

A Message From Mayor Ronald M. Serpico

*Goodbye to 2021! Though it was a trying year,
I am happy to report that your Melrose Park village government
continued to operate at a high level of efficiency.*

Dear Neighbors,

It is safe to say that all of us were happy to say goodbye to 2021. Though it was a trying year, I am happy to report that your Melrose Park village government continued to operate at a high level of efficiency. Village infrastructure repairs were completed; water main breaks were fixed; Police, Fire and Homeland Security Departments provided 24-hour emergency and non-emergency services; and various other village functions continued unabated. We resurfaced around 6 miles of streets and the village's Dial A Ride Program provided 4,891 trips. Our Fire Department responded to 3,734 ambulance calls and 1,236 fire calls.

When the COVID vaccine was rolled out at the start of 2021, our administration worked with local hospitals, pharmacies, school districts and community groups to co-host several vaccination clinics. Today, 85 percent of our residents have been vaccinated and 15,000 out of 24,976 residents have received all three doses.

In 2021, Woodlake Specialty Hospital announced they planned to spend \$40 million to reopen the abandoned Westlake Hospital in 2022. Woodlake will have 230 private rooms providing services for acute mental illness, long-term care and comprehensive physical rehabilitation. The hospital will also maintain a limited stand-by Emergency Department and an Urgent Care Center. The hospital will also create around 600 jobs.

In 2021, the Maywood Park Racetrack redevelopment project saw the following businesses open their doors – Aspen Dental, WellNow Urgent Care, Discount Tire, Buffalo Wild Wings GO, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Panda Express, Raising Cane's, Tropical Smoothie Cafe, Goodwill, 7-11 Gas Station and even more businesses are on the way. The Chamber of Commerce and the Village Hall worked together and brought in \$54 million in COVID-19 relief money to help Melrose Park businesses.

There were more good things that happened locally in 2021 – the Melrose Park Little League 14U girls won the Little League State Championship and our 10U girls all-stars represented District 10 and finished in second place at the Little League State Finals. We also delivered over 200 meals to home-bound Melrose Park seniors and disabled residents this past Thanksgiving. Our 2021 Toys for Tots Drive garnered nearly 200 toys for area children. The village, along with other local leaders, participated in the inaugural Christmas in Proviso event, which provided over 100 area families with holiday gifts. Our administration coordinated a Christmas Light Parade with Santa Claus throughout our community, bringing much needed joy to our children.


Phase Five and Six of the Silver Creek Restoration Project continued and will be completed this year, which will restore the natural balance of the creek. This is an invaluable stream system that provides storm water runoff, flood management and other benefits for Melrose Park residents. We also constructed a walking path, a pavilion/gazebo and a canoe/kayak launch at the Silver Creek Eagles Nest Park.

No matter what lies ahead in 2022, rest assured, your Melrose Park village government will continue to provide top-notch services that both maintain and improve the quality of life for everyone.



Ronald M. Serpico
Mayor

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

Sincerely,

Mayor Ron Serpico



Notice Regarding Melrose Park Vehicle Stickers

**Village Vehicle Stickers Expired 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:

	NOW-FEB. 28 \$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.



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 Emergency911

Non-Emergency(708) 344-8409

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

Fire Emergency911

Non-Emergency(708) 344-1210

Public Safety/Homeland Security(708) 649-8000

Library(708) 343-3391

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

Building and Code(708) 343-4000

Civic Center(708) 450-0555

Hall and Field Rentals, Sports, Etc.

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

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

Taste of Melrose Park

Dial A Ride(708) 343-7047

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

Economic Development(708) 865-8809

Important Upcoming Dates

Village Board MeetingsFeb. 28, March 28 and April 25

Village Hall Holiday ClosingsFeb. 21 and April 15

Resident Response

Dear Mayor Serpico ...

I have just been told that it was your plan to offer the Senior Snow Removal Plan for us. I know I am late, but my thanks is truly heartfelt and hope you will accept it now. Bravo to you.

On behalf of all of us seniors, may I also say thank you to all the drivers.

You put in long hours during the day and night just to help us. Bless all of you! My thanks to Peggy and Lorena also. They care about us seniors and always get the job done.

For all the help and care you show to your citizens of Melrose Park, I hope the world is kind to you, your family and all the wonderful people who work for our village.

• Thank you again,

Lillian Loconti

The Loconti Family

Fran Cavico

Fran Cavico Family

Dear Mayor Serpico and Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame ...

On Wednesday, Jan. 5, your department responded to a 2-11 Alarm Fire and EMS Box at 2308 Grove.

Although this incident was tragic due to loss of life, your members' actions helped us mitigate this incident as safely and effectively as expected under the given circumstances.

I am grateful for our MABAS Partnership and I am proud to be a part of this team.

Please pass on our village's appreciation for your department's efforts.

• Fire Chief Sean M. Flynn

Village of River Grove

Dear Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame ...

I want to thank M.P.F.D. paramedics, Smaarco and Ryza, for their assistance on Jan. 11 at 1718 hours.

My officers responded to 1810 N. 38th Ave. for a subject suffering from schizophrenia who was off his medication, acting violently with a baseball bat and threatening personnel on the scene. It took my officers about 30 minutes to calm the subject down for transport to the hospital.

My supervisor, who was on the scene, advised me your two paramedics were instrumental in helping my officers calm the subject.

Thank you for your help and please thank paramedics, Smaarco and Ryza, for a job very well done.

• Respectfully,

Christopher P. Pavini, Chief of Police

Stone Park Police Department

Dear Director of Police Sam Pitassi ...

Thank you for sending squad cars to the funerals for both Ofc. Nick Kozak and Ofc. Jose Flores.

The outpouring of support from neighboring agencies has been unbelievable and appreciated.

Thank you for supporting us at our time of mourning.

• Sincerely,

Ken Gross, Chief of Police

Forest Park Police Department

Dear Building Commissioner Ralph Sorce ...

Thank you so much for expediting the permit process for me. I just want to say Melrose Park was the best village to work with in my career.

• Jim Michael, McShane Construction Company

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.





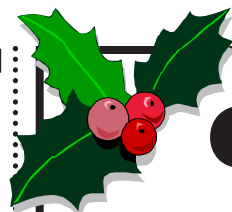
Village of Melrose Park

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



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

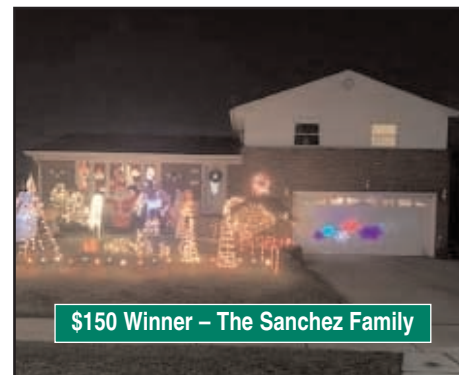
To be considered, please send a copy of your business card to Director of Senior Services Peggy DiFazio (peg@melrosepark.org) or you can call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448, for more information.



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



\$150 Winner – The Carlini Family



\$150 Winner – The Sanchez Family



\$150 Winner – The Valdez Family



\$50 Winner – The Ciconte Family



\$50 Winner – The Nitti Family

Mayor Serpico and members of the Melrose Park Youth Commission congratulate the 2021 Holiday Decorating Contest winners, including the Carlini family, the Sanchez family, the Valdez family, the Ciconte family and the Nitti family.

Thank you to everyone for joining in the holiday fun and, in the spirit of the season, creating a festive atmosphere in the village of Melrose Park.

**Watch for details on our
2022 Holiday Decorating Contest
in upcoming issues of *The Rose*!**



Melrose Park Fire DepartmentNEWS



*Rick Beltrame
Director of Fire Dept.*

A Message from Rick Beltrame, Director of Fire Department

The Melrose Park Fire Department and Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame want to ensure the safety of our residents by providing these smoke alarm safety tips on behalf of the National Fire Protection Association.

Please follow these tips to ensure the safety of your family!

Smoke Alarms at Home



**Smoke alarms are a key part of
a home fire escape plan.
When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast.
Working smoke alarms give you early
warning so you can get outside quickly.**

Safety Tips

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- Current alarms on the market employ different types of technology including multi-sensing, which could include smoke and carbon monoxide combined.
- Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false alarms.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

Facts

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when one sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection
- Roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.



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



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.

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.**

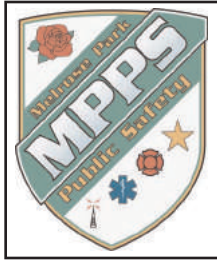


COVID-19

Know the Difference

Is it a COLD or FLU or COVID-19?

Signs and Symptoms	COLD	FLU	COVID-19
Symptom onset	Gradual	2 days	2-14 days
Body Aches	Slight	Common	Common
Cough	Common	Common	Common
Diarrhea	Rare	Sometimes	Sometimes
Fatigue/Weakness	Sometimes	Common	Common
Fever/Chills/Shaking	Rare	Common	Common
Loss of Taste or Smell	Never	Never	Sometimes
Shortness of breath or Difficulty Breathing	Rare	Common	Common
Stuffy nose	Common	Common	Rare
Sneezing	Common	Sometimes	Rare
Sore throat	Common	Common	Common
Headache	Rare	Common	Common



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

Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests

Free FDA-authorized coronavirus test kits are available through a federal program. Every home in the United States is eligible to order four free at-home COVID-19 rapid antigen tests. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. Order your tests now so you have them when you need them.

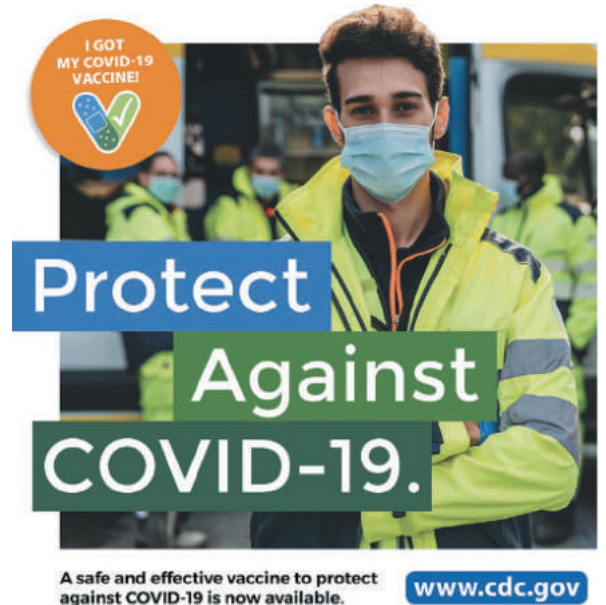
Place Your Order for Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests Go to special.usps.com/testkits.

Residential households in the U.S. can order one set of #4 free at-home tests from USPS.com.

Here's what you need to know about your order:

- Limit of one order per residential address.
- One order includes #4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests.
- Orders will ship free.

Need help placing an order for your at-home tests? Call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489).



How to Get Your At-Home Over-The-Counter COVID-19 Test for Free Go to www.cms.gov/how-to-get-your-at-home-OTC-COVID-19-test-for-free. COVID-19 Vaccines

Vaccinations against COVID-19 are now widely available at locations including mass vaccination sites or events, pharmacies and doctor's offices.
<https://www.vaccines.gov/search/>.

Thank You and Be Safe!

Illinois Vax Verify System Now Offers SMART™ Health Card Vaccination Verification

New updates to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Vax Verify immunization portal now includes use of the SMART™ Health Card. The SMART™ Health Card allows users to download a QR code, which individuals can use to easily confirm their COVID-19 vaccination status at businesses, events and other locations. Vax Verify is an online system that allows Illinois residents, 18 years and older, to check their COVID-19 vaccination record. Vax Verify can be accessed at <https://idphportal.illinois.gov>.

“As a way to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep people safer, some businesses, events, organizations and others are opting to require proof of vaccination before entering,” said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. “We’ve seen multiple surges of COVID-19, and more and more people are making the choice to get vaccinated. The ability to download a QR code will help residents confirm their vaccination status when requested.”

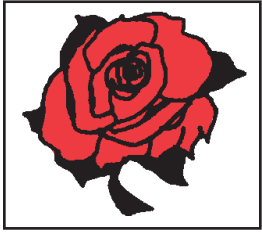
The QR code can be downloaded or kept in Apple Wallet and presented for COVID-19 vaccination verification. Businesses wanting to verify vaccination status can download the Commons Project SMART Health Card Verifier App on Apple AppStore and Google Play store.

The verification system follows best practices to protect confidential health information. In order to download proof of vaccination, residents will go through a brief, one-time identity verification process to gain access to their immunization history.

After the verification process, individuals can see their own record in the Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (I-CARE). Immunization records are kept confidential and only the individual or the individual’s parent or guardian (if the individual is younger than 18 years) can access their vaccination history. Some individuals with very common names will need to take additional steps to securely prove their identities.

Go to vaccines.gov or call 1-800-232-0233 to find COVID-19 vaccine locations near you.





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 • Superior Street from 11th Avenue to 14th Avenue

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:

- 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.

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

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

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

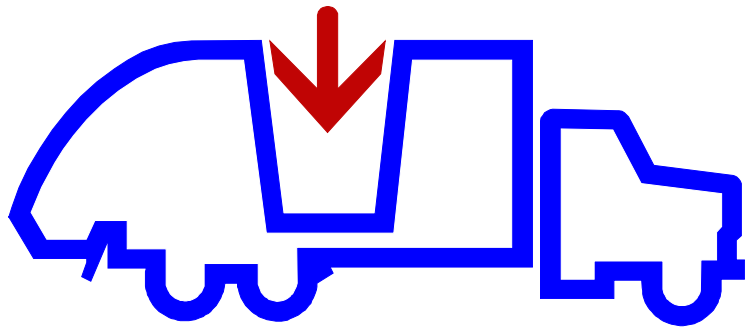
Benefit Access Program Benefits

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

Beneficio de Acceso para el Programa de Beneficios

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

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



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 include

all household remodeling items (homeowner/self – not contractor)

such as kitchen and bathroom cabinets, drywall and cement.

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

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

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

This service is for Melrose Park residents in single and two-flat buildings only.

Commercial and apartment buildings must use a private scavenger company.

Village of Melrose Park Public Works regular hours are 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.

Free Exercise for Melrose Park Seniors

*Socially
Distanced
Activity*

*Face
Masks
Required*

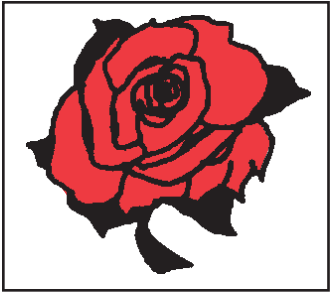


*Come Join in the Fun with
Instructor Barb Rubright
of Rube's Garage!*

Monday-Friday • 9-10 a.m.

**Melrose Park Civic Center
1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park**

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



Village of Melrose Park Building Dept. Report

*From the Desk of
Ralph Sorce,
Building Commissioner*

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

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

Flood Protection Information

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

- Stream Maintenance – Per the Clean Water Act and village ordinance, dumping into our ditches, creeks and sewers is strictly prohibited. This regulation helps prevent contamination to our water supply and lessens the chance of flooding. Grass clippings, leaves and branches can also cause problems as they can accumulate and plug the storm sewer channels. If your property is next to a ditch or creek, please do your part and keep the banks clear of brush and debris. Please feel free to contact the Public Works Department for information regarding the Village's Creek Maintenance Program or reporting downed tree and other major blockages.
- Construction Requirements – Always check with the Building Department before you alter, re-grade or fill your property. A permit is needed to ensure that projects do not cause drainage problems to other properties and to ensure the general public welfare.
- Flood-Proofing – There are several different ways to protect a building from flood damage – retrofitting (altering a building to eliminate or reduce flood damage) measures include:
 - Elevations – This involves raising the house so that the lowest floor is above protection level.
 - Relocation – Moving a building out of the flood zone is the surest way to protect it from a flood.
 - Floodwalls – These work to keep water from reaching your home by constructing barriers out of fill or concrete between the building and the flood water.
 - Dry Flood-Proofing – Makes the building's walls and floors watertight so water does not enter.
 - Wet Flood-Proofing – Modifies the structure and relocates the contents so that when flood water enters the building there is little to no damage.

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

Flood Protection Assistance

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

Sand Bags

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

Flood Event Suggestions

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

Be Prepared!

Have a plumber inspect sump pumps regularly!

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

Leaf Removal, Street Sweeping, Storm Sewers and Swales

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

Community Effort

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

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

Flood Insurance

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

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

Important Melrose Park Flood Relief Information



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

To determine if your house is in a floodplain and eligible for flood insurance:

[www.melrosepark.org/docs/
Determine_if_your_house_is_in_a_floodplain_
and_eligible_for_flood_insurance.PDF](http://www.melrosepark.org/docs/Determine_if_your_house_is_in_a_floodplain_and_eligible_for_flood_insurance.PDF)

To find out what to do in case your home is flooded:

[www.melrosepark.org/docs/
What_to_do_in_case_your_home_is_flooded.PDF](http://www.melrosepark.org/docs/What_to_do_in_case_your_home_is_flooded.PDF)

To help prevent flooding in Melrose Park:

[www.melrosepark.org/docs/
Help_prevent_flooding_in_Melrose_Park_.PDF](http://www.melrosepark.org/docs/Help_prevent_flooding_in_Melrose_Park_.PDF)

For a FEMA Registration Flyer on how to apply for disaster relief:

[www.melrosepark.org/docs/
FEMA_REGISTRATION_FLYER\(1\)_\(1\).PDF](http://www.melrosepark.org/docs/FEMA_REGISTRATION_FLYER(1)_(1).PDF)

To view Real-Time River Gauge Near Melrose Park to Determine River Level:

www.water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lot&gauge=rvfi2

To view or download Flood Inundation and Response 3 Stage Map:

www.melrosepark.org/docs/_inundation%20&%20Flood%20Response.pdf

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

FEMA Flood Insurance Program:

<http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/index.shtm>

FEMA Map Service Center:

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

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

<http://www.disasterassistance.gov/>

Building Department Construction Project Resource Information

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

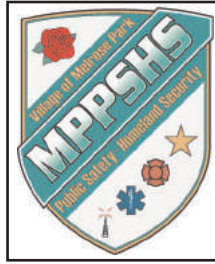
MP Construction Hours Policy

No construction or alteration activities shall be carried on between the nighttime hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. On Saturday, no construction or alteration activities shall be carried on between the nighttime hours of 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. On Sunday and federal holidays, no construction or alteration activities shall be carried on between the nighttime hours of 5 p.m. and 10 a.m. Construction and alteration activities on Sundays and federal holidays shall not be accompanied by loud or annoying noises except in the case of an emergency. Emergency operations necessitating deviation from this section shall not be initiated until special permission is obtained from the director of Public Works. Construction or alteration activities with regard to public improvements and public service utilities, shall be exempt from this section.

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



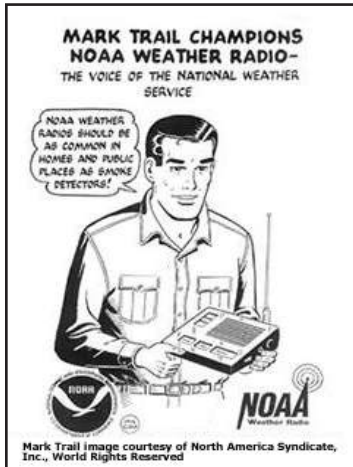
Melrose Park Public Safety News



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

NOAA Weather (Radio All Hazards)

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Working with the Federal Communication Commission's Emergency Alert System, NWR is an all hazards radio network, making it your single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information.

In conjunction with emergency managers and other public officials, NWR broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards including natural events such as earthquakes and avalanches, environmental accidents such as chemical releases or oil spills, and public safety issues such as a child abduction or 911 telephone outage. Research NWR Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) for Event Codes Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service." NWR is provided as a public service by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, part of the Department of Commerce. NWR numbers 1000 transmitters, covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. NWR requires a special radio receiver or scanner capable of picking up the signal. Broadcasts are found in the VHF public service band at these seven frequencies (MHz) listed below.

162.400 162.425 162.450 162.475 162.500 162.525 162.550

NWS suggests listeners change the batteries in their receivers in the spring and fall when Daylight Savings Time begins and ends.

Public Alert™ Devices and NWR All Hazards Logo

We cannot recommend one brand of receiver over another, but we do recommend users look for receivers with the Public Alert and/or the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) All Hazards logo. The Public Alert Standard (CEA-2009-A) was developed by the Consumer Electronics Association in conjunction with NWS. Devices carrying the Public Alert logo meet certain technical standards and come with many, if not all, of the features mentioned in this article. NWS has evaluated devices carrying the NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards logo for user friendliness and performance capabilities.



Residential Grade Radios and Features

Prices vary from \$20 and up, depending on the model. Many receivers have an alarm feature, but some may not. Among the more useful features in a receiver are:

- **Tone alarm:** NWS will send a 1050 Hz tone alarm before broadcasting most warnings and many watch messages. The alarm will activate all the receivers equipped to receive it, even if the audio is turned off. This is especially useful for warnings during the night. (Public Alert™ – required)
- **SAME technology:** SAME, or Specific Alert Message Encoding allows you to specify the particular area for which you wish to receive alerts. Most warnings and watches broadcast over NOAA Weather Radio are county-based or independent city-based (parish-based in Louisiana), although in a few areas of the country the alerts are issued for portions of counties. Since most NWR transmitters are broadcasting for a number of counties, SAME receivers will respond only to alerts issued for the area (or areas) you have selected. This minimizes the number of "false alarms" for events which might be a few counties away from where you live. (Public Alert™ – required)
- **Selectable alerting of events:** While SAME allows you to specify a particular area of interest, some receivers allow you to turn off alarms for certain events which might not be important to you. For example, if you live in a coastal county, but not right at the beach, you might not care about Coastal Flood Warnings. This feature may also be called "Event Blocking" or "Defeat Siren." (Public Alert™ – optional)
- **Battery backup:** Since power outages often occur during storms, having a receiver with battery backup can be crucial. However, unless you have a portable unit which you will use away from other power sources, an AC power connection is recommended to preserve battery life. (Public Alert™ – required for radios, optional for other devices.)
- **External antenna jack:** While most receivers come with a whip antenna you usually can extend to improve reception, depending on your location you also may need an external antenna. Some receivers come with an external antenna jack so you can connect to a larger antenna indoors or outdoors. You can often buy these antennas where you bought your receiver or from most stores with an electronics department. NWR broadcasts are in the Public Service VHF frequencies, just above FM radio and between the current TV channels 6 and 7. An antenna designed for analog VHF televisions or FM radios should work.

Melrose Park Keeps Citizens Safe with Updated Everbridge Citizen Alerts System

Citizens and Businesses Can Sign Up to Receive Critical Alerts During Emergencies

The village of Melrose Park is using our newly Updated Citizen Alerts System from Everbridge the leading emergency notification system provider, to communicate with thousands of businesses and residents in minutes in an emergency.

The village is able to alert residents about severe weather, fires, floods, toxic environmental issues and other emergencies using Everbridge. Messages can be sent to residents on any communication path desired – cell phone, home phone, email, text messaging, fax, pager, PDA and more – ensuring that residents and village staff receive life-saving emergency information and important public service announcements in minutes. Citizens listed in the village’s 9-1-1 database have been automatically subscribed to alerts by phone, though all citizens should self-register, to provide additional contact information and chose the alerts they would like to receive. In addition, the village plans to use the Everbridge system to notify residents about other important activities, such as weather emergencies, road closures and water utility maintenance.

Fires. Road closures. Gas leaks. How will you find out about citywide emergencies and disasters? Your safety is our top concern. Early warning helps save lives and property. That’s why Melrose Park wants to make sure you know about emergencies, severe weather and disasters as they happen.

The village of Melrose Park will use the New Everbridge SmartGIS System With Severe Weather Alerts to let you know about issues that may affect your safety. The Everbridge system will allow the village of Melrose Park to contact thousands of residents in seconds so you find out about an emergency right away.

Receive important messages from the village on your phone, email and more. Everbridge SmartGIS System can deliver messages to you any way you want – on your home phone, cell phone, email and more. This way, we can reach you in any emergency. We may also use the system in non-emergency situations to let you know about weather alerts, important village-related events, such as meetings, parade closures or street cleaning changes.

How does it work? The process begins when the village or National Weather Service issues an alert or message about a potential safety hazard or concern. Messages will be sent to all standard voice and text communication devices, including listed land line phones, cell phones, email, and more. If you don't confirm receipt of the message, the system will try to reach your second contact number or email. The system will continue trying to contact you until it receives a confirmation from you.

What is Everbridge? Everbridge is a mass notification system which will notify you of severe weather or other emergency situations in your area.

What areas are covered? Everbridge allows you to choose multiple locations such as your home, work or child's school.

How will I be notified? You can choose to be notified by text, email phone call or all of them.



Your help by is critical. The success of this service relies on YOU.

Having your latest contact information is the only way to ensure that we can contact you in an emergency. To register or to update your contact information, please visit <https://mpdes.org/village-alerts>. Registering or updating is easy and only takes a few minutes, just go to <https://mpdes.org/village-alerts> and click on the link.

Thank you in advance for you cooperation and participation in this important program.
For more information or help in enrolling or updating your information, please call (708) 649-8000.



Melrose Park Public Library



Melrose Park
Public Library

www.MPPLibrary.org



COOKING WITH
*Melrose Park
Memories*
A DIGITAL COOKBOOK

Share your recipe with us!

Mail or email your recipe:
mpref@mpplibrary.org



Free Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) from low-to-moderate income households hosted by Triton College.

Tax preparation will take place at the Melrose Park Public Library on Mondays.

Appointments are required—Call Triton College 708-456-0300 ext. 3895 to schedule an appointment.




**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 YOU!

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



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.

Village Hall Announces Holiday Closings

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

Public Notice Regarding Scheduled Board Meetings

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

The remaining schedule for calendar year 2022 is: Feb. 28; March 28; April 25; May 9 and 23; June 13; July 11; Aug. 22; Sept. 12 and 26; Tuesday, Oct. 11 and 24; Nov. 14 and 28; and Dec. 12 and Tuesday, Dec. 27.

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

Early Voting Dates for the June 28, 2022, Gubernatorial Election Are

**Monday, June 13-
Monday, June 27**
**Village of Melrose Park
(Gymnasium)**

1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park

**Early Voting Hours are:
Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**

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

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.



WE BUY HOUSES. CASH.
LIADY INVESTMENTS

✓ 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.

Let Us Do the Cooking For You!



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

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

**Monday-Friday
10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

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



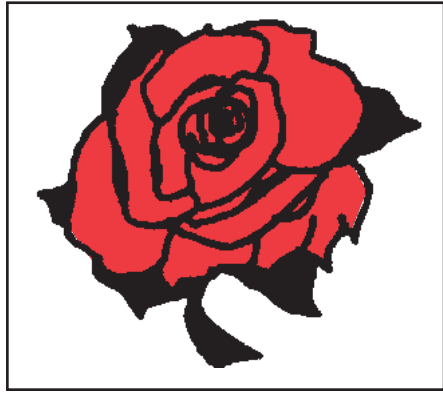
*Be Mindful
of Yourself
and Others,
Show That
You Care ...*

*Get
Vaccinated.*

*Together,
we'll make
a difference
and beat
the pandemic.*



*Village of
Melrose Park*
**Mayor
Ronald M. Serpico**



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.

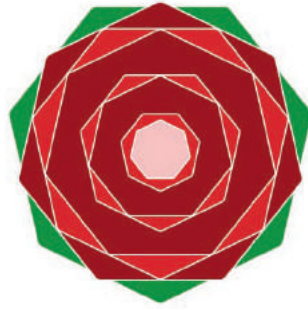
You must stay at your destination you are going to for a minimum of an hour. Any residents of Victory Centre MUST go with the group provided at their center for grocery shopping, etc. Any doctor appointment can be made with us.

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.



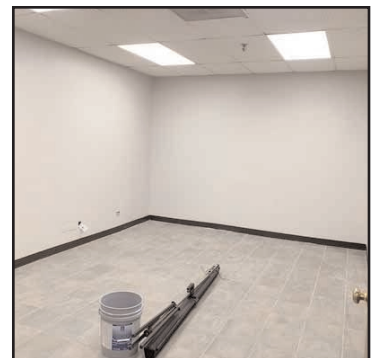
MELROSE PARK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

We Moved! New Location!

It's official, the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) recently moved their offices to the village campus to better serve our community. The new MPCCCD offices, housing our Chamber of Commerce team, are located at 900 N. 25th Ave., in Melrose Park. The MPCCCD will continue to serve business and industry in our community at their new location, offering programs, services, and various initiatives that foster economic business development in the village.

MPCCCD Creating New Business Resource Center

Coming soon – under construction! Mayor Serpico and the Melrose Park Chamber Of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) are creating a business resource center on the Village Hall campus to support business and industry growth in our community. The new facility will include business assistance and management initiatives; access to business financing opportunities; business education, professional development, and training opportunities; specialized services in technology, innovation and entrepreneurial development; along with the Melrose Park Chamber staffing team.



Welcome New Chamber Members!

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) welcomes our newest members to the organization! Please help us welcome Melrose Washland, Inc.; Best Packaging, Inc.; Powers 24 Hour Towing Service, Inc.; Skippers Clippers Barber & Beauty; Action Painting Company; Bukanas Sport Lounge; and La Flor Michoacana. 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 a time to meet with you to discuss the benefits of partnering and working with our chamber.

Now is the Time to Join the Chamber and Be a Part of Something Big!

Receive a Special 10 Percent Membership Discount Now-March 31

If you were looking for the most opportune time to join the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development and be part of an organization creating opportunities for our businesses and the community, now would be the time.

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.

From now through March 31, 2022, the MPCCCD chamber is offering a special 10 percent discount on all membership dues pricing.

For membership dues information and registration structures, visit the MPCCCD website at www.mpcccd.org or send an email to info@mpcccd.org.

If you own or manage a local business and are not currently getting emails from the MPCCCD, please sign up to receive newsletters from the bottom of the website at www.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!

Christmas in Proviso

Mayor Serpico and the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) participated in the inaugural Christmas in Proviso event, serving underprivileged children in our communities. Over 100 families across Proviso Township attended the event and received a number of gifts that helped make their holiday special. It was a true display of unity and giving in the township, working closely with Proviso mayors, Speaker of the House Chris Welch, state Sen. Kim Lightford and Cook County Clerk Karen A. Yarbrough. A special thank you to Larry Huggins of Christmas in the Wards for getting many gifts that were distributed to families in attendance.



Nicotera's Tradition Grows by Leaps and Bounds



Melrose Park resident, Sonny Nicotera, really enjoys the holiday season. For more than 40 years, Nicotera has done a remarkable job making his home an incredible source of Christmas spirit and holiday cheer.

Pictured are the more than 300 figurines, including the recent addition of the Kiddieland sign, that made up last year's elaborate Christmas Village, filling the Nicotera living room from end to end.

The display is a community masterpiece that's always amazing!



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Open every SAT & SUN 7am - 4pm • Indoor & Outdoor - FREE Parking

ALSIP

Also WEDNESDAY - 7am-2pm
OUTDOORS ONLY
4350 W. 129th St.

ASHLAND

Also THURSDAY - 7am-3pm
OUTDOORS ONLY
4200 South Ashland - Chicago

MELROSE PARK

FRIDAY - 7am-2pm
OUTDOORS ONLY
4600 West Lake Street

Visit our website: swap-o-rama.com • 708-344-7300

Santa Visits Melrose Park with Our First Responders

Christmas was extra special in our community last year! In mid-December, Mayor Serpico received a call from the North Pole from everyone's favorite person, Santa Claus, and arranged a Christmas Lights Parade with Santa, and Melrose Park's first responders. The parade traveled through the village with lighted vehicles and Santa greeting the many children and families that were present along the route. The Melrose Park Fire, Police and Homeland Security – Public Safety departments acted as grand marshals for the big event. Thank you to all, and to Santa as well, for making the day special for the children in our community.



Melrose Park Senior Social Club Hosts 2021 Holiday Celebration

To kick off the 2021 holiday season, members of the Melrose Park Senior Social Club gathered for their annual Christmas luncheon at Tom's Steak House. Club members enjoyed a great meal, as well as the opportunity to get together with their colleagues for some seasonal fun!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Meals on Wheels Melrose Park
Needs**

Volunteer Meal Delivery Drivers



Drivers Needed Monday-Friday Mornings*

***Routes Take 60-90 Minutes to Complete**

**For Information or to Volunteer,
Please Contact Us at
Volunteer@cnnssa.org
or Call (312) 207-5290.**



CNNSSA does not discriminate in admission to programs or activities or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act; the U.S. Civil Rights Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; the Age Discrimination Act; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act; and the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions. If you feel you have been discriminated against, you have a right to file a complaint, dial 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TDD), or contact the Director of Personnel (312) 207-5290



*Mayor
Ronald M. Serpico*



Celebrating Our 40th Anniversary
September 2nd Thru September 4th

**GREAT NEWS
WE'RE BACK
AND ALL
FOOD ITEMS
STILL
COST \$3
OR LESS!!!**

**FAMILY
FRIENDLY**

**FAMILY
AFFORDABLE**

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

For 2022 Taste of Melrose Park
info, e-mail us at
taste@melrosepark.org or
visit www.melrosepark.org





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

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

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

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



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

The Taste of Melrose Park
is looking for area
businesses/organizations, etc.,
to purchase a spot on
Information Row at the
2022 Taste of Melrose Park,
Friday, Sept. 2-Sunday, Sept. 4.

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

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

WELCOME TO THE 40TH ANNUAL TASTE OF MELROSE PARK



Dear Friends,

I am sending this letter in the hope that you will financially participate as a sponsor of the 40th Taste of Melrose Park Anniversary, which will take place over the 2022 Labor Day weekend, September 2nd- 4th.

We understand times are tough for businesses due to product and labor shortages, but we ask you, to the best of your financial ability, to help underwrite some of the costs associated with our 40th Anniversary Celebration. Please read this flyer, it contains information about different Taste of Melrose Park sponsorship packages.

After a two-year absence, this year's Taste will once again bring people together to celebrate life and the feeling of being part of a larger community. **It is with your financial help that we can not only host this wonderful family-oriented event but also help keep our per serving price at \$3, which is the same price as in 2019, even though food costs have risen.**

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

Thank you,

Ronald M. Serpico
Mayor of Melrose Park



TASTE OF MELROSE PARK SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

\$8,000.00 PLATINUM SPONSOR PACKAGE

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

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

\$5,000.00 GOLD SPONSOR PACKAGE

- 1 - Half Page Color Ad (9" wide x 5.5" tall)
10' x 10' Hospitality Tent
Main Stage Video Wall
 - 1 - 3' x 4' Banner
- Public Address System Announcements
- 2 - VIP Parking Passes
- 1 - Ad (4.5" wide x 2.28" tall) to run 6 times in *The Rose* newspaper

More Sponsorship Opportunities

\$3,000.00 T-SHIRT SPONSOR

- Your Company Logo
- Printed On 500+ Volunteer Shirts
(T-Shirt Space Will Be Limited)
- MUST SUBMIT BY JUNE 1ST**

\$3,500.00 SILVER SPONSOR PACKAGE

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

\$850.00 COLOR BANNER

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

\$1,500.00 BRONZE SPONSOR PACKAGE

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

\$500.00 COLOR BILLBOARD

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

\$1,000.00 MAIN STAGE VIDEO WALL ADVERTISING PACKAGE

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

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



TASTE OF MELROSE PARK ORDER FORM

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TASTE OF MELROSE PARK

Please Return This Form With
A Check Or Money Order

No Later Than April 29th To:

Taste Of Melrose Park
1000 N. 25th Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

See Page 32 for the
40th Annual
Taste of
Melrose Park
Sponsorship
Details!

Please Select One of
the Following Packages:

____ \$8,000.00 PLATINUM SPONSOR

____ \$5,000.00 GOLD SPONSOR

____ \$3,500.00 SILVER SPONSOR

____ \$1,500.00 BRONZE SPONSOR

____ \$3,000.00 T-SHIRT SPONSOR

(Submit by June 1st)

____ \$1,000.00 VIDEO WALL SPONSOR

____ \$850.00 3 X 4 COLOR BANNER

____ \$500.00 2 x 4 COLOR BILLBOARD

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Sponsor Name: _____

Contact Name and Title: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

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

Important Please Read!!!

No later than June 1st, we need you to email us your billboard or banner
Camera Ready Artwork or email us the vital information we need for us
to create your billboard or banner to: taste@melrosepark.org

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

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, Now-March 8, 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, Now-March 9, 4 p.m.; Fee – R \$55/NR \$70; Classes are held at Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

Creative Arts

Duct Tape Wallets, Ages 7-13

Duct Tape Wallets with card slots are so easy and fun to make. Throw in a snack and some music and you have a fun Saturday morning

- Saturday, March 19, 10 a.m.-noon; Fee – R/N \$20; Classes are held at Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

Dance Programs, Ages 3-11

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

Early Childhood Classes

Jitter Bugs with Parent, Ages 2-4

Let us get our bodies moving while we dance and clap to the beat. We will also play rhythm games and rhythm instruments. This is a great way to chase the winter blues away.

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

Active Adults

Box Lunch Bingos

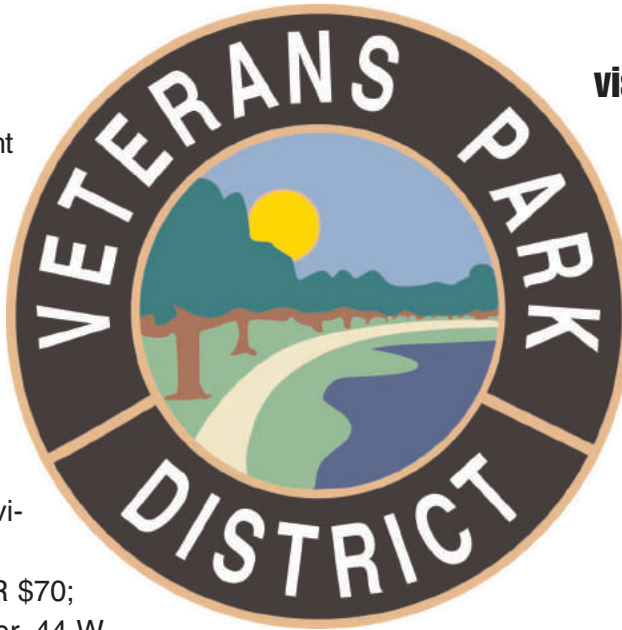
Box Lunch Bingos on Wednesdays (only \$10 per person) includes a box lunch meal and one Bingo card. Prizes for winners!

Call (708) 343-5270 for more information.

Bunco and Bites

Bunco and Bites on Mondays (only \$8 per person). Play Bunco and socialize! Hot coffee and lite bites are served, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Call (708) 343-5270 for more information.



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.

Coming Soon ...

Your Refreshed BATAAN PARK!

(Located at Ninth Avenue and Sherman.)

Enhancements Include ...

- New ADA Wheelchair Accessible Playground
- New Outdoor Exercise Equipment
 - Walking Track
 - Outdoor Pickleball Courts
 - Outdoor Batting Cage
- Parking Lot Entrance to Park
- Sitting Area with Shade Canopy
- New Outdoor Washroom Facility
 - Decorative Security Lights
- Poured-in-Place Rubber Playground Surfacing

*Watch for details,
as more information
becomes available,
on our special
grand re-opening celebration!*

CONNECT WITH US!



Cuomo To Go

25 E. North Ave. • Northlake Ill.

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

Take home HOT or COLD!

Visit our website – CuomoToGo.com.

Delivery available through GrubHub and DoorDash.



Veterans Park District

Programs
&
Happenings



ART WORKSHOPS FOR TWEENS

AGES 7-13

Come create in a friendly and fun environment. Music and snacks!



Sign up by
CALLING

708-343-5270

or on our website at
www.vpdpark.org



Sharpie Tie Dye Shoes

Let your creativity run wild with this fun and wearable art project.

**** You will need a clean pair of plain white canvas shoes.**

Age	Date	Day	Time	R/N Fee	Code #
7-13	Feb 19	Sa	10 AM-12 PM	\$20	318260-T1

Location: Grant Park

Duct Tape Wallet

Duct Tape wallets with card slots are so fun and easy to make. All supplies are included in the fee.

Age	Date	Day	Time	R/N Fee	Code #
7-13	Mar 19	Sa	10 AM-12 PM	\$20	318260-T2

Location: Grant Park

Galaxy Print Tee Shirt

Stars, comets, and/or planets can be added to your night sky T-shirt. This fun shirt can be worn all year.

**** You will need a black or navy tee shirt for this class.
Please be sure it is washed without fabric softener.**

Age	Date	Day	Time	R/N Fee	Code #
7-13	Apr 9	Sa	10 AM-12 PM	\$20	318260-T3

Location: Grant Park

Sharpie Tie Dye T-Shirt

Join your friends and make a Sharpie Tie Dye T-shirt; and it's washable. You can make your own fashion statement.

**** Bring a washed white T-shirt and a jar with a cover to class. Do not use fabric softener when washing the shirt.
All other supplies are included in the fee.**

Age	Date	Day	Time	R/N Fee	Code #
7-13	Apr 23	Sa	10 AM-12 PM	\$20	318260-T4

Location: Grant Park



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





**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

Hatha Yoga



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

Sundays 9am

Session 1 has ended. Registration is open for Session 2 and Session 3.

Session 2: February 20- March 20

Session 3: April 3-May 1

\$40 Residents /\$55 Nonresidents

**Cimballo Fitness Center
1203 N. 24th Ave. • Melrose Park**



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





**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

BALLET & DANCE

Our wonderful dance program is a highlight of teaching young children creative dance through movement.



Creative Movement | Ages (3-4) | R\$139/NR\$149

Thursdays, 5:30-6:15PM | Feb. 24- Jun. 9 (or)

Saturdays, 10-10:45AM | Feb. 26-Jun. 11

Ballet I | Ages (5-7) | R\$154/NR\$164

Thursdays, 6:30-7:15PM | Feb. 24- Jun. 9 (or)

Saturdays, 11-11:45AM | Feb. 26-Jun. 11

Ballet II | Ages (7-11) | R\$154/NR\$164

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:15PM | Feb. 23- Jun. 8

Modern/Jazz | Ages (7-11) | R\$154/NR\$164

*No class on 4/13, 4/14 and 4/16.



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





**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

ZUMBA



This dance-inspired total body workout combines all elements of fitness: cardio, muscle conditioning, balance, and flexibility. Latin music and easy to follow moves provide a fun, energetic class that will make you forget you're even exercising.

Choose either Mondays or Thursdays

Session 1 has ended. Registration is open for Session 2 and Session 3.

Session 2: February 28-March 28

Session 3: April 11-May 9

Session 2: February 24-March 24

Session 3: April 7-May 5

\$40 Resident / \$55 Nonresident

**Cimballo Fitness Center
1203 N. 24th Ave. • Melrose Park**



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

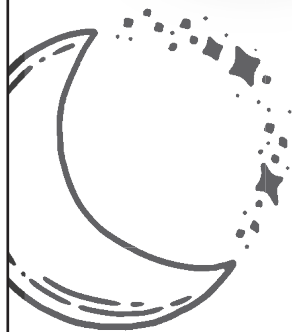




**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

CREATIVE ARTS Drawing Class



Resident \$60 / Nonresident \$75

Beginner Drawing | Ages 6-12
Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30PM

Intermediate Drawing | Ages 6-12
Tuesdays, 7:45-8:45PM

Session 2: March 1-April 6
Session 3: April 19-May 24

Grant Park • 44 W. Golfview Dr. • Northlake



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





**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

Stress Management Classes for Active Adults/Seniors

... A FREE VPD EVENT ...

Join VPD volunteers: **Pam** – Social Worker and **Peggy** – Retired Educator, as they guide us to better manage the stresses in our lives. This hour promises to be entertaining as well as educational.

Tuesdays, March 15, 22, 29 and April 5

11 AM-12 PM (free lunch to follow)

George A. Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th, Melrose Park

Registration is required in advance, no walk-ins. Space is limited.

Register NOW for this free program! CALL (708) 343-5270

**REGISTER AND COMPLETE
3 CLASSES, AND RECEIVE A
FREE TICKET TO A VPD BOX
LUNCH BINGO, RAFFLES
AND GIVEAWAYS.**



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





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



**It's not too late to
register for spring!
Second seven-week classes
begin March 21.**

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

There's a place for you.



Triton College
triton.edu

NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS

2022 District89 Spelling Bee



On Friday, Jan. 28, District 89 held their annual spelling bee with students from Irving Middle School, Stevenson Middle School and Washington Dual Language Academy. The competition lasted

12 rounds. Delia Saldana, eighth grade Irving placed third and Luciana Caraballo, sixth grade Stevenson placed second. Champion Alexander Williams, seventh grade Irving, won the District 89 Bee with the word 'appeasement.'

Special thank you to our guest volunteers Paul Martinez and Brenda Watkins, members of Triton College faculty and staff. Thank you for being a part of our #D89Community!



STEAM Family Night

On Monday, Jan. 24, families throughout the district joined for a virtual family night centered around STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics). Families learned more about what tools our students use in the classroom and how they can support at home.



Jane Addams Crafting Club

Jane Addams hosts an after-school Crafting Club for students to have a space to explore their imaginations and create something new.

www.maywood89.org



JaneAddamsRecyclingClub

This team works twice a week to recycle our paper waste and to help make the Earth a bit healthier. Thank you all!

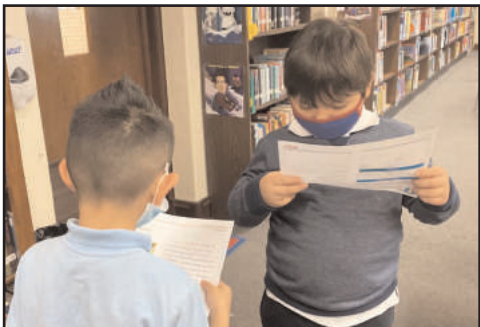


Save the Date!

Recently, auditions were held for the D89 Middle School Spring Musical. This year, students will be performing Disney's *Moana Jr.* The musical is scheduled for April 21 and 22.

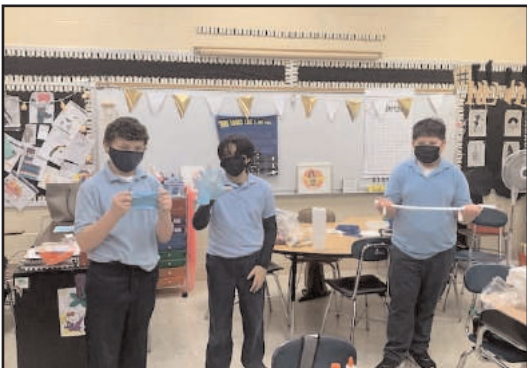
VennDiagram

First graders at Jane Addams learn how to visually represent the similarities and differences between two items by using a Venn diagram.



BuddyReading

Mrs. Machuca's first grade reading group engaged in Buddy Reading to practice reading fluency en Espanol!



MelrosePark Students CreateSlime

Mrs. Manzo's fifth grade class shows off their slime! While exploring matter, elements, mixtures, and solutions, along with physical and chemical changes, Mrs. Manzo's fifth grade Science classes created their own examples of matter and changes, using household or everyday ingredients to create slime! Students researched various "DIY" videos and gathered their materials to create a fun version of slime. Whether they made foamy slime or glitter slime, they had an awesome science lab!

Follow Us on Twitter "@maywood89"

NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS

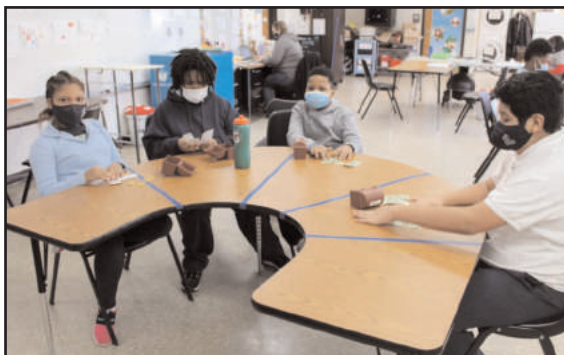


Research with Popular Media Resources

Eighth grade students visit the Stevenson Library to learn about how to do research using popular media resources. Students learned about Martin Luther King Jr. by watching a speech given by Bobby Kennedy from 1968.

Stevenson Stride

Each week the students in the STRIDE classroom have the opportunity to earn pirate coins which are given to students who are on task, helping others and showing a positive attitude! Every Friday the students work together to exchange their coins into dollars, which they can use to buy a variety of prizes from our classroom store!



SeaPerch

The SeaPerch Team at Stevenson is preparing for the Navy Great Lakes Regional SeaPerch Competition that will take place on April 9.

SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that equips teachers and students with the resources they need to build an underwater remotely operated vehicle.



www.maywood89.org



Watercolor Landscapes

Sixth grade students learned how to create space on a flat surface through size-relationship, placement and overlapping. Students then added finishing touches with watercolor techniques.

Each artwork shows excellent experimentation and creativity.

Washington Dual Language Academy PFA

We love to seeing our young Wildcats show their energy and imagination at work as they engage in different activities during Choice Time.



Youngest Panthers Design Their Own Bird

Our youngest Panthers in Mrs. Schak's PFA class used materials to do an open-ended art project during their pet study. Each student designed their own bird. Great job, Panthers!

Follow Us on Twitter “@maywood89”

NEWS
89

**School
District
89
BRIEFS**

www.maywood89.org

Follow Us on
Twitter
"@maywood89"

Now Enrolling Preschool For All

Registrando Ahora
Preescolar Para Todos

Apply online: www.maywood89.org/preschool
Applique en linea: www.maywood89.org/preschool

FREE
PROGRAM!
PROGRAMA
GRATIS!



3-5 YEARS OLD
3-5 AÑOS



**2.5 hour AM & PM
Classess**
Clases de AM & PM
de 2.5 horas



MONDAY-FRIDAY
LUNES-VIERNES

- High quality instruction
- Educational field trips
- Kindergarten readiness
- Language Development
- Health and Social Skills
- Opportunities for parental education and involvement

- Instruccion de alta-calidad
- Paseos educativos
- Preparase para kinder
- Desarrollo de lenguaje
- Destrezas sociales y de salud
- Oportunidades para que los padres se involucren y educacion para los padres

Screening dates
are held
throughout the
school year

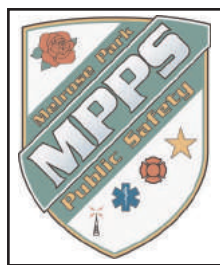


DISTRICT 89
MAYWOOD | MELROSE PARK | BROADVIEW



SCAN ME

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.

Sellers
Take advantage
of our low listing fee

3.5%

Or \$3,500 Minimum Fee

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

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish and Shrine WE ARE OPEN!

Greetings to all ...

In a few days, we are about to start the most intense and reflective time of the year for the Catholic Church. Lent for the year 2022 starts on Wednesday, March 2, and ends on Thursday, April 14, with evening Mass on Holy Thursday.

Lent is a Christian annual period that starts on Ash Wednesday lasting for 40 days representing the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness. This 40-day period for Christians is a time to reflect, fast and give penance in preparation for the resurrection of Christ, Easter Sunday.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is open and will have several moments of prayers during this time. Besides our daily morning Mass at 8 a.m. in English and at 6:30 p.m. in Spanish, the Shrine will have several other moments of prayer. The COVID-19 pandemic has not allowed us to come together and celebrate with food and drinks, but we are allowed to congregate and pray.

I take this opportunity to invite you to come to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and spend a fraction of your time praying in front of the statue of the patroness of this town. Moreover, join us in the liturgical event we have during Lent for your spiritual growth.

Leandro Fossá, C.S.
Pastor and Rector



Some Special Dates to Mark on Your Calendar ...

Wednesday, March 2 – Distribution of Ashes

8 a.m., Noon and 7:30 p.m. (English)
5 p.m. (Italian)
3 p.m., 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. (Spanish)

Fridays from March 4 to April 8 – Way of the Cross

7:30 p.m., Trilingual (English, Italian, Spanish)

Friday, March 11 – St Antony's Fish Fry

5:30-8:30 p.m., At the Gym

Friday, March 25 – Feast of the Annunciation (Holy Day of Obligation)

6:30 p.m. Mass (Spanish)
7:30 p.m. Mass (English)

Monday, April 4 –

Sacrament of Reconciliation for the Whole Community

7 p.m.

Sunday, April 10 – Palm Sunday

10:30 a.m., Festa Della Madonna del Arco Italian

Thursday, April 14 – Holy Thursday

Mass of Last Supper, 6 p.m. (English) and 8 p.m. (Spanish)
Pilgrimage to 7 Churches, 7:15 p.m.
Adoration from 9 p.m.-Midnight

Good Friday, April 15 – Adoration of the Cross

3 p.m., English Liturgy
4 p.m., Spanish Procession
6 p.m., Italian Liturgy and Procession

Holy Saturday, April 16 – Easter Vigil

8 p.m., Trilingual (English, Italian and Spanish)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Thursday from 5:30-7 p.m.
Every Saturday from 4-5 p.m.
Good Friday from 9 a.m.-Noon

For more information or changes,
visit our website and Facebook page ...
www.olmcparish.org • www.facebook.com/olmcparish.

Please join us for our Lent, Holy Week and Easter Services!

Sacred Heart & St. Eulalia Parish

Lent Services

ASH WEDNESDAY - MARCH 2

8:00am Mass at **Sacred Heart**

8:00am Mass at **St. Eulalia**

10am, 11am, 4pm, 5pm Prayer Service at **Sacred Heart**

4:30pm, 5:30pm Prayer Service at **St. Eulalia**

6:30pm Mass at **Sacred Heart**

7:00pm Mass at **St. Eulalia**

FRIDAYS IN LENT

7:00pm English Stations of the Cross at **Sacred Heart**

7:00pm Spanish Stations of the Cross at **St. Eulalia**

Palm Sunday & Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 10

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

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

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

HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 14

7:00pm ENG Mass of the Lord's Supper at **Sacred Heart**

7:00pm SPA Mass of the Lord's Supper at **St. Eulalia**

Adoration until Midnight after both Masses.

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 15

3:00pm English Stations of the Cross at **Sacred Heart**

3:00pm Spanish Stations of the Cross at **St. Eulalia**

7:00pm English Liturgical Service at **Sacred Heart**

7:00pm Spanish Liturgical Service at **St. Eulalia**

Easter

EASTER VIGIL - APRIL 16

10:00am Blessing of Food Baskets at **St. Eulalia**

3:00pm Blessing of Food Baskets at **Sacred Heart**

7:00pm English Easter Vigil Mass at **Sacred Heart**

7:00pm Spanish Easter Vigil Mass at **St. Eulalia**

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 17

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

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

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

819 N. 16th Ave. Melrose Park, IL

St. Eulalia Catholic Church

1845 S. 9th Ave. Maywood, IL

Parish Phone

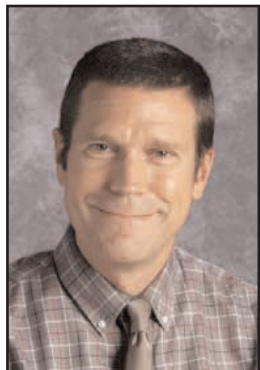
708-344-0757

Parish Website

www.shsparish.org



NEWS FROM WALTHER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



Tim Bouman

Tim Bouman, Head of School

Bronco family,

Greetings from Walther! Here on the corner of Ninth and Chicago in spite of the cold, in spite of the snow and in spite of the pandemic that just won't go away, I am happy to let you know, friends, that we are thriving. Every morning we open our doors and 270 young men and women walk in to be academically challenged and spiritually nurtured. We thank God for the opportunity to serve our students and we also thank God for their families who choose Walther for their education.

So what have we been up to? The most significant piece of news so far in 2022 is that Walther's Strategic Planning Committee has completed a five-year Strategic Plan to guide our steps into the future. With God's grace, we have a roadmap for the future that will help us improve our programming, enhance our facilities and build upon our foundation for a strong financial future.

More details will be shared in the near future. In addition to the plan it produced, the process was an invigorating one that engaged representatives of all of Walther's stakeholders. Stay tuned!

Meanwhile, our students continue to take advantage of all we have to offer. Our brand new Bowling Team began its season with a win, and our wrestlers, basketball players, cheerleaders and pep band members are competing and performing, using their God-given talents to shine! Finally, our Student Council has put together a slate of meaningful activities to celebrate Black History Month, including activities that are both educational and fun. Check out our Facebook page to see what transpires over the course of the month!

Finally, wherever you are and whatever your connection to Walther is, we wish you God's peace and hope to see you at an upcoming event!

Blessings,
Tim Bouman



Sally Ruecking, Director of Advancement

Happy February, Walther Family!

I wanted to take the time to thank so many people who have supported Walther throughout two years of a pandemic, which is also when I became a Walther Bronco. Your generous donations have changed the trajectory of this school, providing for upgrades in our school building and campus. They have also provided new busses, an upgraded STEM room, more STEM program resources that are as competitive as public schools, and more resources for our Athletics, and Music and Band departments. We are so grateful!

Yet, we still face challenges. Many of our families are still struggling financially which means we have to dig deeper to provide scholarship and needs-based tuition assistance. Our teachers and staff are long overdue for raises that allow this school to be more competitive in retaining wonderful employees and to attract new talent.

Among some of the challenges in my department was to postpone the three planned Bronco Benefit events, which have now been scheduled for May. It's also been hard to secure high quality auction items since so many past partners and opportunities for theatre, restaurants and resorts are no longer giving to worthwhile causes until things stabilize with their businesses. If you are reading this and can help, please contact me. You will be able to register for the three benefits soon for either a live "gala" event, a casual event for more recent graduates, or a virtual event, which provides an opportunity for connections if you live out of state. Also, we are hosting our second annual 5K on Saturday, June 4. Registration for that is now open on [raceroster.com](https://www.raceroster.com). This is a family-friendly event, but is also a competitive 5K that attracted runners last year that had no previous relationship with Walther – and, as we grow our community awareness and partnerships, this is a real WIN for this school!

In spite of COVID, I am hopeful for the future of this school. The new walkway with its engraved pavers have brought back so many alumni to leave their "footprint" to honor their years here. And, we have even had alumni who haven't seen the school in years come back to visit. If you have not returned to us or contacted us, please make sure I have your current email address and mailing address. So many alumni contact me to locate former classmates – you might be one of them!

Finally, please pray and consider leaving Walther in your estate planning. Leaving Walther in your will ensures that more students will have the chance to be educated in a Christian school, guided by amazingly talented teachers and staff, have multiple choices for extracurricular activities and to be academically challenged. The success of so many alumni says it all – Walther is a wonderful place that teaches lifelong habits and offers lifelong friendships.

Thank you for being part of the Walther community!

Sally Ruecking

Walther Christian Academy Events

In 2022, there are several events you can attend to support Walther! New dates! Mark your calendars!

May 14, 2022, 6 p.m. – Bronco Benefit at Maggiano's Little Italy, Schaumburg, Ill.

March 20, 2022 – New Event: Bronco Benefit Junior • 6 p.m., at the school. This event is for alumni classes of 1990-2021.

May 21, 2022, 6 p.m. – Second Annual Virtual Bronco Benefit will be hosted across the USA via Zoom

June 4, 2022 – Second Annual Bucking Bronco Run/Walk at the school and surrounding neighborhood.

Registration is open at raceroster.com.



Jonathan Saucedo

Meet Our New Middle School Teacher – Jonathan Saucedo

Greetings, fellow Broncos! I am thrilled to join the Walther Christian Academy team as the newest middle school teacher.

I was born and raised in River Forest; just a few minutes away from Walther Christian Academy where I attended Roosevelt Middle School, and later, Oak Park and River Forest High School. During my high school years, I formed an interest in theatre, inspired by many teachers, theatre directors, and Speech and Drama Team coaches. I took my passion for theatre and chose to major in theatre and education, earning my professional educators license in the areas of theatre/drama and English/language arts for grades six through 12 from Loyola University Chicago, studying along the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan.

Upon graduation in 2003, I began teaching integrated performing arts at Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Ill., which is where I completed my student teaching experience. Over the years, Loyola Academy has welcomed me back to teach theatre courses and I cherish those experiences where I continued to serve the Jesuit traditions – focusing on helping others. My road has not been a linear one, bringing me to London, England, where I earned my Teaching English as a Second or Other Language (TESOL) Certification and as a bonus, traveled throughout England and Paris. I have also taught language arts at the middle school level and tutored in Chicago Public Schools through the Princeton Review. As an actor, I continued to audition for stage roles while testing the waters as a manager for Courtyard Marriott Hotels by day and assistant coaching for the Speech and Drama Team at my alma mater, Oak Park and River Forest High School, with my teachers from years past.

I spent several years working at Oak Park and River Forest High School as a 1:1 instructional aide in the Special Education Division. Although my passion was in teaching and acting, I grew to love the field of SPED and the students I served who are now adults and I enjoy maintaining those relationships as we don't always know what happens to our kids after they have graduated, but I have a privilege to still know them, just as I continue to seek advice from my mentors. As your children have likely told you, I was sidelined by my own disability several years ago. After working with many children and teenagers with profound needs, I was diagnosed with an autoimmune condition that took my mobility and speech away. As a teacher and actor, I looked to my former students for inspiration and through much ongoing physical, speech and occupational therapy, I was graced with the ability to live my life again, differently, but able to return to teaching and acting.

Three years ago, I returned to Roosevelt Middle School, where I graduated many years ago and began working as a substitute teacher, then theatre and typing teacher, and once again as an instructional aide – I came full circle. With God's grace, I found Walther Christian Academy and am ecstatic to be part of the team as your middle school ELA/social studies/theatre and world literature (ninth grade) teacher. When not at Walther, I am home earning my degree in Master of Arts in writing with an emphasis in creative nonfiction with an expected conferment in 2023, when I hope to moonlight as a professor of writing. Though my plate is quite full, I do continue to write with a forthcoming nonfiction story coming this March and a one-act play that is in the workshopping process. Come summer, I plan to continue auditioning as a freelance stage actor in Chicago. I currently live with my family in North Riverside, who help me to adjust to my new reality as an ambulatory wheelchair user, and as I tell your children – we all need help in this life at one time or another. We strive for progress, not perfection. Thank you for having me here.

Warmly,
Mr. Jonathan Saucedo

Walther is Proud of Our New Bowling Team!



Our students expressed an interest in bowling and are very excited that we have formed a team that is already crushing it!

The team consists of both male and female students, and recently won a match with Lisle High School with a score of 1906 to 1925. Go Broncos!

From recent grads to alumni from many years ago, all say that they would not have had the myriad of opportunities in other schools that was offered at Walther.



Our winter installation has been completed, but please order today for spring!

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

Pavers are \$200 each.

To our donors – Walther would not exist without you!

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

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

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

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The ROSE AD RESERVATION FORM

Save the Dates!

Next Issue – April 2022

(Deadline for material March 25, 2022.)

Schedule for 2022

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

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\$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)

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The  ROSE

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Everyone Has the Right to Live Where They Choose

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

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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.

Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar Announces Transportation and Community Grant Program Applications for Suburban Cook County

Applications are Now Open for Two Programs that Promote Transportation Improvements and Economic Development Throughout the County

Applications are now open for the Department of Transportation and Highways (DoTH) "Invest in Cook" Grant Program to assist communities with transportation infrastructure improvements. In conjunction, the Bureau of Economic Development (BED) is also accepting capital improvement applications for their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program supporting economic development throughout the county.

"I am committed to bringing continued infrastructure investment into our communities," said Cook County Commissioner Frank Aguilar. "Both transportation and community development grants have real-world impacts on residents throughout the district. We must always look to expand these opportunities, while also ensuring new programs and investments are accessible for all residents to participate in."

"Invest in Cook"

For the sixth year in a row, DoTH will make "Invest in Cook" grants available to local governments and agency partners to help advance planning, engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction associated with transportation improvements.

The DoTH call for projects is an initiative of Connecting Cook County, the county's first long range transportation plan in 75 years. Connecting Cook County lays the groundwork for how the county invests in transportation to attract and retain businesses, people, capital and talent. In its first five years, "Invest in Cook" awarded \$39.4 million to fund 162 projects throughout the county.

In addition to funding projects, "Invest in Cook" provides technical and grant-writing expertise through workshops to help communities tap into new fund sources and accelerate the completion of projects that may have languished.

"Over the last five years, "Invest in Cook" has become a staple among municipalities and serves as an important lifeline to funding for transportation-related projects throughout the county," said Jennifer 'Sis' Killen, superintendent of DoTH. "Communities and township road districts are encouraged to submit their priority transportation project or one that simply needs a final push across the finish line."

Applicants interested in finding out if "Invest in Cook" is a good fit for a potential project can email InvestinCook.CC@cookcountyil.gov.

Community Development Block Grant

For over 40 years, Cook County has administered the Community Development Block Grant Program to support critical community development needs across suburban Cook County. BED opened the CDBG capital improvement application recently, while a CDBG application for social service needs will be made available later in the year.

"Both transportation and community development are essential components of the county's work to build thriving communities," said Bureau of Economic Development Chief Xochitl Flores. "We hope to bridge boundaries, engage our whole community and create equitable solutions for all suburban Cook County residents and businesses to thrive."

CDBG funding can also be invested in capital projects that will lead to job creation. Interested applicants can contact BED to discuss potential projects to determine if CDBG would be a good fit by emailing info.edev@cookcountyil.gov.

Virtual Workshop + How to Apply

The application deadline for both programs is March 16, 2022, at 5 p.m. CST.

Under the "Invest in Cook" Program, DoTH is seeking applications from local governments and transit agencies. Private and nonprofit organizations can submit project proposals, but must have a public sponsor. For program information and to apply for the grant, visit www.cookcountyil.gov/investincook.

Under the CDBG capital improvement program, BED will accept applications from units of government and nonprofit organizations. To view the application and application guide for the CDBG capital improvement program, visit www.cookcountyil.gov/content/grant-applicants-cdbg-esg.



Cook County and Chicago Bar Foundation Announce Recipients of Outreach Grants to Three 16th District Organizations

Three Community Organizations in Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar's 16th District Received Outreach Grants Ranging Between \$4,000 and \$12,000

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and Chicago Bar Foundation Executive Director Bob Glaves announced the recipients of \$180k worth of outreach grants to 24 community-based organizations across Cook County. Three organizations in Cook County's 16th District were among the recipients: BEDS Plus Care in LaGrange, PASO – West Suburban Action Project in Melrose Park and Access to Care in Westchester all received between \$4,000 to \$12,000 in grant money.

"These three incredible organizations have met the moment of each challenge our district faces and have provided great support and resources to our residents," said Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar. "I am proud to partner with these groups to help respond to our community's needs, whether that be housing security, community justice initiatives or access to health care. Congratulations to these outstanding organizations and I look forward to future partnerships into our district."

The grants will fund community outreach efforts for Cook County Legal Aid for Housing and Debt (CCLAHD). CCLAHD is a county-wide initiative aimed at helping residents resolve eviction, foreclosure, debt and tax deed issues through free legal aid, mediation services, case management and connections to resources.

BEDS Plus Care delivers emergency services, including overnight shelter, housing services and homelessness prevention to reduce and end homelessness in Southwest Suburban Cook County. The mission of BEDS Plus Care is to help vulnerable individuals stabilize their lives through housing and supportive services, and to end homelessness.

PASO – West Suburban Action Project (Proyecto de Acción de los Suburbios del Oeste) is a community-based social justice organization that works to engage community members to address issues that affect them, their families and neighbors with the mission to build stronger communities where all residents can live dignified lives regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic or immigration status.

The Access to Care (ATC) Program is administered by the Suburban Primary Health Council. ATC is a nonprofit primary health care program for residents of suburban Cook County and northwest Chicago who are lower-income, uninsured and underinsured. ATC has proudly served our communities since 1988. Access to Care partners with physicians and hospitals all across suburban Cook County to offer health care services to our members. Access to Care welcomes all residents in our service area regardless of their race, age, religion, country of origin, gender identity, orientation, physical and mental ability, or immigration status.

“Cook County launched CCLAHD to assist our residents facing issues surrounding evictions, foreclosures and debt,” said Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle. “And while we’ve seen success for residents in the program, all of us need to come together to reach out to folks to let them know about the available resources – that’s where our community partners come in. We’re proud to partner with folks on the ground to get the word out about CCLAHD to our residents in greatest need.”

Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar Hosts Town Hall on ARPA Funds for the 16th District

Commissioner Aguilar was Joined by Cook County Director of External Affairs Sandra Lewis and Director of Legislative Affairs Ty Cratic to Discuss Uses of ARPA Funds for Cook County

Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar was joined by members of the Cook County President’s Office and the Cook County Board of Finance in a virtual town hall. This town hall went over the funding the county received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), where the money will be allocated and how this funding will impact the 16th District.

“The American Rescue Plan Act has been instrumental in providing funds to cities and townships throughout the 16th District,” said Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar. “It is our duty to keep the public involved in these conversations so that all funds are distributed in fair and equitable ways to respond to any and all challenges our district faces.”

Cook County received more than \$1 billion through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The county managed a robust process to develop a responsible, comprehensive and equitable spending plan to use ARPA one-time resources to support both immediate recovery needs and long-term transformative initiatives.

“This is an historic event that is happening in Cook County and it’s important to know that this information is being shared with Cook County residents and that their input is essential,” said Sandra Lewis, director of External Affairs with Cook County’s President’s Office.

Cook County’s plan for use of its American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) to promote a response to the pandemic and economic recovery is grounded in its core values of equity, engagement and excellence. Cook County will use an equity lens to guide its SLFRF allocations to promote racial equity and sustainable impacts across the county.

Cook County’s plan for its ARPA funds will incorporate the following six policy priorities:

- Health and Wellness • Economic Development • Criminal Justice
- Environment and Sustainability • Public Infrastructure • Good Government

“Commissioner Aguilar hosting this event for his district is important for the long-term fiscal health of the county’s budget and overall standing of the residents of the county,” stated Ty Cratic, director of Legislative Affairs with Cook County’s Bureau of Finance.

Cook County’s 16th District Businesses Receive Nearly \$2 Million in Back-2-Business Grants

Businesses in Seven Townships Throughout the 16th District Receive Financial Support from Illinois’ Back-2-Business Grants

Over 50 businesses in townships represented by Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar received funds from Illinois’ Back-2-Business Grant Program. State officials announced that seven townships in the 16th District received this funding, totalling just under \$2 million. The townships are Bellwood, Broadview, Hillside, Maywood, Melrose Park, Northlake and Stone Park. Amounts each township received ranged from \$45,000 to \$630,000.

“Small businesses are the backbone of our district,” said Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar. “This pandemic has forced many businesses to make difficult choices. Getting immediate financial relief to businesses throughout the district has been one of my highest priorities. I am thrilled to see so many businesses apply for these funds, and look forward to seeing these community staples not only survive, but thrive.”

The Back-2-Business Grant Program assists businesses that have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This grant money comes from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) and the state has allocated \$250 million to small businesses affected by the pandemic. Businesses were eligible to receive between \$5k-\$250k in relief.

The seven townships, and with the amount each received from the Back-2-Business Program in parentheses, are as follows: Bellwood (\$95,000), Broadview (\$500,000), Hillside (\$265,000), Maywood (\$90,000), Melrose Park (\$630,000), Northlake (\$270,000) and Stone Park (\$45,000).

A Melrose Park Welcome to Dave's Hot Chicken ... Now Open on North Ave., Just West of 25th

Dave's Hot Chicken recently opened their new location at 2615 W. North Ave., in Melrose Park.



Dave's was created by best friends Dave Kopushyan, Arman Oganessian, and Tommy and Gary Rubenyan.

Dave, a chef trained in Thomas Keller's (French Laundry) organization, set out to create the perfect hot chicken by searching, tasting and frying. The four friends scrounged up \$900 to put a tiny stand in an East Hollywood parking lot. The menu was simple and chicken was the star. And what chicken it is! Sourced and prepared to be the juiciest and most tender imaginable with each piece topped with Dave's own mix of spices ranging from "Mild" to "The Reaper."

Arman created Instagram buzz and the lines began to grow. Two nights later, *Eater/LA* showed up to see what the fuss was about. The next morning's headline read "East Hollywood's Late Night Chicken Stand Might Blow Your Mind." Almost instantly, the lines stretched around the block.

A year later, the boys had the money to open a shop in a hip strip mall with decor by local street artists, where the crowds continued to grow with wait-times of an hour and more. From there, the incredibly craveable "Hot and Spicy" varieties have created a cult following with rave reviews across the U.S. and Canada.

Dave's menu features delicious chicken tenders, chicken sliders, mac & cheese, kale slaw, cheese fries, milkshakes and more.

For more information or to place an online order, check out the website at www.daveshotchicken.com, or you can call (708) 540-2700. Dave's Hot Chicken is open Sunday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Stop by today!

Dave's Hot Chicken • 2615 W. North Ave. • Melrose Park • (708) 540-2700 • daveshotchicken.com

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.**



Nicor Gas Customers Will See Lower Gas Cost

Company Also Shares Simple Energy Efficiency Tips that Can Help Lower Bills During Cold Winter Months

Nicor Gas has filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission to reduce its monthly gas cost to 55 cents, a 20 percent reduction since December 2021 and 10 percent reduction month-over-month. The new rate was effective Feb. 1.

Current natural gas costs reflect the impact of supply shortages and higher demand in the winter of 2021, which the company has been working to mitigate during this heating season. The new lower gas cost in February is the second consecutive monthly reduction that Nicor Gas has passed along to its customers.



The company files a gas supply charge with the ICC every month. This is the per therm price customers pay for natural gas delivered by Nicor Gas and comprises more than 50 percent of the typical residential customer's bill. The supply and demand of natural gas, coupled with dropping temperatures and economic inflation, have affected the commodity's market price worldwide. As a regulated utility, Nicor Gas does not profit from the sale of natural gas; the price Nicor Gas pays to purchase it is a direct price passed on to its customers without markup.

Nicor Gas' recent gas supply reduction is due in part to proactive measures the company has taken through its storage system reserves that have helped ensure further reliability and mitigate price risks. When temperatures drop well below freezing, like those experienced across much of the Midwest, Nicor Gas' infrastructure has the capacity to deliver safe natural gas via a modernized pipeline system and storage facilities. The company's storage facilities also provide critical reserves. Had it not been for storage, more than 1 million homes and businesses in Northern Illinois would have been without this essential energy source in 2019 during the polar vortex that brought the coldest days recorded in a two-day period.

"Nicor Gas customers expect and deserve natural gas service that's clean, safe and reliable every day, including during winter weather and the cold temperatures that we are currently experiencing," said John O. Hudson III, president and CEO of Nicor Gas. "We've all been affected by the pandemic but our commitment to our customers' well-being has never wavered. Our focus since before the pandemic has been compassion for our customers who need help and providing extra assistance options."

Last year, the company directed more than \$50 million in energy assistance to customers through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Percentage of Income Payment Plan and the Sharing and Energy Aide programs. Additionally, Nicor Gas partners with The Salvation Army through the Shield of Caring Program to provide natural gas bill payment emergency assistance and support for other basic needs, including housing, rental and groceries to help beyond utility bill payment assistance. For more information and to learn how to apply for these programs, visit NicorGas.com/EnergyAssistance.

As cold weather persists with many mornings well below freezing from November through March, natural gas usage has increased to keep homes and businesses warm and comfortable. Additionally, demand for natural gas service across the U.S. has increased significantly throughout the pandemic as more families work and students learn from their homes.

While natural gas remains the best value for home heating needs, costs typically increase in the winter when heating systems work harder and run more often to keep homes and businesses comfortable.

To help manage winter heating bills, consider some of these weatherizing and energy saving tips:

- Regularly replace air and furnace filters; most filters should be cleaned or replaced every 60-90 days. A clean filter will allow the system to run more efficiently.
- Open window coverings during the day to allow sunlight to heat your home naturally and close curtains at night to reduce the chill from cold windows.
- Keep furniture, drapes, stuffed animals and other objects away from heating sources.
- Adjust timer controls and programmable thermostats. Some older thermostats may not have an internal clock and need to be adjusted manually.
- Winterize the home by finding and sealing leaks and replacing older, less energy efficient gas appliances.
- Repair windows that don't close properly and replace single-pane windows with more efficient ones.

For more ways to save, including a do-it-yourself home weatherization checklist, visit NicorGas.com/DIY, where you can also schedule a free virtual home energy assessment and access Nicor Gas' preferred provider network.

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.

ComEd's Parent Company, Exelon, Separates its Utility/Power Generation Business into Two Publicly Traded Companies

ComEd's parent company, Exelon, has separated its utility business (which includes ComEd) and its power generation business into two publicly traded companies.

With a new business structure, you'll see our logo has also changed. We are updating our brand to match the new Exelon brand, which reflects how we are evolving to become a unified and integrated utility.

We want you to know that Exelon's separation will not affect your ComEd service in any way, and you do not need to take any action. While our logo is changing, our dedication to powering our communities safely, reliably and affordably is not. We will continue to make investments to upgrade and improve the energy grid. These improvements kept the grid resilient and helped significantly reduce customer interruptions during the recent winter storm.



With this news, you may have some questions ...

- Will there be any changes to my service? No. Your service will remain the same.
- How do I pay my bill? You will continue to pay your bill the same way you do today – nothing is changing. Please continue to make your payments using the same account number and information.
- Will my account number change? No. Your account number will remain the same.
- Do I need to notify my bank or credit card company if I use autopay? No. Nothing is changing for autopay.
- Will the logo change be immediate? It will take several months for us to completely change to the new logo in our bill template, website, mobile app, social media, uniforms and building signage. As we make these changes, you'll continue to see the former ComEd logo on our personal protective equipment, fleet vehicles and elsewhere until it is phased out. If you're ever in doubt whether you've been contacted by a legitimate ComEd employee or received a legitimate ComEd email communication, call us immediately at 1-800-334-7661.
- How will ComEd's website change? Our website address will remain the same: ComEd.com, but the new logo will replace the former logo.
- How will ComEd's social media change? All of our social media handles across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube will remain the same, but the new logo will replace the former logo.
- Who do I contact if I have questions about my bill or service? Our phone numbers are not changing. Residential customers should continue to call 1-800-588-9477 and business customers should call 1-877-426-6331.

ComEd will continue its commitment to reliably serving you clean energy every day, running the power grid with a focus on the environment and affordability. Thank you for being a valued customer and member of our community.

ComEd Proposes Performance Metrics to Encourage High Levels of Service and Value to Customers and Communities

To Ensure Accountability, Illinois Commerce Commission will Evaluate ComEd's Performance Against Approved Metrics

Following the completion of a stakeholder workshop process, ComEd recently submitted to the Illinois Commerce Commission, which regulates the state's public utilities, proposed performance metrics that incorporate feedback ComEd received in public workshops and support the goals of the state's new clean energy law, which is designed to achieve a 100 percent clean energy future with a focus on equity. This filing marks the latest milestone in the implementation of the clean energy law.

"ComEd takes great pride in being a national leader in reliably and affordably delivering clean energy to customers, and these metrics encourage the high levels of service that our customers expect and all communities deserve," said Terence R. Donnelly, ComEd president and COO. "The metrics support the state's new clean energy law, as they focus on equitably building a resilient power grid that can withstand more extreme weather caused by climate change, support the growth of clean energy innovations, such as solar panels and electric vehicles, and balance the need to keep customers' electric bills affordable."

The clean energy law requires that utilities propose up to eight metrics. ComEd's proposed performance metrics include:

- **System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI):** A standard reliability and resiliency metric in the utility industry that measures the frequency and duration of power outages that customers experience in a year.

- **Customers Exceeding Minimum Service Levels:** A reliability and resiliency metric that focuses on the number of customers who experience recurring interruptions or long-duration interruptions for multiple years.
- **System Visibility Index:** A reliability and resiliency metric that addresses ComEd's ability to rapidly identify momentary interruptions, voltage fluctuations and similar events across the entire ComEd power grid.
- **Load Reduction Capability:** A measure of the ability of utility sponsored and supported activities, including utility programs and products that help customers save money and use less energy, to reduce peak load and the contribute to reducing the generation capacity our region requires.
- **Arrearages:** An affordability metric based on the percentage of residential customers with past due balances greater than 90 days.
- **Interconnection Timeliness:** A measure of ComEd's responsiveness to customer requests to connect their clean energy resources such as solar panels to the electric distribution grid.
- **First Contact Resolution:** A customer service metric that measures the percentage of customers whose issues are resolved the first time they contact ComEd.
- **Percentage of Spend with Diversity-Certified Suppliers:** A supplier diversity metric that tracks how much ComEd spends with suppliers and subcontractor businesses owned by people of color, women or veterans.

ComEd also proposed 11 tracking metrics across five categories (emissions reductions, grid flexibility, cost savings, diversity and equity) to monitor and report utility performance, which may aid in the development of future performance metrics.

While ComEd has not yet made a final decision as to whether it will pursue a multi-year rate plan, approved metrics will apply should a multi-year rate plan be filed and approved in the future.

ComEd Announces \$500,000 Now Available to Fund Community Improvement Projects

Annual Powering Communities Program to Provide Grants of Up to \$10,000 for Projects Focused on Sustainability, Safety and the Arts

ComEd is now accepting applications for its latest round of Powering Communities competitive grants to help protect the environment, enhance public safety and increase access to the arts across Northern Illinois. Municipal agencies and community organizations that operate in the ComEd service territory are encouraged to apply for a total of more than \$500,000 in available funding. Qualifying proposals will be eligible for grants of up to \$10,000 each, available through three programs to support communities.

Interested parties are encouraged to visit [ComEd.com/Grants](https://www.comed.com/grants) for more information, including how to apply for funding. Applications will be accepted now through 5 p.m. CST on March 25, 2022.

"ComEd is proud to partner with our communities by making needed investments that enhance the quality of life for the families and businesses we're privileged to serve," said Melissa Washington, senior vice president of Customer Operations at ComEd. "From funding pollinators and green space projects, to public electric vehicle chargers to arts programming for youth and seniors, we continue to seed local investments to help lift up communities and meet the challenges of today's ever-evolving climate and economy."

The three annual grants programs – Green Region, Powering Safe Communities and Powering the Arts – are administered in partnership with Openlands, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and the League of Chicago Theatres, respectively.

Green Region grants support nonprofits, educational and public agencies in their efforts to plan for, protect and improve open space. These grants support open-space projects that focus on planning, acquisition and improvements to local parks, natural areas and recreation resources.

Powering Safe Communities grants support municipal and public safety initiatives. This year, grants have a special focus on electrification projects that reduce carbon emissions, improve public health outcomes and advance community resiliency.

Powering the Arts grants recognize that increased access to the arts enhances the vibrancy of local communities. These grants support arts and culture organizations in their efforts to reach new and diverse audiences.

"It is vitally important that we invest in nature-based solutions that help mitigate the most severe effects of climate change. From restoring our land to protecting biodiversity, especially of pollinators, we must all do our part to ensure the region's climate resiliency," said Jerry Adelmann, president and CEO of Openlands. "That is why we are proud to partner with ComEd for the 10th year of the ComEd Green Region Grant, providing the resources necessary to ensure healthy and vibrant communities in Northern Illinois."

"We are proud to announce we are partnering with ComEd to administer the Powering Safe Communities Program. This program has dramatically helped communities meet their safety and sustainability goals," said David Bennett, executive director of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. "We look forward to serving our communities again through the program this year and invite communities to apply."

"The League of Chicago Theatre is proud to team up with ComEd for our fifth consecutive year of Powering the Arts to increase access, engagement and enjoyment of the arts," said Deb Clapp, executive director of the League of Chicago Theatres. "We are committed to making the arts more equitable and available to all audiences by delivering programs that will enhance the health of our communities. With the support of ComEd and others in the region, we are focused on making theatre more accessible to all and providing much-needed support for arts organizations across our communities as they recover from the devastating impact of the pandemic."

Since 2013, ComEd competitive grant programs have made investments in communities to improve their infrastructure and quality of life. Collectively, these programs have delivered nearly \$3 million in funding to support hundreds of projects, including those to expand arts programming, to improve green infrastructure, like parks, and to expand clean transportation in communities across Northern Illinois.

The annual grants programs are one part of ComEd's comprehensive investment in the communities it serves. In 2021 alone, ComEd employees volunteered more than 12,200 hours and raised \$2 million to support communities and causes close to their hearts.

For more information on each grant program, including eligibility guidelines and how to apply, visit [ComEd.com/Grants](https://www.comed.com/grants).



Check Out These February, March and April Events and Activities at the Cook County Forest Preserves

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

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

Cold Blooded (Animals!) – Saturday, Feb. 19 • 10:30 a.m.

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

Learn about the “cool” adaptations that help animals survive winter, followed by a short nature walk to see what winter animals are around and about! 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.

Woodworking with Invasives – Friday, Feb. 25 • 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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

Build your own walking stick using buckthorn, an invasive species. Adults and children ages 12 and up. Please bring your own work gloves. 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.

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

Winter Dog Days Dog Walk – Saturday, Feb. 26 • 10:30 a.m.

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

This one is for the dog walkers! Join a naturalist as you and your best friend go on a casual nature walk along Trailside’s scenic trails. Dogs must be leashed. 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.

Women’s History Month Walk – Saturday, March 12 • 10 a.m.

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

Join us on a hike where we highlight conservation leader Isabel Bassett Wasson, and the work and discoveries she made at Thatcher Woods and beyond. 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 – <https://tinyurl.com/womanswalk>.

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

Celebrate Spring Fest – Wednesday, March 16 • 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Cummings Square (536 N. Harlem Ave., River Forest)

Build and play with natural materials, make a decorative terrarium, paint a bird house and participate in other 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 – (312) 533-5751/experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Senior Fitness Walk – Friday, March 18 • 1 p.m.

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

Join other seniors for a moderately paced, 1-mile fitness walk in beautiful Thatcher Woods. Led by senior Roberta Jannsen, University of Illinois Extension volunteer. 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.

Spring Breakout Adventure – Wednesday, March 30 • 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.

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

Youth and families enjoy time out of school with activities, including animal encounters, nature play, hikes and other fun during this drop-in program. 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 – (312) 533-5751/experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Senior Fitness Walk – Wednesday, March 30 • 1 p.m.

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

Join other seniors for a moderately paced, 1-mile fitness walk in beautiful Thatcher Woods. Led by senior Roberta Jannsen, University of Illinois Extension volunteer. 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.

Woodcock Walk – Friday, April 1 • 7 p.m.

Wolf Road Prairie (31st St., West of Wolf Rd., near Westchester)

Witness the amazing spring courtship flight of the male woodcock bird at Wolf Road Prairie near Westchester. Led by John Elliot of Chicago Audubon. 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 – Sunday, April 3 • 10 a.m.

Sunset Bridge Meadow (North Ave., East of First Ave., River Grove)

Fitness hikes are for those looking to get some exercise outdoors. Fitness hikes will be faster paced with little to no stopping or interpretation (7 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 – <https://tinyurl.com/dphike>.

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

Senior Fitness Walk – Friday, April 8 • 1 p.m.

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

Join other seniors for a moderately paced, 1-mile fitness walk in beautiful Thatcher Woods. Led by senior Roberta Jannsen, University of Illinois Extension volunteer. 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.

Restoration Workday – Sunday, April 10 • 1-4 p.m.

Evans Field (Bloomington Ave. and Thatcher Ave., River Grove)

Improve native wildlife habitat by learning about and removing invasive species. Ages 10 and up; children under 15 with adult. 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.

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

Senior Fitness Walk – Wednesday, April 13 • 1 p.m.

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

Join other seniors for a moderately paced, 1-mile fitness walk in beautiful Thatcher Woods. Led by senior Roberta Jannsen, University of Illinois Extension volunteer. 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.

Animal Supplies Drop 'n Drive – Saturday, April 16 • 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Miller Meadow-South (First Ave., South of Roosevelt Rd., Near Forest Park)

Join in helping animals in need by donating supplies. This is a drop-off event. Donation drop-off location is at Miller Meadow Off-Leash Dog Area.

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

Earth Day Cleanup (Two Locations)

Noon-2 p.m. – Miller Meadow-South (First Ave., South of Roosevelt Rd., Near Forest Park)

3-6 p.m. – Jerome Huppert Woods (Thatcher Ave., South of Fullerton Ave., River Grove)

Celebrate Earth Day by doing your part in helping clean up litter in the Preserves. We will have litter pickup supplies for individuals or families to check out during the afternoon. 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 – (312) 533-5751/experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.



News from the Zoo!

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

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

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

Ice Age Giants – Zoowide • April 1-Oct. 1, 2022

During the last major ice age, which peaked about 20,000 years ago, our human ancestors were living alongside enormous animals that had made Earth their home for millions of years. They died off in a mass extinction about 10,000 years ago.

This summer, Brookfield Zoo and Dino Don Inc. are unleashing more than 20 life-sized, animatronic re-creations of giants that had roamed North America and Eurasia during the Ice Age. They'll include the following giants:

- Mastodon (18 feet long) • Woolly Mammoth (15 feet tall)
- Giant Ground Sloths (20 feet long) • Giant Rodent (10 feet long)
- Short-faced Bear (11 feet long) • Giant Ape (10 feet tall)
- Saber-toothed Cat (5 feet long) • Giant Bird (12 feet tall)

Adding to the lifelike effect, parts of the animals – including the head, eyes, mouth and tail – move as they did in real life. The display's creator, Don Lessem, CEO of Dino Don, Inc., has been digging, reconstructing, writing about, and roboticizing dinosaurs and other creatures from the past for 30 years. Junior paleontologists can be like Don and dig for fossils in a 64-square-foot dig pit.

Keep your eyes peeled because these ice age giants will be arriving soon – and it's all free with general admission!



Penguin Encounter

Watching our resident Humboldt penguins swim and play at The Living Coast habitat is fun, but did you know you can actually meet them, too? When you take part in a Penguin Encounter, you not only get to mingle with these special birds, but also learn about their behavior and the details of our conservation work in Punta San Juan (Peru). It's a wonderful experience for the whole family as well as a great way to connect personally to the penguins while learning about the importance of protecting them.

Capacity is limited, be sure to reserve your Penguin Encounter ticket online (czs.org) in advance of your zoo visit.

Health and Safety – For the safety of our staff and all participating guests, masks are required during the encounter.

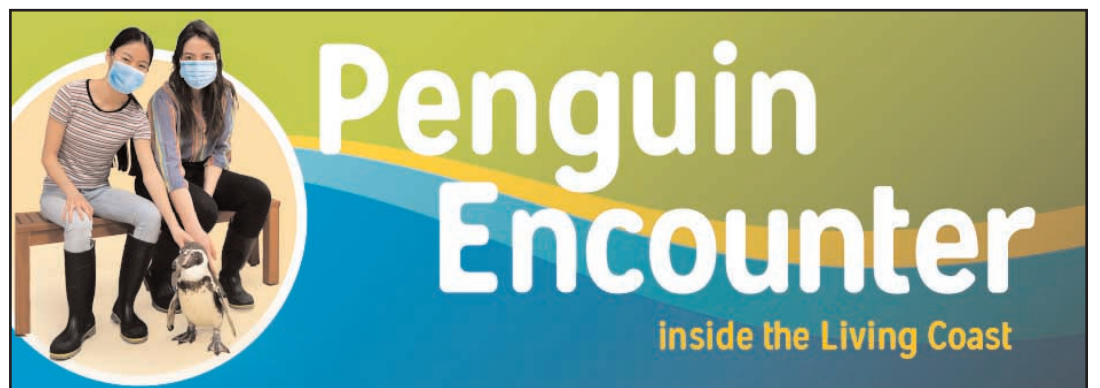
Hours – Weekdays: 2 p.m. • Weekends: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Register Now – Please print or bring your email receipt for entry to a Penguin Encounter at The Living Coast exhibit. Zoo admission and parking are not included.

Encounter Information – During your visit, you will enter the Penguin Encounter Room, which is located just past the Humboldt penguin habitat in The Living Coast, right before the building exit.

Encounter – Approximately 30 minutes, depending on the number of guest participants.

Cost – \$40 per person.



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.

Refund Policy – For information on rescheduling and canceling a program, and on our refund policy, please see our Program Policy PDF at cza.org.

Age – Participants must be at least 5 years old. Children between ages 5 and 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Maximum Group Size – 10 participants.

Service Animals – For the safety of the animals and other guests, service animals are not allowed in the Penguin Encounter Room. With advance notice, reasonable accommodations can be made.

What to Expect

Greetings – When you arrive for your encounter you will enter the Penguin Encounter Room, which is located just past the Humboldt penguin habitat in The Living Coast, right before the building exit. You will be greeted by a penguin keeper who will help get all participants settled in and prepped for the encounter. You will hear about our resident Humboldt penguins, their behavior and fun facts, plus learn some basics on how to safely interact with our resident ambassador penguins.

Penguin Arrival – The penguins will arrive with a second keeper and the birds will be allowed to mingle with the encounter participants. Like people, each of the penguins have distinct personalities and interests. They’re allowed to interact with whoever they choose!

During the Penguin Encounter – During the encounter one keeper will accompany the penguin through the group of participants while the other shares details of our conservation work in Punta San Juan (Peru) with the penguin’s wild counterparts. The penguins participate in the encounter by their own free choice, walking the short distance from their exhibit to the encounter room.

Pictures – Please feel free to take pictures as cameras are welcome, but for the welfare of the birds, no flashes.

Penguins Waddle Back – At the end of the encounter, the penguins will bid the guests farewell and waddle back to their exhibit to be with their friends. The staff will answer any additional questions you have. We challenge you to remember the color of the penguin’s wing band, and then see if you can find and identify it in the flock on exhibit!

Dolphins in Action

Get to know our dolphins through the exciting and educational Dolphins in Action! Learn about dolphin social structures and adaptations as our dolphins captivate you with aerial displays and other exhibitions that show off their incredible intelligence and agility. Please note that masks are required for all guests inside Seven Seas (children 2 and under not required to wear masks).

Schedule – Now-March 4: • Monday-Friday: 11:30 a.m.
• Saturday-Sunday: 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m.

The dolphin building (presentations and underwater viewing) will be closed for maintenance from Feb. 21-25.

Tickets – Adults: \$6 • Seniors 65 and Over: \$4 • Children 3-11: \$3.



Hamill Family Wild Encounters

At just over three acres, this exhibit is geared toward guests of all ages and features unforgettable hands-on experiences that include opportunities to touch and feed animals, including parakeets and goats. You'll also get to see red pandas, llamas, wallabies and reindeer, not to mention Zoo Chats and Animal Ambassador appearances throughout the day.

Admission to Hamill Family Wild Encounters is free through Feb. 28, 2022!

- Seed sticks for parakeets are available for \$2 each and sold inside the aviary.
- Please note that the wallaby and goat yards are closed during winter months.

Schedule – Daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



Skating Rink

Skate through the winter season! 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.

Schedule – Saturdays and Sundays this winter, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tickets – 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.





WEST LAKE **URGENT CARE**

serving adults and children of the community



SICK TODAY? SEEN TODAY!

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



**5,100 SQUARE FEET
DEDICATED TO PATIENT CARE
12 EXAM ROOMS
LOCAL PHYSICIANS
ER-TRAINED STAFF
CONVENIENT & FAST
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PROVISO TOWNSHIP HANDYMAN PROGRAM

Proviso Township Handyman News

Did you know that ceiling fans help distribute heat evenly to your rooms? Are yours in good working order? When was the last time you changed the filters in your furnace?

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

Call us at (708) 547-4001 to schedule an appointment or to register for our 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
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Hillside, IL 60162
P: 708-449-4307
F: 708-202-1265
www.provisotownship.com



Obituaries

Acevedo

Gerardo Acevedo. Dearly beloved husband of Catalina; loving father of Ivonne (Jose) Acevedo-Flores and Jorge Acevedo; beloved son of Gloria and the late Roberto Acevedo; fond grandfather of Maricela (Jhordy) Rivas; dear brother of eight; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Amici

Don L. Amici. Dear brother of the late Anita (the late Vincent) De Rose; fond uncle of Mary Alice De Rose (Tim) Lambert and James (Maureen) De Rose; fond great-uncle of four; fond great-great-uncle of two. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Arrequin

Maria Arrequin, nee Medina. Dearly beloved wife of Leopoldo Sr.; loving mother of Marivel (Estaben), Leopoldo Jr., Brenda (Jesus) and Diego; cherished abuela of Bryan and Andy Alvarez. dear sister of Rafael, Jovita, Yolanda, Rogelio, Lina, Olga, Minerva, Araceli, Sonia and Trinidad; fond sister-in-law, aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Barnes

Earleen Barnes. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Bunch

Freddie Mae Bunch, who loved to be called "Muh" by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, departed her loving family on Dec. 21, 2021. Freddie Mae was born in England, Ark., on July 16, 1930, to Nevador and Essice Shepherd, Sr. (both preceded her in death). She was the oldest of 10 children. She married James Bunch Sr. (who preceded her in death), and they were parents to 10 children: James Jr. (who preceded her in death), Cecial, Johnny, R Lavern, Zonnie, Denise, David (who preceded her in death), Donna, DeWayne and Fernando (who preceded her in death), who she raised with love and devotion in Chicago, Ill. Aside from the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren she doted on, Freddie Mae is survived by her loving siblings, O.C., James, Lloyd, Jewel Dean, Berniece and Joe (siblings Essice Jr, Doris and Lucille preceded her in death). Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Capra

Nicholas Capra. Beloved son of the late Rudolph and Dolores Capra; dear brother of Carl Capra and Lisa Marie Pedicone; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Cintron

Miriam Cintron, veteran of the United States Army. Loving mother of Peter Cintron and Randolph Cintron; beloved daughter of Jose Ramos and the late Maria Ramos; dear sister of Gladys Finley, Louis Ramos, Sara Rojas, Jose Ramos, Migdalia Ramos and Carmen Ramos; loving grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Cozzi

Vincent J. Cozzi. Dearly beloved husband of Angeline (nee Suriano); loving father of Vincent (Karen), Joseph (Vicki) and Michael A. Cozzi; cherished grandfather of Gianna (Zach), Joseph, Vincent, Nicholas, Adriana and Anthony; fond friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Christ the King Mausoleum of Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Farmer

June I. Farmer, 95, of Lake Como, Wis., passed away peacefully to eternal life on Friday, Jan. 14, surrounded by her loving children.

June was born daughter of the late Kermit and Ida (Iverson) Geiger on Nov. 18, 1926, in Chicago, Ill. She married Darrell H. Farmer, Sr., on Aug. 17, 1946, in Chicago, Ill. They were married for 51 years until Darrell passed away on Dec. 24, 1997.

She was a long-time member of the Como Community Church, where she had a close connection to God, and an avid participant of the Lake Como Beach Woman's Club. June worked for more than 20 years as an occupational therapist assistant, once she retired, she then worked housekeeping at the Covenant Harbor Camp until the age of 86, when she fully retired.

June was the loving mother of five children: Janet (Richard) Buelow, Darrell Farmer, Jr., Edward (Karen) Farmer, Carolyn (David) Johnson and Eileen (William) Kolar; caring grandmother to 15 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends. June is preceded in death by her husband, parents, two grandchildren and her siblings Marilyn VanGilder and Kermit Geiger.

Arrangements by Lazarczyk Family Funeral Homes, Steinke Chapel of Lake Geneva, Wis. Burial Oak Hill Cemetery in Lake Geneva, Wis.

Flores

Margarito Flores. Dearly beloved husband of Cynthia (nee Cerba); loving father of Daniel (Elizabeth), Deanna, Veronica and David; cherished grandfather of Emily and Layla; dear brother of Antonio, Luis, Jose, Maria, Carmella, Josefina, and the late Jesus and Raul. loving brother-in-law, uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven.

Fricke

Robert A. Fricke. Dearly beloved husband of Sharon (nee Vilt); loving father of Marc (Nancy) and Michael; dear brother, uncle and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Funeral private.

Fugate

William Fugate Jr. Beloved husband of Lorraine (nee Jarzab); loving father of John William; beloved son of the late William and Mary; dear brother of Diane Bucaro, Janey (Gill) Michelotti, Nancy Wildman, Steve Fugate and the late Linda (the late Rene) Mariel; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Hayes

Michael "Mikey" James Hayes, age 22, of Rosemont, formerly of Skokie, passed away unexpectedly on Dec. 8, 2021. Michael was the beloved son of Kelly (Joe) Malikowski, and Adam Hayes; loving grandson of Marge Anderson, Harry Anderson and Peggy Hayes; cherished nephew of the late Bob Anderson and the late Eric Anderson; dear great-nephew of Robert and Ed (Kris) Leichtenberg, Dan and David Hayes, and Charlene Evans; devoted cousin and friend of many. Michael graduated from East Leyden High School in 2017. He was a music lover, avid gamer and recently found a passion for cycling. He worked for UPS, where he was beginning to make his way in life and finding independence. Generosity and selflessness run in Michael's family, therefore Michael's body was offered to Gift of Hope in hopes to better someone else's life. Gift of Hope is a tissue and organ network that gives the life to someone else. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Hoey

James "Jim" Hoey. Dearly beloved husband of the late Mary Jane Hoey; loving father of JoEllyn (Guy) Romano, Michael (Shelly) Hoey, Tommy (Shelley), Laura (Neal) Bogart and the late Jimmy Hoey; beloved son of the late Thomas and Mary Hoey; fond grandfather of Natalie Romano,

Samantha Malik, Samantha Hoey, Sophia Hoey, Emily Bogart Jackson Hoey, Alexis Hoey, Kaely Bogart, Elia Bogart and Amelia Hoey; dear brother of the late Thomas Hoey, Patrick Hoey, Judy Fortune, William Hoey, Lucy Adams, Mary Killackey, Donald Hoey and Lulu Hoey; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Hoger

Charlotte Mildred Hoger. On Friday, Jan. 7, 2022, Charlotte Mildred Hoger received her Crown of Glory at the age of 90. Charlotte was born in Chicago, Ill., and was baptized into God’s kingdom on April 24, 1931, at St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church. After attending St. Stephen’s Elementary School, Charlotte graduated from Luther Institute. It was here that the Koseck sisters, Lorraine and Chuckie (as Charlotte was affectionately called), were a force to behold on the girls basketball team.

After marrying and while raising her two children, Charlotte worked several jobs. For many years, she served as one of the favorite lunch ladies and cook at St. Paul Lutheran School, Melrose Park. From there she moved into the position of school secretary, where she could use her amazing shorthand and typing skills. She was able to type the words almost as quickly as a person could talk. Charlotte then took her skills to Concordia University, Chicago, where she retired as administrative assistant to the university president.

After serving as a faithful and active member at St. Paul, Charlotte retired to Lakeville, Minn., to be near her daughter and family. Retirement did not slow Charlotte down. The Lakeville Senior Center was a favorite hangout, with Charlotte participating in line dancing and every seasonal craft show, where she proudly sold her items. Charlotte was also an active member of Messiah Lutheran Church and a key participant in founding the Feed My Sheep Food Shelf, now known as the Messiah Community Foodshelf.

Charlotte was best known for her sweet tooth and love of baking. She was happiest sharing cookies and desserts with friends and family. Later in life, she took joy in sitting in the sunshine and crocheting blankets for her family.

Charlotte is preceded in death by her mother Mildred and her beloved sister Lorraine. She is survived by her daughter Deborah (Jim) Montgomery; son Mark (Jean) Hoger; grandchildren, Allison (Nathan) Devroy, Timothy (Jillian) Montgomery, Jamie (Phillip) Hanson, Christine Hoger, Aaron (Rita) Hoger and Kaylee Hoger (fiancée David VanDeven); special nieces, Karen Leonard and Carol Leonard; and her great-grand loves, Ronald Devroy, Franklin Devroy and Cecelia Montgomery; as well as her extended Leonard family.

“The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forever.” Arrangements by Kahle-Moore Funeral Home.

Iurio

Ralph Iurio. Dearly beloved friend of Candy Di Luca (nee Paras); loving friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Funeral private.

La Calamita

Rosalie A. La Calamita, nee Garro. Loving mother of Lisa, Joseph and Michael (Gloria) La Calamita; dearly beloved daughter of the late Charles and Jennie Garro; cherished grandmother of Christopher, Nicholas, Lorenzo and Dominic; dear sister of the late Jeanette (Al) Koller; fond aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Lentini

Dena Lentini. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Services 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.

Marin

Nazario Marin. Dearly beloved son of Miguel and Rosa Marin; dear brother of Miguel and Angel; loving cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Glen Oak Cemetery.

Marino

Michael A. Marino Jr. Dearly beloved son of Mary "Dugan" Buono and the late Michael Marino Sr.; loving brother of Tina (Sam) Dentino, Vicki (Nicholas) Palumbo, John (Tammy) Marino and Anthony Marino; fond uncle, nephew, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Funeral private.

Martinez

Carmen Martinez. Beloved wife of Felix Betancourt; loving mother of Tammy Izquierdo and Tatiana (Norriel) Machado; fond grandmother of Nylani and Miracle Izquierdo; beloved daughter of Mario and the late Antonia Martinez; dear sister of Orlando, Luis and Junior Martinez; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Maryhill Cemetery.

Martinez

Rafaela S. Martinez. Dearly beloved wife of Pastor Martinez; loving mother of Sara (Antelmo), Carmen (Jeffrey), Sara Soledad (Teodoro), Pastor (Anita), Maricruz, Antonia, Ricardo (Karina), Rocio, Ernesto (Mercedes) and Cynthia; beloved daughter of Paula Parra; cherished grandmother of Citlali, Marshall, Omar, Antelmo Jr., Bianca, Yesi, Alex, Celina, Derek, Jasmin, Krystle, Daisy, Johan, Erica, Charlie, Samantha, Christopher, Heather, Arturo, Marc, Stephanie, Emily, Kenny, Katie, Lucero, Jimmy, Steve, Tom, Joey, Kristian, Carlos, Jackie, Jessica and Miguelito; great-grandmother of Jasmine, Gisselle, Michael, Adriel, Genesis, Gaby, Caleb, Ava, Parker, Isabelle, Gabrielle, Sophie, Arturo Jr., Annalise, Donatello and Rio; dear sister of Amalia Santillano, the late Nasario Santillano and the late Pedro Santillano. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Resurrection Cemetery.

Orna

Eleanor Orna. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Funeral private.

Ortiz

Aida Ortiz. Dearly beloved wife of Rene Munoz; loving mother of Kenneth (Nomed) Munoz, Renaida (Jaime Garcia) Munoz, Damarz (Obrayan) Munoz and Ibis Munoz; fond grandmother of Kennito, Ricky (Valerie), Naidy (Michael), Javy, Luigi (Julieta) and Bebe (Javier); fond great-grandmother of Naichel, Llarianys, Llanialys, Leahnya, Ian, Jadiel and Jeshua; dear sister of 14; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Fairview Memorial Cemetery.

Palermo

Ross Palermo. On Monday, Jan. 3, 2022, Ross Palermo, of Bloomingdale, Ill., passed away peacefully. Born on Nov. 12,1949, he was raised in Melrose Park with his parents, brothers and sister. It is in Melrose Park that he met the love of his life and wife of over 50 years, Debra Palermo (nee Cappilupo). Ross was a loud, loving, kind, jovial and grateful man, which made him an exceptional husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin and friend. Thus he was loved by many and now will be missed by many. Ross was a faithful servant of the Lord Jesus and made many devotions to our Blessed Mother Mary. He imparted his love and faith in Jesus and hope in his children and grandchildren. Ross is now watching over all of his loved ones and his soul will live on in those who loved him. Ross is survived by his beloved and devoted wife Debra (Cappilupo) Palermo; his devoted daughter Nicole Palermo-Pendola and her husband Steven Pendola; his devoted son Christopher Palermo and his wife Laura Beth (Brown) Palermo; his cherished and loving grandchildren, Emmalena Rose and Joseph Ross Palermo, Graciana Rose and Hailey Ann Pendola; his great-grandson Vincent Khoshaba; his brother Anthony Palermo and sister Renee Guzzardi (Palermo); his sister -in-laws and brother-in-law; several loving nieces and nephews; multiple adoring cousins; and so many beloved

friends. Ross was preceded in death by his parents, Eugene (Geno) Palermo and Florence (Flo Brilliant) Palermo; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Frank P. Cappilupo and Marie (Perrino) Cappilupo; his brother Eugene (Gig) Palermo; and many more loved ones that were dear to him and welcomed him into Heaven. Ross’ loving family, thanks all of you, for the multitude of support and mostly the prayers throughout the years. Please continue to pray for Ross’ soul and for his family at this difficult time. Arrangements by Bucaro Funeral Home & Cremation Center. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Pesola

Michael S. Pesola. Beloved husband of the late Norma (nee Miglorie); loving father of Dominic, Michael, Lee, Anthony, Michelle, Theresa and the late Rocco; cherished grandfather of Amanda, Anthony, Natallia, Elijah and Matthew; great-grandfather of Aziel and Mariella; dear brother of Pat (Jackie) and Mary; devoted uncle of many nieces and nephews; proud friend of Frank Difranc. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Pignataro

Rose Mary Pignataro, nee Coconate. Dearly beloved wife of the late Edward Pignataro Jr; loving mother of Frances (Robert) Hughes, Edward III (Karen) Pignataro, Patricia Sferazo-Ploger, Laura (Ron) De Rosa, Michael (Kay) Pignataro; cherished grandmother of Lauren, Elizabeth, Emily, Edward IV, Brittany, Justine, Jillian and Alec; great-grandmother of nine; dear sister of the late Joseph, Sarah, Charles, Louis and James; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Pitassi

Christine A. Pitassi. Dearly beloved wife of the late Peter C.; loving mother of Peter (Joan) and Sam C. (MPPD) (Rosa) Pitassi; cherished grandmother of Peter John, Lauren M. (Sean) Ramey, Christina M. (Joshua) Heinen and Sam J. (Teresa); great-grandmother of Julianna and Connor; dear sister of Joseph (Beverly) Millonzi and the late Roy (Theresa) Millonzi, the late Anthony B. (Nadine), and the late Angela and Nicholas Perrino; fond sister-in-law, aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment at Christ the King Mausoleum of Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Posson

Barbara Posson, nee Pacente. Dearly beloved mother of Scott, Keith and Tracy (Tony) Reyes; loving daughter of the late John and Louise Pacente; cherished grandmother of Catalina and Antonio; great-grandmother of Matthew, Oliver and Audrey; dear sister of Allan (Paula), and the late Richard (Barb) Pacente and Richard Posson; fond aunt of John (Amiee) Pacente and dear cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Principe

David J Principe, retired Melrose Park Police officer of over 40 years. Dearly beloved husband of the late Corinne (nee Ariola); loving father of Dina (Tony) Sbarra and James (Amber) Principe; cherished grandfather of Anthony, Krista, Isabella, Madison, Peter and David James; dear brother of Daniel (Vera) Principe; fond brother-in-law, uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Mausoleum. Proud Member of the FOP-19.

Ramirez

Jason Alonzo Ramirez. Beloved son of Pedro and Petra Ramirez; dear brother of Colleen Orozco and Mireya (Valentin) Garcia; loving companion of Yesenia Davila; loving nephew, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Ramos

Lorena Ramos. Dearly beloved wife of Diego Solis; loving mother of Juan and Stephanie Solis; friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Rodriguez

Maria Rodriguez. Dearly beloved wife of the late Manuel; loving mother of Artemia (Francisco) Herrera, Abelardo (Teresa), Jesus (Maria) and Magdalena (Lorenzo) Villanueva; loving grandmother of Adrian, Lizette (Rene), Maria Isabel, Abel, Jesus Manuel, Karina, Melissa, Erick and Daniel; dear sister of Leopoldo, Cipriano, Josefina and Antonio; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment in La Purisima, Durango, Mexico.

Salazar

Carlos Hernandez Salazar. Dearly beloved husband of Maria Elena Ortega Montes; loving father of Martha Hernandez and Carlos Hernandez; adored father-in-law of Maria Hernandez and Ismael Heredia; beloved son of Francisca and the late Elizeo; cherished abuelito of Isamar, Maribell, Vanessa, Adriana, Joanna, Adrian and Alejandra; dear brother of Jose, Luis, Salvador, Rosa, Roberto, Letizia, Angeles, Teresa, Anna, Beatrice, Elizeo, Juan Manuel and Ruben; fond brother-in-law, uncle, cousin and friend of many. Carlos radiated patience, love, kindness and strength. His memory will live on through all of those he impacted whether it be the words of wisdom that resonate or the stories we continue to share amongst one another. During this time may we find peace knowing he is at rest in the kingdom of God. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Salerno

Charles J. Salerno, 64, of Henderson, Nev., passed on Jan. 28. He was born in Chicago on March 23, 1957. He was the beloved husband of Julie A. Salerno (nee Castellan); loving father of Charles and Vincent Salerno; fond son of the late Charles Salerno and Lucille Salerno (nee Pape); caring brother of Carla J. Salerno and the late Daniel R. Salerno; loving brother-in-law of Albert Castellan, Edward (Iolanda) Castellan Jr., Michael (Andrea) Castellan and David (Cecelia) Castellan; dear uncle to many nieces and nephews. Arrangements by Palm Eastern Mortuary, Las Vegas, Nev. Interment at Palm Mortuary.

Scimone

Patricia A. Scimone, nee Bartucci. Dearly beloved wife of John; loving mother of John (Jessica), Nino (Michele) and Tommy, cherished grandmother of Johnny, Gracie, Ella, Siena and Nino Jr.; dear sister of Joseph (Laura), Phyllis (Wayne) Conforti and Marilyn (the late Hans) Kornau; fond aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Christ the King Mausoleum at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Sepka

John Sepka. Dearly beloved husband of Philomena Sepka (nee Caliendo); loving father of Denise (Jimmy) Sansone, Diane (Anthony) Nardiello and Louis (Irene) Sinople; beloved son of the late Frank and Ann Sepka; fond grandfather of Jimmy, Nicholas, Dominique Sansone, Frank and Theresa Nardiello, and David Rico Louis Sinople; dear brother of Tom (Ann) Sepka and the late Julie (Pat) Caliendo; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Soriano

Maximo Villegas Soriano, May 11, 1936-Jan. 1, 2022, of Berwyn, age 85. Beloved husband of Maria de Jesus Villegas (nee Carlos); loving father of Adrian (Ovelia), Roman (Rebecca), Octavio (Herlinda), Luis (Lupe), Efren, Margarita (Rosendo) Rodriguez and Humberto (Maria E.); proud grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather of many. Arrangements by Conboy-Westchester Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Spacucello

Angeline M Spacucello, nee Traverso. Dearly beloved wife of the late Salvatore; loving mother of Michael (Rosie), Janice (late Larry) Hantosh and Steve (Donna); cherished grandmother of Michael, Brian, Brianna, Michael, Vincent, Anthony, Steven, Analise and Devin; great-grandmother of Arianna, Nicholas, Oliva, Olivia, Mia, Santino and Mila; dear sister of Alex (Kay) Traverso and Joseph (Geneva) Traverso; fond sister-in-law, aunt, cousin

and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Spillone

Joseph C. "Magoo" Spillone, veteran of the United States military. Loving father of Lisa (Nick) Pellegrino, Toni (Bob) Laino and Joseph (Melissa) Spillone; beloved son of the late Anthony and Carmella; fond papa of Dominic, Joseph, Sophia, Robert and Emma; dear brother of Richard (Vicki) and Anthony (Annette); loving uncle, great uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Taddeo

August "Auggie" Taddeo. Former mayor of Melrose Park. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Funeral and services were private.

Visconti

Louis Visconti. Louie passed away peacefully on Monday, Dec. 27, 2021, at AMITA Health Resurrection Medical Center after a long battle with cancer. He was born on Oct. 12, 1941, to the late Sam and Josephine (Gulino) Visconti. On Dec. 2, 2013, he married Diane (Coor). He was a retired plumber with Local Union 130. Ever trying to make the most of life, he played tennis with the Tall Boys and was a member of the Chicago Windy City Jitterbug Club. He loved being outdoors in the sun and in the water. He was a great dancer, a man who always wanted to make you laugh and a wonderful human being. He was always a "glass half full" type of guy who encouraged others not to sweat the small stuff. He is survived by his wife, Diane Visconti, of Melrose Park; his two sons, Lou and Christopher (Kelli); his two stepdaughters, Dona and Danielle (Godar); his five grandchildren, Lou Jr., Francesca, Sean (Faith), Sammy and Vivian; his two great-grandchildren, Jamie and Lainey; and his sister Frances (Novak). He is preceded in death by his first wife of 51 years, Carolyn, and his brother Sonny. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Widlowski

Debra A. Oldenburg-Widlowski, nee Kessling. Dearly beloved mother of John (fiancée of Abby) Oldenburg, and Lauren and Nicholas Widlowski; loving daughter of Wayne and the late Darlene Kessling; dear sister of Dawn

(Jerry) Zuffante, Michael (Rose) and Mark Kessling; fond aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Mount Carmel Cemetery. Member of the Second Edition of the Cuzin's Club.

Wilcox

Anna Wilcox, nee Grandolfo. Dearly beloved wife of the late Teddy Wilcox; loving mother of Stella Addante and John (Mary) Addante; beloved daughter of the late Giuseppe and Rachela Grandolfo; fond grandmother of Marc Anthony Carbone, Matthew Carbone, Justin Addante and Tony Addante; dear sister of Nicola, Dorotea, Pietro, Antonio, Raffela, Giovanni and Filomena; loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Saint Joseph Cemetery.

Yench

Ann Yench. Dearly beloved wife of the late Philip Yench; loving father of Kathleen (Richard) Lewis and Barbara (Greg) Szatko; beloved daughter of the late Louis and Matilda Recchia; beloved daughter-in-law of the late Thomas and Helen Yench; fond grandmother of Tim, David, Chris, Kristy and Michael; great-grandmother of Lexi and Camden; dear sister of Frank (Nancy), Pat (Sonny) and Jim (Sharon); loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Zarate

Porfirio Lorenzo Perez Zarate. Loved by many family and friends. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Funeral private.

Zito

Jon "JB" Zito, retired assistant superintendent of Streets and Sanitation of Melrose Park. Dearly beloved husband of Dawn; loving father of John (Cynthia), Jody (Randy) Sant, Angelique (Mike) Eccardt, Samantha and Anthony; beloved son of Philomena and the late John; fond grandfather of Nicholas, Madison, Ava and Leah; dear brother of George, Michael, Rocky and the late Angela; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Carbonara Funeral Directors

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708.343.4000 FAX 708.343.9745

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CLERK

Mary Ann Paolantonio

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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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overhead door \$399,000



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