



Happy Holidays!

A Message From Mayor Ronald M. Serpico

Dear Neighbors,

Over the past 22 months, we have lived in unusual times brought on by the COVID pandemic. With “unusual” being the operative word, I did some research and found some rather unusual holiday traditions throughout the world.



Ronald M. Serpico
Mayor

Families in Japan make reservations at KFC for a special Christmas Eve meal. This unusual tradition is due to a marketing campaign that convinced the Japanese that fried chicken is a traditional American Yuletide feast.

And speaking of unusual, Norwegians believe that Christmas Eve coincides with the arrival of evil spirits and witches on brooms. As a result, Norwegian households, before they go to sleep, hide their brooms so the witches do not steal them.

In the Venezuelan capital of Caracas, city-dwellers participate in the unusual tradition of roller skating to Mass on Christmas morning. For the safety of the skaters, many of the city's streets are closed to traffic on this day.

And forget Santa in Italy, all the fun stuff takes place on the eve of Jan. 5. According to folklore, an old woman named La Befana comes down the chimney and fills the stockings of good children with candy and presents.

On Christmas day in South Africa, the Pine Tree Emperor Moth or Christmas caterpillar is the treat children cannot wait to devour. These caterpillars are covered in festive hues – giving all who swallow a little extra luck in the coming year.

On Christmas Day in Sweden, families gather around the television at 3 p.m. to watch the cartoon, *Donald Duck and His Friends Wish You a Merry Christmas*. This unusual tradition dates to the 1960s when TVs were new in Sweden and only two channels aired – one of which played Disney cartoons at Christmas.

In Guatemala, locals spend the week before Christmas collecting rubbish and piling it into a big heap. Finally, an effigy of the devil is placed on top and the whole thing is set on fire. The idea is to burn the bad from the previous year and start a new year from out of the ashes.

And talk about unusual, Ukrainians throw an artificial spider and web on their Christmas trees. Legend has it that spiders living with a poor widow and her children took pity on them and spun beautiful webs all over the tree, which the children awoke to on Christmas morning. Some claim this was the start of tinsel decorated trees.

And finally, my last unusual Christmas tradition involves unmarried Czech women who stand with their back to the door and toss a shoe over their shoulder. The direction of the shoe's landing will predict either an impending marriage proposal or another year of being single.

As for a holiday tradition not so unusual ... on behalf of the village clerk, the village trustees and my wife Donna, I wish you and yours the warmest of season's greetings. And as I say every year ... “Please make some great holiday memories for your children and grandchildren!”

Sincerely,

Ron Serpico
Mayor Ron Serpico

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



Village of Melrose Park

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



To Know

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

Hours – Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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

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

Water, Tickets, Etc.

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

Police Emergency.....911

Non-Emergency(708) 344-8409

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

Fire Emergency.....911

Non-Emergency(708) 344-1210

Public Safety/Homeland Security(708) 649-8000

Library.....(708) 343-3391

Public Works.....(708) 343-5128

Building and Code(708) 343-4000

Civic Center(708) 450-0555

Hall and Field Rentals, Sports, Etc.

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

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

Taste of Melrose Park

Dial A Ride(708) 343-7047

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

Economic Development(708) 865-8809

Important Upcoming Dates

Village Board MeetingsVisit Melrosepark.org for Details

Village Hall Holiday Closings.....Dec. 24 (1/2Day), Dec. 27

Dec. 31 (1/2 Day), Jan. 3 and Jan. 17

Resident Response

Dear Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame ...

The Emergency Department staff at Gottlieb Hospital wanted to send their gratitude and appreciation to the Melrose Park firefighters and paramedics who assisted with a combative patient recently – firefighters Tropea, Palermo, Scudiero and Pulkownik, and John Simon and partner.

The entire crew put themselves in harm's way to ensure the safety of the nurses working that day. These actions do not go unnoticed by the staff and they were all truly appreciative of their actions.

- Thank you,
Michael Pilkington, RN, EMS Coordinator
Gottlieb Hospital

Dear Director of Police Sam Pitassi ...

This letter comes on behalf of the Wiemerslage family to express our deep appreciation for all of your assistance to the funeral procession as our uncle, Sgt. Francis Wendell Wiemerslage's WWII remains were returned after 76 years to Chicago/Midway Airport on Oct. 15, before traveling on to rest in St. Joseph Cemetery in his hometown, River Grove.

We were truly humbled by the amount of respect given to this brave young man after 76 years, particularly by the towns along the path from Midway Airport to River Grove. The honors shown him are a credit to your town and your department. We are indebted to the U.S. Army and a score of other organizations and municipalities for seeing him home safely.

Both of his younger brothers, Harold and Roland, searched extensively for his remains during their lives. His baby brother, our Uncle Rollie's last few words two years ago were "don't forget about Frankie." Thank you for helping complete those good men's quest in bringing Frankie Wiemerslage back to his hometown, River Grove, Ill., via Chicago and back to our family.

We will never forget the police presence, and police escorts and traffic control along the route as we made our way from Midway Airport to the funeral parlor in Elmwood Park. Please thank your whole department for their service and especially for their service to our uncle in those areas as well as those areas of which we were not even aware.

Thank you for your service to our uncle. We are very grateful.

- Sincerely,
The Family of Sgt. Francis Wendell Wiemerslage

Dear Melrose Park Trustee Arturo Mota ...

This school year has by far been the most difficult one – for staff and students. We have been absolutely resilient as we face the unknowns of pandemic teaching/learning. I am proud of how my students are trying to turn this wonky year into a somewhat normal one.

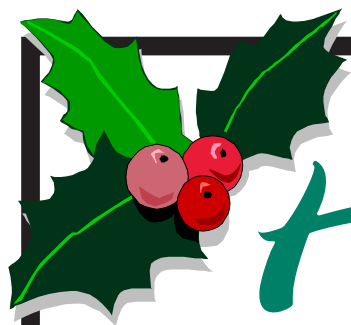
With your assistance, we are able to do our small group lessons safely and efficiently. Students are able to work with me on their reading and math lessons almost as if it were the pre-COVID days. The desk shields are extremely helpful.

Additionally, The Teacher Toolbelt has been a game changer. Students constantly need tissues or sanitizer so it is quick and easy for me to grab it from my belt and hand it over.

The place value blocks are amazing especially because we are studying double digit subtraction. It is a challenging topic, but the manipulatives have been extremely beneficial.

THANK YOU!

- With gratitude,
Ms. Depa
Grant Elementary School



Happy Holidays!

from

**Mayor
Ronald M. Serpico**

**Village Clerk
Mary Ann Paolantonio**

**Village Trustees
Anthony N. Abruzzo,
Jaime Anguiano, Arturo J. Mota,**

**Sonny Nicotera,
Anthony J. Prignano,
Mary Ramirez Taconi**

**and the
Employees of the
Village of Melrose Park**

***Dear Chief Phil Schwartz,
Melrose Park Departments of Homeland Security – Public Safety ...***

On behalf of the StormReady Advisory Board, congratulations on Melrose Park being recertified as a StormReady Community. Your leadership and the progressive preparedness measures taken by Melrose Park continue to be outstanding. Since StormReady certification, Melrose Park has continued to meet and exceed all of the requirements of the StormReady Program.

This special StormReady designation will need to be recertified before March 2025. Congratulations! Melrose Park continues to maintain a “prototype” severe weather preparedness program and is very deserving of this prestigious recognition.

Melrose Park is authorized to continue to display the StormReady logo on official letterheads, brochures and other official documentation. The logo is trademarked and thus subject to certain restrictions requiring the National Weather Service to monitor its use, so please send us copies or descriptions of the way it is used.

- Sincerely,
Mike Bardou, Warning Coordination Meteorologist
United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service Forecast Office Chicago



Join in the Seasonal Fun!

**Is your home decorated
for the holidays ...**

**Send us a photo for the
next issue of The Rose!**

**You could win a prize
on behalf of
Mayor Serpico
and the Melrose Park
Youth Commission.**

**Five top prizes (\$150 each) and
five runners-up prizes (\$50 each)
will be awarded for the best decorated!**

**Take a nighttime photo of your home all lit
and email it to therose@melrosepark.org
on or before Jan. 7, 2022.**

**Type Mayor Serpico/MPYC Holiday Decorations
in the subject line of your email and include your
name, address and a phone number
that's best to reach you at.**

**For more information,
please call the
MP Youth Commission at
(708) 343-4000.**

ABC7 Hosts Toy Drive in MP

Shout-out to Chief Phil Schwartz, MPHSPS and MPPD

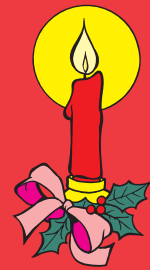
On Tuesday, Nov. 30, ABC7's meteorologist Tracy Butler hosted the 'Stuff the Truck' drive-thru Disney Ultimate Toy Drive live on ABC7 Eyewitness News.

ABC7 viewers had the chance to bring the joy of the season to Chicago-area children when they donated new, unwrapped toys and "Stuff the Truck" stationed at the IHOP Melrose Park location (1040 W. North Avenue).

The Disney Ultimate Toy Drive's mission has one focus: to help make a child's holiday wish come true. Donors can drop off new, unwrapped toys at participating IHOPs (including the Melrose Park IHOP) or The Room Place, and the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve then distribute those toys to less fortunate children in the community.

A special on-air thank you went out to all who proudly participated in this special event, including the Melrose Park public service employees who provided assistance as needed (MPHSPS Chief Phil Schwartz and his team, and Director of Police Sam Pitassi and the MPPD).

Disney's annual toy drive continues to be a huge holiday success in the Chicagoland area and provides a gratifying way to kick off the Christmas season by giving back to children in need.



*MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!*

**Melrose Park
Departments of
Homeland Security ~
Public Safety**



*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!*

**VILLAGE OF
MELROSE PARK
PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT**

**Happy
Holidays!**

**Village of
Melrose Park
Building
Department**



**Season's
Greetings!**

**MELROSE PARK
SENIOR SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**



*Happy
Holidays!*

**Melrose Park
Public Library**

**801 Broadway • Melrose Park
(708) 649-7400**

MPPLibrary.org



Notice Regarding Melrose Park Vehicle Stickers

**Village Vehicle Stickers Will Expire Dec. 31, 2021.
New Stickers Can be Purchased at the Village Hall.**

Sticker Fee for Passenger Vehicles is \$30 for Two Years (2022-2023).

Truck Fees Vary Based on the Type of Class/Plate and Are Good for One Year Only (2022).

Seniors Over 65 Years of Age are Free.

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

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

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

Vehicle Sticker Fee Details

Sticker fees are as follows: Passenger Plates – \$30 for two years (2022-2023);

Senior Citizen – One free per household for two years (2022-2023); Trucks – Good for one year (2022 only).

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

	JANUARY 1 \$30 Every Two Years	MARCH 1 AND LATER \$40 Every Two Years	JULY 1 AND LATER \$55 Every Two Years
Passenger Vehicles			
B Plate	\$50	\$65	\$95
D Plate	\$75	\$90	\$145
F Plate	\$75	\$90	\$145
H Plate	\$75	\$90	\$145
J Plate	\$80	\$95	\$155
K Plate	\$80	\$95	\$155
L Plate	\$90	\$105	\$175
M Plate	\$95	\$110	\$185
N Plate	\$100	\$115	\$195
P Plate	\$105	\$120	\$205
Q Plate	\$105	\$120	\$205
R Plate	\$110	\$125	\$215
S Plate	\$115	\$130	\$225
T Plate	\$125	\$140	\$245
V Plate	\$135	\$150	\$265
X Plate	\$145	\$160	\$285
Z Plate	\$155	\$170	\$305

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

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

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



Season's Greetings!

**AMERICAN LEGION
SARLO-SHARP Post 368
MELROSE PARK**

Season's Greetings!



**MELROSE
PARK
YOUTH
COMMISSION**
1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park
(708) 343-2015



Happy Holidays!



**Veterans
Park District**

(708) 343-5270 • www.vpdpark.org

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!*



We would like to extend our best wishes during this Holiday Season to all our friends at the Village of Melrose Park and to our friends and family, and wish you a new year full of health, peace and happiness.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

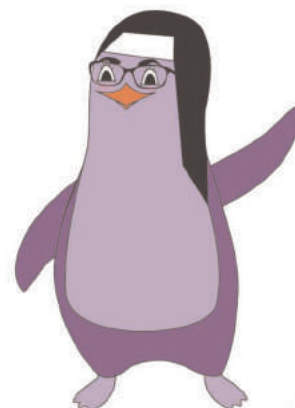
Jaime and Lisa Reyes

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

**MARK'S
QUALITY LANDSCAPING**
Mark and Mike Kessling
1639 N. 23rd Ave.
Melrose Park
(708) 681-3384
www.marksquality.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND Happy New Year!

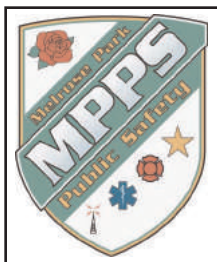


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www.PurplePenguinPromos.com

Your 1-stop shop for PPEs, promotional products & custom branded merchandise for your business, non-profit, school, municipality, church, club, sports team, or special event.

Contact us today!

Mary Ann Paolantonio 708-223-8598
sales@purplepenguinpromos.com



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

Why You Should Get a Booster Shot ...

Studies show after getting vaccinated against COVID-19, protection against the virus and the ability to prevent infection with variants may decrease over time. Although COVID-19 vaccination remains effective in preventing severe disease, recent data suggest vaccination becomes less effective over time, especially in people aged 65 and older, and at preventing infection or milder illness with symptoms.

- The recent emergence of the Omicron variant (B.1.1.529) further emphasizes the importance of vaccination, boosters and prevention efforts needed to protect against COVID-19. Early data from South Africa suggests increased transmissibility of the Omicron variant and the potential for immune evasion.
- Emerging evidence also shows that among health care and other frontline workers, vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 infections is also decreasing over time.
- This lower effectiveness is likely due to the combination of decreasing protection as time passes since getting vaccinated, as well as the greater infectiousness of the Delta variant.

Data from clinical trials showed that a booster shot increased the immune response in trial participants who finished a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna primary series six months earlier or who received a J&J/Janssen single-dose vaccine two months earlier. With an increased immune response, people should have improved protection against COVID-19, including the Delta variant. For Pfizer-BioNTech and J&J/Janssen, clinical trials also showed that a booster shot helped prevent COVID-19 with symptoms.

Everyone Ages 18 and Older Should Get a Booster Shot

If You Received Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

Who should get a booster?
Everyone 18 years or older.

When to get a booster –
At least six months after completing your
primary COVID-19 vaccination series.

If You Received Johnson & Johnson's Janssen

Who should get a booster?
Everyone 18 years or older.

When to get a booster –
At least two months after completing
your primary COVID-19 vaccination.

Choosing Your COVID-19 Booster Shot

You may choose which COVID-19 vaccine you receive as a booster shot. Some people may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received and others may prefer to get a different booster. CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

What Are the Risks to Getting a Booster Shot?

So far, reactions reported after getting a booster shot were similar to those of the two-shot or single-dose primary series. Fever, headache, fatigue and pain at the injection site were the most commonly reported side effects, and overall, most side effects were mild to moderate. However, as with the two-shot or single-dose primary series, serious side effects are rare, but may occur.

The COVID-19 vaccines are a critical part of ending this pandemic. Growing availability of vaccines means we can help protect ourselves, slow the spread of the virus and save as many lives as possible.

Protection vaccines go through rigorous testing to prove their protection, and all three authorized vaccines were 100% effective at preventing death and hospitalization from COVID-19.

End the pandemic vaccines are how we end this pandemic. Once enough of us have been vaccinated and build immunity, we can get back to our pre-COVID routines.

The COVID-19 vaccines are effective tools to protect you from the virus and help end this pandemic.

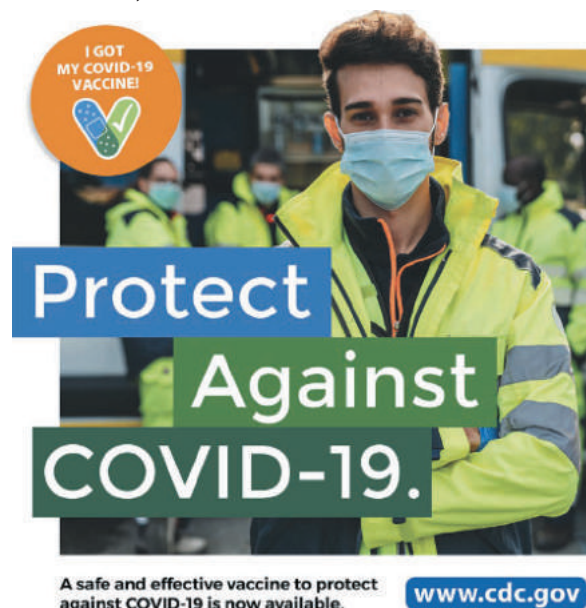
The most important benefit of vaccination is to help prevent you from getting sick with COVID-19.

How to Make an Appointment

Vaccines are currently available by appointment only at more than 900 locations across the state.

Find a provider and more information at coronavirus.illinois.gov. To make an appointment by phone, call our toll free hotline at (833) 621-1284.

Thank You and Be Safe!





Melrose Park Fire DepartmentNEWS



Rick Beltrame
Director of Fire Dept.

A Message from Rick Beltrame, Director of Fire Department



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**

From the
**Melrose Park
Fire
Department**

With the holidays fast approaching,
the Melrose Park Fire Department and Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame
want to ensure the safety of our residents by providing these winter holiday safety tips
on behalf of the National Fire Protection Association.

Please follow these tips to ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season!



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together.
But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple
tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.



HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



Before Heading Out or to Bed

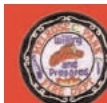
Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- ! More than **one-third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ! More than **two of every five** decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



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



**MELROSE PARK
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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



A Gracious Thank You from the Melrose Park Fire Department and the Melrose Park Firemen's Association

On Friday, Oct. 8, the Melrose Park Firemen's Association held their 2021 Fall Raffle Dinner to help raise funds for charitable contributions to organizations the association works with throughout the year. On behalf of the Melrose Park Fire Department, the association would like to graciously thank all those who helped make this year's dinner and commemorative ad book an incredible success, including the following supporters as well as current and retired MP firefighters:

Ronald M. Serpico, Mayor, Village of Melrose Park
Superior Ambulance Service
Guerine and Company, Inc.
Restore Disaster Restoration Experts
First MCS Electronic Payment Solutions
Taverna on Division Street
Al Piemonte NISSAN
Al Piemonte Ford
Cerami Construction Company, Ltd.
Cerniglia Co.
Schaumburg Professional Firefighters
Macqueen Emergency Pierce
Pan American Bank & Trust
D & P Construction Co., Inc.
Paramedic Services of Illinois, Inc.
C.P.S. Inc.
Elite Electric Co., Inc.
Special T Unlimited
Veterans Park District
Tony's Charitable Organization
Silt Pro Erosion Control
Joseph A. Casale/Richard D. Dalitto
C & O Window Cleaning LLC
Flowers of Italy Club
Tom Olson, President, Triton College Foundation

Del Galdo Law Group, LLC
Signco
Enviro Tech International, Inc.
Wall Capital Group
Kathleen Willis, State Representative
77th District
Flexible Staffing Services
B & G Sales Inc.
West Lake Urgent Care
Washland Laundry
Chicago Grinding & Machine Co.
MEM Electric
Germ Protective Systems
DCS/Design Studio 24 LLC
Swaporama
Tone Products Inc.
McShane Construction Company
Aqua Fiori Inc.
Carnicerias Jimenez
Midwest Auto Body
Scores Chicago O'Hare
Tiny Tap
Elgin Sweeping Services
R.J.N. Supplies, Inc.
Flood Brothes Disposal

Scudiero's Italian Bakery
Victory Centre
Caputo Cheese Company
Servicios La Perla Melrose Park
Mark's Quality Landscaping
Albert Stellato's
Hair Care Center for Men and Women
Meadowcreek Mobile Park, Inc.
Alois Box Co.
Olympia Maintenance, Inc.
Joe's Lazy Boy Furniture
Action Painting Company, Inc.
Tom's Steak House
Air One Equipment
Broadway Cleaners
Carbit Liquid Coating Solutions
Carbonara Funeral Home
Glenn A. Kushner, M.D.
First Baptist Church of Melrose Park
3MD Relocation Services, LLC
Melrose Auto Repair
American Mobile Shredding
and Recycling, Inc.
Construction Management Service Corp.
Interstate Power Systems



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.

Winter Holiday Safety Tips

This holiday season, don't let the spirit of giving lull you into giving burglars, muggers and pickpockets a better chance to do their dirty work. Crooks love the holidays as much as everyone else, especially because it's an opportune time for crime. Homes jam packed with glittering gifts. Stores, malls and downtown streets teeming with unsuspecting shoppers. People rushing around, stressed out and careless, looking for last-minute gifts, trying to get everything done. It's enough to make a crook giddy with holiday joy.

Here are some tips on how to celebrate safely this holiday season.

If You are Traveling

- Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home, shovel snow and park in the driveway from time to time.
- Don't forget to have mail and newspaper delivery stopped. If it piles up, it's a sure sign you're gone.

If You are Out for the Evening

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone's home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside.

If You are Shopping

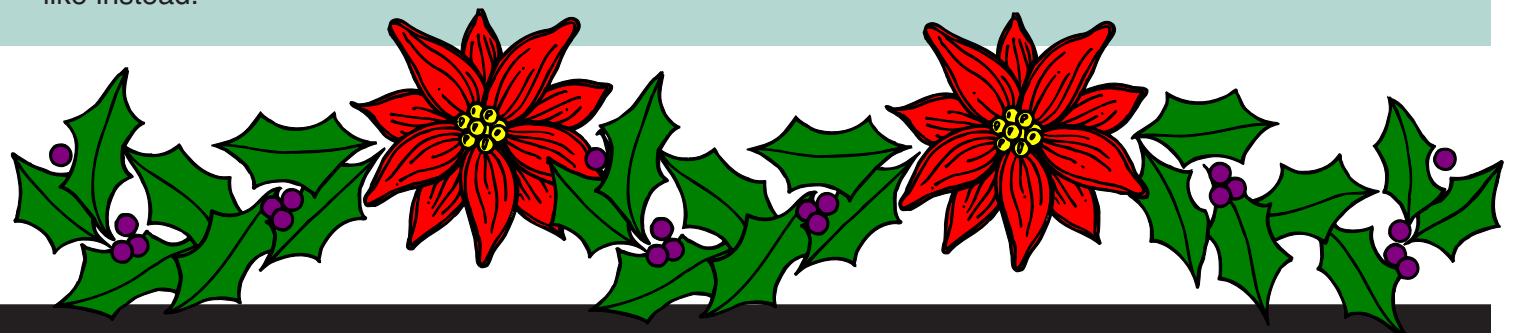
- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lighted space and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash, pay with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.

Protect Your Vehicle

- Loading up on all those gifts is a sign of progress in the holiday shopping. But if those packages are left out in the open after they're in the car, your car has become a likely target for thieves. Remember the old cliché "Out of sight, out of mind?" The same idea applies to items in your car.
- Always lock your vehicle and store all items out of sight. Breaking into an empty car isn't worth a thief's time. However, anything left in plain view – from your holiday gifts to spare change, sunglasses, CDs, cell phones or briefcases – may tempt a thief.
- Help prevent your vehicle from being stolen by always locking your car and using anti-theft devices. And, although it's cold, never leave your vehicle running while you run inside your home or a store – even if it's for only a minute or two.

If a Stranger Comes to Your Door

- Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts, so be cautious when accepting a package.
- It's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of others' generosity during the holidays by going door-to-door for charitable donations when there's no charity involved. Ask for identification and find out how the funds will be used. If you aren't satisfied, don't give. Help a charitable organization you know and like instead.



After You've Opened the Gifts

- Burglars know that many households have new, and oftentimes expensive, items in their homes following the December holidays – especially items such as new computers and peripherals, stereo components, televisions, cameras and other electronic equipment. In too many cases, residents make it easy for burglars to figure out which homes to target by putting boxes that identify their new gifts in plain view with their other garbage. Avoid becoming an easy target for post-holiday burglars by not leaving boxes for new electronics and other items in the alley or other garbage pickup locations for several days at a time. Instead, break down any boxes you are throwing out, put them in garbage bags and place them inside a trash can. (In many cases, especially with computer equipment, you might consider keeping the boxes for safe storage, shipping or moving in the future.) Think about keeping broken-down boxes inside – in a garage, for example – until the evening before your regular garbage pickup. Some burglars actually look inside garbage cans for evidence of holiday gifts. And, of course, if you see someone suspicious casing your alley or if you see a burglary in progress, call the Melrose Park Police Department on 911.

Take a Holiday Inventory

- The holidays are a good time to update – or create – your home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items, and list descriptions and serial numbers. If your home is burglarized, having a detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file.
- Make sure things like TVs, VCRs, stereo equipment, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment and power tools are on the list. Remember to check it twice!

Celebrate Responsibly

- The holiday season is a time of celebration and revelry. Drinking and driving is a danger to everyone on the road. Anyone with a BAC of .08 or higher is in violation of Illinois law and may go to jail. Remember that the risk isn't worth it – if you choose to drink alcohol at a party, don't drive. Take a cab, use public transportation or a designated driver. Have fun, but remember to celebrate responsibly.

Holiday Package Theft

- Track deliveries online and confirm delivery has occurred. You can sign up for email notifications to track your packages from initial shipment to its arrival at your home or the recipient's address if you have the gift delivered directly.
- If you know a family member or neighbor will be home, ask them to pick up the packages as soon as they are delivered. Reward them with fresh baked cookies.
- Switch delivery location to work where it can be received by someone and not left on the porch.
- See if the post office or store the product is being shipped from can hold the package for pickup.
- The post office will allow your package to remain safe and secure for up to 30 days.

Enjoy the Season!

- Last but not least, don't let holiday stress get the best of your holiday spirit. Make time to get together with family, friends and neighbors. And think about reaching out in the spirit of the season and helping someone who's less fortunate or lonely.

Source: <https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/winter-holiday-safety-tips>.



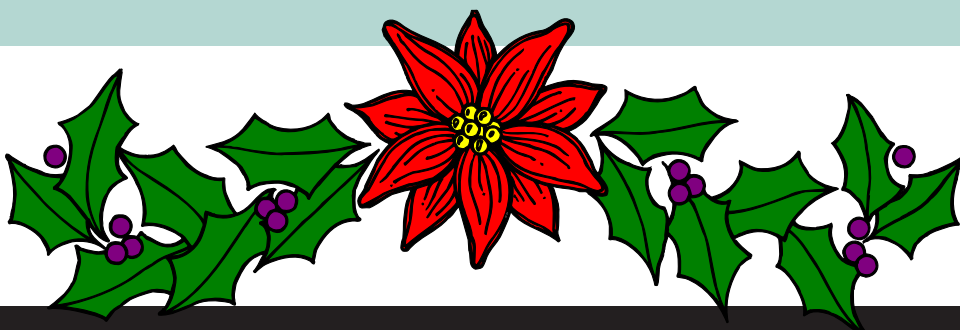
**Melrose
Park
Police
Department**

*Connecting
You to
Community
Resources!*

**Happy
Holidays!**



**From the
MELROSE PARK
POLICE DEPARTMENT
SAM C. PITASSI
DIRECTOR OF POLICE
STEVEN ROGOWSKI
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE**





**Melrose
Park
Police
Department**

*Connecting
You to
Community
Resources!*

Melrose Park Police Department

Provide an Anonymous Crime Tip

The Melrose Park Police Department relies on individuals to help prevent and solve crimes in our community. If you have information about criminal activity, please submit it.

However, if you would like to be contacted by a police officer, just include a telephone number or email address where you can be reached.

Submit to tips@melroseparkpd.com.

IMPORTANT PARKING NOTICE

A QUICK NOTE TO UPDATE WEEKEND PARKING RULES ...

As of Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021, parking is no longer permitted on both sides of the street on weekends.

Overnight parking restrictions remain the same in the West Melrose and Winston Park areas.

Parking is only allowed on designated sides of the street depending on the day of the week as indicated on notice signs posted throughout the community.

Remember, parking is never allowed on east and west streets – 2-6 A.M.

**ALL VILLAGE OF MELROSE PARK
PARKING RESTRICTIONS WILL BE
STRICTLY ENFORCED AND
TICKETS WILL BE WRITTEN.**

Melrose Park Police Department Installing Four ALPR Cameras To Solve Crime

The Melrose Park Police Department has announced that it will be working with Flock Safety, a public safety operating system that helps communities and law enforcement solve and reduce crime. The department will be installing Flock Safety automated license plate reading (ALPR) cameras, which assist law enforcement with both proactive and reactive crime fighting.

The Flock Safety system captures objective evidence and uses machine-learning to deliver unbiased investigative leads to law enforcement, reducing crime by up to more than 70 percent. The cameras are not used for traffic enforcement and do not include facial-recognition capabilities.

The Flock Safety ALPR system delivers Hot List alerts, a real-time notification that a vehicle associated with a wanted suspect in a state or national crime database has passed a camera. Hot List alerts also help law enforcement locate missing persons in cases of AMBER and Silver alerts.

When investigating a crime, Flock Safety cameras detect and decode objective leads for law enforcement using Vehicle Fingerprint™ technology, which identifies the make, vehicle type, color, license plate (full, partial or missing), license plate state and unique vehicle features.

“The Melrose Park Police Department is committed to utilizing the most innovative, cutting-edge tools to maintain the safety of our community,” said Director of Police Sam Pitassi. “Flock Safety’s powerful technology will help our officers be even more effective at collecting evidence, following leads, and solving cases.”

Flock Safety cameras integrate directly with federal and state crime databases as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) AMBER Alert system, which relays real-time information about missing children. The data collected is never sold or shared with third parties and every search conducted by the system requires an auditable search justification. The footage is securely stored in the cloud and automatically deleted every 30 days on a rolling basis.

Flock Safety ALPR technology is currently used by law enforcement and communities in over 1,200 cities across the country, helping solve upwards of 185 crimes per day, including homicides, kidnappings, assaults, retail theft, property crime and more. It has helped police recover millions of dollars in stolen vehicles and property.

“At Flock Safety, we believe in objective, ethical policing,” said Garrett Langley, CEO of Flock Safety. “We have the privilege of working with law enforcement agencies like Melrose Park Police, who believe that the path to a safe community is not through force and not only with technology, but with strong bonds between police departments and the citizens they pledge to protect.”

About Flock Safety

Flock Safety is a public safety operating system that helps communities and law enforcement in 1,200+ cities work together to eliminate crime, protect privacy and mitigate bias. We build devices that capture objective evidence and use machine learning to create and deliver unbiased investigative leads to law enforcement. Our proprietary devices and cloud-based software reduce crime by over 70 percent. Visit www.flocksafety.com for more information.

Melrose Park Village Hall’s Secretary of State Office is Now Permanently Closed

The Secretary of State Office, which for the past year was located in the Melrose Park Village Hall Complex, is now permanently closed. The office was always meant to be a temporary site and was closed on Oct. 1.

The Secretary of State Office, located at 1903 N. Mannheim Rd. (Melrose Park), is open for business and provides the following services:

- **Address Change**
- **Administrative Hearings Officer**
- **Commercial Drivers License**
 - Duplicate/Corrected
 - Renewal
 - Vision Screening
- **Disability Placards**
 - Temporary First Time Issuance
 - Temporary Replacement
- **Drivers License**
 - Duplicate/Corrected
 - First Time Issuance
 - Instruction Permit Duplicate/Corrected
 - Instruction Permit First Time Issuance
 - Instruction Permit Renewal
 - Motorcycle Road Test
 - Motorcycle Written Test
 - Non-Visa Temporary Visitors (TVDL)
 - Renewal
 - Road Test
 - REAL ID
 - Vision Screening

- **Drivers License**
 - Written Test
- **License Plates**
 - Renewal Stickers
 - Sticker Replacement
- **Non Sufficient Funds**
- **Non-CDL Road Test**
- **Non-CDL Written Test**
- **Organ Donor Registry**
- **Reinstatement Fees**
 - Discretionary Suspension (Traffic related)
 - Failure to Appear Suspension
 - Parking Suspension
 - Tollway/Automated Traffic Suspension


- **State ID**
 - Duplicate/Corrected
 - First Time Issuance
 - Renewal
 - REAL ID
- **Vehicle**
 - Registration Renewal
 - Sticker Replacement
 - Seven-Day Drive Away Permits
- **Voter Registration Applications**

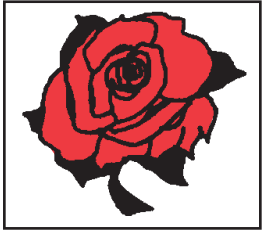
For more information, visit
www.ilsos.gov

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE

SECRETARY OF STATE





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 2022 Senior Painting Program!

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

2022 Senior Painting Program list will be closed July 31, 2022.
Only one item will be painted per year.
Get your request in early as the list fills fast.

Mayor Serpico's 2022 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. 2022 list will be closed July 31, 2022.

2022 Tree Planting for Parkways

If you are interested in a tree for the parkway for 2022 (one tree per household), we are compiling a list for 2022 Fall Tree Planting. To request a tree, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128. The 2021 Tree Planting Project is now closed.

2022 – 50/50 Sidewalk Project

If you would like to participate in the 2022 – 50/50 Sidewalk Project to request replacement of sidewalk squares, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128 for more information. The 2021 Sidewalk Project is now closed.

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.

The Public Works Department is in the process of building a new garage for the village buses and miscellaneous Public Works storage.

Street Parking/ Snowfall Restrictions

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

Street Sweeping

The street sweeper is out throughout the village.

Please follow all street sweeping signs located on village streets. Please remove your vehicle from the street to help expedite sweeping and do not blow grass clippings or leaves into the street. Grass clippings and leaves are to be picked up and bagged in a biodegradable bag or tickets will be issued.



Silver Creek Restoration Project

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 Five and Six of the Silver Creek Restoration Project 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.



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.

Public Works Department Resurfacing Projects Completed

14th Avenue from Division to LeMoyne • 15th Avenue and Main from 11th Avenue
17th Avenue from Division to LeMoyne • Armitage Avenue from 19th Avenue to 17th Avenue
Harold from Division to Soffel • Lee from Division

Melrose Park Dog Park

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

Silver Creek Stabilization Project – Phase Five

Phase Five of the Silver Creek Stabilization and Concrete Removal Project (area on the west side of Winston Plaza up to 15th Avenue) is underway. In the past, bank erosion was impacting the roadway and guard rails along Winston Plaza. Streambank erosion along residential areas was also occurring. The plans include to improve water quality by protecting the banks with rock toe, re-grading the banks to a stable slope and installing desirable deep-rooted native vegetation. Funding for this project was provided, in part, to the village of Melrose Park by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The project is required in order to stabilize steeply eroding banks in a narrow corridor. Removal of shallow-rooted and invasive shrubs and trees is required in part because they prevent regrading of the banks to a stable and slope, they form dense shade that prevents native deep-rooted vegetation from holding the steep bank slopes and soils in place. The proposed project will be similar in appearance to past phases of work to stabilization Silver Creek extending between Elsie Drive and First Avenue.

Republic Services Announces 2022 Holiday Schedule for Garbage Pickup

The 2022 holiday schedule for garbage pickup in the village of Melrose Park will be as follows:

- New Year's Day/Jan. 1 – Pickup day will remain the same.
The holiday does not impact your service schedule as it falls on a Saturday.
- Memorial Day/Monday, May 30 • Independence Day, Monday, July 4 • Labor Day/ Monday, Sept. 5 – Pickup will be delayed by one day.
- Thanksgiving Day/Thursday, Nov. 24 – If pickup is on a Thursday or Friday, it will be delayed by one day.
- Christmas Day/Sunday, Dec. 25 – Pickup will be delayed by one day.



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.

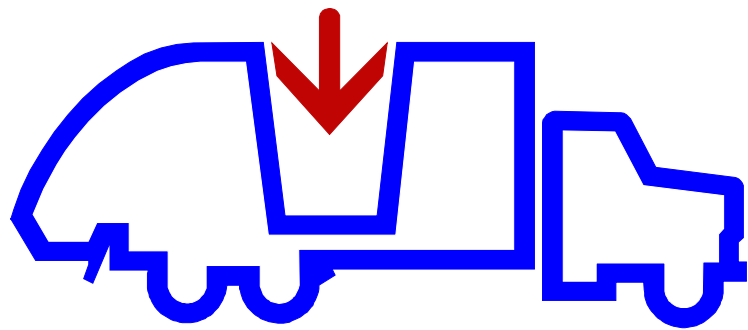
Benefit Access Program Benefits

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 Secretaría del Estado**

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



Village of Melrose Park Residential Garbage Pickup Information

Republic Services Garbage Schedule for Residential Bi-Weekly Pickup

24th Avenue to 11th Avenue – Tuesday and Friday

Winston Park Area – Tuesday and Friday

West Melrose – Tuesday and Friday

North of North Avenue – Tuesday and Friday

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

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.

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 regular hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and 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.



Village of Melrose Park

Mayor Serpico's Snow Removal Program for Senior and Special Needs Residents



**RESIDENTS
MUST
PRE-REGISTER
EVERY
SEASON.**

**This service is offered to seniors (65 and older),
disabled with special needs and
those who have no family or neighbors to help.**

**AT 6 INCHES OR MORE OF PREDICTED FALLING SNOW,
YOUR NAME WILL BE ADDED TO THE SNOW REMOVAL LIST.
WE WILL DO A PATH FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR TO THE STREET
AND A SWIPE OF YOUR DRIVEWAY.**

**SINGLE FAMILY HOMES ONLY – NO ALLEYS
– NO ALLEY SKIRTS TO GARAGE – NO BACKYARDS.**

For more
information,
please call
(708) 649-4450.

TO RESERVE SERVICES FROM THE VILLAGE OF MELROSE PARK SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM
FOR THE FULL WINTER SEASON, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND MAIL
THE MAYOR SERPICO AND THE VILLAGE OF MELROSE PARK SNOW REMOVAL RESERVATION FORM TO:
Village of Melrose Park, Snow Removal • 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160



Mayor Serpico and the Village of Melrose Park Snow Removal Reservation Form

TO RESERVE SERVICES, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Age _____

**MELROSE PARK RESIDENTS – PLEASE TRY TO HELP SENIOR AND
DISABLED NEIGHBORS IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER – THANK YOU.**

Free Exercise for Melrose Park Seniors

*Socially
Distanced
Activity*

*Face
Masks
Required*

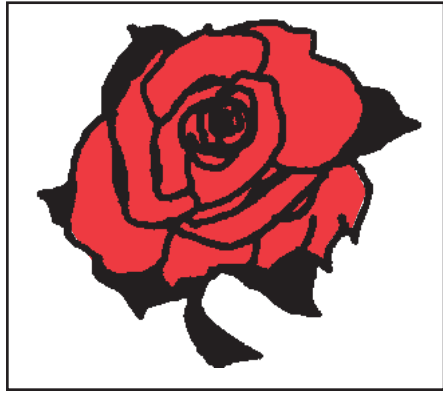


*Come Join in the Fun with
Instructor Barb Rubright
of Rube's Garage!*

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.



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.

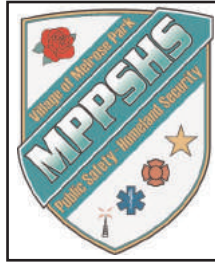
Only three shopping bags per rider. Forgotten items in the van will be returned at the next pickup date. Please note that our service is getting more popular every day so we will try to accommodate your needs to the best of our ability.



***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.

Melrose Park Public Safety News



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

Winter Storms ... The Deceptive Killers

Winter storms can range from a moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Some winter storms are large enough to affect several states, while others affect only a single community. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain.

Regardless of the severity of a winter storm, you should be prepared in order to remain safe during these events.

Know the Difference

Winter Storm Outlook – Winter storm conditions are possible in the next two to five days.

Winter Weather Advisory – Winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. When caution is used, these situations should not be life threatening.

Winter Storm Watch – Winter storm conditions are possible within the next 36 to 48 hours. People in a watch area should review their winter storm plans and stay informed about weather conditions.

Winter Storm Warning – Life-threatening, severe winter conditions have begun or will begin within 24 hours. People in a warning area should take precautions immediately.

How to Prepare for a Winter Storm

- Winterize your vehicle and keep the gas tank full. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing.
- Insulate your home by installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic from the inside to keep cold air out.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.

Put Together a Supply Kit

- Water – at least a three-day supply; one gallon per person per day.
- Food – at least a three-day supply of non-perishable, easy-to-prepare food.
- Flashlight.
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible).
- Extra batteries.
- First aid kit.
- Medications (seven-day supply) and medical items (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc.).
- Multipurpose tool.
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items.
- Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies).
- Cell phone with chargers.
- Family and emergency contact information.
- Extra cash.
- Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers).
- Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl).
- Tools/supplies for securing your home.
- Sand, rock salt or non-clumping kitty litter to make walkways and steps less slippery.
- Warm coats, gloves or mittens, hats, boots, and extra blankets and warm clothing for all household members.
- Ample alternate heating methods such as fireplaces or wood- or coal-burning stoves.

Winter's Impact

Storms with Strong Winds

Sometimes winter storms are accompanied by strong winds creating blizzard conditions with blinding wind-driven snow, severe drifting and dangerous wind chill. Strong winds with these intense storms and cold fronts can knock down trees, utility poles and power lines. Storms near the coast can cause coastal flooding and beach erosion as well as sink ships at sea. In the west and Alaska, winds descending off the mountains can gust to 100 mph or more damaging roofs and other structures.

Extreme Cold

Extreme cold often accompanies a winter storm or is left in its wake. Prolonged exposure to the cold can cause frostbite or hypothermia and become life-threatening. Infants and elderly people are most susceptible. What constitutes extreme cold and its effect varies across different areas of the United States. In areas unaccustomed to winter weather, near freezing temperatures are considered "extreme cold." Freezing temperatures can cause severe damage to citrus fruit crops and other vegetation. Pipes may freeze and burst in homes that are poorly insulated or without heat. In the north, below zero temperatures may be considered as "extreme cold." Long cold spells can cause rivers to freeze, disrupting shipping. Ice jams may form and lead to flooding.

Ice Storms

Heavy accumulations of ice can bring down trees, electrical wires, telephone poles and lines, and communication towers. Communications and power can be disrupted for days while utility companies work to repair the extensive damage. Even small accumulations of ice may cause extreme hazards to motorists and pedestrians.

Heavy Snow Storms

Heavy snow can immobilize a region and paralyze a city, stranding commuters, stopping the flow of supplies and disrupting emergency and medical services. Accumulations of snow can collapse buildings and knock down trees and power lines. In rural areas, homes and farms may be isolated for days, and unprotected livestock may be lost. In the mountains, heavy snow can lead to avalanches. The cost of snow removal, repairing damages and loss of business can have large economic impacts on cities and towns.

Winter Precipitation

Snow

- FLURRIES – Light snow falling for short durations. No accumulation or light dusting is all that is expected.
- SHOWERS – Snow falling at varying intensities for brief periods of time. Some accumulation is possible.
- SQUALLS – Brief, intense snow showers accompanied by strong, gusty winds. Accumulation may be significant. Snow squalls are best known in the Great Lakes region.
- BLOWING SNOW – Wind-driven snow that reduces visibility and causes significant drifting. Blowing snow may be snow that is falling and/or loose snow on the ground picked up by the wind.
- BLIZZARD – Winds over 35 mph with snow and blowing snow reducing visibility to near zero.

Sleet

Raindrops that freeze into ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet usually bounces when hitting a surface and does not stick to objects. However, it can accumulate like snow and cause a hazard to motorists.

Freezing Rain

Rain that falls onto a surface with a temperature below freezing. This causes it to freeze to surfaces, such as trees, cars, and roads, forming a coating or glaze of ice. Even small accumulations of ice can cause a significant hazard.

Winter Storm Facts: What Makes a Winter Storm?

Cold Air

Below freezing temperatures in the clouds and near the ground are necessary to make snow and/or ice.

Moisture

To form clouds and precipitation. Air blowing across a body of water, such as a large lake or the ocean, is an excellent source of moisture.

Lift

something to raise the moist air to form the clouds and cause precipitation. An example of lift is warm air colliding with cold air and being forced to rise over the cold dome. The boundary between the warm and cold air masses is called a front. Another example of lift is air flowing up a mountain side.

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



Melrose Park Public Library



www.MPPLibrary.org

Upcoming Events



Holiday Gift Wrapping

Bring your gifts to wrap we will supply the wrapping paper, bows, and gift tags. Drop in any time between 10:30 am & 12:30 pm on Saturday, December 18th.



Popcorn & a Movie Nights

Check out a DVD on Fridays during winter and receive a free package of Microwave popcorn and a candy treat!



Email your recipe to mpref@mpplibrary.org or mail it to the library. Visit our website (mpplibrary.org) for more details. Visit mpplibrary.org for details.



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



Mon Wed Fri 9:00am - 5:00pm
Tue Thu 11:00am - 7:00pm
Sat 10:00am - 2:00pm
Last Saturday of the month - Closed
Sunday - Closed
Memorial Day thru Labor Day - Closed on Saturdays

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



Melrose Park Public Library



www.MPPLibrary.org









HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING PROGRAM
Saturday, December 18th
Drop-In any time between 10:30-12:30
**BRING YOUR GIFTS TO WRAP--WE WILL SUPPLY
THE PAPER,BOWS, AND GIFT TAGS!**



**Popcorn & a
Movie Fridays!**
Check out a DVD on any Friday this winter and
receive a free package of microwave popcorn!



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

Mon	Wed	Fri	9:00am - 5:00pm
Tue	Thu		11:00am - 7:00pm
Sat			10:00am - 2:00pm

Last Saturday of the month - Closed
Sunday - Closed
Memorial Day thru Labor Day - Closed on Saturdays

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



Melrose Park Public Library



www.MPPLibrary.org

Youth Services

Bilingual Storytime to celebrate the start of winter fun!

Check out our YouTube channel for new bilingual stories every month. We will also have available for pick up at the library an activity package and unique craft to celebrate the story time theme!



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	Fri	9:00am - 5:00pm
Tue	Thu		11:00am - 7:00pm
Sat			10:00am - 2:00pm
Last Saturday of the month - Closed			
Sunday - Closed			
Memorial Day thru Labor Day - Closed on Saturdays			

MPPLibrary.org

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



Know your options.

Make the choice that is right for you.

Beginning **May 3, 2023,**

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

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

You **NEED** a REAL ID if:

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



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

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

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



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

Current Illinois driver's licenses and identification cards will continue to be accepted at airports until May 3, 2023.

For additional information:

REALID.ilsos.gov
833-503-4074



Printed by authority of the State of Illinois. May 2021 — 1 — EX 85.5

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.



Veterans Park District Annual Veterans Day Observance – A Proud Salute to the Brave Men and Women Who Have Courageously Served Our Nation



On Friday, Nov. 5, Veterans Park District held its annual Veterans Day Observance in honor of those who have courageously served our great country.

Community members came together to respectfully show their appreciation for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard, and those currently serving.

Observance ceremony speakers and participants included American Legion Franklin Park Post #974, VPD Executive Director Bill Otte, Fr. Francisco Ortega, Korean War Veteran Eugene Piltaver, Gianna Capra Uroni, Vietnam War Veteran Angelo Egizio, and VPD commissioners Tom Olson and Ron Boscaccy.

A SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS ... We are grateful for your service to our country and will always embrace you as true and trusted friends, who proudly stood, and still stand, side by side with your colleagues to keep the United States of America strong and the greatest country in the world to live and raise a family.





**Village of
Melrose Park**

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Mayor Ronald M. Serpico



**Taste of
Melrose Park**

Celebrating Our 40th Year!

See You in 2022

**Save the Dates!
40th Annual
Taste of
Melrose Park
Labor Day Weekend
Friday-Sunday,
Sept. 2-4, 2022**

**We're looking for crafters and
businesses interested in
showcasing their products.
Send an email to
peg@melrosepark.org
for full details.**

**Please note – All food booths
have been filled for 2022.**

MP Village Hall Announces Holiday Hours

Please mark your calendar – the Melrose Park Village Hall hours for the upcoming holidays are as follows:

- Christmas Eve/Friday Dec. 24, 2021 – 9 a.m.-Noon.
- Monday, Dec. 27, 2021 – Closed.
- New Year's Eve/Friday Dec. 31, 2021 – 9 a.m.-Noon.
- Monday, Jan. 3, 2022 – Closed.

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

MP Offering COVID-19 Drive-Up Facility

The village of Melrose Park is offering a COVID-19 drive-up facility at 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, in the parking lot across the street from the Civic Center. Hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., and weekends, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Testing is available for individuals who are insured or uninsured, no referral needed. Walk-ins are welcome.

Rapid testing results within 15 minutes and PCR testing results within 24 hours.

For more information or to make an appointment, please visit ntllaboratory.com and select the Melrose Park location.

A Request to Melrose Park Residents Residing in the Winston Park Area

Dear Melrose Park Residents,

If you are the original owner of a home located in the Winston Park area and still reside in the same house, we want to hear from you.

We're tracking some history and would love to see how many original homeowners still reside in their Winston Park homes from the time the homes were built and purchased.

If you are someone who qualifies or know of someone who does, please send a note (include your address and a phone number that's best to reach you at) to *The Rose* c/o Village of Melrose Park, 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160, or you can send an email to therose@melrosepark.org.

We look forward to hearing from you!

A Note from the Melrose Park Fire Department

Buried Fire Hydrants Can Pose Danger

Living in the Chicago Metropolitan area, we always expect a snowy winter. However, residents never know for certain how much snow will blanket the area. Hopefully, this winter will not result in the massive snowfalls we experienced in recent years. Melrose Park residents know only too well the obvious difficulties and hazards that accompany a hard winter. However, many do not realize the dangers and difficulties that can result when fire hydrants are buried in snow. Such conditions make it difficult, if not impossible, for firefighters to locate and uncover hydrants in their efforts to extinguish fires. Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame hopes that residents will help firefighters by clearing nearby fire hydrants when they shovel or plow their sidewalks and driveways. The cooperation of all neighbors will go a long way toward keeping Melrose Park's residents safe this winter.



Melrose Park Library Publishing Digital Cookbook

The Melrose Park Public Library is publishing a digital cookbook featuring many mouth-watering recipes from the community.

We would love to include your special dish!

Please share your best recipes and memories with us by mail

(Melrose Park Public Library, 801 N. Broadway, Melrose Park, IL 60160) or by email (mpref@mpplibrary.org).

Check out our website at mpplibrary.org for more details!

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.

We Buy Houses

**Fair Prices.
Cash Deals.
Quick Closings.**

Over a decade in business in the community.



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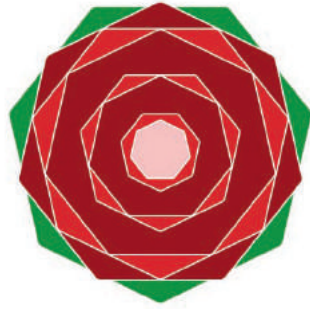
✓ As is

✓ Pay No Commission

708-545-5252

Se Habla Español.

Disclaimer: Sergio Aguirre, principal of Oliady Investments, LLC, is a Licensed Real Estate Broker in IL. This is not intended to solicit listings of other real estate brokers. This is an offer to buy a property for investment purposes.



MELROSE PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Buffalo Wild Wings GO is Now Open!!!!

Representatives from the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development had the opportunity to join Mayor Ron Serpico and others from the village of Melrose Park as well as executives from Buffalo Wild Wings (BWW) and, most importantly, representatives from the community and excited customers at the ribbon-cutting ceremony of Buffalo Wild Wings GO on Nov. 19 to celebrate the grand opening of the new location at 520 W. North Ave.



Although the BWW GO format is the first in Illinois, the model has been proven in a few other states and metro markets, and the customer response has been very favorable.

According to company executives this new business model is a result of listening to customers and responding to business trends from 2020, as customers are ordering online and want a contactless pickup option or delivery. They also indicated that there are several others planned in the Chicago area and throughout Illinois, but the one in Melrose Park is the first!

MPCCCD Wraps up 2021 with Resuming In-Person Business Breakfast Training

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development was happy to resume in-person business breakfast trainings/information programs to connect business owners and managers with resources and information to support their business! Recent programs included Branding and Improving Your Online Presence and Cyber Security, and wrapped up the 2021 Business Breakfast Program with information on tax benefits and savings available to businesses through the West Region Enterprise Zone (WREZ) as well as numerous programs offered by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

Mayor Ron Serpico and Illinois Senate President Don Harmon welcomed business owners, managers and other community leaders to the MPCCCD Enterprise Zone Breakfast, and one business owner has already taken the information and completed the process that will save the business over \$9,000 in sales tax on building materials as they complete a remodeling project while preparing to open a new business on Broadway in Melrose Park.



For more information regarding the Enterprise Zone programs and savings opportunities as well as other resources, visit the MPCCCD website <https://mpcccd.org/resources/> or call the chamber at (708) 731-7315.

The 2022 Business Breakfast Meetings will resume in January and the MPCCCD is currently planning topics and presenters which will include Access to Capital, Workforce Development and Hiring, Social Media for Small Businesses, and Grants and Resources as well as the Annual Legislative Breakfast.

MPCCCD is Connecting Businesses to Resources and Providing Technical Assistance

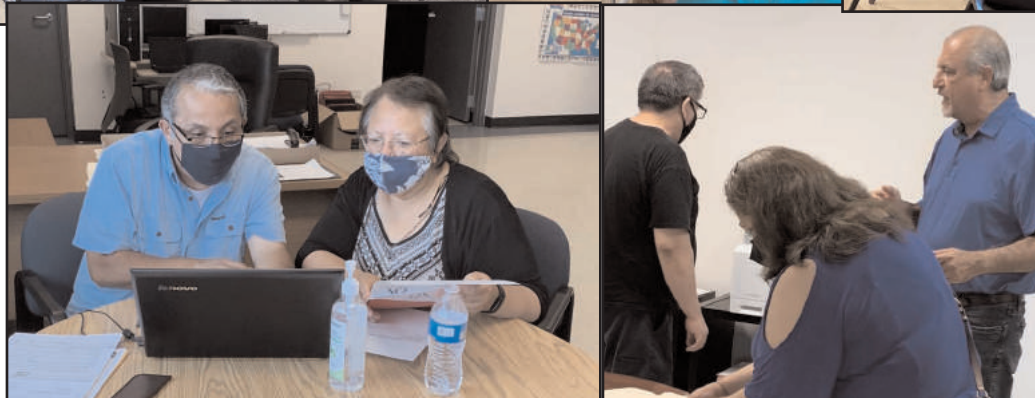
The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) has been working with the Illinois Business Immigration Coalition (IBIC) and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development to connect small and mid-sized businesses to provide resources, information and grants since the implementation of the Community Navigator Program in August.



Most of the efforts through October were focused on providing information and assistance in applying for the State of Illinois Back2Business (B2B) grants. During this process, MPCCCD business navigators have made more than 3,900 visits and made over 2,800 phone calls to businesses in Melrose Park and seven neighboring communities, and have provided several workshops in the area to help businesses learn about programs and resources that can fuel growth in their business! In addition to this outreach, over 120 businesses



requested and received direct technical assistance in completing the B2B grants! Although the state is only about halfway through awarding the \$250 million in grants available through this program, Melrose Park has had 17 businesses receive awards totaling \$530,000 and has the fifth highest number of awards of any suburban Cook County municipality. The other seven municipalities that the MPCCCD has been working with combined for 21 grants awarded, totaling an additional \$1.1 million in grants!



Although the B2B application process is closed, the MPCCCD navigators are continuing to work with and inform area business owners of other local, state and federal programs available to support businesses.

Pictured are a few examples of the work that the MPCCCD has been doing the past few months, including conducting an information session and application assistance event hosted by Illinois Speaker of the House Emanuel “Chris” Welch.

Welcome New Chamber Members!

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) is proud to welcome our newest members! Please help us welcome Buffalo Wild Wings, Midwest Auto Body Co., Power Plant Services LLC and Excel to Thrive. If you are not currently a member of the MPCCCD, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at lbazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 731-3715 and we will schedule time to meet with you to discuss the benefits of partnering and working with our chamber.

Join Your Chamber of Commerce and Community Development Today!

The MPCCCD is a fast-growing business and community-based organization that helps drive economic development opportunities in and around the Melrose Park area. Join the MPCCCD in its endeavors by becoming a valued member. For details about the organization and for membership registration structures, visit us at <https://mpcccd.org/benefits-dues/>.

If you own or manage a local business and are not currently getting emails and newsletters from the MPCCCD, please sign up to receive newsletters from the bottom of the website at <https://mpcccd.org>.

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!



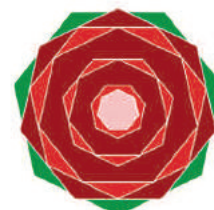
Please Join the Melrose Park To-Go Facebook Group!

- 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!



**Village of
Melrose Park**



MELROSE PARK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

A HOLIDAY REMINDER FROM THE



MELROSE PARK

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SHOP LOCAL! **SHOP** MELROSE PARK!

During this holiday season, the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development encourages shoppers to patronize the businesses that support our community every day. Melrose Park businesses fuel our local economy and are the backbone of where we live, learn, eat, work and play! Even if you're a Cybershopper, you can still support local by choosing in-store or curbside pickup for your online orders!

67 CENTS
of every dollar spent at
local businesses sticks
around in your local
economy!

shift your
shopping this season.
it matters.

learn more about how the Chamber
helps local businesses prosper:
<https://mpcccd.org>



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SAME GREAT AL PIEMONTE PRICES
SAME GREAT AL PIEMONTE COMMITMENT
TO CUSTOMER SATISFACTION



Sammy Alfano
sammya@apnissan.com



The ROSE AD RESERVATION FORM

Save the Dates!

Next Issue – February 2022
(Deadline for material Jan. 25, 2022.)

Schedule for 2022
February, April, 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, IL 60160

or Email to: therose@melrosepark.org w/pdf or jpeg file.

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



Rates – Full Color Ads

Full Page

\$400 per issue (9 x 10 1/2)

Half Page

\$200 per issue (9 x 5 1/4)

1/4 Page

\$100 per issue (4 1/2 x 5 1/4)

1/8 Page

\$50 per issue (4 1/2 x 2 5/8)

Date _____

Name of Business _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

The  ROSE

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

Public Notice Regarding Scheduled Board Meetings

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

For more information or to view the complete schedule of board meeting dates for calendar year 2022, please visit www.melrosepark.org or call the Village Hall at (708) 343-4000.

Village Hall Announces Holiday Closings

The Melrose Park Village Hall will be closed for the following holidays: Christmas Eve (1/2 Day) – Friday, Dec. 24, 2021; Christmas Day – Monday, Dec. 27, 2021; New Year's Eve (1/2 Day) – Friday, Dec. 31, 2021; New Year's Day – Monday, Jan. 3, 2022; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, Jan. 17, 2022; Presidents Day – Monday, Feb. 21, 2022; Good Friday – Friday, April 15, 2022; Memorial Day – Monday, May 30, 2022; Independence Day – Monday, July 4, 2022; Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 5, 2022; Columbus Day – Monday, Oct. 10, 2022; Veterans Day – Friday, Nov. 11, 2022; Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 24, 2022; Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, Nov. 25, 2022; Christmas Eve (1/2 Day) – Friday, Dec. 23, 2022; Christmas Day – Monday, Dec. 26, 2022; New Year's Eve (1/2 Day) – Friday, Dec. 30, 2022; and New Year's Day (2023) – Monday, Jan. 2.

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

Woodlake Hospital Begins Plans to Open in Melrose Park

Woodlake Hospital (1225 W. Lake Street, Melrose Park) parent company Cedar Health (located in Lakewood, N.J.) is excited to reopen the historic landmark once known as Westlake Hospital.

Woodlake Hospital will occupy approximately 270,024 gross square feet and will have 80 acute mental illness beds (referred to as AMI beds); 60 long-term-care beds (referred to as skilled nursing); 44 long-term, acute care beds; three intensive care unit beds; and three med-surg beds, to support the long-term, acute care unit; and 40 comprehensive physical rehabilitation beds.

Woodlake will have 230 private rooms and a FHQC Urgent Care Center that will service patients regardless of their ability to pay. It will do so by accepting Medicaid and through its charity care program. Like the charity care program provided by Westlake, uninsured patients at Woodlake can apply for financial assistance, with certain individuals being deemed presumptively eligible due to their financial status.

Woodlake anticipates spending about \$40 million to reopen the hospital and bring 500-600 permanent jobs. We are excited about our investment in this community and based on our talks with other community leaders, look forward to a period of growth and change for this area.

Cedar Health completed the purchase on Oct. 17, 2021, and construction began immediately. We are proud to announce our Occupational Health Services is slated to open the first quarter of 2022, located at 1111 Superior St., Suite 506, in the Medical Office Building, on the Woodlake Campus. As construction moves ahead at full speed, we are anticipating for our first inpatient unit opening to be in the second quarter of 2022.



Michelle Juarez
Insurance Agent
Hablo Español

☎ (708) 343-9600 ext. 7019
☎ (708) 343-0700
✉ mjuarez@InsuranceNavy.com
🌐 www.InsuranceNavy.com
📍 2523 W. Lake St.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!*



yamo's
ITALIAN
SAUSAGE

1219 N. 25th Ave.
Melrose Park
(708) 483-8574

www.YamosSausage.com

Everyone Has the Right to Live Where They Choose

In the exercise of its power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals and welfare, it is declared to be the public policy of the village to assure fair housing and freedom from discrimination throughout the community, to protect the community from the effects of residential segregation by race, color, religion, sex, physical or mental handicap, familial status or national origin, and to secure to its citizens the economic, social, and professional benefits of living in an integrated and stable society.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Administers The Federal Fair Housing Act

Every first Monday of the month the Fair Housing Review Board meets at 6 p.m. in the Village of Melrose Park (1000 N. 25th Ave.). If you feel you have been discriminated in any way while renting, purchasing or selling a home you are welcome to attend our meetings to present your case



*Village of
Melrose Park*



Village of Melrose Park

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

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**Melrose
Park**

Village Hall News

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

Birth Certificates

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

We only provide birth certificates if the individual was born in Melrose Park.

Birth certificates can be only be obtained by the individual themselves,
a parent, or legal guardian.

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

Death Certificates

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

Vehicle Sticker Information

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

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

Makin' a **BIG** Comeback ...

A Melrose Park Favorite!



**Now
Open on
25th
Avenue!**

**Check Us
Out Online ...
YamosSausage.com!**

On Friday, Dec. 3, Mayor Serpico was on hand for a special ribbon-cutting opening at one of Melrose Park's newest businesses – Yamo's Italian Sausage.

Yamo's, the premier Italian sausage shop located at 1219 N. 25th Ave., recently opened the doors of its new facility to offer some of the finest and affordable Italian sausage available throughout the western suburbs.

The mayor welcomed owner Mark Iatarola and his team to Melrose Park and thanked him for bringing a village favorite back to our community!

Our Story

Why "Yamo"? "Yamo" is a shortening of the Italian phrase, "Andiamo," which means "Let's go!" And it's the nickname of our company's founder.

Francesco "Yamo" Iatarola was born 1919 in a farmhouse in Melrose Park, Ill. He earned the nickname "Yamo" for his energetic and always on-the-go temperament. In 1941 during World War II, Yamo enlisted in the Army. Shortly after, he shipped out to the Pacific front and was stationed in Papua New Guinea.

Army food did not compare favorably with the authentic Italian cooking he was used to back home. Yamo soon discovered that New Guinea had an abundance of pigs, which played a major role in their cultural festivities. Sensing an opportunity, Yamo began making Italian pork sausage.

After the war, he returned to Melrose Park and opened up Yamo's Super Foods, a purveyor of the finest Italian sausage and prime meats. He continued to make homemade Italian pork sausage until he retired from the store in 1979.

Following in his father's footsteps, Yamo's son Mark makes the sausage according to the original recipe honed to perfection over the past 50 years.

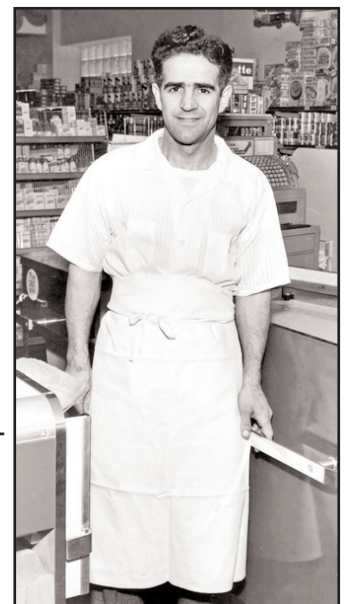
Yamo's Italian sausage is hand-trimmed, using the highest quality pork, natural casings, organic spices and GMO-free ingredients.

What Makes Yamo's Sausage Special?

Yamo's Italian sausage was a staple in Melrose Park, Ill., for almost 40 years. After World War II, Francesco "Yamo" Iatarola opened "Yamo's Super Foods," where he made, perfected and sold Italian sausage until he retired in 1979.

Today, Yamo's son Mark Iatarola is bringing Yamo's Italian sausage back. For the first time since the original store closed, you can now order the same Italian sausage that fed a community for decades.

Yamo's sausage is made with organic spices, natural casings and USDA "Process Verified Program" pork, which ensures the animals are humanely cared for and have not been administered antibiotics, steroids or hormones.



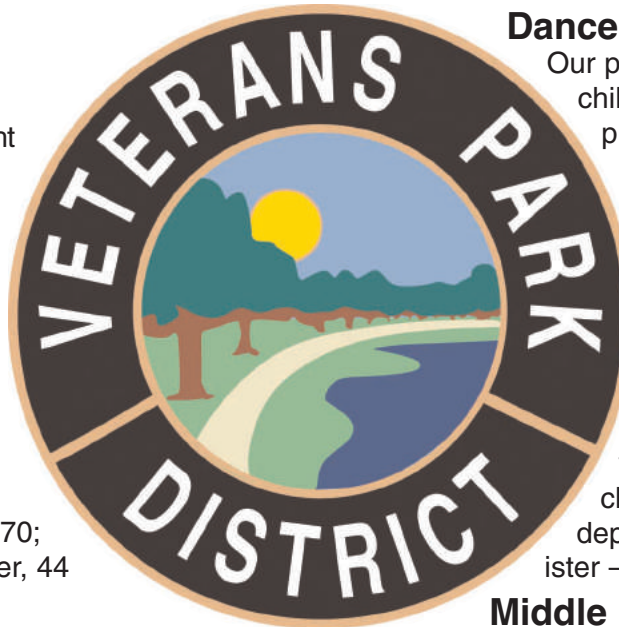
**1219 N. 25th Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160**

yamossausage.com

**contact@yamosausage.com
(708) 483-8574**

Veterans Park District

Programs & Happenings



Youth Sports

Basketball 101, Ages 4-7

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.

- Tuesdays, Jan. 11-Feb 1, 4 p.m.; Fee – R \$55/NR \$70; Classes are held at Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

Baseball 101, Ages 4-7

Hitting, throwing, catching, running and teamwork will be taught in this instructional baseball program. All skills will be taught in a fun and easy to learn environment.

- Mondays, Jan. 10-31, 4 p.m.; Fee – R \$55/NR \$70; Classes are held at Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

Volleyball, Ages 10-12

This fun and instructional program prepares players to succeed in volleyball. Players will improve their serving, bumping, setting and spiking skills. Games will be played throughout the program. Teamwork and good sportsmanship are stressed.

- Wednesdays, Jan. 12-Feb. 2, 4 p.m.; Fee – R \$55/NR \$70; Classes are held at Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

Fitness Classes

ZUMBA®, Ages 16 and Up

Latin music and easy to follow moves provide a fun, energetic class that will make you forget you're even exercising. Choose from Mondays or Thursday.

- Mondays, Jan. 10-Feb. 14 or Thursdays Jan. 13-Feb. 10, 6:30 p.m.; Classes held at Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park.

Hatha Yoga, Age 16 and Up

Learn the basics of yoga, deep breathing techniques, meditation and poses/asanas.

- Sundays, Jan. 9-Feb. 6, 9 a.m.; Classes held at Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park.

Youth Yoga, Ages 9-14

Kids can learn the basics of yoga, deep breathing techniques, meditation and poses/asanas. Yoga has proven benefits that can help kids with concentration and improved mindset.

- Sundays, Jan. 9-Feb. 6, 10 a.m.; Classes held at Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park.

Creative Arts

Galaxy Shoes, Ages 7-13

Exciting new programs held once a month. You will create gym shoes that are out of this world. Paint your shoes dark blue and accent them with white paint to look like a sky filled with stars.

- Saturday, Jan. 15, 10 a.m.-noon; Classes are held at Grant Park, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake. Please bring new white canvas gym shoes to class. Fee is \$20 for snacks, music and activity.

Dance Programs, Ages 3-11

Our popular dance programs are designed to teach your child how to be creative through movement. All dance programs start the week of Jan. 13 and are held at Kahl Park, 255 Palmer, Northlake. Call (708) 343-5270 for fees, times and class offerings.

Drawing and Painting Creative Arts, Ages 6 and Up

Learn the fundamentals of beginning drawing or the advanced techniques in intermediate drawing.

- Tuesday, Jan. 11, 6:30 p.m.; Trevino Hall, Grant Park 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake; Or if painting is your passion, there are beginning and intermediate classes on Monday, Jan. 10; Fees are \$60 and up depending on class. Call for more information and to register – (708) 343-5270.

Middle Eastern Belly Dancing, Ages 15+

This dance form has been used for centuries for exercise, fun and fitness. The class will strengthen your inner core muscles and improve flexibility. Please bring a hip scarf if you have one.

- Saturdays Jan. 8-Feb. 5, noon; Fee – R \$45/NR \$55. Class is held at Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park.

Early Childhood Classes

PeeWee Picassos Winter with Parent, Ages 2-4

Come out and beat the winter blues! Allow us to bring out your child's inner Picasso and create masterpieces they will be proud of. We will do free art with a variety of materials following a winter theme.

- Tuesdays, Jan. 25-Feb. 8, 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Fee – R \$29/NR \$44. Classes are held at Leoni Complex, 800 N.17th Ave., Melrose Park.

Sweet Treats and Crafts, Ages 3-6

Join us for a heart-themed class filled with crafts, songs and making snacks. Children will make colorful valentine-themed crafts and learn how to make yummy snacks. A fun cooking/craft combo class that will have everyone "loving" every moment!

- Thursdays, Feb. 3-17, 4:30-5:15 p.m.; Fee – R \$29/NR \$44. Class is held at Bulger Hall, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

Jitter Bugs with Parent, Ages 2-4

Let's move, let's groove, let's clap and dance to the beat! During this class little ones will want to get up on their feet and get their bodies moving! We will use instruments, play rhythm games and so much more!

- Tuesdays, March 1-15, 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Fee – R \$29/NR \$44. Classes are held at Bulger Hall, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

**Call us at (708) 343-5270, or
visit www.vpdpark.org or our Facebook Page
for more information.**

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.

CONNECT WITH US!



Cuomo To Go

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**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*



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**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

Veterans Park District

INDOOR GOLF SIMULATOR



**RESERVE A TEE TIME
CALL CIMBALO FITNESS CENTER at 708-343-5151**

Only \$ 40 per 1 hour rental.

Rentals are based per the hour. It might take one golfer at least one hour per 18-hole game.

We highly suggest booking at least 1 hour per player to allow time for practice swings and choosing a course.

Golfers, bring your own clubs, but please do NOT wear golf shoes. VPD will provide the golf balls. Clubs are re-quired to be clean.

Cimbalo Fitness Center

**1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park
(708) 343-5151**

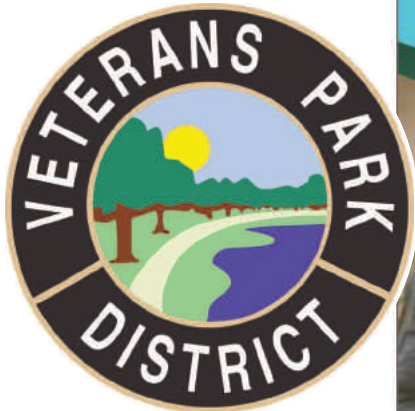


COMING SOON: Golf Lessons, Leagues and Tournaments!
CALL (708) 343-5151 TO BE PLACED ON THE INTEREST LIST.



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Veterans Park District

Programs & Happenings



CIMBALO FITNESS CENTER AND MUSEUM

A COMFORTABLE COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTER WITH FRIENDLY STAFF

FITNESS CENTER HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY • 6 AM-8 PM
SATURDAY-SUNDAY • 8 AM-2 PM

**BECOME
A MEMBER!**

Fees start as low as
44¢ a day!
No Joining Fees!

FITNESS STUDIO

Variety of group fitness classes held in our newly renovated studio, led by certified instructors.

YOUTH FITNESS ROOM

Youth fitness classes held in this room. **RACQUETBALL / HANDBALL /**

PICKLEBALL COURT FEES

Non-Prime Time (9 AM to 5:30 PM)...\$7

Prime Time (6 PM to close and weekends)...\$9

NEW! Pickleball! Guest Court fee \$ 4 (when accompanied by a member)

STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT

Cardio Area: Treadmills, Stair Climbers, Recumbent Bikes, Max Trainer and TV's with AudioFetch Technology.

Strength Training: Tons of Free Weights, Benches, Squat Racks, Olympic Plates, Squat Cage and Smith Machine. **Circuit Training Area:** Various Circuit Training Machines to strengthen and tone all major muscle groups.

Cross-Functional Training Room: Interval Training, Heavy Bags, Airdyne Bike, Rowing Machine, Battle Ropes, Kettle Bells, Agility Ladder, Pull-up Mounts and much more.

GOLF SIMULATOR FEES

1/2 Hour \$ 20

1 Hour \$40

Tee Times need to be reserved in advance.

Fitness Center Guest Fee \$7 per visit

YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEES*

When purchasing a membership, proof of residency must be a driver's license or a State ID and two utility bills.

Annual Membership	Resident	Nonresident
Adult (21 and up)	\$160	\$210
Junior (16-20)	\$150	\$190
Youth* (12-15)	\$140	\$180
Family** (4 members)	\$210	\$290
Active Adult (60 and older)	\$85	\$110

*Youth membership needs physician approval. Must be accompanied by an adult (18 or older) at all times.

** Family membership requires proof of residency for each family member to be included in membership.

**Corporate
Memberships
Available.**

708-343-5151

vpdpark.org

cimbalo@vpdpark.org

Cimbalo Fitness Center
1203 N. 24th, Melrose Park

 [@vpdfitness](https://www.facebook.com/vpdfitness)

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Haunt on Hirsch – Scary, But Loads of Fun!

Veterans Park District and the Melrose Park Youth Commission hosted Haunt on Hirsch on Friday, Oct. 22, at Bulger Park. The annual Halloween event was quite scary, but provided a lot of fun for everyone, including Melrose Park's Halloween superstar Anthony Alfano – who showed up in his *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* costume – with his parents (Deanna and Tony) and ABC7 reporter Jessie Kirsch.

Youth Commission and VPD representatives, Frank Matarrese, John Modugno, Mario Montoya, Eddie Coco, Bill Otte, Diane Sampson, Orlando Velasquez and Tom Olson were also there to join in the fun along with the large crowd of Halloween thrill seekers.

Though there was a threat of fright in the air – everyone had a real good time!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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(708) 386-9398

www.SLIPCOVERPLUS.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The team at Proviso Handyman wants to wish you a holiday season filled with joy and laughter. We wish you prosperity in the coming year and look forward to continuing the successful work. We want to give a warm holiday wish to all of you that have helped us this year.

Thank you and we truly appreciate your support!

PROVISO TOWNSHIP HANDYMAN DEPARTMENT

(708) 547-4001



Triton College NEWS

Register and Enroll Now for the Spring Semester, Classes Begin Jan. 18!

Students should try to select and enroll in spring semester courses now. It might seem early to do so, but it in fact is the best way to ensure a smooth registration process.

Students are busy and can sometimes procrastinate when selecting courses for the next semester. But Triton College faculty and staff encourage students to register as early as possible to alleviate possible hang-ups.

“Starting the application and enrollment process at the last minute creates long waiting periods for students to register for classes during the registration process,” said Ken Smith, director, Admissions. Also, when registration is delayed, students may not be able to select needed courses or course times that will fit in their schedules.

Early registration is beneficial for the following reasons:

1. Students have more courses to choose from.

By registering early, students have better course selection. There is more opportunity to select the preferred time and date of a particular course, selecting a desired professor and getting into classes that are important to completing the program of study.

2. Students can select classes that work best within a schedule.

Early registration also helps with managing responsibilities. Students can design a time management plan to balance class time, work, studying, and social and familial commitments. Students will have ample time to get books and other materials needed for class.

3. Get into classes only offered in particular semesters.

By registering early, students have better opportunities to get placement in classes they need for their specific program of study and attend any information sessions that are prerequisites for some specialized programs. Students are more likely to get classes needed to stay on track for graduation.

4. Have time to meet with academic advisors.

Students should also take advantage of early registration because it allows time to make appointments with academic advisors to review or make an academic plan. It also allows time to check in with the Financial Aid Office.

Three Easy Steps to Enrollment – Course Registration is Quick and Easy

We offer three easy enrollment options:

1. Complete an Application for Admissions – An electronic application can be started at www.Triton.edu. Just look for the yellow APPLY button on the upper right-hand side of the page. For additional information, please go to “Admissions and Aid” and select “Getting Started.”

2. Take Placement Test (or Submit Waiver) and Complete Success Navigator – All new degree-seeking students or those planning to take a course that requires college-level math or English must adhere to the course placement process. Course placement can be satisfied by using past work or through placement testing. New first-year students may be exempt from the placement test by demonstrating college-level proficiency through qualifying SAT scores or high school GPA. Please refer to Triton College’s Placement Measure for more information.

Please visit <https://www.triton.edu/students/testing-center/> to schedule an appointment.

3. Meet with an Academic Advisor – Triton has dedicated advisors to assist with course selection, academic plans and registration. Visit <https://www.triton.edu/admissions-aid/advising/> to determine when to meet virtually with an advisor.



Triton College Register Now!

A new semester means a fresh start.

Spring back with a high-quality Triton College education that's close to home.

We can help you get on track and stay on track.

We're ready to help you achieve your goals!

**Call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3130, or visit
www.triton.edu for more information.**



Triton College FOUNDATION

A 501(c)(3) organization.

Gifts to the Foundation are
tax deductible as allowed by law.

During This Season of Giving, Please Consider the Triton College Foundation for Your Year-End Gift ...

Your helping hand means a lot and together we can do some amazing things for our students!

The Foundation works to provide funding for scholarships, new programs and services, equipment and books, and helps maintain and operate Triton College facilities – benefitting the thousands of students and community members who visit the campus every day.

Visit www.triton.edu/about/triton-foundation/foundation-pledge and make a contribution to the fund of your choice.

For more information, please call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3758, or send an email to tcfoundation@triton.edu.

NO COST JOB TRAINING & PLACEMENT

triton.edu/WEI
Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI)

Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI)

Go from classroom to career!

Students from selected communities within the Triton College district are invited to apply for enrollment in short-term, **tuition-free**, career-focused programs that will put them on a path to a career in a year or less. Through the grant-funded Workforce Equity Initiative, Triton is offering high quality certificate programs in the fields of health, technology and business. Students who complete the program will be prepared for entry-level jobs that pay well above Cook County's minimum wage on average. Students accepted into the program will receive individualized support from staff as well as job placement assistance.

Residents of **Bellwood, Broadview, Elmwood Park, Forest Park, Hillside, Maywood, Melrose Park, Oak Park, River Grove, Rosemont and Stone Park** can apply. If you reside outside of the 11 towns, please contact the WEI staff for individual eligibility.



For additional information, please visit us at **triton.edu/WEI**
or call **(708) 456-0300, Ext. 3064**.

Certificate programs offered through this grant include:

- Cannabis Vocational
- Carpentry
- Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)
- Computer Technician
- Dental Assistant
- EKG Technician
- Greenhouse Grow Operations
- Medical Billing & Coding
- Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomy
- Plumbing
- Welding

No matter who you are or what you aspire to be ...

There's
a place
for you.



Triton College
triton.edu

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

NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS



Language Power

On Nov. 12, District 89 ESL Resource teachers, instructional coaches, and academic interventionists engaged in a day of professional learning with Academic Officer Jen Jump from Teacher Created Materials (TCM). Participants learned multiple strategies to support language learners at the elementary and middle school level with resources and protocols designed to be culturally and linguistically responsive.

Through the use of Language Power from TCM, educators will be able to “differentiate instruction all while delivering rigorous learning in listening, speaking, reading and writing – the four essential language domains.”

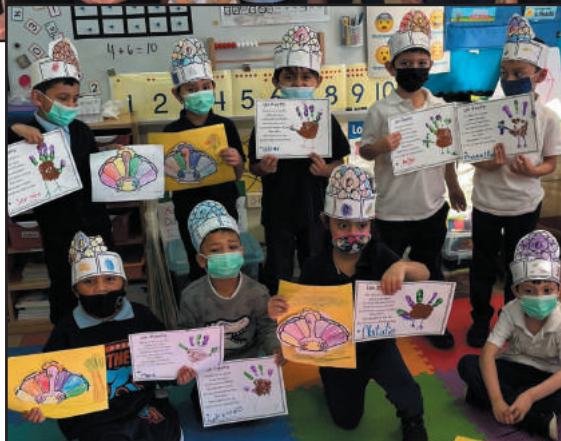


Lincoln Cheerleaders

Lincoln Lions are showing their school spirit!



Thanksgiving Crafts



www.maywood89.org



Family Workshops with Guest Artists from Mexico

Paridad Educational Consulting and Summit School District 104, in collaboration with North Berwyn District 98 and Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview District 89, welcomed teaching artists from the state of Oaxaca, Mexico to the area to support community learning focused on observance of El Dia de Muertos.

District 89 hosted two of the family workshops in the series.

On Wednesday, Nov. 4, D89 families enjoyed a workshop in which they learned how to paint “alebrijes.”

Paula Sanchez Gomez is master maker of “alebrijes” a traditional art form practiced by families for generations. Paulita and her husband, Florencio Fuentes Melchor, operate an alebrijes cooperative where community members are taught to design, carve and paint alebrijes. They have presented in numerous cities internationally. The Manos Creativas workshop has been awarded national presidential recognition.

On Thursday, Nov. 5, D89 families enjoyed a workshop in which they learned the history of dyeing with indigo.

Elsa Sanchez Diaz and Eric Chavez Santiago are master textile weavers from the Fe y Lola textile workshop y Teotitlan del Valle, Oaxaca. This family operated atelier receives international visitors for their renown weaving and dyeing workshops.

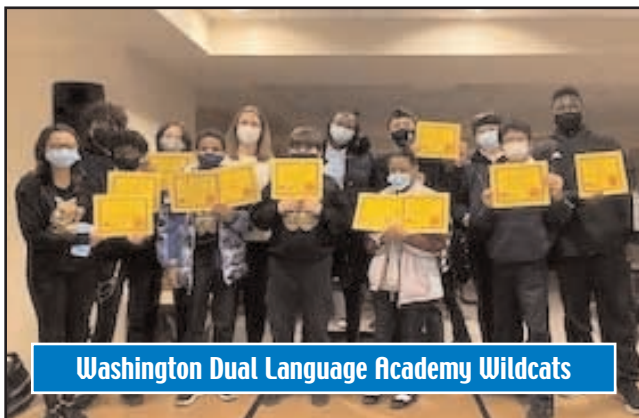
Follow Us on Twitter “@maywood89”

NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS

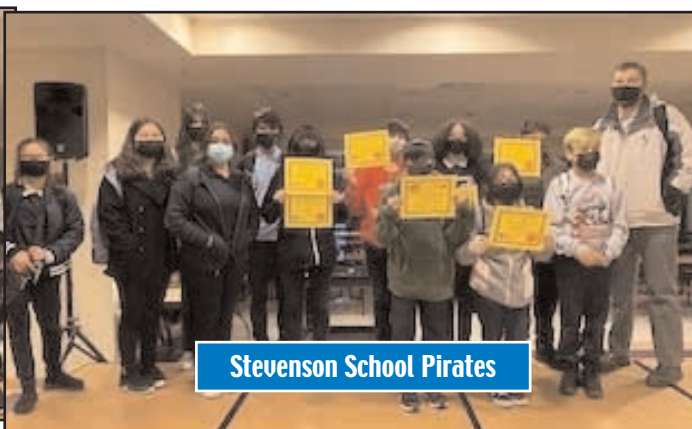


Nature Club at Jane Addams

Nature Club students at Jane Addams combined nature with art. The club members went on a nature hunt to find pieces for their artwork. Then they incorporated those pieces to create a nature collage!



Washington Dual Language Academy Wildcats



Stevenson School Pirates



Irving School Tigers

PMSA Math Competition

Congratulations WDLA Wildcats for winning 1st place in the overall PMSA Math Competition with a total of 21 points!

Congratulations Stevenson Pirates for winning 2nd place in the overall PMSA Math Competition with a total of 19 points!

Congratulations Irving Tigers for being a runner-up in the PMSA Math Competition with a total of 14 points!

Individual Winners – Sixth Grade

Alejandro G. – 1st place (WDLA) • Jordyn P. – 3rd place (WDLA) • Isaiah J. – Two 1st place awards (WDLA)

Jonathan J. – 3rd place (Stevenson Middle School) • Omar T. – 2nd place (Stevenson Middle School)

Elijah G. – 1st place and 3rd place (Stevenson Middle School) • Evelyn R. – 1st place and 2nd place (Stevenson Middle School)

Angely J. – 2nd place (Irving Middle School) • Mauricio C. – 2nd place (Irving Middle School) • Elsie S. – 3rd place (Irving Middle School)

Individual Winners – Seventh Grade

7th Grade: Tiffany T. – 1st place and 3rd place (WDLA) • TaMiyah W. – 1st place (WDLA) • Giovanni F. – 3rd place (Stevenson Middle School)

Gyselle G. – 1st place and 2nd place (Stevenson Middle School) • Yarelis T. – 1st place (Stevenson Middle School)

Isaiah D. – 2nd place (Irving Middle School) • Aaliyah H. – 2nd place (Irving Middle School)

Individual Winners – Eighth Grade

8th Grade: Emilio Vigil – 2nd place (WDLA) • James Alexander – 3rd place (WDLA) • Jonathan Mendoza – 1st place (WDLA)

Delia S. – 3rd place (Irving Middle School) • Kaelyn P. – 3rd place (Irving Middle School) • Dayanara T. – 2nd place (Irving Middle School)

Tyson C. – 3rd place (Irving Middle School)

www.maywood89.org

Fine Motor Club at Jane Addams

During Fine Motor Club students at Jane Addams use a variety of tools and materials to help develop their fine motor skills. Fine motor practice helps children strengthen the muscles in their hands and arms needed for writing, self-care (like zipping, teeth brushing, tying shoes) and manipulating small objects.



Stevenson Pirates Hold Fundraiser for Guitars for Vets

Students at Stevenson Middle School worked on various projects to celebrate Veterans Day. They created drawings and wrote letters which were sent to the local VA. They raised funds with an out-of-uniform day on Nov. 11, in which students could pay \$1 or more and wear red, white or blue. In total, students raised \$600 which was given to Guitars 4 Vets, enough to purchase three guitars! Pictured are sixth grade students meeting virtually with veterans from the Guitars 4 Vets organization. Stevenson students have been raising funds and supporting this organization for seven years.

Guitars 4 Vets is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to providing relief to struggling veterans through the healing power of music and community.

Follow Us on Twitter “@maywood89”

NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS

D89 Athletics has Expanded

District 89 athletics have been expanded this school year. After a long absence, sports are now back in our elementary schools. Schools will mirror the same format that the junior highs currently follow. In the fall, we have cheer, girls basketball, boys futsal (soccer) and cross country. Winter will bring a second season for cheer, boys basketball, girls volleyball and wrestling, concluding with girls futsal, boys volleyball and softball in the spring.

Over the past few months, we have made some new community partnerships, D89 has partnered with coach 'Al' Perez of Inter Youth Soccer Club. Al and his team have been an integral part of laying the foundation for our youth soccer program. They have worked with our players and coaches, focusing on skill development and knowledge of the game, where competition and sportsmanship is valued more than winning. District 89 has also partnered with the Maywood Park District and the village of Maywood to utilize the 200 Building on Fifth Avenue in Maywood to host all our boys' and girls' basketball games. Coach Aaron Matheson and Time to Run acted as the official time company for the West Suburban Conference Championship Meet this year at Proviso West High School, but he and his company were also the official timers for the Elementary Schools Cross Country Conference Meet. The athletes were so happy to wear bibs with chips that recorded their time.

Below are the results of our elementary school athletic programs along with our middle school fall accomplishments.

District 89 Elementary Schools

Wednesday, Oct. 13 @ Van Buren Grounds

Boys and Girls Cross Country Conference Meet Results

Top Team Finishers

1st – Jane Addams (95 points) • 2nd – Lincoln (114) • 3rd – Melrose Park (120)

Top Girls Finishers

1st – Isabella Caraballo (JA) • 2nd – Bridjet Montano (MP) • 3rd – Isabella Huerta (MP)

Top Boys Finishers

1st – Samuel Avalos (JA) • 2nd – Geovany Perez (RS) • 3rd – Johan Moreno (JA)

Monday, Nov. 8, 2021 @ Jane Addams School

Boys Futsal D89 Conference Tournament Champions

Washington Dual Language Academy – 1st Place

Melrose Park – Runner-up

Wednesday, Nov. 10 @ Boys and Girls Club (Maywood)

Girls Basketball Conference Champs

Roosevelt Lady Raiders – 1st Place • Garfield Lady Giants – Runner-up

West Suburban Conference Middle School Top Results

**Oct. 21, West Suburban Conference Boys and Girls Cross-Country Meet
Held at Proviso West High School**

Stevenson JV Boys Team – 2nd Place Overall Out of 13 Schools in the Area

Kaylin Perez (SMS) – 1st Place Girls JV 15:51 Time

Oct. 28, Unity Middle School, West Suburban Conference Boys Soccer

Stevenson JV Boys Soccer – 2nd Place

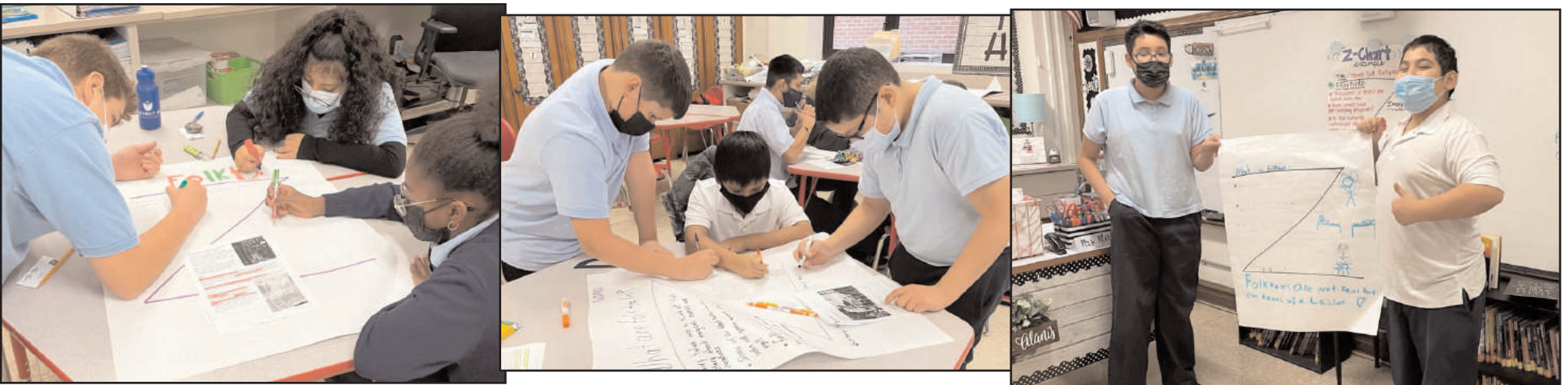


www.maywood89.org



ArtClubatStevenson

Stevenson's Art Club students get to explore their personal art interests as they experiment with various materials and media.



ZCharts

Some great things are happening at Stevenson. Featured here are Mrs. Alanis and Mr. Bautista's seventh grade ELA students collaborating on objective summaries while creating Z Chart posters and then presenting their summaries with their groups in class.

**Happy Holidays
from the
Board, Employees
and Students of
School District 89**



Follow Us on Twitter “@maywood89”

Cook County Commissioner Aguilar Partners with MP for Annual Toy Drive

Mayor Serpico Attends Kickoff at Melrose Park Walgreens



Cook County Commissioner Frank Aguilar (pictured, black suit, next to Mayor Serpico) has partnered with the village of Melrose Park, Walgreens, Chicagoland Toys for Tots and the Royal Group at this year’s annual toy drive.

The kickoff was held at the Melrose Park Walgreens located on 15th and North Avenue where toy collection bins have been setup for community members to drop off their holiday gifts.

Pictured at the press conference with Commissioner Aguilar and Mayor Serpico are representatives from Walgreens, Royal Group, Toys for Tots and the village of Melrose Park.

Municipal President of Durango Makes Stop in MP



The president of the municipality of Durango, Jorge Salum del Palacio, was in the United States recently and took time to travel to Melrose Park for a brief visit with Mayor Serpico.

The two respected leaders enjoyed the time they spent together exchanging conversation about current events, the municipalities they serve and their vision for the future.

President Salum del Palacio presented Mayor Serpico with a special award as a token of friendship, collaboration and fraternity.

Mayor Serpico was honored and grateful for the recognition and special gift.

Pictured with Mayor Serpico and President Salum del Palacio is Melrose Park Police Lt. Eddie Guzman.



Congratulations to the Kachappilly Family!

Congratulations to the Kachappilly family/Natalie Scanio top prize winners in the 2020 Mayor Serpico/Melrose Park Youth Commission Outdoor Holiday Decorating Contest.

The family is pictured accepting their award from members of the Melrose Park Youth Commission.

The top prize was \$150.

Thank you for joining in the seasonal fun and congratulations – you did an incredible job decorating your home for the holidays!

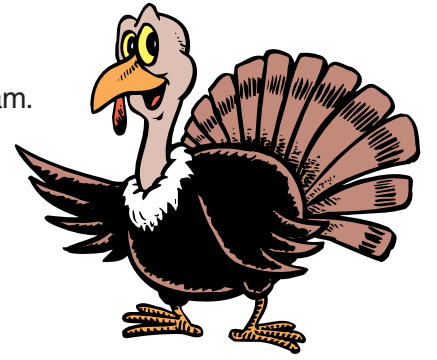
Thank You to All Melrose Park Thanksgiving Day Meal Delivery Volunteers!

Mayor Serpico offers a huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped with this year's Thanksgiving Meal Delivery Program.

More than 200 meals were delivered to Melrose Park's senior and disabled residents on Thanksgiving Day.

Representatives from Melrose Park's Homeland Security – Public Safety; Fire, Police and Public Works departments; the MP Senior Program; MP Youth Commission; and Veterans Park District helped deliver the delicious meals prepared by Cuomo Catering, Northlake.

Thank you to all the volunteers for making our community members' holiday special!



The ROSE Wants to Hear Your Story ...

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

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

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

Please send all your exciting details by direct mail to:

The Rose c/o The Village of Melrose Park

1000 N. 25th Ave.

Melrose Park, IL 60160

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

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

A Message from Fr. Leandro Fossá, C.S., Pastor The Parish of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

'FOR TODAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN FOR YOU WHO IS MESSIAH AND LORD'

Greetings from Fr. Leandro Fossá, C.S.

I am the pastor of our Lady of Mt. Carmel. It is so good to be back. I was here as a seminarian and I became a deacon at this parish. In fact, Melrose Park witnessed my first steps as a priest, young, unexperienced, bliss and blind to many things. I continue to be unexperienced and blind, but the youth has gone through my fingers with the ministry and traveling missions.



“For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord.”

Today, the Savior has been born. This is the good news of this Christmas Eve. Like every Christmas, Jesus is born again in the world, in each home, in our hearts. But unlike what our consumerist society celebrates, Jesus is not born in an environment of waste, purchases, comfort, whim and meals. Jesus is born in the humility of the Nativity scene.

And He does it this way because He has been refused by men: Nobody had wanted to house them, neither in homes nor in hostels. Mary, Joseph and the just born Jesus felt what rejection, lack of generosity and of solidarity mean. Later on, things will change with the Angel's announcement: “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord.” (Lk 2:10). Everybody will run towards the Nativity scene to adore the Son of God. A bit like in our society where many people are marginalized because they are poor, aliens or simply different from us while we celebrate Christmas speaking words of peace, solidarity and love.

We Christians are joyous today, we are rightfully happy. On the other hand, if we do not have true feelings of solidarity towards those who have been rejected, aliens or homeless people during these days, it is because we are like the inhabitants of Bethlehem: We do not welcome the infant Jesus in our hearts.

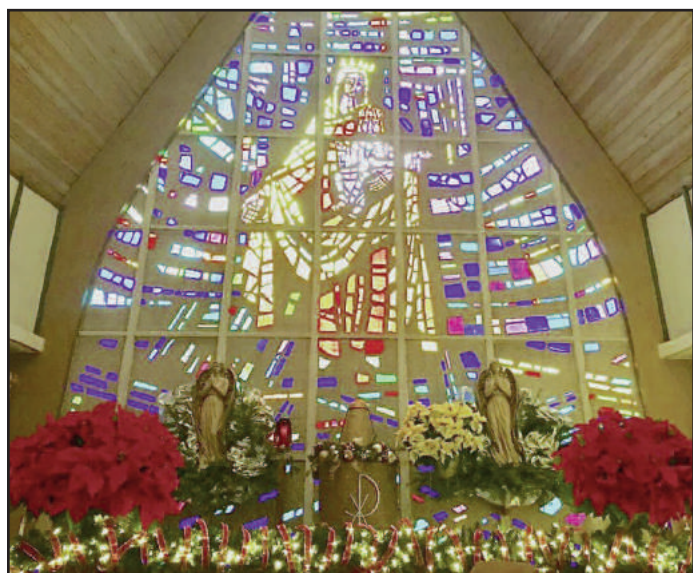
I wish a Merry Christmas to all the families of Melrose Park. I know that your home will be open to welcome those you love and, please, save a space to those who might show up unexpectedly and have nowhere to go nor no one to welcome them.

Merry Christmas! Christ has born! Yes, amid so much unexpected diseases, masks, violence, covid and desperation ...

Christ has born again. HE is our hope and the best gift from Christmas!

Fr. Leandro Fossá, C.S.

Pastor and Rector



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve/Friday, Dec. 24, 2021 – • 5 p.m. (English Mass) • 7 p.m. (Spanish Mass)
Midnight Mass (Trilingual/Christmas Carols Begin at 11 p.m.)

Christmas Day/Saturday, Dec. 25, 2021 – • 9 a.m. (English) • 10:30 a.m. (Italian)
• Noon (Spanish) • 5 p.m. (Spanish)

Sunday, Dec. 26, 2021 – Regular Sunday Schedule

New Year's Eve/Friday, Dec. 31, 2021 – • 5 p.m. (English Mass) • 7 p.m. (Spanish Mass)

New Year's Day/Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022 – • 9 a.m. (English) • 10:30 a.m. (Italian)
• Noon (Spanish) • 5 p.m. (Spanish)

A Savior is Born Unto us This Day



Sacred Heart & St. Eulalia Parish

Sacred Heart Church

819 N. 16th Ave. Melrose Park, IL

St. Eulalia Church

1845 S. 9th Ave. Maywood, IL

Please join us for
our Christmas &
New Year's Services!

Christmas Eve - DEC 24

4:30pm English Mass at **Sacred Heart**

6:00pm English Mass at **St. Eulalia**

10:00pm **Spanish Mass** at **Sacred Heart**

Christmas - DEC 25

8:30am English Mass at **Sacred Heart**

10:30am English Mass at **St. Eulalia**

12:00pm **Spanish Mass** at **St. Eulalia**

The Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Eve - DEC 31

4:30pm Mass at **Sacred Heart**

6:00pm Mass at **St. Eulalia**

New Year's Day - JAN 1

8:30am English Mass at **Sacred Heart**

10:30am English Mass at **St. Eulalia**

12:00pm **Spanish Mass** at **St. Eulalia**

*Christmas Greetings to You
and Your Loved Ones*

Parish Phone

708-344-0757

Parish Website

www.shsparish.org

Ascension Living Casa Scalabrini Village Named to Best Nursing Homes List



Ascension Living Casa Scalabrini Village, a skilled nursing facility and retirement community located at 420 North Wolf Road in Northlake, has been named by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of “America’s Best Long-term Care and Short-Stay Rehabilitation Centers.” *U.S. News and World Report* identified the best nursing homes for 2020-2021 after evaluating more than 15,000 sites nationwide, in every state and nearly 100 major metropolitan areas.

“This designation is a testament to the dedication, personalized care and service provided by every member of the Ascension Living Casa Scalabrini Village team who are driven by a commitment to delivering quality care and living out our mission,” said Danny Stricker, president, Ascension Living. “It truly is an honor to have Casa Scalabrini Village, as one of the 13 of our communities nationally recognized by this leading publication.”

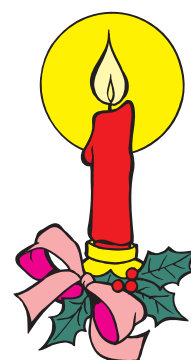
The 12th edition of the *U.S. News Best Nursing Homes* merges extensive information about care, COVID-19 vaccination requirements for residents and staff, flu and pneumonia vaccination rates, and infection control performance. This year’s methodology includes an emphasis on skilled nursing facilities meeting certain standards of resident safety. These standards include a minimum threshold for the staff COVID-19 vaccination rate, appropriate use of antipsychotic drugs and visits to the emergency department, among other criteria.

“*U.S. News* takes pride in providing relevant, up-to-date information when making any sort of health care decision,” said Zach Adams, health data engineer at *U.S. News*. “Profiles now include resident and staff COVID-19 vaccination rates alongside information on how to pay for a facility. This important information can help families, residents and caregivers make a decision that keeps safety and accessibility at the highest priority.”

About Ascension Living Casa Scalabrini Village

Ascension Living Carroll Manor offers a range of care, services and support options including independent living, short-term rehabilitation, memory support, as well as intermediate, respite and skilled nursing care. For more information about Ascension Living Carroll Manor, call (708) 562-4300 or visit ascensionliving.org/casascalabrini.

Ascension (www.ascension.org) is a faith-based health care organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading nonprofit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. In FY2021, Ascension provided \$2.3 billion in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs. Ascension includes approximately 150,000 associates and 40,000 aligned providers. The national health system operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 142 hospitals and more than 40 senior living facilities – in 19 states and the District of Columbia, while providing a variety of services including clinical and network services, venture capital investing, investment management, biomedical engineering, facilities management, risk management and contracting through Ascension’s own group purchasing organization.



Season's Greetings!

**MELROSE PARK
FREE METHODIST CHURCH
INDO AMERICAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year from
Melrose Park
Free Methodist Church
and the
Indo American
Community Church**

Join Us for Sunday Worship Services

On behalf of the Melrose Park Free Methodist Church and the Indo American Community Church, we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Melrose Park Free Methodist Church – Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m.

The Melrose Park Free Methodist Church invites you to join us every Sunday at 11:30 a.m. for worship. All are welcome. We are a bilingual church.

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

Indo American Community Church – Sunday Worship, 5:30 p.m.

The Indo American Community Church invites you to join us every Sunday at 5:30 p.m. for worship. All are welcome.

For more information, please call (708) 715-2715.

**The Melrose Park Free Methodist Church and the
Indo American Community Church are located at 841 Elsie,
at the corner of Ninth Ave. and Elsie Drive.**

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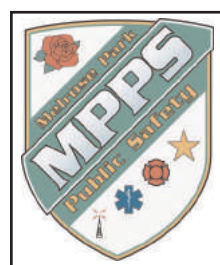


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Are You Interested in Being More Involved in Your Community?



The Village of Melrose Park Departments of Homeland Security – Public Safety is currently accepting applications for volunteers. The department has varying areas for you to choose from. Training is free, all it costs is your time and effort.

There are many areas of specialty training to choose from. Don't just sit on the sidelines and be an armchair quarterback, get involved in your community today.

Experience the thrill and excitement of being involved in the special events that happen every year in the village of Melrose Park. From the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel to the Taste of Melrose Park and HispanoFest, be involved every step of the way in these activities.

Don't wait **VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

For more information, call (708) 649-8080 or visit our website at www.mpdes.org.

Franciscan Resource Center Offers Local Assistance

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

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

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

Centro De Recursos Franciscanos

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

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

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



Santa and Mrs. Claus Make an Early Stop at Winston Plaza Large Crowd Eagerly Awaits Arrival by Helicopter

On Saturday, Nov. 20, a large crowd gathered in the Winston Plaza parking lot to experience the annual helicopter arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The children really enjoyed speaking with Santa and taking photos with the jolly old man in the big red suit to power up the sparkle of the season.

Free fun for everyone included carolling, a magic show, face painting, balloon art, kids crafts and more!

Melrose Park thanks Winston Plaza for hosting another fun and crowd-pleasing community event.



Fr. Miguel Recognized for 25 Years of Service ... Silver Jubilee Celebration Held on Nov. 21



Fr. Miguel Álvarez recently celebrated 25 years of being ordained a Scalabrinian priest. After his ordination in Durango, he served the Scalabrini missionary mainly focusing in the field of Seminarian formation in Los Angeles, México City and Rome. He then served as associate pastor of Santa Maria Addolorata in Chicago before coming to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish & Shrine as pastor and rector.

In 2017, he was elected as provincial superior of the Scalabrinian Missionaries in the St. John the Baptist Conference and is currently serving his second term in office overseeing the mission service of the Scalabrinian Confreres in five different countries.

His anniversary was celebrated on Sunday, Nov. 21, with a Mass followed by a reception in Carmel Hall at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish. In attendance were many parishioners and friends as well as Mayor Ronald Serpico and other village officials.

Walgreens Now Providing All COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters for Individuals Ages 18 and Older

Individuals Can Schedule Appointments Through the Walgreens App or [Walgreens.com/ScheduleVaccine](https://www.walgreens.com/ScheduleVaccine)

Walgreens recently announced that all individuals over the age of 18 can now receive a Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine booster in stores nationwide. This follows the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) recent decision to expand Emergency Use Authorization for Pfizer and Moderna booster vaccines to all individuals 18 and older, in addition to new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Individuals can schedule appointments through the Walgreens app, by visiting [Walgreens.com/ScheduleVaccine](https://www.walgreens.com/ScheduleVaccine) or by calling 1-800-WALGREENS.



"Expanding eligibility for booster doses provides yet another tool to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, especially at a time when many people are gathering for the holidays," said Kevin Ban, M.D., chief medical officer for Walgreens. "As friends and family look to reconnect, Walgreens remains committed to offering convenient access to vaccinations that are critical to helping protect our communities – from COVID-19 primary vaccines and booster shots to flu immunizations."

What You Need to Know About Expanded Booster Eligibility

- CDC Guidance: Adults 18 and older who completed their Pfizer or Moderna primary vaccine series at least six months ago or received a Johnson & Johnson dose at least two months ago are now recommended to receive a Pfizer, Moderna or J&J COVID-19 vaccine booster shot.
- Scheduling an Appointment: For the best experience, individuals are highly encouraged to use the Walgreens app or visit [Walgreens.com/ScheduleVaccine](https://www.walgreens.com/ScheduleVaccine) to secure a vaccination appointment in advance. When scheduling an appointment, individuals will be asked to verify eligibility and provide the manufacturer and date of their last COVID-19 vaccine. For more information, visit [Walgreens.com/covidvaccine](https://www.walgreens.com/covidvaccine).

Walgreens and Mental Health America Team Up to Raise Funds and Provide Mental Health Support This Holiday Season

Walgreens Launches Virtual 'Swear Jar' Aiming to Raise \$1.5 Million with Consumers, Turning Holiday Frustrations into Support and Services for Others

This December, Walgreens and Mental Health America (MHA) are teaming up to provide support for mental health this holiday season. Together, Walgreens and MHA are asking people to donate to a virtual 'Swear Jar' when they experience the inevitable holiday hiccups that make them want to yell out a 'humbug.' MHA is the leading community based nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing the needs of those living with mental illness and to promoting the overall mental health of all Americans.

"During the holidays, customers and patients often turn to Walgreens for quick solutions to stressors like finding the perfect last-minute gift or filling a prescription when sick, but we recognize there are often other challenging emotions many face during this busy time of year," said Pat McLean, chief marketing officer at Walgreens. "That's why we're collaborating with Mental Health America this season to bring customers together to find a silver lining in moments of frustration and turn them into donations that provide support and resources to those facing mental health challenges."

To show its commitment to support and well-being for all, Walgreens has made a one-time \$500,000 donation and is matching every dollar donated to Mental Health America via the 'Swear Jar,' up to an additional \$500,000 through Dec. 31.* In partnership with our customers, we hope to donate up to \$1.5 million.

"We are thrilled to team up with Walgreens, especially at such a stressful time of year, to raise critical funds for mental health advocacy, services, and supports," said Schroeder Stribling, president and CEO of MHA, "Walgreens' initial donation, combined with their matching commitment, will allow MHA to assist thousands of people in taking steps to improve their overall mental health this holiday season – and throughout next year."

In 2020, depression and anxiety severity among those taking an online screening with Mental Health America reached the highest levels all year during the holiday months – November and December. Contributions from this campaign will go towards helping this holiday season and year-round funding for MHA's free screening program, public education initiatives and advocacy efforts to push for access to mental health care for all.

Customers who wish to donate to the 'Swear Jar' are encouraged to visit mhanational.org/swearjar and can donate any dollar amount.

If you or someone you know needs support this holiday season, please visit mhanational.org/holidays for resources and information.

*Donations must be made online at mhanational.org/swearjar. Walgreens will be making an initial donation of \$500,000 ("Initial Donation"), and then doing a dollar for dollar match for all public donations, up to a maximum of an additional \$500,000 ("Matching Donation") through Dec. 31, 2021, for a total of up to \$1 million ("Total Donation") donated on the part of Walgreens. For additional details on Mental Health America, visit mhanational.org. Walgreens will post a notification on mhanational.org/swearjar when Walgreens has met the \$500,000 matching donation limit.



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.



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Better Business Bureau, Illinois Utilities Warn Families and Businesses about End-of-Year Scams

Holiday Season Often Leads to Increased Scam Activity

During the holidays, individuals falsely claiming to work for utilities have historically tried to take advantage of people's busy, end-of-year schedules to scam families and businesses out of money and personal information.

To increase awareness of scams and scam attempts, the Better Business Bureau, along with representatives from ComEd, Nicor Gas, North Shore Gas and Peoples Gas, joined forces recently to provide tips to help Chicago-area customers identify scams this holiday season.

Steve Bernas, president and CEO of The Better Business Bureau of Chicago and Northern Illinois states, "The number of reported scams generally rises with the holidays. Nationally, there has been an uptick in people claiming to be utility company workers over the past several years. In fact, they are scam artists who pose as utility workers and who usually target customers through door-to-door visits and phone calls."

In recent years, scammers have gotten deceptively creative with increased calls, texts, emails and in-person tactics, contacting electric and gas customers asking for immediate payment to avoid service disconnection.

In a door-to-door scam, someone impersonating a utility worker will visit customers' homes looking to get money and personal or account information. In some cases, the scammer will try to lure the customer out of their home so that another scammer can enter and steal their belongings.

While types of phone scams vary, they usually feature individuals posing as utility employees stating that a customer's billing cycle has changed and payment is needed immediately, or that the customer's account is past due and immediate payment is required to avoid disconnection of service.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, consumers nationwide reported losing more than \$3.3 billion to fraud in 2020 – up significantly from \$1.8 billion from 2019. Nearly \$1.2 billion of losses reported last year were due to imposter scams.

Utility Representatives Weighed In

- Nichole Owens, vice president of customer channels, ComEd: "With scammers increasing their activity ahead of the holidays, ComEd is committed to helping customers identify potential schemes so they don't unwittingly send their money and personal information to fraudsters. We're pleased to join the Better Business Bureau and other local utilities to share tips and advice that can help customers spot these scams and avoid falling victim to them."
- Pat Whiteside, senior vice president of operations at Nicor Gas: "There are more resources and support available than ever before to help Nicor Gas customers. Together with the Better Business Bureau and local utilities, we are increasing our customers' awareness, which is the best defense against dangerous scams and tactics."
- Polly Eldringhoff, vice president, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas: "The safety of our customers is a top priority in everything we do. That includes helping protect our customers from scammers who may be after people's personal data and hard-earned money. Raising awareness and educating consumers about the issue is critical to preventing problems."

ComEd, Nicor Gas, North Shore Gas and Peoples Gas are among 150 U.S. and Canadian energy companies that recognized Nov. 14-20 as Utility Scam Awareness Week, a weeklong annual campaign created by Utilities United Against Scams to raise awareness and help educate customers on the tactics used by scammers.

The Illinois utilities also remind customers that representatives of their companies always carry proper identification and never use aggressive or intimidating tactics to pressure them into making a payment, nor will they ask for cash or a customer's personal or financial information.

Don't Get Scammed

Customers can avoid being scammed by taking a few precautions:

- Never provide Social Security, bank or personal information to anyone initiating contact with you claiming to be a utility representative.
- Always ask to see a company photo ID before allowing any utility worker into your home or business.
- When in doubt, check it out. Be skeptical of individuals wearing clothing with old or defaced company logos. If you have any doubts, ask to see a company photo ID.
- Never make payment for services to anyone coming to the door or to anyone calling to demand you to make a direct payment with a prepaid cash card, cryptocurrency or third-party banking app.

Utility customers who suspect or experience fraud should hang up, delete the email or shut the door; then immediately contact local authorities, followed by a call to the utility's customer care center phone number listed on their billing statement.



Governor Pritzker Announces Applications Now Open for Nearly \$300 Million in Additional COVID-19 Emergency Assistance for Illinois Renters and Landlords

Building on Illinois' COVID-19 support response for Illinois renters and landlords, the Illinois Housing Development Authority announced that applications are now open for the second round of the Illinois Rental Payment (ILRPP) Program, which Gov. Pritzker announced on Oct. 27.



The reopening of ILRPP will provide an additional \$297 million to renters and landlords in an effort to prevent evictions and keep families safe and secure while they regain their financial footing. It is the third major housing relief initiative in response to the pandemic in Illinois, with the state executing the nation's best assistance program in 2020.

Applications will be accepted now through 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022, at illinoishousinghelp.org. IHDA will begin processing applications as they are submitted and money from this round will begin to be distributed to approved Illinoisans before the end of the calendar year. The additional ILRPP funding is expected to assist more than 32,500 Illinois households.

"I came into the governor's office with a promise to rebuild and revitalize Illinois' social services sector. That begins with doing everything possible so Illinoisans can find an affordable home and stay there," said Gov. JB Pritzker. "Even with all the challenges of the pandemic, we are delivering on that promise. Illinois has given out more of our rental assistance to help vulnerable renters and their landlords than any other state. We are first in the nation at putting those dollars to work to support our state's residents."

"The need for housing assistance continues to be great in the face of the continued challenges brought on by the pandemic," said Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton. "We see the struggle and stand with residents as our administration continues to put policies and resources to work to decrease homelessness in Illinois. Housing is also about being well and ensuring we can keep families housed is key to keeping Illinoisans safe and healthy during these unprecedented times."

ILRPP provides direct funding to support Illinois tenants unable to pay their rent due to a COVID-19-related loss of income. Approved applicants will receive one-time grants of up to \$25,000 paid directly to their landlords on their behalf. If the landlord chooses not to participate in the program, tenants may receive payments directly to make rental payments. In this application round, assistance will cover up to 18 months of emergency rental payments, including up to 15 months of missed payments and up to three months of future payments. Rent owed from June 2020 through April 2022 may be paid for with ILRPP funds. Priority will be given to households earning less than 50 percent of AMI and to households with one or more members who have been unemployed for at least 90 days.

"The initial round of the Illinois Rental Payment Program highlighted the continued need for assistance as we continue our recovery from this terrible pandemic," said IHDA Executive Director Kristin Faust. "As we reopen this vital assistance program to help Illinois families, seniors and the most vulnerable, Gov. Pritzker is continuing to work with Treasury and our elected officials to advocate for additional funding to ensure no one is forced from their home as a result of COVID-19."

Tenant Eligibility Requirements

1. Household lives in Illinois and rents their home as their primary residence.
2. Household must have experienced a financial hardship directly or indirectly due to the pandemic.
3. Household income is below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), adjusted for household size.
4. Household must have an unpaid rent balance.
5. Proof of citizenship is not required. Rental assistance is not a "public charge" benefit.
6. Tenants residing in state- or federally-subsidized housing are eligible to apply.

"Housing is a right and keeping people in their homes is one of the most important things we can do to continue fighting COVID-19. These new Emergency Rental Assistance funds will prevent homelessness and foreclosures, and help people regain the financial stability they lost during the pandemic and get back on their feet," said Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García (IL-04).

Renters may apply for ILRPP assistance even if they received emergency rental assistance in the past through IHDA or one of the other units of government administering federal rental assistance. Households that received previous assistance, however, may not receive more than 18 months of total combined assistance, regardless of the source. In addition, households that received federal rental assistance previously may not receive further ILRPP payments for those same months previously covered. IHDA will adjust the ILRPP grant amount in these situations to avoid duplication of assistance.

"While the pandemic created widespread financial hardship across our state, it was households with the lowest incomes, and too often people of color, who shouldered a disproportionate share of the burden," state Rep. Barbara Hernandez (D-Aurora) stated. "We needed to do all that we could to deploy ILRPP assistance as quickly and as equitably as possible, and we will continue to work with IHDA, IDHS and others to ensure those hard-hit households continue to receive the help and support they need to save their homes."

In the first ILRPP application round, IHDA approved more than 62,400 applications and paid out \$571 million on behalf of renters experiencing pandemic-related hardships. Approximately 55 percent of the approved applications assisted households who had been unemployed for more than 90 days and 87 percent of approvals assisted very-low-income households

to keep vulnerable tenants in their homes. The program provided an average of \$9,152 per household. Since 2020, the Pritzker administration has provided over \$800 million in emergency rental assistance to help keep more than 108,500 Illinois seniors, families and others safely housed. "I own three buildings with 17 rental units and, when that pandemic hit, I had tenants who struggled and could not pay rent due to loss of jobs or a reduction of income," said property owner Luis Campoverde. "I work hard to pay my bills and to pay my mortgage, but the mortgage companies did not have any assistance for me and loss of rent meant loss of ability to pay my bills. Luckily, I was able to get rental assistance through ILRPP for five of my tenants, and I want to share how happy I was to have this program available for my tenants and all the others out there still struggling."

According to the latest report released from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Illinois continues to be a national leader in providing critical emergency rental assistance to vulnerable households impacted by the pandemic. Illinois leads all other states in disbursing the initial emergency rental assistance from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, with 94 percent of all funds allocated to the state, as well as directly to other municipalities, now in the hands of eligible renters and landlords as they regain their financial footing.

"The Illinois Rental Payment Program is an extraordinary effort between state and local agencies, the General Assembly and nonprofit agencies throughout the state strenuously working to deliver more than half a billion dollars in direct financial assistance to renters, landlords and the communities in which they reside," said Michelle Gilbert, legal director of the nonprofit Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing. "Illinois has been a national leader in its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, but we're not done yet. More help is on the way, and I encourage anyone still struggling to pay their rent to apply for ILRPP assistance now."

This new round of ILRPP is funded through an appropriation in the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2), which was signed into law by President Joe Biden in March 2021. The \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus relief designed to speed up recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic included \$21.55 billion allocated for state and local government rental assistance programs. IHDA and the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) are the two agencies with the lead responsibility to provide statewide rental assistance on behalf of the state of Illinois. In addition, IHDA will be partnering with additional grantees in administering this vital assistance program to ensure this assistance gets to renters and landlords as expeditiously as able.

"Having stable housing is critical to families recovering from the economic impact of COVID-19," said Grace B. Hou, secretary, Illinois Department of Human Services. "IDHS and our nonprofit partners are committed to provide linguistically and culturally-appropriate housing and legal assistance needed to prevent eviction and homelessness for those who need it most." In addition to ILRPP, as an extension and expansion of its current efforts, IDHS is assisting with the deployment of housing, utilities and legal assistance. The department also offers other types of support for those who are at risk of homelessness, providing direct legal representation and mediation, court-based rental assistance support and intensive case management interventions to address other barriers to housing stability that people may face. The available support services are designed with equitable policies and practices that focus on those most impacted by COVID-19 and those communities most vulnerable to experiencing homelessness.

**For more information and updates on the program,
please visit illinoishousinghelp.org.**

Illinois Launches Holiday Vaccine Campaign

With the holiday season here, the state of Illinois has launched a new awareness campaign promoting the COVID-19 vaccine as the "greatest gift" you can give this year. Kids age 5 and up are now eligible for the life-saving vaccine and doses are widely available across the state – from first doses to pediatric vaccines to booster shots.

The Illinois Department of Public Health has published updated holiday guidance recognizing the protective power of the vaccines. As experts have advised, vaccinated families can safely return to treasured traditions, while unvaccinated individuals are urged to get their life-saving shot and follow other guidelines around travel and gatherings.

"As we look forward to a return to a holiday season filled with family and friends, the greatest gift you can give is to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID-19," said Gov. JB Pritzker. "As a father, I was relieved when my kids got vaccinated because I know they're protected from getting sick with this deadly virus. I urge all parents to protect their families with the incredibly effective COVID-19 vaccine."

"Vaccines work and are our best way to protect ourselves and those closest to us as we celebrate the holidays," said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. "We've all gone through a lot over the last two years and being fully vaccinated gets us one step closer to once again celebrating our cherished traditions. Getting your life-saving shot is the greatest gift you can give this holiday season."

The campaign will appear in every corner of Illinois and contains the following videos:

- Protect Kids (:30)
- Easier Than Ever (:15)
- Boosters Are Here (:15)
- Widely Available (:06)
- Friends and Family (:15)

The campaign will reach Illinoisans statewide in both English and Spanish through a variety of traditional and online media channels, including cable, broadcast and connected TV; streaming audio and radio; billboards and bus shelters; digital display and video; print and social media. Like other coronavirus-related expenses, costs are reimbursable by the federal government.

To download the videos, audio and images for the 'The Greatest Gift You Can Give' campaign, visit <https://www2.illinois.gov/IISNews/24168-DPH-The-Greatest-Gift-Holiday-Campaign-Toolkit.pdf>.

'The Greatest Gift You Can Give' is part of the state's larger All in Illinois effort, backed by doctors and public health experts, encouraging Illinoisans to protect themselves and their neighbors from COVID-19 by wearing masks in public and getting vaccinated as soon as possible.



Check Out These December and January 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

Take some time to explore
our website at
www.fpdcc.com.

Dawn Owl Prowl – Sunday, Dec. 19, 5:30 a.m.

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

Listen for owls as part of the annual Christmas Bird Count with John Elliot from Chicago Audubon. Ages 10 and up. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Registration required – Call Trailside at (708) 366-6530.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Winter Break-Out Adventure – Tuesday, Dec. 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Thatcher Woods (Chicago Ave., West of Thatcher Ave., River Forest)

Come out for fun and adventure during winter break. Snowshoeing (conditions permitting), hikes, crafts and other winter-related activities will be offered. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Registration required – Call (312) 533-5751/experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov.

Cost – Free.

Solstice Bonfire, Stories, and Dance – Tuesday, Dec. 21, 6:30-8 p.m.

Thatcher Woods (Chicago Ave., West of Thatcher Ave., River Forest)

Join us 'round the bonfire for a sampling of stories from many cultures, join in a solstice dance by dance troupe Terrain, and enjoy hot chocolate and s'mores. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Story Trail: "The Snowy Day" – Friday, Dec. 24-Sunday, Dec. 26 • 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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

Take a walk on a short trail near Trailside Museum and read a story along the way. Afterwards, get an activity bag at the museum so you can start your own adventure with crafts and activities. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Nature in Spanish: Oler (To Smell) – Sunday, Dec. 26, 11 a.m.

Facebook Live from Sand Ridge Nature Center

Learn some common nature words and phrases in Spanish as we explore a different nature topic each month. Beginners welcome.

Contact – (224) 501-6634/sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Ask a Bird Nerd – Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1 p.m.

Facebook Live from Sand Ridge Nature Center

Bring your bird and birding questions to have them answered during this interactive Facebook Live.

Contact – (224) 501-6634/sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

A Secret Winter Ecosystem – Wednesday, Dec. 29, 1:30 p.m.

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

The winter can appear barren of wildlife, but surprisingly so much is happening above, within and beneath the snow. Join us for a walk to see what is going on! All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Registration required – Call Trailside at (708) 366-6530.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

New Year's Resolution Walk – Sunday, Jan. 2, 1:30 p.m.

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

Fulfill your resolution of being more active by taking a brisk guided walk on our trails. Ages 18 and up. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Registration required – Call Trailside at (708) 366-6530.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Fitness Hike – Wednesday, Jan. 5, 10 a.m.

Brezina Woods (N La Grange Rd., South of W Cermak Rd., Near La Grange Park)

Fitness hikes are for those looking to get some exercise outdoors. Fitness hikes will be faster paced with little to no stopping or interpretation. This hike is 6 miles. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Registration required – Register at <https://tinyurl.com/brezina6>.

Contact – (312) 533-5751/experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Small Serendipity – Wednesday, Jan. 5, 10 a.m.

Facebook Live from River Trail Nature Center

River Trail's staff talks with you about nature and provides you with instructions for making a craft at home. Supplies for craft at home are available at River Trail for pickup, if needed, starting Jan. 3. Ages 4-8.

Contact – (847) 824-8360. Cost – Free.

Evening Snowshoe Hike – Thursday, Jan. 6, 5:30 p.m.

Camp Bullfrog Lake (9600 Wolf Rd., Willow Springs)

Explore the Forest Preserves on snowshoes! Stop by to try out snowshoes and go on a short hike at the campgrounds. 4 inches of snow is required. Snowshoes will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis. No registration required. If there is no snow, we will take a stroll through the preserves on foot. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Contact – (708) 386-4042/experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Winter Bird Walk – Saturday, Jan. 8 • 8:30 a.m.

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

We'll observe bird feeder action then head out for a trail walk. Binoculars available. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Registration required – Call Trailside at (708) 366-6530.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Story Trail: "Over and Under the Snow" – Saturday, Jan. 8-Sunday, Jan. 9 • 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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

Take a walk on a short trail near Trailside Museum and read a story along the way. Afterwards, get an activity bag at the museum so you can start your own adventure with crafts and activities. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Nature in Spanish: Los Pinos (The Pines) – Saturday, Jan. 8, 10 a.m.

Facebook Live from Sand Ridge Nature Center

Learn some common nature words and phrases in Spanish as we explore a different nature topic each month. Beginners welcome.

Contact – (224) 501-6634/sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

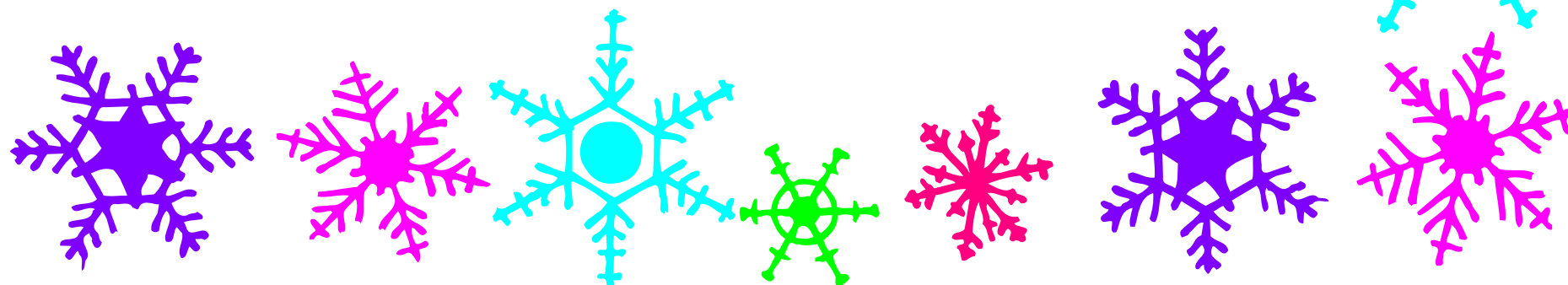
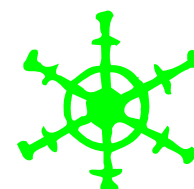
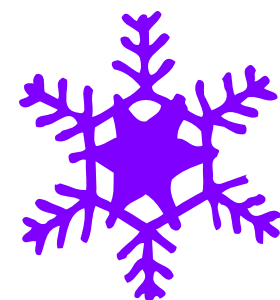
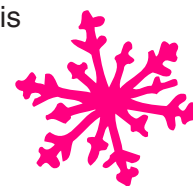
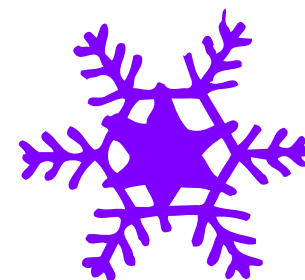
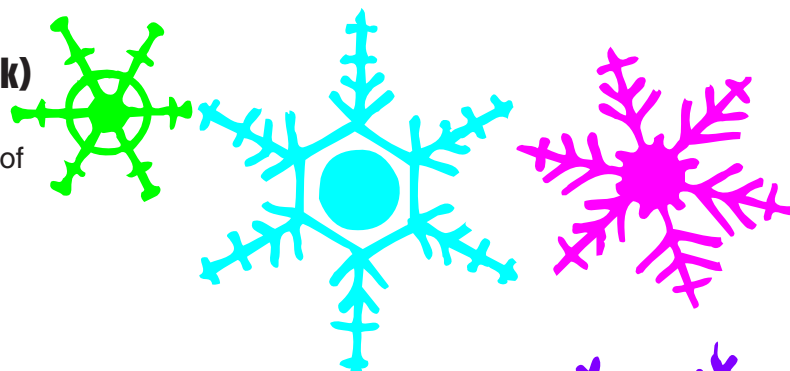
Bird Painting Workshop Step-by-Step: Blue Jay – Friday, Jan. 14, 1-3:45 p.m.

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

Sketch and paint a local bird using a 9" x 12" canvas and acrylic paints. For both beginners and more experienced artists. All materials provided. Ages 15 and up. All visitors over 2 years of age must wear a mask indoors at all times. Unvaccinated visitors should also wear a mask outdoors when physical distancing (6 feet from other people) is not possible.

Registration required – Call Trailside at (708) 366-6530.

Contact – (708) 366-6530/trailside.museum@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – \$5.





News from the Zoo!

Holiday Magic® at Brookfield Zoo Celebrates 40 Years of Festive Fun

Enjoy the festive season with family and friends at Brookfield Zoo's 40th annual Holiday Magic®, presented by ComEd and Meijer. The event takes place now-Dec.19, and Dec. 26-31, 3-9 p.m. (Brookfield Zoo will not open until 3 p.m. on Holiday Magic days.) Prior to arriving at the zoo for an evening filled with memorable moments, guests are required to secure advanced admission and parking tickets online at CZS.org/HolidayMagic.

As Chicagoland's longest-running lights festival, Holiday Magic® features over two million twinkling LED lights. Several new features have been added to this year's event, including the "Sea of Lights." Featuring more than two miles of colorful, sparkling lights, the zoo's entire West Mall has been transformed into a magical creation of waves immersing guests in the holiday spirit. Adjacent to the spectacular display, guests can feel the season's cheer while strolling through the 600-foot-long "Tunnel of Lights," presented by Xfinity, synchronized to music.

Guests will be mesmerized as they look up at the zoo's 41-foot-tall tree, which is back and better than ever. Located at the north entrance, the showstopping attraction is adorned with thousands of brilliantly colored LED lights and choreographed to seasonal tunes. Additionally, the walkways along the zoo's malls and around Roosevelt Fountain shine with more than 700 community and corporate trees decorated with ornaments. And, larger-than-life illuminated animal sculptures, including a giraffe, bison, bear and reindeer, add to the ambiance throughout the park.

Also new this year, is a 3-D, 16-foot-tall gingerbread house, presented by T-Mobile, that guests can walk through and is the perfect backdrop for a family snapshot. Additional photo opportunities await inside the ever-popular luminous 20-foot-tall orb aglow with thousands of sparkling lights, a holiday-themed festive frame and even a Santa Claus cutout.

Guests of all ages can play the Game of Gnomes and embark on a fun-filled scavenger hunt in search of 25 enchanting locations. Each whimsical gnome measures between 12 to 20 inches high that can be found around the zoo.

Several indoor and outdoor animal habitats, including Tropic World, Pachyderm House, Big Cats, Swamp, Feathers and Scales, Reptiles and Birds, Living Coast, Hamill Family Wild Encounters (reindeer and goats only), Seven Seas underwater viewing gallery, Great Bear Wilderness, Australia House (access to front section only) and Hamill Family Play Zoo, are open during Holiday Magic. All indoor animal buildings close at 8:30 p.m., with the exception of Tropic World and Hamill Family Play Zoo, which close at 8 p.m. In addition, Dolphins in Action presentations (extra fee applies) are at 4 and 6 p.m. each night of Holiday Magic®.

Kids can deposit their written greetings and drawings for the animals in a designated box, as well as drop off letters to Santa Claus in a giant red box, both located on the zoo's South Mall.

The fun doesn't stop at holiday lights – guests can take a spin on the skating rink, located on the East Mall. The rink is made of synthetic plastic known as Glice® – a material composed of heat-pressed layers of polymers – so no water or electricity is required for operation. The cost for unlimited time for all skaters on the rink is \$7. A limited number of skates are available to rent for a \$5 fee. Skaters are welcome to bring their own skates.

In addition, restaurants and food stands featuring holiday-themed fare are available to purchase and gift shops offering unique gift ideas also are open for holiday shopping.

Reservation times for Holiday Magic are available in 15-minute increments. Zoo admission and parking tickets, which must be reserved in advance at CZS.org/HolidayMagic, are \$24.95 for adults, \$17.95 for children ages 3-11, and \$19.95 for seniors 65 and over. Parking is \$15. All tickets are nonrefundable.



As guests enter Brookfield Zoo's south gate during Holiday Magic®, they are greeted by the iconic lion statues adorned with wreaths, as well as a 16-foot-tall gingerbread house – a perfect backdrop for a family photo. (Photo – CZS-Brookfield Zoo.)

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

Brookfield Zoo Skating Rink Reopens – All Ages Welcome

Skate during the winter season! Brookfield Zoo's skating rink on the East Mall reopened on Saturday, Nov. 13. Bring the family to circle the rink, and then stroll around the park to see everyone's favorite animals.

The zoo's 40-foot x 80-foot skating rink is not made of ice, but of a synthetic plastic known as Glice® – a material composed of heat-pressed layers of polymers – so no water or electricity is required for operation.

The rink will be open 3-9 p.m., during the zoo's 40th annual Holiday Magic® – now-Dec. 19, and Dec. 26-31. Guests of all ages can enjoy Brookfield Zoo's skating rink on select days. Check the zoo's website at CZS.org for details.

The cost for unlimited time for all skaters is \$7. A limited number of skates are available to rent for a \$5 fee. Skaters are welcome to bring their own skates.



Guests of all ages can enjoy Brookfield Zoo's skating rink on select days. Check the zoo's website at CZS.org for details. (Photos – CZS-Brookfield Zoo.)

Brookfield Zoo's Ring-tailed Lemurs Enjoy Their Annual Thanksgiving Feast

On Nov. 24, Brookfield Zoo hosted a special Facebook Live chat featuring the ring-tailed lemurs' eighth annual Thanksgiving feast. Those who missed it, can watch it on the zoo's Facebook page.

The lemurs – Ramses, Dogwood and Butch – were treated to a festive meal with all the trimmings as well as a football game – a tradition for some to watch on Thanksgiving Day – on a TV screen that staff created. Animal care staff prepared the nutritious menu that included a turkey made of primate biscuits with honey, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce made of sugar free gelatin and dried cranberries, steamed corn and green beans, and a pumpkin-sweet potato pie with a primate biscuit crust topped with popcorn to serve as whipped cream.



The ring-tailed lemurs at Brookfield Zoo seemed to enjoy their eighth annual nutritious Thanksgiving feast with all the trimmings prepared by the animal care staff. The public was able to watch it during a Facebook Live chat on Nov. 24. (Photo – Lynette Kleisner/CZS-Brookfield Zoo.)

Animal Adoption Means Sharing the Care

Brookfield Zoo has dozens of animals available through its Animal Adoption Program that would make a perfect gift for someone special.

Choose to adopt an animal and you'll be sharing the care. In addition to contributing to their daily care, you'll also be helping research and conservation efforts within the zoo and around the world.

Caring for animals and their habitats is central to the Chicago Zoological Society's mission. A trained and dedicated staff provides the best care possible through a commitment to the health and well-being of the animals.

A full list of available animals as well as featured creatures that are part of the program can be viewed by visiting www.czs.org/AnimalAdoption.

How can I "adopt" an animal?

1. You can purchase an "Animal Adoption" package online. Review the list of available animals, select your favorite animal, choose your giving level, and order your animal adoption package today!
2. Or, check out our special Featured Creature packages which are also available for online purchase.
3. If you do not wish to purchase online, call (708) 688-8341.

For 2021 purchases: Under IRS guidelines, we are required to disclose an estimate of goods or services received in return for contributions over \$75. The estimated fair market value of goods and services received with the Shared Care Plus package is \$16, Rare Care package is \$24, Premium Care package is \$307, Caregiver package is \$16, Partner package is \$24, Advocate and Guardian package is \$33, and Champion package is \$51.

Any questions? Call us at (708) 688-8341 or email your question to sharethecare@czs.org.



Create the ultimate winter outing and venture to Brookfield Zoo. Many of the zoo's cold-hardy animals, including the snow leopards, Bactrian camels, bison, Amur tiger, Mexican wolves, and Amur leopard can be seen in their outdoor habitats. While strolling to the various animal exhibits, stop along the way on the malls and around Roosevelt Fountain to view the more than 700 community and corporate decorated trees.

Admission to Brookfield Zoo is \$24.95 for adults, \$17.95 for children 3-11, and \$19.95 for seniors 65 and over. Parking is \$15.

For additional information, please visit CZS.org.

**Melrose Park
Homes
Built Before
1978
May Be Eligible
for
Lead Water
Pipe Inspection
and Repair**

EPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) agree that there is no known safe level of lead in a child's blood. Lead is harmful to health, especially for children. If your Melrose Park home was built prior to 1978, have your water pipes checked for excessive levels of lead that can cause various health issues.

Learn how to apply for lead pipe home inspection by calling the West Suburban Neighborhood Preservation Agency at (708) 410-2300 or sending an email to wsnpa@hotmail.com.

**Lead Hazard
Home Improvements
Reduction Program
Free Home LED
Inspection and Repairs**

Who can apply? An adult living in a grant community, who has a child under six years old living with them or visiting with them regularly or a pregnant woman in the household can apply.

Who qualifies for the program?
Applicants will qualify if they...

- live in a grant community
- lived in a house built before 1978
- live with children under six years old
- babysit or have children under six years old who visit them often or
- have income below the grant program limit



This program is available in the following communities:

Bellwood Berwyn Broadview Brookfield Cicero	Elmwood Park Forest Park Lyons Maywood Melrose Park	River Grove Stone Park
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For more information contact the West Suburban Neighborhood Preservation Agency at 708-410-2300 or email wsnpa@hotmail.com.

PROVISO TOWNSHIP HANDYMAN PROGRAM

Proviso Township Handyman News

Over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house we go. Are you ready for the holidays? Give us a call and we will help bring out your boxes of decorations! It is also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

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

Call us at (708) 547-4001 to register for our Proviso Handyman Program.

*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 Proviso Township.

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

- 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**

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

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



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



Obituaries

Acosta

Durango Acosta. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Anderson

Jeff Anderson. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Auerbach

Marie F. Auerbach. Dearly beloved wife of Stephen; loving sister of the late Angeline Evangelista; fond sister-in-law, aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Barcal

Perry Edward Barcal. Loving father of Kieran; beloved son of Edward Barcal and Gina Cappilupo; dear brother of Alexandra, Anthony and our angel, Frankie. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Delegge

Nicholas J. Delegge. Dearly Beloved son of Jeanne and the late Frank Delegge; dear brother of Frank Delegge, Tina (Vince) Miritello, and the late Nancy (Nick) Sacchetta; cherished boyfriend of Dina Hinz; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Di Fazio

Marie Di Fazio, nee Cirello. Dearly beloved wife of Donald “Captain De”; loving mother of August; beloved daughter of the late Primo and Ida Cirello; cherished grandmother of Dominic (Julia) Lodato; great-grandmother of Francesco and Giovanni; dear sister of Josephine Cirello and the late James (Pam), Thomas and Joseph Cirello; dear sister-in-law of Patty Sue (James) Stolfe, Victor (Peggy) and the late Fred Di Fazio; beloved aunt to many nieces and nephews; cherished cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Garceau

Scott Joseph Garceau. Dearly beloved husband of Dawn; loving father of Amber (fiancee' Michael Marinaro) Garceau; cherished stepfather of Holly Vanstockum and Ian Vanstockum; beloved son of Lorraine Garceau and the late Joseph Garceau; fond grandfather of Michael, Vincent and Annalecia Marinaro, Raymond and Peyton; dear brother of Justine (Sabino) Iannelli, Janice (Sabato) Iannelli, Jeanine (Armando) Iannelli and Jeffrey (Vito) Garceau; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Godfrey

Thomas J. Godfrey Sr. Dearly beloved husband of the late Anna; loving father of Veronica (Peter) De Bartolo and Thomas (Susan) Godfrey; cherished grandfather of Thomas "TJ" III, Daniel Godfrey and Ria; dear brother of James (the late Mary Kathryn), Mary (the late Stephen) Murray and the late Jack, the late Auralie (the late Robert) Blake and the late Joan (the late Joseph) Downs; fond uncle and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Gutierrez

Juan Manuel Gutierrez. Dearly beloved husband of Monica; loving father of Juan Gutierrez and Paola Gutierrez; beloved son of Jose Luis and Maria De Los Angeles Gutierrez; dear brother of Alejandra Gutierrez and Freddy Gutierrez; loving uncle, brother-in-law, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Guzzo

Frank Guzzo. Dearly beloved husband of Linda Guzzo; loving father of Angelina (Ralph) Imperatrice and Gina Marie (John) Aiello; beloved son of the late Bruno and Filomena Guzzo; fond papa of Taylor, Anthony, John, Francesco and Michael; dear brother of Rosina (the late Luigi) Cozza, Maria (Giuseppe)

Casciaro, Francesca (the late Alfredo) Ranieri, Ida (the late Giuseppe) Ranieri and Vincenzo (Rosaria) Guzzo; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Liture

Norma Liture. Dearly beloved wife of Carl Liture; loving mother of Carl F. Liture and Sandra M. Liture; loving sister, aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Maldonado

Baby Layla Maldonado. Dearly beloved daughter of Sonya and Jose Maldonado; dear sister of Jose Angel Maldonado Jr., Sebastian Angel Maldonado, Sasha Clara Luz Maldonado, Cristiano Angel Maldonado and Israel Angel Maldonado; loving niece and cousin to many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Martinetti

Martin Martinetti. Beloved husband of the late Patricia Martinetti; loving father of Gail (Larry) Henderson; cherished grandfather of Mia (Michael) Bianchi; cherished great-grandfather of Santino Bianchi; fond uncle to many nieces and nephews. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Mount Olivet Cemetery. Proud past member of Louis Travis Anvet Post, proud past member of the Italian Community Center and proud current member of the Garibaldi Mutual Aid Society.

Mc Laurin

Willie Lee Mc Laurin. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Muscari

Deborah Ann Muscari, age 64, of Stone Park, Ill., passed away Monday, Nov. 8, 2021, at her home. She was born Oct. 21, 1957, in Milwaukee, Wis., to Norman and LaVerne (Hastreiter) Weiss, both have preceded her in death. Debbie was married to Daniel Anthony Muscari on May 30, 1980, in Chicago, Ill. She is survived by her husband Daniel; daughter Dawn Alyse Muscari and Dawn's fiancée, Steve Ossler; brother Joseph Weiss, sisters Susan Weiss and Jeanette Brown, all from Buckeye, Ari.; sister Mary Stade from Lebanon, Ind.; sister Colleen (Jim) Welk and brother Jeffrey Weiss, both from Milwaukee, Wis.; sister Lynn Brown from Circleville, Ohio; and brother Brian Weiss; she is further survived by 17 nieces and nephews, 37 great-nieces and nephews and three great-great-nieces and nephews; also many aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and neighbors; also survived by her beloved dog Lily and grand dogs Chloe and Budz; preceding her in death also are sister Sandra Marquardt, brothers Stanley and Lawrence Weiss, brother-in-law Richard Brown, sister-in-law Linda Weiss and mother-in-law Tabitha Muscari; also maternal grandparents Joseph and Clara Hastreiter, and paternal grandparents Charles and Blanche Weiss; and many of her dogs she loved. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Nardulli

Frank Nardulli Jr., lifelong resident of Melrose Park. Beloved son of the late Frank and Josephine Nardulli (nee Custardo); dear brother of Mary Jo (Howard) Habenicht; loving nephew, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Ordaz

Bernardo Ordaz. Devoted Catholic and proud member of Mary Queen of Heaven Parish. Dearly beloved husband of Petra (nee Ramos); loving father of Juan Ordaz, Guadalupe (Donald) Ordaz-Nielsen and the late Miguel (Maria) Ordaz; beloved son of the late Miguel and Isabel Ordaz; fond grandfather of DeAngelo, Clorissa, Michelle, Isabel, Miguel, Donald Matthew and the late Brett; great-grandfather of many great-grandchildren; dear brother of several and fond godfather of Jaime Piceno and Carlos Gonzalez; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Pellegrino

Theresa Pellegrino. Beloved wife of the late Frank Pellegrino Jr.; loving mother of RoseMarie Genualdi, Frank (Christine) Pellegrino, Joanne Pellegrino and James (Denise) Pellegrino; beloved daughter of the late Joseph and Nancy; fond grandmother of Gina, Kelly, Nick, Joey, Anna, Matthew, Aaron, Tiffany and Danielle; fond great-grandmother of Julian, Jaedon, Brandon, Ava, Zach, Anthony, Bella, Giovanni, Mariana, Angelo, Vincent and Dominick; fond great-great-grandmother of Giavanna, Francesca, Vincenzo and Anna Maria; dear sister of Patsy Cosentino, Chenzy Rogers, Ann Sassano and Mary LaSala; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Petrogallo

Norma Petrogallo. Dearly beloved wife of the late Frank Petrogallo; loving mother of Robert, Victoria (Rick) Spillone and Lisa (Wilson) Zambonino; cherished grandma of Dominique and R.J.; dear sister of Christine (Ross) Ippolito, the late Mary (Frank) Nudo, Tony, Bart (Mary) and Ann (Wally) Ceroni; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Phillips

Billy G. Phillips. Beloved boyfriend of Christy Mack; loving father of Ryan Mack, Shaina Mack and Kristina Mack; beloved son of the late Russell Phillips and Beverly Spero; fond grandfather of Riley Star Thompson Mack and Quentin Alexander Higgins; dear brother of Yvonne Martin, Ronald Phillips, Russell Phillips, the late Sam Phillips and the late Rusty Phillips. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Pinela

Samuel Pinela. Dearly beloved husband of Chela; loving father of Nere, Samuel Jr. and Vicky; beloved son of the late Rafael and Ma. del Refugio; dear brother of Luisa (Enrique) Fabela, the late Rafael Pinela, the late Leopoldo Pinela, the late Francisca Pinela, Olivia (Faustino) Torres, Yolanda (Lorenzo) Gallegos, Mento Pinela and Martin (Graciela) Pinela; coolest uncle to many nieces and nephews; loving cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment All Saints Cemetery.

Pinkard

Daniel Pinkard, age 31. Loving father of Thomas; beloved son of Kimberly (nee Pickard) and Steven; dear brother of Jennifer (John) Brown; fond uncle of Alyssa and Justin. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Maryhill Cemetery Mausoleum.

Quintero

Maria de Refugio Quintero. Today our family gained an angel in heaven, Maria de Refugio Quintero was born to eternity on Oct. 19, 2021. A great mother, grandmother, sister and a beloved wife. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Rocco

Frank Rocco. Dearly beloved husband of Angela Rocco; loving father of Giuseppe (Tasia Chipain) Rocco and Chiara (Adam) Micaletti; beloved nonno of Giovanni, Angelo and Faith; beloved son of the late Giuseppe and Chiara Rocco; dear brother of Rita (Carlo) Abello, Anna Rocco and the late Jerry Rocco; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Serpico

Dolores J. Serpico, nee Snyder. Dearly beloved wife of Gary Serpico and the late David De Salvo; loving mother of Mark (Elayne) De Salvo and Christine De Salvo; cherished grandmother of Anthony (Taylor) and Michael; dear sister of the late Richard and Jerry Snyder; fond friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Spranze

Joseph Spranze. Dearly beloved husband of Arlene Spranze; loving father of Nicolette (Andrew) Wijas and Frank (Lisa Mercado) Spranze; fond grandfather of Joey, Deana, Sebastian and Jackie (Tom); dear brother of Cookie (Richie) Capizzano, the late Rosemarie DeCicco and the late Baby Frankie; loving brother-in-law, uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home and Riverwoods Funeral Home.

Carbonara Funeral Directors

Traditional Funerals
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Memorial Services
Immediate Burials



Pre-Arrangements,
with or without
prepayment of services
Chapels available
near your home

Now Open at
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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

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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

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All photos are of a sold previous project

Melrose Park-New Construction
Single Family Home \$389,000



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