



# La Vista Ecological Learning Center

A ministry of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate  
May 1, 2018  
E-News

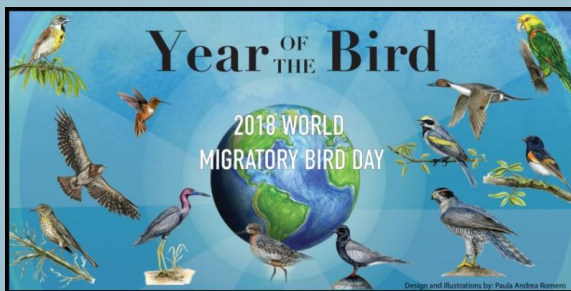
## May Programs and Eco-Spirituality Calendar (Read about all our programs on our web site: [www.lavistaelc.org](http://www.lavistaelc.org))

Spring  
and all its flowers  
now joyously break  
their vow of silence.  
It is time for celebration,  
not for lying low;  
you, too -  
weed out those roots  
of sadness from your heart.  
Hafiz



## Saturday, May 12: World Migratory Bird Day

This special day celebrates the Year of the Bird and the actions you can take to help birds every day of the year. Since the Mississippi River is a flyway for over half of the migratory birds that travel through this country every year, our back yards and lands are very important stopovers for them. Visit this web site [www. http://www.migratorybirdday.org/calendar/](http://www.migratorybirdday.org/calendar/), and discover what to do to support migratory birds.



Suggested actions include:

- Plant native plants
- Provide "wild" spaces in your yards
- Use window decals so birds don't run into them
- Avoid pesticides which poison birds
- Forget the balloons
- Learn the danger of drones

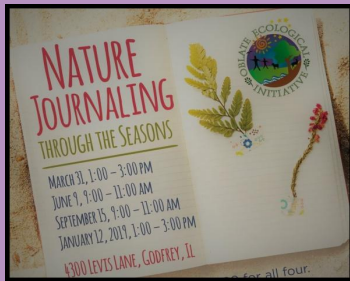
Celebrating this day is a very specific way to act on the words of Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'* where he notes that all species have intrinsic value independent of their usefulness to human beings; and that each organism, as a creature of God, is good and admirable in itself.

**Saturday, June 9:**

## **Summer Session of Nature Journaling through the Seasons**

**9:00 - 11:00 am**

(Other Sessions - Autumn - Sept. 15, 9 - 11; Winter - Jan. 12, 2019, 1:00 - 3:00)



"Those who dwell among the beauties and mysteries of the earth are never alone or weary of life." - Rachel Carson

Nature journaling is a wonderful way to record and remember your experiences among the beauties and mysteries of Earth. Join us and learn interesting journaling techniques so that this practice can become a kind of friend, enriching yourself as you deepen your connection with life.

Our presenter is Angie Jungbluth, a veteran science teacher, an experienced nature journaling teacher and a signature member of the St. Louis Watercolor Society.

Cost: \$15 per session. Send your payment to La Vista 4300 Levis Lane, Godfrey, IL 62035. Please include your e-mail address, and you will be sent a materials list with registration confirmation.

**Saturday, June 23:**

## **Summer Solstice and Native Pollinator Celebration**

**2:00 - 4:00 pm**

Celebrate the beginning of summer and National Pollinator Week with us at La Vista! As we become more aware of the threats to native pollinators, we increase our insistence on helping them however we can. Join us and find a special way to serve them - bee houses! Vernon DePauw, a wood carver and wood worker, will join us to share the value of pollinators and how to build a pollinator house. A limited number of premade pollinator houses will be available for you to purchase, decorate, and take home!

No cost to attend. Please bring a summertime snack to share.  
Registration: [info@lavistaelc.org](mailto:info@lavistaelc.org) Tell how many are coming.

## **Save the Date**

**Saturday, July 7**

**1:00 - 3:00 PM**

**MORE IMPORTANT NOW THAN EVER**

**25th Anniversary Dedication Celebration**

**of the Missionary Oblates Woods Nature Preserve**

In 1993 the Oblates dedicated 16 of their acres in the Illinois Nature Preserve System. Habitat loss and the encroachment of native species have increased over these 25 years, so the commitment to preserve a natural area has become more important now than ever. Join us to celebrate the Oblates protection of the forest, watershed, biodiversity and endangered species.

No cost. Detailed schedule and registration information will follow in June.

## **La Vista CSA Farm Now Taking Memberships!**

There are many reasons to join La Vista's CSA Farm and share in the harvest: enjoying delicious fresh vegetables, a personal connection to our farm and farmer, supporting our local food system, eating more healthfully. We hope you can find a reason to join our farm family. You can download membership forms from the web site: [www.lavistacsa.org](http://www.lavistacsa.org).

