

By Staff Reports

Professional ballroom dance instruction steps into Wood Dale venue

Wood Dale resident and ballroom dance professional Vito Magrone will teach ballroom dance and host ballroom dance parties at the Georgetown Clubhouse.

During his career as a professional ballroom dancer, Magrone achieved the highest dance instructor title — Dance Director — at both Fred Astaire Studios in Illinois and Arthur Murray Studios in California. Within those studio environments, Magrone won numerous professional competitions. He was the undefeated champion in Latin dance for seven years straight. He also served as a judge at many dance competitions.

Several of the students and instructors he trained have won pro/am competitions. His students have included Dolly Parton in the movie "Straight Talk" (which included roles for several of Magrone's students), and singer Grace Jones on the TV series "Fire Disco" (in which Magrone himself had a dancing role). Magrone also partnered with Miranda Garrison, actress and choreographer best known for her role in the film "Dirty Dancing," to entertain at movie star celebrations.

For many years, Magrone has taught American Style Cha Cha, Foxtrot, Tango, Rumba, Samba, Salsa/Mambo, Merengue, Bolero, Waltz, Viennese Waltz, Quickstep, East Coast Swing, West Coast Swing and Hustle. He choreographs routines for competition, performances, social dancing and weddings.

Magrone now brings his expertise to Wood Dale. Group lessons take place most Friday evenings, starting at 7 p.m. in the Georgetown Clubhouse near the corner of Prospect Avenue and George Street. They are followed by open ballroom dance practice starting at 8 p.m. Magrone will be teaching Cha Cha lessons in November, and Tango in December.

He says the class is always fun, and open to dancers at every level.

Cost is \$10 and includes both the lesson and the open dance. On the last Friday of every month, Magrone presents a special ballroom dance party. For dates, time and details, visit vdancesport.yolasite.com.

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