, if she makes the winning bid.
Value: $75.00
Donated by: Peter and Ann Sadler

B3 HOME COOKED DINNER FOR TWO AT THE GORYS  $35.00
Theresa and Jim Gory will entertain you with dinner at their home in Justice. The menu will be planned in accord with the expressed preferences of the winning bidder, but Jim warns that you not expect too much. Since Jim is a comedian, and Theresa is in charge, pay no attention to that warning. Instead, expect a delightful evening with palate-pleasing dishes, and with levity provided by Jim. A charming atmosphere of casual bonhomie is assured. (Ask Jim if his mother really liked his brother, Mike, best.)
Value: Priceless
Donated by: Theresa and Jim Gory

B4 AUTOMOBILE R AND R  $45.00
Don't spoil your children, spoil your car. Pamper it. These five gift certificates are for car washes at Fuller’s Car Wash, Hinsdale, or other locations. Come on, pimp your ride. The car will appreciate it so much that it might burst forth with its “I have a sheen” speech.
Value: $125.00
Donated by: Fuller’s Service Center, Hinsdale

B5 PERSONAL SHOPPER SERVICE  $10.00
Sometimes, you can't exert yourself to go to the store, irrespective of the necessity to get some shopping done. Well, here comes Julie Siarny, a high-value personal shopper available at a very low price – but only via this benefit auction. She will take your shopping list and head off to the grocery, “big box” store, or shopping mall to act as your procurement officer. She will deliver the goods back to your home, providing that they can be accommodated in her van, and she will provide all sales receipts for reimbursement. This will not exhaust her spirit of service. If, in addition, you would like her assistance with selecting and/or purchasing Christmas gifts, she is willing to do that after she completes her shopping duty. This could be the bargain of the season – free angel service.
Value: $20.00
Donated by: Julie Siarny.
B6 DANCE LESSONS

$100.00

The winning bidder will receive two gift certificates to the Fred Astaire Dance Studio, Burr Ridge. Each certificate entitles the bidder to one private dance lesson, one group lesson, and one party. First and foremost, dancing is fun; furthermore it is beneficial for your health. Whether you have already developed some skill in the art, or you are still learning to negotiate walking with two left feet, the expert instructors at Fred Astaire Dance Studio, Burr Ridge, can put new spring in your step, new lilt in your gait.......Stop me while there is still time. The certificate is valid to March 31st, 2017.

But to learn to do the dances backwards and in high heels, check out the Ginger Rogers Dance Studio.

Value: $300.00

Donated by: Fred Astaire Dance Studio, Burr Ridge.

B7 NEAR-LOOP MOTOR TOUR AND DINNER FOR TWO

$35.00

Paul and Vicki Greene will conjure up a magical journey through the Near West and South Sides of Chicago, to show you fascinating areas seldom visited by tourists in the city. You will be regaled with lots of interesting history, but very little walking will be demanded. (Nevertheless, please wear comfortable shoes; leave the stilettos in the shoe closet.) The expedition will conclude with a dinner at Ignotz Ristorante, an old school Italian restaurant in the Heart of Chicago neighborhood, famous for its great food and home-like atmosphere. The party will sally forth at a time and date to be negotiated with the Greenes. Be ye not timorous; Paul will be avoiding the seamy underbelly of the city.

Value: $100.00

Donated by: Paul and Vicki Greene

B8 U.S. MAILBOAT TOUR, LAKE GENEVA, WI – PLUS LUNCH

$60.00

Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds. This claim, attributed to the U.S. Postal Service, was inspired by the writing of Herodotus, more than 2000 years before the Pilgrims arrived in America. But what about the challenge of water? No problem for our fearless letter carriers. The mail is delivered by boat in a few select places in the country, including Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

We are inviting a party of two to join Dick and Jan Kingman on a cruise around Lake Geneva aboard The Walworth, as the mail is delivered to about 75 homes and estates around the lake. This is a glorious excursion, and it will culminate with lunch at the lake front home of Cheri and Bill Laughridge. Four more congenial hosts you could not find. If the weather is favorable, you still have an appetite for leisure, and your energy level remains high after lunch, you might enjoy another boat ride, a swim in the lake, or a ride on the jet skis, courtesy of the Laughridges. The Kingmans promise not to return without you.

The Mailboat Tours will be operational from June 15th to September 15th, 2017. Passengers board at 10:00 a.m. in downtown Lake Geneva at the Riviera Pier, so an early departure (about 7:15 a.m.) from the Kingman home in Clarendon Hills will be required. The cruise lasts for 2 ½ hours. However, you will not be asked to join the crew in leaping onto the piers from the boat to gain access to the mailboxes.

Value: $175.00

Donated by: Dick and Jan Kingman, Cheri and Bill Laughridge

B9 POLICE SQUAD CAR “RIDE ALONG”

$100.00

The Hinsdale Police Department will offer a “Ride Along” for four hours in a Police Squad Car. The passenger must be at least 14 years old. A waiver form is required for minors. See yourself as Robin, sitting alongside Batman, as you speed off to fight crime in the community. You are delusional. This will be a sedate outing, we hope. The winning bidder will contact the Department to negotiate a suitable time for the expedition.

Value: Priceless

Donated by: The Hinsdale Police Department
B10 FIRE DEPARTMENT TOUR  $60.00
The Clarendon Hills Fire Department will offer a tour of the fire house to a family plus a few of their friends. Get a close up look at the cool emergency vehicles. Fire Departments vehicles are more fascinating to inspect than Police Department vehicles, but you don't get to “ride along” in them. In fact, your tour will be rescheduled should an emergency situation arise at the appointed time. The winning bidder will contact the Department to negotiate a suitable time for the tour.

Value: Priceless
Donated by: The Clarendon Hills Fire Department

B11 MR. FIX IT  $25.00
The winning bid entitles you to two hours of professional household repairs by our resident handyman, Steve Landes. Minor household repairs and services of all types are offered, including:
- Minor electrical and plumbing work;
- Assembly required for furniture and toys;
- Home inspection punch lists;
- Honey-do lists; All of those little jobs that never get done.
This is an especially prized service for those allergic to hammers and nails, and that kind of icky hardware stuff.

Value: $60.00
Donated by: Steve Landes

B12 DANCE CLASSES  $80.00
You get two gift certificates. Each entitles you to receive any one-hour dance class weekly for eight weeks at The Academy of Dance Arts in Downers Grove, the official school of Illinois Ballet Theatre. Classes are held for children, teens, and adults, in ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and hip-hop. There will be no lessons in twerking. 

A separate registration fee of $40.00 is required.

Value: $240.00
Donated by: The Academy of Dance Arts
C1 GOLF AT WILLOW CREST GOLF CLUB  $115.00
This course at the Hilton – Chicago Oak Brook Hills Resort is rated as one of the top public golf courses in Illinois. This certificate entitles a foursome to one round of golf on any day of the week. A golf cart is included. The certificate expires on October 31st, 2017. The four Willow Crest-stamped golf balls are a bonus, but you will probably need more to complete the round. Golf tip of the day: A pot bunker is not an underground storage facility for ganja.

Value: $340.00
Donated by: Mac and Nancy MacDonald

C2 NORTHWESTERN MEN'S BASKETBALL TICKETS  $30.00
A shout out to Northwestern University Wildcat fans. You will score two tickets to the Wildcats men's basketball game versus the University of Illinois on Tuesday, February 7th, 2017, with this winning bid. The time of the game will be announced later – at the discretion of the television gods. These are terrific 4th row seats behind the visitors' bench. This could be the year that the Wildcats finally make the NCAA Tournament, so be there to urge them on.

Value: $80.00
Donated by: Marion and Pam Roglich

C3 NORTHWESTERN MEN'S BASKETBALL TICKETS  $30.00
Another shout out to Northwestern University Wildcat fans. You will score two tickets to the Wildcats men's basketball game versus the University of Michigan on Wednesday, March 1st, 2017, with this winning bid. These are terrific 4th row seats behind the visitors' bench. The time of the game will be announced later. The Wildcats are itching to avenge that narrow overtime loss in last season's Big Ten Conference Tournament, so they will welcome your vocal support.

Value: $80.00
Donated by: Marion and Pam Roglich

C4 CHICAGO BULLS BASKETBALL TICKETS  $90.00
More basketball, pro style. The NBA is back after last season's exciting championship series, and the Chicago Bulls team has been reconstituted to challenge the defending champion Cleveland Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference. Winning this bid will get you two tickets to see the Bulls on Monday, December 5th, 2016, at the United Center, as they face the Portland Trailblazers. These are terrific seats – Sect. 107, Row E, Seats 9 and 10 – next to the tunnel/staging area for the entertainment. This virtually guarantees interaction with the cheerleaders, the Luv-a-Bulls, and the team mascot, Benny the Bull. This would be a great treat for a youngster; but you, serious basketball fan, will be concentrating on the game, and looking for Wade and Rondo to set fire to the 'Blazers.

Value: $290.00
Donated by: Mike & Michelle Wierzbicki
C5 PERSONAL TRAINING OR PILATES REFORMER SESSIONS $50.00

Once upon a time, you made a New Year’s resolution to work out and get fitter. Long since abandoned, the pledge can now be reinstated if you win this certificate for two personal training sessions with a certified coach at the Midtown Athletic Club in Willowbrook. Whether your aim is to lose weight or build muscle, here is your chance to get started at this resort-like athletic club. If you are more inclined to develop your mind along with your body, the certificate can be used instead for two Pilates Reformer sessions that promise to heal, calm, and empower you. Really? Really! Although it is named the Reformer, it is certainly not true that the apparatus was developed as an instrument of persuasion during the Inquisition. So get off the couch, and reawaken those long-dormant muscles in your corpulent corpus. The certificate must be redeemed by April 30th, 2017.

Value: $156.00
Donated by: Midtown Athletic Club, Willowbrook

C6 FAMILY SPORTS CLUB MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES CERTIFICATES $295.00

Wow! This is a haul. You get a gift certificate for a three-month True Club Family membership at the Five Seasons Family Sports Club in Burr Ridge. You also get additional gift certificates for two half-hour personal training sessions, a half-hour massage, a one-hour private tennis lesson, a 30-minute private swim lesson, and a family meal (for four) in the Seasons Café. They don't want to let you out of there. Five Seasons Sports Club is dedicated to improving sports performance and overall health, while providing leisure activities and entertainment for the whole family. A huge range of sports and exercise options are available. Whether raising some little jocks, or just buying in to that healthy, athletic lifestyle, make your way to the Burr Ridge rendition of The Madhouse on Madison. The certificates must be redeemed by October 31st, 2017.

Value: $887.00
Donated by: Five Seasons Family Sports Club, Burr Ridge
INDOOR AND OUTDOOR

D1 FLORAL NOTE CARDS BY DAROLD $10.00
Reach out to old friends with notes that you will write using a box of ten blank note cards featuring prints of assorted photographs by Darold Drew. They will be pleasantly surprised to hear from you, especially when they realize that you are not asking for money.

Value: $30.00
Donated by: Darold Drew

D2 FLORAL NOTE CARDS BY DAROLD $10.00
Don't express your tender sentiments via Facebook and Twitter. For sending those caring greetings, you get a box of ten blank note cards featuring prints of assorted photographs by Darold Drew. Old school, and classy.

Value: $30.00
Donated by: Darold Drew

D3 GREEN THUMB OR PLANT DUMB? $30.00
Either way, you're covered with these two gift certificates. A $50 gift certificate from Vern Goers' Greenhouse in Hinsdale will help to bring fulfillment to those for whom planting flowers and tending live plants is their means of expression; a $35 gift certificate from the English Garden Flower Shop in Clarendon Hills will suit those for whom choosing a lovely, tasteful floral arrangement is expression enough. And for those with a dual identity – Ah, Bliss! The gift certificate for English Garden Flower Shop expires on August 6th, 2017.

Value: $85.00
Donated by: Vern Goers' Greenhouse and English Garden Flower Shop

D4 ARTIFICIAL WHITE ORCHID PLANT $40.00
This beautiful, artificial white orchid plant is so realistic that it will demand close inspection to reveal that it is an ersatz masterpiece created by Jane's Blue Iris. Give a lift to your home décor without the complications of dirt and watering, and the guilt that results when you have managed to slay an innocent beauty of nature.

Value: $115.00
Donated by: Jane's Blue Iris Ltd.

D5 GRACIOUSLY SERVED – A BASKET OF GOODIES $20.00
This wine and cheese gift basket includes bottles of red and white wines, as well as cheese, and crackers. Import friends, then spend the afternoon in your gazebo, indulging.

Value: $50.00
Donated by: Ann Sadler

D6 DRINKWARE WITH SEALING LIDS $35.00
Not mere mugs, – think of these as “sealable drinkware”. This collection consists of three 12 fl. oz. ceramic mugs with sealing lids, one 16 fl. oz. insulated metallic mug with sealing lid, and one open 16 fl.oz. ceramic mug. The ceramic mugs all feature pleasing, painted designs and come in separate boxes, making them ideal for giving as Christmas gifts to teachers, college students, and other deserving caffeine addicts. You will need to come up with a barista on your own, however.

Value: $96.00
Donated by: Starbucks
D7 PARTY ARTY  $30.00
The slogan of Bottle & Bottega is: “There is an artist inside each of us waiting to be uncorked”; – so you can uncork your repressed artistic gift at a party in their art studio space. This wine and art entertainment studio hosts events that are part artistic adventure and part cocktail party. It presents a very different mode of get together in which guests get down with paint and canvas, and create their own masterpieces, or recreate well-known masterpieces, under the guidance of a real artist, and under the influence of drink. Bottle & Bottega Glen Ellyn is offering two gift certificates, each good for one admission to one of their public events. Go alone, or with a friend. Just pick an event date and sign up online. Explore favorite artistic styles – from Hieronymus Bosch (you might emerge as the new Hieronymus Botched) to Gustav Klimt (make way for the new Gustav Clinked). Of course, you get to keep your handiwork – since they don't want it anyway. As inspiration, the winning bidder will also get a sample artwork showing an impression of the Chicago skyline – the work of a nouveau impressioniste, no doubt. So much fun! Paint, alcohol, clothes – what could go wrong?
Value: $90.00
Donated by: Bottle & Bottega Glen Ellyn

D8 CLASSIC HAUT-CHOCOLAT ADVENT CALENDAR BOX  $45.00
“Guess Who's Coming To Dinner?”. “The Iceman Cometh”. “Waiting For Godot”. These classic works all evoke the spirit of Advent leading up to Christmas, don't they? Well, they do to some discerning people. You can experience the countdown in a novel way with this Advent Calendar that is unlike any you have seen – or tasted. You count down the days of December with a daily dose of rich chocolate stashed in the 24 drawers of this beautiful Advent Box. The box is a work of art; its doors swing open to reveal the 24 drawers and the holiday poem, “‘Twas the Night Before Christmas”. Each day, you slide out a drawer and indulge in a morsel of haut-chocolat. Flip the empty drawer before returning it to its place, and slowly, a holiday greeting will be revealed. Save the keepsake box and order replacement chocolates in future years. The drawers are filled with a selection of Caramels, Organic Peanut Butter Bonbons, Toffee, and Mini Exotic Chocolate Bars. You might want to invest in an alarm to alert you to premature filching by overzealous members of your household who may try to accelerate the calendar.
Value: $135.00
Donated by: Lennox Iton

D9 TABLE-TOP FLORAL DECORATION  $45.00
Looking for an exquisite sample of floral design art to decorate that table in the corner of your room? We have it for you, courtesy of Hinsdale Flower Shop. There are nine distinct varieties of flowers and greenery in this ensemble, including imaginatively hued roses, gladioli, and zinnias. It's still life in silk, bringing a touch of elegance to your décor. As part of the Auction item, you will get a bonus Hinsdale Flower Shop 2017 calendar with several discount coupons.
Value: $133.00
Donated by: Hinsdale Flower Shop

D10 SET OF EMBROIDERED QUILTED PILLOWS WITH CHRISTMAS THEME  $35.00
In time for Christmas, this set of quilted pillows is a perfect decorative accessory for your living or family room. The pillows are each 13 ½ in. square, red on one side and white on the other. Each of the three pillows is embroidered on the white side with an image evocative of Christmas – one shows a head of Santa Claus; another shows a full Santa Claus figure engaged in checking his list; the third shows a hexagonal array of six poinsettia clusters, with a seventh poinsettia cluster in the center of the array. The pillows are washable and can remain a part of your Christmas decorations for many years.
Value: $100.00
Donated by: Susan Garlow.
**DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT**

**E1 MUSICAL THEATRE TICKETS**

You get a gift voucher redeemable for two tickets to any performance of a show in the Broadway Series at Paramount Theatre, Aurora, during the 2016/2017 season (that ends on May 28th, 2017). Choose from three acclaimed Broadway musicals, “The Little Mermaid”, “Sweeney Todd”, and “Jesus Christ Superstar”, all with Broadway caliber productions. The original Broadway productions of “Sweeney Todd” and “Jesus Christ Superstar” received nine and seven Tony Award nominations, respectively. Paramount Theatre productions in the last season received a record number of Jefferson Award nominations. Spoiler alert: Don't get a shave from the barber in one of these musicals.

**Value: $100.00**

Donated by: Paramount Theatre, Aurora.

**E2 THEATRE TICKETS AND CASUAL DINING**


You also get two $20.00 gift certificates for dining at Café Salsa, a Mexican Grill and Tequila Bar in Countryside. I would be careful about patronizing the Tequila Bar before proceeding to the Theatre to see “Wait Until Dark”. The gift certificates to Café Salsa are valid through July, 2017.

**Value: $100.00**

Donated by: The Theatre of Western Springs and Café Salsa, Countryside.

**E3 DINING AT ATHENA RESTAURANT IN GREEKTOWN**

This gift certificate for $100 is good for dining at Athena Greek Restaurant in Chicago. This restaurant in Greektown serves traditional Greek food of high quality, including the standards -- lamb, dolmades, mousakas, spanakopita; it also makes the bridge to include modern western cuisine on the menu. Athena’s beautiful outdoor patio is consistently rated in the Zagat survey as providing Chicago's best outdoor dining. You are advised that this experience would be less appealing if undertaken in the winter.

**Value: $100.00**

Donated by: Athena Restaurant.

**E4 DINING AT MCCORMICK AND SCHMIDT'S**

This gift certificate for $100 is good for dining at McCormick and Schmidt's Seafood Restaurant in the Oak Brook Promenade. The restaurant specializes in both fresh seafood varieties and aged steaks, and also boasts of having been recognized as having the Best Happy Hour. It is your right, as an American, to engage in the assiduous pursuit of happiness.

**Value: $100.00**

Donated by: Joyce Hahn.
**E5 DINING, WINE TASTING, AND AN OVERNIGHT HOTEL STAY**  
$75.00
We are combining a gift certificate for a Complimentary Lux Wine Tasting for four, with a gourmet chocolate truffle, at Cooper's Hawk Winery in Burr Ridge (or other location), with a gift card for $25 toward fine dining on steak and seafood at Eddie Merlot's in Burr Ridge, and a certificate that entitles you to an overnight stay for two in a King Suite at the SpringHill Suites by Marriott Chicago Southwest in Burr Ridge. You are then permitted to leave Burr Ridge. The dinner certificate is valid through August 17th, 2017; the hotel certificate is valid through December 31st, 2017.

**Value:** $223.00

Donated by: SpringHill Suites by Marriott, Cooper's Hawk Winery, and Eddie Merlot's

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**E6 DINING IN CHICAGO AND OVERNIGHT STAY AT THE PALMER HOUSE**  
$140.00
This item makes a time spanning collaboration of what's old in the city of Chicago with what's new. The Palmer House Hilton Hotel in the Chicago Loop is a renowned hotel with a distinguished history. The original building was destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire a mere two weeks after it opened in 1871. Today it is offers modern, luxurious accommodations with the finest amenities. The Park Grill Chicago is an award-winning restaurant on Michigan Avenue at the recently developed Millennium Park, and features contemporary American cuisine. You will get a $50 gift card for dining at Park Grill Chicago, and a certificate for a one night stay in a standard room at The Palmer House Hilton, with buffet breakfast for two in the Lockwood Restaurant in the Palmer House included. Prestige and refinement – it befits your station. The certificate for the Park Grill expires on August 26th, 2017; the certificate for The Palmer House expires on November 30th, 2017.

**Value:** $410.00

Donated by: Park Grill, Chicago, and The Palmer House Hilton, Chicago

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**E7 DINING AT LITTLE GOAT DINER IN CHICAGO**  
$35.00
This gift certificate for $100 is good for dining at Little Goat Diner in the West Loop neighborhood in Chicago. This diner is owned and operated by Stephanie Izard, the award-winning chef who owns The Girl and the Goat Restaurant, and features her creative, gourmet takes on comfort food classics. That is why you can find sloppy goat as a menu item – sloppy joe goes goat. You might want to leave your kids at home.

**Value:** $100.00

Donated by: Little Goat Diner

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**E8 SUNDAY BRUNCH AT MESON SABIKA**  
$30.00
This gift certificate is good for Sunday Brunch for two at Meson Sabika, for the 12:30 or 1:00 p.m. sitting. Each guest also receives one complimentary glass of champagne or mimosa. Meson Sabika is a Spanish restaurant in Naperville that features tapas. It occupies a stately former mansion, and provides a charming ambience suffused with the flavor of Spain. You will undoubtedly grace your Sunday further if you follow the church service with brunch at Meson Sabika. The certificate expires on August 31st, 2017.

**Value:** $75.00

Donated by: Meson Sabika
E9 BRUNCH, BOCCE BALL, AND A “TWO FOR BREAKFAST” WEEKEND NIGHT HOTEL STAY FOR TWO $80.00
Pinstripes is an entertainment and dining establishment located in Oakbrook Center. It combines an exceptional Italian/American bistro with bowling lanes and bocce courts. You get a certificate for Sunday Brunch for four guests at Pinstripes, along with one hour of bocce ball. Remaining in Oak Brook, you can spend the night at the Chicago Marriott Oak Brook Hotel, where you have a certificate for a “Two for Breakfast” One Weekend Night stay in deluxe accommodations. The breakfast is served in the 1401 West Restaurant, and full use of the facilities is included. Luxurious. The certificate must be used before November 12th, 2017.

Value: $237.00
Donated by: Pinstripes and Oak Brook Marriott Hotel

E10 ENCHANTED CASTLE FAMILY FUN PACK AND OVERNIGHT HOTEL STAY $70.00
Enchanted Castle Restaurant and Entertainment Complex in Lombard is the Chicago area's premier all-indoor entertainment complex. Your Family Fun Pack entitles you to a 16” pizza, pop, game tokens (100, worth $25), 4 miniature golf passes, and either 4 go-kart rides or 4 laser tag games. Your youngsters have entered Nirvana for the juvenile set. Just try to get them out without spending more money. The gift certificate expires on November 12th, 2017. Now, we won't accommodate your family, but we will give you a certificate for one night's stay for one person in a Standard Leisure Room at the Best Western Plus Oakbrook Inn, with a complimentary hot breakfast buffet. You also get “sleep tight” service of “homemade” cookies and milk. They will also read you a bedtime story, and tuck you in to your goose down bedding. The gift certificate expires on December 31st, 2017.

Value: Up to $210.00
Donated by: Enchanted Castle and Best Western Plus Oakbrook Inn

E11 FINE ITALIAN DINING $35.00
This $100.00 gift card allows you to engage in the remarkable dining experience offered at Scapa Italian Kitchen in Clarendon Hills, a modern, rustic Italian restaurant. Enjoy classic Italian fare in an intimate setting. Mangi! Mangi! Abbondanza!

Value: $100.00
Donated by: Scapa Italian Kitchen

E12 DINING AT PARKERS' RESTAURANT $35.00
This $100.00 courtesy card allows you to engage in the remarkable dining experience offered at Parkers' Restaurant in Downers Grove. The chef is committed to local and sustainable sourcing of food, in partnership with the American fisherman and the American farmer.

The gift certificate expires on August 20th, 2017.

Value: $100.00
Donated by: Parkers' Restaurant

E13 OVERNIGHT HOTEL STAY IN BURR RIDGE $45.00
This gift certificate entitles you to a one night stay in a deluxe guest room at the Marriott Chicago Southwest at Burr Ridge (valid for Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday night). Complimentary on-site parking is provided. Full use of the facilities is also included. The certificate is valid through September 21st, 2017.

Value: $130.00
Donated by: Marriott Chicago Southwest at Burr Ridge
E14 OVERNIGHT HOTEL STAY IN OAKBROOK TERRACE $45.00
This gift certificate entitles you to a one night stay in a standard two-room at the Comfort Suites Oakbrook Terrace, along with a hot breakfast. Complimentary on-site parking is provided. Full use of the facilities is also included. The certificate is valid through October 5th, 2017.

Value: $139.00
Donated by: Comfort Suites Oakbrook Terrace

E15 SOUTH AMERICAN CUISINE AT TANTA RESTAURANT, CHICAGO $20.00
This gift card for $50 is good for dining at Tanta, a Peruvian restaurant in Chicago's River North neighborhood. The food is rooted in the culture and flavors of Peru, sampling regions from ocean (Pacific), to mountains (Andes), to desert (Atacama), and to jungle (Amazon). The culture has been influenced by several ethnic groups, with emigrants from China, Japan, Spain, and Italy melding their culinary contributions to the cuisine of the indigenous Peruvians. The array of cebiche dishes on the menu is sufficient to warrant the trip to the near north side.

Value: $50.00
Donated by: Tanta Restaurant

E16 DINING AT ADELLE'S RESTAURANT, WHEATON $20.00
With this $50.00 gift card you can enjoy fine American fare at Adelle's Restaurant, Wheaton, a small neighborhood restaurant rated one of the best in the Chicago suburbs. It is a “scratch” kitchen, so all elements comprising the menu's dishes are handcrafted. There is weekly live jazz music on Thursday evenings. This is a very special place for a dining experience. The gift certificate expires on November 12th, 2017.

Value: $50.00
Donated by: Adelle's Restaurant, Wheaton

E17 DINING AROUND OAKBROOK CENTER $45.00
We will give you gift certificates for dining at three restaurants in Oakbrook Center, Seasons 52 Fresh Grill ($52 gift certificate), California Pizza Kitchen ($25 gift card), and Antico Posto (two $25 gift certificates). Seasons 52 is a fresh grill and wine bar that emphasizes seasonal food cooked using rustic cooking techniques; the inventive pizzas created in California Pizza Kitchen are supplemented with pastas and salads; Antico Posto is an intimate Italian trattoria. Don't consider making a dining dash through the Oakbrook Center while consuming food ravenously as you go. This is not the way to enjoy fine restaurants, so do not try to do this all in a single visit. Bon appetit, and bring your wallet. The certificates at Antico Posto are not valid on Saturdays.

Value: $127.00
Donated by: Seasons 52, California Pizza Kitchen, and Antico Posto

E18 DINING AROUND OAK BROOK $60.00
We will give you gift certificates for dining at four restaurants in or near Oak Brook: Mon Ami Gabi ($50 gift certificate), in Oakbrook Center, is a stylish Parisian bistro serving French fare; California Pizza Kitchen ($25 gift card), in Oakbrook Center, is noted for creativity in its inventive pizzas; Antico Posto (two $25 gift certificates), in Oakbrook Center, is an intimate Italian trattoria; Devon Seafood Grill (two $25 gift certificates), in Oakbrook Terrace, an upscale restaurant that features simply prepared fresh fish and premium steaks, complemented by an impressive wine cellar. Say “Hi!” if you run into those other folks who are “Dining Around Oakbrook Center”.

The certificates at Antico Posto are not valid on Saturdays.

Value: $175.00
Donated by: Mon Ami Gabi, California Pizza Kitchen, Antico Posto, and Devon Seafood and Steak
**E19 DINING AT CARLUCCI, DOWNERS GROVE**

Enjoy a unique Italian dining experience with this $100.00 gift certificate from Carlucci Restaurant, Downers Grove. The menu features Tuscan inspired selections, and live music injects brio into the dining experience each weekend. You are requested to respect Tuscany's legacy of high culture as the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance; therefore, no shoes, no service.

**Value: $100.00**

Donated by: Carlucci Restaurant, Downers Grove

**E20 DINING AROUND CLARENDON HILLS**

You will win two $50 gift cards for dining at Scapa Italian Kitchen, and two $25 gift certificates for dining at The Country House restaurant.

Scapa Italian Kitchen is a modern, rustic Italian restaurant serving classic Italian fare in an intimate setting. The ever popular Country House Restaurant describes itself as “a relaxed, American eatery”, housed in a quaint house, and serving comfort food.

Some old country dining, and some new country dining, for your delectation.

The gift certificates to Country House expires on December 21st, 2017.

**Value: $150.00**

Donated by: Nan Martin, and The Country House, Clarendon Hills

**E21 DINING AROUND BURR RIDGE**

You will win a gift certificate good for a complimentary Lunch for Two at Topaz Café in Burr Ridge; You get two $25 gift cards toward fine dining on steak and seafood at Eddie Merlot's; and You get a $25 gift card for dining at Wok 'n Fire Restaurant in Burr Ridge.

Topaz Café offers a contemporary American menu with seasonal fare – very trendy, while Wok 'n Fire Restaurant features sushi as well as stir-fry dishes, and brings together the cuisines of Malaysia, Korea, Thailand, and Japan. Nice touch, helping to reconcile Korea and Japan.

The gift certificate to Topaz Café expires in August, 2017.

**Value: $125.00**

Donated by: Topaz Café, Eddie Merlot's, and Wok 'n Fire Restaurant

**E22 OVERNIGHT HOTEL STAY PLUS BREAKFAST**

A VIP Pass entitles you to a one night stay in a standard room at the Red Roof Inn Plus in Willowbrook. Then enjoy breakfast at Blueberry Hill Breakfast Café using the gift certificate for $20. So simpatico.


**Value: $130.00**

Donated by: Red Roof Inn and Blueberry Hill Café
E23 ECLECTIC DINING PACKAGE
Il Poggiolo Restaurant in Hinsdale boasts that it offers fresh Italian fare with a modern interpretation of classic dishes. Check it out for yourself. We will help with a $25 gift card for dining.
Experience fine contemporary Japanese cuisine and sushi at Nabuki Restaurant in Hinsdale with the assistance of this $25 gift card. Who knew that raw eel could be so scrumptious?
For CiNe in Hinsdale, a modern taqueria serving contemporary Mexican food, you get a $25 gift card.
For Fox's Restaurant & Pub in Hinsdale, a family restaurant featuring pizza, you get two $20 gift certificates.
From Corner Bakery Café in Hinsdale you get a $5 gift certificate.
From the cutting edge to the old stand-by, you get to run the gamut.
**Value: $130.00**
Donated by: Il Poggiolo, Nabuki, CiNe, Fox's in Hinsdale, and Corner Bakery

E24 DINING AT EDDIE MERLOT'S
You get two $50 gift cards toward fine dining on steak and seafood at Eddie Merlot's in Burr Ridge, a premium American steakhouse. Vegetarians, tread cautiously.
**Value: $100.00**
Donated by: Todd and Holly Ritz.
FOOD, DRINK, CASUAL DINING, ET MISC.

**F1 MOVIE ADMISSIONS AND GROCERY SHOPPING**  $45.00

A different way to watch the show. You can dine while you watch the movie, ensconced in your executive leather seats. You get two passes, each good for two complimentary admissions to the Hollywood Blv 2 Cinema, Bar & Eatery in Woodridge. These certificates get you in; you will have to pay for the food when you eat there. Bummer. Certificates are valid Sunday through Thursday, and expire on March 31st, 2017.

For eating at home on those other nights, you get a $100 gift card for shopping at Standard Market, the gourmet grocery in Westmont, where you can also get takeout dinners made from fresh, locally sourced ingredients by chefs in house. To cook or not to cook, that is the question.

Value: $132.00


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**F2 EDIBLES, WEARABLES, AND DECORATIONS**  $65.00

This cornucopia of items can be obtained Around Town in Hinsdale.

You will find edibles at Kramer Foods, The Fruit Store, and The Corner Bakery Restaurant.

You will find the wearables at Campus Colors, and Alixandra Collections.

You will find the decorations at Fuller's Home and Hardware, and Phillip's Flowers & Gifts.

A $50 gift card can be used for grocery shopping at Kramer Foods; acquire fruit with a $25 gift certificate from The Fruit Store; and use the $5 gift certificate for comestibles at Corner Bakery Café in Hinsdale.

Shop for sportswear at Campus Colors using a $25 gift card; use a $25 gift card to obtain a fine accessory for your outfit from Alixandra Collections.

Acquire decorative elements for the home, both from Fuller's Home and Hardware, with the help of a $25 gift card, and from Phillip's Flowers & Gifts, with a $35 gift certificate.

To compile this haul, you will Run, run, run around, you'll run around.

The gift certificate for The Fruit Store expires August 4th, 2017.

Value: $190.00

Donated by: Kramer Foods, Hinsdale; The Fruit Store, Hinsdale; The Corner Bakery Restaurant, Hinsdale; Campus Colors, Hinsdale; Alixandra Collections, Hinsdale; and Phillip's Flowers & Gifts, Hinsdale

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**F3 DINING AROUND OAK PARK**  $25.00

You will receive a $50 gift certificate for dining at Maya Del Sol Restaurant, and a $25 gift card for dining at Il Vicolo Trattoria, both in Oak Park.

Maya Del Sol is a Nuevo Latino restaurant, described as a hip, lively spot featuring Latin Fusion cuisine from the countries in South and Central America.

Il Vicolo Trattoria is an Italian eatery that features dishes inspired by traditional Neapolitan cuisine.

You could dine al fresco on the patio of Il Vicolo Trattoria in the warmer months, but the certificate for Maya del Sol expires February 12th, 2017, so you would not get to dine al fresco there. Too bad.

Value: $75.00

Donated by: Maya Del Sol Restaurant and Il Vicolo Trattoria
F4 DINING AROUND WESTMONT  $40.00
You will get gift cards/certificates for dining at three restaurants in Westmont. 
A $50 gift card for Cucinova, an establishment where you may choose to create your own pizza, pasta, or salad. 
A $50 gift card for Grill 89, a restaurant specializing in All-American fare prepared with locally sourced ingredients. 
This establishment is a new entry from Ditka's Restaurant Group. 
A $20 gift certificate good toward a purchase of $100 or more at Amber Café, an upscale restaurant that features 
contemporary American cuisine prepared with high quality seasonal ingredients. 
Just remember, Don't go throwing nickels around like manhole covers in any of Iron Mike's establishments; you should 
tip your server generously. 
Value: $120.00
Donated by: Cucinova, Grill 89, and Amber Café

F5 IT'S EARLY, SO EAT  $45.00
Breakfast, that is. 
One gift certificate entitles you to a gourmet breakfast or lunch for two at Egg Harbor Café, any location. Their 
creation story is that the first Egg Harbor Café was hatched in December 1985. (It was laid by a Hen Harbor Café that 
is no longer with us.)
Two gift certificates, each for $25, are good for breakfast or lunch at Butterfield's Pancake House, Oakbrook Terrace.
Two gift certificates, each for $25, are good for dining at Golden Basket Restaurant, Westmont, a neighborhood nook 
serving breakfast or lunch.
Which place for breakfast? Which place for lunch? It is so hard to decide.
Value: $140.00
Donated by: Egg Harbor Café, Butterfield's Pancake House, Oakbrook Terrace, and Golden Basket Restaurant, 
Westmont

F6 WINE AND CHEESE PICNIC BASKET – STOCKED  $60.00
This picnic basket is of willow construction, accented with premium leatherette. The interior is fully lined, and there 
are two lined wine compartments on the exterior of the basket. The basket contains two hand-blown wine glasses, two 
cotton napkins, a waiter style corkscrew, a cheese knife, and a hardwood cutting board. The basket is stocked with two 
bottles of wine from Silver Oak winery in Sonoma County, CA, a winery that specializes in producing Cabernet 
Sauvignon. A 2006 Cabernet and a 2011 Cabernet are included. Pack a selection of fine cheeses and head out for a 
special occasion – a getaway for a couple, or perhaps an evening at Ravinia. See yourself on a sailboat? Very stylish; 
welcome to the good life.
Value: $185.00
Donated by: Dan and Amy Tausk

F7 DISNEY DINING AT HOME  $40.00
This is unorthodox. Your package comes in an open basket constructed of willow. It includes a Disney cookbook that 
contains recipes for many of the dishes served at the Disney Resort restaurants. For your protection while cooking in 
the kitchen, you get a pair of oven mitts; – not just ordinary oven mitts, but Mickey and Minnie oven mitts, each 
adorned with the face and hands of the respective character. Now you need some food to cook. So you head out to 
Mariano's, and use the included $50 gift card for grocery shopping for those ingredients.
I just noticed – there are mice in the kitchen. Eeeek!
“Thank you falettin me be mice elf agin”. (Sly Stone)
Value: $125.00
Donated by: Nancy and Richard Sale
**F8 BRUNCH AFTER THE CHURCH SERVICE**  
$35.00  
You might try one of these options:  
You get a $50 gift card good for dining at Blueberry Hill Breakfast Café in Oak Brook (or other location), and also a $50 gift card good for dining at The Patio Restaurant in Darien (or other location). On the one hand waffles and eggs Benedict; on the other hand barbequed ribs, shrimp, chicken. Go for the gusto, have them both. Nobody likes the Rorschach test blots made with barbeque sauce on your tie.  
**Value: $100.00**  
Donated by: Sharon Schoenberger

**F9 IT'S ALL ITALIAN, ALL THE TIME**  
$35.00  
You've done this before, haven’t you? Gorged yourself on Italian food. This time,  
You get three gift certificates for dining at Clara's Restaurant in Woodridge; and  
You also get a $25.00 gift card for dining at Carrabba's Italian Grill in Woodridge, along with a bottle of chardonnay from Rodney Stone winery in Sonoma County, CA.  
Clara learned to cook from her mother, the famous Mama Celeste, and opened this restaurant that is now very popular and highly rated. The dishes are prepared in the tradition that Clara embraced.  
Carrabba's also serves classic Italian fare in a family-friendly atmosphere. They have an “Amore Monday” feature. Don't ask.  
Now you’ve gorged yourself again. You are the beast of Woodridge. Are you proud?  
The Carrabba's gift card expires February 2nd, 2017. Hurry!  
**Value: $110.00**  
Donated by: Clara's Restaurant, Woodridge, and Carrabba's Italian Grill, Woodridge

**F10 FEED THE FAMILY**  
$65.00  
– For a while, anyway; the little urchins will eat you out of house and home.  
You get a $50 gift card for food from Fontano's Subs in Hinsdale, along with two large jars of Fontano's giardiniera in a wicker basket;  
You also get three gift certificates, each for $20, from Fox's Restaurant in Hinsdale;  
You get four gift certificates, each for $10, from Woodgrain Pizzeria in Westmont;  
You get two coupons, from Pinstripes, Oakbrook Center; each for $10 toward a purchase of food costing $20 or more.  
You get four Burger King gift certificates, each good for one Whopper sandwich at the Burger King restaurant in Westmont.  
Better Judgment Award: There is no longer an item called the Triple Whopper with Cheese Value Meal. Chow down.  
**Value: $200.00**  
Donated by: Fontano's Subs, Fox's in Hinsdale, Woodgrain Pizzeria, Pinstripes, and Burger King Restaurant, Westmont.
F11 PUB CRAWL PACKAGE $50.00
Succumb to your instinct for instant gratification. Hit the trail in pursuit of the perfect ale.
Start at Tap House Grill in Westmont. You get three $10 gift certificates for food and libation. The slogan of the establishment is: “Addictive foods; Creative brews.” The certificates expire on December 18th, 2016, so hurry.
Head eastward and make a stop at Jewel/Osco in Clarendon Hills. You get a $25 gift card; you might use it toward the purchase of some BromoSeltzer, considering the ongoing binge.
The next stop is Hillgrove Tap in Western Springs. A $50 gift card might allow you to go hog wild in this establishment. Restrain yourself, you have miles to go before you sleep.
Move on to Palmer Place Restaurant and Biergarten in La Grange, the place with 39 beers available on tap, 332 bottled beers, and 137 beers in cans. Try to work your way through this forest. You get a $20 gift certificate that expires December 12th, 2017.
If you manage to emerge upright, travel to Oak Park, where you will conclude your odyssey at Poor Phil's Bar & Grill, with a $25 gift certificate to help you.
And the band plays “TAPS”.
Value: $150.00
Donated by: Hillgrove Tap, Poor Phil's Shell Bar, Palmer Place, Tap House Grill, and Jewel/Osco, Clarendon Hills

F12 PIZZA CHALLENGE $35.00
It's its own food group; it's the common denominator, it's a lot of cheese.
You will be able to compare for yourself pizzas from the following top contenders:
Giordano's of Oakbrook Terrace – you get a $25 gift card;
Home Run Inn, Westmont – you get a $25 gift card;
Papa Passero's in Westmont – you get a gift certificate good for one large pizza with purchase of any one item;
Woodgrain Pizzeria, Westmont – you get four gift certificates, each for $10;
The certificate for Papa Passero's requires that you dine in the restaurant.
Please mark your scorecards.
Value: $110.00.
Donated by: Giordano's of Oakbrook Terrace, Home Run Inn, Papa Passero's, and Woodgrain Pizzeria

F13 ROUND TWO – IT'S NOW A PIZZA THROWDOWN $35.00
We cloned the package so that the competitors all get second chances.
Giordano's of Oakbrook Terrace – you get a $25 gift card;
Home Run Inn, Westmont – you get a $25 gift card;
Papa Passero's in Westmont – you get a gift certificate good for one large pizza with purchase of any one item;
Woodgrain Pizzeria, Westmont – you get four gift certificates, each for $10;
The certificate for Papa Passero's requires that you dine in the restaurant.
Please mark your scorecards.
Value: $110.00.
Donated by: Giordano's of Oakbrook Terrace, Home Run Inn, Papa Passero's, and Woodgrain Pizzeria
F14 LOUDER THAN A BOMB – PIZZA SLAM $35.00
Overdosing on pizza. This is the denouement. The competitors in this round:
Giordano's of Willowbrook – you get a $50 gift card;
Papa Passero's in Westmont – you get a gift certificate good for one large pizza with purchase of any one item;
Woodgrain Pizzeria, Westmont – you get three gift certificates, each for $10;
The certificate for Papa Passero's requires that you dine in the restaurant.
Please mark your scorecards.
All hail the Victor.
**Value: $100.00.**
Donated by: Giordano's of Willowbrook, Papa Passero's, and Woodgrain Pizzeria

F15 CORNER BAKERY – AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN $15.00
How many times?
You get ten coupons, each for $5, for purchases at Corner Bakery Restaurant, Hinsdale.
You should just put a bed in the corner.
**Value: $50.00**
Donated by: Corner Bakery Restaurant, Hinsdale
SIGN-UP PARTIES

A Sign-Up Party is one in which the hosts establish a theme for the party, and specify the number of guests that they wish to invite. The hosts propose a date for the event, decide where the party will be held, and list a price for each participant. There is no bidding on the price; all persons pay the specified price. “Bidders” sign up to attend the party, and the sign up continues until the specified number of guests is reached. Only the persons at the front of the queue get in on the fun. The hosts plan the details of the party, and the signed up guests show up at the appointed time and place. The money paid by the signed-up guests becomes income for the auction. The hosts' assume the expense of the party as a donation to the auction.

Here are the Sign-Up Parties being offered:

G1 FIVE-COURSE ITALIAN DINNER FOR EIGHT -- TOGA PARTY? $50.00/Person
Friends, Romans, Countrymen –
You are invited to partake in a Five-course Italian Dinner for Eight, with Italian vino, catered by Zazzo's of Darien, at the home of Glenda and Harry Sharp, in Willowbrook.
6:30 p.m., Saturday, February 25th, 2017.
Harry says that he might play his CDs of Mob Hits 1 and 2.
(Only one or two? Any self-respecting mob enforcer would have more than one or two hits on his resume.)

Donated/Hosted by: Harry and Glenda Sharp.

G2 NEW ORLEANS STYLE PARTY FOR TEN $50.00/Person
You are invited to be a guest at a New Orleans style party for ten persons at the home of Sandy and Andy Usher in Hinsdale. Imagine being in the “Big Easy” as you dine on Jambalaya, Low Country Boil, Cornbread, Bananas Foster, and of course, drink Hurricanes....Pour More Hurricanes! The date, in Spring 2017, will be negotiated between the Ushers and the ten lucky attendees.
Come on down and party like they do in the Big Easy.

Donated/Hosted by: Sandy and Andy Usher.

G3 LUAU PARTY FOR FORTY $40.00/Person
You are invited to be a guest at a Luau Party for forty persons at the home of Karin and Chris Rohn in Hinsdale.
7:00 p.m., Saturday, January 28th, 2017.
Heavy appetizers and cocktails will be served. Despite the fact that the party is scheduled for the depths of winter, guests are encouraged to wear Hawaiian shirts and hula skirts. The hosts will provide leis.
Hot time in the cold town that night.

Donated/Hosted by: Amy and Dan Entsminger, and Karin and Chris Rohn.
L1  **2017 CUBS BASEBALL TICKETS**

Next year is finally here this year, so your World Series Champion Cubs will be seeking to defend their championship in 2017, and you will want to make some noise as you watch them do it. Make the winning bid for these *four* tickets to get excellent, premium field box seats in the 7th row near to 1st base (Section 134, seats 101-104). That is close enough for Anthony Rizzo to hear you from there. The date is to be negotiated between the donors and the winning bidder. You will be able to choose from among 10 dates when they become available in the spring. Nothing beats fun at the old ballpark, especially when the ballpark is Wrigley Field. To quote the motto of the Cubs fans, “Go for the 7th inning stretch, stay for the game”.

**Value:** $340.00

Donated by: Karin and Chris Rohn

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L2  **DINNER AND TOUR AT THE HINSDALE FIRE STATION**

This may be too hot to handle! The Hinsdale Fire Department will host a group of up to eight persons to a family dinner at the Fire Station. Delight in menu items that are smoked, blackened, or flame broiled. (Okay, I jest; – but I didn't say burnt.) Guests will also be offered a behind-the-scenes tour of the firehouse, showcasing the fire apparatus and emergency vehicles, and will be allowed to participate in a training evolution (timed drill) with the firefighters. There will be many opportunities to take photographs to document your evening, so bring along your cameras. Emergency calls and rescues are not included; – in fact, if the firemen are called to duty on your scheduled evening, your dinner will be rescheduled.

**Value:** Priceless

Donated by: The Hinsdale Fire Department
L3 GOLF OUTING AT RUTH LAKE COUNTRY CLUB

Three golfers will join John Dean for eighteen holes of golf at Ruth Lake Country Club. Costs of greens fees and cart or caddy are covered, as is the cost of drinks and snacks at the turn. The winning bidder will negotiate the date of this outing with John. Today's golf tip: When playing, pay no attention to shouts of “You Da Man” from the gallery; you're not the man.

Value: $500.00

Donated by: John Dean

L4 MANI-PEDI AND HAIR, DINNER, AND DRAKE HOTEL OVERNIGHT – “GLEAMING IN THE GLOAMING”

We imagine that before going into the city for a night on the town you would wish to get yourself buffed and polished to a fine sheen. We facilitate this with a $150 gift card to Zazu Salon and Day Spa for the works – manicure, pedicure, hair care and/or products. Now that you're gleaming, put on your high heel sneakers and head out to dinner. Your package includes a $100 gift card for dining at any of the fine Lettuce Entertain You restaurants in Chicago or its suburbs – an epicurean empire that ranges from Everest and Tru to Shaw's Crab House and Cafe Ba-Ba-Reeba. Sated, you retire for the night to an opulent room at the Drake Hotel. You will get a gift certificate for an overnight stay for two in a Deluxe Lakeview room in this landmark hotel on Chicago's Magnificent Mile. Remember, living like an aristocrat is your birthright.

*Expiration date for the Drake Hotel gift certificate is 11/30/2017

Value: $650.00

Donated by: Pam and Marion Roglich, Betty and Harvey Drucker, and The Drake Hotel
L5 ADDISON RUSSELL AUTOGRAPHED BASEBALL BAT – Plus CUBS LADY'S PURSE

The Cubs young, All-Star shortstop, Addison Russell, has signed one of his Rawlings Pro baseball bats so that you can put it in a place of honor on your mantelpiece, or among your souvenir collectibles. This will be an enduring, tangible connection to a member of the finest Cub team of the last century. This is a valuable item, so a certificate of authenticity is included. What? You don't trust us? The bat comes in a protective plastic tube case. It is not recommended that you use the bat for batting practice, even if you have a youngster with aspirations to be a major league ballplayer.

In addition, the accompanying CUBS Purse will make a fetching accessory for a female family member to display her allegiance to the beloved Cubbies. The hard-shell purse is in Cubs team colors with the Cubs team logo on both sides. It comes with two chains, one long and one short, that facilitate four different carrying options. However, it was NOT autographed by Addison Russell, nor carried by any member of the Cubs team in public.

Value: $320.00

Donated by: Beth Clawson

L6 GOLF OUTING AT HINSDALE COUNTRY CLUB

Three golfers will join either Steve or Barb Swanson for one round of golf at Hinsdale Country Club. Costs of greens fees and cart or caddy are covered. The winning bidder will negotiate the date for this outing with Steve and Barb. Bring your “A” game for this – no hooking, slicing or dicing, you have your reputation to defend. Today's golf tip: beryllium-copper tools are useful for work near explosive hazards; beryllium-copper clubs do not help you avoid water hazards.

Value: $500.00

Donated by: Steve and Barb Swanson
Looking for a relaxing get-away without the hassle of travel? The charming, quaint town of Galena, Illinois is less than 3 hours away from Hinsdale in an idyllic setting near the Mississippi River with shopping, dining, sightseeing and plenty of outdoor activities for all seasons. Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa stands in the middle of The Galena Territory, a designated National Wildlife Federation Community Habitat five miles southeast of Galena. It boasts world-class golf, an amazing spa, five-star dining, and walking trails in some of the most beautiful settings in the Midwest. With the winning bid, you score a 3-day, 2-night stay in the lovely weekend getaway of John and Jennifer Dean, a 2-bedroom Vacation Home with two baths, queen beds, a wood-burning fireplace, and screened porch. You will have access to spa services, the marina, The Galena Territory Owner’s Club with indoor and outdoor swimming pools, tennis courts, fitness center, game room and recreation center, and all that the Eagle Ridge Resort has to offer. During your stay, you can play one of Eagle Ridge’s four championship golf courses, which offer a total of 63 holes. Each course boasts its own facilities, including a clubhouse complete with golf shop and grill. Other popular activities include horseback riding at the nearby Shenandoah Riding Stables, boating and fishing on Lake Galena, hot air balloon rides, or hiking and biking on over 20 miles of scenic trails. Popular winter activities include cross-country skiing, ice-skating, and sledding. This is a get-away that has something for everyone. Their slogan is “Come for the weekend, stay for the lifestyle”; you will go for the lifestyle, but only stay for a weekend. You must consult with Jen Dean to schedule your vacation; which must be used by September 2017.

Value: $600.00

Donated by: John and Jennifer Dean
Imagine this: a week in the Rockies next summer, with hiking, biking, swimming, horseback riding, rafting, fly fishing, and much more. Take the family; indeed, take the extended family, or take multiple families. As many as eight persons can be accommodated in the 4-bedroom, 4-bath condominium of Bob and Kathi Hooks, located in “The Phoenix at Steamboat”, in the mountain resort of Steamboat Springs, CO.

They are offering a seven-night stay in their two-level unit that has two bedrooms on each floor, sleeping eight. The main level bedrooms are each furnished with a split-king bed; upstairs, the master bedroom has a king-size bed, and the other bedroom has a queen-size bed. The living area on the main level has a full kitchen, a dining area, and a private balcony. One of the main level bedrooms also has a private balcony. Other features include flat screen televisions and DVD players in the living area and each bedroom, air conditioning, washer/dryer, private garage, outdoor swimming pool and hot tubs, exercise facility, and wireless internet access. The area also offers fine dining restaurants, rodeos, and other entertainment.

The list of appealing activities is so long that you will need more than a week to sample them all. Too bad, that is all that your winning bid will get you. Enjoy hiking and biking, including exciting mountain biking trails, if you are up to it. Delude yourself with the monumental drives you can launch while playing golf in the thin mountain air. You can take gondola rides to the top of the mountain, or fly high over the mountains in hot air balloon rides. There is fun for the family on the Howler Alpine Slide. You can go tubing on the Yampa River through the town; if that is too sedate an activity for you, whitewater rafting trips can be arranged instead. Try soaking in one of the two hot springs in or near the town, but avoid putting ice in the mineral water. The area offers world-class fly fishing, with lessons available.

Did you know that the world record fly was caught in the Yampa River? Think about how impressive that giant fly will look mounted on your wall at home. (I jest.)

The winning bidder will negotiate the vacation date with the Hooks. Experience your personal Rocky Mountain high, with no toking.

**Value: $1,850.00**

**Donated by:** Bob and Kathi Hooks
L9  **ITALIAN DINING EXPERIENCE FOR SIX**

The Malos are again offering a unique Italian dining experience for six in their home, conjuring fond memories in the minds of those who partook in the previous edition. The four-course meal will be prepared by Chris and Nancy. It will combine the Old World Italy traditions of Mama Giaquinto, Chris' grandmother, with new world cooking techniques gleaned from family friend Brian, head chef at Spiaggia. (Note that Brian was described as a rising young chef in the last version of the experience, so this edition must be even better.) Each dinner course will be paired with a fine Italian wine from the Malo's friend, Luigi. It takes a village (of Italians) to produce this epicurean masterpiece. Chris recommends that you use UBER for transportation; you will be leaving sated, slaked, and possibly sloshed.

**Value: Priceless**

Donated by:  Chris and Nancy Malo

L10  **VACATION WEEK AT LAKE TAHOE – SUMMER OR WINTER**  

Spend an exhilarating week (seven nights, winter or summer) in a two-bedroom, two-bath condominium in the Ridge Tahoe Resort in Stateline, NV, perched on top of a mountain ridge that overlooks magnificently beautiful Lake Tahoe. Penny Fisher Ill’s newly remodeled condominium can accommodate six persons, and can be available in winter of 2017 or 2018, or summer of 2017. It has a master bedroom with king size bed and adjoining full bath, a guest bedroom with queen bed and adjoining full bath, a spacious living room with queen size sofa sleeper, a gas fireplace, a dining area, a fully equipped kitchen, televisions, and a washer and dryer. You would also have daily maid service. The on-site amenities at the resort include a complimentary health club, an indoor sports complex, indoor/outdoor swimming pools and Jacuzzis, a full-service spa, a restaurant, a deli, and a market. For summer activities, there are tennis courts, a rock climbing wall, and hiking trails. At the bottom of the hill are the beaches of Lake Tahoe, with access to boating, paddleboarding, and kayaking on the lake.

If you choose a winter vacation, you will have ready access, via the Skier Express, to the slopes of Heavenly Ski Resort. No kidding; -- it is named the Heavenly Ski Resort. Expect to join the angels snowboarding in all their celestial glory. Finally, for the sake of propriety, we are not allowed to mention that there is complimentary shuttle service to the casinos in Stateline; bring extra clothes – you might lose your shirt. At last, you can fulfill your dream vacation.

**Value: $2,100.00**

Donated by:  Penny Fisher Ill
L11  BOTTLE SHOCK WINE DINNER FOR EIGHT

In 1976, there was a blind taste testing of wines from the hitherto unknown California region and some French classics. The world was "bottle shocked" when the French were defeated. This event was termed the “Judgment of Paris”, and served officially to put Napa Valley on the map for its world-class wines. The film “Bottle Shock” chronicled this history. And now, forty years later, we bring you:

BOTTLE SHOCK AND AWE – The “Judgment of Francis”:

Zed and Cheryl Francis will host eight people for a fabulous wine dinner to compare once again the best of France and the USA!

From Zed's cellar, we will pit the 1999 Opus One (California meritage that has current value of $280) against the 2003 Chateau Gruaud Larose St. Julien ($160 current value). Eric Bergstrom has donated a magnum of 2006 Sea Smoke Pinot Noir to support the USA side. The white wine comparison will be between a classic French Puligny Montrachet and a California Chardonnay. Without doubt, the participants will have their own historic tasting. Wait, lest we forget, these magnificent wines will all be paired with a wonderful, complementary dinner. So, organize your bidding consortium and prepare to seize the day; the winning bidder will negotiate the date for this celebration of Bacchus with the Francises. Without doubt, this will be a festive evening, memorable for you and all of your guests. For the oenophiles, this will be a true story of love, victory, and fermentation.

Value: Priceless

Donated by: Zed and Cheryl Francis (with an assist from Eric and Nancy Bergstrom)
## Bidding Tracker Sheet

**Bidding Number:**

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