

# The Update

MARCH 2014

Written by: The Update Team

The Update, which has always been a quarterly newsletter, will now be a monthly newsletter. Each month, a new team of reporters will be selected to write on the happenings at Park Lawn. The team will report on monthly excursions, class projects, new jobs, new staff and more. "From the Qs to You..." is a new section just added to the Update. It highlights information on special events or projects that are being worked on at the workshop. The intent is to give everyone the opportunity to participate in the reporting process, because let's face it, we have a great time at Park Lawn and we would like to share that with as many people as possible!

## Update Team

### Jim Anderson's Group

**Eric Brown**  
**Maureen Ferriter**  
**Melissa Greimann**  
**Michael Hollingsed**  
**Mary Pat Kiley**  
**Stephen McGrath**  
**Colleen Morgan**  
**Jim Novak**  
**Sebastian Scala**  
**Linda Zimmy**

## Volunteering at ADT

Written by: Eric Brown

Each morning I get picked up by a Park Lawn van and ride to Park Lawn School (ADT). At ADT I greet everyone and help them enter the building by holding the doors open. I think this is a good job!

## March Calendar

17th~  
St. Patrick's Day

19th~  
No Day Program

20th~  
1st Day of  
Spring



## Shop Talk

Written by: The Update Team

At Park Lawn we have many different jobs. Right now we are working on Christmas Tree bags. This job has many steps to get to the final product; folding, stuffing and heat sealing. We are also working on another job where we mark price stickers on toys. We love working because it feels good and we make money!



## Think Spring

Written by: The Update Team

Even though it still feels like winter on some days, March 20th marked the first day of Spring! Many exciting things happen when spring arrives. The snow melts and we can look forward to warmer weather. Flowers and tree buds begin to blossom, animals and insects are out and about, and we can start doing fun outdoor activities like going to baseball games. However, the change in season allows for various severe weather conditions. It is very important to be aware and know how to react. We have a few safety tips:

### Tornado Safety

- Listen for warning sirens
- Keep away from windows
- Head for the basement if you're able
- Stay Close to the ground
- Cover your head



### Flooding

- Keep items off the ground
- Stay away from flood water



### Power Outage

- Have access to:
  - A radio
  - Flashlight
  - Blankets
  - Water
  - Non-perishable food items
  - Extra batteries



**Most importantly take a deep breath and stay calm!**



## Irish and Proud!

Written by: Maureen Ferriter

March is the month when we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. It makes me think of Ireland. My family name is Ferriter which is Irish. My great grandmother was from Ireland and some of my cousins still live there. Irish dance is one of the ways we celebrate our Irish heritage.

## Sports

Written by: Eric Brown

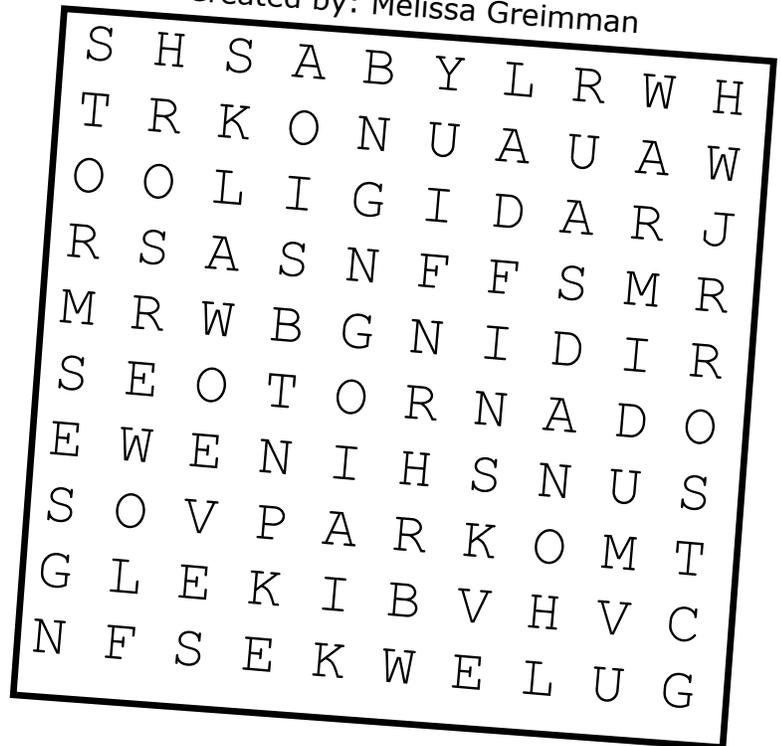


This is March. The college basketball tournament known as March Madness is underway. A few surprises have happened in March Madness. On March 31, the White Sox and Cubs will start their Baseball seasons. Bulls and Black Hawks are winding down their seasons, heading for the play-offs. Let's hope the Hawks will repeat as Stanley Cup champions!

## MARCH MOVIE MADNESS!

- ◇ NEED FOR SPEED
- ◇ TYLER BROWN'S SINGLE MOMS CLUB
- ◇ BAD WORDS
- ◇ 300 RISE OF AN EMPIRE
- ◇ MR. PEABODY & SHERMAN
- ◇ NON-STOP
- ◇ A HAUNTED HOUSE 2
- ◇ NOAH
- ◇ SABOTAGE
- ◇ DIVERGENT
- ◇ MUPPETS MOST WANTED

Created by: Melissa Greimman



## WORD BANK

- |         |         |          |
|---------|---------|----------|
| BIKE    | BUDS    | FLOWERS  |
| PARK    | RAINBOW | RAINY    |
| RIDING  | STORMS  | SUNSHINE |
| TORNADO | WALKS   | WARM     |

## From the Qs to You...

### *Enrichment Program* Written by: Kelly Ewing

Park Lawn feels that day services should not be restricted to working but should include a wide array of social experiences. These social experiences create the potential for growth and learning. Through the enrichment program Park Lawn has found a way to help bring this mission into a reality.

We have built collaborations through out the community and reached out to those with specialized talents in order to expand the enrichment activities provided to our participants. This ensures that our participants are learning from skilled and/or trained professionals, while our staff help monitor the programs and provide support.

We are excited about our nutrition program that has been developed through our partnership with Palos hospital. The class is implemented by a nutritionist employed at Palos Hospital, Angela Seitz. The program runs for 8 weeks and is offered to a small group of participants on a rotating basis. The class objective is to provide specialized training on healthy snacks, exposure to different kitchen gadgets and tools, practicing measuring, hand washing skills among other skill sets. The participants seem to really enjoy the hands on learning experience that is often complemented with some kind of edible creation.



### *PAWS* Written by: Jennifer Kierscht

On March 3<sup>rd</sup> the following went on a community outing to PAWS in Tinley Park: Richard Farrington, Sharon Guerra, Chris Taglioli, Pam Smith, Fran Difoggio, Jennifer Kierscht.

The group was given a tour, learned about what PAWS does, and made some new furry friends. Some of the highlights of the tour were: getting to hold a cat named Sharon on our laps, seeing a dog with her three new puppies, getting an opportunity to brush a dog named Chaco, and seeing 20 little Chihuahuas that need homes. We learned that PAWS is an animal shelter that tries to find homes for animals. They also teach others about being kind to animals and how to care for them.

### *Rockwood Insurance* Written by: Katie Schumacher

March 1st marked the start of an exciting opportunity for some of our workshop participants! Rockwood Insurance, located in the Lyric Opera Building in downtown Chicago contracted Park Lawn to complete a project for their company. Currently, there are 6 participants and 2 staff members who go downtown Monday through Friday and work from 9 to 2:30. They are prepping files for scanning; making sure to keep everything in order while removing staples, paperclips and post-its. This contract is expected to run for 2-3 months.

