## The Official Newsletter of the Village of Melrose Park

A Message From Mayor Ronald M. Serpico

Many brave men and women died thousands of miles away to protect our right to vote. It should not be that difficult to honor their ultimate sacrifice by traveling a few blocks to cast a vote that directly affects your family's quality of life ...

Dear Neighbors,

I would like to start this letter by expressing my deepest gratitude to the men and women of the Melrose Park Public Works Department who worked tire-



Ronald M. Serpico Mayor

lessly around the clock to clear our streets and alleys of the record 38 inches of snowfall that fell in just a six-week period between January and February. Again, kudos to the entire Public Works team for a job well done!

And now, with the snow hopefully behind us, we can turn our attention to the April 6 election for village offices, school boards, township offices and park district commissioners. These local offices comprise approximately 90 percent of your annual real estate tax bill. With so many property tax dollars at stake, it amazes me that 82 percent of registered voters in most suburban villages never even bother to vote in these elections.

I am proud to say that Melrose Park is usually one of the top three villages in suburban Cook County for voter turnout in elections for local offices. We have had some local elections in Melrose Park that approach 55 percent of the vote.

I understand that local elections do not have the pizazz of a Presidential election, but the elections for village, school and park district offices directly affect our day-to-day life and the value of our homes. Your local governments have a lot of money and influence to decide what your community's priorities are and how it will be run.

Your village government is responsible for fire, police and paramedic polices. The village board approves contracts for repairs to sewers, streets, curbs, sidewalks, landscaping and all other capital projects that keep the community safe and clean. They oversee the delivery of water and the collection of trash. They approve zoning requests, issue business licenses, and enact ordinances that residents and businesses within its corporate boundary must obey.

The school board is the link between the classroom and the community. They decide how and what students are learning by setting policies, curriculums, and budgets for the school district. Voting for school board members affects funding for programs like the arts and sports, the school calendar, what time school begins and ends. They hire or fire school principals and set guidelines for teachers.

Local governments lead the way when the federal or state governments don't. Many landmark federal policies first originated at the local level, such as women's suffrage, minimum wage, environmental protection and marriage equality. By voting in local elections and holding your officials accountable, you can help create the change you want to see in your community and our country.

Many brave men and women died thousands of miles away to protect our right to vote. It should not be that difficult to honor their ultimate sacrifice by traveling a few blocks to cast a vote that directly affects your family's quality of life.

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



Stay well,

Mayor Ron Šerpico

## **Election Day is Tuesday, April 6** Polls are open 6 a.m.-7 p.m.

Early Voting Runs Now-Monday, April 5 at the Melrose Park Village Hall (First Floor Multi-Purpose Room).



## **Ronald M. Serpico, Mayor**

Mary Ann Paolantonio, Village Clerk

Trustees Anthony J. Abruzzo • Jaime Anguiano Arturo J. Mota • Sonny Nicotera Anthony J. Prignano • Mary Ramirez Taconi

## Important Melrose Park Village Hall Notice ...

Effective as of April 27, 2020, all Village of Melrose Park employees and visitors conducting business at the Village Hall will be required to wear protective masks.



<b>Village Hall.</b> Hours – Monday-Friday, 9 a.m5 p.n	
Birth Certificates • First Copy – \$15, add	and the second secon
Death Certificates • First Copy – \$17, ac Water, Tickets, Etc.	Iditional copies \$6 each.
Office of the Mayor(708) 34	13-4000 Evt 4410
Police Emergency	
Non-Emergency	
Animal Control	
Fire Emergency	
Non-Emergency	
Public Safety/Homeland Security	
Library	(708) 343-3391
Public Works	
Building and Code	(708) 343-4000
Civic Center	(708) 450-0555
Hall and Field Rentals, Sports, Etc.	
Community Service(708) 34	
Senior Services(708) 34	<b>43-4000, Ext. 4448</b>
Taste of Melrose Park	
Dial A Ride	
Proviso Township Assessor	
Economic Development	(/U8) 869-8809



#### Dear Mayor Serpico ...

I wanted to reach out and thank the village of Melrose Park and you for continually looking out for the safety and well-being of your residents throughout the pandemic. I pray that the vaccine clinic that you were able to partner with, is the first of many!

The Mugnolo Family

Amy Mugnolo

#### Dear Members of the Melrose Park Fire Department ...

The world's a whole lot better place because of people like you who give real joy and pleasure by the nice things that you do and with your recent thoughtfulness still very much in mind, this is meant to bring a "thank you of the warmest kind!"

I am very appreciative for taking my delightful mother to the hospital.

Thank you and god bless. I will never stop loving all of you as all of you are a delightful, loveable inspiration to me. Just stay that way, just for me. Happy Easter wishes for you. Couldn't let the day go by without wishing

you a wonderful day filled with love and laughter.

- Lots of love ... always and forever,
- Ms. Wanda Bobrowicz

### Dear Mayor Serpico and Snow Removal Staff ...

A simple thank you ...

On behalf of the Santanafessa family, we'd like to thank you for taking care of your senior citizens that live in our village. We appreciate all you do for us elderly people.

- Thank you,
  - Elena Santanafessa

## Help Slow the Spread ... Wear a Mask, Watch Your Distance, Wash Your Hands.

Thank you for making a difference in our community.



## **Information About the COVID-19 Vaccine**



State of Illinois Illinois Department on Aging **From the Desk of Chief Phil Schwartz** Melrose Park Departments of Homeland Security – Public Safety





## COVID-19 Vaccine

## Information for Older Adults

### WHY SHOULD I TAKE THE VACCINE?

Older adults have a higher risk for severe illness and hospitalization if they get COVID-19. Research has demonstrated that the vaccine is 95% effective in preventing COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccine will help keep you, your family, and your community healthy and safe.

## **IS THE VACCINE SAFE?**

We understand that some people may be concerned about getting vaccinated. The COVID-19 vaccine was tested with thousands of participants to generate scientific data and other information in order to determine its safety and to get approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

## **SIDE EFFECTS**

Short-term side effects are mild and may include fever, fatigue, muscle and joint pain, chills and sore arms. They will go away in a few days, but they are normal and a sign your body is working to build up protection against the virus.

## MYTH vs F

**MYTH:** If I get vaccinated for COVID-19 I'll be more vulnerable to other illnesses.

**FACT:** While the COVID-19 vaccine will work to teach your immune system to recognize and protect against coronavirus, it is not proven to make you vulnerable to other illnesses.

**MYTH:** After I get the vaccine, I no longer have to wear a mask.

**FACT:** While health experts learn more about the protection of COVID-19 vaccines, it will be important for everyone to continue to wear a mask, wash hands often, and practice social distancing.

Contact your local health department to ask about COVID-19 vaccination in your area: http://www.idph.state.il.us/LHDMap/HealthRegions.aspx

> Illinois Department of Public Health COVID-19 vaccine site: http://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccine-faq

For general questions about COVID-19 and Illinois' response and guidance, call 1-800-889-3931 or email DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV.

## 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 and POW/MIA have been 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 to their home, please call the Melrose Park Village Hall at (708) 343-4000 with details on their U.S. military branch.

## 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 Patti Dindia via email – pd@melrosepark.org or phone – (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4410.











**ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, APRIL 6** Early Voting Runs Now-Monday, April 5.

# **RE-ELECT MELROSE VISION PARTY**

FOR MELROSE PARK VILLAGE PRESIDENT

# RONALD M. SERPICO SR.....1

FOR MELROSE PARK VILLAGE CLERK

## MARY ANN PAOLANTONIO ......2

FOR MELROSE PARK VILLAGE TRUSTEE

<b>ANTHONY J. "TONY" PRIGNANO</b>	3
ARTURO J. MOTA	4
MARY RAMIREZ TACONI	5
JAIME ANGUIANO	6
ANTHONY N. ABRUZZO	7
LOUIS "SONNY" NICOTERA	8

Paid for by Citizens to Elect Ronald M. Serpico, Sr.



## **Melrose Park Fire Department**NEWS



**Rick Beltrame Director of Fire Department** 

## A Message from

## Director of Fire Dept. **Rick** Beltrame

## **Spring Fire Safety Tips**

Spring and the warmer weather provide an excellent opportunity to check on your existing equipment and eliminate possible threats to a potential fire.

### Check Your Smoke Alarms

According to the National Fire Prevention Association, having a properly functioning smoke alarm in your home drops your risk of dying in a house fire by 50 percent.

Many homeowners grow irritated by the beep from a low battery, but you cannot overlook the quick and simple process of changing that battery once every year.

### **Clean Out Your Clothes Dryer**

Most clothes dryers recommend cleaning out the lint trap after each load, but you should regularly scrape out the lint in the dryer itself. Check the venting from outside the house, too, as an improper connection or clogged ducts can be hazardous.

### Keep Your Grills Clean and Away from the House

Warmer weather makes people want to spend more time outdoors. And nothing says spring or summer like barbecuing on the grill.

Before you turn on the grill, check all connections from the propane tank for any potential leaks. Charcoal grills require only charcoal starter fluid and not any other flammable liquids.

While you take these necessary steps to prevent causes of house fires this spring, please remember that one of the most important ways to avoid becoming a statistic is the implementation of a family fire escape plan.



## 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.

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.

# Melrose Park Mayor RONALD M. SERPICO Endorses

## LUKE -195 **PHENS...19** ISA For **ON COLLEGE TRUSTEE** HI

Paid for by Friends of Mark Stephens



## Nielrose Park Police Department

Connecting You to Community Resources!

**Melrose Park Police Department Notice** PARKING RESTRICTIONS **EFFECTIVE TUESDAY, DEC. 1, 2020, ALL PARKING RESTRICTIONS** WILL BE ENFORCED. THIS INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, **NO OVERNIGHT PARKING IN** WINSTON PARK OR WEST MELROSE, **NO OVERNIGHT PARKING ON** EAST AND WEST STREETS, **AND ALTERNATE SIDES OF STREET PARKING. AGAIN, THESE PARKING RESTRICTIONS** WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED AND

TICKETS WILL BE WRITTEN.

## A Message from Director of Police Sam C. Pitassi



Sam C. Pitassi Director of Police



### 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.

## **CRIME TIPS Carjackers Rely on the Element of Surprise**

Carjackers rely on the element of surprise to carry out their crime. To be successful, carjackers look for victims who aren't paying attention to their surroundings. Most victims report never seeing the carjacker until they are already being approached and forced from their vehicle.

Carjackings have devastated the lives of many over the years and they continue to do so today. As a result, carjacking survivors are often left with constant fear every time they get behind the wheel. Others refuse to ever drive again. Carjacking is a very serious crime. To reduce your chances of becoming a carjacking victim, always be on alert

whenever you are exiting and entering your car, paying close attention to your surroundings.

To reduce your risk of being a carjacking victim, take heed of the following safety precautions:

- Be suspicious of anyone sitting in a nearby car.
- Don't be afraid to ask for a store security guard to walk you to your car.
- If someone tries to approach you, retreat back into the building from which you came.
- Always be cautious and look around the outside of your car and inside before entering.
- Avoiding parking near walls, bushes, dumpsters and other surroundings that someone can hide behind.
- Be aware of individuals handing out flyers, selling candy or merchandise in and around parking areas.
- If you plan to arrive or leave a place after dark, park in areas that you know will be well lit at night.
- Make sure you are not being followed and always look around as you load shopping bags and other goods into your car.
- Get into the habit of swiftly entering your vehicle, locking your doors, starting your engine, and driving away as quickly and safely as possible.
- Use valet parking whenever possible. Only supply the valet with the vehicle key.
  - Take all other keys with you when exiting the vehicle.
- Always drive with your car doors locked.
- Make sure all car doors are locked while running/warming up in front of your home.
- Listen to your instincts. If you sense something is not right, leave the area.
- Do not argue with the perpetrator.
  - Give up your keys and/or other personal items as demanded.
- Avoid driving with your windows down in areas where you have to make frequent stops at lights and intersections.
- If you are carjacked, immediately call the police.
  - Do not try to follow the carjacker!
- When in traffic, if possible, attempt to leave room between your car and the car in front of you so as you can quickly drive away if approached by a criminal.
- If an individual bumps your vehicle from behind with his own car, be suspicious.
   Wave for him to follow you to a heavily populated area or local police.
- Never willingly get into the car with the carjacker, no matter what he says.
- Just throw your keys, run and yell for help.
- Record your vehicle identification number and license plate number on a piece of paper and keep it with your driver's license.
  - In the case of a carjacking, the police will require this information.
  - The quicker you can provide it to them, the better.

## **Unemployment Identity Theft Scam**

The Melrose Park Police Department has issued a warning about an unemployment and identity fraud scam that has recently affected Illinois residents. The scam involves fraudulently using individuals' identities to file for Illinois unemployment benefits.

If an individual receives an unemployment benefit debit card in the mail and did not file for unemployment benefits, the Melrose Park Police Department advises them not to activate the card and to check their credit report for suspicious activity.

1. Individuals who received an unsolicited unemployment benefits debit card should file a police report.

2. Residents who have been affected by this scam should also contact the Illinois Department of Employment Security at (800) 814-0513 or visit ides.illinois.gov to report the fraudulent debit card.

Source: https://northernstar.info/80762/news/dekalb-police-department-warns-against-unemployment-scams/.

## **CRIME TIPS – Common Citizen Scams**

### **Imposter Burglary**

- Suspect(s) will pretend to be legitimate worker(s) and approach senior citizen homeowners at their residences with a seemingly legitimate ruse. Their real purpose is to divert the homeowner while their accomplices search for currency and jewelry.
- Some of the more frequently used ploys by the suspects are indicating they are from the local gas/electric company, posing as a water department employee to inspect the water pipes and/or to replace the water meter, a request to use the bathroom, a cable TV company employee, roofing/gutter repair and paving company contractor, city inspector(s), surveyor(s) and tree trimmer(s), or government personnel from a social service agency.
- Many of the impostor burglars now have bogus photo identification cards, legitimate looking work uniforms, and vehicles made to look like government or company vehicles. They may also communicate with handheld radios or cell phones.
- Women and children may also accompany male suspects and participate in the diversion of the homeowner.
- The suspects may offer a partial rebate by giving the victim a \$100 bill and a request for change. This allows the suspect(s) to determine where the victim keeps their money. The victim is distracted either inside the house by turning a light switch on and off, knocking on water pipes, etc., or showing the victim damage outside of the home, determining property lines, etc. Once the victim is distracted, the unseen suspects enter the home, and remove the money and jewelry. In some cases, the suspects have also removed safes from the home.

### Violence

While many of these offenses are only distraction theft/burglaries, an increasing pattern of violence is emerging. Most of the violence occurs when the victim becomes aware of the distraction and tries to prevent the criminals from taking his/her valuables. In these cases, the victim is overpowered with force by the suspects; the offense then turns into an assault and robbery. In the last few years, an increasing number of offenders have begun using violence in lieu of distraction as their method of operation.

### **Home Repair Fraud**

Nationwide, billions of dollars are lost every year due to home repair frauds targeted against senior citizens; however, anyone – not just senior citizens – can be the victim of a home repair fraud.

A common scenario includes:

- Senior citizens are approached by individuals offering to perform various home repair jobs, such as asphalt paving, driveway repair, roof or gutter repair, chimney cleaning, tree trimming, etc.
- The perpetrators claim to have materials left over from other jobs, can offer significant discounts or they were sent by a close relative or friend.
- Once the job is completed, however, the cost of the work is several times more than the first quote and payment is demanded in cash. To ensure payment in cash, the con artist may accompany the victim to the bank.
- If the opportunity is available, these home repair con artists may also commit a burglary.

The work is usually shoddy (inferior) and/or incomplete. Other types of repair/inspection frauds can involve furnaces, chimneys, water heaters, water pressure, electrical wiring, window repair and cement repair.

### **Home Invasion Burglary**

- The burglary team usually consists of two to four people. In many cases, a male will drive three females to the targeted area. The male driver either cruises the neighborhood or parks away from the targeted area.
- The female suspects will roam the neighborhood looking to approach senior citizens while working in their yards.
- One suspect will distract the homeowner by asking any number of questions. The second suspect will then go into the unlocked residence and steal cash and/or jewelry.
- Suspects will sometimes knock or ring the door bell. The suspects will pretend to be ill, ask for a drink of
  water, ask if the house is for sale, ask about previous owner(s), pretend to be looking for a lost pet or any
  excuse to get inside the home.
- If confronted by the homeowner, the burglary team will use any type of simple distraction, e.g., need a drink of water, use of phone or bathroom, looking for a lost pet or rental property and sale of tablecloths, etc.
- Theft of cash, jewelry or silver occurs with no ransacking. Several days or weeks can pass before the homeowner realizes she/he has been the victim of a burglary. The suspects are careful to put everything back in its place.

### **Travel Trailer Sale Scam**

- Initially, the suspect purchases a low grade of travel trailer(s) direct from a manufacturer.
- The suspect sells the travel trailer to the victim using documents which misrepresent the value of the trailer.
  - The suspect fails to register the trailer, which is still titled to the manufacturer, so it can be sold as "new."



Neirose Park Police Department

Connecting You to Community Resources!

### **Handkerchief Switch Scam**

- The victim is approached by the first suspect, who pretends to be from out of the country and is unfamiliar with United States banking procedures, with a large sum of money.
- · After the second suspect arrives, the victim is persuaded to make a bank withdrawal to show the first suspect how the bank works.
- The victim is induced to believe control of all the money will be retained by the victim, right after, the suspects will indicate they need to leave for a short time.
- All of the money is then placed into an envelope, but a switch occurs before the victim takes control of the envelope.
- Afterward, the victim opens the envelope which only contains cut-up paper.

### **Landscaping Scams**

- · The suspect approaches the property owner/victim and offers to prune trees.
- The property owner/victim is charged per limb, it is not per tree as initially implied by the suspect.
- The cuttings are "balled" with soil and quickly sold to the property owner/victim as seedlings.

### **Badge Come Back Scam**

- The Badge Come Back Scam can be used after almost any criminal activity, but it is primarily seen after the Handkerchief Switch and Pigeon Drop Scams.
- The intended victim of the Handkerchief Switch is approached by the suspect who is posing as a "police officer".
- The victim is told the "police" are aware of the crime and a corrupt bank official was involved.
- The victim is then persuaded to make a bank withdrawal believing it will help catch the corrupt official and recover the lost money.
- In many cases, the victim fails to report the initial scam to the real police.
- If you are a victim of this type of scam, remember to report both scams to the police.

### **Motor Vehicle Repair and Sales Scams**

- The suspect does a poor quality of curb side repairs to the vehicle, a high payment is also extorted from the victim.
- · The suspect sells the used vehicle after doing an odometer "rollback."
- The suspect sells the victim a vehicle which has an "open title."

### Fortune Telling – Monetary Gain

Many high school students and young adults visit fortune tellers for entertainment, however, most high school students do not possess the financial holdings a criminal fortune teller is looking for. Working professionals and senior citizens are more opportune targets. Criminal fortune tellers know most individual problems concern health, wealth or love. According to experienced investigators, initial contact with some victims is made at fairs, carnivals, newspaper ads and hand flyers. If the victim is in a vulnerable emotional state, the criminal fortune teller attempts to work a curse removal scheme or bujo (boo-joo). The following is a fictional example of how a bujo progresses.

Jane Doe is a middle-aged, well educated and professional. Her husband of 25 years dies, she has recently been diagnosed with a serious illness. Every day on her way home from the office, Jane passes "Mrs. XYZ's Psychic Readings." Jane decides to stop one afternoon for the \$5 special. After an initial tarot (pronounced ta-roe) card reading or maybe a little palm reading, the "psychic" informs Jane there is indeed some "dark evil" surrounding her life, which needs to be removed.

After several visits, Jane is told the "dark evil" surrounding her life is being caused by her late husband's insurance money. The "psychic" rubs an egg around Jane's body to absorb some of the evil. When the egg is cracked open, an ugly, disgusting mass (usually made up of hair, bread, and maybe a small plastic devil's head) is discovered inside the egg.

The "psychic" tells Jane she must bury the insurance money in the graveyard. Jane is understandably reluctant to perform such an act. The "psychic," pretending to be a compassionate person, volunteers to bury the money for Jane (the psychic buries the money right into her own pocket).

Jane's curse removal therapy continues for the next year. After several thousand dollars of her money has been "cleansed," the "psychic" suddenly disappears, probably to another state. The bujo is now complete.

#### How do criminal fortune tellers convince their customers of their supernatural ability to predict the future?

They rely on a technique called "cold reading." By using a series of generalized statements, vague enough to fit anyone, the victim is convinced the statements are specific to their life. When a "cold reader" combines a gimmick such as tarot cards, tea leaves, a crystal ball or palm reading with generalized personality statements, the illusion of psychic ability created.

Theft by deception is illegal. It is the responsibility of law enforcement to protect those who cannot protect themselves. Aggressive prosecution and public education are two key factors in reducing potential victims from these con artists.

Don't let embarrassment prevent you from reporting criminal activity. The con artist relies on their victims being reluctant to admit they have been scammed.

If you have been a victim or know someone who has been victimized by a criminal fortune teller, please report the incident to your nearest law enforcement agency.

These scams are just a few of the numerous frauds perpetrated annually. Each year thousands of victims lose millions of dollars from these scams. The deception list continues to grow each year, making scams, their victims and the exact dollar amount almost impossible to track. Anyone can become the victim. People of all ages, educational levels and incomes fall victim to scams daily.

Gathering and sharing of information is vital, especially when you are dealing with these transient, criminal suspects and the thefts, scams, and frauds they perpetrate.

Source: https://www.isp.state.il.us/crime/citizenscam.cfm.



## **Village of Melrose Park Public Works Report** From the Desk of Gary Marine, Director of Public Works

## **TV Pickup**

Please call and make arrangements for pickup with the Public Works Street Department at (708) 343-5128 before putting your TV out.

### **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.

### Apply Now for the **2021 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 gualify 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 (below) 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

2021 Senior Painting Program list will be closed July 31, 2021. Only one item will be painted per year. Get your request in early as the list fills fast.

Mayor Serpico's 2021 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. 2021 list will be closed July 31, 2021.

### **2021 Tree Planting for Parkways**

If you are interested in a tree for the parkway for 2021 (one tree per household), we are compiling a list for 2021 Fall Tree Planting. To request a tree, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128.

### 2021 — 50/50 Sidewalk Program

### **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 Restrictions**

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

### **Silver Creek Restoration Project Phase Four**

Under the direction of Mayor Ronald M. Serpico, the Village of Melrose Park Public Works employees are constructing at the Silver Creek Eagles

Nest Park. This is a natural preserve that will include a walking path and a pavilion/gazebo. along with a canoe/kayak launch.

Phase Four of the Silver Creek Eagle's Nest Park will be completed this year.

This restoration 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.

### Street Sweeping

The street sweeper has started street sweeping. Please follow all street sweeping signs throughout the village. Please remove your vehicle from the street to help will expedite sweeping.

### **MP 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.



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.



### **Maywood Park Racetrack Entrance Sign**

The village of Melrose Park has secured the old Maywood Park Racetrack entrance sign. Installation of the sign has been completed at the Library for the Melrose Park Historical Society. The village of Melrose Park and the Historical Society's focus is to save, restore and highlight the many village of Melrose Park historical landmarks.

### Public Works Department Street Paving and Alley Project

#### **Street Paving Projects Completed**

Division to Chicago Avenue – 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th Avenues Lake Street to Division – 21st and 22nd Avenues Lake Street to Main Street – 23rd and 24th Avenues North Avenue to Division – 23rd Avenue Augusta – 15th to 19th Avenue Braddock Street, Charleston Court, Clinton Court, Channing Court and Clay Court

> Alley Project Phase 3 This 10 alley projects have been completed.

## Help Keep Our Village Clean!

Help keep our village clean by making sure you keep all garbage in your 90-gallon blue garbage container to keep garbage from blowing throughout the neighborhood. The village is proud of the garbage and debris services it provides our residents. Help keep the parkways clean and in the front and rear of your house or building. The village is dedicated to working with and for our citizens – together we can make Melrose Park look even better!



## Buying or selling? Now is the time to make your move.



## Call Northlake Realtors. 708-562-5689

www.northlakerealtors.com Our agents work and live in the community. Outstanding Agents! Outstanding Results!

Experienced in: Single + Multi-Family Homes · Short Sales · Foreclosures · Investment Properties · Commercial Real Estate

## Village of Melrose Park Residental 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.

Yard waste is collected on Friday 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 includes all household remodeling items (homeowner/self – not contractor) such as kitchen and bathroom cabinets, drywall and cement.

First truck load (one) pickup free – after first truckload a fee will be charged or removed by the homeowner.

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 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 summer 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 Service 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 Service.

# Looking for a Good Meal?



Anyone aged 60 and older can pick up delicious meals from the Meals on Wheels location at the Sharp Community Center 1609 N. 36th Ave., Melrose Park. Mondays-Thursdays • 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Fridays • 9-11:30 a.m. (Donation of \$3 per meal requested but not required.)

For additional information, please call (708) 316-7488!



## MP Water Department Responds 24/7 to Repair Early Spring Thaw Damages

As the thaw began and the ground started to move, so did the watermains that supply water to the residents of Melrose Park and as this happens, watermain breaks occur at all times of the day and the Water Department is always on the ready to make the repairs either on sunny days or frigid nights, they are the best crew any municipality could ask for and for that we say thank you.



## 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.



## Village of Melrose Park Building Dept. Report

From the Desk of Ralph Sorce, Building Commissioner

## A Note to All Melrose Park Residents Regarding Property Flood Protection, Flood Insurance, Village Assistance

As of Oct. 1, 2015, the Village of Melrose Park has earned a Class 8 Rating through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS); for this reason, flood insurance policies issued or renewed in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) qualify for a 10 percent discount off the premium cost.

#### **Flood Protection Information**

The Village of Melrose Park strongly encourages these flood protection tips to be used:

• Stream Maintenance – Per the Clean Water Act and village ordinance, dumping into our ditches, creeks and sewers is strictly prohibited. This regulation helps prevent contamination to our water supply and lessens the chance of flooding. Grass clippings, leaves and branches can also cause problems as they can accumulate and plug the storm sewer channels. If your property is next to a ditch or creek, please do your part and keep the banks clear of brush and debris. Please feel free to contact the Public Works Department for information regarding the Village's Creek Maintenance Program or reporting downed tree and other major blockages.

• Construction Requirements – Always check with the Building Department before you alter, re-grade or fill your property. A permit is needed to ensure that projects do not cause drainage problems to other properties and to ensure the general public welfare.

• Flood-Proofing – There are several different ways to protect a building from flood damage – retrofitting (altering a building to eliminate or reduce flood damage) measures include:

- Elevations This involves raising the house so that the lowest floor is above protection level.
- Relocation Moving a building out of the flood zone is the surest way to protect it from a flood.
- Floodwalls These work to keep water from reaching your home by constructing barriers out of fill or concrete between the building and the flood water.
- Dry Flood-Proofing Makes the building's walls and floors watertight so water does not enter.
- Wet Flood-Proofing Modifies the structure and relocates the contents so that when flood water enters the building there is little to no damage.

Important notice: Any alteration to a building or land requires a permit from the Building Department. Even re-grading or filling in the floodplain requires a permit.

#### **Flood Protection Assistance**

If you have any concerns or issues with flooding or drainage, please call the Village of Melrose Park Sewer Department at (708) 531-5347 or the Building Department at (708) 343-4000. The Building Department can provide information, professional input and problem-solving measures without negatively affecting nearby neighbors. The Building Department can also provide a list of flood proofing contractors and conduct inspections.

#### Sand Bags

During a rainstorm or flood, sand bags are readily available for pickup at the Melrose Park Public Works Building located at 1002 N. 27th Ave. The Public Works Department also drops off sand bags throughout the village's high impact flood areas.

### **Flood Event Suggestions**

Please keep in mind, during a flood the less water pumped into the village's storm sewer system the better. Please avoid excessive water use such as washing clothes, showering, washing dishes and toilet flushing. This provides time for the sewer system to stabilize and catch up to the large influx of water, thus, lowering the probability of a sewer backup in a building.

#### Be Prepared!

Have a plumber inspect sump pumps regularly!

If you experience flooding or drainage issues on your property, the village's staff may be able to help. Remember to televise and clean sewer laterals to prevent sewer backups.

#### Leaf Removal, Street Sweeping, Storm Sewers and Swales

It is a violation of village code and the Clean Water Act to directly or indirectly discharge illicit substances into a storm sewer. The village strongly encourages that all grass clippings, leaves and yard waste be placed in approved containers and placed at the designated location for garbage pickup on scheduled pickup days.

#### **Community Effort**

The Public Works Department kindly requests your help. Throughout the village's corporate boundaries there are many streets with curbside storm sewer catch basins, culverts and storm sewer pipes that are prone to trouble in heavy rains when they are blocked by leaves and grass clippings. The village street sweeping vehicle is not effective in removing large quantities of wet or dry leaves off the streets and curbed areas. The street sweeper's intended use is to remove road debris such as gravel, dirt and trash from the road surface by way of water and scrubbing brushes.

The Public Works Department respectfully asks that every village resident do their part in keeping our storm sewer grates, culvert pipe and swales in front of their property free from leaves and debris throughout the year. By doing this, this will greatly diminish the need for storm sewer cleanups, as well as, eliminating street inlet flooding due to leaves clogging the designed drainage path.

#### **Flood Insurance**

Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. The village strongly encourages property owners to invest in flood insurance. This insurance is backed by the federal government and is available to everyone, even properties that have been flooded. In some cases, flood insurance is required by a bank when people purchase a property and get a mortgage or home improvement loan. These policies typically only cover the building's structure and not its contents. During the types of flooding that occur in your area, there is usually more damage to the furniture and personal items than there is to the structure. Be sure you have contents coverage! Don't wait for the next flood to buy insurance protection! In most cases, there is a 30-day waiting period before NFIP coverage takes effect. Contact your insurance agent for more information on rates and coverage.

For more information regarding important Melrose Park flood information, please visit our village website at www.melrosepark.org and check under the Village Services tab. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding flooding in Melrose Park, please feel free to contact the Building Department at (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4419. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

## Important Melrose Park Flood Relief

It is that time of year when inclement weather can cause havoc with your most prized possession – your home. Arm yourself ahead of time by visiting the following links.

> To determine if your house is in a floodplain and eligible for flood insurance: www.melrosepark.org/docs/ Determine\_if\_your\_house\_is\_in\_a\_floodplain\_ and eligible for flood insurance.PDF

To find out what to do in case your home is flooded: www.melrosepark.org/docs/ What\_to\_do\_in\_case\_your\_home\_is\_flooded.PDF

To help prevent flooding in Melrose Park: www.melrosepark.org/docs/ Help\_prevent\_flooding\_in\_Melrose\_Park\_.PDF

For a FEMA Registration Flyer on how to apply for disaster relief: www.melrosepark.org/docs/ FEMA\_REGISTRATION\_FLYER(1)\_(1).PDF

To view Real-Time River Gauge Near Melrose Park to Determine River Level: www.water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lot&gauge=rvfi2

To view or download Flood Inundation and Response 3 Stage Map: www.melrosepark.org/docs/\_inundation%20&%20Flood%20Response.pdf

The following two links give you important information regarding flood insurance regulations, qualifications, floodplain maps, and how to apply.

FEMA Flood Insurance Program: http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/index.shtm

#### FEMA Map Service Center:

www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program/map-service-center

The following link provides very important information on where to go for disaster assistance when a flood hits and answers many of a homeowner's questions regarding disaster assistance. http://www.disasterassistance.gov/

## **Building Department Construction Project Resource Information**

Many residents and business owners will be performing construction projects to their homes and businesses.

The Building Department of the village of Melrose Park is pleased to see the improvements within our neighborhood. Remember, before starting any construction project; obtain a building permit from the Building Department. All contractors performing work are required to obtain a contractor's license with the village. Rough and final inspections are to be performed to make sure work is being performed to code.

If you are planning to update your home or business, or if you have any questions, please come into the Building Department at 1000 N. 25th Ave., call us at (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4470, or send an email to rsorce@melrosepark.org.

Go to www.melrosepark.org to obtain the following Building Department forms.

- Debris Hauling Contractor's License Application
- Vacant Property Registration
- Permit Application Page 1
- Permit Application Page 2
- Building Codes
- Certificate of Compliance Application
- Contractor's Registration Application
- Electrical Permit Application
- Form 3500
- Form 4000
- Items Covered in Cert of Compliance Inspection (Sale)
- Sign Application
- Process of Selling a Property
- Vending and Amusement License Application

Please note that registration does not replace building permits or other required information.

General contractors are responsible to assure that all their sub-contractors are licensed in Melrose Park. Failure to do so may result in citations, fines and work stoppage on site.

The Village Zoning Map is available on the home page of the Village of Melrose Park website www.melrosepark.org.

## **MP Construction Hours Policy**

No construction or alteration activities shall be carried on between the nighttime hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. on Monday,

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. On Saturday, no construction or alteration activities shall be carried on between the nighttime hours of 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. On Sunday and federal holidays, no construction or alteration activities shall be carried on



between the nighttime hours of 5 p.m. and 10 a.m. Construction and alteration activities on Sundays and federal holidays shall not be accompanied by loud or annoying noises except in the case of an emergency. Emergency operations necessitating deviation from this section shall not be initiated until special permission is obtained from the director of Public Works. Construction or alteration activities with regard to public improvements and public service utilities, shall be exempt from this section.

Any person violating this section shall be fined not less that fifty dollars (\$50), nor more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750), for each offense, and each day's violation of the same shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

## **COVID-19 Protection and Safety Reminders**



## **From the Desk of Chief Phil Schwartz** Melrose Park Departments of Homeland Security – Public Safety

## **Vaccination Sites Nearby**

Below is a brief list of vaccination sites nearby, more sites are being added. For an updated list, check our website at www.mpps.us or visit https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/vaccination-location.

WALGREENS PHARMACY – 1445 W. North Ave., Melrose Park, 60160 https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19

JEWEL-OSCO PHARMACY – 800 W. North Ave., Melrose Park, 60160 https://www.mhealthappointments.com/covidappt

TRITON COLLEGE (Public Health Provider) – Public Health Clinic, 2000 Fifth Ave., River Grove, 60171 https://vaccine.cookcountyil.gov/

WALGREENS PHARMACY – 6 E. North Ave., Northlake, 60164 https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19

## **Remember the 3 W's**

The 3 W's are simple and important during these challenging times: Wear a mask, Watch your distance and Wash your hands.

- Wear a cloth face covering in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies).
- Watch your distance to maintain 6 feet between yourself and others when in public.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Masks are a simple barrier to help prevent your respiratory droplets from reaching others. Studies show that masks reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth.

COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets. Respiratory droplets travel into the air when you cough, sneeze, talk, shout or sing. These droplets can then land in the mouths or noses of people who are near you or they may breathe these droplets in.

You should wear a mask, even if you do not feel sick. This is because several studies have found that people with COVID-19 who never develop symptoms (asymptomatic) and those who are not yet showing symptoms (pre-symptomatic) can still spread the virus to other people. The main function of wearing a mask is to protect those around you in case you are infected but not showing symptoms.

It is especially important to wear a mask when you are unable to stay at least 6 feet apart from others since COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

## A Mask Also Offers Some Protection to You, Too

How well it protects you from breathing in the virus likely depends on the fabrics used and how your mask is made (e.g., the type of fabric, the number of layers of fabric, how well the mask fits). CDC is currently studying these factors.

## Important Village of Melrose Park Notice Regarding Use of Face Masks ...

On April 27, the village board passed Ordinances 2317 and 2318, which require the use of face masks or other facial coverings at all village facilities and at essential businesses. Village employees and visitors will be required to wear face coverings while at village facilities. Essential businesses, such as grocery stores, pharmacies and gas stations, will also require all visitors and employees to wear masks or face coverings while on premises. Other social distancing practices, like maintaining a 6-foot distance between people at these locations, will also be required under the ordinances. The village board took these measures based on CDC recommendations as ways to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Additional information about COVID-19 can be found on the village's website - www.melrosepark.org.

## Wear a Mask to Prevent Getting and Spreading COVID-19

- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Wear a mask in public settings when around people who don't live in your household, especially when it may be difficult for you to stay 6 feet apart.
- Wear a mask correctly for maximum protection.
- Don't put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead.
- Don't touch the mask and, if you do, wash your hands or use hand sanitizer to disinfect.

## **Wear Your Mask Correctly**

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask.
- Put it over your nose and mouth, and secure it under your chin.
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face.
- Make sure you can breathe easily.
- CDC does not recommend use of masks or cloth masks for source control if they have an exhalation valve or vent.

## Take Off Your Mask Carefully When You're Home

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops.
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties.
- Fold outside corners together.
- Store your cloth mask properly and wash it regularly to keep it clean. Consider having more than one mask on hand so that you can easily replace a dirty mask with a clean one.
- Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose and mouth when removing, and wash hands immediately after removing.

## Who Should Wear a Mask?

- Everyone 2 years of age and older should wear a mask in public settings and when they are around people who do not live in their household.
- Wear a mask when caring for someone who is sick with COVID-19 (whether at home or in a non-health-care setting).
- If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you may have COVID-19, wear a mask when you need to be around other people or animals, even in your own home.
- CDC recognizes there are specific instances when wearing a mask may not be feasible.

## Who Should Not Wear a Mask?

Masks should not be worn by:

- Children younger than 2 years old.
- Anyone who has trouble breathing.
- Anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Wearing masks may be difficult for some people with sensory, cognitive or behavioral issues. If they are unable to wear a mask properly or cannot tolerate a mask, they should not wear one, and adaptations and alternatives should be considered.

## **Tips for Social Distancing**

When going out in public, it is important to stay at least 6 feet away from other people and wear a mask to slow the spread of COVID-19. Consider the following tips for practicing social distancing when you decide to go out.

- Know Before You Go: Before going out, know and follow the guidance from local public health authorities where you live.
- Prepare for Transportation: Consider social distancing options to travel safely when running errands or commuting to and from work, whether walking, bicycling, wheelchair rolling or using public transit, rideshares or taxis. When using public transit, try to keep at least 6 feet from other passengers or transit operators – for example, when you are waiting at a bus station or selecting seats on a bus or train. When using rideshares or taxis, avoid pooled rides where multiple passengers are picked up and sit in the back seat in larger vehicles so you can remain at least 6 feet away from the driver.
- Limit Contact When Running Errands: Only visit stores selling household essentials in person when you absolutely need to and stay at least 6 feet away from others who are not from your household while shopping and in lines. If possible, use drive-thru, curbside pick-up, or delivery services to limit face-to-face contact with others. Maintain physical distance between yourself and delivery service providers during exchanges and wear a mask.
- Choose Safe Social Activities: It is possible to stay socially connected with friends and family who don't live in your home by calling, using video chat or staying connected through social media. If meeting others in person (e.g., at small outdoor gatherings, yard or driveway gathering with a small



group of friends or family members), stay at least 6 feet from others who are not from your household. Follow these steps to stay safe if you will be participating in personal and social activities outside of your home.

- Keep Distance at Events and Gatherings: It is safest to avoid crowded places and gatherings where it may be difficult to stay at least 6 feet away from others who are not from your household. If you are in a crowded space, try to keep 6 feet of space between yourself and others at all times and wear a mask. Masks are especially important in times when physical distancing is difficult. Pay attention to any physical guides, such as tape markings on floors or signs on walls, directing attendees to remain at least 6 feet apart from each other in lines or at other times. Allow other people 6 feet of space when you pass by them in both indoor and outdoor settings.
- Stay Distanced While Being Active: Consider going for a walk, bike ride or wheelchair roll in your neighborhood or in another safe location where you can maintain at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and other pedestrians and cyclists. If you decide to visit a nearby park, trail or recreational facility, first check for closures or restrictions. If open, consider how many other people might be there and choose a location where it will be possible to keep at least 6 feet of space between yourself and other people who are not from your household.

## **Practice Hand Hygiene**

Before entering and after exiting stores or markets, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol. Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Wash your hands before touching your eyes, nose or mouth because that's how germs can enter our bodies. Wash your hands after you have been in a public place and touched an item or surface that may be frequently touched by other people, such as door handles, tables, gas pumps, shopping carts or electronic cashier registers/screens, etc.

## Follow Five Steps to Wash Your Hands the Right Way

Washing your hands is easy and it's one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community – from your home and workplace to childcare facilities and hospitals.

Follow these five steps every time.

- 1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
- 2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers and under your nails.
- 3. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the *Happy Birthday* song from beginning to end twice.
- 4. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
- 5. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.



## **Protect Yourself While You are Out**

- When you do have to visit in person, go during hours when fewer people will be there (for example, early morning or late night).
- If you are at higher risk for severe illness, find out if stores have special hours for people at higher risk. If they do, try to shop during those hours.
- When shopping disinfect the shopping cart, use disinfecting wipes if available.
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others while shopping and in lines.
- Use marked entry or exit points and follow any directional signs or floor markings designed to keep people at least 6 feet apart.
- Only touch products that you plan to purchase, if possible.
- If possible, use touchless payment (pay without touching money, a card or a keypad). If you must handle money, a card or use a keypad, use hand sanitizer right after paying.

Mayor Ronald M. Serpico wants all Melrose Park residents to be as informed as possible about COVID-19. Listed here is a partial list of websites for more links and information, visit the village website at www.melrosepark.org or visit our department's website at www.mpdes.org.

The mayor has also set up a voicemail and email for village questions on the coronavirus. You can send your questions to

covid19@melrosepark.org or you can leave a message on our COVID-19 voicemail - (708) 649-8077.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html.

Illinois Department of Public Health: http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus.

World Heath Organization: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019.

Cook County: https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/information-covid-19.

Special Shopping Hours for Seniors & Vulnerable Populations (Statewide): https://irma.org/covid-19-senior-shopping/.

Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce & Community Development (Access to Economic Relief Programs for Businesses): https://mpcccd.org.

## Thank you and be safe!



## Village of Melrose Park Dial A Ride Program for MP Residents

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 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. To make a reservation, please call (708) 343-7047. You can make appointments from the hours of 9 a.m. to 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.

# Free Exercise for Melrose Park Socially

Socially Distanced Activity Face Masks Required





## Come Join in the Fun with Instructor Barb Rubright of Rube's Garage! Monday-Friday • 9-10 a.m.

Melrose Park Senior Center 900 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park

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



## Early Voting for the April 6, 2021, Consolidated Election Runs Now-Monday, April 5 Village of Melrose Park (First Floor Multi-Purpose Room) 1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park

Early Voting Hours are Saturday, April 3 – 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, April 4 – 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Monday, April 5 – 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Election Day is Tuesday, April 6. Polls are open 6 a.m.-7 p.m.



## **Garage Sales and Block Parties are Currently Prohibited in the Village.** Watch your mail for the next issue of *The Rose* or

visit www.melrosepark.org for updates.

## More Important Than Ever ... Get Your Flu Shots at These Melrose Park Locations

Besides local clinics and hospitals, you can get flu shots at one of these Melrose Park retail locations.

Costco Pharmacy 8400 W. North Ave. CVS Pharmacy in Target 850 W. North Ave.

Walgreens Pharmacy 1445 W. North Ave.

## Lend a Helping Hand ... Donate to Help Those Impacted by the Coronavirus

Want to help others in our community?

Please consider making a charitable contribution to your church, your favorite charity or the Melrose Park Sports & Family Benefit Fund at 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160, to assist those less fortunate and impacted by the COVID-19 disease.

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



# Melrose Park Public Library

## M P Melrose Park P L Public Library

## www.MPPLibrary.org

## **Online Resources**

Access these resources and much more at **MPPLibrary.org**. All you need is your library card number and PIN.

### Academic Search Premier

Access current information on dozens of study areas.

### **Consumer Reports**

Get unbiased ratings and reviews for products and services from Consumer Reports.

### **Masterfile Premier**

Read popular full-text magazines, reference books and other highly regarded sources from the world's leading publishers.

### Small Business Reference Center

Get exclusive full text for many of the top consumer small business reference books.



## Books in a Bag

Visit **MPPLibrary.org** to request a personalized selection of books based on your interests. This new service is available for all ages.

## Magazines now



sandford - Rose.pub

P

by app or visit Libby app.com to read books, audiobooks, and now



A Virtual Evening with John Sandford Join us April 14, 7pm for a virtual Program with bestselling author John Sandford as he introduces his new book, Ocean Prey!

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



Mon Wed Fri9:00am - 5:00pmTue Thu11:00am - 7:00pmSat10:00am - 2:00pmLast Saturday of the month - ClosedSunday - ClosedMemorial 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**



## www.MPPLibrary.org





### Make It Mondays Weekly Crafts on YouTube

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

## Online Storytime Monthly on YouTube

We are posting virtual story times online! You will find all our videos on the Melrose Park Library Official YouTube channel. New videos are posted every month.



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



Mon Wed Fri9:00am - 5:00pmTue Thu11:00am - 7:00pmSat10:00am - 2:00pmLast Saturday of the month - ClosedSunday - ClosedMemorial Day thru Labor Day - Closed on Saturdays

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





## Having A Big Impact On The Success of Our Restaurants 'Melrose Park To-Go'

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) continues to implement successful business growth solutions for our local restaurants to help sustain their operations during the pandemic. One of these solutions created by the MPCCCD included the Melrose Park To-Go Facebook group, which has now grown to over 3100 members and has become a vibrant and visual online restaurant guide and discussion forum attracting new and existing customers to our local eateries, thus, having an impact on their ability to remain open. Just during the past four months, there have been over 750 posts and recommendations for over 80 different restaurants in Melrose Park. These posts highlighting our local restaurants have been viewed over 630,000 times and have also received over 18,000 likes, comments and shares, giving our businesses exceptional exposure.

People visiting the page can see/ask restaurant recommendations for specific types of food, view photos of menu items, find special discounts and participate in MPCCCD contests to win restaurant gift certificates. If you are not a member yet or just looking for some of the best food in town, please join the Melrose Park To-Go Facebook group and help us help our restaurants by getting to 5,000 active members by May 1.



MPCCCD representative Emelio Davalos (photo, pictured center) recently met with Taqueria Los Cocos owners, Javier Lopez and Bertha Marquina, to discuss benefits of the Melrose Park To-Go Facebook Group as well as the digital presence for their business.

## Melrose Park Businesses Receive Over \$54 Million for COVID-19 Relief Efforts

The village of Melrose Park and the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development have been working throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to provide support for local businesses by securing access to resources and financial assistance during these difficult economic times. Through this work, the village and chamber staff have been able to help business owners navigate numerous economic relief and assistance programs resulting in significant financial support that helped keep our businesses in operation. Some of the outcomes for our businesses through this work with state and federal programs included the following:

- 488 Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loans/grants were received by businesses in Melrose Park and over \$54 million dollars have been received by our businesses thus far.
- 390 of the 488 PPP forgivable loans went to Melrose Park companies with less than 20 employees and 331 of those have less than 10 employees.
- 21 businesses in Melrose Park received grants through the State of Illinois Business Interruption Grant (BIG) Program and received between \$10,000 and \$150,000 each. The total received by our businesses from this program was \$1,050,000.

The village of Melrose Park and the MPCCCD have made it a priority to be a resource for information and assistance to our local businesses to help access the funding available that would support their ability to remain open in our community.



MPCCCD Executive Director Isaac Bazbaz (photo, pictured at right) is providing support and assistance to Mayra Galindo, owner of La Orquidea Banquet Hall, regarding the Small Business Association (SBA) Disaster Assistance Programs.

## BMO Harris Bank Implements Special Program for Minority-Owned Businesses

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) partnered with BMO Harris Bank to provide minority-owned businesses with details of specially designed finance programs. BMO Harris Bank rolled out a new initiative which provides pathways for improved access to capital for Black- and LatinX-owned businesses. The MPCCCD hosted a webinar with representatives from BMO who gave a presentation to attendees about the specific details of the bank's program. Details about the bank's new initiative included their offer of providing revolving lines of credit up to \$50,000 for qualified businesses and that the standard qualifications have been revised to help underserved Black and LatinX business owners. BMO has earmarked \$5 billion for this program over the next five years with a "significant" amount of this support to help the Chicagoland area businesses.

You can visit a local BMO Harris branch, or visit their website for additional information. You can also contact the MPCCCD at (708) 731-3715 or via email to ibazbaz@MPCCCD.org and they will be happy to connect you with a local BMO representative.

## Tax Savings Initiative for Local Businesses Fueling Economic Growth

The West Region Enterprise Zone (WREZ), established in January 2020 through the efforts of the village of Melrose Park and in partnership with the villages of Bellwood, Broadview, Maywood and Unincorporated Cook County, continues to move ahead stimulating economic growth and investment in our region as well as offering cost savings measures for our businesses in the community. Since the WREZ inception, business owners and developers have capitalized on the various state tax incentives. Some of these incentives include:

- Illinois Sales Tax Exemption: 7.75-10 percent Illinois sales tax exemption on building materials for business remodeling, rehabilitation or new construction.
- Jobs Tax Credit: Employers in the WREZ may obtain a \$500 tax credit on the Illinois income taxes for hiring dislocated or economically disadvantaged individuals.
- Investment tax credits, machinery tax credits and utility tax exemptions are also available for larger projects.

Having the WREZ initiative available to our businesses right now makes it a key time for businesses and developers to think about remodels, improvements and expansions to their business or for new businesses to start up or relocate in Melrose Park. If you need additional information, please reach out to the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce via email at info@mpcccd.org or Jack Stonebraker, WREZ board chairman, at Jack@MelrosePark.org to take advantage of all incentives available to you!

For more information on the WREZ, you can visit their website at https://westregionalez.com.

## **Welcome New Chamber Members!**

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) is proud to welcome our most recent new members. Please help us welcome Tom's Steak House, High View Hair Salon and La Clinica SC to the MPCCCD! If you are not a member of the MPCCCD, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at Ibazbaz@MPCCCD.org and we will schedule time to meet with you to discuss the benefits of partnering with our chamber.

## **Chamber Membership, Join Today!**

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development serves as a partner with our local businesses and organizations to support the development of our community. Businesses and community organizations are encouraged to join the chamber and become part of vibrant economic, business and community development opportunities! Visit our website at www.mpcccd.org and go to the benefits section to see the value and opportunities that exist for our members. Then select a membership plan that works for you and your organization. You can also reach out to the chamber by email at info@mpcccd.org or by calling (708) 371-3700.

## **Follow Us on Facebook!**

Stay up-to-date on what's happening at the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development by following us on Facebook!



## Please Join the Melrose Park To-Go Facebook Group!

- Help promote your favorite local restaurants!
  - Support our local restaurants!
- Make recommendations or ask for recommendations from others in the group!
  - Invite people in your network to join the group!
    - Share your stories and experiences!
  - Shopping and supporting businesses in the community is always important, but never as critical as it is now!

Use your QR Reader or camera on your phone to connect to Melrose Park To-Go now!







Watch the Melrose Park To-Go Page for contest posts that will give you a chance to win certificates to local restaurants!



### 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.

For additional information:

REALID.ilsos.gov 833-503-4074



# **Veterans Park District** Programs & Hopper

### **Early Childhood**

### Lil' Nature Explorers, Ages 2-5

Let's explore the great outdoors! Each week will focus on a new and exciting nature concept. Children will participate in hands-on exploration, games, songs, stories and crafts. Whether we are learning about creepy crawlers or taking a nature hike, this class is sure to bring out your child's inner explorer.

• Thursdays, April 15-29, 2-2:45 p.m.; Resident \$29/Nonresident \$44: Bulger Park, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

### Tiny May Flowers, Ages 3-6

May flowers are in bloom and children will create a fun flower craft and plant seedlings. Everyone will learn how to plant seeds and take home their finished project. Children can watch their plant sprout into beautiful flowers at home.

• Wednesday, May 5, 4:15-5 p.m.; Resident \$12/Nonresident \$16; Bulger Park, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

### **Youth Athletics**

### Basketball 101. Ages 5-7

Dribbling, passing, shooting and teamwork will be taught in this instructional basketball program. All skills will be taught in a fun and easy-to-learn environment. Non-competitive games will be played during each class, allowing all participants to get involved. Smaller basketballs and age-appropriate hoops will be used to help skill development.

• Mondays and Wednesdays, April 19-May 12, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; Resident \$55/Nonresident \$70;

Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

### **Basketball Clinic, Ages 8-14**

This four-week, co-ed clinic, led VPD staff, will focus on developing ball handling, offensive/defensive skills, passing, shooting and positioning. All players, from beginner to experienced, will improve their skills in this class.

• Mondays and Wednesdays, April 19-May 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Resident \$55/Nonresident \$70; Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

### **Baseball Clinic, Ages 12-15**

This class is for the player looking to improve their infield and outfield skills. Depending on the skill level of the players, this class will cover receiving, routine ground-ball footwork, backhands, forehands/exchanges, double plays, non-routine plays and advanced outfield techniques. Students will also spend time in the batting cages working on their hitting techniques.

• Mondays and Wednesdays, April 7-28, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; Resident \$55/Nonresident \$70; George A. Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park.

## RANS Hatha Yoga, Ages 15+

**Fitness Classes** 

For beginner yogis to learn the basics of yoga, deep breathing techniques, meditation, poses and asanas. These techniques offer many benefits, such as improved posture and balance, stronger joints and muscles, and a healthier mindset.

• Sundays, April 11-May 7; 9-10 a.m.; Resident \$35/Nonresident \$50; Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park.

### POUND, Ages 15+

This Pilates-based workout combines cardio and strength through rhythmic movements. Pound refers to the drum-technique, using lightweight drumsticks for continual movement - truly a cardio jam session!

• Tuesdays, April 6-May 4, 7-8 p.m.; Residents \$35/Nonresident \$50; Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park

### Active Adults

### **Spring into Summer Bingo**

Boxed-lunch provided by Cuomo Catering.

• Friday, April 30, Noon-2 p.m.; \$10 per person; Grant Park, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

### **Bunco & Brunch**

Calling all bunco lovers. This program is designed with social butterflies in mind, but welcomes all!

- Monday, April 5, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.;
- Grant Park, 44 W. Golfview Drive, Northlake.
- Monday, April 19, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.;
- George A. Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park.

Our ability to run these programs may depend upon local, state and federal guidelines regarding group activities. We will continue to share information on our programs and events as it becomes available. Call us at (708) 343-5270 or check out our website at www.vpdpark.org or our Facebook Page for updates.

For more information on eterans Park District/ events and activities call us at (708) 343-5270 visit our website at www.vpdpark.org or check out our Facebook Page.

## **CONNECT WITH US!**



## Visit us online at: vpdpark.org









Cuomo To GO

25 E. North Ave. Northlake, IL Chef prepared daily meals, salads, sandwiches, desserts and much more. Take home HOT or COLD Mention this ad and "Buy one Entrée, get the 2<sup>nd</sup> one 50% off!!" Offer Valid until April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Takeout Orders ONLY! Discount NOT AVAILABLE FOR DELIVERY ORDERS VISIT OUR WEBSITE: CUOMOTOGO.COM Delivery available through GrubHub & DoorDash







## FAMILY INDOOR GARAGE SALE & Hea Market

Saturday, April 24 • 9 AM-2:30 PM Grant Park Gymnasium, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake

> SHOP AND/OR SELL! Shop at the VPD community garage sale. Sell your unwanted treasures.

Fee: R \$20/N \$35 (10'x10' space, 2 tables, 2 chairs)

**Sellers:** Tables are available on a first come, first served basis. Must register for a space and fill out an application available at vpdpark.org. Application deadline is April 19. Set up time is from 8-9 AM day of the event. No electricity offered.

All VPD Special Event dates, locations, and advertised activities are subject to change. Please visit vpdpark.org for current information.



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

Veterans Park District

RANS

Programs Happenings

## SUMMER KICKOFF CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 24 • 11 AM-2 PM Grant Park, Glick Hall

Register early for Summer Day Camp, Summer Programs, and Aquatics Classes. FREE GIVEAWAYS • FAMILY FUN • RAFFLES • CRAFTS



All VPD Special Event dates, locations, and advertised activities are subject to change. Please visit vpdpark.org for current information.



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Happenings



## Youth Sports Instructors

Locations: Northlake, Franklin Park, Melrose Park

Find more information at vpdpark.org/employment, or call 708-343-5270.



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## **Veterans Park District**

presents

Summer Day Camp



DATES: Session 1: Monday, June 7-Friday, June 25 Session 2: Monday, June 28-July 16 \* No camp 7/5

Session 3: Monday, July 19-Friday, August 6 FEE PER SESSION: R \$250/NR \$300 Before Camp: \$60R/\$75NR After Camp: \$70R/\$85NR

## Mini Session I June 1-June 4

(No camp on 5/31) <u>Camp Hours & Fees</u> 9AM-4PM (\$85R/\$100NR) Before Care: 8-9AM (\$20R/\$25NR) After Care: 4-6PM (\$23R/ \$28NR) Grant Park (ONLY) 44 W. Golfview Dr. Northlake

## AGES 7-12

Play outside this summer and give yourself a break from electronics. Camp is a place where new friendships form through participation in a variety of activities including themed arts and crafts, silly competitions and crazy named games that promote teamwork and communication. Counselors promote a safe environment and camper engagement by planning themed activities. When your child participates in our daily plans, they can boost their self-confidence and improve their social skills.

NOTE: Due to Covid-19 guidelines set forth by Governor Pritzker regarding Public Pool Rules, this summer there will be no Day Camp swim lessons or All Camp Swim days at Gouin Pool. If the restrictions are lifted during the summer, the VPD Management Team will review the new guidelines and adjust appropriately.



(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON 🛛 🚹 🎔 🎯

## Dreaming of Summer at Gouin Pool & Waterslides?



Programs Happenings

> Veterans Park District will open Gouin Pool this summer. However, due to Phase 4 restrictions and capacity limits, no seasonal passes will be sold. Daily rates will apply and daily admittance will be based on a first come, first served basis. Call 708-343-5270 or check our website for updates: vpdpark.org.

### 2021 POOL HOURS (DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

**PRESEASON WEEKEND: May 29-31, June 5-6** Saturdays, Sundays and Memorial Day: 12-6 PM

**REGULAR SEASON: June 7-August 13** Monday–Friday: 12-8 PM, Saturday and Sunday: 12-6 PM

**POSTSEASON WEEKEND: Aug 14-15, 21-22, 28-29, Sept 4-6** Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day: 12-6 PM\*

**GOUIN POOL & WATERSLIDES** 

2400 Scott Street, Franklin Park

Gouin Office Phone (during season) 847-451-9396



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# SAVE THE DATE!



Happenings



## Men's 16" & Co-ed 14"

### Saturday, July 31 - Sunday, Aug 1\*

\*Tournament may extend into Friday evening, July 30th, depending on the number of team registrations.

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



Become a Softball Tournament Sponsor!

Call Greg Stanczyk at (708) 343-5270 or email at gstanczyk@vpdpark.org



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

Veterans Park District will host its Annual Softball Tournament at Bulger Park, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park. We are looking for Men's 16" and Co-ed 14" softball teams to participate in each tournament. Team spots fill up fast for this yearly event so register your team now and don't miss this actionpacked 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.

Captains Meeting: Bulger Park, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park

Men's / Co-ed: Tuesday, July 13

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

### • FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED •

**Fee:** \$200 (Must be in by date of captain's meeting).

**Late Fee:** \$50 will be assessed to any team that has not paid. the full tournament fee by the Captain's Meeting on July 13.

Any team incurring a late fee must pay the entire tournament fee (including the late fee) by 10 PM on Tuesday, July 20.

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# **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 integrat- Melrose Park ed and stable society.



Village of

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 James M. Vasselli, Office of the Village Attorney (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4487

For the Best in Creative Decorative Landscaping

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**Residential and Commercial Customized Lawn Service Programs** Also Available Tailored to Fit All Needs and Budgets • Sod • Trees • Shrubs • Evergreens • Gravel • Mulch • Boulders • Bush Trimming "Any Job – Big or Small, We Do Them All! **Free Estimates Call (708) 681-3384** Gift Certificates Available • Senior Citizen Discounts



# Melrose Village Hall News Park

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

### Important Melrose Park Village Hall Notice ...

Effective as of April 27, 2020, all Village of Melrose Park employees and visitors conducting business at the Village Hall will be required to wear protective masks.

### **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.

It's about saving time, money and getting ahead this summer.

It's about you.

# triton.edu/summer



# **NEUSSOSchool District89BRIEFS**

## **100DaysofSchool**

In February, students across the district celebrated 100 days of school!



## **VaccinationClinics**

On Feb. 16, 2021, D89 was given the opportunity to hold a vaccination clinic for teachers and staff held at Melrose Park School. On Feb. 25, 2021, D89, in partnership with Leyden High Schools and Jewel-Osco, hosted a COVID-19 vaccination clinic.



## Bernie's BookBank

Bernie's Book Bank trucks delivered bags of donated books to students pre-Ksixth grades to most of the schools in D89. Thank you Bernie's Book Bank for being a part of our #D89Community!





## Books!Books!Books!

The local Ross store in Winston Plaza made a \$2,500 donation in the form of a First Book Marketplace gift card to Jane Addams School. Kindergarten teacher, Sarah Matticks, was able to select nearly 500 brand new books for JA. Each classroom will get new books to add to their classroom libraries. Our school library will also receive a large number of new books!

# www.maywood89.org

## FinalistforGolden AppleExcellencein TeachingAward!

Congratulations to our very own Kali Goldberg, pre-K teacher at Garfield School, for being selected as a

finalist for the 2021 Golden Apple Excellence in Teaching Award! The highly competitive award process resulted in the selection of 32 Pre-K-third grade finalists — just 4.5 percent of a record-setting 708 nominations received from 67 counties in Illinois.



The Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Teaching honor outstanding teachers for having lasting, positive effects on students' lives and school communities. Teacher finalists demonstrate, in their teaching and results, significant, positive impact on their students' growth and learning.

"The Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Teaching elevate the critical roles that teachers have in our society," said Alicia Winckler, CEO of Golden Apple. "While we continue to face a growing teacher shortage, we know that exceptional teachers, like the 2021 finalists, are crucial to the success of students and play a significant role in the future success of Illinois and our nation."

The 2021 Golden Apple Award recipients will be surprised in the spring. Northwestern University generously provides a spring sabbatical to award recipients at no cost. Each recipient receives a \$5,000 cash award. Award recipients become Fellows of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, a community of educators who play an important role in preparing the next generation of teachers in the Golden Apple Scholars and Accelerators programs – which are dedicated to addressing the teacher shortage in Illinois.

#### **About Golden Apple**

Golden Apple's mission is to inspire, develop and support teacher and school leader excellence in Illinois, especially in schools-of-need. Our leadingedge preparation delivers exceptional teachers who make an impact. We help students thrive in the classroom and in life. Since our beginning, we have recognized master educators annually; and these master educators help prepare the next generation of teachers. Our vision is an Illinois in which every classroom has a great teacher and to realize this, we are committed to making a material difference in resolving the teacher shortage throughout Illinois. Visit http://www.goldenapple.org for more information.



## **MelroseParkShout–Out!**

Mr. Edward Schroder, resident of Melrose Park, built and donated 12 desks to Melrose Park School. These desks were awarded to students throughout the month of February. Thank you Mr. Schroder for helping us build #D89BrightFutures!

## **Ms.Akers – WGNTeacheroftheMonth**

District 89 is excited to announce that WGN News featured Ms. Akers, preschool teacher at Lincoln School, as Teacher of the Month. As part of the award, Lincoln School also received a \$1,000 check.



## D89 Will Offer In-Person Summer School

D89 is excited to offer in-person summer school for students in K-7th grades fromJune 8-July 1. More details will be communicated with families in the spring.D89 is bringing back its popular Camp Can Do Program for incoming kindergarten

students, as well as bringing a new opportunity for current 1st graders in partnership with the YMCA for a program this summer.

# Follow Us on Twitter "@maywood89"

# **NEUSSOSchool District89BRIEFS**

# WelcomingStudents BacktoSchool

In keeping with our commitment to providing a safe, supportive learning environment for all, D89 has begun a phased in approach to in-person learning. After success with in-person activities such as MAP testing, EL screenings, device distribution, food distribution and materials distribution, D89 moved forward with the hybrid learning model. District 89 remains committed to following all safety guidelines and precautions outlined by local and state health officials.

# **New Safety Procedures**

• All persons entering the building must self-certify and have their temperatures checked.

- Everyone must wear masks and maintain social distancing.
- Floor markers and social distancing guidelines are posted throughout the buildings.
  - •Touchless hand sanitizer stations have been added throughout the buildings.
    - •D89 has installed touchless water bottle filling stations in each school.





# www.maywood89.org





Self-Certification





Water Bottle Station





## **SensoryRooms**

Students in the D89 STARS (Successful Transitions Achieved with Responsive Support) Program have access to newly updated sensory rooms where they engage in therapeutic and self-regulation activities using a variety of equipment available. These rooms allow for students to explore motor, communication and functional skills.

# Follow Us on Twitter "@maywood89"

# 128th Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady Mt. Carmel Save the Date!

The Feast Committee is planning this year's Feast subject to changes due to the pandemic and local regulations.

- Annual Award Dinner Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>
- Solemn Novena July 9<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup>
- Banner Presentation July 13<sup>th</sup>
- Rose Presentation July 14<sup>th</sup>
- Memorial Service for Deceased Members of the Committee July 15<sup>th</sup>
- Spanish Mass to honor Our Lady of Mt. Carmel July 17<sup>th</sup>
- Feast Day July 18th



## A Message from Fr. Giovanni Bizzotto, C.S., Pastor The Parish of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Repent and Believe in the Gospel and Trust that the Lord will Rise. Alleluia!

Can you believe it? It is already over one year that we have been fighting, struggling, facing and hoping to overcome the coronavirus. No doubt that we all have been strongly affected by this epidemic. This virus has affected our personal, family, social, psychological, religious, political and economic life. We have been witnessing a deadly attack on the life of millions while others have been affected in their health and emotional life. I am pretty sure most of us lost a dear one or has a sick one affected with the virus. Fortunately enough, we now have three vaccines that are bringing a shining light that is leading all of us out of the dark tunnel that brought so much pain and uncertainty to our lives. While some aspects of our life are still paralyzed we believe and hope that slowly and firmly we are moving ahead and overcoming the epidemic, and returning to normality.

For all of us believers and people of faith, the Lenten season that we are celebrating offers us the opportunity to embrace the message of Jesus, our Savior, who tells us the Reign of God is at hand: repent and believe in the Good News of the Gospel. It is my conviction that this time of Lent helps us together to be committed to renew our personal life, our relationships and open our hearts to the Lord in a renewed effort to celebrate a new life. It is our belief that Lenten leads us to the celebration of the Paschal Mystery of salvation, to the new life, and particularly to treasure the new life and the victory of the Risen Lord at Easter.

Let us celebrate Easter. Let us prepare responsibly to enjoy the spirit of Easter with a victory over the epidemic COVID-19. By the way, be responsible citizens with yourself and those around you and please do take the vaccine as soon as it is available to you. It is a moral imperative that you take the vaccine. Amen!

In closing, I invite you to journey with us in faith to overcome the epidemic in a spirit of prayer and celebration. Please join us in our celebrations at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

I pray the Risen Lord pours abundantly blessings upon you and your entire family and looking forward to greeting you in our celebrations at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. I hope together we rejoice in treasuring the fruits of the Risen Lord in a life of joy, peace, hope, triumph, glory and victory in an awesome healthy and happy life. Happy Easter!



## Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Mass Schedule for Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021 – • 8 a.m. (Spanish) • 10 a.m. (Italian) • 11:30 a.m. (English) • 1 p.m. (Spanish) • 6 p.m. (Spanish)



# Melrose Park *Melrose* Free Methodist Church



## **Free Fun!** Easter Candy Egg Giveaway, Sunday, April 4!

All are welcome to join us for our Annual Community Easter Candy Egg Giveaway. The event will begin at 11 a.m. sharp on Easter Sunday, April 4, at 841 Elsie (corner of Ninth and Elsie, Melrose Park)! Plastic eggs filled with candy will be given away while supplies last. Social distancing guidelines will be observed.

This event is sponsored by the Melrose Park Free Methodist Church working with our local community. We are bilingual and all are welcome! For more information, call (708) 343-2386.

The Melrose Park Free Methodist Church is located directly behind the Target department store.





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



### **Save the Dates!**

Next Issue – June 2021 (Deadline for material May 25, 2021.) Schedule for 2021 June, 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, III. 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.)

0	Date				The <b>R@SE</b>
Rates – Full Color Ads Full Page \$400 per issue (9 x 10 1/2) Half Page \$200 per issue (9 x 5 1/4)	Name of Business Contact Name Address				
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)	E-mail Phone		State Fax	Zip	
		Ad Size (Please Circle):	Full Page	1/2 Page 1/4 Page	1/8 Page

# Sacred Heart School Sch



Sacred Heart School Advisory Board



**St. Patrick's Day Celebration** 



St. Patrick's Day Raffle



Sacred Heart My Faith Essay Contest



## Register Now for the Bucking Broncos 5K Run/Walk • Saturday, June 5, 2021 Benefiting Walther Christian Academy

Come join us on Saturday, June 5, for our first annual Bucking Bronco 5K Run/Walk at Walther Christian Academy, 900 Chicago Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160. The race will start/finish on the school football field (asphalt) just north of the school building and continue through Melrose Park's nearby neighborhood, ending back at the finish/start line.

This is a certified route and timed event. All runners and walkers must be registered to participate in the event. There will be fruit, granola bars and more (free to participants). If you would just like to be at the event, but not participate, there will be a fee of \$5 to enter the grounds. Water will be provided along the route and in the booth area. There will be lively music and a festive atmosphere. Your registration fee will support Walther Christian Academy, a middle school and high school that serves students from 50 zip codes. Our school is taught in the Lutheran tradition in a diverse, caring and inclusive community.

This is a RUN/WALK for all ages and will be a fun, healthy community event. Whether you have heard of Walther or not, please join us for a fun and safe 5K.

Want to support Walther Christian Academy but cannot attend? Simply quick on the Bucking Bronco donate tab on the www.walther.com website to support our school. Any donation over \$35 will receive a Bucking Bronco T-Shirt. Please mention your size in the website "notes" box.

#### **Registration Fees**

5K Run - \$35 (Must register Now-May 24.)

\$40 (For those who register May 25-June 1.)

5K Walk – \$35 (Must register Now-May 24.)

\$40 (For those who register May 25-June 1.)

We welcome all, but will require a \$5 cash entrance fee if you want to listen to the music and visit our booths on the football field. A wristband will be provided at the entrance.

#### **General Information**

#### **Race Timing**

We use a disposable chip timing tag that runners receive at packet pickup on their race bibs. It is lightweight and remains attached to the race bib. This race is timed and scored by Time to Run and live results will be posted at https://results.raceroster.com/results/nq7ftbwn9r3u9cx3.

Runners must wear their race bibs on the front of their clothing in order to be timed accurately. The bib cannot be covered, holding it in your hand or putting it in your pocket will not read the chip. Do not bend the chip. Smart watches such as Garmin and smart phones can interfere with the timing chip frequency. Please do not adjust your watch or phone as you cross the finish line and come through the chute. Disputes for times on smart watches and smart phones will not be taken into consideration.

#### **Packet Pickup**

Thursday, June 3, 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and Friday, June 4, 1-5:30 p.m., at Walther Christian Academy, main entrance, 900 Chicago Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160.

#### **Race Day Registration and Packet Pickup**

7:45-8:45 a.m. - Race day registration will close at 8:45 a.m. sharp, no exceptions. Cash, check and credit cards are accepted.

#### Parking

Walther has a parking lot on the south side of the school, entrance off of Ninth Avenue.

Additional parking available at Westlake Hospital (just west of the school, 1225 W. Lake Street, Melrose Park) and St Paul Lutheran Church (just south of the school, 1025 Lake Street, Melrose Park).

#### Age Groups

14 and under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, and 80 and over.

#### Awards

Medals will be given to the top three winners, male and female, in each category and each age group category.

#### Race Shirt

Every registrant will receive a race shirt. The shirt is unisex cotton. Please make your shirt size choice during registration.

# To register or for more information, please visit walther.com, send an email to sally\_ruecking@waltheracademy.org, or call (708) 344-0404.

First Annual 5K Run/Walk Fundraiser to support students from 50 zipcodes throughout Chicagoland

BRONCO

BUCKING

This is a certified USATF Course

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# JUNE 5, 2021

900 CHICAGO AVE. MELROSE PARK, ILLINOIS

> REGISTRATION 7:30-8:45AM RACE START 9:00AM

#### LEARN MORE at walther.com or call (708) 344-0404

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CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



### State Rep. Kathleen Willis Recognizes Local Manufacturer Termico Technologies as Winner of "Makers Madness"

After two months of scrupulous competition alongside other innovative and lead-

ing Illinois manufacturers, state Rep. Kathleen Willis, D-Northlake, is congratulating Termico Technologies and its production of the Self-Regulating Traffic Heater as the winner of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association's "Makers Madness" contest for "The Coolest Thing Made in Illinois."



"Illinois has long been a national contender for its robust manufacturing sector which employs countless residents with good paying jobs," Willis said. "The lead-

ing innovations, developments and contributions of Illinois manufacturing continues to forge a global footprint due to the quality and reputation of manufacturers like Termico Technologies in our very own backyard."

Located in Elk Grove Village, Termico Technologies is the manufacturer of the Self-Regulating Traffic Signal Heater, which utilizes conductive particles to supply heat to traffic lights, ensuring their reliability and visibility to motorists traveling in winter weather. The Self-Regulating Traffic Signal Heater emerged victorious over 311 individual products nominated from across Illinois, with a total of 300,000 votes cast for all products in the competition.

"The Self-Regulating Traffic Signal Heater is an outstanding example of the innovation and ingenuity of our state's manufacturing sector and has rightfully earned the title of The Coolest Thing Made in Illinois. This unique energy efficient product from Termico Technologies impacts our lives every day by making sure the people and goods that travel on our roadways get where they're going safely and efficiently," said Mark Denzler, president and CEO of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association. "Manufacturing has always played a vital role in Illinois, especially during the pandemic when manufacturers ramped up production to produce supplies needed to combat the virus. The men and women on factory floors across the state deserve our recognition and appreciation and the Illinois Manufacturers' Association is proud to advocate on their behalf each and every day."

"I want to publicly recognize and congratulate Termico Technologies for leading the charge with their innovative technology, which is enabling our transportation infrastructure to operate efficiently and effectively," said Willis. "I am continually inspired by manufacturers in Illinois and it is a high honor to represent Termico Technologies in the General Assembly."

## Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Available for Veterans at Hines VA

Veterans in one of the categories below are eligible to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine here at Hines. They must receive primary care at Hines VA or one of the six community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs). They can call the Hines VA COVID Vaccine Call Center to schedule an appointment at (708) 202-2707 or (708) 202-7000. Appointments are currently only at the main Hines Hospital campus. Vaccines are given in the Hines auditorium located on the west side of campus. You can enter directly through the auditorium or the atrium entrance. The facility is open seven days per week for appointments. Veterans may also call their provider for schedul-ing.

Hines' current vaccination stratification list:

- Veterans 65+ years old.
- Dialysis patients.
- Chemotherapy patients.
- Organ transplant veterans.
- Homeless veteran program participants.
- Inpatient spinal cord center.
- Community living center.
- Residential care facility (RCF).
- Hines VA employees.

For more information, visit https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/.

#### Please Note

Due to the high volume of calls, please be patient with the Hines COVID Call Center and the community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs).

Veterans need to be enrolled in health care at Hines or one of its six community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs) to be eligible for the vaccine.

You can learn more about eligibility and how to apply at www.va.gov/healthbenefits or call 1-877-222-VETS.

To get the latest updates and sign up to stay informed about COVID-19 vaccines, visit VA's vaccine information page.





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



### Join Our Programming Teams and Naturalists for These Upcoming Fun, Educational In-Person and Virtual Offerings Via Zoom and Facebook in April, Including Presentations on Birdwatching, Signs of Spring, Earth Day and More!

#### **Mother Nature & Me: Dinosaurs**

Wednesday, April 7 • 10 a.m. • Free • Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center • 9800 Willow Springs Road • Willow Springs, IL 60480 Children ages 3-5 years old and their favorite adult will learn about dinosaurs through outdoor adventures and activities. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. Registration required: Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897.

• (708) 839-6897 • littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov

#### Day Hiking Leadership Training (In Person and Virtual)

#### Saturday, April 10 · Zoom Presentation · Free

Calling all teachers, group leaders and youth educators! Our Day Hiking Leadership Training Program gets youth and groups of all ages outside by empowering teachers and group leaders with the skills and resources they need to lead safe and fun outdoor experiences. We will focus on:

- Thoughtful trip planning. Risk management practices. Memorable outdoor activities. Outdoor ethics.
- Hiking best practices. Appropriate gear and more.

Training will include two mandatory portions: An in person portion on Saturday, April 10. In-person portion will include a group day hike, gear inventory and lending processes. Online portion must be completed prior to the in-person portion. Participants must be at least 18 years or older, be affiliated with institution and be present on hiking trips when borrowing gear. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. Registration required: If interested, please email experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov with name and organization. Exact start time and location to be determined based on participants. • (708) 386-4042 • experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov

#### **Animal Supplies Drive 'n Drop**

Saturday, April 10 • 11 a.m.-2 p.m. • Free • Miller Meadow-South • First Avenue, South of Roosevelt Road, Cook County, IL 60130 (Near Forest Park) In partnership with Animal Care League of Oak Park, join in helping animals in need by donating supplies. This is a drop-off event with minimal contact. Call (312) 533-5751 for more information. Donation drop-off location will be at Miller Meadow Off-Leash Dog Area. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. • (312) 533-5751 • experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov

#### Loteria at the Escuelita

Sunday, April 11 • 11 a.m. • Free • Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, 9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs, IL 60480

Come to the Little Red School House to take a self-led Loteria Hike! See if you can spot all the items on our version of the popular Mexican bingo game and take the game with you (beans included)! English and Spanish versions available. One packet/family. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. • (708) 839-6897 • littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov

#### **This Old Farmhouse: Spring Garden Preparation**

#### Sunday, April 11 • 1 p.m. • Free • Facebook Live from Sagawau Environmental Learning Center

Prepare your garden and landscaping for the growing season while creating habitat for songbirds, pollinators and beneficial wildlife. We will look at examples from the farmhouse gardens to discuss how to approach last year's dead vegetation, the role of bare spots and logs, water sources and other considerations. • (630) 257-2045

#### Be a Better Birder: Getting Started

#### Tuesday, April 13 · 6 p.m. · Free · Zoom Presentation

It's spring and many birds are migrating through our area. Join a naturalist to learn about how to get started birding. Learn about the history of birding, what equipment you might need and birds to expect. Registration required: Register at https://beabetterbirder1.eventbrite.com.

• (708) 386-4042 • experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov

#### Wee Wonders: Earth Day

#### Wednesday, April 14 · 10 a.m. · Free · Facebook Live from Sand Ridge Nature Center

Enjoy a fun, interactive program for preschoolers as we celebrate Earth Day. • (708) 868-0606 • sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov

#### I am a Scientist: Why is the Sky Blue?

#### Thursday, April 15 · 10 a.m. · Free · Facebook Live from Little Red Schoolhouse

This month we will be conducting an experiment that will demonstrate how the atmosphere and light from the sun make our sky blue.

• (708) 839-6897 • littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov

#### **Earth Day Celebration**

#### Thursday, April 22 • Noon-5 p.m. • Free • LaBagh Woods, N. Cicero Avenue, North of W. Foster Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630

Staff-led hikes on non-paved trails will take place at noon and 4 p.m. Participants can also support the county-wide litter cleanup as well as create a project using recycled materials. Litter cleanup and other activities are drop-in. Registration required for hikes at noon and 4 p.m. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing.

- Registration required: Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/earth-day-celebration-tickets-143567796143.
  - (708) 386-4042 experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov

#### **Earth Day: Nature's Heroes**

#### Thursday, April 22 · 2 p.m. · Free · Facebook Live from Crabtree Nature Center

Join us to learn a little about some the female pioneers in the environmental movement. • (847) 381-6592 • Crabtree.NatureCenter@cookcountyil.gov

#### **Earth Day Celebration Drop-In**

Thursday, April 22 • 4-7 p.m. • Free • Maple Lake Boating Center, Wolf Road, South of 95th Street, Cook County, IL 60480 (Near Willow Springs) Stop by Maple Lake Boating Center to participate in litter cleanup, self-guided activities and grab a take-home DIY kit to celebrate Earth Day. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. • (708) 386-4042 • experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov

#### Earth Day: Nature Trivia Night!

#### Thursday, April 22 · 7 p.m. · Free · Zoom Presentation

Grab a beverage of your choice and Zoom into our online Nature Trivia challenge! Ages 16 and up! Registration required: Call Crabtree at (847) 381-6592.

• (847) 381-6592 • Crabtree.NatureCenter@cookcountyil.gov

#### **Earth Day Celebration**

#### Saturday, April 24 · 9 a.m.-3 p.m. · Free · Sand Ridge Nature Center, 15891 Paxton Ave., South Holland, IL 60473

Celebrate Earth Day with a self-guided litter cleanup along the Burnham Greenway, a take-home artmaking project, nature play and Earth Day-themed games. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. • (708) 868-0606 • sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov

#### Earth Day Celebration with the BackYard Nature Center

Saturday, April 24 • 9 a.m.-noon • Free • Tower Road Boat Launch, Tower Road, West of Forestway Drive, Cook County, IL 60093, (Near Winnetka) Celebrate the 51st anniversary of Earth Day with a morning of service, learning and exploration. Activities include nature play, fishing clinic, guided hike, litter cleanup, monitoring and stewardship exhibits, and a demonstration on how to repurpose buckthorn.

• Session 1: 9-10:15 a.m. • Session 2: 10:45 a.m.-noon.

All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing.

- Registration required: Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/earth-day-celebration-with-the-backyard-nature-center-tickets-143567589525.
  - (708) 386-4042 experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov

#### **Celebrating Earth Day**

#### Sunday, April 25 • Noon-3 p.m. • Free • Crabtree Nature Center, 3 Stover Road, Barrington Hills, IL 60010

Create a cute native animal out of recycled materials, learn how to go greener in your cleaning, pick up supplies to clean up a preserve or neighborhood park and/or start a native plant to take home for your garden in our Mini Earth Day Celebration.

All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. • (847) 381-6592 • Crabtree.NatureCenter@cookcountyil.gov

#### **Invading in Plain Site**

Sunday, April 25 · 10 a.m. · Free · Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, 9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs, IL 60480

We invite you to take a walk and look at the preserves through a different lens. Along the Black Oak Trail, we will highlight areas that have been invaded by invasive species of plants, as well as some of the areas that have started to heal as a result of our efforts. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. Registration required: Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897. • (708) 839-6897 o littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov

#### **Moon Hike**

Monday, April 26 • 7:30 p.m. • Free • Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, 9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs, IL 60480 Let the super pink full moon be our guide as we hike the one-mile White Oak Trail in search of nocturnal animals. All ages. Please bring binoculars. Limited pairs to lend. All participants are required to wear masks and practice physical distancing. Registration required: Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897. • (708) 839-6897 • littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov

# 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!

# News From the Zoo

There's no shortage of fun to be had at Brookfield Zoo!



### **Brookfield Zoo is Open – Welcome Back!** What To Know Before You Go

As of March 1, 2021, the zoo has reopened! Now that we're open again, the health and safety of our animals, staff and guests are of paramount importance. Operations of zoo grounds will be managed accordingly. Please note, there will be limited animal viewing during your visit. Indoor spaces, except restrooms, are closed. All attractions, including Motor Safari, are closed. Public access to buildings is subject to change.

#### ADVANCED TICKETS, RESERVATIONS AND PARKING\* ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL GUESTS AND MEMBERS

Guest capacity is limited to ensure safe social distancing within the 216-acre park. Reservation times are available in 20-minute increments. Everyone must reserve and secure a ticket online before visiting Brookfield Zoo. Please note that no tickets will be sold onsite. All tickets are non-refundable and no rain checks will be made. We appreciate your understanding!

All non-member guests who arrive via car, truck, van or RV are required to pay for parking on the website and will need to indicate location – either the Main Gate (north)

or South Gate lots during the checkout process. All members receive free parking in the north lot. Members only need to pay for parking if they choose to park in the south lot and are not eligible for free parking in the south lot.

\*Guests who arrive on foot or via public transportation are not required to pay for parking.



**CASHLESS ENVIRONMENT** – In order to limit person-to-person contact, card payments will need to be used for food, beverage and gift shop transactions.

**ATTRACTIONS** – So we can provide adequate social distancing, at this time, all indoor spaces are temporarily closed. The Seven Seas underwater viewing area and Great Bear Wilderness underwater viewing areas are open with limited capacity. Please enjoy viewing our animals in their outdoor habitats.

Attractions including Dolphins in Action, The Carousel, Butterflies!, Hamill Family Play Zoo, Motor Safari, all playgrounds, splash pads and water misters are not currently operating.

**DINING AND SHOPS** – Seasonal food stands and walk-up carts are open. Please note that drinking fountains are turned off. Outdoor souvenir carts will be open throughout the zoo.

**HELP STOP THE SPREAD** – If you or a family member is sick, we ask that you please respect the safety of others and stay home. Please visit when you are feeling better!

**FACE COVERING REQUIRED** – All guests ages 2 and over must wear face coverings when entering the zoo. Once inside, face coverings should be worn if you are not able to maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from staff and other guests who are not members of the same family. This includes when making transactions at food, beverage and merchandise kiosks and while inside bathrooms.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING** – All guests must maintain at least 6 feet of space from others while at the zoo. Signage and visual markers will be located throughout the park as a reminder.

**SANITATION PROTOCOLS** – High-touch areas and restrooms will be sanitized with hospital-grade cleaners and conducted on an increased cleaning schedule.

**HAND SANITIZERS** – Hand sanitizing stations will be located throughout the park. Please follow the CDC guidelines by washing your hands for 20 seconds.

**PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT** – All employees are required to wear face coverings at work. If exchanging food or product with a guest, gloves will be worn.

TEMPERATURE SCREENING - Employees will have their temperatures checked at the start of each workday.

SOCIAL DISTANCING – All employees are required to maintain a distance of at least 6 feet away from guests, volunteers and fellow employees.

**SAFETY AND SANITATION TRAINING** – All employees are instructed to follow the CDC guidelines in proper handwashing. All workspaces and high-touch surfaces will be cleaned frequently. Foodservice staff will wear gloves and will change them often throughout their work shift.

ACCESSIBILITY – For wheelchair or electronic convenience vehicle ("ECV") rentals, please call (708) 688-8347 to reserve one in advance of your visit. If you call and leave a message before 5 p.m., someone will get back to you the same day. For a description of all the rentals available and associated costs, please visit our website. An advanced reservation for a stroller or wagon is not needed. Same-day reservations for wheelchairs and ECVs are not accepted. For more information, visit our Accessibility page.

PARK RULES - For a full list of rules, including service animals, photography and animal safety, visit our Park Rules page.

### **Dinos Everywhere!**

#### • Now through Sept. 6, 2021, Zoowide

Over 40 animatronic dinosaurs that are BIGGER and BADDER than ever before have arrived at Brookfield Zoo. Dinos Everywhere features acres of earth shakers, including the largest – argentinosaurus – that was estimated to measure more than 100 feet in length and weigh up to 110 tons. Through Sept. 6, zoogoers will be able to search for these amazing life-like animatronics located throughout the park.

Find The Dinos - Check out our latest zoo map on our website

(https://www.czs.org/DinosEverywhere) to see where you can find each and every dinosaur in Brookfield Zoo. Download it and keep it handy so you can keep track of each dino you find.

The Dinos Everywhere! exhibit was created by *Jurassic Park* advisor, Don Lessum, and is on loan from Dino Don, Inc. and The Wildlife Conservation Society.

Don't forget to keep an eye out for Benita. There are 12 Benita brontosauruses located throughout the dino trails. When you find one (or all 12), make sure you share them on social media! Tag us at #BrookfieldZoo so we know you've found them.

### ZooRun

#### Now through May 30, 2021, Virtual

Brookfield Zoo's first-ever Virtual 5K Spring Run/Walk takes you outdoors to enjoy the warm weather and glorious colors of spring. You choose the time and place – take a hike in a forest preserve, jog along a waterfront trail or stroll through a neighborhood, for example. Or if you enjoy competition, run the full 5K (3.1-miles) and compare your time with other runners. Each runner will receive a numbered bib and commemorative swag included with registration.

Registration is open! All race materials will be mailed directly to you. Additional questions? Contact us at marketingteam@czs.org.

### Earth Day: A Party for the Planet

• Saturday, April 24, 2021, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Brookfield Zoo North Parking Lot Every day is Earth Day at Brookfield Zoo but on this very special day we'll be showcasing some of the steps you can take that will truly make a difference for animals across the globe!

If you've been storing items in your basement and garage waiting for the perfect time and most Earth-friendly way to dispose of them, you can recycle them at Brookfield Zoo! On

Saturday, April 24, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., the zoo will be collecting electronics, textiles and used books. Bring in approved items to recycle in the zoo's north lot, which is located at 8400 31st Street (First Avenue and 31st Street) in Brookfield.

The process is easy. Drive into the north parking lot and representatives from the zoo and its partnering organizations will collect your items for recycling.

WHAT CAN YOU DONATE - See the full list of items that are acceptable as well as items that will not be accepted by visiting https://www.czs.org/PartyPlanet.

### The 40th Annual Whirl

#### Saturday, May 1, 2021, Virtual

Get ready to go Virtu-Whirl again! As you may already know, there continue to be regulations limiting the size of gatherings as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Due to these ongoing regulations, the society's leadership has made the decision to transition this year's 40th Anniversary Whirl, scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 2021, to a virtual event.

Melissa and Michael Canning, Whirl 2021 co-chairs, are working hard to put together a wonderful virtual event for all of you! We hope you will join us for this enhanced Virtu-Whirl, which will include many exciting features. As in 2020, you will once again be able to watch our upgraded main event program, bid on auction items, and partici-

pate in our paddle raise, all from the comfort of your home. Additional details will be shared over the coming weeks regarding how to participate with our Virtu-Whirl. Please continue to check our website for more information.

**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT** – As a nonprofit organization, we rely on ticket sales, zoo visits, memberships, education program fees, donations, and meeting revenue to operate. As the largest fundraising event hosted by the Chicago Zoological Society, the Whirl plays a vital role in supporting critical operational costs. We continue to face the financial challenges we saw in 2020, and now – more than ever – we need your help. Join us in keeping the spirit of the Whirl alive – especially as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the event.

If you're interested in being an event patron or for more information about the Whirl, please contact Kerri Doherty at Kerri.Doherty@czs.org or (708) 688-8670, or visit https://www.czs.org/VirtuWhirl.

Chicago Zoological Society (CZS) is recognized as a collaborative, science-based leader, protecting animals both in the wild and under professional care. We reach out to our surrounding communities to engage people of all ages and abilities in nature-inspired science learning, leading the way as an inclusive conservation movement. Proceeds from the Whirl benefit animal care and welfare initiatives, as well as conservation and education programs of the Chicago Zoological Society.

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



A Party for the Planet



**BROOKFIELD ZOO** 



## Walgreens Administers 5 Million COVID Vaccinations and Nears Completion of Long-Term Care Facility Program The Company is Supporting Vaccinations Across 43 States and Jurisdictions as Part of the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program

Walgreens has provided approximately 5 million COVID-19 vaccinations across long-term care facilities, in stores and through dedicated clinics. Additionally, the company has completed over 60,000 clinics at long-term care facilities and vaccinated the majority of residents and staff that opted to receive a COVID-19 vaccine from Walgreens.

"We're now seeing steep declines in new COVID-19 cases and related deaths in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, demonstrating the remarkable impact these vaccines can have in this pandemic," said John Standley, president, Walgreens. "Walgreens is incredibly proud of our more than 40,000 immunizers who ensured the successful administration of vaccinations in these facilities. With their deep experience, as well as increasing vaccine supply, we are making significant strides in accelerating access to COVID-19 vaccines."

Walgreens received approximately 1 million COVID-19 vaccine doses from Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer as part of the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently added 16 additional states to those Walgreens is supporting as part of the federal program, for a total of 43 states and jurisdictions including:



Alabama,\* Alaska, Arizona, California, Chicago, Colorado,\* Connecticut, Delaware, Florida,\* Georgia, Idaho,\* Illinois, Indiana\*, Kansas\* Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota,\* Mississippi,\* Montana\*, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey,\* New Mexico, New York, New York City, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma,\* Oregon, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island\*, South Carolina,\* South Dakota,\* Tennessee,\* Texas,\* U.S. Virgin Islands, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

The federal administration in partnership with the CDC recently announced teachers and childcare workers should be prioritized for COVID-19 vaccinations. School staff and childcare workers are now able to schedule their vaccination at Walgreens stores and the company is working with state and local jurisdictions, as well as school districts, to conduct dedicated clinics for school staff and childcare workers.

In addition, Walgreens continues to advance key priorities identified as part of the company's Vaccine Equity Initiative to drive equitable access to vaccines, including creating new access solutions, facilitating educational programs that address hesitancy and fostering partnerships that best meet the needs of each community. Nearly half of all federal vaccine allocation is being distributed to Walgreens stores in medically underserved areas (MUAs) and areas with a high social vulnerability index score, and Walgreens pharmacists make proactive outbound calls to ensure residents in those communities receive vaccination appointments. The company is also partnering with Uber to address vaccine hesitancy and transportation barriers, and expanding off-site clinics and educational programs with community partners in Chicago, Atlanta and New York.

Individuals eligible to receive COVID vaccines vary per state and can schedule appointments by visiting Walgreens.com/ScheduleVaccine or by calling 1-800-WALGREENS, with scheduling options available in English and Spanish.

Walgreens remains committed to expanding COVID testing efforts as an essential part of battling the pandemic. As of April 1, an additional 1,500 of Walgreens stores nationwide are offering drive-thru, diagnostic COVID-19 tests, increasing Walgreens' number of test locations to 5,000, with more than half located in socially vulnerable areas. Since Walgreens began COVID-19 testing last April, the company has administered nearly 5 million diagnostic tests. With this expansion, Walgreens is now able to administer approximately 3 million tests a month, more than tripling its testing capacity since last April. For locations and to schedule appointments, please visit www.walgreens.com/covid19testing.

#### **About Walgreens**

Walgreens (www.walgreens.com) is included in the Retail Pharmacy USA Division of Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc. (Nasdaq: WBA), a global leader in retail and wholesale pharmacy. As America's most loved pharmacy, health and beauty company, Walgreens purpose is to champion the health and wellbeing of every community in America. Operating more than 9,000 retail locations across America, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Walgreens is proud to be a neighborhood health destination serving approximately 8 million customers each day. Walgreens pharmacists play a critical role in the U.S. healthcare system by providing a wide range of pharmacy and healthcare services. To best meet the needs of customers and patients, Walgreens offers a true omnichannel experience, with platforms bringing together physical and digital, supported by the latest technology to deliver high-quality products and services in local communities nationwide.

\*Denotes Walgreens added as a new pharmacy provider recently as part of the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program.



# WEST LAKE URGENT CARE

serving adults and children of the community



**SICK TODAY? SEEN TODAY!** West Lake Urgent Care in Melrose Park is a not-for-profit created to provide adult and pediatric care to the community. We are committed to offering compassionate care to people of all ages when they need it most.



5,100 SQUARE FEET DEDICATED TO PATIENT CARE 12 EXAM ROOMS LOCAL PHYSICIANS ER-TRAINED STAFF CONVENIENT & FAST ON-SITE LAB & RADIOLOGY

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK** Mon-Sat 10:30AM-9PM Sun 10:30AM-5PM

> RAPID COVID TESTING BY APPOINTMENT

1419 LAKE STREET MELROSE PARK 708-690-1911

## Nicor Gas Commits to Help 250,000 Families Meet Their Basic Needs

### With the Support of Strategic Partners, Utility Will Address Food Insecurity, Homelessness, Housing Advocacy and More

Nicor Gas serves millions of families and individuals in Illinois, where nearly 11 percent of residents live in poverty. Food insecurity, homelessness and affordable housing are some of the deficiencies that have been magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is with this understanding that the company announces partnership initiatives to help meet the basic needs of 250,000 families who live at or below the federal poverty level within Nicor Gas' northern Illinois service territory.

"Due to the pandemic and the colder temperatures, more families were at home and using more heat. Some people are making tough choices about which bills to pay," said John O. Hudson III, president and CEO of



Nicor Gas. "We're committed to helping our customers address these and other insecurities due to the loss of income during challenging times."

To ensure its efforts align with the needs of the community, Nicor Gas is partnering with several charitable organizations. Among them are the Northern Illinois Food Bank, Greater Chicago Food Depository, Operation Warm, People's Resource Center, PADS organizations and many more.

"Nobody should have to choose between warming their home and having enough food for their family to eat, but those are the kind of choices that many are forced to make. Nicor Gas' community partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank over many years – especially during this time of crisis and elevated need for food assistance – makes a tremendous difference for those we serve together," said Jeannine Kannegiesser, director of Corporate and Foundation Giving at Northern Illinois Food Bank.

Feeding America's latest research shows that the general food insecurity rate in northern Illinois has increased by 62 percent, and the child food insecurity rate increased 95 percent. In Cook County alone, an estimated 800,000 people were living in food insecure households in 2020, a 51 percent increase from the year before.

"Never in our 41-year history as an organization have we seen such an increase in the number of people seeking food assistance," said Kate Maehr, executive director and CEO of the Greater Chicago Food Depository. "We're so grateful for the support of corporate partners like Nicor Gas to help us meet the immense need."

Also, this year, in partnership with Shipt and vendor partners, Richards Graphics and T. Castro Produce, Nicor Gas provided food and essential goods care packages to more than 2,000 Nicor Gas customers. The care packages included a mix of food staples such as dried beans, rice, cereal, pasta, canned fruit and vegetables, bread, lunch meat, soap and toilet paper – delivered directly to their homes.

In addition, Nicor Gas has energy assistance resources and financial assistance for those affected by the ongoing pandemic, including flexible payment plans and energy-saving information to help customers manage expenses.

"We understand that providing safe, reliable and affordable energy also meets a basic need and delivering that energy to our customers is a charge we approach determinedly as top priority," Hudson said.

To learn more about energy assistance options, visit nicorgas.com/energyassistance.

For food resources, including mobile pantries and pop-up events, visit the Northern Illinois Food Bank at solvehungertoday.org and the Greater Chicago Food Depository at chicagosfoodbank.org.



# ComEd Adds \$9 Million in Bill Assistance and Extends Payment Plans to Help Customers Struggling with Electric Bills

### Part of a Larger Assistance Package Being Offered for a Limited Time to Illinois Families

Recognizing that many Illinois families continue to be adversely affected by economic challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, ComEd is increasing financial assistance funding by \$9 million to help customers regain their financial footing.

ComEd worked with the Illinois Commerce Commission staff, the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, other large Illinois gas and electric utilities and a broad group of consumer advocates to develop a comprehensive support package to help residential customers through the continued challenges of the pandemic. The package, which the Illinois Commerce Commission unanimously approved, also includes enhanced payment arrangement options and special reconnection programs for eligible customers. Each of these programs will be offered for a limited time.

"The new programs being offered extend our ongoing efforts to help customers get to a place of stability," said ComEd CEO Joe Dominguez. "Even before the pandemic hit, ComEd provided customers with the support they needed and worked with community organizations to generate awareness amongst customers who need help the most. In 2020, we connected customers to a record more than \$75 million in financial assistance and supported more than a guarter million customers with stabilizing grants."



#### Limited Time, Financial Assistance Options

- ComEd Bill Payment Assistance Program In April 2021, ComEd will increase the amount of funds available to provide more one-time bill credits of up to \$500, while funds are available. These credits are for eligible residential customers who have outstanding balances or who are looking to reconnect their electric service.
- More Flexible Payment Arrangements Through June 30, 2021, ComEd is offering extended payment arrangement plans to eligible households, which allows customers to spread outstanding balances over 18 monthly installments with no money down. Eligible residential customers facing financial hardship who enroll in an 18-month, no money down payment plan will be exempt from disconnection through June 30, 2021. All other eligible residential customers with outstanding balances can enroll in an 18-month payment plan with a 10-percent down payment through June 30, 2021.
- Service Reconnection Assistance Through July 10, 2021, eligible households that had electric service disconnected for a non-safety reason in 2021 can have their service reconnected by providing only 25 percent of their outstanding balance. Any remaining outstanding balance will be rolled into an 18-month, no-money-down payment plan.

#### **Additional Financial Assistance Options**

The ComEd CARE programs also offer a range of financial-assistance options, while funding is available, to help eligible customers pay their electric bills. There are programs available for residential, small-business customers and nonprofit organizations, as well as activated and deployed members of the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard, Reserves and honorably discharged veterans.

Any customer experiencing a hardship or difficulty with their electric bill should call ComEd immediately at 1-800-334-7661 (1-800-EDISON1), Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to learn more on how to apply. Information on each of these options, along with eligibility requirements, can be found at ComEd.com/PaymentAssistance.

ComEd also offers usage alerts and energy-management tips to help customers manage energy use to save money now and on future electric bills. For information, visit ComEd.com/OnlineTools.

### ComEd Customers to Receive Personalized Information About How Grid Investments Benefit Them

In the face of a global pandemic, ComEd understands that reliable power has never been more important and is committed to meeting customers' energy needs. To demonstrate this commitment and to show the impact ComEd's energy investments have had on electric service, the company provided residential and smallbusiness customers with personalized reliability reports with their March bills. This is the first year small-business customers with a single location and the third consecutive year residential customers received the reports.

The report offers customers an individualized look at their service reliability from the previous year. Customers will see their individual reliability information due in part to upgrades to the grid – and the installation of smart meters in particular. The reports show customers' overall reliability and detailed information for any outages the customer experienced that lasted more than one minute. This data includes the specific date and cause of the outage, including the amount of time it took before power was restored.

"The last thing we want customers to worry about during the COVID-19 pandemic is whether their home or business will have power," said ComEd President and COO Terry Donnelly. "That's why we're committed to providing customers with safe and reliable energy when they need it the most. This commitment includes ongoing investments we've made in a more resilient power grid to ensure that families and businesses can count on reliable power as they navigate extreme weather events alongside the pandemic."

The power of these investments was on full display in August when an unprecedented derecho storm and tornadoes interrupted power to more than 800,000 customers. If not for these investments, this storm would have caused nearly twice as many families and businesses to lose power, a two-week restoration and millions of additional dollars in costs.

Since starting smart grid investments in 2012, ComEd customers have been spared more than 16 million service interruptions due in part to smart grid and system improvements, including distribution automation or "smart switches" that reroute power in real-time around potential problem areas. The avoided outages have resulted in \$2.7 billion in societal savings, including avoided business losses.

Residential customers, as well as small-business customers with a single location, received their reports with their March 2021 bills if they were customers of record at their current location as of Jan. 1, 2020, and have not stopped service with ComEd by the time they received their bill. Customers who receive their bills electronically received an email link to their report.

For information on what ComEd is doing to improve reliability, visit ComEd.com/SmartGrid.

# Tax Day for Individuals Extended to May 17, Treasury, IRS Extend Filing and Payment Deadline

The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service announced today that the federal income tax filing due date for individuals for the 2020 tax year will be automatically extended from April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021.

"This continues to be a tough time for many people, and the IRS wants to continue to do everything possible to help taxpayers navigate the unusual circumstances related to the pandemic, while also working on important tax administration responsibilities," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "Even with the new deadline, we urge taxpayers to consider filing as soon as possible, especially those who are owed refunds. Filing electronically with direct deposit is the quickest way to get refunds and it can help some taxpayers more quickly receive any remaining stimulus payments they may be entitled to."

Individual taxpayers can also postpone federal income tax payments for the 2020 tax year due on April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021, without penalties and interest, regardless of the amount owed. This postponement applies to individual taxpayers, including individuals who pay self-employment tax. Penalties, interest and additions to tax will begin to accrue on any remaining unpaid balances as of May 17, 2021. Individual taxpayers will automatically avoid interest and penalties on the taxes paid by May 17.

Individual taxpayers do not need to file any forms or call the IRS to qualify for this automatic federal tax filing and payment relief. Individual taxpayers who need additional time to file beyond the May 17 deadline can request a filing extension until Oct. 15 by filing Form 4868 through their tax professional, tax software or using the Free File link on IRS.gov. Filing Form 4868 gives taxpayers until Oct. 15 to file their 2020 tax return but does not grant an extension of time to pay taxes due. Taxpayers should pay their federal income tax due by May 17, 2021, to avoid interest and penalties.

The IRS urges taxpayers who are due a refund to file as soon as possible. Most tax refunds associated with e-filed returns are issued within 21 days.

This relief does not apply to estimated tax payments that are due on April 15, 2021. These payments are still due on April 15. Taxes must be paid as taxpayers earn or receive income during the year, either through withholding or estimated tax payments. In general, estimated tax payments are made quarterly to the IRS by people whose income isn't subject to income tax withholding, including self-employment income, interest, dividends, alimony or rental income. Most taxpayers automatically have their taxes withheld from their paychecks and submitted to the IRS by their employer.

#### State Tax Returns

The federal tax filing deadline postponement to May 17, 2021, only applies to individual federal income returns and tax (including tax on self-employment income) payments otherwise due April 15, 2021, not state tax payments or deposits or payments of any other type of federal tax. Taxpayers also will need to file income tax returns in 42 states plus the District of Columbia. State filing and payment deadlines vary and are not always the same as the federal filing deadline. The IRS urges taxpayers to check with their state tax agencies for those details.

## Gov. Pritzker Announces Income Tax Filing Extension, Individual Income Tax Season Extended to May 17

Gov. Pritzker recently announced that his administration is extending the individual income tax filing and payment deadline from April 15 to May 17. The Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) will continue to process tax refunds for those filing ahead of the deadline. The filing extension does not apply to estimated tax payments that are due on April 15, 2021. These payments are still due on April 15 and can be based on either 100 percent of estimated or 90 percent of actual liability for 2021, or 100 percent of actual liabilities for 2019 or 2020.

According to IDOR, 2.4 million taxpayers have already filed their individual income tax returns to date. Over 79 percent of the taxpayers that have already filed are expecting a refund this year. Last year, over 6.4 million income tax returns were filed, and 87 percent of people filed electronically.

"The fastest, most secure way to receive a refund is to file tax returns electronically and request a direct deposit into a checking or savings account," said David Harris, director of the Illinois Department of Revenue. "The filing extension for individual income tax takes effect automatically, so no further action is required by taxpayers to take advantage. For taxpayers awaiting a refund, utilize IDOR's Where's My Refund? to locate specific information about the status of any refund due."

Free filing of Form IL-1040 is available through MyTax Illinois. Individuals may also utilize MyTax Illinois to make payments, respond to department inquiries and check the status of their Illinois Individual Income Tax refunds using the Where's My Refund? link. Taxpayers may also look up IL-PINs, amounts of any estimated tax payments made and (when necessary) amounts reported on Form 1099-G with MyTax Illinois.

For the most up-to-date information, forms, schedules, and instructions for the 2020 tax year, please visit IDOR's website at tax.illinois.gov.

# **Proviso Township Handyman Program**

### Next Time You Find Yourself Frustrated by Some Annoying Problem Around the House, Don't Get Angry, Call the Handyman!

The Proviso Township Handyman Program is available to senior homeowners over age 60 and disabled residents of Proviso Township. The handyman will be available to provide advice and referral on a variety of home maintenance issues. In addition, he will be able to



do minor repairs for a fuel surcharge of \$5 per visit plus the cost of parts, if needed.

Things like a leaky faucet or a toilet that keeps running, replacing the refrigerator bulb or the light at the top of the stairs that you just can't reach are some examples of the ways in which we can help. We can even hang that new picture of the grandkids or fix that squeaking door hinge.

The handyman is here to help you do all of those things you used to do for yourself, but just can't manage anymore, all those simple things that can make life just a little brighter. So next time you find yourself frustrated by some annoying problem around the house, don't get angry, call the handyman! For more information, you can reach the Handyman Office at (708) 547-4001.



Handyman Program for Homeowners over the age of 60 and / or disabled residents of Proviso

- Minor repairs only.
- **\$ 5.00 per visit** plus the cost of parts, if needed.
- Provide referrals on a variety of home maintenance issues.
- Appointments are 45 minutes or less.

Proviso Township is not responsible or liable for any damages, injury or loss resulting from the use of the services of a person or business referred by the Proviso Township Handyman Department. The resident or homeowner accepts all liability from any damages, injury or loss caused by any person or business referred by the Proviso Township Handyman Department. The contracting of services from a person or business referred by the Proviso Township Handyman Department in no way constitutes any form of contract, binding or unbinding, between Proviso Township and any other parties involved. Please contact the service providers for information and be aware that the resident or homeowner is responsible for all payments and obligations to these service providers.

#### **REPAIRS WE PROVIDE**

Blinds/Curtain Rods - Install/Repair Boxes (50lbs limit) **Carpentry-Minor repairs i.e.: Replace** loose/rotten boards Caulking - Minor interior only - No removal Ceiling Fans-Repair Switches Only. **Decks - Minor Repairs Only** Door Bells - Repair/Replace Buttons Door Locks - Repair/Replace Door Sweeps - Repair/Replace/Install **Doors - Plane, Repair/Replace Hinges Electrical Outlets & Switches - Replace Electrical GFCI Outlets Replace & Install** Faucets - Repair or Replace Furniture Assembly (small pieces) Furniture Moving - (50lb Limit) Furniture Repair - Minor Only **Grab Bars - Install or Replace** Hand Rails - Install or Replace **Light Bulbs - Change Light Fixtures Repair or Replace** Mailboxes - Install, Repair, Replace **Outdoor Furniture Put Away/Take Out Outdoor Lighting-Repair, Replace Height** (Limit of 10 ft.)

Bellwood – Berkeley –Broadview Brookfield\* - Forest Park – Hillside LaGrange Park -Maywood Melrose Park\*- Northlake\* North Riverside\*- Stone Park Westchester -Western Springs\* \*Only Homeowners within the boundaries of the Proviso Township

#### **REPAIRS WE PROVIDE**

**Outdoor Water Spigot - Shut Off/On Picture - Hang Only Referrals for Tradesperson Referrals only** Screens - Put In/Take Out (Limit 10ft) Shower Heads - Repair, Replace, Install Shower Wands - Repair, Replace, Install Sink Drains Pipes & Stoppers Repair or Replace Smoke Detectors/CO Detectors - Install, **Replace Batteries** Storm Doors - Repair (No Installations) Storm Windows - Put In/Take Out (Limit 10 feet) Supply Valves - Replace, Kitchen & Bath Only **Threshold - Repairs & Replacement** Toilets - Minor Repairs - No Roding TV/TV Converter Box - Install & Program Weather Stripping - Doors & Windows Window Air Conditioner - Install & Remove (50lb Limit). Window Fan - Install & Remove **NO APPLIANCE REPAIRS NO HVAC REPAIRS NO PAINTING NO LANDSCAPING OR SNOW REMOVAL NO GLASS REPAIR** \*For a complete list of repairs not provided please call the office\* Please call us if you have any questions and to schedule

your appointment at



# Obituaries

#### Angelico

Leona "Lee" Angelico, nee Kucyk. Dearly beloved wife of Anthony "Russ"; loving mother of Louise (Nick) Tepavchevich, John (Mary) and Michael (Donna) Angelico; dear daughter of the late John and Julia Kucyk; cherished grandmother of Gina (Ryan) Hosch, Amy (Tanner) Mitchell, Ellen, Gabrielle, Anthony, Rachel and Michelle; great-grandmother of Kyla and Owen; dear sister of the late Stephanie and Raymond Duke. fond sister-in-law, aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Visitation at Rago Brothers Funeral Home. Private burial at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

#### Annoreno

Henrietta A. Annoreno. Dearly beloved wife of the late Vince; loving mother of CathyAnne Post, Vince (Jane) and Buddy (Michelle); beloved daughter of the late Anthony and Erminia; fond grandmother of Deanna, Shelly, Matthew, Jeffrey, Kristy and Tony; great-grandmother of Nash, Cade, Ryker, Grady, Kayla, Jaden, T.J, Blake and Gia; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

#### Baev

Dimcho Atanasov Baev. Dearly beloved husband of Daniela; loving father of Simeon and Adriana; fond brother, uncle and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

#### Bello

Victor M. Bello. Amado hijo de Soledad y Del Fallecido Victor; Amado de Cande, Adrianna y Carlos Bello; Amado tio y Amigo de mucho.

#### Colbert

David T. Colbert Sr. Proud veteran of the United States Army. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

#### Diomede

Maria Diomede, 87 years of age. At rest Saturday, March 13, 2021. Dearly beloved wife of the late Domenico; loving mother of Santa (the late Mike) Rogalevich, Anna and Francesca Diomede; cherished grandmother of Dominick M. Diomede; loving daughter of the late Vito and Anna Nicotera; dear sister of the late Francesca and Sebastiano Rotondi, and the late Dina (Pasquale) Rizzi; fond aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery.

#### Duratinsky

Frances Duratinsky. Dearly beloved wife of the late Joseph; loving mother of Coreen (James) Malchin, Terrance (Judith) and Scott (Sue); cherished grandmother of James Malchin Jr., Christopher Malchin, Diana Malchin-Hajek, Kimberly Duratinsky, Dara Duratinsky, Joseph Duratinsky, Michael Duratinsky, Nicholas Duratinsky and Britney Duratinsky; great-grandmother of Allana Malchin, Erica Malchin, Matthew Malchin, Kailey Malchin, Nathan Malchin, Jessica Hajek and James Hajek; dear sister of nine; fond aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

#### Estrada

Maria Felix Estrada. Dearly beloved wife of Gildardo Estrada; loving mother of Raquel (Carlos) Perez and Ricardo (Martha) Estrada; fond grandmother of Nathaniel Rodriguez and Damien Perez; fond sister of 10; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

#### Genualdi

Dominic Genualdi. Loving companion of Sue Pellum; father of Frankie; dearly beloved son of the late Frank and Mary Genualdi; dear brother of Joseph,

Angel (Curt) Schultz and the late Anthony (Debbie) Genualdi; fond uncle and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Maryhill Cemetery.

#### Holmes

Robert "Bobby" Holmes. Dearly beloved husband of the late Betty (nee Orlanducci); loving father of Silvio, Robert, Nicholas Holmes and Kimberly Panek; cherished grandfather of eight; great-grandfather of three; dear brother, uncle and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

#### Johnson

James L. Johnson. Dearly beloved son of the late Corine "Baby Sister" Johnson and the late James Johnson Sr.; loving brother of Gloria Johnson, the late Sherry Johnson and Debra Sholar; beloved nephew of Charles Green, Calvin Johnson, Anna Pearl Moore, Mary Bell Bostick and Florida Holland; dear cousin of Alberta Nevilles and many other cherished cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Fairview Memorial Cemetery.

#### Klauba

Lisa A. Klauba, nee Signorelli. Lived in Mukwonago, Wis., passed to eternal life Saturday, Feb. 13, 2021, age 52. Beloved wife of Thomas; dear mother of Haley Klauba; daughter of James and the late Joanne (nee Mele) Signorelli; daughter-in-law of Bennet and the late Marlene (nee Capek) Klauba; sister of Catherine (David) Graham and sister-in-law of James (Maltita) Klauba; also survived by her nieces, nephew, other relatives and many friends. Employee of Stewart Title Company. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

#### Orozco

Leonardo Orozco. Dearly beloved son of Leonardo and Maria; dear brother of Hilda Orozco, Maricela Orozco and Erica Orozco; loving nephew, uncle and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

#### Reyes

Carlos Reyes. Loving father of Keanna Desiree, Carlos Jr, Rihanna and Elijah Alonzo; beloved son of Basilio and Delia; dear brother of Antonio, Michael and Richard; fond uncle of Justin, Michelle, Simon, Navaeh and Zariah. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Fairview Memorial Cemetery.

#### Schluenz

Rosalind J. Schluenz. Dearly beloved wife of the late Lothar; beloved daughter of the late Basil and Matilda Carso; dear sister of Helene (Ken) Pekala, Gloria (the late Tom) Tsergas, Christopher, Lisa, Marie and Carla (Nicholas) Stanke. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Funeral services private.

#### Scudiero

Lena "Mama Lena" Scudiero. Dearly beloved wife of the late Joseph Scudiero; loving mother of Joseph (Sari), Frank (Amber), Alex (Sabine), Michael (Elisa), Anthony (Jamie) and Aldo (Stephanie); beloved daughter of the late Ubaldo and Clara; fond nonna of Joey, Phillip, Micayla, Frankie, A.J, Anna Marie, Joey, Santino, Michael, Aldo, Anthony, Nico, Marco, Michael, Nicolette and Ava; dear sister of Susie (the late Gino) Esposito, Adua (the late Tony) Frasca, Louisa (Vince) Sclafani, the late Grace (the late Tony) Sabatino, the late Tony (Peggy) Datoli and the late Mike (the late Sue) Datoli; loving sister-in-law of A.J, Tony (Sandy), Frank and the late Sam (the late Francis) Scudiero; dear cousin of Rosa and Giovanni Rodia, and many other cherished cousins; loving aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

#### Torchia

Marie "Bee Bee" Torchia. Dearly beloved wife of the late Frank; loving mother of Patricia (Michael) Fioramonti and Carol (the late Henry) Akimori; fond grandmother of Alicia (Bill) Carlini, Lisa (Chris) Smarto, Michael (Maria) Akimori; great-grandmother of Christopher (Katie) Smarto, Gianna (Micah) Coffey, Danielle Smarto, Anthony Carlini and Sophie Akimori; great-great grandmother of Emery Jane Coffey; dear sister of 11; cherished aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

#### Travaglini

Catherine Helen Travaglini, 86, passed away Jan. 6, 2021. Born and raised in Melrose Park, III., she was the daughter of Mary and Louis Travaglini, who immigrated to the United States from Italy in 1924.

Catherine earned an AB degree in chemistry from Rosary College (Illinois) and an MS degree in inorganic chemistry from the University of Illinois. She began working at Parkland College in 1968 shortly after the college was formed. She was the first chemistry instructor hired and she set up the entire Chemistry Program. Catherine taught organic chemistry and headed the

### Public Notice Regarding Scheduled Board Meetings

Take notice that the village of Melrose Park, Cook County, III., 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 schedule for calendar year 2021 is: April 26; May 10 and 24; June 14 and 28; July 12 and 26; Aug. 9 and 23; Sept. 13 and 27; Tuesday, Oct. 12 and 25; Nov. 8 and 22; and Dec. 13 and 27.

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

Chemistry Program until she retired in 2000.

Catherine enjoyed traveling with her brother and sister-in-law (Arthur and Christine Travaglini). They visited Canada and many of the states. They also visited Europe, including Italy, where she met many of her relatives. She also enjoyed visiting her nieces and nephews. Catherine also returned to Melrose Park multiple times to visit with her many friends. She enjoyed the arts and attended many performances at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother and sister-in-law; her niece, Linda Travaglini, and adopted daughter, Victoria Martinez; and her nephew, Thomas Travaglini.

Catherine is survived by her nephew and his wife, Michael and Eiko Travaglini (of Oliver Springs, Tenn.); their sons (Samuel Travaglini and his wife, Amanda, and their sons, Luke and Evan, of Aiken, S.C.; and Dustin Travaglini and his wife, Katelyn, and their son, Ethan, of Gainesville, Fla.); Jaqueline Travaglini (wife of Thomas) and sons, Ty Travaglini (of Phoenix, Ari.), Tate Travaglini (of New York, N.Y.) and Trett Travaglini (of Old Hickory, Tenn.).

Burial of ashes at Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery.

### Village Hall Announces Holiday Closings

The Melrose Park Village Hall will be closed for the following holidays: Good Friday – Friday, April 2, 2021; Memorial Day – Monday, May 31, 2021; Independence Day – Monday, July 5, 2021; Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 6, 2021; Columbus Day – Monday, Oct. 11, 2021; Veterans Day – Thursday, Nov. 11, 2021; Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 25, 2021; Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, Nov. 26, 2021; Christmas Eve (1/2 Day) – Friday, Dec. 24, 2021; Christmas Day – Monday, Dec. 27, 2021; and New Year's Eve (1/2 Day) – Friday, Dec. 31, 2021.

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

# **Carbonara Funeral Directors**

Traditional Funerals

Cremations

**Memorial Services** 

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Village of Melrose Park 1000 N. 25th Avenue Melrose Park, IL 60160 708.343.4000 FAX 708.343.9745

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MAYOR Ronald M. Serpico

CLERK

Mary Ann Paolantonio **TRUSTEES** Anthony N. Abruzzo, Jaime Anguiano, Arturo J. Mota, Sonny Nicotera, Anthony J. Prignano, Mary Ramirez Taconi

> 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

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