

A Message From Mayor Ronald M. Serpico

The 2024 cicadas making their debut are finding a much different world than the one their ancestors encountered in 2007. It is hard to believe how many of today's day-to-day things were not around back then.

It reminds me of the saying, "The only thing that is permanent is change." However, luckily three things that have not changed in the past 17 years are the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the Taste of Melrose Park and HispanoFest.

Dear Neighbors,

As I write this letter the emergence of the cicadas from their 17-year hiatus has begun and soon will disappear for another 17 years. The 2024 cicadas making their debut are finding a much different world than the one their ancestors encountered in 2007. It is hard to believe how many day-to-day things that we now accept as normal were not around in 2007. For example, Uber didn't even exist and now they do over 9 billion rides a year. And can anyone imagine a world without TV streaming services like Netflix, Apple TV+ and Amazon Prime? I can't, but it's true, in 2007 these services were not available and now Netflix has nearly 270 million paid memberships in 190 countries.

There are many other things today that we have grown used to that did not exist the last time the cicadas were here, such as the legalization of gay marriage, the legalization of recreational marijuana, the slow erosion of newspapers by social media outlets and the cryptocurrency market.

We must also not forget internet shopping for all our consumer needs has dramatically changed our buying habits, the introduction of the iPad, the dawning of AI technology, the emergence of Facetime and Zoom calls, and these are just a few of the changes since 2007.

Tesla electric cars are changing America's driving habits. In 2007, they sold no cars, but by 2023, Tesla sold roughly 1.4 million electric vehicles. No doubt that when the cicadas appear again in 2041, electric vehicles will be the norm and not the exception.

And who can forget that a new disease called COVID came out of nowhere. It is hard to fathom what America will experience between now and the cicada arrival of 2041.

The above examples remind me of the saying, "The only thing that is permanent is change." However, luckily three things that have not changed in the past 17 years are the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the Taste of Melrose Park and HispanoFest.

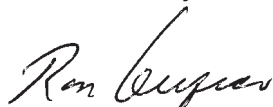
The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is the longest running religious celebration in the Chicagoland area and will celebrate its 131st anniversary. The dates for this year's Feast activities are July 5-14. On Sunday, July 14, at 1:30 p.m., the procession of the Madonna statue through the streets of Melrose Park will take place. This parade through the neighborhood sees the return of many former residents who either march or observe the procession and then hold parties afterwards.

The Taste of Melrose Park will take place on the grounds of the Village Hall, Aug. 30-Sept. 1. This year we will be hosting the Taste's 42nd anniversary. Our food festival is unique because most of our 62 food booths are staffed by families who serve mouthwatering delicacies for \$4 or less, which makes it the most family affordable food festival in Illinois.

HispanoFest will occur Sept. 6-8. It is a three-day celebration of all things Hispanic. It is held on the grounds of the Melrose Park Civic Center. HispanoFest has raised enough funds from this event to have awarded over 140 college scholarships to local students. So come out for the music, the food and the camaraderie of your amigos.

Enjoy the summer and keep your windows closed to avoid the cicadas chirping.

Sincerely,


Mayor Ron Serpico



Follow us on Facebook.



Follow us on Instagram.



Ronald M. Serpico
Mayor

**Check Out
www.MelrosePark.org
to Learn More
About Our
Community!**

THE TASTE OF MELROSE PARK IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!
Interested parties, please see Page 26.





Village of Melrose Park

Ronald M. Serpico, Mayor

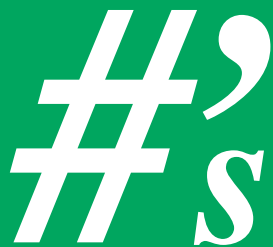
Mary Ann Paolantonio, Village Clerk

Trustees

Anthony J. Abruzzo • Jaime Anguiano

Arturo J. Mota • Sonny Nicotera

Mary Ramirez Taconi • Anthony "Tony" Williams



To Know

Village Hall.....(708) 343-4000

Hours – Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Birth Certificates • First Copy – \$15, additional copies \$4 each.

Death Certificates • First Copy – \$17, additional copies \$6 each.

Water, Tickets, Etc.

Office of the Mayor(708) 343-4000, Ext. 4410

Police Emergency911

Non-Emergency(708) 344-8409

Animal Control.....(708) 344-8409

Fire Emergency911

Non-Emergency(708) 344-1210

Public Safety/Homeland Security(708) 649-8000

Library(708) 343-3391

Public Works(708) 343-5128

Building and Code(708) 343-4000

Civic Center(708) 450-0555

Hall and Field Rentals, Sports, Etc.

Community Service.....(708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448

Senior Services(708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448

Taste of Melrose Park

Dial A Ride(708) 343-7047

Proviso Township Assessor.....(708) 449-4304

Economic Development(708) 865-8809



Village Vehicle Stickers Expired Dec. 31, 2023. 2024-2025 Stickers Can be Purchased at the Village Hall.

Sticker Fee for Passenger Vehicles is \$30 for Two Years (2024-2025).

Truck Fees Vary Based on the Type of Class/Plate and
Are Good for One Year Only (2024).

Seniors Over 65 Years of Age are Free.

One free two-year sticker for a passenger vehicle or one free one-year sticker
for a B-Truck vehicle registered to a person over 65 years in age.

Limit one free sticker per household.

If there is a second passenger or B-Truck vehicle registered to a senior in the
household, a second senior sticker will be sold for half price (\$15).

Acceptable proof for a senior sticker is a valid driver's license or state ID card.

Vehicle Sticker Fee Details

Sticker fees are as follows: Passenger Plates – \$30 for two years (2024-2025);

Senior Citizen – One free per household for two years (2024-2025);

Trucks – Good for one year (2024 only).

The fees for vehicle licenses for each vehicle are as follows
if paid on the dates set forth as listed here:

| PASSENGER VEHICLES | NOW-JUNE 30 \$40 Every Two Years | JULY 1 AND LATER \$55 Every Two Years |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| B Plate | \$65 | \$95 |
| C Plate | \$90 | \$145 |
| D Plate | \$90 | \$145 |
| F Plate | \$90 | \$145 |
| H Plate | \$90 | \$145 |
| J Plate | \$95 | \$155 |
| K Plate | \$95 | \$155 |
| L Plate | \$105 | \$175 |
| M Plate | \$110 | \$185 |
| N Plate | \$115 | \$195 |
| P Plate | \$120 | \$205 |
| Q Plate | \$120 | \$205 |
| R Plate | \$125 | \$215 |
| S Plate | \$130 | \$225 |
| T Plate | \$140 | \$245 |
| V Plate | \$150 | \$265 |
| X Plate | \$160 | \$285 |
| Z Plate | \$170 | \$305 |

ALL VEHICLES REGISTERED TO MELROSE PARK RESIDENTS AND
ALL TRUCKS REGISTERED TO BUSINESSES LOCATED
IN THE VILLAGE OF MELROSE PARK ARE REQUIRED
TO HAVE MELROSE PARK VEHICLE STICKERS.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION IS NEEDED TO PURCHASE STICKERS –
NO EXCEPTIONS. LATE CHARGES MAY APPLY.

VEHICLE STICKERS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL VEHICLES
REGISTERED UNDER A MELROSE PARK ADDRESS, EVEN IF
THEY ARE NOT LOCATED, PARKED OR STORED AT THE HOUSE
AND MUST BE PURCHASED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RESIDENCY.

For more information, please call (708) 343-4000
or visit www.melrosepark.org.

Important Upcoming Dates

Village Board Meetings.....July 22, Aug. 26

Village Hall Holiday Closings.....July 4, Sept. 2

Show Your Support for Our Veterans and Those Currently Serving Our Country!

Call the Village Hall Today to Reserve a Flag in Their Honor

In 2014, Mayor Serpico and the Melrose Park Youth Commission launched Melrose Park's Avenue of Flags campaign and we're continuing our efforts.

Flags representing the United States of America, the state of Illinois, the village of Melrose Park, the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Marines, United States Coast Guard, United States Space Force and POW/MIA are being displayed on lightpoles within the village.

If you know of a veteran or someone currently serving from the community and would like to have a flag displayed on a lightpole near their home, please call the Melrose Park Village Hall at (708) 343-4000 with details on their U.S. military branch.



MP Residents, Please Join Us at the "Avenue of Flags – West" Dedication Ceremony on June 29

Mayor Serpico and the Melrose Park Youth Commission will be launching its Avenue of Flags – West campaign on Saturday, June 29, 2024.

This program, spearheaded by the Melrose Park Youth Commission and made possible with support from residents and local businesses, is the third in a series of the Melrose Park Avenue of Flags initiative that began in 2014 (22nd Avenue from Division Street to North Avenue).

Prior to this year's big event, flags representing the United States of America, state of Illinois, village of Melrose Park, POW/MIA and branches of the military will be installed on 36th Avenue from Lake Street to Soffel Avenue.

The dedication will consist of a ribbon-cutting ceremony with Mayor Serpico and members of the Melrose Park Youth Commission establishing 36th Avenue as Melrose Park's third Avenue of Flags to be known as Avenue of Flags – West.

The intent of this Youth Commission project is to continue the beautification efforts of Mayor Serpico throughout the village – enhancing and providing a new, respectful and fascinating look to our streets.

If you would like to make a contribution and help support this project, donations can be sent to: Village of Melrose Park/Avenue of Flags, 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160.

Please make checks payable to the Melrose Park Youth Commission or Melrose Park Sports & Family Benefit Fund.

Save the date and join us at 36th Avenue and Lake Street on Saturday, June 29, 11 a.m.
We thank you in advance for your commitment to this epic cause.



Melrose Park Fire Department NEWS



Rick Beltrame
Director of Fire Dept.

A Message from Rick Beltrame, Director of Fire Department

The Melrose Park Fire Department and Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame want to ensure the safety of our residents and their families by providing these lightning safety tips on behalf of the National Fire Protection Association. Please follow these tips to ensure your family's well-being!



Thunder and lightning storms happen all the time. Know what to do to keep you and your family safe when storms strike!

Safety Tips

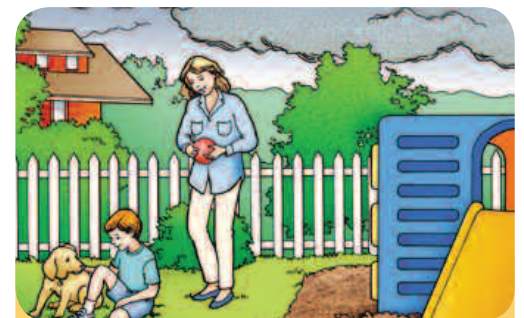
Outdoor Safety

- **If you can hear** thunder, you are within striking distance of lightning. Look for shelter inside a home, large building, or a hard-topped vehicle right away.
- **Do not go under** trees for shelter. There is no place outside that is safe during a thunderstorm.
- **Wait at least 30 minutes** after hearing the last clap of thunder before leaving your shelter.
- **Stay away** from windows and doors. Stay off porches.
- **There is no safe place outside.** Places with only a roof on sports fields, golf courses, and picnic areas are not safe during a lightning storm. Small sheds should not be used.
- **If a person is struck** by lightning, call **9-1-1**. Get medical help right away.

Indoor Safety

Turn off computers. Stay off corded phones, computers, and other things that put you in direct contact with electricity or plumbing. You **can use** a cell or cordless phone.

Do not wash your hands, bathe, shower, do laundry, or wash dishes.



FAST FACTS

Lightning may strike as far as **10 miles** from any rain.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



MELROSE PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

3601 W LAKE ST, MELROSE PARK IL 60160 PH (708) 344-1315, FAX (708) 531-5304



Melrose Park Police Department

A Message from Director of Police Sam C. Pitassi



*Sam C. Pitassi
Director of Police*



Important Parking Notice for Melrose Park Residents **A QUICK NOTE TO UPDATE WEEKEND PARKING RULES**

Effective April 1, 2024, parking is permitted on both sides of the street on weekends (Friday, 5 p.m.-Monday, 9 a.m.) until Dec 1, 2024.

These hours do not include the Winston Park and West Melrose areas.

REMEMBER, PARKING IS NEVER ALLOWED ON EAST AND WEST STREETS – 2-6 A.M.

ALL VILLAGE OF MELROSE PARK PARKING RESTRICTIONS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED AND TICKETS WILL BE WRITTEN FOR CARS VIOLATING CURRENT AND FUTURE PARKING RULES.

Provide an Anonymous Crime Tip

The Melrose Park Police Department relies on individuals to help prevent and solve crimes in our community. If you have information about criminal activity, please submit it. However, if you would like to be contacted by a police officer, just include a telephone number or email address where you can be reached. Submit to [tips @melroseparkpd.com](mailto:tips@melroseparkpd.com).

Overnight Parking Procedures Approved Vehicles Will Avoid Being Ticketed

The village of Melrose Park has established parking procedures for residents requiring overnight parking availability on village streets near their home.

Residents seeking permission to park any visitor, construction or family emergency vehicles on streets with overnight parking restrictions can visit the Melrose Park Police Department website at mppd.com, download the Melrose Park Police Department Parking Permission Form (under forms), complete all details and then submit it to the MP Police Department Front Desk.

After review, a Police Department supervisor will contact the requestor to notify them of approval or disapproval. The form can only be used for three days per month and is not valid until a supervisor signs off on it.

If approved, the permission will not allow the violation of village ordinances or parking laws. All violators will be ticketed.

For more information, please call (708) 344-8409.

Visit the Melrose Park Police Department Website at www.melroseparkpd.com ...
• For Melrose Park Police Department General Information • To Pay Tickets • To Obtain Police Reports

The website can be translated to Spanish and Polish.



Always Stepping Up ...



MP Firefighters Visit Gottlieb's Early Childhood Center

On Monday, June 3, members of the Melrose Park Fire Department (MPFD) stopped by the Gottlieb Hospital Early Childhood Center to meet with staff and children who enjoyed exploring one of Melrose Park's fire engines and the opportunity to interact with firefighters.

The MPFD team received a special thank you from Gottlieb's employees and its future firefighters for the service and dedication they give each and every day.



Cook County Treasurer Makes a Special Visit to the Police Department

On Thursday, May 16, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas visited the Melrose Park Police Department to drop off some special treats. Pappas met with Director of Police Sam Pitassi and Police Department staff and thanked everyone for the hard work they do to protect the residents of our community and keep Melrose Park safe.

OUR SPONSORS

Hot Dogs by Jimmy's Red Hots
of Grand & Pulaski &
Pizza by PIZZA BOY, Edison Park
Served @ NOON
BUFFET @ 2 PM by Cuomo Catering
C&N Construction, Hillside
Donny G's Restaurant, Elmwood Park
Pan American Bank, Melrose Park
The Original Chickie's Beef of Hillside
Area Towing, Melrose Park
GRECO & SONS & ONESTI ENTERTAINMENT

15TH ANNUAL

BIG BASH BUFFET

MELROSE PARK CIVIC CENTER
\$40 DONATION PER PERSON

OUR ENTERTAINMENT

DJ/MC Jerry Jamz Renda
Ocean's Rat Pack
Starring Tony Ocean, Bill Serritella
& Elliot Wimbush
Regina Karma
John Anthony
THE Stefanie Brinegar w/ Ken Madoff
HONEYBEARS
Ronnie B Elvis

SPONSOR TINY TAP, ELMWOOD PARK BEER, WINE & SODA INCLUDED
The Famous Rainbow Ice Cream Truck from 1 - 5pm

RAFFLES



SUNDAY SEPT 15TH

NOON - 5:30

SPLIT THE POT

SEATING GUARENTEED WITH

\$100-\$2000 PRIZES

RESERVATIONS ONLY

TRIPS TO FLORIDA, ARIZONA
& LAKE GENEVA

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



224-600-0333 dotecarl1649@gmail.com



MELROSE PARK POLICE MICKINZIE-VERTUNO F.O.P. LODGE 19 CAR SHOW



Saturday, July 20, 2024 • 10 a.m.

1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park

Registration Begins at 9 a.m. • \$10 Per Car

Voting Begins at 12:30 p.m.

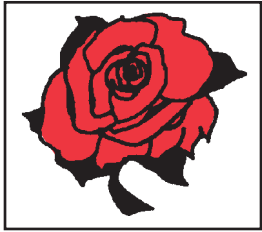
Email @ mvfoplodge19@gmail.com



BEST IN SHOW PRIZES



Food & Beverages available for purchase as well as a 50/50 Raffle!



Village of Melrose Park Public Works Report

*From the Desk of
Gary Marine,
Director of Public Works*

19th and North Avenue Bridge

The 19th and North Avenue bridge is now open. Please watch for details on our spring 2024 dedication ceremony.

Multi-Purpose Field

A new state-of-the-art, multi-purpose field has been set in place at the Ralph “Babe” Serpico Memorial Field on 25th Avenue. The new diverse field can be used for a football field, soccer field, unified lacrosse field and a new walking track. The field is now open to the public.



Feeding Wildlife

Attention Winston Park Area Residents – Please refrain from feeding wildlife, especially deer, around the Winston Park area. The food is attracting skunks and raccoons, and they are becoming a nuisance throughout this area.



Attention Residents Along Silver Creek Embankment

Please refrain from throwing grass clippings and any other yard waste into the creek.

25th Avenue Municipal Lot

Under Mayor Serpico’s direction, the lot on 25th Avenue and Augusta has been paved and open for free parking to residents. The lot on the northeast corner of 25th and Augusta has been paved for additional free parking for residents. The Civic Center’s east and west lots have been repaved as well.

Street Parking Restriction Signs

Please follow all street parking restriction signs posted throughout the village.

Street Sweeping

The street sweeper has been out sweeping roadways. Please follow all street sweeping signs located on village streets. Please remove your vehicle from the street to help expedite sweeping.

2024 Fall Tree Planting Program

The list is now open for 2024 Fall Tree Planting. To request a tree for 2024, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128.

2024 – 50/50 Sidewalk Program

If you would like to participate in the 2024 – 50/50 Sidewalk Program to request replacement of sidewalk squares, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128 for more information.

Melrose Park Dog Park

The village of Melrose Park Dog Park hours are 8 a.m.-8 p.m., seven days a week throughout the summer and fall. The fenced-in Dog Park is located at 13th and Main Street. Dog Park licenses are available at the Village Hall.

Please follow rules posted at the park.



Silver Creek Restoration Project

Under the direction of Mayor Ronald M. Serpico, the Village of Melrose Park Public Works employees constructed the Silver Creek Eagles Nest Park. This is a natural preserve that includes a walking path and a pavilion/gazebo, along with a canoe/kayak launch.

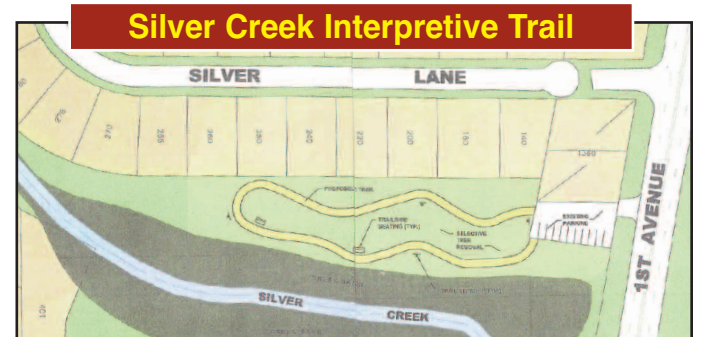
Phase 5 and 6 of the Silver Creek Stabilization Project have been completed. Phase 7 is underway.

This stabilization project restores the natural balance of the creek by restoring the embankment, and bringing back native landscape and shrubbery along with aquatic habitat. This is an invaluable stream system that provides storm water runoff, flood management and many other benefits for the residents of Melrose Park.



Silver Creek Trail Park

The Silver Creek Trail Park is located off of First Avenue. The trail is centered off the pond between Silver Creek and its tributary, the Des Plaines River. Native plants of this area were once lost to development and are now being reintroduced to the area. With the help of these native plants, more wildlife is returning to the area – from the Bald Eagle (sighted in the area), the Northern Pike, Red Foxes, Black-Crowned Night Herons and Cooper’s Hawk, to name a few.



Do’s and Don’ts While Visiting the Silver Creek Trail Park

1. No littering. Please clean up after any activities.
2. Pets must be leashed.
3. Smoking or fires are prohibited.
4. Please clean up pet waste and dispose of it.
5. Do not disturb any plants, trees or wildlife.
6. No loitering.
7. No hunting.
8. Fisherman must clean up any cut line, bail containers and all litter.
9. Park opens one hour after sunrise and closes one hour before sunset.
10. Enjoy the park.

The Public Works employees are always in full force, working to keep the village of Melrose Park clean and well-maintained. If you have a request, please feel free to call Gary M. Marine, director of Public Works at (708) 343-5128.

Apply Now for the 2024 Senior Painting Program!



Mayor Serpico announced the village of Melrose Park will once again offer the free Residential Painting Program for individuals 65 years of age and older who reside and own a single family home in Melrose Park. Those who qualify and need light paint work around their homes – fences, garage doors, railings, etc., (no interior painting, or no interior or exterior carpentry) – are encouraged to complete the MP Painting Program Request Form (right) and mail it to:

**The Village of Melrose Park Public Works
Attn.: Gary M. Marine, Director of Public Works
1000 N. 25th Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160**

2024 Senior Painting Program list
will be closed July 31, 2024.

Only one item will be painted per year.
Get your request in early as the list fills fast.

Mayor Serpico's 2024 MP Painting Program Request Form

Please print clearly.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Age _____ Birthdate _____

One item to be painted (please circle one only):

Fence Garage Door Railings

Only one item will be painted per year. 2024 list will be closed July 31, 2024.



Melrose Park Projects are Making Quick Progress Check Out These Photos Showing Some of the Work Being Done ...

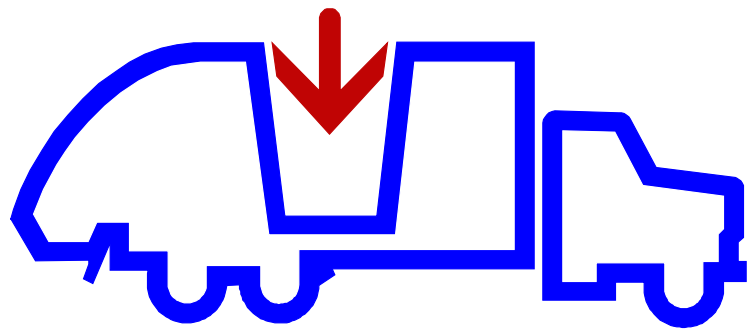


Silver Creek Stabilization Project



Street Paving Project





Village of Melrose Park Residential Garbage Pickup Information

Republic Services Garbage Schedule for Residential Bi-Weekly Pickup

24th Avenue to 11th Avenue – Tuesday and Friday

Winston Park Area – Tuesday and Friday

West Melrose – Tuesday and Friday

North of North Avenue – Tuesday and Friday

Republic Services is contracted to pick up your regular, everyday garbage and household items, such as couches, tables, mattresses, box springs, desks and chairs, etc.

Recycling and yard waste is collected on Tuesdays from April through November and must be placed in a 33-gallon refuse can or biodegradable paper bags. Plastic bags will not be accepted.

All items are to be put out the night before or morning of scheduled garbage pickup.

Winston Park Area and West Melrose – Once garbage has been picked up, garbage container is to be removed from curb line and placed back on resident's property.

The Village of Melrose Park Public Works Department Garbage Pickup Schedule

24th Avenue to 10th Avenue – North Side from Cortez to North Avenue – Monday

24th Avenue to 10th Avenue – South Side from Cortez to Main Street – Tuesday

Winston Park Area – Wednesday West Melrose – Thursday North of North Avenue – Thursday

The village of Melrose Park Public Works Department pickup items include all household remodeling items (homeowner/self – not contractor), such as kitchen and bathroom cabinets, drywall and cement.

All items are to be put out the night before or before 7 a.m. the morning of scheduled garbage pickup.

Once village trucks have passed and picked up items, the trucks will not pass again.

Any other garbage items are not to be left out and are to be put out for the next scheduled pickup.

This service is for Melrose Park residents in single and two-flat buildings only. Commercial and apartment buildings must use a private scavenger company.

Village of Melrose Park Public Works regular hours are 7 a.m.-3 p.m.

This information is also available at www.melrosepark.org.

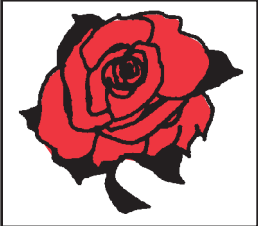
ATTENTION RESIDENTS – CALL TO REQUEST REPLACEMENT RESIDENT GARBAGE CANS

For a missing or damaged garbage can, please call Republic Services directly at (708) 345-7050 and ask for Customer Service to request a replacement garbage can.

REPLACEMENT RESIDENT RECYCLING CANS

For the new larger recycling cans, please call Republic Services directly at (708) 345-7050 and ask for Customer Service to request a recycling can.

The smaller recycling can will no longer be available at the village Public Works Department or from Republic Services.



Village of Melrose Park Senior News

From the Desks of Peggy DiFazio, Director of Senior Services, Special Events and Taste of Melrose Park, and Lorena Anguiano, Bi-Lingual Services

Senior Services

Need help with Medicare, veterans benefits, circuit breakers, etc.?

Need sources for home health care, equipment, etc.?

Have questions you need resources for? We can help. Call Peggy DiFazio at (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.

Donation of Mobility Need Items –Canes, Wheelchairs, Walkers, Etc.

The Melrose Park Senior Center is currently accepting donations of canes, wheelchairs, walkers, etc., that can be given to those in need.

If you have something you would like to donate, please call Peggy DiFazio at (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.

Benefit Access Program Benefits

Senior Ride Free Transit Benefit • Persons with Disabilities Free Transit Ride • Secretary of State License Plate Discount

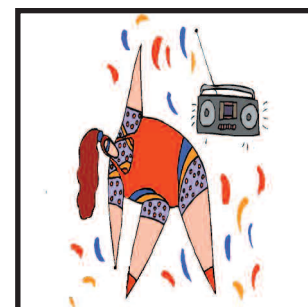
Beneficio de Acceso para el Programa de Beneficios

Beneficio de Transporte Gratuito para personas Mayores de 65 años • Transporte Gratuito para Personas con Incapacidades
Descuento para la Placa de su Carro en la Secretaria del Estado

For more information, please call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448 or Ext. 4452.

Free Exercise for Melrose Park Seniors

*Come Join
in the Fun
with Instructor
Barb Rubright
(Rube's Garage)*



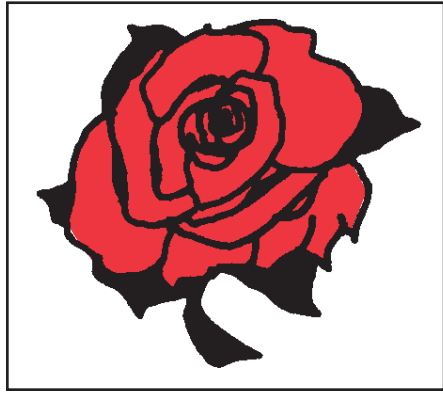
Monday-Friday • 9-10 a.m.

Melrose Park Civic Center

1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park

Socially Distanced Activity • Face Masks Required

For more information, please call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.



Village of Melrose Park Dial A Ride Program for MP Residents

Convenient Ride Service Now Available 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Village of Melrose Park Dial a Ride Program was initiated in 2000 to provide residents of our community with a new transportation resource to any location in the Melrose Park boundaries. Residents are encouraged to use the program to do their everyday needs such as grocery shopping, doctor appointments, etc. We are also handicapped accessible.

This service is available to residents Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To make a reservation, please call (708) 343-7047. You can make appointments during the hours of 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday thru Friday. We are closed on Saturdays and Sundays and all major holidays. To book an appointment or make a cancellation, you must call at least 24 hours in advance.

Policies and Procedures

Only one reservation per rider per day. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Only two appointments a week can be made for miscellaneous use such as grocery shopping etc. Anyone using the van for doctor appointments, etc., may use the van up to three times a week.

You must stay at your destination you are going to for a minimum of an hour. Any residents of Victory Centre MUST go with the group provided at their center for grocery shopping, etc. Any doctor appointment can be made with us.

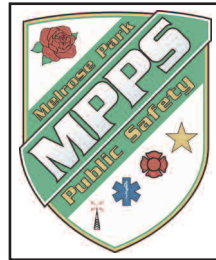
Only three shopping bags per rider. Forgotten items in the van will be returned at the next pickup date. Please note that our service is getting more popular every day so we will try to accommodate your needs to the best of our ability.



Mayor Serpico encourages residents to use this convenient transportation resource for their everyday needs, such as shopping, doctor appointments, etc.

Call (708) 343-7047 for service.

Melrose Park Public Safety News



From the Desk of Chief Philip C. Schwartz, Departments of Homeland Security – Public Safety

Know Your Risk When Severe Weather Occurs

Being prepared means learning about summer weather and water hazards such as hurricanes, heat, lightning, rip currents, air quality, tsunamis and wildfires.

Here's what you need to know:

- Since 2003, more than 40 states within the continental United States have come under a tornado watch; more than 45 states have come under severe thunderstorm watches; and lightning strikes have occurred in every state.
- Heat waves are common across the country during the summer. They are dangerous because the human body cannot cool itself properly when exposed to an extreme combination of heat and humidity.
- In 2015, there were 26 lightning fatalities. • Flash flooding is the number one killer associated with severe weather.
- Air pollution can make it harder for people with asthma and other respiratory diseases to breathe. Children and teens may be more sensitive than adults to the health effects caused by air pollution. According to the EPA, poor air quality is responsible in the U.S. for an estimated 60,000 premature deaths each year.

Take Action

While the weather may be wild, you are not powerless. This summer, prepare for hazards with these simple steps:

- You may have only minutes to find shelter before a tornado strikes. Practice a family tornado drill at least once a year.
- Protect yourself from extreme heat by rescheduling outdoor activities to earlier in the day.
- There is no safe place outside when lightning is in the area. If you hear thunder, you are likely within striking distance of the storm. Just remember, When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors.
- Whether on foot or in a car, if you encounter flood waters, Turn Around Don't Drown!
- Make sure to check the Air Quality Index for your area at <http://airnow.gov>. If the air quality is poor, avoid prolonged or extreme exertion outdoors.

Be a Force of Nature

Your action can inspire others. Be a force of nature and share how you're working to stay safe from weather and water hazards this summer.

- Write a post on Facebook. Share with your friends and family the preparedness steps you're taking to stay safe this summer.
- Tweet that you're prepared with #SummerSafety. Tell us what you're doing to be prepared for summer hazards.
- Create a Family Communication Plan so that your loved ones know how to get in touch during an emergency. And let your friends know that they should create a plan also.
- Look for ways to help your town prepare, such as volunteering. Register for America's PrepareAthon! to learn how to stay safe during disasters.

With these steps, you'll be doing more than just protecting yourself – you'll help NOAA build a Weather-Ready Nation.

For more information, please call Melrose Park Homeland Security ~ Public Safety at (708) 649-8000.

Answer the Call ...

Melrose Park's Homeland Security and Public Safety Departments are NOW Recruiting!

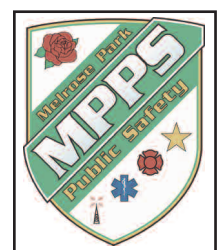
- Interested in public safety, emergency services and first responder volunteer opportunities? Become a member of the Village of Melrose Park Departments of Homeland Security and Public Safety.
- Team members gain real-world emergency services experience in the areas of police, fire, criminal justice, public safety, computer IT, telecommunications and weather-related disasters.
- Learn on state-of-the-art technologies and equipment that will give you expert training for potential career opportunities.
- We are seeking individuals who take pride in wearing the uniform and helping to provide public safety to our community.

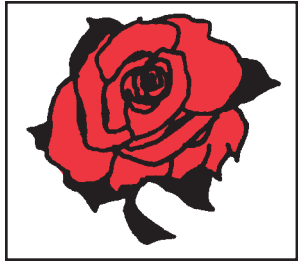
We are Currently Recruiting for ...

- Adults for both volunteer and paid positions in our 311 Telecommunications Centers, as well as reserve (auxiliary police) officers.
- High school students (14 years and older) to join our cadet programs – a unique experience which gives students the opportunity to gain public safety career exploration and training.

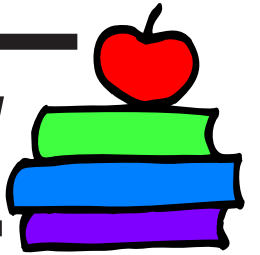
Questions? Please call us at (708) 649-8000 or email us today at training@mpdhs.net to join one of the most prestigious public safety departments in the region!

Visit our website at www.mpps.us for more information about our department.





Melrose Park Public Library



M P Melrose Park
P L Public Library

www.MPPLibrary.org

CHAIR YOGA

Designed for all levels. The classes include breathing, meditation, stretching in the chair, some standing poses, & ends with relaxation. No equipment needed.



FRIDAYS
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

DATES

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| August 16th | October 18th |
| September 20th | November 15th |
| | December 13th |



FOR ADULTS & SENIORS
PHONE: (708) 649-7485
EMAIL: mpref@mpplibrary.org

Summer Reading Program

Paper Flowers Workshop

Create beautiful and colorful paper flowers using tissue paper!

Thursday, July 18th
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Adults & Seniors
Registration required.
Visit mpplibrary.org to register!



Check the website or call for the most current information on hours and procedures.



| | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------------|
| Mon | Wed | Fri | 9:00am - 5:00pm |
| Tue | Thu | | 9:00am - 7:00pm |
| Sat | | | 10:00am - 2:00pm |
| Last Saturday of the month - Closed | | | |
| Sunday - Closed | | | |
| Memorial Day thru Labor Day - Closed on Saturdays | | | |

MPPLibrary.org
801 N Broadway
Melrose Park, IL 60160
mps@mpplibrary.org
(708)649-7400



Melrose Park Public Library



M P Melrose Park
P L Public Library

www.MPPLibrary.org

MPPL
presents-

2024



SUMMER READING 2024 — NOW through JULY 26

Come on into the library and sign up for our summer reading program! Children and teens ages 3-17 can register for **Read, Renew, Repeat!**, our theme for this summer. At registration, you will receive a reading log to record what you read this summer. For six weeks record your reading and every week come in for a special prize and a raffle ticket for the Grand Prize Drawing on July 26th. We will also be offering a variety of fantastic programs, give-aways, and contests all summer, so pick up a calendar of events and drop in as often as possible!

All dates and times are subject to change without prior notice. Please see the website, or call us for updated programming information. All programs at the library are free but registration is required. MPPL card holders have first priority. To register, or with any further questions, please call 708.649.7400

Check the website or call for the most current information on hours and procedures.



Mon Wed Fri 9:00am - 5:00pm
Tue Thu 9:00am - 7:00pm
Sat 10:00am - 2:00pm

Last Saturday of the month - Closed
Sunday - Closed

Memorial Day thru Labor Day - Closed on Saturdays

MPPLibrary.org

801 N Broadway
Melrose Park, IL 60160
mps@mpplibrary.org
(708)649-7400



Melrose Park Public Library



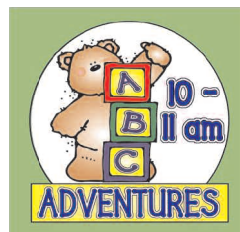
M P Melrose Park
P L Public Library

Youth Services



Make It Mondays

Make something special every week with us on the Melrose Park Library Official YouTube Channel! Drop by the library to pick up the weekly craft supplies. Ages 3 & up.



ABC Adventures

Join our interactive playtime for fun with stories, music, puzzles, and toys. Ages 1-5 with a caregiver.

Wednesdays - 10:00am - 11:00am

Summer Programs 2024



Young Artists Workshop – Let's get creative with watercolors and paints to make something very special in this fantastic workshop! **Ages 8 and up.**

Friday, June 28 — 2-3pm, Registration required. Limit 25.

Reptiles & Amphibians – Explore the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians in a one-of-a-kind program that will educate and entertain! Learn about animals from around the world while seeing and touching them. **Family.**



Tuesday, July 2 — 2-3pm, Registration required. Limit 25.



The Art of Inflation – Enjoy light comedy and awe-inspiring balloon art with Dale's Art of Inflation Show. This children's show blends comedy, audience participation, balloon twisting creations, and outright silliness for a really unique experience! **Family.**

Friday, July 12 — 2-3pm, Registration required. Limit 25.

Beach Bingo – Let's play everyone's favorite game, BINGO! Come have fun playing our Beach-themed game at the library. **Family.**

Friday, July 19 — 2-3pm, Registration required. Limit 25.



All dates and times are subject to change without prior notice. Please see the website, or call us for updated programming information. All programs at the library are free but registration is required. MPPL card holders have first priority. To register, or with any further questions, please call 708.649.7400



Village of Melrose Park

**Mayor Serpico
and the
Village of Melrose Park
are Seeking
Landscaping and
Snow Removal Professionals
to Provide Affordably Priced
Assistance to Our Residents
When Needed ...**



Interested parties will be listed on a special property maintenance services page in upcoming issues of *The Rose*.

To be considered, please send a copy of your business card to Director of Senior Services Peggy DiFazio (peg@melrosepark.org) or you can call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448, for more information.

Important Melrose Park Village Notice ...

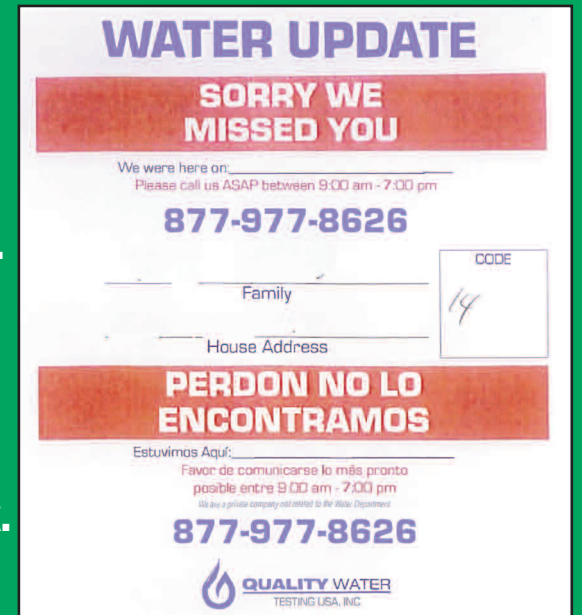
**Alert, Alert, Alert!
Water Update Flyer Being Circulated is
Not from the Village of Melrose Park.
Do NOT Contact This Company!**

Dear Residents,
Please be advised, the pictured flyer is being distributed in the village from Quality Water Testing USA, Inc. regarding a water update.

Please do not call this company as they are not affiliated with the village of Melrose Park.

Should you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rose in the Melrose Park Water Department by calling (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4435.

Thank you.



Manage Your Water Bill Online ... It's Easy!

The village of Melrose Park provides residents with an option to manage their water bill online. Residents can visit www.melrosepark.org and by clicking on images as directed, you'll be linked to the online Water Account page. You will need your account number and the full name of the person listed on the water bill to log in and utilize this feature.



If you do not know your account number, please send an email to RV@melrosepark.org and your account number will be sent to you.

By using this online platform, you'll be able to view and pay your water bill; review all your present and past bills as far back as 2012; run a water use consumption analysis; view your account history for bills paid and any bill adjustments; and enroll for an eBill statement which will notify you by email that your bill can be viewed online, which avoids any direct mail delays.

For more information, please call the Village Hall at (708) 343-4000.

Al Piemonte

**AL PIEMONTE NOW OFFERS BUICK AND GMC
 SAME GREAT AL PIEMONTE SERVICE
 SAME GREAT AL PIEMONTE PRICES
 SAME GREAT AL PIEMONTE COMMITMENT
 TO CUSTOMER SATISFACTION**



Sammy Alfano
sammya@apnissan.com



The **ROSE** AD RESERVATION FORM

Save the Dates!
 Next Issue – August 2024
 (Deadline for material July 25, 2024.)
 Remaining Schedule for 2024
 August, October and December

Dear Community Member,
 The Village of Melrose Park publishes *The Rose* (the official newsletter of the Village of Melrose Park) and mails the publication to all Melrose Park residents and businesses. We are offering advertising space and would greatly appreciate your participation.

Included is display ad pricing for your review.

If you are interested in advertising in one or more issues that will be delivered every other month, please complete this form and mail with completed ad to:

The Rose c/o Village of Melrose Park • 1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park, IL 60160
or Email to: therose@melrosepark.org w/pdf or jpeg file.

(Checks need to be made to the order of Village of Melrose Park.)



Date _____

Name of Business _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ Fax _____



Rates – Full Color Ads

- Full Page
\$400 per issue (9 x 10 1/2)
- Half Page
\$200 per issue (9 x 5 1/4)
- 1/4 Page
\$100 per issue (4 1/2 x 5 1/4)
- 1/8 Page
\$50 per issue (4 1/2 x 2 5/8)

Ad Size (Please Circle): Full Page 1/2 Page 1/4 Page 1/8 Page



Village of Melrose Park

Garage Sale Notice

Garage Sales are Back ...

It's Time to Sell All Those Treasures

The rules on garage sales held in the village of Melrose Park are as follows:

Garage sales will be held on the third weekend only during the months of May, June, July, August and September. Sales are to be conducted on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the designated weekends. No sales are allowed on Sundays.

The remaining dates for 2024 are July 18-20 Aug. 15-17 and Sept. 19-21.

Garage sales shall be conducted only during the hours of 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

No permit is needed for garage sales, however the following rules must be followed:

- No garage sales may be conducted in apartment buildings.
- No garage sales in the frontyard, i.e., on the grass.
- All garage sales to be conducted in backyard, garage or on driveway.
- All sale items to be displayed on tables, not on the ground.
- No sale items shall be located and no sale activity shall be conducted in the frontyard area, on the premises of any public sidewalk, parkway area or other public property.
- No sale signs, handbills or other advertising material shall be located or posted upon public parkway or on public property, signs, poles or light poles within the village of Melrose Park.
- Signs advertising the sales shall not exceed 3-by-5 feet and may be located only in the frontyard (private property) of the address having the garage sale, and must be removed immediately after the sale.
- The sale will be conducted without the use of outdoor loud speakers, amplification equipment or illuminated advertising devices.

Any person violating these rules shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500.

A copy of garage sale rules is available at www.melrosepark.org.





A Note Regarding Your New Melrose Park Water Bill

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| Account No. | Due Date | Amount Due | After Due Date |
| 45678-001 | 2/1/2024 | 0 | 0 |
| Service Address | | Remit Address | |
| 2345 MAIN ST MELROSE PARK, IL 60160 | | Village of Melrose Park 1000 N. 25th Ave. MELROSE PARK, IL 60160 | |
| Mailing Address | | | |
| JANE DOE 2345 MAIN ST MELROSE PARK, IL 60160 | | | |
| Account No. | Service Address | | |
| 45678-001 | 2345 MAIN ST | | |
| Service Period | | Meter Readings | |
| 1/1/2024 - 1/31/2024 | | Water & Sewer | |
| Meter No. | Read Dates | Days | Previous |
| 23456789 | 1/31/2024 1/31/2024 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Usage | Unit Of Measure | | |
| 1 | 100 CF | | |
| Previous Balance | | | |
| 0.00 | | | |
| Penalties | | | |
| 0.00 | | | |
| Adjustments | | | |
| 0.00 | | | |
| Payments Received | | | |
| 0.00 | | | |
| Balance at Billing | | | |
| 0.00 | | | |
| Current Billing | | | |
| Charge Code | Amount | | |
| WATER | | | |
| Current Charges | | | |
| Balance Due | | | |
| | | | |
| Due Date | After Due Date | | |
| 2/1/2024 | | | |

Melrose Park has refreshed its Water Bill layout and introduced a new format effective as of Feb. 1, 2024.

Pictured is an example of the redesigned bill.

Residents are asked to please register their accounts by visiting www.melrosepark.org, clicking Water Bill Payment, then Water Bill Management.

You'll need your current account number and the correct name on the account to complete the registration.

After registering your account, click on EBILL ENROLLMENT to receive a copy of your bill.

By registering your account, you'll be able to view current account information and past bills, and receive your bill in a quicker, safer and more reliable way than traditional mail.

For more information, send an email to rv@melrosepark.org or call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4435.



Congratulations to Some of the Mayor Serpico/Melrose Park Youth Commission 2023 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners!



The Verni Family



The Capra Family



The Tenemaza Family



The Carreno Family



Time to Celebrate ... Melrose Park Block Parties with Street Closures are Now Allowed

Residents wishing to have a block party must bring or mail in an application for a special permit in the Building Department at the Village Hall. The permit is free, but must be submitted to the village trustees for approval since traffic must be rerouted to accommodate a party. The village will provide barricades on both ends of the block. Any questions, please call (708) 343-4000 and ask for the Mayor's Office.

For a Block Party Permit Application, visit MelrosePark.org.



Melrose Park is Looking for Residents Currently Serving in the Military Attention Residents

The village of Melrose Park would like to know of any residents who are currently serving in the military.

If you have a family member or know of a resident who is, please contact Jasmine Mendez via email – jmendez@melrosepark.org or by phone – (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4414.

Village Hall Announces Holiday Closings

The Melrose Park Village Hall will be closed for the following holidays: Independence Day – Thursday, July 4, 2024; Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 2, 2024; Columbus Day – Monday, Oct. 14, 2024; Veterans Day – Monday, Nov. 11, 2024; Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024; Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, Nov. 29, 2024; Christmas Eve (1/2 Day) – Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024; Christmas Day – Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024; New Year's Eve (1/2 Day) – Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024; and New Year's Day – Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025.

Residents are asked to make note of the dates listed.
For more information, call the Village Hall at (708) 343-4000.

Public Notice Regarding Scheduled Board Meetings

Take notice that the village of Melrose Park, Cook County, Ill., will conduct the regular scheduled meetings of the president and the board of trustees on the second and fourth Mondays of each calendar month, unless otherwise noted, at 6 p.m. at the Village Board Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Melrose Park Police Department, 1 N. Broadway Ave., Melrose Park.

The remaining schedule for calendar year 2024 is: July 22; Aug. 26; Sept. 23; Oct. 28; Nov. 25; and Dec. 23.

For more information, call (708) 343-4000.

Franciscan Resource Center Offers Local Assistance

Melrose Park-based Franciscan Resource Center is a nonprofit center for persons seeking help in their human needs, such as health, depression, domestic problems, hunger, medical aid, addictions, anger management, substance abuse, clothing and basic human needs.

The resource center refers persons to area agencies and follows up on each person's needs.

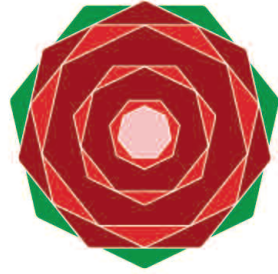
For an appointment or further information, please call Sr. Nila or Sr. Jan at (708) 567-5083, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Centro De Recursos Franciscanos

El Centro de Recursos Franciscanos es un centro sin fines de lucro para personas que buscan ayuda en sus necesidades humanas, como la salud mental depresión inmigración, problemas internos, hambre, ayuda, medica, adicciones, control de la ira, abuso de sustancias, ropa y necesidades humanas basicas.

Este centro de recursos ayuda a referir a personas, a las agencias adecuadas y hacen el seguimiento para que las personas reciban la ayuda necesaria.

Por favor llame a la hermana. Nila o hermana. Jan al (708) 567-5083 para hacer una cita ... Lunes-Viernes 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. ubicacion en Melrose Park.



MELROSE PARK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Annual Legislative Breakfast is Friday, June 28

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce Legislative Breakfast will be held Friday, June 28. This year's event will be in the Gym at Melrose Park Elementary School (located at 1715 W. Lake Street, Melrose Park), with registration and continental breakfast from 9:30-10:30 a.m., and the program will be from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Our guest speakers again this year are Illinois Senate President Don Harmon and Illinois Speaker of the House Emanuel "Chris" Welch, who will be discussing current and upcoming legislative issues important to our business community and will take time for Q&A to hear and discuss concerns and recommendations from attendees.

Reserve your seat today at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/legislative-breakfast-tickets-907897765657> or call (708) 343-9500 with questions, or to get registered for this event!



Unlocking Opportunities: Connecting Businesses with Illinois Resources

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development hosted an informative workshop titled "Connecting Businesses to Illinois Resources" on May 21 at the Melrose Park Village Hall. The event attracted nearly 45 local businesses eager to learn about the wealth of resources available to them.

The workshop featured Sacella M. Smith, northeast regional manager at the Office of Regional Economic Development, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity. Ms. Smith provided an in-depth presentation on various grants, funding opportunities, and developmental programs designed to bolster economic growth and support business success in Illinois.

"We are thrilled with the engagement and interest from our local businesses," said Isaac Bazbaz, executive director of the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development. "The insights shared by Ms. Smith will undoubtedly equip our business community with the tools they need to thrive in today's competitive environment."

"The Connecting Businesses to Illinois Resources workshop is a prime example of the mayor's commitment to fostering economic development and supporting our local enterprises," remarked Dr. Doug Olson, director of Strategic Initiatives and Business Development for the mayor's office. "By connecting our businesses with these vital resources, Mayor Serpico and our Chamber of Commerce are paving the way for a stronger, more resilient Melrose Park."

To learn more about the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, visit our website at <https://mpcccd.org> or contact us at (708) 343-9500 to learn about future events and initiatives.



Learn More About the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development!

If you are not getting emails from the MPCCCD about events, training or technical assistance offered for certifications, grant applications, etc., sign up for our newsletters at <https://mpcccd.org>. You can also follow the chamber on Facebook or LinkedIn to stay current on chamber activities!

To schedule an appointment to learn more about the chamber or to get information on membership, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at ibazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule a time to meet with you.

Recent Grand Openings/Ribbon-Cutting Celebrations

MPCCCD Executive Director Isaac Bazbaz joined Mayor Ron Serpico and representatives from the village of Melrose Park for a few more ribbon-cutting celebrations the past couple months!

On May 6, La Piel Perfecta opened its second location in Melrose Park after 15 years at its location at 1272 Winston Plaza. The newest location is at 154 N. Broadway and they offer the full menu of laser cosmetic surgery services to meet the unique needs of each client.



La Piel Perfecta Ribbon-Cutting Celebration



On May 22, MPCCCD Executive Director Isaac Bazbaz joined Mayor Ron Serpico and Pollo Campero USA Managing Director & COO Luis Javier Rodas to celebrate the grand opening and ceremonial ribbon cutting, and open the doors to Pollo Campero Restaurant at 925 W. North Ave., Melrose Park.

Congratulations to the entire Pollo Campero team! Welcome to Melrose Park and thank you for choosing Melrose Park as the site for your 104th location in the U.S.



Pollo Campero Grand Opening Event



After-Hours Networking Event at Pan American Bank

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, in collaboration with Pan American Bank, recently hosted a highly successful after-hours networking event at the bank's Melrose Park site. The event witnessed an impressive turnout, with more than 60 individuals from diverse businesses and organizations coming together to network and foster meaningful connections.



Isaac Bazbaz, executive director of the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, expressed "We are thrilled with the turnout and energy at our after-hours networking event hosted by Pan American Bank. It was a fantastic opportunity for our members and community partners to engage, exchange ideas and forge new relationships that will contribute to the growth and prosperity of Melrose Park."

Doug Olson, director of Strategic Initiatives and Business Development at the Melrose Park mayor's office, commended the collaborative effort between the Chamber of Commerce and Pan American Bank in organizing such a valuable networking opportunity. "The after-hours event provided a platform for networking, knowledge sharing and collaboration, all of which are essential for driving economic development and a thriving business environment."



The after-hours networking event at Pan American Bank facilitated meaningful interactions among business leaders, entrepreneurs and community stakeholders, showcasing the collective commitment to growth and success within Melrose Park's business ecosystem. Attendees had the chance to exchange insights, explore potential partnerships, and discover new opportunities for collaboration and business advancement.

To learn more about the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, visit our website at <https://mpcccd.org> or call (708) 343-9500 to learn more about future events and initiatives.



MELROSE PARK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Upcoming Chamber Events

July 16 – Chamber After Hours Networking Event

The next chamber after-hours networking event will be at the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce, located at 900 N. 25th Ave., July 16, 5:30- 7:30 p.m., be sure to bring several business cards to this networking event and be ready to connect with 50-75 business leaders and community leaders in and around Melrose Park!

Aug. 15 – Women and Minority Business Certification Workshop

If you are a women-, minority- or veteran-owned business you don't want to miss this workshop as representatives from the Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) will be on hand to provide information on how to get your business certified as a W/MBE business in Cook County and the state of Illinois.

Even if you don't see your business as one ready to do business with government entities, large companies that already do business with the state and federal government often are required to have a network of W/MBE businesses that are vendors or suppliers to enable them to maintain government contracts.

This workshop will be at the MPCCCD Office, located at 900 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Sept. 24 – Digital Marketing Strategies for Small Businesses

Utilizing technology to stay connected to existing customers and to identify new customers continues to move and change faster than ever imagined. Join us to learn how to maximize your digital footprint and grow customer traffic and footsteps to your business.

New Chamber Members and Renewals

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) welcomed five new businesses as members in May and has over 200 members! Please help us welcome Grilols Biomat Plasma; Illinois Alarm Services; Mutual of Omaha; Old National Bank; and Pollo Campero on their membership and partnership with the MPCCCD.

We also want to give special thanks to the 10 businesses that renewed memberships in May and continue to participate in networking events, information sessions, and provide feedback and surveys to help the chamber connect them with the resources and solutions needed to support and fuel economic growth in our community! Please join us in thanking and supporting these businesses, they are Aseptic Control Products, Inc.; Concare, Inc.; D&A Services, LLC; G2 Construction Group; IHop; Lake Book Manufacturing, LLC; RLA Learning Center; The Joint Chiropractic; West 40 ISC; and the West Regional Enterprise Zone.

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development now has over 200 members and the list continues to grow each month. If you are not currently a member of the MPCCCD, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at ibazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule a time to meet with you to discuss the benefits of partnering and working with our chamber.

For information about membership, please visit the chamber website Membership page at <https://mpcccd.org/benefits-dues/>.

Mayor Serpico Leads Infrastructure Renovations, Dedicates Newly Renovated Bridge in Melrose Park

On Saturday, May 18, Mayor Ron Serpico continued his commitment to enhancing the village's infrastructure with the completion and dedication of the newly renovated bridge at 19th and North Avenue. This bridge serves as a primary gateway to the center of the village, connecting seamlessly to the state highway of North Avenue.

The renovation project, overseen by Mayor Serpico's administration, involved significant upgrades to improve safety, accessibility and aesthetics. The bridge's revitalization aligns with the village's vision for modernizing key infrastructure to support economic growth and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors.

"We are thrilled to dedicate the newly renovated bridge, which serves as a key link in our village's transportation network," said Mayor Serpico. "This project reflects our ongoing commitment to maintaining and improving vital infrastructure that plays a crucial role in connecting our community and supporting local businesses."

The bridge's strategic location on 19th Avenue, connecting directly to North Avenue, makes it a vital thoroughfare for commuters, residents and businesses alike. The completion of this renovation project marks a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to enhance infrastructure across Melrose Park.



Shark Tank Star Visits MP!

The Melrose Park community was thrilled to recently welcome *Shark Tank*



star Daymond John to our vibrant town! Mayor Ron Serpico had the pleasure

of hosting Daymond for lunch at the legendary Tom's Steak House. It was an honor to host such a successful entrepreneur and business leader in Melrose Park. Here's to

more memorable moments and successful ventures!

Daymond made an impactful visit to Bellwood School District 88 with Superintendent Victoria Hansen Stockton to talk with local students and ignite their interests in business, money and savings!



Melrose Park

Village Hall News

Village Hall Hours – 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday
(May be subject to change.)

Birth Certificates

Birth Certificates – \$15 each,
\$4 per additional certification or copy requested.

We only provide birth certificates if the individual was born in Melrose Park. Birth certificates can be only be obtained by the individual themselves, a parent, or legal guardian.

A valid ID is required or in a legal guardian case, the proper documentation is required along with the valid ID.

Death Certificates

Death Certificates (Including Fetal Death) – \$17 each, \$6 per additional certification or copy requested.

Vehicle Sticker Information

New stickers can be purchased at the Village Hall. Pricing varies based on type of vehicle.

For additional information, please call the Village Hall at (708) 343-4000.



Community Nutrition Network
and Senior Services Association *A non-profit organization*



You Can Change a Life!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Monday thru Friday mornings
Volunteer 1 day a week or more!
Mileage reimbursement available!



Contact Us at (312) 207-5290 or Email Volunteer@cnnssa.org.

Funds, in whole or in part, for this publication were provided through AgeOptions under Title III of the Older American Act as administered through the Illinois Department on Aging and the Federal Administration on Aging.



The 42nd Annual Taste of Melrose Park is Looking for VOLUNTEERS to Be a Part of a Great Weekend

Mayor Serpico and the Taste of Melrose Park are seeking volunteers for the beverage booths (individual or groups of eight or less) or ticket booths (a group of six or less) to help support this year's big event and we appreciate any assistance you can provide over the three-day festival.

All volunteers receive a 2024 Taste of Melrose Park T-shirt and we're sure you'll have plenty of fun!

Friday, Aug. 30 • 4:30-11 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 31 • 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or 5:30-11 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 1 • 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or 5:30-10:15 p.m.

To volunteer, please complete the Taste of Melrose Park Volunteer Form and mail it to:
Taste of Melrose Park, Attn.: Lorena Anguiano,
1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160

Interested parties, please respond before Aug 1, 2024.
If submitting as a group, please send a main contact person's information.

Mayor Serpico and the Taste of Melrose Park Volunteer Form

Please print clearly.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Apt. # _____

City _____

Phone _____

Please check all that apply.

Individual Group

Available to work: Friday Saturday Sunday

Would like to volunteer for:

Ticket Booth Beverage Stand

For more information, call Lorena at (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4452.

**Real bankers,
real relationships.**

**PAN AMERICAN
BANK & TRUST**
Dream bigger®

Let's get started. Call 708.865.5700.

Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

Follow us **panamerbank.com**

Mayor Ronald M. Serpico



Celebrating Our 42nd Year

August 30th Thru September 1st

©COURT 42-L

- ★ Friday – 5-10:30 p.m. ★
- ★ Saturday – Noon-10:30 p.m. ★
- ★ Sunday – Noon-10 p.m. ★

**FAMILY
FRIENDLY**

**FAMILY
AFFORDABLE**

Melrose Park Campus
Near the NW Corner of
25th Ave. and Lake St.

For 2024 Taste of
Melrose Park info,
e-mail us at:
taste@melrosepark.org
or visit: www.melrosepark.com
or call: 708-343-4000
ext.4448



WELCOME TO THE 42ND ANNUAL TASTE OF MELROSE PARK

Dear Friends of Melrose Park,

I am sending this letter in the hope that you will financially participate as a sponsor of the 42nd Taste of Melrose Park, which will take place over the Labor Day weekend, August 30th thru September 1st.

The Taste is a family-friendly food festival that hosts over 200,000 patrons every year. We are unique to the world of food festivals because the vast majority of our food vendors are local residents who serve up original family recipes. In addition to all the culinary delights, we also provide continuous free entertainment on our three stages.

Your sponsorship helps underwrite many of the costs associated with our Taste of Melrose Park. It is also a great marketing tool for your business or organization to have your name placed before the eyes of the thousands of food aficionados that visit our 3-day event.

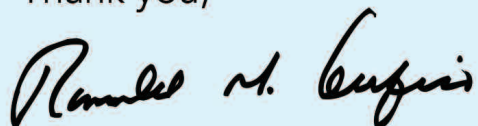
It is with your financial help that we can not only host this wonderful family affordable event but also help keep our per serving price at \$4 or less even though food costs have risen.

And to all of you, who so generously supported the Taste of Melrose in the past, I sincerely thank you and hope that you will kindly consider continuing your financial patronage in 2024; without your magnanimous backing we could never host such an ambitious undertaking.

Please read this flyer, it contains information about different Taste of Melrose Park sponsorship packages that can fit your budget. If you see a one that fits your budget then please fill out the separate application form found in this envelope.

If you need more information, please don't hesitate to email our Taste of Melrose Park Director Peggy DiFazio or Lorena Anguiano at: taste@melrosepark.org or at: 708-343-4000 ext. 4452 or 4448.

Thank you,



Ronald M. Serpico
Mayor of Melrose Park





Your Donation Helps Underwrite More Than Just a Food Festival... It Helps Create a Better Melrose Park

Besides helping underwrite music and food, the most important result derived from your donation to the Taste of Melrose Park is the money raised for the *Melrose Park Sports and Family Benefit Fund*. Since this fund was initiated, we have raised \$1.5 million dollars from the sale of beer and wine at the three-day festival.

The *Melrose Park Sports and Family Benefit Fund* has only a 2% overhead with 98% being used to help underwrite youth athletics, senior citizen and veteran events, computer purchases for schools, donations to local charities, helping families in need, and much more.

When you donate to the Taste of Melrose Park you are not only helping underwrite a three-day food festival, but you are also helping make Melrose Park a better community to live, work and play. Long after the Taste folds its tents the smiles on the faces of those who benefit from the *Melrose Park Sports and Family Benefit* will endure... and helping our neighbors is what the Taste of Melrose Park is all about.



**Attention All
Area Businesses,
Community and
Public Service
Organizations ...
Etc., Etc., Etc.!**

The Taste of Melrose Park is looking for area businesses/organizations, etc., to purchase a spot on Information Row at the 2024 Taste of Melrose Park, Friday, Aug. 30-Sunday, Sept. 1.

This is a great opportunity to showcase your products and services to the more than half a million people expected to patronize this year's big event.

For more information, please send an email to peg@melrosepark.org or call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.

TASTE OF MELROSE PARK SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

\$8,000.00 PLATINUM SPONSOR PACKAGE

- 1 - Full Page Color Ad (9" wide x 10.5" tall)
- 10' x 10' Hospitality Tent
- 2 - Main Stage Video Walls
- 1 - 4' x 6' Banner
- 1 - 2' x 4' Billboard

- 1 - Ad (4.5" wide x 2.28" tall) to run 6 times in *The Rose* newspaper
- Public Address System Announcements
- 2 - VIP Parking Passes

\$5,000.00 GOLD SPONSOR PACKAGE

- 1 - Half Page Color Ad (9" wide x 5.5" tall)
- 10' x 10' Hospitality Tent
- Main Stage Video Wall
- 1 - 3' x 4' Banner
- Public Address System Announcements
- 1 - VIP Parking Pass

\$3,500.00 SILVER SPONSOR PACKAGE

- 1 - Full Page Color Ad
- Main Stage Video Wall
- 1 - 2' x 4' Billboard
- Public Address System Announcements

\$1,500.00 BRONZE SPONSOR PACKAGE

- 1 - 9.25" x 5.5" Color Ad
- 1 - 3' x 4' Banner
- Public Address System Announcements

\$1,000.00 MAIN STAGE VIDEO WALL ADVERTISING PACKAGE

- Your Ad Will Scroll on an 8' x 15' Screen
- 6:00 PM - Close Each Night

More Sponsorship Opportunities

\$3,000.00 T-SHIRT SPONSOR

Your Company Logo
Printed on 50% Cotton T-Shirts
(T-Shirt Space Will Be Limited)

Sold Out!

★ **MUST SUBMIT BY JUNE 3RD** ★

\$850.00 COLOR BANNER

- 1 - 3' x 4' Color Banner will be displayed throughout the grounds
- 1 - Ad (4.5" wide x 2.28" tall) to run one time in *The Rose* newspaper

\$500.00 COLOR BILLBOARD

- 1 - 2' x 4' Color Billboard, which can include your logo. Displayed the month of August facing 25th Avenue
- 1 - Ad (4.5" wide x 2.28" tall) to run one time in *The Rose* newspaper

If none of these packages meet your needs or budget, we will work closely with you to design a sponsorship package that will.



TASTE OF MELROSE PARK ORDER FORM

See Page 30 for the
42nd Annual
Taste of
Melrose Park
Sponsorship
Details!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TASTE OF MELROSE PARK

Please return this form with
a check or money order no later
than July 15 to:
Taste of Melrose Park
1000 N. 25th Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

Please Select One of
the Following Packages:

___ \$8,000.00 PLATINUM SPONSOR

___ \$5,000.00 GOLD SPONSOR

___ \$3,500.00 SILVER SPONSOR

___ \$1,500.00 BRONZE SPONSOR

___ \$3,000.00 T-SHIRT SPONSOR

(Sub Sold Out! June 3rd)

___ \$1,000.00 VIDEO WALL SPONSOR

___ \$850.00 3 X 4 COLOR BANNER

___ \$500.00 2 x 4 COLOR BILLBOARD

___ OTHER

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Sponsor Name: _____

Contact Name and Title: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Call Peggy DiFazio or Lorena Anguiano at
708-343-4000, ext. 4448 and they will work with your company
to develop a sponsorship package that will meet your budget.

Important – Please Read!

No later than July 15, we need you to email us your billboard or banner
camera-ready artwork or email us the vital information we need for us
to create your billboard or banner to taste@melrosepark.org

For more information or if you have a question, please call Peggy DiFazio
or Lorena Anguiano at 708-343-4000, ext. 4448 or email them at taste@melrosepark.org



Entertainment Schedule

**Unlimited
Carnival
Rides!**

Saturday
and
Sunday,

\$30 Wristbands
Each Day,
Noon-5 p.m.,
All You
Can Ride!

Main Stage

Friday, Aug. 30
6-7:30 p.m. – Anchors Away Band
8-10:15 p.m. – I POP
Saturday, Aug. 31
3:30-4:30 p.m. – Pretty the Wolf
5-7 p.m. – Soul Sacrifice
Santana Tribute
8-10:15 p.m. – ARRA
Sunday, Sept. 1
5:15-6:45 p.m. – Are You Ready for It?
A Taylor Experience
7:15-9:30 p.m. –
Chicago's Own Piano Man Band

**MAIN DRIVE
SHOWS**

**JESSE WHITE
TUMBLING TEAM**
Saturday, Aug. 31 and
Sunday, Sept. 1
2:30 p.m.

Peroni Garden

Friday, Aug. 30
7-10:15 p.m. –
Tony Ocean and The Rat Pack
Saturday, Aug. 31
3:30-5 p.m. – Lake Effect
5:30-7:30 p.m. – Toy Robots
8-10:15 p.m. – Deja Vu
Sunday, Sept. 1
4-5:30 p.m. – Jersey Girls
6-9:30 p.m. – R-Gang



**Fireworks
Display**

Sunday, Sept. 1
9:30 p.m.

Melrose Park Chamber
of Commerce and
Community Development

**BINGO AND
50/50 RAFFLE**

Friday, Saturday and Sunday
(In the Gym)

Continuous Free Entertainment All Weekend Long!

Sabor de Mexico Stage ... To be announced.
Watch for information as it becomes available.

TASTE OF MELROSE PARK 2024 FOOD VENUE

ALL ITEMS PRICED AT \$4 OR LESS

- | | |
|--|--|
| Camaci's Italian Sausage | Lil Jimmy's Pierogies |
| Camaci's Arancini | Cody's Root Beer Floats |
| Blast from the Past Sherbert | Cheesy Mac and Cheese |
| Sam & Sammy's Italian Egg Rolls | Athenian Foods Greek Chicken w/Rice |
| Carlotta's Sweet Aroma Linguine w/Garlic&Oil | Strawberry Slushies |
| Shwings Fried Shrimp | Squire's Cotton Candy |
| Iannelli's Panzerotti | Pepe's Ceviche |
| Mickey's Italian Beef | Nutella Crepes |
| GALS Hot Dogs | La Casa del Churro |
| Putt's Breaded Steak Sandwich | Nirvana's Brownie Sundaes |
| Larry's BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich | J.T.'s Italian Meatball Sandwich |
| Richie's Curly Fries w/Cheese | Antney's Italian Lemonade |
| Los Comales "Taco Bout It" Horchata | Ashley's Snow Cones |
| Los Comales "Taco Bout It" Tacos | Volunteers of M.P. Tiramisu |
| The Roasted Cob | Marilyn's Delicious Hamburgers |
| Cata's Flautas | Riccio's Chocolate Frozen Banana |
| Cilla's Steak Teriyaki | Scudiero's Pizza |
| Cervone's Homemade Cannoli | Scudiero's Pepperoni Rolls |
| Ron & Debbie's Fried Dough | Clara's Dippin Dots |
| Siciliano's Old Fashioned Fried Bologna | Eli's Cheesecakes |
| 5 Star Sports Cheese Enchiladas | Lil Dean's Lyza & Nella Raviolis |
| Levato Affogato | Vinnie Laraia's Baked Clams |
| Frankie G's Chicken Parmesan Sandwich | Lil' Ralphie's Fruit Cup |
| Gia & Nat's Gnocchi | Jessica's Tamales |
| Paula's Fried Meatball Sandwich | Paco's Cuban Sandwich |
| Nacho Mama's | Sinatra Sandwich (Italian Sausage Meatloaf) |
| Soon's Tres Leches Cake | Corz Kids Garlic Shrimp |
| Italian Stuffed Mushrooms | Corinne Ariola Principe's Artichoke Casserole |
| Carm and Gino's Fried Calamari | Elio's Funnel Cakes |
| Uncle Frankie's | Missionary Sisters of St. Charles "Sfingi" |
| Mostaccioli in Tomato Basil Sauce | Sacred Heart & St. Eulalia Parish Food Carry Trays |
| Nikki's Zucchini Cheese Puffs | Guacamole |

THE TASTE OF MELROSE PARK IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!
Interested parties, please call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.





Competitive Pay | Full & Part Time Positions
Flexible Work Schedule | Paid In-Service Training
Transportation Benefits | Health Benefits & More

Providing Quality Homecare
Services By Caring Professionals

Because

We Care

HIRING
CAREGIVERS / CNA
FOR SENIOR CARE
We are currently hiring for jobs
in Melrose Park, Northlake,
Maywood, Bellwood,
and Franklin Park!

Our Caregivers help with daily chores such as:



Cooking



Cleaning



Shopping



Laundry



Doctor Visits



Other Needed
Help

Our Locations

1210 S. Highland Ave.
Lombard, IL 60148
Tel: (630) 953-1950

4310 W. Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL 60630
Tel: (773) 685-2273

**2225 W. North Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160
Tel: (708) 344-2273**

489 W. Boughton Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
Tel: (630) 679-1580

1830 W. Army Trail Rd.
Hanover Park, IL 60133
Tel: (630) 372-2475

5200 Main Street
Skokie, IL 60077
Tel: (847) 329-8500

1024 S McHenry Ave.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
Tel: (815) 455-2273

8104 S. Roberts Rd.
Justice, IL 60458
Tel: (708) 594-2273

1717 W Golf Road
Mount Prospect, IL 60056
Tel: (847) 427-2273

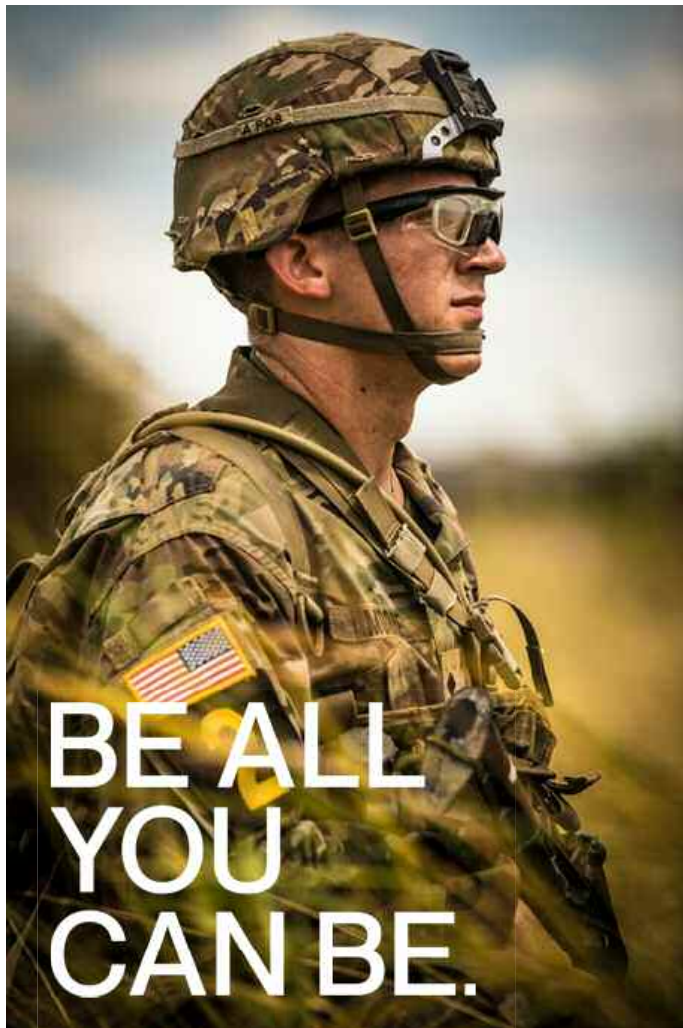
1837 Larkin Ave.
Elgin, IL 60123
Tel: (847) 608-9352

2900 W. Devon Ave.
Chicago, IL 60659
Tel: (773) 274-1380

www.saharahomecare.com



info@saharahomecare.com



U.S. ARMY

(708) 316-2031

   @ArmyChicago



PRO VANT INSURANCE

ONE RISK. ONE FOCUS. ONE CLIENT AT A TIME.

We aren't your traditional insurance brokerage. Your risks are rapidly changing and so must the capabilities of your broker.

Experience the future of insurance with The Provant Group. Elevate your Property & Casualty, Employee Benefits, and Personal Insurance programs with cutting-edge technology, insightful data, and intelligent analytics. Achieve enhanced coverage, minimized risk, and significant cost savings – all while being treated as a valued partner.

Welcome to the new era of efficient and personalized insurance solutions.

**351 W. Hubbard St., Suite 708 • Chicago, IL 60654
833-PROVANT (776-8268) • provantgroup.com**

Veterans Park District

Programs & Happenings

Fitness

Fitness Classes

We offer a variety of fun, exciting fitness classes for all ages and fitness levels. Our classes include Zumba, Pump & Sculpt, Strong Nation, Middle Eastern Belly Dancing, Chair Yoga, CIRCL Mobility, AquaZumba, Aquacize, Pickleball lessons and Youth Boxing. Call Cimbalo Fitness Center at (708) 343-5151 for more information

Pickleball Lessons

Head over to Cimbalo Fitness Center to check out our new Pickleball Lessons! The rules are simple and easy to learn, making it fun for athletes of all ages. We offer lessons for a variety of age groups and skills levels. Please call (708) 343-5151 for more information.

Youth Sports

Sand Volleyball, Ages 8-12

Come on out to the Gouin Park sand volleyball court for this fun class! In this class participants play up to 11 with a partner or 3 vs. 3. Class meets at the sand volleyball court each week.

- Mondays, July 15-Aug. 5, 11a.m.-noon; Fee – R\$55/NR\$70. Classes are held at Gouin Park, 2400 Scott St., Franklin Park.

Summer Basketball Clinic, Ages 7-10 and Ages 11-15

These four-week basketball clinics focus on increasing basketball skills. Coach Vince Rociola will start the day with warm-ups, drills and moving right into scrimmage games.

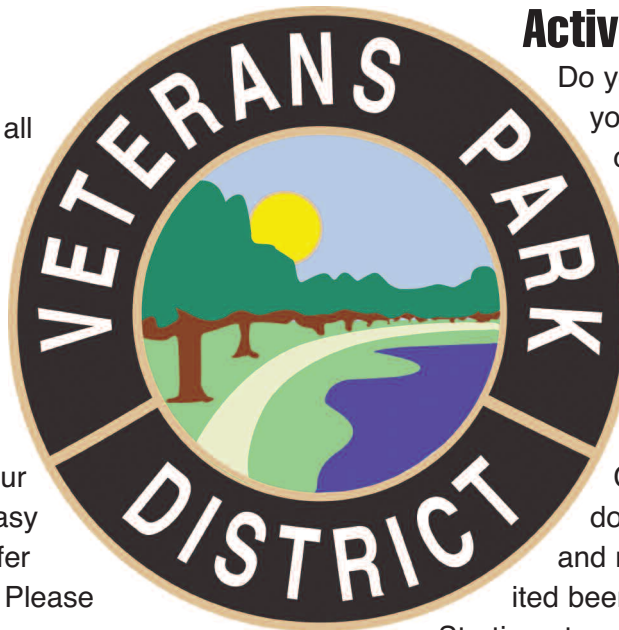
- Fridays, July 19-Aug. 9, 6-7 p.m. (Ages 7-10); Fridays, July 19-Aug. 9, 7-8 p.m. (Ages 11-15); Fee – R\$55/NR\$70. Classes are held at Grant Park, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

Baseball, Ages 8-12

This slow-paced class covers the basic skills/drills of baseball, including throwing, catching, fielding and hitting.

Please bring a baseball bat and glove.

- Wednesdays, July 17-Aug. 7, 11 a.m.-noon; Fee – R\$55/NR\$70. Classes are held at Gouin Park, 2400 Scott St., Franklin Park.



Active Adults/Senior@VPD

Do you say ... “Comiskey Park” or “U.S. Cellular Field”? If you like baseball, bingo, beer, brats and the White Sox, come on an Active Adult trip to the Chicago White Sox game, where we combine the thrill of America’s favorite pastime with the excitement of bingo and a delectable buffet feast! Arrive an hour and a half before the game to indulge in our sumptuous buffet featuring Cajun chicken, fried chicken, hot dogs, BBQ ribs, hamburgers, salads and more. Wash it all down with unlimited beer wine, and soft drinks, as you mingle with fellow fans.



Starting at noon, a beloved former Chicago White Sox player will take the stage to call out bingo numbers. Winners of each round will be rewarded with exclusive White Sox giveaway items to commemorate their victory. Plus, with box seats on the lower level, you can enjoy the game in comfort. Don’t miss out on this unique opportunity to combine sports, games and dining for an experience that’s sure to be a home run!

- Wednesday, July 31; \$85 per person; Departure – Cimbalo Fitness Center, 10:30 a.m./ Grant Park, 10:45 a.m.; Return – after 5:30 p.m.

Paint & Pizza! (Paint by Number)

Unlock your inner artist with delightfully easy paint-by-number projects. Join us for a cozy gathering where you can mingle, unwind, and let your creativity flow. Everything you need, courtesy of Veterans Park District, awaits you for a tasty, tranquil and enjoyable painting experience. Tuesday workshops are on July 9 and Aug. 13, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Fee for each workshop is \$10 per person. We paint at the George A. Leoni Complex.

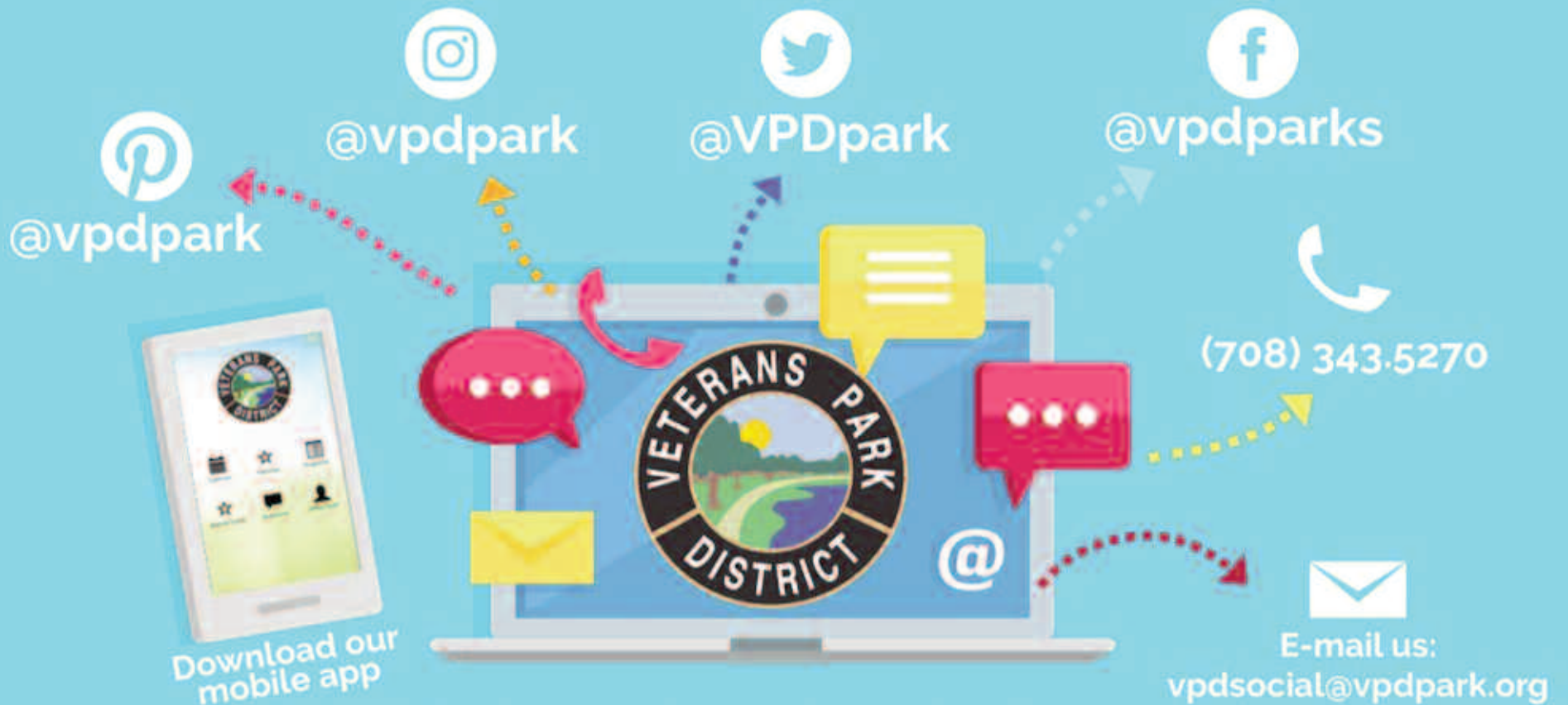


Crafts & Coffee

Enjoy coffee and sweet rolls, while you create and socialize with your friends. New, easy to follow crafting projects each month. All materials supplied by Veterans Park District. Thursdays workshops are on July 11 and Aug. 1, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Only \$13 per person. Held at the Bulger Park Community Center.

Call us for more information on our upcoming programs, (708) 343-5270, or check our website at www.vpdpark.org or our Facebook Page for updates.

CONNECT WITH US!



A central graphic featuring a laptop with the Veterans Park District logo on its screen. Surrounding the laptop are various social media icons and contact information. A smartphone on the left displays the mobile app interface with the text "Download our mobile app". Social media handles are listed: @vpdpark for Pinterest, Instagram, and Twitter; @VPDpark for Twitter; and @vpdparks for Facebook. A phone icon is accompanied by the number (708) 343.5270. An envelope icon is accompanied by the email address vpdsocial@vpdpark.org. Dotted lines and arrows connect these elements to the central laptop.

@vpdpark

@vpdpark

@VPDpark

@vpdparks

(708) 343.5270

E-mail us:
vpdsocial@vpdpark.org

Visit us online at: vpdpark.org



Cuomo To Go

25 E. North Ave. • Northlake Ill.

**Chef-prepared daily meals, salads,
sandwiches, desserts and much more!**

Take home HOT or COLD!

Visit our website -CuomoToGo.com.

Delivery available through GrubHub and DoorDash.



**Veterans
Park
District**
*Programs
&
Happenings*



3 SESSIONS!
1ST SESSION
JUNE 3

AGES 6 -12

FREE
LUNCH
PROGRAM
& FREE
SWIM
LESSONS

VPD SUMMER FUN CAMP

BEFORE &
AFTER
CARE
AVAILABLE



CALL
708-343-5270
TO GET REGISTRATION
INFO.

OR SCAN



CAMP LOCATIONS:
MELROSE PARK & NORTHLAKE

www.vpdpark.org



AGES 3-5

FUN TASTIC

Adventure Camp

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Ages
3-5

Veterans Park Preschool
112 N. Wolf Rd, Northlake

From
Monday - Friday



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

**Gouin Pool
& Water Slides**

SPLASH & SLIDE INTO FUN
GOUIN POOL & WATER SLIDES
2400 Scott Street, Franklin Park

OPEN ALL WEEK 12NOON-6PM
WEATHER PERMITTING...

847-451-9396

Swim Lessons
Private Pool Rentals
Birthday Party Packages
Concession Stand

VPDPARK.ORG/GOUIN-POOL/   FACEBOOK.COM/VPDPOOL



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





**Veterans
Park
District**
*Programs
&
Happenings*



Relax under the stars and enjoy our **FREE MOVIES IN THE PARK.**

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIRS OR BLANKETS. YOU ARE ALSO WELCOME TO BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS. REMEMBER, THAT ALCOHOL AND DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON PARK PROPERTIES.

MOVIES START AFTER SUNDOWN.

Call (708) 343-5270 or check the VPD Facebook page for rain out details.

FREE FRESH POPCORN
While Supplies Last.



June 12
Gouin Park, Franklin Park

Featuring: **Thanks for attending this exciting VPD community event!**
Two crabs are left after a storm sweeps them away. Their courage soon unites their families, paving the way for great summers to come. (PG 83 min)



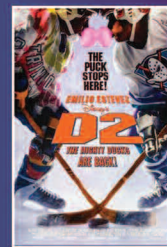
June 26
Bulger Park, Melrose Park

Featuring: **Camp Hideout** (Spanish subtitles)
After a troubled teen steals an important item from two big-city goons, he hides in a church summer camp and must protect his newfound friends at all cost when the goons track him down. (PG 100 min)



July 10
Grant Park, Northlake

Featuring: **Lyle, Lyle Crocodile**
A heartwarming and emotional tale about finding your voice, following your passion, and the power of found family. (PG 106 min)



August 7
Trumbull Park, River Grove

Featuring: **D2 - The Mighty Ducks are Back**
This sequel finds Coach Gordon Bombay and the kids hockey team traveling to LA to play in the Junior Goodwill Games. Can he lead this team of misfits to victory? (PG 107 min)



www.vpdpark.org



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

A day downtown with VPD.....



Chicago Architectural Boat Tour &

Lunch at Giordano's
on Navy Pier



Thursday, June 27

\$105 per person includes :
transportation, boat Tour and
lunch.



Motorcoach departs from:

Grant Park at 9:15am

Cimbalo at 9:30am

We return full and happy after 4pm.



Giordano's Lunch includes:

Salad, pasta, thin crust
pizza, deep dish pizza,
beverages.

708-343-5270

vpdpark.org



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





**Veterans
Park
District**
*Programs
&
Happenings*

PARTY IN THE PARK

BATAAN PARK

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

5PM...
GIANT SLIP N SLIDE
FOOD
COLD DRINKS
BAR OPENS AT 6PM

What's your favorite song to SING?



LIVE KARAOKE..
7PM



MOVIE "SING 2" ...
8PM



VPDPARK.ORG 708-343-5270



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





Veterans Park District

Programs
&
Happenings



Men's 16" Major / Open Roster
Men's 16" A/B Division
Coed 14" Mushball

Thursday, August 1 – Sunday, August 4

Veterans Park District hosts its Annual Softball Tournament at Bulger Park, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

Team spots fill up fast for this yearly event so register your team now! We are looking for:

- 8 Men's 16" Major teams 'Open Roster'
- 12 Men's 16" A/B Division teams
- 12 Coed 14" Mushball teams

Don't miss this action-packed weekend of softball, food and drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic).

- A deposit is required to hold your spot or you can pay the fee in full.
- Registration will be taken throughout the spring and early summer.
- Monetary prizes and trophies will be awarded to all winning teams of each tournament.

Game times to be announced.

Non Refundable Deposit: \$100 (applied towards balance).
Fee: \$200

Check quickscores.com/vpd for league updates.

For more information or to register a team, contact Joe Serpico at (708) 870-4780.

Bocce Ball Tournament

Saturday, August 3-Sunday, August 4

Join Veterans Park District as we celebrate the tradition of Bocce Ball, a game that can be enjoyed by all ages. Sign up your team for the 2024 Tournament now! Call Nico at (708) 343-5270. There must be two players on a team. Court times will be assigned the day of the tournament. Preregistration required: \$20 per team.



WEEKEND LINE UP:

Thursday & Saturday
A/B games

Saturday
Major Games

Friday & Sunday
Coed Games

Saturday & Sunday
Bocce Tournament



Interested in marketing your business to hundreds of residents, participants and local businesses?

Become a a VPD Softball, Bocce Ball Tournament sponsor!
Call Greg Stanczyk at (708) 343-5270 or email: gstanczyk@vpdpark.org



vpdpark.org 708-343-5270



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

ACTIVE ADULT / SENIOR DEPARTMENT

Luau Luncheon

featuring

The Barefoot Hawaiian Dancers

and Catering by
TIKI TERRACE

AUGUST 7 AT 11AM

\$ 20 PER PERSON

Deadline to register is July 26
GRANT PARK REC CENTER,
NORTHLAKE

708-343-5270
WWW.VPDPARK.ORG



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*



MUSIC



THIS IS A FREE EVENT

IN THE PARK

TAKE A MIDWEEK BREAK AND JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF GREAT LIVE MUSIC!

Bands start at 7 PM . Our patio bar will open at 6 PM serving cold beer and wine!



**WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 14**

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park
1800 Riverwoods Dr., Melrose Park

ONE FOOT IN THE GROOVE

(50/60/70's band)



**WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 21**

Bulger Park Community Center
1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park

SOUL SACRIFICE

(Santana Tribute Band)



Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, snacks or pack a picnic. Dogs are not allowed on park properties.

All VPD Special Event dates, locations, and advertised activities are subject to change. Please visit vpdpark.org for current information. Always check our Facebook page for updates: [Facebook.com/vpdparks](https://www.facebook.com/vpdparks).



www.vpdpark.org



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





Triton College NEWS

Apply Now for the Triton College 60-Year Anniversary Celebration Scholarship New Opportunity Fully Funded by Donations Received through Private Donors and the Triton College Foundation's Employees of Triton College Giving Program



In recognition of the 60th anniversary of Triton College, 1964-2024, the Triton College Foundation Board of Directors has recently approved the launch of a new scholarship made possible with contributions received through private donors and the Foundation's Employees of Triton College Giving Program.

The new scholarship, known as The Triton College 60-Year Anniversary Celebration Scholarship, will be awarded during the 2024-2025 academic year to 60 in-district students in the amount of \$500 per award that can be used for tuition, fees and books only.

Requirements and Criteria for Selection

- Student (full- or part-time) must be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours.
- Student must have demonstrated need for financial assistance.
- Student must have completed at least one semester at Triton.
- Student must be an in-district resident.
- Student must submit an online application via the Triton College AcademicWorks platform along with an essay (500 words or less) discussing their financial need and how a degree from Triton College will impact their family and life.

The Triton College AcademicWorks platform is located at triton.academicworks.com.

For additional information, please call the Triton College Foundation at (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3758, or send an email to tcfoundation@triton.edu.

Triton College Congratulates its Class of 2024

Triton College held its 58th Commencement Ceremony on May 18 to honor the academic accomplishments of its graduating class of 2024. The college held a Nurse Pinning Ceremony on May 16, and a Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI) Completion Ceremony on May 20. A total of 1,100 Triton College students graduated in May and, combined with graduates from August and December, the total number of program graduates reached 1,700.

Held at the Rosemont Theatre, more than 500 of the 1,100 students graduating overall walked across stage to commemorate their educational journey. Triton College President Mary-Rita Moore acknowledged the hard work and dedication of students that enabled them "to get to this moment." "Your commitment and perseverance have brought you here today to walk across the stage to receive your diploma," said President Moore. "Your success also comes at a special time for the college," she said. "This year, Triton is celebrating its 60-year anniversary. Since our founding, our institution has been guided by a compelling vision: To foster a community with equitable opportunity for growth and success. That vision has led to lives changed and communities served."

President of the Triton College Student Association (TCSA), Journey Manuel of River Forest, Illinois, delivered a student reflection during the ceremony. Manuel earned an Associate in Science degree and will be transferring to Governors State University to pursue a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in nursing.

"Triton College helped me grow in my leadership skills, as a person, and how to treat everyone with kindness," she said. Manuel added that both of her parents are immigrants from the Philippines and she's proud to be a first-generation graduate.

Triton administrators Dr. Jodi Koslow Martin, vice president of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, and Dr. Susan Campos, vice president of Academic Affairs, delivered remarks along with Diane Viverito, vice chairwoman of the Triton College Board of Trustees.

Nurse Pinning Ceremony

Twelve nursing graduates received their nurse pin to signify their entry into the nursing profession and their commitment to providing quality care to patients.

A tradition at Triton College, the Nurse Pinning Ceremony held May 16 took place in Triton's Performing Arts Center. The nursing graduates entered the auditorium to Andra Day's, *Rise Up*, wearing white coats and each holding a lighted candle. The ceremony included speeches by nursing graduates Whitney Castle of Norridge and Andrea Morales of Northlake.

"The nurse pin means I've accomplished something I always wanted to do," said Castle. "It shows that career change and growth do not have a time or age limit."

For Morales, the pin serves as "a reminder of all the sacrifices I made," she said, adding that the instructors at Triton "are amazing. The clinical experience (at Triton) has prepared me to become a nurse."

WEI Completion Ceremony

Students and families gathered May 20 for Triton College's Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI) Spring 2024 Completion Ceremony held in Triton's Student Center. Of the 117 students who completed the program, 70 students participated in the ceremony.

"The Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI), sponsored by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), is a transformative grant program aimed at expediting the entry and success of African-American students in post-secondary education and training programs," said Ronnetta Phillips, MHRD, completion and transition specialist (CTS). "The WEI Grant's core objective is to bridge the gap between education and employment, specifically targeting high-skilled, high-wage and in-demand occupations."

Triton College Hospitality Industry Administration Program

Start Your Career in the Growing Hospitality Industry

As the largest industry in the world, hospitality is witnessing one of the largest growths in the need for skilled workers. According to Chef Denise Smith-Gaborit, chair of Triton College's Hospitality Industry Administration (HIA) Program, "there are jobs galore" – everything from hotel management and culinary arts to menu writing and bartending. The hospitality industry is the second major employer in the United States, with its workforce continuing to expand. For Chef Smith-Gaborit, this surge in job opportunities is "very good news" for students with a passion for hospitality and culinary arts, and a willingness to embrace change.

"As hospitality businesses are welcoming new technologies, enhancing health and safety protocols, and re-envisioning guest services and experiences, Triton offers every degree, certification and license demanded in the hospitality industry today," said Chef Smith-Gaborit. This includes a restaurant management, hotel management, culinary arts, and baking and pastry degree/certificate. Students over the age of 21 can receive their beverage management certificate.

Unlike other culinary schools, Triton has invested in "state-of-the-art classrooms and lab facilities" to prepare students for meeting the growing requirements of the industry, she said, adding that Triton's kitchens and bakeries mirror what is available in the industry now. The college is also modifying its academic offerings and scheduling to better accommodate student needs. "Our program offers flexible scheduling, job assistance and hands-on training. We are making it easier for the student to succeed and ensure they are well prepared for their careers.

Triton offers core programming and, from there, students can branch out according to their interests," said Chef Smith-Gaborit. Triton welcomes students who are new to the industry, as well as students who are looking to maximize their work portfolios and/or advance in their careers.

"As the oldest culinary school in the west suburbs of Chicago, Triton College has been producing quality, skilled people to work all over the world since 1972," said Chef Smith-Gaborit who, in her culinary career, cooked for U.S. presidents, musicians and actors during her tenure in Chicago's elite hoteling industry. Now as a department chair and instructor at Triton, Chef Smith-Gaborit said she "loves" witnessing the creativity of her students. "Students are the joy of my day." Chef Smith-Gaborit has taught at Triton for 27 years. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in general studies and a degree in restaurant management.

Triton Students in Demand

"After earning a degree and/or certification from Triton College, anyone can walk out the door and find a job in hospitality," said Chef Smith-Gaborit. "Students can also obtain an internship while they're a student so they can gain experience." For years, Triton has fostered industry relationships with some of Chicago's most prestigious hotels and restaurants, making it possible for students to successfully launch their careers. "We also have former students employed in the industry calling our department to offer our students jobs," she said.

Triton's HIA Program is also utilized with high school students involved in the Dual Credit Program, especially those from Oak Park and River Forest High School, Riverside Brookfield High School, Leyden high schools and Proviso high schools. "Our students learn everything here at Triton," said Chef Smith-Gaborit. "They really learn how to cook, from pasta to cakes, and they learn how to do it from scratch." The program stands out with not only the outstanding quality, but operates three businesses available to the public – Café 64, the Bistro and the Bakery. All are student-operated and are open to the public. Triton student Tulip Pham, Berwyn, Illinois, chose to attend Triton over her local community college for the high-value culinary program. She likes that all the instructors are very passionate about the students. "I wanted to go into culinary arts, because I could use my creativity while making people happy," she said. "I like to bake and decorate cakes." Triton student Vanessa Guardiola, Chicago, said she felt particularly inspired after she took Triton College instructor Chef Christopher Clem's chocolate class. "It hooked me," Guardiola said. "One day I'd like to run my own business. Triton offers all the tools for me to receive the licenses and certifications needed to do that."

For more information on the Triton College Hospitality Industry Administration Program, please call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3130.



The Hospitality Industry is projected to experience a

36.6%
growth in employment
over the next decade.

U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

You're Invited – Triton College Fall Registration Rally

Ensure a stress-free summer by securing your registration for the fall semester! New and current students are invited to participate in our upcoming registration rally, Wednesday, July 17, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at the Welcome Center (B Building), to meet with Admissions representatives, academic advisors and Financial Aid representatives to enroll for fall 2024 classes.

Visit triton.edu/fall or call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3130, for more information.

The Triton College Hospitality Industry Administration Program

All the makings of a great career!



Get a Taste of HIA

Hospitality Industry Administration Program
Spotlight Event

Tuesday, July 9

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

For more information about this event, go to
triton.edu/visitcampus.



For more information about the
Triton College HIA Program, use
the QR code on the left.

Register Now for Fall
triton.edu/fall



Triton College
triton.edu

2000 Fifth Ave.
River Grove, IL 60171
(708) 456-0300

Triton College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution.

Rhodes School "Girls on Track" Running Club Competes at Triton College Students Run a Mile Around Triton's Track

Students and staff from Rhodes Elementary School District 84.5 in River Grove visited the Triton College campus on Wednesday, May 15. Rhodes' running club, "Girls on Track" ran a mile on Triton's track and competed against each other in various races. "Girls on Track" members are made up of fourth and fifth grade girls.

Those in attendance included the 27 "Girls on Track" members, as well as the entire fourth and fifth grade to cheer them on. The club is sponsored by the River Grove Lions Club, which donated T-shirts, Gatorade and water for the runners.



Join Melrose Park Boy Scout Troop 4112 Today!



**The Melrose Park Boy Scouts Program
is Looking for New Members.**

Any boys interested in joining the troop are encouraged to call Fred Crancich at (708) 609-5539.

To learn more about the Boy Scouts of America, including information on exploring, activities, membership details and more, visit www.scouting.org.

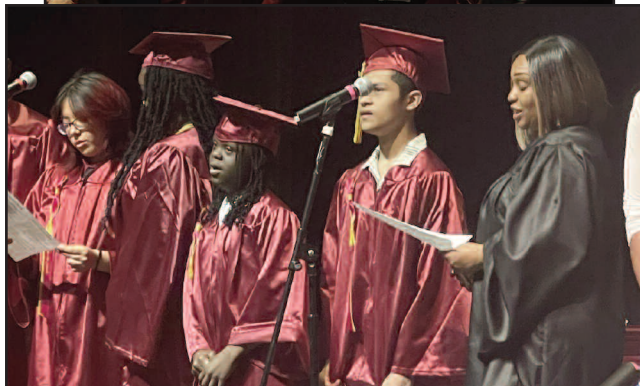
NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS

Stevenson Middle School Graduation



www.maywood89.org • Follow Us on Twitter “@maywood89”

Irving School Graduation



**Congrats to
School
District 89
Graduates,
Class
of
2024!**



DISTRICT 89

MAYWOOD | MELROSE PARK | BROADVIEW



Jane Addams School Garden Club



The Jane Addams School Garden Club, led by the dedicated Ms. Sarah Matticks, is a vibrant hub of exploration where students from kindergarten to fifth grade delve into the wonders of nature. Through hands-on activities like planting, nurturing and harvesting, children not only learn gardening skills, but also develop a deep appreciation for sustainability, our environment and the importance of healthy eating. Under Ms. Matticks' guidance, the club fosters creativity and imagination, from designing garden markers to crafting insect habitats. The garden has become a dynamic classroom, celebrating the beauty of nature and the joy of discovery.



PRESCHOOL SCREENINGS

Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview SD 89



About the Program

- 2.5 hour program Monday through Friday
- Two sessions:
 - AM: 8:10am-10:40am
 - PM: 11:40am-2:10pm
- Children must attend a screening to be considered.
- Limited enrollment- placement is not guaranteed.

Sign Up Here!

SCAN ME



Summer Screening Dates By Appointment Only

- Tuesday, June 25th from 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Monday, July 8th from 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Tuesday, July 16th from 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Wednesday, July 24th from 12:30-5:30pm

Updated 2/1/2024

A Message from Fr. Leandro Fossá , C.S., Pastor Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish and Shrine THE 131ST FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL IS COMING – SUNDAY, JULY 14!

Dear Devotees, Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of Mount Carmel,

I greet and welcome all of you to our beautiful and joyful 131st Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, certain that we all together rejoice in our Mother's arms with gratitude for her tender intercession for all of us.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is a center of genuine religious devotion to the Blessed Mother, a sacred place of prayer, recollection and spiritual refreshment with a full program of sacramental and pastoral activities. Our mission will be to promote devotion to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, to all its parishioners and the community at large. On this celebration of the 131st Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, I want to invite all the devotees and those who love the blessed Virgin Mary to enjoy our Feast.

This year Our Lady of Mt. Carmel welcomes you with renovations and fresh views. After more than three decades, the parish has decided to change the carpet, acquire new pews and bring the baptismal fountain to the main church space. The community wants to do more and there are many projects to further remodel and keep the Church and Shrine up to maintenance standards and functioning accordingly.

Therein, we need your participation and I invite you to come out to the Novena and see the difference in the walls of the Shrine, the confessionals, the front door adjustments, the handicap accessibility and many more details that were repaired. My dear friends, it is a wonderful time to get together, to pray and to ask our Mother Virgin Mary of Carmel to intercede for our needs with these fresh view repairs. Moreover, we need you.

I want to commend all those participating and applaud the arduous work of our Feast Committee and Altar & Rosary. They have worked tirelessly for so many moments to organize the Novena and Feast days because they love this parish and tremendously care for the devotees of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Allow me also to recognize and commend all those who have conducted our devotion and tradition to La Madonna del Carmine for so many years. We do realize how much our community has been reshaping its image. I want to acknowledge the mayor and all the workers of the village of Melrose Park that make this Feast possible as well.

Every July, the Parish and Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel pray and process in the streets of Melrose Park. All of us who are here could feel that this event is the effort of a whole town, a community loved and blessed by Madonna del Carmine. And this year we pray on the streets of this town because we know that Our Mother will always protect us.

Lastly, "mille grazie" and I am certain that you will continue loving, venerating and supporting La Madonna del Carmine, and I pray that the Blessed Virgin Mother of Mount Carmel embraces and presents you and your entire family to Her Son Jesus asking to pour His grace and blessings upon you to experience the tenderness and sweetness of Our Lady's loving intercession.

Blessings to all of You. Bendiciones a todos ustedes. Benedizioni a voi tutti.

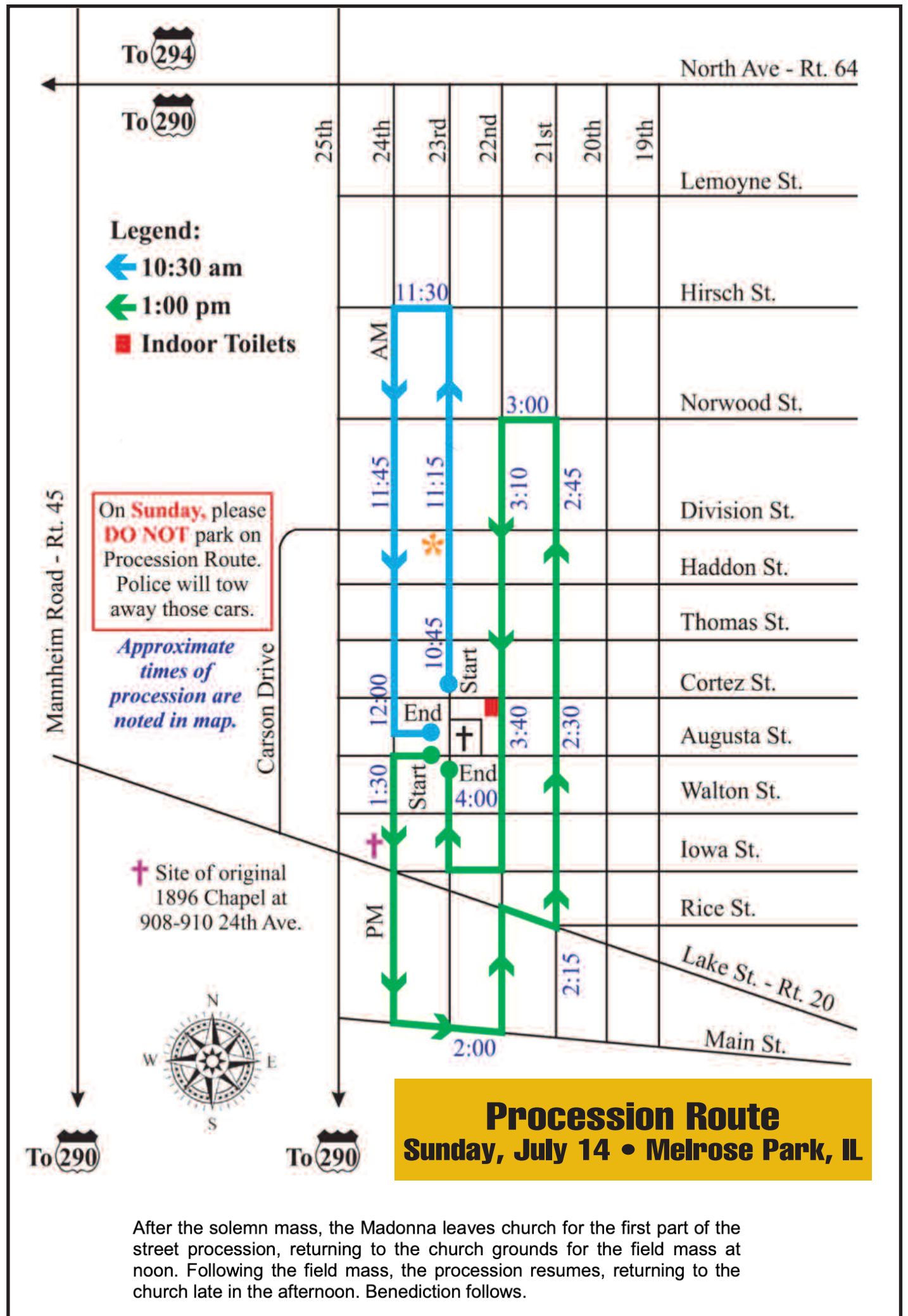
VIVA LA MADONNA DEL CARMINE

Rev. Leandro Fossá, C.S., Pastor,
and the Entire Feast Committee of OLMC





131st Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady Mt. Carmel



For more information, visit www.olmcp parish.org or www.facebook.com/olmcp parish.



131st Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady Mt. Carmel

The Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Feast Committee recently announced the 131st anniversary celebration schedule of events.

Please save the dates and participate with us.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Feast 2024 Schedule of Events

Friday, July 5-Saturday, July 13

7:30 p.m. – Solemn Novena Presided by Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A.

Tuesday, July 9

7 p.m. – Banner Presentation

Wednesday, July 10

6 p.m. – Rose Presentation

Thursday, July 11

7 p.m. – Memorial Service for Deceased Members of Feast Committee

7 p.m. – Caliendo's Banda Napoletana Marches Through the Streets

Friday, July 12

6 p.m. – Feast Celebration Dinner

Saturday, July 13

3 p.m. – Mass in Spanish

5:30 p.m. – Mass in English

Sunday, July 14

7:30 a.m. – Mass in English

9 a.m. – Solemn Mass in Italian

10:30 a.m. – Statue Leaves Church in Procession to the Field Mass

Noon – Field Mass on Church Grounds with Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A., and Fr. Leandro Fossá, C.S.

1:30 p.m. – Traditional Street Procession Continues Through the Streets

4 p.m. – Statue Returns to Church, Benediction Follows

5 p.m. – Mass in Spanish

Food and beverages will be available for purchase on Sunday, July 14.

Refreshments will be served each night after Novena.

An ad book will be available for our sponsors and friends.

Grand Raffle with drawing to be held on July 13, 2024, after Novena.

Please see Pages 56-57 for information on Altar and Rosary, and Feast Committee Rose Basket reservations and the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Feast Dinner tickets, sponsorships, ad book and raffle ticket reservation options!

For more information, visit www.olmcp parish.org or www.facebook.com/olmcp parish.

131st Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady Mt. Carmel Rose Basket Reservation Form



Dear Devotee of Our Lady of Mount Carmel:

The 131st Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is approaching very rapidly. The Altar and Rosary and Feast Committee are sponsoring the Rose Presentation for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel which will take place on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 6:00 PM prior to the Novena.

Baskets of red roses are once again available for \$65 and must be paid at the time of placing the order.

To ensure that your basket(s) will be presented to the Blessed Mother and your intentions read during the presentation on the evening of July 10, please return your order form below to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish/Shrine by Friday, June 30, 2024. No exceptions will be made for orders placed after June 30. Additional order forms will be available in the rectory.

As in the past, single roses will be available for purchase the night of the event for \$2.00 each or \$8.00 half dozen or \$15.00 a dozen.

Thank you and may the Blessed Mother bless you and your family!

The Altar and Rosary Society
The Feast Committee

Please make checks payable to:
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish/Shrine
Mail to:
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish/Shrine
1101 N. 23rd Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

Name _____

Phone _____

Number of Baskets: _____ @ \$65.00 Total: \$ _____

_____ I will be in attendance to receive my basket/s

_____ I will not be in attendance to receive my basket/s

Please make check payable to: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish/Shrine or pay online at:

<https://www.givecentral.org/location/317/event/33585>

If paying online, email your intentions to: feast.olmc@gmail.com

Prayers/Intentions (to be read upon presentation :)

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.....the Italian National Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago

For more information, visit www.olmcparish.org or www.facebook.com/olmcparish.

131st Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady Mt. Carmel Sponsor/Ad Book/Dinner/Raffle Ticket Reservation Form

Feast Sponsor - \$500

(Includes full page in ad book)

Feast Celebration Dinner Ad Book

Place your congratulatory messages and business ads in our dinner ad book.

The deadline is June 30, 2024.

Full page ad - \$100 Half page ad - \$50

Please email your ad information to: feast.olmc@gmail.com

Feast Celebration Dinner and Grand Raffle

The Feast Celebration Dinner will be held on Friday, July 12, 2024 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 1101 N 23rd Ave, Melrose Park, IL. Donation is \$25 per ticket.

Grand raffle tickets - \$20 for a book of 10 tickets

Please Reserve: _____ Sponsor - \$ _____

_____ Ad Book - \$ _____

_____ Dinner tickets - \$ _____

_____ Raffle tickets - \$ _____

Total enclosed - \$ _____

Please make check payable to OLMC Feast Committee and mail it to the Parish. For online payment, go to - <https://www.givecentral.org/location/317/event/9521>

Business/Name: _____ Contact: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish-Shrine

1101 N 23rd Ave, Melrose Park, IL 60160 Tel. (708) 344-4140

Feast.olmc@gmail.com

www.olmcparish.org

www.facebook.com/olmcparish



For more information, visit www.olmcparish.org or www.facebook.com/olmcparish.

WINSTON PLAZA
PROUD SPONSOR OF TASTE OF MELROSE PARK 2023

Explore the Mix

Best Buy Outlet **Marshalls** **IHOP**
Party City **Chuck E. Cheese** **Ross**
Pearle Vision **Five Below**
Baskin-Robbins **Dunkin'**

**Now
Open!**

Cermak
FRESH MARKET

Burlington



NORTH AVENUE & 9TH AVENUE
MELROSE PARK, IL

Visit us at
winston-plaza.com





You're Invited to Attend Melrose Park Free Methodist Church Services

*All are welcome to join us on
Sundays, 11:15 a.m., 841 Elsie Dr.
(corner of Ninth Avenue and Elsie Drive).*

We resolve to learn more about God in 2024!

*For more information, please contact
Rev. Jim Pagani at (708) 343-2386
or email melroseparkfmchurch@aol.com.*

Need a Place to Meet?

*Is your church, organization or group
looking for a place to meet?*

*If so, we may be able to help you! We are
located in Melrose Park at 841 Elsie Dr.*

*Reasonable rent, solid reputation in the
community and easy to find building!*

For more information, call (708) 343 2386.

Free Essential Supplies

*All are welcome to join us on
Sunday, June 30, 11:30 a.m.*

*Free essential supplies will be distributed at the
Melrose Park Free Methodist Church,
located at 841 Elsie Dr.*

*The church is located at the corner of
Ninth Avenue and Elsie Drive.*

For more information, please call (708) 343 2386.

Winston Plaza Hosts Free Cinema Nights



Visit Winston Plaza for free Open Air Cinema nights—Wednesdays, July 3 and Aug. 7!

Gates open at 7 p.m., movies start at sunset. Limited seating provided, feel free to bring your own chairs.

To RSVP, visit <https://winston-plaza.com/events/>.

Let Us Do the Cooking For You!

Meals to go for
anyone age 60+ at a
MEALS ON WHEELS
location near you!

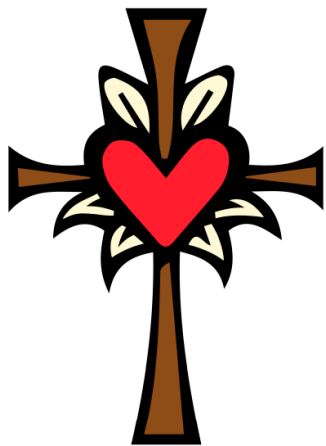


PROVISO COMMUNITY CAFE
Sharp Community Center
1609 N. 36th Ave.
Melrose Park

Monday-Friday • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Please call (708) 316-7488
for information or to reserve meals.**





SACRED HEART & ST. EULALIA PARISH

819 N. 16th Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160

1825 S. 9th Ave., Maywood, IL 60153

PASTOR

Reverend Francisco Ortega

PERMANENT DEACONS

Mike Barnish
Giulio Camerini
Gabriel Nevarez
Eduardo Rodriguez
Dwight Sullivan, Sr.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

SUN: 9am - 2pm (St. Eulalia)
MON: 12pm - 8pm (Sacred Heart)
TUES: 10am - 6pm (Sacred Heart)
WED: CLOSED
THURS: 10am - 6pm (Sacred Heart)
FRI: 12pm - 8pm (Sacred Heart)
SAT: CLOSED

PARISH CONTACT INFO

PHONE: 708-344-0757
EMAIL: shseparish@archchicago.org
WEBSITE: shsparish.org

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS

4:30p English at Sacred Heart
6:00p Spanish at Sacred Heart

SUNDAYS

8:30a English at Sacred Heart
10:30a English at St. Eulalia
10:30a Spanish at Sacred Heart
12:30p Spanish at St. Eulalia

WEEKDAYS

8:00a English at Sacred Heart



The following is registration information for our parish's religious education program:

FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION (2-Year Program per Sacrament)

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Baptism Certificate
2. Birth Certificate
3. First Communion Certificate*
(*for 1st Year of Confirmation)

CURRENT REGISTRATION DATES:

THURSDAYS

June 27, August 1, August 8, August 15
from 10:00am to 4:00pm

SATURDAYS

June 29, August 3, August 10,
August 17
from 10:00am to 2:00pm

For any other information please contact the parish's Religious Education office at
708-344-0757 ext. 105

The Religious Education office is located in the basement of the Parish Rectory office at
819 N 16th Ave., Melrose Park, IL.



SPRED is a parish-based ministry that provides faith formation and spiritual nourishment to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities of all ages and function levels.

The goal of SPRED is to help children, teens and adults with disabilities develop an awareness of God in their lives; of themselves as an integral part of the parish community and the entire Church.

This is accomplished through one-on-one partnerships within a small community of faith. The carefully designed and peaceful setting, the bonds of friendship, respectful attitudes, and the sharing of sacramental celebrations help each person discover the gifts and the needs of every person in the community.

God is discovered time and again in the midst of the life experiences of every person and in the gift of shared friendships.

Please contact our rectory office at **708-344-0757** if you are interested or know someone that would benefit from this ministry. Classes are planned to be held at Sacred Heart Church in the future.

SACRED HEART & ST. EULALIA PARISH

WEBSITE: shsparish.org

PHONE: 708-344-0757

EMAIL: shseparish@archchicago.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



First Friday Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Every First Friday of the month **7:00pm** at **Sacred Heart**.

Next dates: **July 5 & August 2**

Second & Third Saturday Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Every *Second Saturday* of the month in **English** and every *Third Saturday* of the month in **Spanish** at **3:00pm** in **St. Eulalia**.



Thursday Adoration and Confession at 7:00pm

July 11 & 25 at **St. Eulalia**. **July 18** at **Sacred Heart**.
August 8 & 22 at **St. Eulalia**. **August 29** at **Sacred Heart**.

HAPPY & SAFE 4TH OF JULY

Come & celebrate with us at **8:00am** Mass on **Thursday, July 4**.



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Mass

Tuesday, **July 16** at **8:00am** at **Sacred Heart**.

Taco & Margarita Sale Hosted by Book Club

July 27 from **5:00pm—8:30pm** in the **Sacred Heart Courtyard**



Women's Club Camaraderie Meeting on Thursday, Aug. 1

7:00pm in **Sacred Heart's Marian Hall**. Bring a snack to share!

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Aug. 15

8am & 6pm Mass at **Sacred Heart**. **7:30pm** Mass at **St. Eulalia**.

This is a Holy Day of Obligation.



Religious Education Classes Begin September 21

Call **708-344-0757 ext. 105** for registration dates in August!



BRIDGE

21+ MSF Completed or Under Development
in Chicagoland Since 2000

NAIOP
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
CHICAGO CHAPTER

Developer of the Year
2021, 2019, 2015

CHICAGO OFFICES

444 W. Lake St., STE. 3125, Chicago, Illinois 60606
9525 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., STE. 700, Rosemont, Illinois 60018


CHICAGO COMMERCIAL
REAL ESTATE AWARDS

Developer of the Year
2018, 2015, 2011

WWW.BRIDGEINDUSTRIAL.COM

CHICAGO | MIAMI | NEW JERSEY | NEW YORK
LOS ANGELES/SAN FRANCISCO | SEATTLE | LONDON



SWAPORAMA

FLEA MARKET

4600 WEST LAKE STREET
MELROSE PARK, ILLINOIS 60160

708-344-7300

www.swaporama.com



A Message From Your Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García

For those who don't know me, I'm your U.S. Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García. With new congressional districts in Illinois and across the country following the 2020 census, Illinois' 4th District now extends further northwest and southwest into suburban Cook and DuPage Counties.

I have represented the 4th District since 2019, and before that I served as an alderman, Cook County commissioner and state senator. I've spent my career building political coalitions to empower communities. So I know that to be a successful congressman, I need your input. I want to know the issues that matter to you, the changes you'd like to see and how I can assist you.

To talk about federal policy, give my DC office a call – (202) 225-8203.

If you need help with a federal agency (like help with your Social Security and Medicare, small business support, passport assistance, military academy nominations, and more), my team and I are here to help.

You can stop by my suburban office in Melrose Park at 125 N. 19th Ave., Suite A, Melrose Park, or call the office at (773) 342-0774.

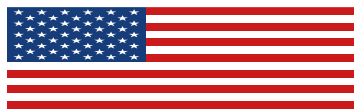
My staff also hosts satellite office hours across our district, where we bring our services to you. Stay tuned for the next one near you!

And you can always reach out by email by visiting my website at chuygarcia.house.gov.

It is an honor to represent you in Congress. I look forward to staying in touch and I hope to meet many of you in person soon!



CONGRESSMAN
JESÚS "CHUY" GARCÍA
4TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS



GRAFICA VENETA



Lake Book
Manufacturing, LLC
2085 Cornell Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

(708) 345-7000
Lakebook.com

G R O U P



Illinois State Representative NORMA HERNANDEZ

77th District

State Rep. Norma Hernandez Provides Legislative Updates: Spring Session 2024



Illinois State Representative
Norma Hernandez

Rep. Norma Hernandez proudly completed her second year of spring session. Rep. Hernandez spent the first five months of the year in Springfield, from January to May, drafting legislation, attending numerous committees, and negotiating the needs and responsibilities of the state budget. Some key highlights of her legislation passed this year are:



- HB1377 provides tax exemptions to newly constructed properties in eligible areas to receive a homestead exemption equal to 50% of their assessed value.
- HB5820 appropriates \$2 million to support a state-wide coordinated strategy to re-enroll Illinois residents with some college and no credentials into public higher education, apprenticeship and workforce training programs.
- SB856 provides safety measures for employees of the Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS) to use their work address instead of their home address on their identification cards to protect their privacy and stop hostile parties from potentially gaining access to sensitive information.



Rep. Hernandez stated, “I am proud of Gov. Pritzker’s leadership and am happy to continue moving Illinois forward. This means focusing on working-class families, education, economic growth and health care access.”

Here are some of the accomplishments from the General Assembly this year:

- We are creating a \$50 million child tax credit that will help families meet the cost of groceries and other expenses.
- We are committing \$350 million in new funding for public schools through our innovative evidence-based funding formula.
- We are providing \$159 million in new funding for senior care through the Community Care Program, allowing rate increases for service providers, expanding hours available to current clients and adding 3,000 new service slots.

Rep. Hernandez expressed, “I am proud of all of the hard work accomplished these past several months. We passed a fiscally responsible budget, but it’s important to recognize that there is still a lot of work to be done and look forward to the Veto Session in the fall.”



State Rep. Hernandez Youth Ambassadors Program

Our 77th District Youth Ambassadors Program consists of 10 students from various high schools within our district, including West Leyden High School, East Leyden High School, Proviso Math & Science Academy (PMSA), Addison Trail High School and many others. These students are divided into cohorts based on township, and each cohort actively participates in attending library, village, and board of education meetings. Our youth ambassadors attend local government meetings to learn about the process of passing ordinances and new programs and to understand the importance of staying informed about community affairs. They meet with our representative once a month to provide updates on these meetings, offering a learning opportunity for our youth and allowing the representative to hear their perspectives on what’s occurring in the district.

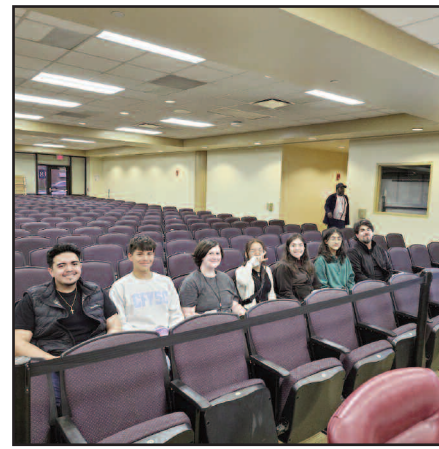
The Youth Ambassadors Program aims to provide many opportunities for our youth to connect with local elected officials and community leaders who have made a positive impact in their community. We’ve had the honor of hosting many guests to speak to our students about the importance of civic

engagement and explain their roles and responsibilities in nurturing it. Recently, we were honored to welcome Dr. Patty Garcia, chief of staff for Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García, and April Arrellano, clerk of Franklin Park.

Our first meeting featured April Arrellano, who presented the expectations and roles involved in a municipal meeting. She broke down the responsibilities of each elected official in an average board meeting and our youth had the opportunity to ask questions about the process. April then returned to lead our third Youth Ambassadors meeting, where she facilitated a discussion on the feedback from our youth ambassadors regarding their experiences in various municipal meetings. Our youth have attended library, municipal and school board meetings within our district. We are grateful to April for leading this conversation and helping us understand the perspectives of our youth on the meetings they attend.

We were honored to welcome Dr. Patty Garcia, chief of staff for Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García, who provided our students with valuable insight into her journey of community involvement. Patty shared stories of young local elected officials who have made a difference in their communities, inspiring our students with real-life examples of civic engagement. She also had the opportunity to listen to our students' experiences about attending local government meetings and gave insight as to what occurs within these meetings. Having the experience of guests like Patty engaging with our ambassadors is important for future growth. Granting them direct access to conversations with local elected officials allows our ambassadors to ask questions they might hesitate to ask in formal settings. Therefore, they effectively and comfortably contribute their ideas for community improvement. We are immensely grateful to Dr. Patty Garcia for enriching our understanding of community involvement and giving us insights into tangible instances of civic involvement.

The Youth Ambassadors Program serves as a platform for the students within the 77th District. Through engagement with individuals like Dr. Patty Garcia and April Arrellano, our youth gain knowledge of civic responsibility and community leadership. Their participation in various municipal meetings and interactions with our representatives not only empowers them but also strengthens relationships within our community. We are proud of the progress our ambassadors have made and remain committed to expanding youth programs and opportunities in our district.



State Rep. Norma Hernandez Hosts the Veterans Resource Fair

State Rep. Norma Hernandez hosted a set of veterans resource events in partnership with the Office of Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García, Leyden Township Veterans Affairs and Edward Hines Jr. Veterans Hospital. These resource fairs were a chance for veterans from across the 77th District to connect with state and federal agencies servicing veterans. It was also an opportunity for veterans to connect with the Office of Representative Hernandez and obtain information on state benefits available to them. Many local area partners joined by tabling at the event assisting with health care, education benefits, housing, employment and the navigation of government agencies.



Earth Day with West Leyden High School's Ecology Club

On Monday, April 22, 2024, the Office of State Representative Norma Hernandez celebrated Earth Day with West Leyden High School's Ecology Club. Rep. Hernandez had the pleasure of joining Dr. Todd Veltman and his students to plant seedlings. Joining her for the Earth Day activity was



Commissioner Eira Corral-Sepulveda of the Cook County Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, and Ingrid Alvarenga, a former West Leyden alumnus, from Congressman Jesus "Chuy" García's team.

We witnessed firsthand the positive impact these students have on the environment and were very impressed by the students' extensive knowledge of trees and their ecological significance.

Commissioner Corral-Sepulveda provided valuable feedback and shared how an MWRD commissioner can contribute to the community. We are grateful to the West Leyden staff for giving us this wonderful opportunity to make a difference and engage directly with our students.



Cook County's 16th District Receives Over \$4 Million in Infrastructure Investment Through the Build Up Cook Program

Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements Makes Way for Critical Infrastructure Improvements to Continue Across South and West Cook County



Cook County Commissioner
Frank J. Aguilar



During the May Board of Commissioners Meeting, the Cook County Board of Commissioners approved funding for construction projects through the Build Up Cook Program. These projects include critical water infrastructure improvements, such as water main repairs, pump replacements, backup generator replacements, hydrant replacements and valve repairs. The projects also include public building facility repairs, exterior repairs and roof replacements.

Thirteen projects received \$4,050,000 in funding throughout 16th District municipalities. Projects being funded within the 16th District include improvements to sewers, replacing backup generators, sidewalk repair and more. Construction on projects can begin immediately and is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

"This investment will have a real, day-to-day impact on 16th District residents," said Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar. "Funding our municipal infrastructure is crucial to keeping residents safe, healthy and able to enjoy the great things their towns have to offer. I am thrilled to see how many of these improvements are proactive, making sure that our municipalities' infrastructure is prepared for any challenges they may face. I thank the board of commissioners and all our partners for approving this funding, and look forward to seeing the benefits it will have in our constituents' lives."

Through the work of the Build Up Cook Intergovernmental Working Group, 46 capital project needs were identified in 22 communities. These projects address needs for critical improvements in drinking water and stormwater infrastructure, as well as other public buildings and facilities. With board approval to execute up to 25 intergovernmental agreements (IGAs) with these communities, Build Up Cook will be able to move forward with procurements and project completion.

"Today marks a significant milestone in our commitment to improving essential infrastructure in Cook County," said Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. "Through the Build Up Cook Program, we are ensuring that our communities, particularly those that have been historically underserved, receive the critical improvements they need. These projects will enhance public safety, improve quality of life and promote sustainable development across the county."

Led by the Bureau of Asset Management, the mission of Build Up Cook is to build municipal capacity to address capital improvement and infrastructure needs through consulting, professional development, engineering and construction support. The program prioritizes support to 26 under-resourced municipalities as identified using the 2023 Equitable Allocation Model, past county infrastructure investment and geographic data.

"This is a step forward in the mission of the bureau to provide sustainable, equitable and collaborative projects that improve the quality of life for the county's residents," said Bureau Chief Elizabeth Granato. "I'm proud of the work that Build Up Cook has already done to address some of the most critical issues in Cook County and I look forward to highlighting the successes in the future."

A list of projects within the 16th District can be found below with the Build Up Cook Program funding amount in parentheses.

- Bellwood: Pump Houses and Storm Water Pumps Backup Generators (\$450,000).
 - Broadview: Fire House Building Improvements (\$500,000).
 - Broadview: Main Water Line – Valves Replacement (\$150,000).
- Cicero: Cicero Animal Shelter Backup Generator Quick Connect (\$150,000).
 - Cicero: Annex Building Backup Generator Replacement (\$150,000).
 - Cicero: Water Valve Replacements (\$1,200,000).
- Maywood: Police Station Backup Generator Replacement (\$150,000).
- Maywood: Pump House Backup Generator Replacement (\$150,000).
 - Maywood: Police Station Mechanical Upgrade (\$200,000).
- Stickney: Sidewalk Repair/Replacement Throughout Various Locations (\$400,000).
 - Stickney: Pump Station Renovation/Pump Replacement (\$200,000).
 - Summit: Sewer Jetting (\$150,000).
 - Summit: Sewer Lining (\$200,000).
- **Total: \$4,050,000 Funding 13 Projects.**

More information, as well as a comprehensive list of the municipalities and projects approved through IGAs in this program, is available at <https://arpa.cookcountyil.gov/build-up-cook>.

Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar Hosts Veteran Breakfast

On Friday, May 24, Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar hosted a breakfast for Cook County veterans. The event, which attracted veterans throughout Cook County's 16th District, honored the services and sacrifices of veterans.

The breakfast was held at the McDonalds at 5500 W. Cermak, which is owned and operated by Phil Fuentes and his daughter Katie Fuentes. Veterans in attendance received a complimentary breakfast sandwich, hash browns and coffee, and spoke with fellow veterans, veteran organizations and local officials

Also in attendance was Commissioner Tara Stamps, Superintendent Elizabeth Soto of the Cook County Veterans Assistance Commission, Cook County DEI Outreach Manager Vilma Colom, Cynthia McKee and Lisa Mendez of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Veteran Affairs Outreach Coordinator Robin Pickett, the Illinois State Treasurer's Office, Care Advisors, the Oral Health Forum and PLCCA.

Veterans were able to speak with these officials and organizations to find more information on resources and support services for veterans throughout Cook County and Illinois.

Thank you for everyone who came out to honor our veterans!



Aguilar Delivers Toys to Children Nearly Across the District

Commissioner Aguilar and his office delivered toys to children throughout District 16 in celebration of Children's Day. He was present at different events throughout the district delivering toys to the Cicero School District 99, the Cicero Community Collaborative, Charles E. Piper Elementary School in Berwyn, the Byrne School in Chicago's District 23, the Ciudad de Alabanza Church in Berwyn and part of Melrose Park Elementary School. More than 1,000 toys were given to children throughout all of these events.

Special thanks to Chicagoland Toys for Tots for donating the toys and to Berwyn Alder Richard Leja, Rotary Six Corners and Rincon Family Services for partnering with us.



Celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Month

Commissioner Aguilar and his office were delighted to participate in Cook County's AAPI Heritage Month celebration. The AAPI community has contributed so mightily to our county, building strong communities, businesses and so much more. Check out photos from the event below!





News from Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias

Teen Summer DMV Program Announced

Select Illinois DMVs Will Offer Exclusive Services for First-Time Drivers on Saturdays

For the first time ever, the Illinois Secretary of State's Office is dedicating DMV services exclusively for teen drivers every Saturday during the summer at select facilities, Secretary Alexi Giannoulias announced recently.

The Teen Summer DMV initiative, which includes opening 12 additional DMVs on Saturdays, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m., June 1-Aug. 24, will cater exclusively to helping teens get their driver's licenses or permits quickly and conveniently. The effort is part of Giannoulias' modernization plan to create efficiencies and reduce wait times.

"Teen-only DMVs provide working parents, who can't take time off work during the week to shuttle their child to a DMV, a convenient weekend option where they can make an appointment without waiting," Giannoulias said. "Getting your first driver's license is an exciting milestone, and we want to ensure the experience is as easy as possible for Illinois teens and their parents."

To raise awareness, Giannoulias is promoting the Teen Summer DMV Program through social media, letters to parents and their teens who will be eligible for a driver's license this summer and community engagement with high schools.

During teen service hours, the office will also have a selfie station for newly licensed drivers and will provide important information on data protection, such as making sure the driver's license number and address are covered when posting to social media. The locations offering teen hours will use geolocation features on social media to provide a filter specific to the program.

State law requires teen drivers and a parent or guardian to visit a DMV in person to complete testing and identity verification prior to receiving their first driver's license. Illinois DMVs experience an influx of customers during the summer months, especially among teen drivers who make the switch from an instruction permit to a driver's license.

Parents and teens can call (800) 252-8980 to schedule an appointment at any of the 12 DMV locations.

The designated teen service hours will make an additional 1,000 appointments per week available to accommodate the nearly 9,000 current permit holders who become eligible for a license this summer. The Teen DMVs will also free up appointments during the week for those needing in-person DMV visits. Teen service hours will be offered at the following locations: Addison, Aurora, Bethalto, Belvidere, Bridgeview, Chicago West, Des Plaines, Elgin, Joliet, Lake Zurich, Plano and St. Charles.

The DMV facilities were chosen based on data revealing the highest percentage of teen drivers and the state's busiest facilities. In addition to the Teen Summer DMVs, 15 other DMVs operate on Saturdays, including two of the largest facilities in the state located on the north and south sides of Chicago. Teens are welcome to make appointments at those facilities on Saturdays as well.

Teen drivers interested in obtaining their first license will be scheduled for 10-minute appointments if they have already completed the required behind-the-wheel driving tests through their high school or commercial driving facility. If they need to complete a driving test at a DMV, they will be scheduled for a 30-minute appointment. Teens who need driving permits can also schedule an appointment to take a written test.

Any unfilled appointments during teen service hours will become available to the general public at 7 a.m.

During teen service hours, information will be provided geared toward new drivers, including details about the restrictions related to a graduated driver's license (the license for those under 18 years of age), the dangers of distracted driving and how to become an organ donor.

Along with a big smile for their driver's license photos, new drivers will need to bring the following to the DMV:

- Their logbook for their instructional permit.
- Their blue and white road test waiver form from their high school if they have one.
- Their birth certificate.
- Their physical Social Security Card.
- Two proofs of address forms, such as school transcripts or their parent's driver's license or ID card.

While teen drivers are not required to hold a REAL ID-compliant driver's license, they are encouraged to apply for one during these designated teen hours. A list of REAL ID requirements is available at realid.ilsos.gov.

Giannoulias to Illinoisans: "Get Real"

With the federal deadline exactly one year away, Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias is encouraging Illinoisans to "Get Real" and obtain a REAL ID.

Giannoulias announced the launch of the office's "Get Real Illinois" campaign designed to raise awareness throughout the year.

After the May 7, 2025, deadline, domestic travelers 18 and older on commercial flights must have a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or state ID card.



Travelers will still be able to board domestic flights with a U.S. passport, which is already REAL ID-compliant. A REAL ID will also be required to enter some federal facilities, such as courthouses and military bases.

The deadline for obtaining the REAL ID has been pushed back multiple times, most recently in 2022 when the Department of Homeland Security cited the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the state's ability to issue licenses.

"I strongly encourage residents who intend to fly to get their REAL ID as soon as possible to avoid future headaches," Giannoulias said. "Our DMV facilities stand ready to help customers get their new driver's licenses and identification cards before the federal deadline."

"TSA is looking forward to continued close collaboration with the Illinois Secretary of State's Office to raise awareness and adoption of REAL ID throughout the state," said Jim Spriggs, TSA Illinois federal security director. As of May 8, TSA officers proactively provide information to passengers who do not present a REAL ID Compliant state-issued driver's license or identification. These efforts are in preparation of REAL ID enforcement, which will occur on May 7, 2025.

Passengers can visit tsa.gov for a full list of acceptable IDs for air travel.

Currently, just over 3 million Illinois residents – or 23.5% – hold a REAL ID driver's license or state ID.

The REAL ID law was passed by Congress in 2005 based on a recommendation from the 9/11 Commission Report. The Department of Homeland Security established the standards that state-issued driver's licenses and ID cards must meet to increase security measures for airports and federal facilities.

Illinois began offering REAL IDs in 2019. Illinois driver's licenses and ID cards that are REAL ID-compliant include a gold circle with a white star in the top right-hand corner of the card.

Individuals applying for a REAL ID must do so in person at an Illinois DMV and are required to present:

- 1. Either a U.S. birth certificate, U.S. passport, Naturalization Certificate, Report of Birth Abroad or a Certificate of Citizenship.** If you are not a U.S. citizen, an employment authorization document, a permanent resident card or a foreign passport with an approved I-94 Form is also acceptable. If you've changed your name, you'll need to provide name change documents.
- 2. Proof of a full Social Security Number (SSN).** Examples include: a Social Security Card, a W-2 or a pay stub with your full SSN.
- 3. Two current residency documents that list your full name.** Examples include: a utility bill, rental agreement, deed/title or a bank statement.
- 4. Proof of your signature.** Examples include: a signed credit or debit card, canceled check, or current state driver's license or state ID.

Illinois residents can go online to access an interactive checklist to make sure they have the documents they need before heading to a DMV.

Some Illinois DMVs require an appointment, so residents are encouraged to plan ahead if they need to schedule one and visit www.ilsos.gov/departments/drivers/appointments/.

Modernization & Efficiencies Report Released

Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias released the office's first ever Modernization & Efficiency Report, detailing the progress made toward achieving his administration's modernization goals and top efficiency initiatives. "I took office ready to work for all Illinoisans. I'm proud of the progress we have made and excited for where we are headed," Giannoulias said. "Our administration has been laser focused on customer-centric initiatives that modernize the office and create an efficient, consistent and streamlined experience for Illinois residents." Some of the most notable points of report include:

Initiatives

- Skip-the-Line – Expanded the appointment system at the state's busiest DMVs to shorten lines and reduce wait times.
- Do-it-Online – Increased online services and eligibility, nearly tripling online transactions to 93,000 per month.
- One-Stop-Shop – Redesigned DMV experience and cross-trained employees so customers can access all facility services at one counter.
- Self-Service Fast-Lane DMV – Developing a pilot to deploy DMV kiosks at local retailers to reduce average transaction time to two minutes.
- E-Notary – Launched an electronic notary portal to allow Illinoisians to notarize documents from their home or office.
- E-Titling – Established an electronic lien and title (ELT) system to allow the office to record, assign and release vehicle titles electronically.

Facility Services

- Senior-Only DMV Centers – Introduced four walk-in-only DMV facilities catering specifically to seniors at no-cost to taxpayers.
- Consumer Helplines – Established a senior and teen helpline dedicated to assisting customers in scheduling behind-the-wheel driving tests.

Online Enhancements

- Business Services Searchable Database – Created an online portal to make searching for business information easier.
- Business Filings – Upgraded online services to include the ability to dissolve an LLC and for businesses to file and request incorporation documents.
- E-Filing – Introduced an E-filing system for the Court-of-Claims, significantly reducing the time it takes to process cases.
- Job Portal – Created a job portal, showcasing job opportunities, making it easier to apply for jobs and speeding up the office's hiring process.
- Lobbyist Database – Redesigned the lobbyist database to make it easier to access lobbyist information and monitor activities.
- Digital Catalogue – Implemented new software to establish a digital catalogue of materials housed in the Archives Department making them more accessible to the public.

A copy of the full report can be found at <https://www.ilsos.gov/special/reports/fy24-modernizationreport.pdf>.

Save \$25 on your first visit
by downloading our
rewards app:



440 S York Road
Bensenville IL, 60106
630-521-9700

Se Habla Español

PEÑA CLINIC *Aesthetics*

Services Offered:

- Botox/Dysport
- Fillers
- Laser Hair Removal
- Weight Loss Injections
- Chemical Peels
- Medical Grade Skincare
- PRP Injections



WWW.CAPUTOCHEESE.COM



Since 1978, the Caputo family has been proudly crafting the finest Italian cheeses, bringing authentic old-world taste and tradition into every bite!

Why Caputo Cheese?

At Caputo, we are committed to being the leading manufacturer of the highest-quality dairy products.

We strive to earn the loyalty of our customers by being superior in quality, consistency and customer satisfaction, while offering the utmost competitive pricing. Employee enthusiasm and dedication, along with innovation and family pride, are the driving force in our pursuit of customer satisfaction.

1945 N. 15th Ave. • Melrose Park, IL 60160
(708) 450-0074



Know your options.

Make the choice that is right for you.

Beginning **May 7, 2025,**

the federal government will require you to use a valid **U.S. passport*** or obtain the new Illinois **REAL ID** to fly domestically.

* For a complete list of acceptable REAL ID-compliant documents, visit www.tsa.gov.

You **NEED** a REAL ID if:

- You do **not** have a valid U.S. passport or passport card; AND
- You use airplanes as a mode of domestic transportation; or
- You visit military bases; or
- You visit secure federal facilities.



The federal government requires REAL ID applicants to provide documentation confirming identity, Social Security number, residency and signature.

You **DO NOT NEED** a REAL ID if:

- You have a valid U.S. passport or passport card;
- You do **not** use airplanes as a mode of domestic transportation;
- You do **not** visit military bases; or
- You do **not** visit secure federal facilities.



If you have a valid U.S. passport, you are NOT required to have a REAL ID to fly.

Current Illinois driver's licenses and identification cards will continue to be accepted at airports until May 7, 2025.

For additional information:

REALID.ilsos.gov
833-503-4074



ALEXI GIANNOULIAS
Secretary of State



From the Office of Michael W. Frerichs, Illinois State Treasurer

Frerichs' Investment Returns in CY 2023 Greater Than Gaming, Lottery and Cannabis

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs' office made a record \$1.33 billion in investment earnings for the state portfolio in calendar year 2023, eclipsing revenue collected from gaming, the lottery and cannabis sales, he told a Senate Appropriations Committee on April 17.

"Every dollar we make in investment returns is a dollar you do not have to raise in taxes when crafting a state budget," Frerichs said. "Our returns have been impressive for several reasons, not the least of which is cooperation from the General Assembly in creating new bipartisan ways for us to invest on behalf of taxpayers, families saving for college and workers building a retirement account."

In calendar year 2023, state gaming revenue was \$1.3 billion, lottery revenue was \$882 million and cannabis revenue \$421 million. (Lottery and cannabis revenue is for FY 2023.)

As Illinois state treasurer, Frerichs is the state's chief investment and banking officer. He is committed to maximizing investment returns, helping people save their own money for their own future, and returning missing money to their rightful owners so those funds can help families pay their bills and patronize neighborhood gas stations, grocery stores and restaurants.

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office manages approximately \$60 billion in assets, including \$33 billion in state funds, \$8 billion in local government funds, and \$19 billion in college and retirement savings plans. Frerichs also highlighted other programs that provide tools to help people help themselves, especially the missing money program and college savings.

Illinois' missing money program — also known as I-CASH — is one of the state's oldest consumer protection initiatives. The Illinois state treasurer is tasked with safeguarding unclaimed property, such as the contents of overlooked safe deposit boxes, unpaid life insurance benefits, forgotten bank accounts and unused rebate cards. Illinois holds more than \$5 billion in unclaimed property.

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office has returned more than \$1.9 billion through I-CASH during Frerichs' time in office. When Frerichs first became treasurer, there were nearly 60,000 claims paid in a year. Today, more than 300,000 claims are paid each year. So far in 2024, the Illinois State Treasurer's Office has returned more than \$231 million through 286,482 claims.

Frerichs also said that Bright Start has been named the nation's Best 529 College Savings Plan for 2024 by *Business Insider*. The *Business Insider* recognition is the latest for Bright Start, which also has been recognized as among the best 529 plans by Morningstar, *Forbes* and Savingforcollege.com. "It's important to note that not all 529 accounts are built the same," *Business Insider* wrote. "The best state 529 plans have low minimum requirements, low fees, diverse investment options and a tax deduction benefit."

State Treasurer Frerichs greatly appreciates the recognition for the office's work on Bright Start, which has gone from one of the nation's worst college savings plans before he took office to one of the best. Frerichs negotiated over \$150 million in lower fees for families to help them save more money for college and updated the program to offer more investment options. The office has increased participation by working to convince families that they can save for the future, no matter the financial pressures they face today.

Funds saved in Bright Start or Bright Directions can be used at thousands of colleges, universities, trade and technical schools. Funds can also be used for costs associated with accredited apprenticeship programs.

The number of college savings accounts and money invested in them has more than doubled since Frerichs first took office in 2015. Together, there are 880,000 accounts with \$19 billion in assets, up from 375,000 accounts with \$7 billion in assets. Since 2015, families have used these accounts to pay for \$5 billion in college expenses.

Treasurer Thanks Lawmakers for Passing Bill Allowing Leftover College Savings Funds to Be Used for Retirement

On May 16, Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs thanked the General Assembly for passing his legislative initiative to allow parents who don't use all the money in their Illinois 529 College Savings Accounts (Bright Start and Bright Directions) to roll over the funds into a Roth IRA.

"One of the most common concerns parents have is what can be done with leftover money in an account. People worry that if their child doesn't go to college or gets a scholarship, that their savings will be lost," Frerichs said. "This will give parents another option for using their extra savings and they can help their child get an early start on saving for retirement."

The House passed SB3133 by a vote of 109-0 and the Senate 59-0. Sen. Steve Stadelman was the chief Senate sponsor. Rep. Diane Blair-Sherlock

was the chief House sponsor.

For the option to take effect in Illinois, lawmakers needed to change state law to allow the Roth IRA rollover option for Bright Start and Bright Directions 529 college savings account owners.

“Saving for your child’s future education is responsible and allowing leftover money to be used to help your child’s retirement is a welcome change,” said Blair-Sherlock of Villa Park.

“This is a common-sense change that will help parents and grandparents who open college savings accounts for their children and grandchildren,” said Stadelman, whose district includes Rockford.

State law currently allows parents to leave leftover money in a Bright Start account for future use by another family member going to college or roll over the money into an Illinois ABLE account. The money also can be taken out as a nonqualified withdrawal, but there are tax implications and people are encouraged to consult a tax professional.

The new option is possible because Congress approved a measure in December 2022 changing Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code to authorize tax- and penalty-free rollovers from college savings plans to Roth IRAs, with some limitations. The measure took effect on Jan. 1, 2024.

The federal law set some limitations on college savings rollovers, including a \$35,000 lifetime limit on transfers, which also are subject to annual Roth IRA contribution limits (this year they are \$7,000 for people under 50). In addition, rollovers must be made to the college savings account beneficiary and not the owner. And rollovers only can be made from 529 accounts that have been active for 15 years and no contributions or investment earnings in the last five years are eligible for rollover.

In Observance of 529 Day, Treasurer Michael Frerichs Encouraged Families to Save for Future Education through 529 College Savings Accounts

Visit BrightStart.com or call 877.432.7444

With the arrival of May 29, also known as 529 Day and National College Savings Day, State Treasurer Michael Frerichs reminded families it’s always a good time to open or add to an Illinois 529 college savings plan.

Frerichs’ office has been partnering with Illinois children’s museums to create special opportunities for families to learn more about college savings plans while taking advantage of a free or discounted admission.

“If a child knows he or she has a college savings plan, that child is three times more likely to attend college. When an adult opens and contributes to a child’s savings account, it is a way of saying, ‘I believe in you.’ This is an especially powerful message to send to young people,” Frerichs said. “529 Day is a fun designation meant to help families learn about the crucial role that a 529 account can play in children’s future success.”

The Treasurer’s Office recently has sponsored free and discounted admission days at other children’s museums throughout Illinois, including in Oak Park, Naperville, Peoria and Edwardsville. Families have picked up information about Bright Start 529 College Savings and asked state treasurer’s staff questions about the program.

Several years ago, Illinois lawmakers approved designating May 29 as 529 College Savings Day “to help raise awareness about the escalating costs of higher education and the importance of saving for college with the help of 529 college savings plans.”

Earlier this month, state lawmakers adopted a resolution encouraging “all Illinoisans to explore the benefits that 529 college savings plans offer families.” The resolution pointed out that college savings plans such as Bright Start and Bright Directions help families reduce or eliminate future student loan debt and that the “contributions families make today pay off in the form of an increased earning potential for their children in the future.”

In Illinois, 529 college savings plans are tax-advantaged investment vehicles to help save for college. Individuals ages 18 and over, with a Social Security Number or Tax Identification Number, and a U.S. address can open an account. Families have the option to open a Bright Start College Savings account directly online or, for those who prefer to work with a financial advisor, Treasurer Frerichs also administers the Bright Directions Advisor-Guided 529 College Savings Plan. During Treasurer Frerichs’ administration, the combined 529 plans have more than doubled in assets to \$19 billion and have grown to more than 890,000 accounts. Additionally, Frerichs has worked with program manager Union Bank & Trust to reduce fees to ensure more investment dollars go directly to college savings.

The Illinois Treasurer’s Office’s 529 plans offer a variety of investment options and flexibilities for families. Anyone can contribute to an account and there are no enrollment fees, minimum contributions or minimum balance requirements to open or maintain one. There are tax benefits, too. Earnings are free from federal and state taxes if used for qualified education expenses and up to \$10,000 per year in contributions (\$20,000 per year for married couples filing jointly) to an account are eligible for an Illinois income tax deduction.

For more information, visit BrightStart.com or call 877.432.7444.



Proviso Township Handyman Program

Summer 2024 – Proviso Township Handyman News

Time to enjoy your garden and listen to the birds sing. We can help you bring out your summer furniture so you can enjoy the warmth of the sun. It's also time to caulk around your windows.

Are you watering your garden or lawn? Do you notice your outdoor spigot drips after you turn it off? Keep your water bills from skyrocketing by having your spigot checked.

The Proviso Township Handyman Program serves homeowners over the age of 60 and disabled homeowners who are residents of Proviso Township.

Call us at (708) 547-4001 to schedule an appointment and register for our program.



**Bellwood · Berkeley · Broadview · Brookfield · Forest Park · Hillside ·
LaGrange Park · Maywood · Melrose Park · North Riverside · Northlake
· Stone Park · Westchester · Western Springs**

+ Only Homeowners within the boundaries of the Proviso Township +

**Michael A. Corrigan
Supervisor**

**Anthony "Tony" Williams
Clerk**

**Steven J. Zawaski
Assessor**

**Gay F. Chase • Evelyn Chavez • Joseph Christopher • Clarence E. Thomas
Trustees**

Proviso Township Handyman Program



Handyman Program for homeowners over the age of 60 and/or disabled residents of Proviso Township.

- Minor repairs only.
- \$5 per visit plus cost of parts, if needed.
- Provide referrals on a variety of home maintenance issues.
- Appointments are 45 minutes or less.

The Proviso Township Handyman Program Only Serves Homeowners Within the Boundaries of Proviso Township.
 Bellwood • Berkeley • Broadview • Brookfield • Forest Park • Hillside • LaGrange Park
 Maywood • Melrose Park • Northlake • North Riverside • Stone Park • Westchester • Western Springs

Please call us at (708) 547-4001 if you have any questions and to schedule your appointment

| WE DO | WE DO |
|---|--|
| Blinds/Curtain Rods - Install/Repair | Mailboxes - Install/Repair/Replace |
| Boxes Stored (50 lbs. limit) | Outdoor Furniture - Put Away/Take Out |
| Carpentry-Minor repairs i.e.: Replace loose/rotten boards | Outdoor Lighting - Repair or Replace (Height Limit of 6 feet) |
| Caulking - Minor interior only - No removal of existing caulk | Outdoor Water Spigot - Shut Off/Turn On |
| Ceiling Fans - Repair Switches Only | Picture - Hang Only |
| Decks - Minor Repairs Only | Referrals for Tradesperson - Referrals Only Not Recommendations |
| Doorbells - Repair/Replace Buttons | Screens - Put In/Take Out (Limit 6 feet) |
| Door Locks - Repair/Replace | Shower Heads - Repair/Replace/Install |
| Door Sweeps - Repair/Replace/Install | Shower Wands - Repair/Replace/Install |
| Doors - Plane, Repair/Replace Hinges | Sink Drains Pipes & Stoppers - Repair or Replace |
| Electrical Outlets & Switches - Replace | Smoke Detectors/CO Detectors - Install or Replace Batteries |
| Electrical GFCI Outlets - Replace & Install | Storm Doors - Repair (No Installations) |
| Faucets - Repair or Replace | Storm Windows - Put In/Take Out (Limit 6 feet) |
| Furniture Assembly (Small pieces only) (no IKEA) | Supply Valves - Replace, Kitchen & Bath Only |
| Furniture Moving - 50 lbs. limit | Threshold - Repairs & Replacement |
| Furniture Repair - Minor Only | Toilets - Minor Repairs - No Rodding |
| Grab Bars - Install or Replace | TV/TV Converter Box - Install & Program (NO Comcast) |
| Handrails - Install or Replace | Weather Stripping - Doors & Windows |
| Light Bulbs - Change | |
| Light Fixtures - Repair or Replace | |

PROVISO TOWNSHIP – *Your Neighbors, Your Government*

MICHAEL A. CORRIGAN, SUPERVISOR

Anthony "Tony" Williams, Clerk • Steven J. Zawaski, Assessor

Gay F. Chase, Trustee • Evelyn Chavez, Trustee

Joseph Christopher, Trustee • Clarence E. Thomas, Trustee

Here to Serve Melrose Park & Surrounding Communities

Thank You Mayor Serpico!



TOWNSHIP OF PROVISO
 4565 Harrison St.
 Hillside, IL 60162
 P: 708-449-4307
 F: 708-202-1265
www.provisotownship.com



Honoring Walther's Proud History

As part of Walther's 70th Anniversary, plans are afoot to inaugurate an athletic hall of fame. The hall of fame will honor alumni by recognizing the milestones and historic moments achieved by those individuals and teams throughout Walther's history, honoring coaches who made a significant impact on the student-athletes here at Walther and acknowledging the contributions of supporters of Bronco athletics over the years.

We are now accepting nominations for our first class.

Anyone can nominate:

- An individual athlete.
- A coach or athletic program supporter.
- Or a team.

You can learn more and download a nomination form on our website at <https://www.walther.com/athletic-hall-of-fame/>.

To learn about the criteria for inclusion and the selection process, please see the Bylaws at <https://www.walther.com/walther-athletic-hall-of-fame-bylaws/>.

The deadline for nominations for our inaugural class is Aug. 1, 2024.

Our first induction ceremony will occur at a brunch at Walther on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024, prior to Walther's Homecoming Football Game.



A Message from Tim Bouman, Head of School

Happy 70th!

As incredible as it sounds, Walther will turn 70 years old this fall. Our new freshman class of 2028 will join the proud legacy of decades of Broncos and will continue writing the Walther story. While much has changed, our God has not, and we continue to be blessed in this vibrant ministry of educating youth and sharing God's love. Please take a few minutes to read here about the Walther of today, and if you have not been here for a while, why not join us on Oct. 25-26 for Homecoming Weekend? In addition to all the usual festivities, it will also feature ... our first annual Hall of Fame Brunch, in which we'll induct our first class into the Walther Athletic Hall of Fame. Make your plans now to come home to Walther.

Finally, congratulations to our class of 2024 graduates who are Bronco alumni. They began their freshman journey in the fall of 2020 and have overcome so much adversity.

We are proud of you!

May God bless your summer,
Tim Bouman
Head of School/Principal



Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

Advancement Update

Meet Bill Koehne '87, New Advancement Director



Bill Koehne

Please welcome Walther's new advancement director, Bill Koehne '87, who starts this summer.

Bill brings to the position decades of knowledge of Walther, its alumni, its faculty and staff, and its traditions. He has been here as a student, as a teacher, and now, as a parent. Professionally, after decades of service at Walther, Bill went on to become a highly effective leader of one of our association schools, where he was also part of their fundraising efforts. Personally, Bill has a strong work ethic, is friendly and trustworthy, and loves Lutheran education.

Be on the lookout for more from Bill to help us further strengthen Walther's financial future so that we can be here to serve generations of Broncos to come.

Upcoming Walther Christian Academy Events

Alumni Dinner and Concert, Reunions and More – Spend the weekend of Oct. 25-26 with Walther Christian Academy. On Friday, Oct. 25, we will be hosting our annual Alumni Dinner at the school. You will be treated to a self-guided tour of Walther, a great dinner and an alumni concert.

Private reunion classrooms are also available to kick off your reunion weekend, including the class of 1974's 50th.

On Saturday, Oct. 26, join us for an alumni chapel service and our Erin Stanley Memorial Softball Game. Then cheer on the Broncos as Coach Hyt leads them against Westmont. Stay tuned for more details.

Purchase a Paver!

Do you want to support Walther and leave your mark? Or, purchase a gift for someone you love?

The time is now to become a permanent part of Walther by purchasing an engraved paver. You can purchase one on our website by choosing the paver purchase option to honor your time at Walther, thank a parent for sending you here, thank a teacher, honor a memory

or give recognition to your business! The pavers are \$200 each.

Visit Walther.com and click on "Donate" for more information.



Walther Would Not Exist Without You!

To all alumni – We are asking every one of you regardless of where you are in life, to consider including Walther Christian Academy in your will.

Leaving a legacy at Walther means that more students will experience the joy of attending a school that truly cares about them and that your legacy will be helping students tomorrow.

Please contact info@WaltherAcademy.org to discuss your wishes.



WWW.WALTHER.COM

The ROSE

Wants to Hear Your Story ...

We want to provide readers with helpful information and highlight local individuals, organizations, businesses or special events that make Melrose Park a unique and thriving community!

Do you know any interesting people in town who are worthy of recognition? Is there great news about an organization or business that you are involved with that you want others to know about?

If you answered "Yes," then we want your story!

Please send all your exciting details by direct mail to:

The Rose
c/o The Village of Melrose Park
1000 N. 25th Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

Or you can send an email to TheRose@melrosepark.org.

Please include your name and a phone number that's best to reach you at.



Check Out These Seasonal Events and Activities at the Cook County Forest Preserves

Join Our Programming
Teams and Naturalists
for Some Upcoming
Fun, Educational
In-Person and
Virtual Offerings

Now-Sunday, June 30

Special Exhibit: Periodical Cicadas

Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, 12545 W. 111th St., Lemont

Periodical cicadas return to Northeastern Illinois. This special exhibit will help answer your buzzing questions about periodical cicadas.

Contact – (630) 257-2045.

Now-Sunday, June 30

Walk with Pride!

Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, 12545 W. 111th St., Lemont

Join us this Pride Month for a self-guided interpretive walk to learn about LGBTQ2S+ people in conservation.

Wednesday, June 26 • 8:30 p.m.

Firefly Night Walk

Crabtree Nature Center, 3 Stover Rd., Barrington

Watch and learn about the glowing insects of twilight on a guided stroll.

Contact – (847) 381-6592/Email: Crabtree.NatureCenter@cookcountyil.gov.

Registration required – Call Crabtree Nature Center at (847) 381-6592.

Thursday, June 27 • 10 a.m.

Stories in the Forest

Trailside Museum of Natural History, 738 Thatcher Ave., River Forest

Presented with River Forest Public Library. We'll read stories and do a simple nature activity. Weather dependent. Ages up to 5 years old with adult. Drop in.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/Email: trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov.

Thursday, June 27 • 6 p.m.

Be a Better Birder: Birding Ethics

Virtual Event

Don't be "that" person when you are out birding. Learn about ABA birding ethics and how to ensure other people and – most importantly – birds are minimally impacted during your trip.

Contact – Email: Jessica.becker@cookcountyil.gov.

Saturday, June 29 • 10 a.m.-Noon

International Mud Day Celebration

Caldwell Woods, Devon Avenue and Nagle Avenue, Chicago

Join others around the globe for a morning of splashing, squishing, mud creations and more! Dress to get messy. All ages. In partnership with Niles-Maine Library, Hive Center for Book Arts, Haugan Elementary School, University of Illinois-Extension and Wild Onion Play.

Contact – (773) 758-8899/Email: experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov.

Saturday, June 29 • Noon-2:30 p.m.

Nature Obstacle Course

Twenty-Sixth Street Woods, 26th Street (East of 25th Avenue), Near La Grange Park

Families attempt an obstacle course created from natural materials. Nature play, exploration and art activities will be available, too! Drop in.

Contact – (312) 533-5751/Email: experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov.

Saturday, June 29 • 2 p.m.

Ophidiophobia

Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, 9800 Willow Springs Rd., Willow Springs

Are you afraid of snakes? Overcome your phobia by gaining a healthy understanding of these misunderstood reptiles.

Contact – (708) 839-6897/Email: littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov.

Registration required – Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897.

Sunday, June 30 • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Intro to Mountain Biking

Wolf Road Woods, Wolf Road (South of 95th Street), Near Willow Springs

Learn and practice riding techniques, including body and pedal position, shifting, braking, climbing, descending and navigating minor obstacles on the trail. Presented by REI.

Contact – (312) 533-5751/Email: experience.nature@cookcountyiil.gov.

Registration required – Call Central/Southwest Zone at (312) 533-5751.

Sunday, June 30 • 1:30 p.m.

The Buzz on Bees

River Trail Nature Center, 3120 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook

Visit our beehives and meet the beekeepers to learn about bees, pollination and honey.

Contact – (847) 824-8360.

Wednesday, July 3 • 9 a.m.

Senior Fitness Walk

Thatcher Woods Pavilion, Chicago Avenue (West of Thatcher Avenue), River Forest

Contact – (708) 366-6530/Email: Trailside.museum@cookcountyiil.gov.

Registration required – Call Trailside Museum of Natural History at (708) 366-6530.

Wednesday, July 3 • 10 a.m.

I am a Scientist

Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, 9800 Willow Springs Rd., Willow Springs

Ignite your child's sense of wonder and curiosity as we explore, experiment and make discoveries in the natural world. Ages 4-5 w/adult.

Contact – (708) 839-6897/Email: littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyiil.gov.

Registration required – Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897.

Saturday, July 6 • 9 a.m.

Photography Walk

Maple Lake-East – Mountain Bike Staging Area, 95th Street (West of Willow Springs Road/Flavin Road), Near Willow Springs

Grab your camera and explore Paw Paw Woods Nature Preserve with us. Contact – (312) 533-5751/Email: experience.nature@cookcountyiil.gov.

Saturday, July 6 • 1 p.m.

Wellness Walk

Thatcher Woods, Chicago Avenue (West of Thatcher Avenue), River Forest

Mindful and meditative guided nature walk. Ages 18 and up.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/Email: trailside.museum@cookcountyiil.gov.

Registration required – Call Trailside Museum of Natural History at (708) 366-6530.

Sunday, July 7 • 10:30 a.m.

Pond Dip Discovery

Trailside Museum of Natural History, 738 Thatcher Ave., River Forest

Join us as we dip our nets in the water and scoop up our discoveries! Equipment provided. Ages 5 to 12 with adult.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/Email: trailside.museum@cookcountyiil.gov.

Registration required – Call Trailside Museum of Natural History at (708) 366-6530.

Thursday, July 11 • 10-10:30 a.m.

Stories in the Forest

Trailside Museum of Natural History, 738 Thatcher Ave., River Forest

Presented with River Forest Public Library. We'll read stories and do a simple nature activity. Weather dependent. Ages up to 5 years old with adult. Drop in.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/Email: trailside.museum@cookcountyiil.gov.

Friday, July 12 • 9:30 a.m.-Noon

Bird Painting Step-By-Step

Trailside Museum of Natural History, 738 Thatcher Ave., River Forest

Sketch and paint a barn swallow. Materials provided. All skill levels welcome. Ages 13 and up.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/Email: trailside.museum@cookcountyiil.gov.

Registration required – Call Trailside Museum of Natural History at (708) 366-6530. Cost: \$5.

**Take some time
to explore
our website at
www.fpdcc.com for
additional events and
valuable information
linked to the
Cook County
Forest Preserves
experience!**

Your next visit to Brookfield Zoo isn't complete unless you've experienced the amazing things on hand.

Here's a list of some incredible current and upcoming attractions. Be sure to check out our website at www.brookfieldzoo.org for additional happenings.

Want to make the most of your zoo experience? Become a member and you'll get exclusive discounts to most attractions, not to mention so much more!

Save the Dates for These Exciting Brookfield Zoo Chicago Events and Attractions!

Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Digital Photo Contest Now-Aug. 2, 2024

Calling all shutterbugs! Brookfield Zoo is a photographer's paradise with more than 3,000 animals representing over 500 species. So, grab your camera and head to Brookfield Zoo Chicago, where you might just capture a winning shot to enter in the zoo's 2024 Digital Photo Contest. Professional photographers will judge the photos and choose the grand prize winner, as well as select their top seven picks in each of the following categories – mammals, birds, and reptiles/amphibians/invertebrates/fish. The public is being asked to then go to the zoo's website and vote for first-, second- and third-place winners in each of the three categories. Photos may be submitted between now and Aug. 2, 2024. For additional information, including the official rules, and to fill out an entry form and upload your photo to submit electronically, go to brookfieldzoo.org/digitalphotocontest or call (708) 688-8351.

Roaring Nights – Summer Concert Series

July 12 – Barenaked Ladies • July 27 – Gin Blossoms

Take in the sounds of popular bands at Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Roaring Nights Summer Concert Series, presented by Meijer®. From anthemic tunes and high-energy performances to familiar genre-defying lyrics and melodies, and signature blends of rock and pop, guests can enjoy three unforgettable nights of music, fun and dancing the night away on the zoo's East Mall. Bring lawn chairs or blankets and make it a date night or a family night. A wide selection of delicious food and beverage items, including at the Tacos Caja and The Coop food trucks, Nectar and Graze, and the Beer Garden (sponsored by Coors Light), will be available for purchase. Proceeds from the concerts contribute to the care of the zoo's animals, education programming and global conservation efforts. Limited capacity and reservations are required. For more information, including band lineup and ticket pricing, visit brookfieldzoo.org/roaringnights or call (708) 688-8000.



A Midsummer Night's Feast Progressive Dinner Saturday, July 20

Enjoy a progressive dinner safari around the zoo – sipping cocktails and enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres while visiting multiple animal habitats and learning about the amazing creatures that call Brookfield Zoo Chicago home. The safari ends with a delicious three-course meal at the zoo's open-air Swan Pavilion with dessert served at The Carousel. The event benefits the education, scholarship and conservation initiatives supported by the Women's Board. For additional information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8393.

For more details or a complete listing of the fun, family activities happening at Brookfield Zoo Chicago, check out www.brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.

ZooBrew – Saturday, Aug. 17

Enjoy samplings from a selection of beers, lagers, ales, seltzers, ciders and hard lemonades at Brookfield Zoo Chicago's annual 21-and-over beer-tasting event. Libations will be poured by brew representatives at the zoo's pavilions from 1-5 p.m., with a VIP ticket option beginning at noon. Designated driver tickets, featuring unlimited soft drinks, are also available. All tickets include commemorative swag and admission, and parking to the zoo, allowing plenty of time to see your favorite animals. Children are not allowed in the event area. Photo ID is required upon entry. For additional information, including pricing and to make reservations, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.



Zoo Run – Sunday, Sept. 8

Whether you choose to run or stroll at a leisurely pace in Brookfield Zoo Chicago's annual Zoo Run, you'll help support the more than 3,000 animals that slither, hop, swim, fly, swing and walk at the zoo 365 days a year. The fun-filled event features a chip-timed 5k race at 8:30 a.m., followed by a chip-timed 1-mile race for kids ages 4-13. Each runner receives commemorative Zoo Run swag, bib containing timing chip, and snacks and beverages. Runners can bring along family and friends for free to cheer them on and visit the animals after the races! Proceeds from the event benefit the zoo's Animal Care and Conservation Fund. To register and for further information, including pricing, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.



Hispanic Heritage Fest – NEW Saturday, Sept. 21

Join us at Brookfield Zoo Chicago this fall for a new, vibrant Hispanic Heritage Fest on Saturday, Sept. 21! Delight in live music, delectable cuisine, cultural performances and more – all included with your zoo admission for a day of celebration and exploration. For more information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.



Oktoberfest – Saturday, Sept. 28

Prost (cheers) to Oktoberfest and the season of donning your lederhosen and enjoying live polka music at Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Oktoberfest, presented by Leinenkugel's. The festive event, which takes place on the zoo's East Mall, is free with general admission. Zoogoers can also pick up sponsor giveaways while taking in the sounds of Oktoberfest. Additionally, a seasonal menu featuring bratwursts, sausages, pretzels with beer cheese and more is available for purchase. For more information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.

Recycling Event – Saturday, Sept. 28

If you weren't able to do a spring clean earlier in the year, Brookfield Zoo Chicago is hosting a fall recycling event. Drop off your unwanted electronics, textiles and used books, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in the zoo's main parking lot located at 8400 31st St., in Brookfield. Representatives from Brookfield Zoo Chicago and its partner organizations – eWorks and USAgain – will be available to collect and recycle a variety of items. For a complete list of acceptable recyclables, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.

Boo! at the Zoo

Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 5-6, 12-13 and 19-20

Gather your ghoulfriends, and little ghosts and goblins, and head to Brookfield Zoo Chicago for its annual Boo! at the Zoo Halloween celebration. Families will have a fang-tastic time enjoying the fall season and the many themed photo frames and vignettes to take memorable snapshots. Take a spin on the Creepy Carousel or the zoo's Anniversary Ferris Wheel to view the park in its beautiful fall foliage. Zoogoers can learn about some not-so-scary critters during special zoo chats. Or, watch as some animals receive Halloween enrichment treats – pumpkins. Youngsters can receive their own sweet treat before they leave. For more information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.

Zoo After Dark: BOOs & Brews – NEW EVENT! Saturday, Oct. 19

Dress up in your favorite costume attire and have a ghoulishly fun time at Brookfield Zoo Chicago's new 21-and-over, after-hours Boos & Brews. Enjoy the Halloween-themed dance party, eerie entertainment, frightening animal experiences, and chilling specialty food and drinks. For additional information, including pricing, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.





**WESTLAKE URGENT CARE
NOW OFFERS
ALLERGY
TESTING
TO THE COMMUNITY**

COVERED BY INSURANCE

**TESTING FOR
SEASONAL
& FOOD ALLERGIES
RESULTS
WITHIN 1 HOUR
GET TESTED. GET RELIEF.**

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
708/690-1911**

**WESTLAKE URGENT CARE NFP
1419 W. Lake Street
Melrose Park**

www.westlakeurgentcareil.com

"SICK TODAY, SEEN TODAY"

Open 7 Days • Serving All Ages

Everyone Has the Right to Live Where They Choose

In the exercise of its power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals and welfare, it is declared to be the public policy of the village to assure fair housing and freedom from discrimination throughout the community, to protect the community from the effects of residential segregation by race, color, religion, sex, physical or mental handicap, familial status or national origin, and to secure to its citizens the economic, social, and professional benefits of living in an integrated and stable society.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Administers The Federal Fair Housing Act

Every first Monday of the month the Fair Housing Review Board meets at 6 p.m. in the Village of Melrose Park (1000 N. 25th Ave.). If you feel you have been discriminated in any way while renting, purchasing or selling a home you are welcome to attend our meetings to present your case.

Village of Melrose Park
Brian Miller, Office of the Village Attorney
(708) 343-4000, Ext. 4487



*Village of
Melrose Park*



**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**

MELROSE YARD SERVICES

PLANTING

Evergreens • Shrubs • Flowers
Trees • Sod • Seed

INSTALLATION

Pavers • Retaining Walls • Lighting
Decorative Stone/Mulch

MAINTENANCE

Lawn Service • Fertilization
Bush Trimming • Cleanups

SUBCONTRACTOR

Concrete/Asphalt Driveways
Lawn Sprinkler Systems

**MICHAEL
KESSLING**

Over 35 Years Experience

(708) 280-4448

PORTABLE RESTROOM RENTALS

SINGLE RESTROOM RENTAL UNITS AVAILABLE



• **PORTABLE RESTROOMS**

• **RESTROOM TRAILERS**

• **SPECIAL EVENTS & MORE**

CALL MIKE: 815-210-4477

MIKE.MATUSZAK@PORTABLEJOHN.COM

ComEd Reminds Customers of Billing Assistance, Energy Management Tools Available to Help Lower Costs this Summer

With Summer Temperatures Set to Heat Up, ComEd Programs Can Provide Bill Support and Empower Customers to Lower Energy Use

With meteorologists forecasting that summer temperatures in Illinois and nationwide could be the hottest on record, ComEd reminds customers of options available to help pay electric bills before summer usage increases.

“With communities experiencing increasingly high temperatures due to climate change, ComEd is empowering our customers and communities to navigate the summer months,” said Melissa Washington, ComEd’s senior vice president of Customer Operations and Strategic Initiatives. “If you’re experiencing economic hardship or difficulty paying bills, we urge you to immediately reach out to our teams. We can help connect you with information on bill assistance programs to help in the near term, as well as energy-management programs that can help lower bill costs into the future.”

With communities experiencing rising temperatures due to climate change, many families and businesses turn to air conditioners to deal with the heat. These and other cooling devices can cause increases in electricity use. Luckily, ComEd has options to help customers manage both bills and usage.

To make it easier for families and individuals to find bill-assistance and energy-savings options that best fit their needs, ComEd encourages customers to use its Smart Assistance Manager (SAM), an online self-service tool that matches customers with programs that can help them manage their electric bills now and into the future. Customers can access SAM at ComEd.com/SAM to find more information on any of the following options. Customers without online access can call 800-334-7661 (800-EDISON1).



Residential Bill-Assistance Options

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) which provides a one-time grant, per program year, with no payback required, while funding remains available. To be eligible, household incomes cannot exceed 200% of the federal poverty income guidelines which, for a family of four, is \$4,625 a month.
- Payment arrangements of up to 12 months for eligible residential customers with past-due balances. Make a down payment on the amount owed and pay the rest through installments in addition to your regular monthly bill.
- Due date extensions of up to 21 days of a customer’s due date.
- Budget billing, which provides a predictable monthly payment based on your electricity usage from the last 12 months.
- Deposit and late-payment charge waivers for income-eligible customers, along with the return of any current deposit.
- High-usage alerts, which enable customers to receive alerts when their usage is trending higher than normal to help manage overall energy use and energy-management tips to help customers manage energy use to save money now and on future energy bills.
- Catch Up and Save is a two-part program that provides monthly credits to an eligible customer’s bill to eliminate past-due balances, as well as a free, energy-savings kit – which includes home products designed to help lower home energy use while supplies last – to help families save on future energy bills.
- Fresh Start Services provides customers with both online and person-to-person support on options available to manage bills and energy use. This program also introduces customers to tools that will alert them when their energy use is trending higher than usual and help them be aware of financial-assistance options for which they may be eligible.
- Credit Empowerment provides one-on-one support to help individuals improve their credit scores. In collaboration with Working Credit, the program provides an overview of how the credit system works, helps participants create a personalized credit action plan to help them improve their specific credit situation and provides information on ComEd energy-efficiency offerings to the customer that will help the customer manage their energy use and energy bills.

To help customers manage energy usage and lower future bills, ComEd’s Energy Efficiency Program includes services and incentives to help income-eligible residential customers reduce energy use now and in the long term. Since 2008, the award-winning ComEd Energy Efficiency Program has helped hundreds of thousands of customers save a total of \$9 billion on their energy bills, as well as a total of 82 million megawatt-hours of electricity. This is enough energy to power more than 9.5 million ComEd customers’ homes for one year.

ComEd Customers Benefit from Improved Reliability in the First Four Months of 2024

First Four Months of the Year See 72% Improvement in Reliability

Despite continued challenges facing the electric grid, including more severe weather as a result of climate change and increased demand from electric vehicles (EVs) and other electrified technologies, ComEd in the first four months of 2024 delivered improved reliability as compared to the same period in 2023. Customers saw a 13% reduction in the number of power outages and a 72% reduction in outage duration.

“It wasn’t long ago that residents needed to have a flashlight at the ready because outages were expected. But ComEd’s investments in grid modern-

ization over the past decade have increased resiliency and improved overall reliability for northern Illinois residents and businesses – in fact, we were named the most reliable American utility last year,” said David R. Perez, ComEd EVP and COO. “Through our continued grid modernization to address current and future challenges, and the hard work of our more than 6,300 employees, we’re committed to reliably powering lives for the more than 9 million people we’re privileged to serve.”

ComEd’s performance comes as the company faces more powerful, storms and continues to focus on power grid investments and innovations, storm hardening and vegetation management solutions, and cable replacement to ensure continued strong service as new challenges impact the grid and as customer needs evolve. In 2023, ComEd saw record reliability in several areas, including a reduction in the frequency of outages. This work led the company to be named the most reliable utility in the nation in 2023.

ComEd customers have seen continuous improvement in grid reliability performance in recent years with fewer customer outages at any point in the company’s history and outages with a shorter duration when they do occur. Since ComEd started smart grid improvements in 2012, it has improved overall reliability by more than 70%, helping customers avoid nearly 21.7 million outages and save more than \$3.8 billion in outage-related costs.

“ComEd’s commitment to grid modernization is important to the state’s economic growth, as reliable power is essential to nearly every company looking for a new or expanded location,” said Intersect Illinois CEO Dan Seals. “We work with companies from a variety of industries with unique power needs, and Illinois’ availability of clean and reliable power is a key differentiator for the state.”

Strong reliability has been a driving factor for businesses seeking to expand and grow in the region with ComEd last year securing 15 new commercial projects, including nine data centers, collectively set to add 4,385 jobs at their facilities and more than \$8.6 billion in local investment. In addition to strong power reliability, business and residential customers alike enjoy access to an abundance of clean energy, with ability to meet 96% or more of customers’ energy consumption today with decarbonized energy sources and plans to reach 100% thanks to the recent passage of the state’s Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA).

ComEd is continuing to promote programs that expand renewable energy sources with a significant boom in community solar last year and with various clean energy incentive programs to make the path to a lower carbon future (whether that includes heat pumps, electric vehicles (EVs) or beyond) more affordable and accessible for communities across its northern Illinois service territory.

Customers Save \$9 Billion in Energy Costs Through Award-Winning ComEd Energy Efficiency Program

Association House Joins Long List of ComEd Customers Who are Reducing Energy Costs and Carbon Emissions Through US EPA-Recognized Program

ComEd recently announced that hundreds of thousands of customers have saved a total of \$9 billion on their energy bills through the company’s Energy Efficiency Program. The program, which launched in 2008 and is now one of the largest in the nation, also received an ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year—Sustained Excellence Award, the highest level of recognition from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for the 12th year in a row.

“ComEd’s commitment to providing safe, reliable and affordable energy includes offering customers tools to help them manage their energy use as a way to save money and the environment,” said Melissa Washington, ComEd’s chief customer officer and senior vice president of Customer Operations and Strategic Initiatives. “It’s an honor to be recognized by the EPA for efforts that help individuals and organizations redirect funds to areas that are lifting up families and communities.”

ComEd’s announcements were made at Association House, a community-based organization in Chicago’s Humboldt Park neighborhood, which leveraged ComEd EE incentives to install more than 1,600 energy-efficient lights. The project is expected to reduce Association House’s total operational costs by \$18,000 a year while saving enough energy to reduce its carbon emissions.

In addition to energy bill savings, Association House also qualified for \$90,000 in incentives through the program to help defray the cost of its investment. The project is expected to help Association House save nearly 300,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity a year, which is the same amount of electricity used to power 35 ComEd customer homes over the same time period. It also helps reduce 215,000 pounds of carbon emissions that contribute to climate change, which is the equivalent of planting nearly 120 acres of trees.

“Through our commitment to sustainability, Association House will use these significant funds saved to provide more resources and support to our more than 30 programs, impacting thousands of individuals in our community,” said Juan Carlos Linares, Association House president and CEO. “We are also proud to do our part in contributing to a healthier environment and lay the foundation for a more sustainable tomorrow.”

In addition to billions of dollars in bill savings, the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program has also helped customers save more than 82 million net megawatt-hours of electricity, which is enough energy to power more than 9.5 million ComEd customers’ homes for one year. The program has also helped reduce from the air more than 60 billion pounds of carbon emissions, which is the equivalent of removing more than 6.1 million cars off the road for one year or planting nearly 33 million acres of trees.

The award-winning program, which is funded in compliance with state law, offers residents, businesses and the public sector a variety of options that help them cut back on their energy use, which reduces energy bills and helps the environment.

Recipients of the EPA’s 2024 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award for Sustained Excellence are selected through a network of thousands of ENERGY STAR partners. ComEd is joined this year by peer Exelon operating companies BGE, Delmarva Power and PECO in receiving recognition for its programs delivering demonstrable energy savings and reduction as federal efforts call for more to curb the effects of climate change.

“President Biden’s Investing in America agenda creates unprecedented opportunity to build a clean energy economy and private sector partners through programs like ENERGY STAR are leading the way,” said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. “I congratulate this year’s ENERGY STAR award winners for their innovation and leadership, in delivering cost-effective energy efficient solutions that create jobs, address climate change and contribute to a healthier environment for all.”

ComEd residential customers interested in taking advantage of any of the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program offerings can view a full list of services, incentives and rebates at [ComEd.com/HomeSavings](https://www.comed.com/HomeSavings). Offerings for business customers are available at [ComEd.com/BizSavings](https://www.comed.com/BizSavings).



Gottlieb Center for Fitness



LIVE YOUR HEALTHIEST LIFE.

Join our fitness community today.

The Gottlieb Center for Fitness offers a variety of membership options including Individual Membership at just \$65 per month and Senior Membership at \$58 per month. At half the cost of other premium fitness centers, we offer all the amenities you need to help you achieve your fitness and well-being goals.

Our Special Services

We are ready to guide you on your health journey, offering high-quality services and amenities all included with your membership:

- Premium strength and cardio equipment
- Boutique fitness studios
- Spacious basketball court
- Large lockers rooms with steam room
- Two pools; Warm Water and Lap Pool
- Dry sauna and Oversized Whirlpool
- Indoor track
- Free parking
- Personal training
- Unlimited group exercise and aquatics classes



*Low \$50 joiner fee and affordable monthly dues. What are you waiting for? **Become a member today.***

708-538-5790
gottliebfitness.org

Loyola Medicine Launches Pioneering Women's Sports Medicine Program

Loyola Medicine proudly announces the launch of its Women's Sports Medicine (WSM) Program, a groundbreaking initiative dedicated exclusively to the health care needs of female athletes. This landmark program stands as the first of its kind in the Chicagoland area, offering a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach to sports medicine for women and girls.

The WSM Program at Loyola is tailored to the unique needs of female athletes, focusing on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sports-related injuries and conditions. It brings together a diverse team of specialists, including experts in orthopaedics, primary care, sports medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, urogynecology, podiatry, sports psychology and sports nutrition. This collaboration ensures that female athletes receive holistic and specialized care to perform at their best while minimizing the risk of injury.

Dr. Mary Mulcahey, division director of Sports Medicine in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation at Loyola Medicine, and a leading figure in the field of women's sports medicine, emphasizes the importance of this initiative, "Our goal is to support active girls and women at all levels of sports participation, from recreational athletes to those competing at collegiate and professional levels. By addressing the specific health and medical needs of female athletes, we aim to enhance their performance, ensure their well-being and empower them to achieve their full potential."

The WSM Program distinguishes itself through its specialized medical services and its commitment to education and community outreach. Loyola Medicine is proactively engaging with local teams, clubs and organizations to provide valuable resources on injury prevention and health maintenance for female athletes. The program's unique focus on female athletes fills a significant gap in sports medicine, positioning Loyola as a leader in this critical area of health care.

For more information about the Women's Sports Medicine Program at Loyola Medicine, please visit https://www.lojolamedicine.org/_campaigns/womens-sports-medicine/womens-sports-medicine.

DoorDash and Walgreens Launch Unprecedented Access for SNAP Customers

DoorDash is the First Platform that Enables SNAP Customers to Make Purchases Directly from Walgreens Using Their SNAP/EBT Cards

DoorDash, the local commerce platform, and Walgreens, a trusted, neighborhood health destination serving nearly 10 million customers each day, announced a new collaboration to offer SNAP/EBT payment at nearly 7,800 Walgreens stores across the country. DoorDash is the first platform that enables SNAP customers to make purchases directly from Walgreens using their SNAP/EBT cards. In addition, DoorDash is the first third-party delivery service provider (DSP) to offer SNAP/EBT as a payment option at a major drugstore nationwide.

With the addition of Walgreens, DoorDash more than doubles the number of stores available for on-demand delivery with SNAP/EBT payments on DoorDash. We continue to broaden food access by offering SNAP/EBT to more than 14 million people who are living in food deserts and over 40 million people living in communities where over one in 10 households receive SNAP/EBT benefits.

"Since launching support for SNAP/EBT payments in 2023, over 1.1 million consumers have added their SNAP/EBT cards to DoorDash," said Fuad Hannon, VP of New Verticals. "This first-of-its-kind partnership with Walgreens offers convenient and critical access to food and pantry essentials for families and individuals across the country. We're proud to remove as many barriers as possible when it comes to connecting people with food, wherever they live and however they choose to shop."

As prices continue to rise on groceries and household essentials, consumers can order SNAP-eligible products using their SNAP benefits from their local Walgreens through DoorDash. Walgreens will offer more than 4,000 SNAP-eligible products for delivery within an hour on DoorDash. Whether it's stocking up on breakfast essentials, including milk, oatmeal or juice, or pantry staples, such as nuts, bars or snacks, consumers can shop the Walgreens marketplace directly on the DoorDash app to fulfill their grocery needs quickly and affordably.

"This collaboration with DoorDash means our shoppers can now get essential grocery items when they want, regardless of payment method and other barriers like work schedules and transportation," said Balachandra Visalatha, SVP, chief product officer at Walgreens. "Walgreens is a go-to destination for daily needs for our shoppers and we continue to find solutions that make their shopping experience simpler so they can get access to healthier food options."

DoorDash is one of the largest online marketplaces to offer SNAP/EBT recipients access to grocery delivery across the country. Now, nearly all DoorDash's monthly active users have access to a SNAP store across all 50 states and Washington, D.C. To further our commitment to increase access to food, DoorDash is excited to offer SNAP/EBT consumers, who are currently not DashPass subscribers, \$0 delivery fee on up to three orders paid with SNAP at Walgreens. DashPass members can access thousands of restaurants, grocery and convenience stores at affordable prices, with \$0 delivery fees and reduced service fees on eligible orders. DashPass members save \$5 per eligible order on average.

Currently, Walgreens stores accept SNAP/EBT in person at most locations. This collaboration with DoorDash allows shoppers across the nation to use SNAP/EBT at any Walgreens, regardless of where they live.

About DoorDash – DoorDash (NASDAQ: DASH) is a technology company that connects consumers with their favorite local businesses in more than 30 countries across the globe. Founded in 2013, DoorDash builds products and services to help businesses innovate, grow and reach more customers. DoorDash is your door to more: the local commerce platform dedicated to enabling merchants to thrive in the convenience economy, giving consumers access to more of their communities and providing work that empowers.



Nicor Gas Accepting Grant Applications for Basic Needs Programs Across its Service Territory

Expanding on its commitment to support critical needs across its service territory, Nicor Gas is announcing \$100,000 in funding to support basic human needs programming.

Applications are being accepted from organizations and nonprofits to support their initiatives that provide food, shelter, clothing and disaster relief to the community. The application period closes Aug. 31 with funding decisions by Oct. 31. Selected nonprofits and community organizations will be eligible to receive up to \$5,000 in grant funds this year. The company is committed to providing relief to customers in need of extra assistance with their most basic needs.



“At Nicor Gas, we believe that a thriving community is built on health and stability,” said Jackie Nagel, manager of Community Affairs. “We are proud to partner with organizations that make a difference in the lives of our neighbors by meeting their basic needs and offering essential assistance.”

Last year, the company awarded \$100,000 in basic needs grants to 25 organizations. Grants included:

- **Allendale Association, Inc.** – Supports an emergency shelter and supportive services program for young adults ages 14-23 and ensures safe and stable housing.
- **Rock House Kids** – Supports a hot meal program for youth in the after-school program including a food bag to take home over the weekend.
- **Brightpoint** – Provides up to 72 hours of no-cost crisis childcare for families to keep children safe when parents are unable to care for them.

Nicor Gas focuses its charitable giving on five pillars: environmental stewardship, diversity, education, community enrichment, and basic human needs and energy assistance.

To apply for basic needs grant, visit <https://www.nicorgas.com/company/about-us/charitable-giving/pillars-of-giving.html>.

Applications are also being accepted through June 30 for grants to support diversity initiatives and through July 31 to support cultural and community enrichment programs.

To learn more about Nicor Gas’ commitment to its communities, visit NicorGas.com/Community.

Nicor Gas Accepting Grant Applications for Cultural and Community Service Programs

Expanding on its commitment to support neighborhoods across its service territory where stabilization needs are the greatest, Nicor Gas is announcing \$100,000 in funding to support cultural and community service programs.

Community nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) designation may apply for grants from Nicor Gas to support their cultural and community service initiatives. Applications are available at NicorGas.com/CharitableGiving through July 31 with funding decisions by Sept. 30. Selected nonprofits and community organizations are eligible to receive up to \$5,000 in grant funds this year.

Nicor Gas invests in nonprofit organizations that contribute to the vitality, sustainability and livability of neighborhoods where its customers live and work through the support of local museums and theatres, social services and early childhood organizations, and non-core health services, such as mental health, substance abuse and domestic abuse, mentorship and job services programs, and organizations that target civic development.

“At Nicor Gas, we believe that strong communities are built on the foundation of good citizens working together,” said Jackie Nagel, manager of Community Affairs. “We are committed to improving our local neighborhoods and communities by partnering with nonprofits who are making an impact through cultural and community programs and services.”

Last year the company awarded \$100,000 in community enrichment grants to 23 organizations. Grants included:

- **National Alliance on Mental Illness** – Supports an education and support services program that addresses chronic mental illness using a comprehensive approach to education and treatment options.
- **Illinois Valley Industries** – Supports programs and services for adults with developmental disabilities in Grundy County, including job readiness, independent living skills and community access and engagement programs.
- **Freeport Arts Center** – Supports the smArt After School Program, which engages underserved youth in dynamic visual and performing arts activities to build problem-solving skills and boost self-confidence.

Nicor Gas focuses its charitable giving on five pillars: environmental stewardship, diversity, education, community enrichment, and basic human needs and energy assistance.

To apply for a cultural or community service grant, visit <https://www.nicorgas.com/company/about-us/charitable-giving/pillars-of-giving.html>.

Applications are also being accepted through June 30 for grants to support diversity initiatives

To learn more about Nicor Gas’ commitment to its communities, visit NicorGas.com/Community.



— The Legacy Lives On! —

HOME OF THE \$100 DOWN!

*For more than 50 years the mission of **Al Piemonte Ford** has been to treat our customers, employees and shoppers with professionalism and courtesy.*

*Choose **Al Piemonte Ford** when shopping for a new vehicle or servicing your current one.*

Al Piemonte 

**25TH & NORTH AVE.
IN MELROSE PARK**

**(708) 345-9300
apford.com**

Obituaries

Anderson

Margaret "Marge" Anderson, nee Leichtenberg, age 69, of Niles, passed away unexpectedly on April 23, 2024. Marge was the loving mother of the late Bob Anderson, the late Eric Anderson and Kelly (Joe) Malikowski; cherished grandmother of the late Mikey Hayes; beloved sister of Robert Leichtenberg and Ed (the late Kris) Leichtenberg. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Barone

Carolina Barone. Dearly beloved wife of the late Aniello Barone; loving mother of Sabato "Sam", Salvatore (Kristina) and Angelo "Mike" (Elizabeth) Barone; beloved daughter of the late Alberto and Domenica Cirino; cherished nonna of Michael Anthony, Aniello "Nello" Raymond, Liam Salvatore, Sabato "Sammy" Americo and Carolina May; great-grandmother of Jackson Carter and Amelia Luna; dear sister of Fiorina, Amalia, Arturo, the late Angela and the late Antonio; cherished aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Mausoleum.

Bova

Anna Bova, nee Scaletta, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 19, 2024, while surrounded by her loving family at the golden age of 83. Beloved wife of the late Ignazio for a loving 50 years; devoted mother of Maria (Mario) Marino and Vincenza Rossi; loving daughter of the late Mariano and the late Vincenza (nee Balsamo) Scaletta; fond grandmother of Vincent (Amber) Marino, Teresa Rossi, Anthony (Arianna) Marino and Johnny Rossi; beloved great-grandmother of Massimo, Natalia, Sienna and Matteo; dear sister of Franca (Giuseppe) Calamera, the late Maria (the late Giovanni) Campagna, the late Ignazia (the late Diego) Anselmo and the late Providenza (the late Bartolo) DePetro; dear aunt, great-aunt and great-great-aunt to many. Arrangements by Russo's Hillside Chapels. Entombment at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Christ The King Garden Mausoleum.

Cariello

Sara M. Cariello. Beloved wife of the late Salvatore J. Cariello; loving mother of Dorian (Toby MD) Barbato; beloved daughter of the late Alfred and Mary Carbonaro; cherished nana of Matthew (Hannah), Natalie and Alexis; dear sister of Marie Iosco and the late Michael Carbonaro; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Dargento

Pietro Dargento. Dearly beloved husband of the late Maria Dargento; loving father of Angela Dargento, Frank Dargento and Pasquale Dargento; beloved son of the late Frank and Angela Dargento; cherished grandpa of Angelica Mondragon and Giuliana Dargento; dear brother of Filomena Mola, the late Vince Dargento, the late Mike Dargento, the late Savino Dargento and the late Agnes Mastrodonardo; dear brother-in-law of Rocco (Rosalba) Battista; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Devita

Joseph Devita. Dearly beloved husband of the late Joyce DeVita (nee Marino); loving father of Angela (Jeffrey) Costantino, Elisa (Glen Penning), Anthony (Laura) and Gina (Jim) Gerardi; beloved son of the late Anthony and Lisa DeVita ; cherished grandfather of Joseph (Maria) Recchia, Christina (Jim) Vocos, Frankie (Kathy) Recchia, Briana Gerardi, Nikole DeVita, Gia Gerardi, Joseph DeVita and the late Nicole Recchia; great-grandfather of Kylie Recchia, Brooklyn Recchia, Johnny Vocos, Emory Recchia, Joey Recchia and Francesca Recchia; dear brother of Jerry and the late George; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Mausoleum.

De La Torre

Oscar De La Torre. Beloved son of Rigoberto and Griselda; cherished brother of Gael, Alejandro and Janet; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Greco

Antonio Greco passed away surrounded by his loving family May 17, 2024. Beloved husband of Teresa Greco (nee Ventura) for a loving 60 years; devoted and loving father of Anthony (Tracy) Greco and Julia (Dominic) Lodato; loving son of the late Francesco and Giulia Fiorina Greco; fond grandfather of Anthony, Trista, Francesco and Giovanni; dear brother of Franca, Maria, Anna, the late Lisa and late Massimo; dear uncle and great-uncle of many, as well as a cherished cousin. Arrangements by Russo's Hillside Chapels. Interment at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Lang

Lance Lang. Proud veteran of the United States Army. Beloved husband, loving father, cherished brother, caring uncle, cousin, friend and mentor to many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Larry

Pascal M Larry. Dearly beloved husband of Sue Larry (nee Scarpelli); loving father of Gina and Cathy (Anthony); beloved son of the late Pascal and Violet Larry; dear brother of the late Rosemarie Larry; dearest great- and great-great-uncle, AKA as "Doobie" to nieces Felice and Sophia; loving uncle to many nieces and nephews. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Maggio

Nicky John Maggio. Nicky will be missed dearly by his loving wife, family and friends. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Maher

John "Jack" Maher. Beloved husband of Peggy (nee Cavanagh); loving father of Kathleen (John), John (Lisa) and Maureen (Andy); beloved son of the late John and Ann Maher; cherished papa of Colleen, Meghan, John, Mary Rose, Caitlin, Danny, J.P., Kylie and Kayden; dear brother of Joanne Maher Barr; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Romano

JoEllyn Romano, nee Hoey. Dearly beloved wife of Guy Romano; loving mother of Natalie Romano; beloved daughter of the late James "Jim" and Mary Jane Hoey; dear sister of Michael (Shelley) Hoey, Tommy (Shelley) Hoey, Laura (Neal) Bogart and the late Jimmy Joey; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Mausoleum.

Serpico

Jo Ann Serpico, nee Salerno. Beloved wife of the late Philip A. Serpico; devoted mother of Philip, Joseph and Christopher; loving daughter of the late Joseph R. and Ella Salerno; dear sister of Rosaria Salerno and the late Theresa (late Frank) Paterno; dear daughter-in-law of the late Philip and Beatrice Serpico; loving sister-in-law of Roseanne Cataldo, Donald "D.A." (Nancy) Serpico and the late Gilbert Cataldo; adored grandma of Joseph, Philip, Tylor and Ella; cherished aunt of Frank (Jenene) and Joseph (Kathy); fond aunt, great-aunt and cousin to many.

Jo Ann has been immersed in the activities of the community since birth, thanks to the unwavering involvement of her father, Joseph R. Salerno. "My father was a member of every Italian society, club and lodge in the Chicago area," she fondly recalls. "It's only natural that I followed his example of

promoting Italian values and traditions.” One of the founders of the Rosario D. Salerno Sons Funeral Homes, he was an early organizer of the Chicago-area Italian-American community, a member of the Selective Service Board, the founder of the Roosevelt Loan Co. and candidate for the Illinois Senate. He was one of the founders of the Italian Welfare Council, the precursor of the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans and he helped to create an Italian-American community center in McHenry, where Jo Ann and her sisters, Rosaria and Theresa, spent the summers. Jo Ann graduated from St. Mary’s High School, attended Marquette University and graduated from Worsham College of Mortuary Science. She married Philip Serpico in 1961 and raised three children – Philip, Joseph and Christopher. Before long, Jo Ann became involved in Elmwood Park, where she and her husband made their home. Over the decades, she has served as a village trustee, and Republican committeewoman and precinct captain, and she has held leadership positions in the Elm School PTA and the Elmwood Park Women’s Club, Infant Welfare Society and Friends of the Library. Jo Ann served as a village health inspector before embarking on a 25-year career as a health facility surveyor for the Illinois Department of Public Health. She received a Bachelor of Science in public service administration, earning registration as a sanitarian and certification as an environmental health practitioner and environmental health specialist. In 1990, she became a member of the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans and rose through the ranks to become its second woman president. She has served as the executive director of the JCCIA since 2010. Jo Ann is also a past president of the Calabresi in America Organization and Maroons Ladies Club, past secretary of the Italo American Soccer and Social Club “Maroons” and the Italian American War Veterans Joseph Gentile Post 2. A perennial attendee at dinner dances across the Chicago area and throughout the year, she is an active member of the Italian American Women’s Organization, Italian American War Veterans Guido Belmonte Post 4 Auxiliary, JCCIA Women’s Division and West Suburban Women’s Division, Società San Francesco di Paola, and an honorary member of the Italian American Executives of Transportation. Jo Ann chaired the 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 JCCIA Man of the Year Dinner Dance and the 2003, 2005 and 2006 Italian Cultural Center’s Person of the Year Dinner Dance. She is a founding member of the Casa Italia Board of Directors and served as corporate secretary in 2003 and 2004. Over the years, Jo Ann has been honored by the Italo American Soccer and Social Club “Maroons”, Italian American Executives of Transportation, Cook County Board President John Stroger, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas, Illinois Department of Public Health, Cook County Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown, JCCIA Women’s Division, Order Sons of Italy in America State Grand Lodge, Sons and Daughters of Italy in America, Italian American Police Association, Comune di Campofelice di Roccella, Provincia di Palermo, the Italian American Political Coalition and the Comboni Missionaries. In 2018, the president of Italy inducted her into the ranks of the Cavaliere dell’Ordine della Stella d’Italia in recognition of her many contributions to the community and in 2019, Pappas designated her an honorary deputy Cook County treasurer. All that she has done, she has done for her father. “I imagine him looking down on me from Heaven and feeling a sense of pride that his daughter was able to achieve what he once did so long ago.”

Arrangements by Salerno’s Rosedale Chapels. Interment Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Spair

Josephine “Jo” Spair, 84, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, passed away on Friday, April 26, 2024, at Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center. Born on Oct. 27, 1939, in Melrose Park, she was the daughter of the late Alberico and Teresa (Agasucci) Mannozi. On Aug. 15, 1959, she married Sam Spair in Melrose Park. They later moved to Bartlett, Illinois, where they lived for 22 years. In 2016, they moved to Kenosha where he later preceded her in death on May 13, 2019. If you could sum up Jo in one word it would be family. She looked forward to Sunday family dinners, watching her family and somehow always “became allergic to the kitchen appliances.” She adored her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and had the honor of being called “GG”. She would have weekly dominos and food with her friends in

the cul-de-sac and looked forward to the weekly (if not daily) neighborhood happy hour. Jo is survived by her two children – Sam (Joan) Spair and Debbie (Mark) Camaioni; four grandchildren – Sam (Tiffany) Spair, Michelle (Steven) Dimitrijevic, Jenny (Jonathan) Booth and Laura (Trever) Arnold; great-grandchildren – Evelyn, Sawyer, Lakelyn, Rudi, Lena, Elle and two more on the way; and sister – Sophia Cicero. Jo was also very close with all her nieces and nephews. Along with her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her son, Michael in infancy and siblings – Elena Pantaleo and “Lash” Mannozi. Arrangements by Proko Funeral Home & Crematory. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Sperando

Marie “Dolly” Sperando. Loving mother of Richie (Toni) Sperando, Vincie (Deborah) Sperando, Dina (John) Peso and Joey (Helene) Sperando; beloved daughter of the late Joseph and Josephine Sperando; cherished nanz of Remi, Matthew, Richie, Hugo and Joey; dear sister of June (the late Anthony Jr.) Stellato, the late Frances Sperando and the late Jerry Sperando; like a mother to Kerry-Jo Stellato and the late Pepe Stellato; like a grandmother to Joseph and Anthony Stellato; to know Dolly was to love Dolly. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Stellato

June D. Stellato. Passed away peacefully on June 5, during her sister Dolly’s wake to be together again. Beloved wife of the late Anthony Stellato Jr.; loving mother of Kerry-Jo and the late Joseph “Pepe”; beloved daughter of the late Joseph and Josephine Sperando; Fond grandmother of Joseph and Anthony; dear sister of the late Frances Sperando, the late Marie “Dolly” Sperando, the late Jerry Sperando and the late Sam; like a mother to Richie, Vincie, Dina and Joey; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven.

Tusa

Provvidenza Tusa. Dearly beloved wife of the late Giacomo; loving mother of Lina (Giuseppe) Spinnato, Salvatore Tusa, Beatrice (Franco) Spinnato, Rose (Pete) Camamo and Ignazio (Patti) Tusa; beloved daughter of the late Ignazio and Beatrice Albano; fond grandmother of Francesca (Nick), Fabrizio (Claudia), Giacomo (Briana), Giacomo (Ari), Nancy (Denis), Enza (Vito), Francesca (Vincenzo), Daniela (Giovanni), Stephanie, Rosalia, Andrew, Massimo, Vincent (Samantha) and Alexandra; fond great-grandmother of Marcella, Giuliana, Nicholas, Giuseppe, Gia, Nez, Aldino, Leo, Damiro, Mila, Rosella, Renzo, Alexia, Jemma, Domenico, Giovanni, Izabella, Valentina, Olivia and Anthony; dear sister of Maria, Cristina, the late Giovanni, Brigida, Rosario and Giuseppe; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Verzillo

Rosa Verzillo. Beloved wife of the late Franco; loving mother of Luciana (Rocco) Colella and the late Giuseppe (Jessica); beloved daughter of the late Antonio and Rosa Donatelli; fond grandmother of Rosangela (Matthew) Eder, Domenico (Jaclyn) Colella, Francesco Colella, Giuliana Verzillo and Franco Verzillo; fond great-grandmother of Maddalena; loving sister, aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment All Saints Cemetery.

Zapata

Maria Zapata. Loving mother of 10; loving grandmother of 36; great-grandmother of 60; great-great-grandmother of six; Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Saint Mary’s Cemetery.

Dominican Literacy Center Continues to Provide English Instruction and More ...

The Dominican Literacy Center originally began in Chicago, at the request of the pastor of Our Lady of Grace Parish in 1996. In 2008, the building housing the center was deemed to need extensive repairs and could not be used. In June of 2008, the center was graciously welcomed to rent a part of Sacred Heart Convent in Melrose Park, where it has continued to provide English instruction for the past 14 years.

The goal of the Dominican Literacy Center is the empowerment of persons who experience personal and economic limitations within our English-speaking society. Through literacy education and personal relationships, we strive to provide a small step toward eliminating racial and cultural prejudice and stereotypes, as well as a step up for persons seeking improvement in their personal, familial and economic abilities.

The Dominican Literacy Center provides weekly one and half hour tutored sessions in which one student meets with one tutor. The center provides tutoring in speaking, reading and writing English, as well as tutoring in preparation for the Citizenship interview and exam. This individualized instruction is provided for immigrant women and men (ages 17+) who are – endeavoring to reduce literacy and its consequential effects of isolation (due to their inability to communicate in English with health care providers, children’s teachers, neighbors, co-workers, community leaders and/or first responders); in low-level jobs (due to lack of training or skills, or an inability to demonstrate their already achieved skills and knowledge); powerless to supervise their adolescent children or to influence systemic change; lacking confidence to enroll in traditional classes and or fear of requesting help when needed.

English Classes

English classes are provided for those who want to learn to speak, read or write in English. One student meets with one tutor, once a week.

These classes are offered at the Dominican Literacy Center, 1503 Rice Street, in Melrose Park (near Sacred Heart/St. Eulalia Parish).

Our program also assists persons studying for their Citizenship interview/exam.

We presently offer classes on Monday through Thursday, in the mornings and afternoons.

Please call Sr. Judith Curran at (708) 338-0659.

Dominican Literacy Center
1503 Rice Street • Melrose Park, IL 60160

English Classes for Women

Clases de Inglés para mujeres

Clases de Inglés para aprender como hablar, leer y escribir.

Clases para mujeres que quieren aprender a leer, escribir y hablar en Inglés serán ofrecidas en el Centro Dominicano de Alfabetización, 1503 Rice St.

Nuestro programa tambien ayuda a hombres y mujeres que están estudiando para pasar el examen de ciudadanía.

En este momento, tenemos maestras disponibles para clases por las mañanas.

Si a usted le gustaria aprender Inglés mejor, por favor llamar a Hermana Judith Curran – (708) 338-0659.

Centro Dominicano de Alfabetización
Calle Arroz 1503 • Parque Melrose, IL 60160

Carbonara Funeral Directors

Traditional Funerals

Cremations

Memorial Services

Immediate Burials



**Pre-Arrangements,
with or without
prepayment of services**

**Chapels available
near your home**

Now Open at
1515 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park

Bus: (708) 343-6161 Home: (708) 865-8124 Cell: (708) 724-7500



2024 Village of Melrose Park RE: 0311860 Consumer Confidence Annual Water Quality Report Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2023

This publication conforms to the new federal regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act that requires water utilities to provide a detailed water quality report to each of their customers annually. The Village of Melrose Park must provide you with this information. The Village also believes that knowledgeable customers are the Village's best allies in support of improving high drinking water standard.

If you have any questions relating to your water supply, and this report, please contact Mr. Mike Carpanzano, Water Superintendent (708-531-5360).

SPANISH NOTICE

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The report outlines the processes involved in delivering to you the highest quality drinking water available.

1. Where does my water come from?
2. How is my water treated and purified?
3. How safe is my drinking water?

SOURCE WATER (MANDATORY)

VILLAGE OF MELROSE PARK DRINKING WATER SOURCE

Lake Michigan is the surface water supply used to provide drinking water for Chicago and 123 suburban communities. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found that the quality of Lake Michigan has improved dramatically over the past 21 years. Lake Michigan, by volume, is the second largest Great Lake and the only one located totally within the United States. It serves as a source of drinking water, as a place for swimming and fishing, and as a scenic wonderland. Sources of drinking water used for both tap water and bottled water can pick up contaminants as water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground. The drinking water source is vulnerable to industrial waste and runoff from surrounding lands. Potential sources of pollution such as pesticides, herbicides, radioactive materials, and organic and inorganic petroleum and gas production by-products can impact the source water. We do not have indications of the presence of these contaminants at this time, mainly because of restrictions, which prohibit industrial effluents from entering Lake Michigan, Sewage treatment plant effluents are not discharged into the lake, thereby reducing the threat of microbial contamination. All 63 miles of shoreline within Illinois are now considered to be in good condition. The Illinois EPA Office of Groundwater will be doing a source water assessment within the next three years. When completed, all sources of Pollutants into Lake Michigan will be identified and there will be information regarding the source water's susceptibility to contaminants based on the findings of the assessment. Since the quality of the raw water source is good, conventional treatment methods of disinfection, coagulation and sedimentation, and sand filtration are adequate for producing a water that is free of harmful contaminants.

HOW IS MY WATER TREATED AND PURIFIED?

The City of Chicago Water Department provides the water treatment necessary to safeguard the water delivered to Melrose Park. Water is taken from Lake Michigan at several water inlets located about 3 miles from shore. Chlorine is then injected into the water for disinfection. The water then flows through a series of settling and filtration basins where small amounts of polymer and sedimentation chemicals are added. After this process is complete, the water is filtered to remove the sediment. At this point the water is filtered through layers of fine charcoal and silicate sand. Small particles are removed and pure clean water is ready to be re-chlorinated as a safeguard and precaution against any microorganisms.

VOLUNTARY TESTING (OPTIONAL)

The Chicago Water Department monitors for contaminants which are proposed to be regulated or for which no standards currently exist but which could provide useful information in assessing the quality of the source water or the drinking water.

Cryptosporidium – Analyses have been conducted monthly on the source water since April 1993. Cryptosporidium has not been detected in these samples. Treatment processes have been optimized to ensure that if there are cryptosporidium cysts in the source water, they will be removed during the treatment process. By maintaining a low turbidity and thereby removing the particles from the water, the threat of cryptosporidium organisms getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced.

Asbestos – Samples are examined for asbestos fibers in the source water and finished water on a routine basis. The EPA has determined that asbestos fibers greater than 10 microns in length could potentially cause lung cancer. We did not find fibers that are in this size category.

Taste and odor compounds – MIB and geosmin are monitored both in the source water and finished water. These analyses assist the personnel to determine the effectiveness of the treatment process as they strive to reduce these compounds and provide a drinking water without detectable tastes and odors.

The City of Chicago carefully monitors the chlorine, using just enough chlorine to protect its customers, without compromising taste. Lastly, fluoride is added to inhibit tooth decay. A corrosive inhibitor is added to protect the distribution system pipes.

The finished water is pumped into the City of Chicago supply system. The water there is pumped westerly by the city's Springfield Pumping Station through a 48"-36" supply line to the Village of Melrose Park's connection at Harlem and Wabansia.

Water is stored in the Village's 2 million gallon reservoir and again pumped by a booster station at 8300 North Avenue. The water travels through a 42" supply line to 2-4 million gallon reservoirs at the 15th Avenue pumping station and a 2 million gallon reservoir at the 23rd Avenue Main Pumping Station. At those points the water is pumped into the local water distribution lines. The Village of Melrose Park once again tests the water for chlorine levels, and adds the required chlorine to insure clean and safe water to its consumers.

SUBSTANCE EXPECTED IN DRINKING WATER

Under The Safe Drinking Water Act. S.D.W.A., the U.S.A. Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for establishing national limits for hundreds of substances in drinking water. The Act also specifies various treatments that water systems must use to remove these substances.

The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Village Of Melrose Park is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

IF THERE WERE A PROBLEM WITH WATER CONTAMINANT, WHO WOULD NOTIFY ME?

If contaminant levels were to exceed the M.C.L. for safe use, the Village of Melrose Park Department of Public Works will notify you with newspaper, TV and radio announcements. Also, the Village's Emergency Services/Public Safety would patrol the streets of Melrose Park instructing you of what appropriate action you can use to protect your family's health. These actions might include boiling the water for a particular period of time.

TABULAR INFORMATION

This report includes tables of contaminants found in drinking water. The tables do not list contaminants that were not found in the Chicago and Melrose Park water supply. Any contaminants detected in Melrose Park's water were under maximum contaminants levels (M.C.L.) within the safe drinking water guidelines set by U.S. EPA and are not expected to cause any health risks. However, it is important for you to know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

The Village of Melrose Park hopes this information helps make its water customers better informed on the water we use in our homes and businesses.

2023 NON-DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

The following table includes contaminants monitored for, but not detected in the most recent sample. The CCR rule does not require that this information be reported; however, monitoring had indicated that these contaminants were not present in the water supply. In some cases, if a contaminant is not detected in a water supply, monitoring can be reduced to once every three or six years, however, the Village monitors every year.

DATA TABULATED BY CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT 2023 WATER QUALITY DATA

-Definition of Terms;

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Level Found: This column represents an average of sample result data collected during the CCR calendar year. In some cases, it may represent a single sample if only one sample was collected.

Range of Detections: This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.

Date of Sample: If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the Consumer Confidence Report calendar year.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which water systems must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Nd: Not detectable at testing limits. **n/a:** not applicable

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

| Contaminant (unit of measurement) Typical Source of Contaminant | MCLG | MCL | Highest Level Found | Range of Detections | Violation | Date of Sample |
|---|------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------------|
| TURBIDITY DATA | | | | | | |
| Turbidity (%<0.3 NTU) Soil runoff. Lowest monthly percent meeting limit. | N/a | TT(Limit 95% 0.3NTU) | Lowest Monthly % | 100%-100% | | |
| Turbidity (NTU) Soil runoff. Highest single measurement. | N/a | TT(Limit 1NTU) | 0.25 | N/a | | |
| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | |
| Barium (ppm) Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. | 2 | 2 | 0.0195 | 0.0192-0.0195 | | |
| Nitrate (As Nitrogen) (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. | 10 | 10 | 0.33 | 0.29-0.33 | | |
| Total Nitrate & Nitrite (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. | 10 | 10 | 0.33 | 0.29-0.33 | | |
| TOC (Total Organic Carbon) The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA. | | | | | | |
| UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | |
| Sulfate (ppm) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits | n/a | n/a | 27.8 | 25.0-27.8 | | |
| Sodium (ppm) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener. | N/a | n/a | 8.71 | 8.43-8.71 | | |
| STATE REGULATED CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | |
| Fluoride (ppm) Water additive which promotes strong teeth. | 4 | 4 | 0.74 | 0.66-0.74 | | |
| RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | |
| Combined Radium (226/228) (pCi/l) Decay of natural and man-made deposits | 0 | 5 | 0.95 | 0.83-0.95 | 2/4/2020 | |
| GROSS APLHA excluding radon and uranium Decay of natural and man-made deposits | 0 | 15 | 3.1 | 2.8-3.1 | 2/4/2020 | |

UNIT OF MEASUREMENT

ppm - Parts per million, or milligrams per liter ppb - Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water
%<0.5 NTU – Percent samples less than 0.5 NTU
pCi/l – Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity.

WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE FOOTNOTES

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

Unregulated Contaminants:

A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for this contaminant has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose for monitoring this contaminant is to assist USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.

Fluoride

Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride range of 0.9 mg/l to 1.2 mg/l.

Sodium

There is not a state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials that are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about this level of sodium in the water.

2023 VIOLATION SUMMARY TABLE FOR CHICAGO

| Contaminant or Program | Violation Type | Monitoring Period Start Date-End Date | Violation Explanation |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--|-----------------------|
| None | None | None | None |
| Health Effects (if Applicable) | None | None | None |
| Actions we took: | None | | |

WHAT'S IN MY WATER?

Each year, the Village analyzes hundreds of water samples for bacteria, turbidity, inorganic contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic contaminants. For your information, we have compiled a list in the table below showing what substances were detected in our drinking water.

VILLAGE OF MELROSE PARK

Lead & Copper – Lead and copper samples were collected from 30 area homes. None were found to exceed the Action Level. The 90th percentile values are shown.

Regulated Contaminants Detected in 2023 (Collected in 2023.)

| Lead and Copper Date Sampled: 2023 | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------|-----------|--|
| Lead MCLG | Lead Action | Lead 90th Percentile | # Sites Over Lead AL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contaminant |
| 0 ppb | 15 ppb | 3 | 0 | ppb | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper MCLG | Copper Action | Copper 90th Percentile | # Sites Over Copper AL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contaminant |
| 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.03 | 0 | ppm | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |

WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety. **mg/l:** milligrams per litre or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Ug/l: micrograms per litre or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

Na: not applicable.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDLG): The level of disinfectant to drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's allow for a margin of safety.

| Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | Regulated Contaminants | | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contaminants |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------|-------|-----------|---|
| | | | | MCLG | MCL | | | |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | 2023 | 17 | 8.64-25.8 | No goal for the total | 60 | ppb | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) | 2023 | 35 | 19.78-47 | No goal for the total | 80 | ppb | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Chlorine | 2023 | 1.2 | 1.1-1.2 | MRDLG=4 | MDRL=4 | ppm | No | Water additive used to control microbes |

*MCL Statement: The maximum contaminant level (MCL) for TTHM and HAA5 is 80 ppm and 60 ppm respectively and is currently only applicable to surface water supplies that serve 10,000 or more people. These MCLs will become effective 01/01/2005 for all groundwater supplies and surface supplies serving less than 10,000 people. Until 01/01/2005, surface water supplies serving less than 10,000 people, any size water supply that purchase from a surface water source, and groundwater supplies serving more than 10,000 people must meet a state imposed TTHM MCL of 100 ppm. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years experience problems with their livers, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.

2023 VIOLATION SUMMARY TABLE FOR MELOSE PARK

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| None | None | None | None |

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water, but can also save you money by reducing your water and sewer bills. Here are a few suggestions.

Conservation measures you can use inside your home include:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc. • Replace old fixtures, install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry. • Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers. • Do not let water run while shaving or brushing teeth. • Soak dishes before washing. • Run the dishwasher only when full.

You can conserve outdoors as well:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening. • Use mulch around plants and shrubs. • Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles. • Use water from a bucket to wash your car and save the hose for rinsing.

Special Notice for Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants for Melrose Park

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that these data are available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Michael Carpanzano at 708-531-5360 or mail your request to Village of Melrose Park c/o Michael Carpanzano 1000 North 25th Avenue, Melrose Park, IL. 60160

This notice is being sent to you by Melrose Park Water Department. State Water System ID#: 0311860.

Date distributed: June 20, 2024.

For questions or concerns regarding this report, please call the Melrose Park Village Hall at (708) 343-4000.



Village of Melrose Park
1000 N. 25th Avenue
Melrose Park, IL 60160
708.343.4000 FAX 708.343.9745

The Rose is published by the Village of Melrose Park and distributed free of charge to residents and business people in the village as a public information service. All materials, articles, photographs and illustrations in *The Rose* are the property of the Village of Melrose Park, and cannot be duplicated or used in any fashion without the express consent of the village.

MAYOR

Ronald M. Serpico

CLERK

Mary Ann Paolantonio

TRUSTEES

Anthony N. Abruzzo, Jaime Anguiano, Arturo J. Mota,
Sonny Nicotera, Mary Ramirez Taconi, Anthony "Tony" Williams

VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BOARD MEETINGS

Second and fourth Monday of each month (unless otherwise indicated)
at 6 p.m., 1 N. Broadway

**Village of Melrose Park
1000 N. 25th Avenue
Melrose Park, IL 60160**

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 231
60160

**POSTAL CUSTOMER
MELROSE PARK, IL 60160**