

May 15, 2026

Timeless Tips for Growing Robust, Healthy and Delicious Tomatoes

Bob Zeni, The Chicago Tomato Man

Lombard Community Building 1 p.m.

Nothing tastes better than a freshly picked, vine ripened, homegrown heirloom tomato. Bob will share hands in the ground tips and techniques for transplanting properly and for making your plants healthier and more productive – methods learned from decades of growing and countless hours of research. Plus, Bob will dispel the many misguided myths about growing tomatoes.

August 28, 2026

Green Initiatives

Daniel Hebreard, President - Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Lombard Community Building 1 p.m.

The Forest Preserve district is the leader in everything green in DuPage! Some people may assume this is only the trees, prairies, wetlands and incredible habitats found throughout our 26,000 acres. However, we have also been the leader in alternative fuels, energy and have even taken advantage of opportunities at the landfill sites on preserve property. Come learn more about all of these other green, sustainable initiatives happening right in your backyard!

September 25, 2026

Bats Around the World

Sharon Peterson, MS, ED

Lombard Community Building 1 p.m.

Sharon Peterson has been promoting bat education in the Midwest since 1996 and will be giving an overview of the 1,500 species of bats and their importance to so many ecosystems worldwide. Sharon will also be bringing a few of her live bats along to show you.

October 23, 2026

Gardening in the 1970's

Bill Karges

Lombard Community Building 1 p.m.

This fun and informative program will take you back to the 1970s when Earth Day ushered in a new era of environmental awareness. Bill will explore the back-to-nature garden trends of the "earth tone" age, and how they influenced the way we garden today. (1970 attire encouraged)

November 13, 2026

"Piet Oudolf – Design Profile"

Tamara Block

Lombard Community Building 1 p.m.

Tamara Block, long-time member of the Garden Guild of Highland Park, specializes in historical and design-focused programs. Tamara will use slides of Chicago's Lurie Garden and High Line Garden in New York to describe Piet Oudolf's style. Known as the leader of the "New Perennial" movement, Mr. Oudolf used bold drifts of herbaceous perennials and grasses, selected for their structure and year-round display rather than for their flower color.

January 22, 2027

“A Visionary Landscape Architect’s Impact on Chicagoland”

Julia S. Bachrach

Lombard Community Building 1 p.m.

Danish immigrant Jens Jensen (1860 – 1951) began as a street sweeper in Chicago’s West Park System and rose to become a visionary landscape architect and conservationist. While others of the time considered natural Midwest scenery abhorrent, he saw great beauty in regions indigenous landscapes. Through a process of experimentation, he created a new landscape style inspired by this scenery. Jensen designed hundreds of estates, parks, campuses, hotel and hospital grounds in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, including Lombard. As Jensen was deeply concerned about the effects of industrialization on the city and the suburbs, he also helped spur a movement to save natural areas as preserves and parks. In this program, historian and author Julia S. Bachrach will illuminate Jens Jensen’s work as a visionary landscape architect who left a lasting impact on Chicagoland.

February 26, 2027

“Lombard Celebrates Lilacs”

Kim White

Lombard Community Building 1 p.m.

Lombard is known as the Lilac Village, but how did that start? What is the history behind Lilacia Park and the lilacs in Lombard? Kim White will make a presentation on the many different types of lilacs there are and how to care for them. Kim will also talk about Colonel Plum and Mrs. Plum in bringing lilacs to Lombard.

March 19, 2027

“Celebrating the Cherry Blossom Festival”

Yvonne Wolf

Lombard Community Building 1 p.m.

Upon the occasion of the United States 250TH anniversary, Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi gifted Washington DC with 250 cherry blossom trees. What is the significance of this arboreal gift? Educator Yvonne Wolf lived and worked in Japan. She will give a brief overview of Japan’s national flower and welcome spring the Japanese way, through the cherry blossom Festivals. Cherry Blossom season is from Early March to early May