## The Official Newsletter of the Village of Melrose Park

## A Message From Mayor Ronald M. Serpico

#### Dear Neighbors,

I would like to start this letter with some very colorful comments about this relentless winter. However, since *The Rose* is a family publication, I will withhold my real feelings about the Polar Vortex and move on to other subjects. In the next few weeks, potholes and broken water mains may occur as the snow melts and then refreezes. If you see a pothole on your street, please call (708) 343-5128 and if you witness a water main break, call (708) 531-5347.

And now, I would like to dedicate a few sentences to our village website, which can be accessed at www.melrosepark.org. The website, which is currently being updated, is full of important information about village services and community events. We even recently added a tab that when clicked allows you to translate the site into 76 different languages. The website also welcomes any information or announcements that your local youth, senior, church, school or athletic organization wishes to post. Please e-mail your information to hondo1949@gmail.com.

Getting back to the weather, there has been a lot of talk lately about the biggest snowfall, the coldest day, and so on, which for some reason led me to start thinking about other stand out moments in time, which in turn led me to think about a very unique group of people in history. And that, of course, is that special generation, born between 1901 and 1925, which we have come to celebrate as America's "Greatest Generation."

This is the generation who survived the Great Depression by going without and working hard so their children could have more. This is the generation that sent 16 million of its finest men and women during World War II to defeat the most evil of tyranny. And when they were finished, they came home, went to work, raised the "Baby Boomers" and made the United States the greatest country in the world.

Unfortunately, in the last few years I have had the sad duty of attending many wakes of people from this generation, including many of our very own Melrose Park neighbors (the 2010 census listed approximately 500 Melrose Park residents in this age group). And so, before the last of this generation fades into our memories, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Melrose Park to express our deep gratitude to America's "Greatest Generation"... you bore your battle-scars in silence, never asked for special recognition, and never called attention to your achievements. You dared to dream big and took us to the moon. And because you dreamed, your children were inspired and took a trip to Mars, invented laptop computers, cell phones and so much more. But most important, you deeply believed in the future of America and the promise it held for your children and your grandchildren, and it is for this reason, above all else, that we say, thank you, thank you, thank you!

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

### Early Voting for the Gubernatorial Primary Election for March 18, 2014, Runs Now through Saturday, March 15

Village of Melrose Park • 1000 North 25th Avenue • Melrose Park (First Floor Multi-Purpose Room) Hours: Monday-Saturday • 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Valid State Issued Picture Identification Required to Vote.



Ronald M. Serpico Mayor

Sincerely.

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**Ronald M. Serpico, Mayor** 

Mary Ann Paolantonio, Village Clerk

Trustees Anthony J. Abruzzo • Jaime Anguiano Cathy Cossident Italia • Arturo J. Mota Anthony J. Prignano • Mary Ramirez Taconi



Village Hall(708) 343-4000
Hours – Monday-Friday, 9 a.m5 p.m. Birth Certificates • First Copy – \$12, additional copies \$2 each
<b>Death Certificates •</b> First Copy – \$14, additional copies \$4 each <b>Water, Tickets, Etc.</b>
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
Public Safety/Homeland Security(708) 649-8000
Library(708) 343-3391
Public Works(708) 343-5128
Building and Code(708) 343-4000
Civic Center
Hall and Field Rentals, Sports, Etc.
Community Service(708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448
Senior Services(708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448
Taste of Melrose Park, The Rose Newsletter
Dial A Ride(708) 343-7047
Proviso Township Assessor(708) 449-4304
Economic Development(708) 865-8809

#### Important Upcoming Dates

Village Board Meetings ......March 10 and 24, April 14 Village Hall Holiday Closing .....April 18; May 26 Senior Club Meetings ......March 13; April 10

Resident Response

#### Dear Mayor Serpico...

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to you again this year in helping to make our annual Misericordia fundraiser "Blast form the Past" such a huge success!

We also want to recognize the wonderful staff that helps us each year to organize and set up the Senior Center where the event is held.

They are always willing and ready to help us with a smile! Many thanks to all and may God bless you for your kindness! Thank you for coming to the event. We hope you enjoyed it.

Sincerely,

Jo and Tom Halleran, and Misericordia

#### Dear Police Chief Sam Pitassi...

I can't thank you enough for allowing Sgt. Rieger to invite me to the Law Enforcement Response to School Violence Presentation.

Also, I want to thank you on behalf of Sacred Heart School for your help and support with the wonderful and informative safety PowerPoint presentation Officer Pretzie and Sgt. Rieger provided for our faculty.

Keeping our students and staff safe is a top priority at Sacred Heart School with your help.

• Sincerely,

Barbara Ciconte

#### Dear Mayor Serpico, Chief Beltrame, Chief Pitassi and Chief Schwartz...

The DiFazio-Stolfe family wish to express our deepest gratitude to you and your departments. Uncle Fred was a quiet man who fully supported all of you and your departments. We are grateful for the professionalism and compassion the department demonstrated to our loved one. The people of Melrose Park should be proud of how well these departments respond to such an emergency. His life was taken too soon but "Uncle Fred's" legacy will live on.

We do not have the words to adequately thank all of you.

The DiFazio-Stolfe Family

#### Dear Police Chief Pitassi...

Recently, the Oakbrook Terrace Police Department responded to Commonwealth Edison, 2 Lincoln Center, for reports of shots fired.

As responding units arrived on the scene, numerous employees were evacuating the building.

Incident Command was set up and immediate assistance was requested from your department as well as an ILEAS activation.

A thorough search had to be conducted of the entire 11-story building. Your officer's quick response and professionalism displayed throughout this entire incident was extraordinary.

Please extend my gratitude and appreciation to your officers that responded and assisted us on that day.

Respectfully,

Wayne E. Holakovsky, Chief of Police Oakbrook Terrace

#### Dear Melrose Park Fire Department...

On behalf of Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital, I would like to thank you for your donation of toys. We cannot express enough how thankful we are for your donation. We appreciate you considering Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital in your gift giving. Your donations help with our hospital program as well as brighten many children's faces. Nothing is better than receiving a new toy to enjoy while being hospitalized.

The Child Life Program of Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital offers diversional and therapeutic activities for the inpatient families each day in the playroom, teen room and also at bedside. Through the Child Life programming, it is our goal to provide opportunities for pleasure and comfort for our patients, We utilize toys in order to help normalize the hospital experience and to keep up with education while hospitalized.

Your involvement continues to provide an increase in our patients' comfort levels. We are grateful for all of your efforts towards this special donation. I hope to continue contact for future toy donations to serve the pediatric patients and families at Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital.

 Much gratitude, Megan Gertz, Child Life Specialist Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital

#### Dear Police Officer Frank Nocita...

Thank you for helping directing traffic on 20th and 21st and Hirsch. Thank you for keeping our patrol safe.

We appreciate you coming to our school morning and afternoon.

• Sincerely patrol,

Daniel Gonzalez, Nettn Mendoza and Guadalupe Jimenez

#### Dear Melrose Park Trustee Arturo Mota...

It is hard to find adequate words to thank you for such a generous act of kindness.

Our Library is in need of books and you are making it your personal mission to raise funds to purchase those books for the benefit of all of our students.

With the funds you have already sent, I was able to order many of the titles the students are eagerly awaiting.

Thank you for your kind and generous consideration!

Sincerely,

Shoshana Fiala, Librarian, Proviso Math and Science Academy

#### Dear Mayor Serpico...

Thank you for the wonderful Thanksgiving dinner.

All the people involved in preparing and delivering these great meals each year are very special.

Grateful,

Mary

#### Dear Police Chief Pitassi...

As you know, the Cook County Sheriff's Office recently suffered the tragic loss of Investigator Cuauhtemoc Estrada.

The outpouring of support for our department members and the Estrada family from law enforcement agencies both locally and nationwide has been overwhelming and very much appreciated. I personally want to thank you for your support at the funeral services for Investigator Estrada.

During this somber time, it is both a comfort and a blessing to have the presence and representation of our brothers and sisters in law enforcement.

Thank you again.

• Most sincerely,

Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff of Cook County

#### Dear Fire Chief Beltrame..

Just would like to commend you on the two professional and courteous EMTs that assisted me following an accident I was involved in recently.

- Their names were Francisco and John.
- Otherwise known as the best in the business!

I have been able to resume a fairly happy, healthy lifestyle because of their quick thinking and excellent training.

Please understand that I am prone to panic attacks and was seconds away from a full blown episode prior to their arrival on the scene.

- Please give them my best regards.
  - Respectfully,
  - Arnita Rudd

#### Dear Police Chief Pitassi...

On the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 8, my neighbor came to my door in great distress. He was half frozen and in danger of dying. He had frostbite on his feet and black patches on his fingers and hands. He was short of breath and couldn't remember his own address.

I called your station and Officer Scarpelli came out. He was a godsend in dealing with the situation. He directed the paramedics to the place that would give my neighbor maximum aid. He was determined that my neighbor would receive all the help he desperately needed.

Officer Scarpelli saved my neighbors life and he should be recognized for his outstanding service.

- Kind regards,
- Maryann Stollard

#### Dear Fire Chief Beltrame..

As we begin a new year filled filled with hope and possibilities, I want to personally express my gratitude for the Melrose Park Fire Department's continued support of Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital at Loyola University Medical Center. It is the continued generosity of you and other members of our family of philanthropy that enables us to fulfill our mission to go beyond the illness and also treat the human spirit.

Our healing mission is alive and well because of your spirit of giving. It is our tradition here at Loyola to help fulfill the wishes of our youngest patients and to help their families get through the tough experience of pediatric illness or injury. Your charitable gift of toys to the Child Life Program provides these children with necessary distractions during their hospitalization. Your generosity allows them to do what they do best ... play!

I appreciate your partnership and, on behalf of the countless patients and families who will benefit from your kindness, thank you.

I wish you many blessings for the year ahead.

Gratefully,

Sallie Hazelrigg, Vice President, Office of Development Loyola University Health System

#### Dear Mayor Serpico...

I am writing to express my deep appreciation for the firefighters form Melrose Park that came to the assistance of the Town of Cicero Fire Department on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2014.

While it is common to send mutual aid in fire call, this was an extraordinary 4alarm blaze that drew upon the resources of many surrounding communities. As Cicero town president, I was proud to see the firefighters from the region standing together. The fire could not have been battled successfully without the support of the Melrose Park Fire Department.

It's said you discover your true friends in times of crisis. When the Cicero Fire Department faced not one, but two blazes in close succession, your department came to our aid. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Larry Dominick, Town President Town of Cicero

## Mayor's Recent Accomplishments Strengthen Partnerships

#### **Mayor Receives Franco Cumella Friendship Award**



On Thursday, Feb. 13, Mayor Serpico was honored by the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame and named this year's recipient of the Franco Cumella Friendship Award.

The award, presented at the Rocky Marciano Amateur Boxing Tournament at the NIASHF Taylor Street facility, was established in 1984 to recognize an individual who has demonstrated leadership

qualities in bringing people together in a charitable cause. The award was rededicated in memory of Mr. Salvatore Franco and Charles Cumella in 1998 for their long-time belief and support in the NIASHF.

#### **Preckwinkle Appoints Serpico** to Transportation Committee

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle recently appointed Mayor Serpico to serve on the Long Range Transportation Plan Advisory Committee.

The Department of Transportation and Highways is leading the development of Cook County's first long-range transportation plan since 1940. The goal is to create a comprehensive and integrated plan for the county that strengthens the transportation system that is the backbone of our economy by addressing all forms of transportation be they roads, public transit, freight rail lines, sidewalks and bike paths, and by proposing county improvements that build upon and leverage investments by other governmental entities.

The mayor's role will be to advise the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on the transportation issues confronting the county now and in the future and help redefine goals so transportation improvements will contribute to the county's economic viability for generations to come.

#### Mayor Invited to Speak in Guadalajara

In January, Mayor Serpico received an invitation from the Civil Hospital of Guadalajara to speak at the 2014 XVI International Congress Advances in Medicine Feb.27-March 1.

The mayor graciously accepted and participated in the annual academic event that gathered more than 8,000 health professionals and renowned national and international speakers.

The event also hosted the II International Cooperation Forum, a space to exchange experiences and share good practices in order to strengthen bonds between international institutions and organizations.

This year, the forum featured special guests from Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Ecuador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Italy, Spain, the United State of America and others.

## Serpico, Village Employees Celebrate Holidays with Senior Club Members





Mayor Serpico and several village employees were on hand at the December Senior Club meeting to serve members of the Melrose Park Senior Club a hearty lunch and kickoff the holiday season celebration.

## MP Snow Removal Team Out in Full Force



Due the heavy snows we've experienced this winter, Mayor Serpico's snow removal team has been out in full force all hours of the day and night to keep Melrose Park streets and sidewalks clean and safe for community members.

The mayor thanks the dedicated, hardworking employees for their continued support in the cleanup efforts throughout the village.

## Melrose Park Mayor Ron Serpico endorses Kathleen Willis Democrat for State Representative

#### **Providing Property Tax Relief**

To help reduce financial burdens on families, Kathleen Willis is fighting against property tax hikes, and she supports greater relief for local homeowners and seniors to save them more of their hard-earned money.

#### **Tax Fairness**

Kathleen thinks it's wrong that multimillionaires pay the same in taxes as middle-class families. She supports giving tax breaks to middle-class families while making the highest earners pay more so they pay their fair share.

#### **Fighting for Better Wages**

To help struggling families and put them on a path to a living wage, Kathleen supports increasing the minimum wage in Illinois to \$10 an hour.



## Vote for Kathleen Willis on Tuesday, March 18.

For more information, to volunteer, or to request a yard sign, please call 630-747-1949. Paid for by Citizens to Elect Ronald M. Serpico, Sr. Inc.

## **Melrose Park Sports & Fitness Club** *Fitness for All Ages* 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park • (708) 450-0555

## BOXING

Instruction by retired professional Rocky DiFazio Tuesdays and Thursdays • 4-9 p.m. Saturdays • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

## **AEROBICS**

Instruction by Lena Step • Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays • Noon-1 p.m. Yoga • Tuesdays • 7-8 p.m. Sr. Exercise (Low Impact) by Barb Rubright Monday-Friday 9-10 a.m. • Senior Center

## **MIX MARTIAL ARTS**

Monday-Friday • Residents – \$50, Nonresidents – \$60 For additional information, call Jennifer, (708) 450-0555.

#### CYBEX AND NAUTALUS MACHINES

#### **Crunching Machines**

Wrist and Forearm • Arm • Abdominal • Shoulder Fly • Chest Press • Rowing • Lateral Pulldown Lifefitness Treadmills • Gauntlet Stairmasters Life Cycle Bikes • Free Weights



#### ZUMBA

Call (708) 450-0555 for fees and times!

## **ROOM RENTALS**

Multi-purpose Room Birthdays • Anniversaries • Graduations Religious Celebrations Weddings • Business Meetings • Etc.

**150 Maximum Capacity** 

Days and Nights Available Mondays-Saturdays • 9 a.m.-Midnight Sundays • 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Rentals Include: Four Hours • Setup of Table and Chairs Security • Use of Kitchen and Ice Machine

HALL RENTALS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE SENIOR BUILDING (900 N. 25th Ave.)

Contact Jennifer at (708) 450-0555 for info.

Come visit our surrounding park. Perfect for taking pictures for all occasions.

Stop by our front desk and we can answer any questions you may have about your next party or event.

We can accommodate most party requests.

#### For more information, call (708) 450-0555.

Summer Hours (Memorial Day-Sept. 30) Weekdays – 7 a.m.-8 p.m. • Weekends – 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Winter Hours (Oct. 1-Memorial Day) Weekdays – 7 a.m.-10 p.m. • Weekends – 9 a.m.-5 p.m.



## **Melrose Park** Fire Department NEWS



A Message from Fire Chief Rick Beltrame



## Tropea Promoted to Lieutenant

At a recent village board meeting, Melrose Park firefighter Giuseppe Tropea was sworn in and promoted to lieutenant by Fire & Police Commissioner Pat Esposito.

Tropea is pictured after the ceremony with members of his family, Fire Chief Rick Beltrame and being congrtulated by Mayor Serpico and fellow firefighters.











CATHERINE KOKKONAS Broker Associate

## *a* properties

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#### The Chiropractic Connection

Health and Wellness Center

Dr. Vy Hoang Chiropractic Physician

> 1440 W. North Avenue Ste. # 307 Melrose Park, IL 60160 Office: (708)345-1299 Fax: (708)345-8480



The Chiropractic Connection Health and Wellness Center www.chiropracticconnection.net

Lauren M. Harmon

Public Relations Chiropractic Assistant laurenharmon@chiropracticconnection.net

1440 West North Ave, Suite 307 Melrose Park, IL 60160

708-345-1299 office 708-345-8480 fax



## **Melrose Park Public Library**

In Person. Online. We Bring You the World.

## **Upcoming Events**



#### Knitting & Needlework Circle

Tuesday, March 25th 2pm - 3pm

#### Board Games Club 2nd Saturdays 11:00am

### **Coming this Spring:**

April 16th - Family Game Night April 19th - Cupcake Decorating Photo contest - www.MPPLibrary.org/photo

Reserve your space for these free programs by visiting our website or calling the library.



www.MPPLibrary.org

801 N Broadway, Melrose Park, IL 60160 mps@mpplibrary.org (708)343-3391

### LearningExpress Library 3.0

#### It's a whole new experience!



#### Easy-to-Use Online Resources

- Improve your basic skills
- Math, reading, and writing tutorials
- Learn about in-demand careers
- Prepare for occupational exams
- ACT<sup>®</sup>, SAT<sup>®</sup>, AP<sup>®</sup>, GED<sup>®</sup> test preparation

#### **New features**

- Easier to access content and sleek new interface
- Test prep with new learner, exam, and simulation modes
- Extra feedback in tutorials and more!

#### www.MPPLibrary.org/learn

If you have already have a LearningExpress profile you will need to re-register on the new LearningExpress Library.

Mon-Thu: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Fri: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Closed Last Sat of Each Month Sun: Closed

### Melrose Park Public Library

In Person. Online. We Bring You the World.



Join us each month for songs, rhymes and lots of great books in our storytimes. Then stay for a craft kids will make a treasure to take home! All families with children 5 years old or younger are invited to attend. Limit 22 children.

Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-10:45 Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-10:45

#### **Teen Book Club**

Talking books and hanging out with friends - what could be better? Each month teens will meet and discuss a chosen book. For more information, talk to Donna. For teens in grades 7-12. Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

#### Family Movie Night

Spend an exciting evening at the library with your family and friends, watching a special movie and enjoying some snacks! For all ages. Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

#### Lego Club

Join us each month for some exciting adventures in Lego Club! The library will supply the legos, you just bring your imagination. For kids in grades K-6<sup>th</sup>; kids ages 3-5 must attend with a parent.

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:00 p.m.



#### Afternoon Storytime

Families with children ages 3-7 are invited to come to the library once a month for some after school fun!

We will hear some great stories, rhymes, and songs and make a special craft to take home. Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:00 p.m. Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

#### **Pajama Storytime**

Bring your family to the library for a quiet storytime just before bed! Families with children ages 0-7 are invited to come to the library in their pajamas to hear

some stories, rhymes, and songs. Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-6:30 p.m.



#### Arts & Crafts

It's time to get out your creative side! The library is hosting a monthly craft event for kids in grades K-6<sup>th</sup> to make a

special treasure to take home. Crafts are limited to 15 kids; be sure to register early to reserve your spot! Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:00 p.m. Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:00 p.m.



All programs at the library are free, and registration is required. To register, call Youth Services at (708) 343-3391. ext. 7484.

www.MPPLibrary.org

801 N Broadway, Melrose Park, IL 60160 mps@mpplibrary.org (708)343-3391

Mon-Thu: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Fri: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Closed Last Sat of Each Month Sun: Closed





## **Exercising for Seniors**

### Join us at the Guy Guerine Senior Center for exercising.

### Monday-Friday, 9-10 a.m.

Wondering what the benefits are of exercising.

It lowers the risk of serious heart condition, such as Alzheimer's Disease, heart disease, diabetes, colon cancer, high blood pressure, osteoporosis and poor digestion. Just to name a few.

> Exercising adds independence and confidence in your life. It also adds flexibility, posture, balance and increases strength. We target coordination and this helps reduce your risk of falls.

Instructor Barb Rubright, is a certified personal trainer and will help you get back into feeling healthy and more energized every day.

#### Join the program. You will be happy you came out. Exercising for Seniors is free to all Melrose Park residents.

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

The Melrose Park Senior Exercise Program has added ZUMBA GOLD! FREE to all Melrose Park senior residents! Call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448, for info!



March 13 • April 10 • May 8 • June 12 July 10 • Aug. 14 • Sept. Cancelled • Oct. 9 • Nov. 13 • Dec. 11 Meeting dates are scheduled that include lunch meetings and coffee and ... meetings. Bingo will be played at all meetings. Registration must be made two weeks prior to meeting date.

### **Registration for Memberships**

We're looking for new members to join our club and we're inviting current members to renew their memberships.

You must be 55 years or older and a Melrose Park resident. Cost is \$10 per year and includes a picture ID. Each meeting cost \$5 per person and includes lunch, informative speakers and more. Preregistration for meetings is required.

It's a good place to make new friends and renew old ones. For membership information, call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.

### **Senior Services**

Need help with Medicare, 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.

### Area Towing Offers Complimentary Auto Services

Area Towing Inc. now offers complimentary services to senior citizens of Melrose Park. The services include tire changing, jump-starts and lock-outs.

There will also be discounted towing for senior residents.

For service or more information, call (708) 345-4665.





For children 4-7 years of age!

Camp runs Mon., Wed. & Fri., Mid June-Mid August • 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Registration can be made at the Youth Commission – Evenings From 6-8 p.m.

(The Youth Commission is located on the first floor of the Melrose Park Sports & Fitness Club.)

### \$125 per child (Melrose Park residents).

Nonresidents Fee – \$450 Per Child

For more information, call the Youth Commission at (708) 343-2015.

## Mayor Serpico and Trustees Designate Honorary Bernard Tassi Way



At a recent village board meeting, Mayor Serpico and the village trustees issued a proclamation recognizing Bernard Tassi for being instrumental in shaping the Melrose Park community.

The proclamation designated a Melrose Park street as an honorary way in Tassi's name.

Pictured with Mayor Serpico are members of the Tassi family accepting the proclamation as well as the Honorary Bernard Tassi Way commemorative sign.

## Village Hall Announces Holiday Closings

The Melrose Park Village Hall will be closed for the following holidays:

- Good Friday Friday, April 18, 2014
- Memorial Day Monday, May 26, 2014
- Independence Day Friday, July 4, 2014
- Labor Day Monday, Sept. 1, 2014
- Columbus Day Monday, Oct. 13, 2014
- Veterans Day Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014
- Thanksgiving Day Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014
- Day After Thanksgiving Friday, Nov. 28, 2014
- Christmas Eve (1/2 Day) Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2014
- Christmas Day Thursday, Dec. 25, 2014
- New Year's Eve (1/2 Day) Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2014

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 2014 is: March 10 and 24; April 14 and 28; May 12 and Tuesday, May 27; June 9 and 23; July 14 and 28; Aug. 11 and 25; Sept. 8 and 22; Tuesday, Oct. 14 and Oct. 27; Nov. 10 and Nov. 24; and Dec. 8 and 22.

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., or send an e-mail to franciscanresourcecenternfp@gmail.com.

#### **Centro De Recursos Franciscanos, NFP**

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 immigración, 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 siguimento 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.



# Missionary Sisters of St. Charles St. Joseph Table

Friday, March 14, 2014 <u>Two Seatings</u> Noon-3 p.m. or 4-8 p.m.

Sisters of St. Charles Convent 1414 N. 37th Ave. Melrose Park

Donations accepted at the door.

## For more information, call the convent at (708) 343-2162.

Sponsored by M.S.S.C. Provincial Guild.

# Veterans Park District Programs & Hoppenings

#### **Dean Martin/Starved Rock**

You'll enjoy a lovely day at beautiful scenic Starved Rock Lodge. We will have a fabulous lunch with dessert in the dinner theater and gift shops with great finds. Then we'll have some fun with a talented tribute to Dean Martin. • Tuesday, March 25; Departs: 9 a.m. Cimbalo Fitness Center, 9:15 a.m. Grant Park; Return time: about 6 p.m.; Location: Utica, III.; Fee: \$59

#### **Passion of Christ Monday**

Take a journey with us to the "Shrine of Christ's Passion." Experience the shrine trail with a beautiful half-mile wandering pathway welcoming people of all faiths. There are 40 life size bronze statues along the trail and 20 have listening stations which are written specifically for the shrine and beautifully narrated by Bill Kuris. There will be golf carts for only 30 non-walkers; in which you may sign up for in advance. As guest travel from station to station an original music score sets the mood for each scene. There is also a unique gift shop store. You will enjoy a Cracker Barrel lunch after we take our journey to the shrine. • Monday, April 14; Departs: 8 a.m. Cimbalo Fitness Center, 8:15 a.m. Grant Park; Return time: 4:30 p.m.; Location: St. John, Ind.; Fee: \$43.

#### **Blooming Brunch & Bingo**

Pack away the boots and mittens because spring is busting out all over. Come out celebrate the spring with a blooming brunch. This brunch experience includes breakfast egg casserole, fruit, cinnamon toast and something for your sweet tooth. And we're serving Bellini's – non-alcoholic of course. • Wednesday, April 9; Time: Noon; Location: Bulger Park; Min/Max: 20/50; Fee: \$5.

### **Senior Luncheons**

#### **St Patrick's Lunch Party**

A beautiful decorated room awaits you for a best St. Patrick's Day party of the season. We start with Harrington corned beef traditional family style; including corned beef, cabbage, red potatoes, dark rye and sour dough bread, pie and hot coffee or tea and cold beverages. Good entertainment raffles, prizes and a memorable afternoon. • Wednesday, March 12; Time: Noon; Location: Bulger Park; Fee: \$24.

#### Get Ready for Spring with Our Youth Baseball Programs at the George A. Leoni Complex

#### Chicago White Sox Hitting Club Ages 6-8 and 9-11 Years Old

These four-week classes are led by Elite Academy instructors and will detail the absolutes of hitting. Go beyond what you're used to and get ready to be challenged! If you are truly serious about becoming the best

player you can be – this is for you. The White Sox Hitting Club will present your hitter with a step by step approach to hitting like a Major League player. The White Sox Hitting Club will cover plate coverage and stance, stepping into a hitting position, hand path and lower body mechanics. There are hitting absolutes that must be present in each at bat to be successful. These absolutes make all the difference. We know them and we will teach them to you! • Tuesdays March 4-25; 5-6 p.m. – Ages 6-8; 6-7 p.m. – Ages 9-11; \$85.

5-Tool Baseball – Ages 8-15 Years Old

In cooperation with Walther Lutheran High School, this class will focus on helping create a complete baseball player. Fundamentals will be practiced including hitting, fielding, base running, defense, throwing and more will be drilled in this six-week class. This class will work on a different skill each week and will be utilizing our open turf and batting cages. Teaching this class will be Walther Lutheran baseball coaches, as well as current and past Walther Lutheran baseball players. • Mondays, June 16-July 21; Time: 5-6:30 p.m.; Location: Leoni Complex; Fee: \$60 In District/\$70 Out of District

#### VPD Hitting League – Ages 7-12 and 13-18 Years Old

Calling all baseball players! Individual players can sign up for this program to show us how many line drives they can hit in our batting cages! The first hour will be rapid rotation to get each participant as many at bats in the cage as possible. Then, hitters will be given more points for line drives, well placed batted balls and more. Hitters will be given fewer points for pop outs, and swings and misses. Prizes will be given to the top average scores on a monthly basis. • Wednesdays and Fridays; Now-March 28; April 2-30 (off April 18); May 2-30; June 4-27; July 2-30 (off July 4); \$16 In District/\$20 Out of District; Time: 4-5 p.m. or 5-6 p.m.

Call the Veterans Park District at (708) 716-4822 to register and for more information.

#### **Special Recreation**

Special Olympics Golf, Bowling, Floor Hockey and Bocce dates, times and locations are in the new brochure. If you are at least 8 years old, you can train with Veterans Park District. You will need to have a current Medical Application from Special Olympics Illinois, spirit and a willingness to have fun.

#### Breakfast with the Bunny – Saturday April 12 10-11:30 a.m. • Bulger Park, Melrose Park

Come out for a fun filled morning! Get your family together and head to Bulger Park for Breakfast with the Bunny! Families will enjoy a buffet breakfast and get to visit with the Bunny. Pre-registration is necessary to guarantee a table for you and your family. Bring your camera.

Registration is now open for in district residents ages 3-10 (\$6), ages 11adult (\$8). Children under 3 are admitted free, but still need to be registered. Registration deadline is March 28. Register early, space is limited and will fill up quickly.

### Veterans Park District and the Melrose Park Youth Commission Egg Scrambler – Ages 0-12 Friday, April 11 • 7-8 p.m. George A. Leoni Complex, Melrose Park

Veterans Park District and the Melrose P Youth Commission will proudly sponsor a Scrambler at the Leoni Complex in Melro Park. We will toss out eggs and candy or field, then the scramble begins. Rememb to bring a basket to collect your goodies and a camera to take pictures with the Easter Bunny.



### Earth Day Recycle Art Fair Tuesday, April 15 • 5-6:30 p.m. Bulger Park • 1601 Hirsch, Melrose Park

Come join the Veterans Park District Green Team, Preschool, Special Recreation and After School Care celebrate Earth Day with their original works of recycled art – Crafts • Games • Demonstrations • Zero Waste Snacks • Raffles and More! Drop off items for recycling – ink and toner cartridges, electronic type batteries, cell phones and gym shoes.





## Melrose-Veterans Park District Soccer League Hosts Family Event at Leoni Complex

On Saturday, Feb. 22, the Melrose-Veterans Park District Soccer League hosted a family event for all who participated in this year's program. The event was held at Veterans Park District's new state-of-the-art George A. Leoni Complex. The soccer program's purpose was to bring families and the community together with a fun tournament, food and other entertainment. The event featured refreshments for all who attended as well as prizes for all the players.

Pictured with league participants are Mayor Serpico, Veterans Park District Executive Director Donna Peluso, state Sen. Don Harmon, state Rep. Kathleen Willis, NAIMA Founder Sergio Suarez, Melrose Proviso Soccer League President David Suarez, Necahual Board Member Sixto Rincon, U.S. Human Rights Commission Chairman Marty Castro, Necahual Secretary Mary Suarez, Ultimas Noticias Director of Operation Erick Suarez, Village of Melrose Park Director of Latino Initiative Eddie Guzman, FEDEJAL President Judith De la Mora and Veterans Park District Commissioner Tom Olson.

For more information on Veterans Park District events and activities, call (708) 343-5270 or visit www.veteransparkdistrict.org.

# Texas Hold-em



### **Texas Hold-em Tournament for Charity**

To Benefit: Melrose Park Little League

When: Friday March 21, 2014

Where: MP Civic Center - 1000 N. 25th Ave - Melrose Park Registration: 6:00 pm till 7:00pm Tournament starts at 7:10 pm SHARP!!!!

Buy-in: \$100.00 + \$20.00 automatic Re-buy

PrePay & Register to receive 1,000 extra chips Make check payable to: Melrose Park Little League (above address) 60160 (zip code)

Food & beverage will be served! Any questions call:

Joe Cibelli (708)774-4916 or Jesse Pineda (708) 262-3702

## Flowers of Italy Club 53rd Annual Person of the Year Dinner Dance Honoring



## Honoring Catherine Adduci President of River Forest



Saturday, March 22, 2014 Villa Brunetti Banquet Hall 9755 W. Grand Avenue • Franklin Park Tickets: \$65 Per Person

To purchase tickets or for more information, please call Carmine Salerno – (708) 935-4224, Sam Alfano – (708) 715-4948, or Gino Roberto – (708) 372-1439.



## What's Coming Up at Triton College

The following are events coming up at Triton College. All of the events listed are free and open to the public and will take place on Triton's River Grove campus, located at 2000 Fifth Ave., unless otherwise stated.

#### March 10 – Annual Artist Showcase Concert, 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center of the Robert M. Collins Center

Distinguished members of Triton College's Artist Faculty are featured on this concert that will present them performing concerto literature, accompanied by a full orchestra. The concert will include Dr. Akiko Konishi on piano and Talia Pavia on violin, returning from a successful concert last year. Joining them this year will be Ingrid Mikolajcz, soprano, who has recently returned from a European performance tour. Visit www.triton.edu/music for details.

#### March 12 – Discover Triton: Explore Your Opportunities, 6 p.m., Room G-118 of the Student Center (B Building)

Learn about the various programs available at Triton College with this exploratory series that highlights a new area of study each month. Students can tour classrooms and labs of particular programs and meet faculty, as well as learn about the admission and financial aid process to enroll in Triton classes. On March 12, Triton's Health Careers Department will be explored, including such programs as diagnostic medical sonography, nursing, nuclear medicine technology, as well as several Continuing Education certificates pertaining to health care. Reservations are recommended. Call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3130, or e-mail admissions@triton.edu to reserve a spot.

#### March 24-April 18 – "Robots, Machines, and Drawings – Oh My!", Triton College Art Gallery in the Fine Arts Building (J Building)

Longtime collaborators in creativity and robotics Michael Erzen of Triton College's Art Program and Antigone Sharris of the college's Engineering Technology Program will bring together work from the students in their two disciplines. A combination of tech, talent and creativity will be in motion for all to enjoy. Be ready for fun! A closing reception is from 6 to 9 p.m., on April 18, in the gallery. Gallery hours are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, and 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3589, or visit www.triton.edu/entertainment.

#### March 25 – Job Club Meeting, 11 a.m. to Noon, Room B-140 of the Student Center (B Building) \*NEW\*

The Job Club, open to community residents, will hold their monthly meeting from 11 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, March 25. This club, part of the outreach efforts of Triton College's Career Services Center, provides support and guidance to job seekers. For more information, contact Bill Lesus at (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3149, or e-mail williamlesus@triton.edu.

#### March 26 – Triton College Kindergarten Open House, 3:30-5 p.m., Room G-110 of the G Building \*NEW\*

Triton College's Kindergarten Program will host an open house for the fall 2014-2015 school year. Parents will have the opportunity to meet the teachers and tour the classroom, as well as learn about the full day Kindergarten Program, which includes lunch and before and after school care. Parents will also be able to register for the program. Children need to be 5 years of age by Sept. 1, 2014, to be registered for the Kindergarten Program. For more information, contact Director of the Child Development Center Lab School Cindy Mentone at (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3209.

#### April 5 – Jazz Spectacular, 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center of the Robert M. Collins Center \*NEW\*

Come hear world-class jazz performed by Triton College students and faculty. Triton students, local high school students and members of the community are all invited to participate in clinics and master classes as part of the day's events topped off by a superlative concert in the evening. James Davis is the conductor. Last year's concert was a hit! Visit www.triton.edu/music for details.

#### April 21-May 13 – Annual Student Art Exhibition, Triton College Art Gallery in the Fine Arts Building (J Building) \*NEW\*

The Annual Student Art Exhibition is the annual celebration of creativity at Triton College. Students working in all media at the college are invited to share their best work of the year. Recent additions to the show include live demonstrations of Web design and screenings of student-produced short films. A closing reception is from 6 to 8 p.m. on May 13 in the gallery. Light refreshments will be served. Gallery hours are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, and 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3589, or visit www.triton.edu/entertainment.

#### April 22 – Job Club Meeting, 11 a.m. to Noon, Room B-140 of the Student Center (B Building) \*NEW\*

The Job Club, open to community residents, will hold their monthly meeting from 11 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, April 22. This club, part of the outreach efforts of Triton College's Career Services Center, provides support and guidance to job seekers. For more information, contact Bill Lesus at (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3149, or e-mail williamlesus@triton.edu.

## Register Now for Late-Start Spring or Summer Courses!

Call – (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3130 Click – www.triton.edu Visit – Triton College, 2000 Fifth Ave., River Grove

### **Cernan Earth and Space Center Events**

#### Now-March 30 – Public Shows, Cernan Earth and Space Center, Triton College, 2000 Fifth Ave., River Grove \*NEW\*

The Cernan Earth and Space Center brings an array of new and favorite shows to inform and entertain families on astronomy at the planetarium. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. (except March 15 for the Monthly

Skywatch) and 9 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 3 p.m., Sundays. Show admission ranges from \$8 to \$10 for adults and \$4 to \$5 for children and senior citizens. For a schedule of shows, visit www.triton.edu/cernan. For information, call (708) 583-3100 or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3372.



#### March 15 – Monthly Skywatch, 7:30 p.m., Cernan Earth and Space Center, Triton College \*NEW\*

Tour the nighttime sky during Cernan Earth and Space Center's Monthly Skywatch Program. The evening includes a presentation on the latest news from NASA in the space center's dome theater and outdoor skygazing with telescopes focused on the planet Jupiter and the moon. Admission for the indoor planetarium portion of the Monthly Skywatch is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 2 to 12 and senior citizens ages 55 and older. The outdoor telescope session is free. For information, call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3372, or (708) 583-3100, www.triton.edu/cernan.

## **RSVP Offers Tax Counseling** for Older Americans

#### Gov. Pat Quinn Commends RSVP for Coordinating Free Tax Preparation Services in the Area

The Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) of West Suburban Cook and Southern DuPage Counties, sponsored by Triton College in River Grove, once again is offering the Internal Revenue Service's Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE), a free program for individuals age 60 and older from low- to moderateincome households.

RSVP's partnership with the IRS to provide this program was recently recognized by Gov. Pat Quinn at a press conference on Jan. 16 at Harold Washington College, where he praised the program for being an example of how Illinois families and individuals can save money on their tax preparations.

RSVP has been providing the TCE program for more than 20 years within the surrounding area. Volunteer tax assistors, who oftentimes vary in age, are specially trained to help senior citizens complete federal and state income tax forms, which are then submitted electronically once completed.

Individuals age 60 and older from low-to moderate-income households can take advantage of the free service offered from now through April 12. Assistance will be provided at various locations throughout the community, including the Melrose Park Public Library on Mondays, the Elmwood Park Senior Center on Tuesdays, Proviso Township Office in Hillside on Wednesdays, the Leyden Township Carl Fiorito Center in Franklin Park on Thursdays, the Senior Assistance Center in Norridge on Fridays and in the Robert M. Collins Center on Triton College's main campus in River Grove on Saturdays.

Those seeking assistance should call the RSVP Office at (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3895, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays, to make an appointment. Participants are asked to bring their photo identifications, W-2 forms from all employers, Form 1099s (interest statements from banks), a copy of last year's tax return and any other relevant tax information.

For more information on tax assistance and to schedule an appointment, call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3895.

## Triton Troupers Circus Set for April 10-12

The Triton Troupers Circus, an extraordinary show based out of Triton College, will be celebrating their 43rd season with performances scheduled for Thursday, April 10-Saturday, April 12.

Showtimes for this year are as follows:

- Thursday, April 10 7 p.m.
- Friday, April 11 7 p.m.
- $\bullet$  Saturday, April 12 1 p.m.\* and 7 p.m.

(\*The 1 p.m. Saturday show is interpreted for the hearing impaired.)

The Triton Troupers Circus will be held at Triton College in the **X** Robert M. Collins Center Gymnasium (east side of campus), 2000 Fifth Ave., River Grove.

All shows are handicapped accessible, for all ages, and are animal-free. The show lasts about two hours and includes an intermission.

Refreshments will be sold and the show may include fog and strobes, as well as balloons and confetti.

Tickets are just \$6 and can be purchased at the door before the show. For individual or group advanced ticket sales, call Student Services at (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3383, (TTY 800-526-0844).

Doors open one hour before show time and parking is free. Come early for the best parking and seat location, and enjoy the clown pre-show.

Triton Troupers Circus is a nonprofit effort dedicated to the preservation of the circus arts and to the local community.

Triton Troupers Circus features skilled performers in classic circus specialties such as chairs, clowning, double stunts, globes, gymwheel, juggling, statues, teeterboard, trampoline, trapeze, unicycle, web, wire, feats of strength and more.

Check out the Triton Troupers fun Web site at TritonTroupersCircus.com or contact the circus director Terry White at (815) 544-6545.

### **RSVP Hosts Annual Pancake Breakfast and Circus Special** A Day of Fun for the Whole Family!

RSVP of West Suburban Cook and Southern DuPage Counties at Triton College is hosting its annual Pancake Breakfast with the opportunity for families to have a day of fun, too.

Breakfast begins at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 12, in Room R-221 of the Robert M. Collins Center on the east side of Triton's main campus in River Grove and will run until noon.

For those families who want to see the Triton Trouper Circus, a Circus Special, a combination of tickets for the circus and the breakfast, can be purchased for a discounted price of \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Tickets for the circus only are \$6 per person.

The Triton Trouper Circus will dazzle spectators at 1 p.m. in the Collins Center Gymnasium.

If you're interested only in the RSVP Pancake Breakfast, a \$4 donation will be accepted in advance, \$5 at the door.

All proceeds benefit the RSVP Program and its volunteers.

For more information on the RSVP Pancake Breakfast or Circus Special, call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3835 or 3603.





## 2014 FOOTBALL AND CHEER REGISTRATION BRING COPY OF CHILD'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE MARCH 22, 2014 MELROSE PARK CIVIC CENTER - 10:00AM-1:00PM

\$225 EARLY REGISTRATION FOR NEW PLAYERS AND CHEERLEADERS / \$250 AFTER MAY 1st
\$195 EARLY REGISTRATION FOR RETURNING PLAYERS AND CHEERLEADERS / \$225 AFTER MAY 1st
REGISTER ONLINE AT MPGAELS.COM AND USE PROMO CODE GAELS2014

CALL ED KRUSE AT 630-915-0483 OR FRANK LOMELLI AT 630-453-7278 FOR FOOTBALL CALL SANDY LaGIOIA AT 708-203-8393 OR CLAUDIA RAFFAELLI AT 708-906-8568 FOR CHEER

## FOR MORE INFO, VISIT MPGAELS.COM

## Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Archive Needs Your Help

In January 2012 the Parish of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel announced a historical event: the formation of a long overdue parish archive. The mission in creating a parish archive was fourfold:

1) To locate whatever available documents and memorabilia was left by previous generations, with the hope of uncovering outright treasures from the past, or usable data to build upon.

2) To evaluate, catalogue, and preserve all that is donated by individual parishioners, by the various parish societies and organizations, by the public, and by former parishioners that have moved out of town.

3) To facilitate and encourage the documentation of significant parish events of the present, for many of the records created and maintained today will become our historical collective memory of tomorrow.

4) To eventually create a permanent historical exhibit for all to enjoy.

Due to the fact that there existed no assigned and secure space to serve as a depository to encourage the preservation of material documenting the development of our parish, very little remains for us of its early years. Most likely, after the owners of the treasured documents departed, the bulk of their material was discarded by those that survived them. Let us act today, and keep this unfortunate scenario from taking place tomorrow.

The success of our archive depends on how much interest, assistance, suggestions and material our parishioners are able to provide. And while your participation is critical to the new archive by donating material that you own, and in seeking material from people that you know, it does not require a lot of your time, nor does it require long-term involvement. Convince others that now, for the first time, we can assure everyone that what they donate to the parish archive will be as safe



as it has been in their own home, and will remain so for generations to come. This is a time of commitment for all of us to record the history of our parish going back to the arrival of the revered Our Lady of Mount Carmel statue in 1894, the erection of a wooden chapel at 908-910 N. 24th Avenue in 1895, followed by its designation as the official parish church of Melrose Park in May 1903.

Postponing doing something usually results in its demise; therefore you need to react promptly. You need to consider the historical value of this initiative and participate with dedication and determination. How can you help? Examine those forgotten cardboard boxes residing in closets, basements and attics for any type of memorabilia, correspondence, printed material, newspaper articles, old church bulletins, photos, slides, film, videos, old certificates, flyers of past events, etc. Also, seek relevant information such as the names and dates of members of the various parish societies and organizations, the names of our pastors and clergy, and the names of the nuns and priests who actually were born in Melrose Park and graduated from our grammar school. And most importantly, information relating to the genealogy of our predecessors who played a pivotal historical and religious role in the history of our parish, such as relatives and families of the foundress of our church, Emanuela De Stefano; this would be invaluable.

To help, you need to put down on paper what you yourself remember and what you have heard from your parents and older relatives, for in doing so you will honor their memory. Another way of seriously committing to help would be to contact your friends and relatives, including those that have moved out of town, and who might still be coming back to participate in our yearly Feast. Tell them about our new archive, give them this article and ask them if they have anything to donate, such as pictures that captured events in our 1908 church, such as feasts and weddings or items salvaged when the church itself was demolished in 1966. Perhaps you can convince them to put in writing details or simple personal stories, recalling what they remember or heard of the early Feasts, our nuns, priests and pastors, our churches, rural Melrose Park or what they recall hearing from their parents and older relatives. Recording verbal information from those older than you might open new windows into forgotten areas. If so requested, the archive can make copies of material that people entrust to us and we can then return the originals to the owner; please do not write on the originals, rather make all notations on a separate piece of paper.

Handwritten contributions need not be in some elegant format, nor do they have to read like a novel; they simply need to be informative and legible. Your story could relate to something quaint or something important. It could describe segments of your personal story growing up and maturing in Melrose Park or recall the early years of our parish that you heard from your grandparents. But this is a task that cannot be done effectively in one sitting.

For those managing and sustaining the archive, their involvement and work has no end. You can help them by looking for dormant material, but also by providing information obtained through actual personal research, by interacting with others that you know and by offering relevant suggestions and information. They are counting on you.

This archive initiative is not a one- or two-person effort. It requires the cooperation and help of others, especially older parishioners who might be able to provide material and information essential in writing our unique story – a story born out of strong ethnic traditions and profound devotion to La Madonna del Carmine, which has remained undiminished for the past 120 years. The driving force for all of us is the unwavering devotion to the Mother of God, a personal tribute to our immigrant ancestors and a desire to lay out a path for the next generation to follow.

The archive is managed by our parishioner, Victor Nicodemo. You can reach Victor at (708) 681-3818. Also, you can mail or hand-deliver documents to the parish rectory in a manila envelope identified as "OLMC Archive;" please include your name, address and phone number. We thank you for any help that you can provide.

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL SATURDAY APRIL 5TH, 2014

Annual Award DINNER DANCE MAN OF THE YEAR Chief Philip C. Schwartz Candlehouse Recognition: Bellini/Borzillo Candlehouse

### ELMCREST BANQUETS

7370 W. Grand Ave. Elmwood Park

Cocktails - 6:30p.m. Awards - 7:30p.m. Dinner - 8:00p.m.

**Dinner Music By:** FRANK FRATTO

**DONATION: \$60** For Tickets Contact:

Sonny Nicotera: 708.345.5172 Rich Romeo: 630.910.5843

## Proviso and Loyola Health Aid Uninsured in Maywood and Melrose Park

#### Communications Campaign to Inform Residents

Proviso Township Mental Health Commission (PTMHC) has partnered with Loyola University Health System (LUHS) to reach out to residents in Maywood and Melrose Park to offer help understanding and enrolling in the new health care program, the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare. Door hangers will be distributed providing residents with basic information about where to turn for help.

"We know there are residents in Maywood and Melrose Park whose health and well-being will be enormously improved if we can get them to enroll in insurance or Medicaid," said PTMHC Executive Director Jesse D. Rosas. "Our 'assisters' are trained and certified and can be trusted."

The PTMHC and lead agency Healthcare Alternative Systems won a state grant to help enroll residents in either Obamacare or Medicaid. Because PTMHC already has trained assisters, the new partnership with Loyola will make it easier for uninsured patients to learn more about the Affordable Care Act.

"One of the main things that people tell us when they contact PTMHC is that they didn't know where to turn for more information on the new law," said Rosas.

LUHS is supporting the program to help educate the community and its patients who may be uninsured or uninformed about the Affordable Care Act. "Some people may not realize that there is a tax penalty if you don't register by March 31," said Armand Andreoni, director of Community Benefit, at LUHS. "This penalty doesn't apply to everyone but we want people to know and how they can get information and assistance."

The door hangers will be distributed in Maywood and Melrose Park this month. They will include basic information, a phone number, an e-mail address, how to schedule an appointment and what documents will be required.

"We've learned that making an appointment first makes a big difference," said PTMHC Board President and Township Supervisor Michael Corrigan. "We want to make the process as user-friendly as possible."

Individuals looking for more information about the Affordable Care Act can call (708) 240-4435, e-mail affordablecare@ptmhc.org, or go to ptmhc.org.

Seasonal Specials! • Shrubs • Fertilizer • Flowers • Gardens • And More! Call Today – (708) 681-3384 Free Estimates

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Gift Certificates Available Senior Citizen Discounts

"Any Job – Big or Small, We Do Them All!



Happy New Year <sup>From</sup>Steve and Barney

## Presence Villa Scalabrini Team Brings Smiles

The team Presence Villa Scalabrini Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, in

Northlake, make every day count for long-term nursing residents, short-stay patients, and community members.

On Feb. 12, eight Villa Scalabrini employees donated their time to Feed My Starving Children, a Christian nonprofit organization that provides nutritionally complete meals for starving, malnourished, and hungry children in nearly 70 countries.

The Villa Scalabrini team helped pack 90 boxes of dry meals to be sent to Somalia. Those efforts will help feed 53 hungry kids for a year!

Villa Scalabrini resident, Nicholas Zamora, helped make Valentine's Day 2014 a day to remember. With supplies and candy donated by staff and family members, Mr. Zamora took weeks to hand make a giant heart piñata featuring dozens of tissue paper flowers to pluck during the annual Valentine's Day Party.

This year, Mr. Zamora took over the party planning too, from decorating the room to inviting

guests. Everyone left with a smile on their face and in their heart. To learn more about Presence Villa Scalabrini Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, call (877) 737-INFO (4636) or visit presencehealth.org/lifeconnections.





Attention Residents The village of Melrose Park would like to know if any of our residents are serving in the military. If so, please contact Peggy DiFazio via e-mail – peg@melrosepark.org or phone – (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.

## The Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel St. Anthony Society Annual Lenten Fish Fry Set for March 21

The Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel St. Anthony Society recently announced they will be hosting their Annual Fish Fry on Friday, March 21,

6-9 p.m., at the Carmel Hall on 22nd and Augusta. Come early. Stay late. Bring your friends and enjoy all you can eat beer-battered fish and chips, cole



slaw, corn on the cob, coffee, soda and an enormous sweet table with fruit and homemade cakes and cookies, and treats.

"To Go" orders will also be available!

Entertainment will include everybody's favorite crooner, velvet-voiced Johnny Maggio's soaring vocals, powerful soul and the warmth to connect with everyone in the audience, even if for just one moment in time.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. For more information, please call (312) 860-2530, (708) 372-1432 or the Rectory at (708) 344-4140.

### In Memory of Richard L. Tortorella



Richard Leonardo Tortorella was born to Florence and James Tortorella on Aug. 11, 1928, in Melrose Park, III. He passed away on Dec. 21, 2013, at his villa in Dunnellon, Fla.

Richard attended Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and became an alter boy serving through grade school. After high school he graduated from cosmetology school studying in the U.S. and Europe. He won many trophies, he won the coveted "Golden Venus" trophy He knew he hit the big time as well as winning the best in national and international compe-

tition. His businesses in Elmwood and Glen Ellen were well known as Leonardo's, catering to the best in hair design for their clients, magazines and theatre for 38 years.

Richard, every year for many years, would redesign the hairstyle and dress the lady Madonna and child at the Our Lady Mt. Carmel Church in Melrose Park, III.

In 1985, after retiring, Richard and his partner, Bill, moved to Dunnellon, Fla., and built their villa in Rainbow Spring. We will miss Richard's charm, gracious hosting and smiling face.

He is survived by his partner of 35 years, Bill Hunt, and his precious doggie, Little Girl. May you rest in peace Richard.







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Junior High Science Fair



Sacred Heart School/Holy Name Society Spelling Bee



## EMERGENCY Contact Database



The Illinois Secretary of State's Emergency Contact Database allows you to enter emergency contact information, as well as disability/special needs information, into a voluntary, secure database at no charge. In the event you are involved in a motor vehicle crash or other emergency where you are unable to communicate, law enforcement can access this information and notify your designated emergency contacts, as well as provide any helpful information to emergency/medical personnel at the scene.

For more information or to join the EMERGENCY CONTACT DATABASE: WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM Printed on recycled paper. Printed by authority of the State of Illinois. March 2013 – 600M – DSD A 222.3

#### Illinois Secretary of State Emergency Contact Database

- There is NO FEE to enroll in the Emergency Contact Database.
- Anyone who has an Illinois driver's license, instruction permit or state ID card can voluntarily enter his or her emergency contact information in the Emergency Contact Database.
- You may select one or two people as emergency contacts. Emergency contacts do not need to reside in Illinois. It is your responsibility to notify the individuals you have listed as emergency contacts.
- You may add, modify or delete information at any time at www.cyberdriveillinois.com. Any modifications or deletions will overwrite all previously entered information. For privacy and security purposes, previously entered information is not displayed.
- Only law enforcement may access this information and use it only in the case of an emergency when you are unable to communicate with them directly.



## Westlake Hospital Announces March 2014 Health and Education Programs

Accessing Services for Seniors – Professional staff from West Suburban Senior Services will be available every Monday morning at the Westlake Senior Center to provide information and assist with applications for federal, state and local programs available to seniors. Every Monday in March from 9 a.m. to noon. Call (866) 938-7256 to reserve a consultation time, however, walk-ins are welcome.

**Medicare Savings Programs** – Many Illinoisans with Medicare can save up to \$1,320 each year by participating in Medicare Savings Programs. These programs may help pay Medicare premiums, so individuals can keep more of their Social Security checks. Jazmin Lopez from Solutions for Care can assist individuals in determining their eligibility for the Medicare Savings Program. Wednesday, March 12, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at the Westlake Senior Center. Call (866) 938-7256 to reserve a consultation time, however, walk-ins are welcome

**Journey of Grief** – Coping with the death of a loved one can be difficult and painful. Spend time with other individuals who have experienced a similar loss. This will be a time of sharing, encouraging, perhaps even crying, but all with the purpose of helping you through this period of life. You are not alone in your journey of grief. The session will be led by the professional staff of Season's Hospice and Palliative Care. Wednesday, March 12, from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Westlake Senior Center. Call (866) 938-7256 to reserve a space, however, walk-ins are welcome

**Reinvesting in Life (English Session)** – Life sometimes seems to lose meaning after the loss of a loved one. At some point, an individual will often feel ready to reinvest in life. Please join staff from Season's Hospice and Palliative Care to learn about how to take the next step in discovering new interests, hobbies, habits and even new loves. There will be opportunity for discussion. Thursday, March 13, from 11 a.m to noon in the Westlake Senior Center. Please call (866) 938-7256 to register.

**Benefit Access Applications (formerly Circuit Breaker)** – Have you just turned 65 or are you a person with disabilities and income less than \$27,610? If so, you may be eligible to receive transportation assistance. Eligible applicants receive a "Ride Free" transit card and a \$75 license plate discount. Jazmin Lopez from Solutions for Care can assist you in completing the Benefit Access (formerly Circuit Breaker) application form. Those who need to re-apply to keep their current transit benefits can also receive assistance. Wednesday, March 19, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at the Westlake Senior Center. Call (866) 938-7256 to reserve a consultation time, however, walk-ins are welcome

**Learning Café: "My Knees Hurt"** – Knee pain is a common symptom in people of all ages. It may start suddenly, often after an injury or exercise. Knee pain may also began as a mild discomfort, then slowly worsen with time and age. Join Orthopedic Surgeon, Sarkis Bedikian, D.O. for this informative on risk factors, symptoms, causes and the latest treatment options for knee pain. You will hear about ways you may be able to walk without pain. Friday, March 21, from noon to 1 p.m. in Conference Rooms A-D. Please call (866) 938-7256 to register. A light lunch will be provided.

**Beverages for Health and Hydration** – Sugar sweetened beverages aren't so sweet after all. Health concerns are rising with the consumption of sugar sweetened drinks. Please join Westlake Hospital's Community Health Dietitian, Mary D'Anza, for a discussion on the link between sugar sweetened beverages and chronic diseases, especially obesity, consumption of these drinks and how we can incorporate healthier drinks into our diet. Tuesday, March 25, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Westlake Senior Center. Please call (866) 938-7256 to register.

Senior Assistance Program – "HELP!! These forms are driving me crazy!" Whether you need information about local, state and national resources important to older adults and their families or you need to talk to someone about personal safety concerns and problems, help is available from the professional staff of Solutions for Care. Staff members can also assist with questions regarding Medicare and recent changes to Medicare benefits. Consultations are available Wednesday, March 26, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the Westlake Senior Center. Call (866) 938-7256 to reserve a consultation time, however, walk-ins are welcome.

**New to Medicare** – If you are new to Medicare or about to become eligible, you may have questions about what Medicare covers, how much it costs, and what parts of Medicare to which you should enroll. You may also have questions about the various Medicare supplements. Jazmin Lopez from Solutions for Care will be available to help individuals understand the benefits for which they are eligible. Wednesday, March 26, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Westlake Senior Center. Call (866) 938-7256 to reserve a space, however, walk-ins are welcome.

**The Importance of Discharge Instructions** – Personal care after discharge from the hospital is vital to reduce readmissions and complications. Please join Jennifer Smith, R.N., for an explanation of the importance of discharge instructions as well as discharge planning. The discussion will include components of discharge instructions such as: the reason for admission, medications to be on at home, follow up appointments with physicians, post-acute care that may be needed (e.g., skilled nursing facility, home health care, or outpatient therapy). Thursday, March 27, from 11 a.m. to noon in the Westlake Senior Center. Please call (866) 938-7256 to register.



## Obituaries

#### Bolivar

Avelina Bolivar, age 86, of Melrose Park, passsed away Feb. 16, 2014. Beloved mother of Maria Guzman, David Bustamante and Luis Richardo Bolivar; loving grandmother of five granddaughters and four grandsons; dear great-grandmother of many. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. *Brooks* 

Raymond Brooks, age 94, of Melrose Park, passed away Jan. 17 in Lido Key, Fla. Beloved husband and best friend of Gala (nee Saber); loving father of Rita (Charles) Anderson, Cathy (Jerry) Zeman, Mary Fran (Tracy) Novak, and Peggy (Todd) Novak; dear grandfather of Emily, Keith, and Brian (Dana); great grandfather of Brianna; fond uncle of Barbara. Ray, a WWII Army Air Corps veteran, retired in 1980 following 38 years of service to the blinded veterans at the Blind Rehabilitation Center at Hines Hospital. Inducted into the Illinois basketball Coaches Association, Chicago Public League Coaches and Athletic Assoc. Halls of Fame. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home.

#### Cesarini Bose "Bet

Rose "Betty" Cesarini, nee Simpson. Beloved wife of the late Angelo "Big Joe"; devoted mother of Theresa (Anthony) Rainaldi, Joseph (Liz), Laurie (Tom) Klein, Cindy (Alan) Mandel, Dan and Bill (Maryan); fond grandmother of Angelo, Tony, Peggy, Tommy, Lia, Tony, Casey, Katy, Angela, Alex, Gabriela, Dominick, Joey and the late Louie; fond Nani of Madison, Zach, Boston, Patti, Ally, Joey, Michael, Danielle, Ava, Molly, Ricky and Haley, dear sister of Patsy (the late George) Santos, the late Bill (Priscilla) Simpson, the late Grace (the late Bob) Ropoza; dear aunt and great-aunt of many; fond niece of Ida Frietas. Arrangements by Russo's Hillside Chapels.

#### Colon

Ericberto Colon, age 47, of Melrose Park. Beloved husband of Maxine; loving father of Lorenzo, Ericberto Jr., Javier and Ontonio; dearest grandfather of Jaida; cherished son of Felix Sr. and Luz; dear son-in-law of Carrie; fond brother of Joey, Maira (Jesus), Felix M. Jr., Jacqueline (Johnny), Billy, Twan (Regina), Mae (Tony) and Tonya. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. *Dalsandro* 

# Vincent John Dalsandro, born April 16, 1949. Precious son of the late Jennie and Vincent. Adored brother of Lucille (the late Harvey) Papendorf and Adeline (the late Vince) Smarto; loving uncle to Paul, Matthew, Jennifer, Christopher Sr., Lisa and Gia; dear great uncle to Harvey, Paige, Christopher Jr., Redmond and Danielle; fond nephew of the late Edith and Carmen Guerrieri, and the late Antoinette and Louis CiCi; cherished cousin to Carmen and Provi, Madelyn and Steve, Nick and Rhea and Louis and Barb and Elena Beck, and the late Terry and John; great-cousin to Steve Jr. and Michelle, Nicole, Victoria, Edith, Carmen, Jimmy, Anthony, Natalie and the late John Jr. and late baby Alex; also loved by many other cousins and friends. Arrangements by Hursen Funeral Home.

#### DiFazio

Fred DiFazio. Beloved son of the late Dominic and Sue DiFazio; dear brother of Donald "Cpt. D" (Marie) DiFazio, Patricia Sue (James) Stolfe, Rocky (Peggy) DiFazio; beloved uncle of Mark, Laura, Sue, Brian and Michael Stolfe, Dominic and Trisha DiFazio and Dominic Lodato; beloved "Uncle Fred" to many. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Interment Mount Carmel Cemetery. *Favela-Chaidez*.

## Leonardo Favela-Chaidez, age 65, of Melrose Park, passed away on Jan. 5, 2014. Beloved husband of Consolacion; loving father of Beatyriz (Juan) Magallanes and Alma (Esteban) Adrian; dear grandfather of Gabriela, Pablo, Alexandra and Esteban Jr.; fond brother of Margarito, Maria del Rosario Chaidez, Fidel, Jesus Roberto and Ofelia. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemeterv.

#### Fernandez

Nicolas Fernandez, age 43, of Melrose Park. Beloved son of Nicolas Fernandez and the late Elisa Valadez; dear brother of Alberto (Carmen) Fernandez and Antonio (Maricela) Fernandez; also survived by many nieces and nephews. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Interment private. *Giordano* 

Louis J. Giordano, age 67, formerly of Melrose Park. Beloved son of the late Dominic and the late Rose (nee Glorioso) Giordano; loving brother of Dennis (Vicki) Giordano, Cathy Giordano, Kenny (JoAnn) Giordano and Judy Giordano; dear uncle of 10. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

#### Keil

Gladys H. Keil, age 91, of Bensenville, formerly of Melrose Park, passed away on Jan. 7, 2014. Beloved daughter of the late John H. and Olga Keil; dear sister of the late Palmer (the late Rosamond) and the late Minnie Keil; fond aunt of Paul (Rita) Keil, Rev. David (Kathy) Keil and Ruth Tallent; devoted cousin of Margaret Gross (nee Keil) (her caregiver). Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Interment Concordia Cemetery.

#### Lorenzo

Tony Lorenzo, age 84, of Melrose Park. Beloved son of the late Savino and Antonia Lorenzo; fond brother of Santa (Charles) Swanson, George (Joan) Lorenzo, the late Jimmy, the late Vito, the late Mary Widner, the late Skippy, the late Philomena, the late Theresa and the late Rose Schieler; loving uncle to many nieces and nephews. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

#### Parker

Ruby R. Parker, age 89, of Melrose Park. Beloved wife of the late Louis; dear mother of Shirley (the late John) Taylor, Alan (the late Rose) Parker and the late Brenda (Michael) Sassone; loving grand-mother of Julie (Joe) Calcagno, John (Toni) Taylor, Michael Parker and Katelyn Parker; cherished great-grandmother of Joey, Taylor, Jillian, Jack, Kate, Erin and Meg; fond sister of Ann (the late Charles) Collins; aunt of Bonnie Powell and many nieces and nephews. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Entombment Elm Lawn Mausoleum.

#### Pesola

Margaret E. Pesola, age 92, of Melrose Park, passed away peacefully Jan. 16, 2014. Beloved wife of the late Joseph; loving mother of Susan O'Brien and the late Jeffrey (Ana); dear grandmother of Ryan (Angie) O'Brien, Heather (Bill) Ruzicka, Melissa (Jim) Daly and Jennifer (Michael) Ogden; great-grandmother of 11; fond sister of Marie (Andrew) Paternoster, Ann (the late Frank) Rutz, the late Helen Herman and the late John Steger. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home.

#### Porschakin

Helen Porschakin, age 95, of Northlake, formerly of Melrose Park. Beloved wife of the late Joseph; loving mother of Sonia (Ed) Stetkus; dear grandmother of Karen (Bob) Parrella and Laura (Ed) Dicristofano; fond great-grandmother of Bobby, Ryan, and Kyle. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Interment Elmwood Cemetery.

#### Ratini

Helen Ann Ratini, age 100, of Melrose Park. Beloved wife of the late Louis; loving mother of Barb (the late Donald) Richter and Kenneth (Sharon) Ratini; dear grandmother of 11; fond great-grandmother of 22; great-great-grandmother of one. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home. Interment Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

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MAYOR Ronald M. Serpico

**CLERK** Mary Ann Paolantonio

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#### Save the Dates! **RESERVATION FORM** Next Issue – April 2014 (Deadline for material March 31, 2014.) Schedule for 2014 April, June, August, October, 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, III. 60160 or E- mail to: therose@melrosepark.org w/pdf or jpeg file, or call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448. (Checks need to be made to the order of Village of Melrose Park.) ------The R@ Date **Rates – Full Color Ads** Name of Business\_ Full Page \$400 per issue (9 x 10 1/2) **Contact Name** Half Page Address \$200 per issue (9 x 5 1/4) State\_\_\_\_ 1/4 Page Zip City\_ \$100 per issue (4 1/2 x 5 1/4) E-mail 1/8 Page \$50 per issue (4 1/2 x 2 5/8) Phone\_ Fax Ad Size (Please Circle): Full Page 1/2 Page 1/4 Page 1/8 Page