

Happy Holidays!

Success!



Annual Holiday Party On For Dec. 17

The annual holiday party will be held this year at Texas de Brazil on Dec. 17, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. The

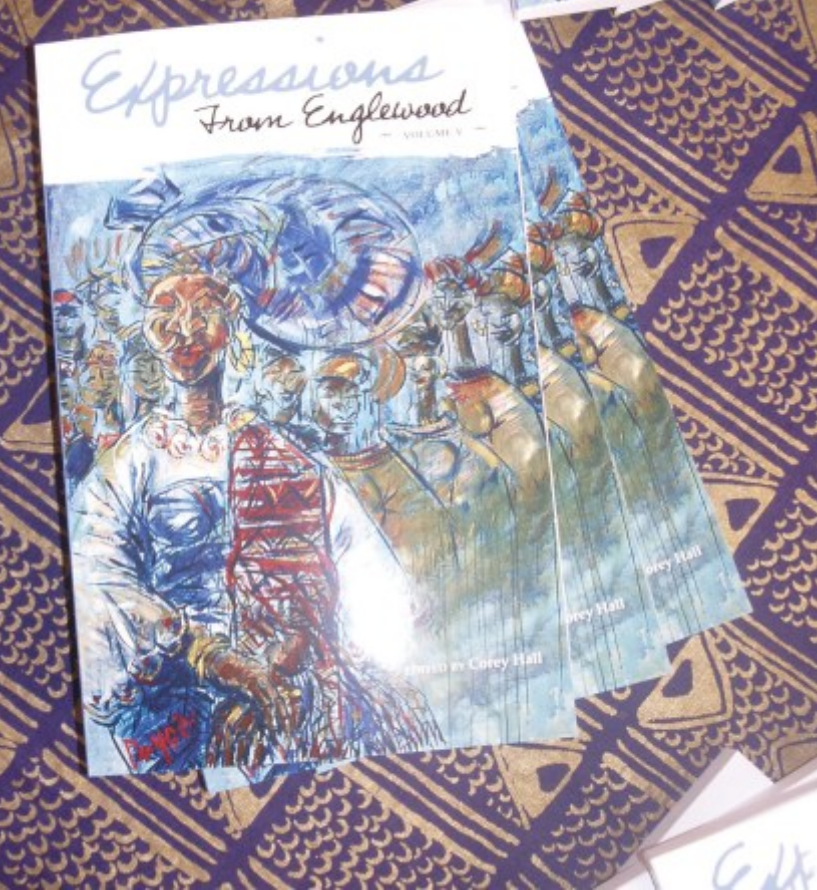
invitation-only event promises great food and warm holiday cheer amid the special setting of a downtown steak phenomenon.

Texas de Brazil is found at 51 E. Ohio Street, just north of the Loop, a block-and-a-half west of Michigan Avenue. Via the Red Line, exit at Grand.

On the menu attendees will find the 50- to 60-item salad area including imported cheeses, specialty salads, gourmet vegetables and Lobster Bisque soup, as well as 15 continuous cuts of sizzling beef, lamb, pork, chicken, sausage, and traditional side items. Dessert will include Bananas Foster Pie or Key Lime Pie plus there will be a cash bar.

Cool Rudolph wishes you the happiest holidays!





Book Release: Local Authors *Expressions From Englewood*

overcomes being taunted about a disease that affected her physical appearance using advice from her mother, who employed the life, works, and words of Eleanor Roosevelt as examples.

Public readings from *Expressions From Englewood* are scheduled. On Saturday, December 3, Books Ink, located at 1835 W. 103rd Street, hosted the Expressionists from 1-3 p.m. Two more readings are scheduled to take place at Kennedy-King College, 740 W. 63rd Street. The first will happen Saturday, January 21, 1-3 p.m. in room U 211.

The second reading takes place Wednesday, February 22, from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Black Box Theater, located in the same building.

Expressions From Englewood, the annual journal featuring personal essays, poetry, fiction, and investigative pieces from people that live, work or go to school in Chicago's Englewood community, is here. This volume—the fifth since its premiere in 2006—features 98 different selections, along with drawings from Dayo Laoye, the Nigerian-born artist, as its centerpiece.

The theme for this volume is “Stand...for Forgiveness!” The first option, “Stand,” features essays where the Expressionist (as the contributors are called) envisions a cause that they want to champion or a societal wrong that they want to correct. The second option, “...for Forgiveness,” features essays where the Expressionists forgives someone who hurt them in the past, or requested forgiveness from someone who they may have wronged in the past. Selected essays from these two options include “Stage a Stop: Stop the Exploitation,” which addresses worker exploitation in Mexico by U.S. corporations, and “Lessons from Eleanor,” which offers reflections on how a child



“Once again, the variety and depth of expressions here are profound. Our youngest ‘Expressionist’ is 19, and the oldest is in her middle 70s,” said Corey Hall, the journal’s editor and publisher. “I am proud of them all, especially ‘My Hero, My Man,’ our closing piece, which is an historical essay about James Warren Sr., a history-making man whose contributions to our military beginning in 1942—while they may not be very well known—are very important.”

Further information on *Expressions From Englewood* and its upcoming readings are available by calling Hall at 773.659.9338, or e-mailing him at expressionsfromenglewood@yahoo.com.

Retention Coordinator



Karina Monegan of the South Suburban office has been promoted to WIA Retention Coordinator.

Through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), Cook County Works offers important job training services to assist residents in their search for employment and help them enhance existing job skills. Currently WIA is available at the North office.

Monegan brings a sense of vision to the new position. "The WIA Retention Coordinator will benefit the agency," Monegan says. "By continuing to have a strong relationship with clients and the employers we will — and must — prepare them to succeed, not only where we place them for employment, but in life."

"Word of mouth is very powerful and I know that once our clients are employed for a period of time they will spread the word and let others know about what we have done for them. The same goes for employers. Employers will surely like to jump on the bandwagon too and see what we have to offer now and in the future," Monegan continues.

The Retention Coordinator assists clients with any supportive services they may need, tries to resolve any issues that may arise, and always stays in contact with the client and employer. "I must do all I can to keep that client employed for as long as possible," Monegan said.

Previously Monegan held the Office Assistant position. She started at the North office in March, 2010.

"What I like about working here is that we are a team, it takes everyone in the office to get a client hired. It could be the Program Office Assistant taking a detailed message and passing it along to the appropriate person, the Job Readiness Instructor conducting training workshops, the Employment Placement Specialist making contact with potential employers, the Employment Counselor conducting an assessment, or finally the Director overseeing the whole process to make certain that no one falls through the cracks."

Strahan New PD at Kedzie



Martin Strahan now manages Kedzie Office as its new Program Director.

"This type of change gives me the opportunity to actualize our mission in the community," Strahan said.

Introducing the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative

Mentoring + Jobs = Stable Neighborhoods

Violence in all its forms continues to drag down hopes and ambitions in Chicago. A new initiative led by Izalia Short, Project Manager for the Governor's Neighborhood Recovery Initiative, aims to do something about this evolving human tragedy.

"There is a tremendous need across the Chicagoland area," Short explains, "and the problems in Roseland are more intense by every measure. People are suffering from financial and emotional stress, physical illness, depression, and the fear of losing more of our youth to violence."

As the liaison to the Illinois Violence Prevention



Authority, Short brings the value of the state's resources to our youth, parents, grandparents and other community residents both in Roseland and the Greater Roseland area. The Illinois Violence Prevention Authority, established in 1995, is the first state agency of its kind dedicated to violence prevention. In creating the IVPA, the Illinois State Legislature recognized the need for a comprehensive, collaborative public health and public safety approach to violence prevention.

The IVPA is co-chaired by the Illinois Attorney

General, Lisa Madigan, and the Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Damon Arnold, M.D., MPH. Its primary goals are to implement a statewide plan for violence prevention, fund anti-violence programs, coordinate violence prevention initiatives, provide technical assistance for violence prevention efforts, and conduct public education on violence prevention.

Governor Quinn's Neighborhood Recovery Initiative, put into motion through the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority, is active in 20 Chicago communities.

Current programs Short champions Mentoring + Jobs, Parent Leadership, Reentry, and School Based Counseling.



"To some these programs may not seem like a lot," Short said, "but they are the lifeline that helps to keep so many from going under. These types of programs provide our community with guidance, support, encouragement; they provide the people you touch everyday with reasons to not use violence as a means to live."

"Without efforts like this our society cannot possibly be all that it can be," Short concluded.

Learn more about the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority at www.ivpa.org.