

Judy's Top Five

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Suggestions for things to do in Evanston, with comment from staffer Judy Brinkworth. To suggest an event for this page, e-mail Judy at jbrinkworth@pioneerlocal.com.

Meet you at the church, mein honey. The Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra presents Beethoven's "Ninth Symphony: Ode to Joy" at 7 p.m. May 2 at Pick-Staiger Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, on the Evanston campus of Northwestern University. Tickets range from \$20 to \$70. For tickets and more information cal (847) 866-688 or visit <http://www.chicagophilharmonic.org>.
[target=_blank>www.chicagophilharmonic.org](http://www.chicagophilharmonic.org).

Why did Beethoven never marry? I think It was because he refused to name his symphonies after any of his girlfriends. If -- instead of calling his Ninth Symphony "Ode to Joy," after a poem -- he had titled it "Ode to Buffy" or "Ode to Susie," it would have been -- presto -- marital bliss! And if he had named it "Ode to Judy," oh my, welcome to love city, Ludwig.

I'll sign up now. The annual Children's Day will take place 2-5 p.m. May 2 at the Fleetwod-Jourdain Community Center, 165 Foster St. There will be a face-painter, games, food and fun. The event is designed for children age 2 to 13, accompanied by a parent. Admission is free. For more information cal (847) 448-8254.

I propose a Parent's Day, where each parent brings a child who -- let's take a hypothetical example -- will say over and over, "Mommy, you are the prettiest mommy in the world, even prettier than Jacy's mother who wears tight red capri pants to Dominick's and not safety-pinned sweat pants like you, but you are the best and did I say prettiest Mommy, and Daddy is soooo lucky." Over and over. And I, er, the hypothetical parent, will just beam.

For every mother but me. "Decorate a Garden Stone for Mother's Day" is a one-session class from 6:30-8 p.m. May 6 at the Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd. The workshop is designed for children age 8 or older, accompanied by an adult. For fees and to pre-register; call (847) 448-8256.

Oh, yes, this mother would love to receive a garden stone painted with daisies and roses for Mother's Day. I'll just put it in the middle of my vast garden of dead plants and dirt, and it will be my bold statement to the world that I finally realize that the only flowers that will ever thrive in my garden are painted on a lousy stone. Thanks, kids.

No autographs, please. The Evanston Historical Society hosts its 35th annual Mother's Day House Walk from noon to 5 p.m. May 9, rain or shine. The event will showcase houses and buildings associated with important Evanston women who made significant contributions to the community and world. For more information and to purchase tickets, call the History Center at (847) 475-3410.

How about a tour through the home of columnist Judy Brinkworth? Here's the kitchen, but we can skip that because Judy doesn't go in there except to dust the stove; here's the living room, but we can skip that, too, unless you're into plastic slipcovers with happy faces; here's the bathroom, where you can take a souvenir from the vanity drawer where Judy has accumulated 1,714 lipsticks because, "Gee it looked different in the store"; and here is the bedroom -- where Judy writes under the bed until the kids find her or she's smothered by dust bunnies. This way out, thank God.

And finally ... Who can forget such a meanie? Learn to Fly from the teeterboard in a

workshop from 3-5 p.m. May 8 at the Actors Gymnasium at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St. The teeterboard resembles a playground see-saw, but is much stronger -- come soar in the air. The cost is \$65. To find out more, visit www.actorgymnasium.com.

When I was a kid, I would get on one side of the see-saw and Patsy Bain would get on the other end and we would go up and down, up and down, but then Patsy Bain hopped off when she was down and I was up and BAM, my side of the see-saw would slam down on the ground and boy that hurt! I'm sure the Actors Gymnasium will not allow this in their class. However, if you see Patsy Bain, get outta there.

Section: Forum

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