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Out and About

May 2008



“Home is where your Story Begins..”

Happy Mother's Day!

Finally, spring has arrived! Living in Lombard, this has special meaning. The lilac's are in bloom! It's one of the best reasons to live in Lombard. There is something to participate in, watch or do almost daily.

It all begins on May 5 when Lilacia Park officially opens to the public. Lilacia Park is 8.5 acres and has 1,200 breathtaking lilacs and over 25,000 tulips. If that weren't enough, there are tea parties, wine tasting, art & crafts sale, concerts in the park, special tours, 5k run, story times in the park, plant sales, Mother's Day Brunch and of course, the Lilac Parade.

For more information on the schedule of these events,
Please check out:

www.lombardparks.com

Recipe of the Month

Lemon Cream Cheese Cupcakes

- 1pkg. White cake mix
- 1 pkg.(4 serving size) Lemon Pudding
- 1 Cup water
- 4 Egg Whites
- 2 Tbsp oil
- 16 oz powdered sugar
- 8 oz cream cheese (softened)
- 1/4 cup butter (softened)
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice

Preheat oven to 350 Beat cake mix, dry pudding mix, water, egg whites & oil in large bowl with electric mixer on slow until moistened. Than, beat on medium for 2 minutes more. Spoon batter into 24 muffin cups.

Bake 21-24 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.

Cool for 10 minutes and place on wire rack. Beat sugar, cream cheese, butter and lemon juice with electric mixer until well blended. Frost cupcakes. To make them extra special: Stir 1 tsp grated lemon peel into frosting mixture. Garnish with additional grated lemon peel.

Lilac Time Auction

Have you ever gone to an auction? If you haven't, you are missing a good time. I began going to auctions about ten years ago. In my travels, I have picked up sports memorabilia, garden tools and trellises, a granite topped vanity, a trip to Door County (that's a long story best held for another time.) and gift baskets.

Best of all, the proceeds go to a good cause. One of my favorite auctions is right here in Lombard. It's the Lilac Time Auction on Saturday, May 17th.

Tickets are only \$6.00 each. For more information, you can call: 630-629-2630



Plan a Summer Block Party

Do you know all your neighbors? When you walk down the street can you greet everyone by name?

When I was growing up, we knew every adult and child's name for at least two blocks.

Today, with everyone's busy schedules, that's not always the case.

The solution: bring back the neighborhood block party! It's a bit of work, but well worth the time.

In Lombard, it's encouraged by our park district. They have a party wagon. You can reserve it for your block party or any other party for that matter and it has the basic things you will need to ensure a good time.

The party wagon includes ten tables, 100 chairs, a 10' x 10' canopy, a large charcoal grill, a bean bag game and a sound system.

The best part is that it's free. Lombard isn't the only suburb to offer this, so check with your village. The Park District will drop it off on your block the day before your event.

To begin planning, call up a few neighbors and have them over to discuss possible dates.

On my old block, we were divided by school districts, so we always held ours right after the school year ended to reunite all the children on the block.

Once you have a date, send out flyers announcing the party along with what will occur. We would all bring our own meat for grilling and had a list of side dishes that people would volunteer to bring. We would play bingo and have contests for the kids. One year, we took pictures of things on the neighborhood houses (IE; mailbox, flower pot, a blooming shrub) and the kids would search for the house it belonged to. The important thing is that you have the time to meet your neighbors, begin or renew friendships and make your block a community. For more ideas, give me a call.

Do you enjoy reading this Newsletter?

I have been sending out this newsletter for the past five years. With postage going up each and every year, I would like to continue writing it but to have it available online. I have a new website which will give you the opportunity to easily find:

◆ Archived Newsletters ◆ Recipes ◆ Search Houses on the Market ◆ Community Information ◆ Decorating Ideas ◆ How to Prepare Your Home for Market ◆ My Favorite Companies to Recommend ◆ School Information ◆ Mortgage Information ◆ First Time Buyer Tips ◆ House Buying Check Lists ◆ and More....

If you would still like to receive this Newsletter by mail, simply E Mail Me at: Caryn.Kuhlman@CBExchange.com or give me a call and I will add you to the list. My Cell phone is 630-730-8027 and I will happily mail you each newsletter.

In the meantime, check out my website at
www.123HomeSweetHome.com