

## A Message From Mayor Ronald M. Serpico

*Keep Informed of Area News and Navigate the  
Maze of Local Government in an Easier Way ...  
Be One of the Drivers Who Use the Super Information Highway!  
Utilize the Village of Melrose Park Website Regularly.*

Dear Neighbors,

With the start of the new year, many of us make New Year's resolutions. In 2023, please make a resolution to utilize the village of Melrose Park website to keep informed of local news, to download various municipal forms, pay water bills, learn of village programs and to file request forms for services.

What will you find on the village website? For starters, visit [www.melrosepark.org](http://www.melrosepark.org) and when you open the village website, you will arrive at the homepage where you will see four large icons that display the words:  
CALENDAR ... WATER BILL PAYMENT ... FOR RESIDENTS ... FOR BUSINESSES.

Click on the WATER BILL PAYMENT icon and it will open up to a page where you can pay your water bill online without the bother of mailing a check or stopping by the Village Hall. You will also see an option for managing your account.

Click on the FOR RESIDENTS icon and it will open a host of programs and forms that will save you time and aggravation. For example, there is information on a variety of village-related topics from where to dispose of old prescription drugs to how to rent the village's Multi-Purpose Room to the village's dog park hours to information on village vehicle stickers. On this page you can register for an overnight parking permit, download a Senior Painting Program Application or even request a permission form for a special event/block party. Be sure to check out this very helpful page.

Click on the FOR BUSINESSES icon and an array of forms will appear that a business or individual can utilize to comply with village ordinances.


Two important sections on the village website are the CONTACT and REPORT A PROBLEM, both found in the maroon strip near the top of the homepage. Click on the heading CONTACT and a drop-down menu will appear on which you will then click on the word CONTACT once more. What will appear is a form where you can ask questions, file a complaint or request a service. Click on the heading REPORT A PROBLEM and a form appears outlining a variety of issues you can report that need to be fixed, from burnt out streetlights to potholes to animal control and so much more.

Also, on the village's website homepage you can access stories and information that are Melrose Park related. For example, as I write this article the homepage has details relating to the village's Senior Citizen Snow Removal Program, the new Overnight Parking Request System, the latest village's Public Works Report, flu shot locations and other village highlights.

Take it from me, a person who's only a student driver on the Super Information Highway, let's make it a resolution to utilize the village's website more often, which allows us to make navigating the maze of local government much easier.

Have a healthy, safe and prosperous 2023.

Sincerely,

  
Mayor Ron Serpico



**Ronald M. Serpico**  
Mayor

**Check Out [www.MelrosePark.org](http://www.MelrosePark.org) to  
Learn More About Our Community!**



Follow us on facebook



**Election Day is Tuesday, April 4. Early Voting Runs March 20 through April 3 at the Melrose Park Village Hall.**



# Village of Melrose Park

**Ronald M. Serpico, Mayor**

**Mary Ann Paolantonio, Village Clerk**

## Trustees

**Anthony J. Abruzzo • Jaime Anguiano**

**Arturo J. Mota • Sonny Nicotera**

**Anthony J. Prignano • Mary Ramirez Taconi**



## To Know

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

**Hours – Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.**

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

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

**Water, Tickets, Etc.**

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

**Police Emergency .....911**

**Non-Emergency .....(708) 344-8409**

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

**Fire Emergency .....911**

**Non-Emergency .....(708) 344-1210**

**Public Safety/Homeland Security .....(708) 649-8000**

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

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

**Building and Code .....(708) 343-4000**

**Civic Center .....(708) 450-0555**

**Hall and Field Rentals, Sports, Etc.**

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

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

**Taste of Melrose Park**

**Dial A Ride .....(708) 343-7047**

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

**Economic Development .....(708) 865-8809**

## Important Upcoming Dates

**Village Board Meetings .....March 13 and April 10**

**Village Hall Holiday Closings .....April 7**

# Resident Response

## *Dear Mayor Serpico ...*

Good Afternoon!

Just a note to say thank you very much! My driveway, sidewalk and porch were shoveled today and I just can't tell you how much I appreciate this wonderful service! It is so awesome to be able to depend on the village of Melrose Park for this great help, so many thanks to you and everyone involved in making this happen.

• Jan Roeder

## *Dear Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame ...*

Please allow this letter to serve as gratitude for mutual aid assistance.

On Monday, Dec. 26, 2022, at approximately 3:17 p.m., on duty Maywood Fire personnel were dispatched to the location of 1642 S. 15th Ave., for the report of a church fire.

Upon arrival, first responders found an approximate 30 x 70 ft., two-story church building with heavy fire inside the rear of the structure.

Several challenges faced by personnel involved in this incident included freezing temperatures, icy conditions, struggle to secure and maintain water supply, the threat of fire spread throughout the structure and to adjacent buildings, extended operations in the cold and the risk of personal injury or worse, and damage to or loss of equipment.

Because of assistance from your personnel, losses from this incident were limited to the building on fire and just a couple of tools.

On behalf of the Maywood, Illinois Fire Department, please pass on to your personnel involved in this incident my sincerest appreciation.

• Respectfully,

Craig A. Bronaugh Jr., Fire Chief

Village of Maywood Fire Department

## *Dear Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame ...*

On Sunday, Jan. 15, we were dispatched to 2429 Erie St., for the structure fire.

Our dispatchers received reports of possible entrapment.

Upon our arrival, we found a two-story frame house with heavy black smoke and fire on the first and second floors.

This fire escalated to a Still & Box Alarm immediately.

The River Grove Fire and Police departments made a rescue from a second-floor balcony on the D side of the structure. Only one resident was home at the time. The resident did not go to the hospital, but we did transport a neighbor to Gottlieb Hospital with minor injuries he sustained while trying to help his neighbor get out of the house.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Thank you for your department's assistance with this fire. Had it not been for the quick response of our auto aid/box alarm companies, this fire definitely would have communicated to the surrounding structures.

Again, I am grateful for our Division XX partnership and continued coordinated efforts.

• Sean Flynn, Fire Chief

River Grove Fire Department

### ***Dear Mayor Serpico ...***

On behalf of Gottlieb Memorial Hospital (GMH), I would like to express my gratitude for the assistance your village provided us in conducting evacuation drills during the month of November.

Each year our Transitional Care Unit (located on the fourth floor of GMH) and our Rehabilitation Unit (located on the sixth floor) are required to conduct an evacuation drill. The purpose is to demonstrate the actual physical movement of patients from the unit down to the ground level and into a waiting ambulance. As in year's past, we asked for the village's assistance in conducting the drills and without hesitation, your staff agreed.

Working with Chief Philip Schwartz of the Department of Homeland Security and Public Safety, and Director Rick Beltrame of the Fire Department, arrangements were made to have personnel and an ambulance present during each drill. Their role would be that of observer, safety and advisor.

At the beginning of each drill, the evacuation policy was reviewed, as well as the acronyms RACE (Rescue, Alert, Contain, Extinguish) and PASS (Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep), command responsibilities on the unit during an event, evacuation types and equipment options, the role and authority of first responders during such an event, and safety protocols for the drill. The drill was conducted multiple times on each shift to ensure all hospital colleagues had a chance to participate.

Throughout each drill, your personnel conducted themselves in an exemplary manner. Their knowledge and experience in evacuation techniques was obvious and the way they interacted with our colleagues could not have been better.

This was a great demonstration of community collaboration and we are truly thankful and appreciative for your leadership and willingness to assist.

- Sincerely,  
Elizabeth E. Early, President  
Gottlieb Memorial Hospital

### ***Dear Mayor Serpico ...***

Many thanks to you for supporting our 12th annual Blast from the Past fundraiser for Misericordia. Together with your help and generosity we raised \$10,220 for Misericordia. Each year you have graciously donated to us the use of the Senior Center for our event, in addition to a generous monetary donation.

Once again, we want to thank the staff that helps us each year to set up and organize the Senior Center. They cannot do enough for us to make us feel comfortable and at home. We appreciate their time and effort.

We want to thank all the local businesses that donated food and/or gift certificates for our event. Our heartfelt thanks to Abruzzo's, Chickie's, Jewel Melrose Park, Liborio's, Ozzies, Anthony B's, Bertolli's Pizzeria, The Great Escape, Taverna, Roberto's, Scudiero's, Debbie's Material Possessions, Piccolo Salon, Schwings, Joey C's Pizza, il Vicolo, Positano, Jim and Pete's, Crab du Jour, Cuomo Catering, Harlo Grill, Maria's Mexican, Duck Inn, New Pot & Noodles and Pan American Bank & Trust.

The children and adults of Misericordia Heart of Mercy Center thank you for the love and compassion in supporting our fundraising efforts.

Misericordia exists because of the good people who share our ministry and support our fundraising efforts. Please know you are helping children and adults who are not able to create a good world for themselves. Your kindness does not go unnoticed.

God bless you and yours for being there for us!

- Sincerely,  
Jo, Tom and Matthew Halleran



## **Early Voting for the April 4, 2023 Consolidated Election Runs Monday, March 20 through Monday, April 3 at the Melrose Park Village Hall (Multipurpose Room) 1000 N. 25th Ave. Melrose Park.**

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

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

## **Did You Know You Can Manage Your Water Bill Online?**

The village of Melrose Park provides residents with an option to manage their water bill online. Residents can visit [www.melrosepark.org](http://www.melrosepark.org) and by clicking on images as directed, you'll be linked to the online Water Account page. You will need your account number and the full name of the person listed on the water bill to log in and utilize this feature. If you do not know your account number, please send an email to [RV@melrosepark.org](mailto:RV@melrosepark.org) and your account number will be sent to you.

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

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

**Manage Your Water Bill**





# 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 Jasmine Mendez via email – [jmendez@melrosepark.org](mailto:jmendez@melrosepark.org) or by phone – (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4414.



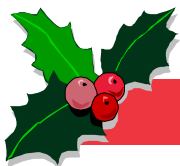


# Mayor Serpico/Melrose Park Youth Commission

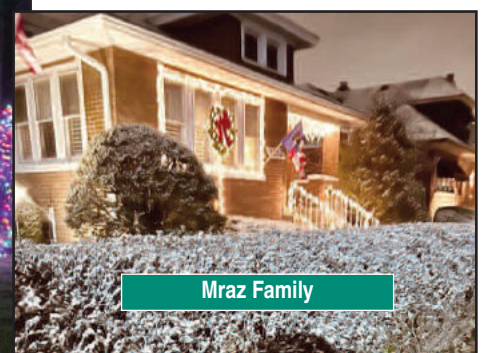
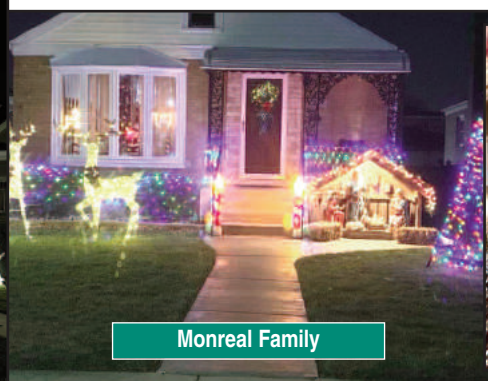
## **Outdoor Holiday Decorating Contest Homes**



5 – \$150 Top Prize Winners



4 – \$50 Runners-Up Prize Winners



**Thank you to everyone for joining in the seasonal fun!  
Watch for details on our 2023 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 safety tips on behalf of the National Fire Protection Association. Please follow these tips to ensure your family's well-being!

### Religious Candle Safety

Lit candles are used in religious services, in places of worship, and in the home. Whether you are using one candle or more, make sure you take a few moments to learn about using candles safely.

#### Candle Safety

- Candles should be placed in a sturdy candle holder.
- Handheld candles should not be passed from one person to another at any time.
- When lighting candles at a candle lighting service, have the person with the unlit candle dip their candle into the flame of the lit candle.
- Lit candles should not be placed in windows where a blind or curtain could catch fire.
- Candles placed on, or near tables, altars, or shrines, must be watched by an adult.
- If a candle must burn continuously, be sure it is enclosed in a glass container and placed in a sink, on a metal tray, or in a deep basin filled with water.

#### General Fire Safety

- Matches and lighters should be stored out of the reach of children, in a locked cabinet.
- Places of worship should be equipped with a fire detection and sprinkler system.
- A home should have smoke alarms on every level, outside each sleeping area and inside each bedroom. For the best protection, interconnect the alarms, so when one sounds, they all sound. Test all smoke alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button. Replace smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.
- Plan and practice a home fire escape drill that includes two ways out of every room and an outside meeting place.

#### Children & Candles

**Candles should be out of the reach of children and pets.**

Young children should never hold a lit candle. Consider providing **battery-operated candles** for children. A **parent** should decide when a child is mature enough to light a candle with adult supervision.

#### FACTS

- ! **December** is the peak time of year for home candle fires.
- ! **Three of every five** home candle fires happen when a candle is placed too close to something that can burn.



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



**MELROSE PARK  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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



# A Message from Director of Police Sam C. Pitassi



*Sam C. Pitassi  
Director of Police*



## Melrose Park Police Department

### Bianchi Recognized by IACP as a Top Drug Recognition Expert

On Wednesday, Feb. 8, Melrose Park Police Officer William Bianchi was recognized as one of the top drug recognition experts (DRE) by the Illinois Association Chiefs of Police (IACP) in 2022.

A drug recognition expert is a law enforcement officer trained in a scientifically validated method to identify people whose driving is impaired by drugs other than, or in addition to, alcohol.

Officer Bianchi, along with over 100 officers in Illinois, have worked hard to identify and prosecute the drug impaired drivers on the roads. Bianchi, in a short time after receiving his certification, has tallied over 18 evaluations. He has earned as being the top evaluator in Illinois in 2022. This information was reported to the IACP Annual Report.

Due to Officer Bianchi's hard work and dedication to this new process of stopping DUI drivers and keeping the streets of Melrose Park safe, Bianchi received a letter of commendation on behalf of Melrose Park Director of Police Sam Pitassi, as well as Deputy Chief Anthony Greco and Lt. John Schillinger. Congratulations to Officer William Bianchi for the well-deserved recognition and a job well done!



*Ofc. William Bianchi*



### MPPD Congratulates and Welcomes New Officers

The Melrose Park Police Department has welcomed three new police officers to the force.

Pictured, left to right, are officers Jocelyn Arredondo, Alexis Ojeda and Marleen Rodriguez who participated in the Chicago Police Department's Metropolitan Recruit Graduation on Friday, Feb. 17, 2023.

Director of Police Sam Pitassi and Mayor Serpico welcome these fine individuals, and wish them and their families good luck as they launch their new careers as Melrose Park law enforcement officers.

## Provide an Anonymous Crime Tip

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

## IMPORTANT PARKING NOTICE

### A QUICK NOTE TO UPDATE WEEKEND PARKING RULES ...

As of Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, 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.**

Visit the Melrose Park Police Department Website at [www.melroseparkpd.com](http://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.





# 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 \$40 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 – \$40 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-DECEMBER 2023 (Depending on Type of Vehicle) \$55 Every Two Years
Passenger Vehicles	
B Plate	\$95
D Plate	\$145
F Plate	\$145
H Plate	\$145
J Plate	\$155
K Plate	\$155
L Plate	\$175
M Plate	\$185
N Plate	\$195
P Plate	\$205
Q Plate	\$205
R Plate	\$215
S Plate	\$225
T Plate	\$245
V Plate	\$265
X Plate	\$285
Z Plate	\$305

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

**For more information, please call (708) 343-4000 or visit [www.melrosepark.org](http://www.melrosepark.org).**

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



# Always Stepping Up ...

## THE VILLAGE OF MELROSE PARK DEPARTMENTS OF HOMELAND SECURITY ~ PUBLIC SAFETY 2023 AWARDS DINNER

By Zachary Plunkett, Melrose Park Public Safety

On Jan. 21, the Departments of Homeland Security ~ Public Safety held the 2023 Volunteer Awards Dinner. The annual awards dinner is to recognize the achievements and time volunteered by the officers and members during the past year.



During the presentation, the Honorable Mayor Ronald M. Serpico along with Chief Philip Schwartz presented the President's Volunteer Service Awards for 2022. The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation created the President's Volunteer Service Award Program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. Recognizing and honoring volunteers sets a standard for service to others.

### Melrose Park Homeland Security ~ Public Safety is Proud to Join the President's Council in Honoring Our 2022 Award Honorees



**BRONZE AWARD HONOREES – 100 TO 249 VOLUNTEER HOURS**  
RON COLETTA, JEFF DULEY, CANDICE, JOSIE PANZECA AND PAULA TELLO.

**SILVER AWARD HONOREES – 250 TO 499 VOLUNTEER HOURS**  
MICHAEL BONOME, ANDREA SAVIOZZI, GABE TORRES, ANTONIO FRAGOSO, JOEL SANCHEZ AND ZACHARY PLUNKETT.

**GOLD AWARD HONOREES – 500 OR MORE VOLUNTEER HOURS**  
LIONEL MORAN, JOHANNA DOMINGUEZ, ARTURO VILLASENOR, MARIA CHAVEZ AND ERIK LEON.

**PRESIDENT'S CALL TO SERVICE LIFETIME AWARD HONOREES – 4,000 OR MORE LIFETIME VOLUNTEER HOURS**  
PHILIP SCHWARTZ, STEPHANIE SCHWARTZ, GEORGE STEVENSON AND RICHARD McMAHON JR.

### Also Presented That Night Were The Member of the Year and The Robert T. Volz Memorial Awards



The Member of the Year Award began in 1965 and has continued to be awarded for over 50 years, 2023 will be the 58th time this award has been given out. The winner of the Member of the Year Award is chosen by a vote of the officers and members of the department and is presented at the annual awards dinner each year. This year's winner was Maria Chavez-Ramos.



The Robert T. Volz Memorial Award is presented at the annual awards dinner each year. The winner is chosen by a vote of the officers of the Melrose Park Homeland Security ~ Public Safety. This year's winner was George Stevenson.

The officers and members of the department would like to thank The Honorable Mayor Ronald M. Serpico, village trustees Mota and Prignano, Director of Police Pitassi, Director of Fire Department Beltrame, Deputy Police Chief Greco, Assistant Fire Chief Wrosch, village department heads and all the guests who came out to support us and to share in this important event.



# Melrose Park Public Safety News



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

## The Village of Melrose Park Notification System Provides Information that Matters to You the Most ... When You Need It, the Way You Want It

Mayor Ronald M. Serpico and the village of Melrose Park are committed to keeping the public safe and informed about events that may impact your lives. The village of Melrose Park Emergency Notification System allows the village to quickly and directly send messages to individuals or groups on various types of media and devices to keep you informed during any significant event in our village.

The Village of Melrose Park Emergency Notification System lets you sign up to receive emergency and community messages through a cellphone, work phone, home phone, text message or email. You can also choose locations you'd like to be contacted about if you like. You can receive notifications about emergencies that may affect your home, your parent's home, your workplace or your child's school – or any other location of interest and importance to you – as long as those locations are within Melrose Park.

### Types of Notifications

The Village of Melrose Park Emergency Notification System allows the village to relay timely and essential information quickly. The system communicates two types of messages: Emergency Notifications and Community Notifications.

#### Emergency Notifications

In an emergency, the village will contact individuals or groups in a certain area that can be affected by a crisis. Emergency notifications are used in a situation that has an effect or may have an impact on a certain number of people involving immediate or pending threats to public safety or property, and where immediate notification is necessary. Emergency notifications can be sent village-wide at any time of day or night if the circumstances of the event dictate this type of widespread notification to be necessary. If inclement weather creates any hazards or situations that affect village services, the system is used to notify individuals of those affected services, such as road closures and utility outages.

Please note: The village of Melrose Park has a weather notification mode which will notify you of warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information for potentially threatening weather-related events. You may choose the types of warning and watches you want to be notified about and you can set a time for notifications, if you do not set the time, all weather notifications will be sent at anytime.

The village encourages residents and businesses to proactively seek weather-related information from official channels such as the National Weather Service or their preferred local media outlet. It is a best practice to have a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio at your residence or business that broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition, the National Weather Service issues official weather watches and warnings, and is authorized to send wireless emergency alerts with certain warning information, including tornado warnings. (These are automatic emergency messages with a unique tone sent to cellphones in areas where specific weather warnings are issued.) You can check your cellphone's settings to ensure this feature is not turned off.

#### Community Notifications

Community notifications are meant to notify residents and interested parties about events or projects that may temporarily impact their day-to-day routine but do not impact health or safety. The village will contact individuals with this type of information only if they choose to receive this type of news.

Community notifications will be sent between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. Due to the nature of certain categories, messages may be sent in the earlier or later hours of this timeframe. The village will send notifications as it deems appropriate based on the need and type of message.

Listed here are the community notification categories the village of Melrose Park is making available:

- Utility Outages – Information about scheduled outages of any duration and unplanned outages anticipated to be four or more hours in duration or impacting a large segment of the village.
- Public Safety – Information about public safety topics, including safety tips and announcements, crime and fire prevention information, public safety events, crime alerts, code compliance information and animal control information.
- Road & Utility Work (Local) – Information about localized neighborhood road work and utility projects, such as parkway tree trimming, storm system repair, alley reconstructions, tree trimming, sanitary sewer lining, planned water main repairs and hydrant repairs/replacement.
- Special Event Alerts – Information about major and minor special events occurring in the village of Melrose Park, including dates, times, locations, street closures, parking lot closures and other important event information.
- Traffic Alerts (Major Roadways) – Information about major arterial roadway projects taking place in the village or unanticipated and sudden road closures.
- Winter Operations – Information on snow removal operations in the village, including plowing operations and anticipated snowfall, as well as reminders about the village's snow plowing.

Upon registration and sign-in with the system, individuals can select which any or all of the community notification categories they would like to receive.

**For more information, please contact the village of Melrose Park Departments of Homeland Security ~ Public Safety – (708) 649-8000.**



# Melrose Park AUXCOMM/ARES

## Rookie Roundup April 16, 2023 (1800 to 2359 UTC)

The Melrose Park Auxcom/Ares (K9VMP) Division of the Melrose Park Homeland Security ~ Public Safety will be hosting an "ARRL Rookie Roundup" on April 16. If you are newly licensed, an experienced operator or just want to find out about amateur radio stop by and see us. This is a great way to try out contesting in an event designed for newcomers.

Amateur radio people (also called "hams") are well known for their communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations. The Amateur Radio Service has been around for a century. In that time, it's grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology.

### Mission and Objective

**Mission** – To encourage newly-licensed operators ("Rookies") in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive amateur radio operating. Experienced operators ("Non-Rookies") are strongly encouraged to participate and help new operators – either on the air or in person.

**Objective** – Rookies exchange information with as many other stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter HF bands. Rookie entrants are encouraged to read *HF Contesting – Good Practices, Interpretations and Suggestions*.

Rookie Roundup is a contest aimed at amateurs licensed for three years or less. This six-hour event is held three times per year (April, August and December). Rookies can contact anybody, while "Old Timers" make contact with only Rookies. Mentoring is a big part of this event!

"Old Timers" should also take note of this event. Consider opening your station up to a rookie (or two) and become an elmer. Remember, the more operators are on the air, the more fun the "Roundup" will be for everyone.

Be sure to read the rules before the event. It is also helpful to be familiar with the logging and submission processes ahead of time. For information and tips on operating the Rookie Roundup, please call us at (708) 649-8000. We hope to hear you on the air!

### New Rules – More Rookies!

- You can be a Rookie if you were first licensed in 2022, 2021, 2020 or 2019 – send the year you were first licensed in the exchange. If you were licensed before 2019, you can also be a Rookie if you made your first amateur radio contact during 2022, 2021, 2020 or 2019, or if you haven't made any contest contacts on the contest mode (SSB, CW or RTTY) before the Rookie Roundup contest, send the current year (2021) in your exchange – either of these reasons qualify you as a Rookie for just one year.

For more information, visit our website at <https://mpps.us> or call us at (708) 649-8000, or join us on our NET (Wednesday nights at 9 p.m.) on the K9VMP repeater 443.87500 + 5 PI 114.8.

Hope to work with you soon! 73's K9VMP.

## Answer the Call...

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

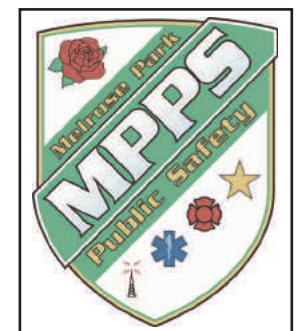
- Interested in public safety, emergency services and first responder volunteer opportunities? Become a member of the Village of Melrose Park Departments of Homeland Security and Public Safety.
- Team members gain real-world emergency services experience in the areas of police, fire, criminal justice,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

### We are Currently Recruiting for ...

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

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

**Visit our website at [www.mpps.us](http://www.mpps.us) for more information about our department.**





# 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 2023 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**

2023 Senior Painting Program list will be closed July 31, 2023.

Only one item will be painted per year.

Get your request in early as the list fills fast.

## Mayor Serpico's 2023 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. 2023 list will be closed July 31, 2023.

## 2023 Fall Tree Planting for Parkways

If you are interested in a tree for the parkway for 2023 (one tree per household), we are compiling a list for 2023 Fall Tree Planting. To request a tree, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128.

## 2023 – 50/50 Sidewalk Program

If you would like to participate in the 2023 – 50/50 Sidewalk Program to request replacement of sidewalk squares, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128 for more information.

## 25th Avenue Municipal Lot

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

## Street Parking Restriction Signs

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

## Street Sweeping

The street sweeper 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.

## Snow Routes

Please follow all snow route signs throughout the village streets. Please remove your vehicle from the snow route when 2 inches or more of snow falls. This will help expedite snow removal quickly.

## Snowplowing

Please refrain from throwing snow from driveway after streets have been plowed by Street Department. Place snow on parkway

## 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.

## A Street Resurfacing List is Being Compiled for this Year.

Watch for more information as it becomes available.

*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.*



# 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.**

## Illinois Secretary of State Office in Melrose Park Offers an Abundance of Important Services

The Illinois 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](http://www.ilsos.gov).**

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE

Alexi Giannoulas  
Secretary of State







# *Village of Melrose Park*

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



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

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

**AT 4 INCHES OR MORE OF PREDICTED FALLING SNOW,  
YOUR NAME WILL BE ADDED TO THE SNOW REMOVAL LIST.  
WE WILL DO A PATH FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR TO THE STREET  
AND A SWIPE OF YOUR DRIVEWAY.  
SINGLE FAMILY HOMES ONLY (NO RENTALS) – NO ALLEYS  
– NO ALLEY SKIRTS TO GARAGE – NO BACKYARDS.**

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

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

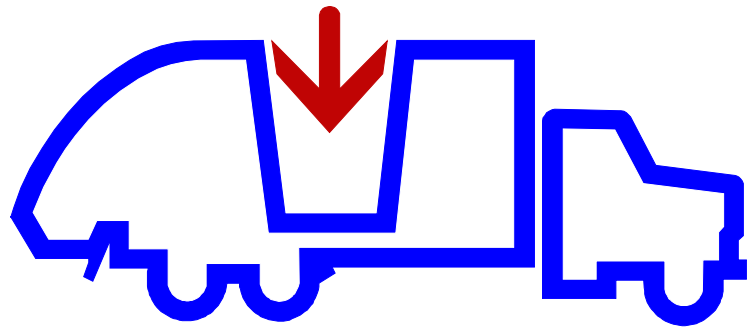


### **Mayor Serpico and the Village of Melrose Park Snow Removal Reservation Form**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

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



# Village of Melrose Park Residential Garbage Pickup Information

## Republic Services Garbage Schedule for Residential Bi-Weekly Pickup

24th Avenue to 11th Avenue – Tuesday and Friday

Winston Park Area – Tuesday and Friday

West Melrose – Tuesday and Friday

North of North Avenue – Tuesday and Friday

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

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

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

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

## The Village of Melrose Park Public Works Department Garbage Pickup Schedule

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This information is also available at [www.melrosepark.org](http://www.melrosepark.org).

## ATTENTION RESIDENTS – CALL TO REQUEST REPLACEMENT RESIDENT GARBAGE CANS

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

## REPLACEMENT RESIDENT RECYCLING CANS

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

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

# Free Exercise for Melrose Park Seniors

*Socially  
Distanced  
Activity*

*Face  
Masks  
Required*



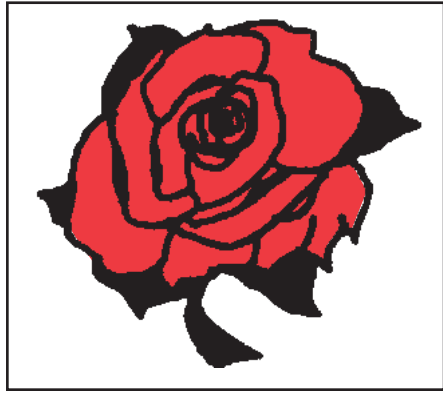
*Come Join in the Fun with  
Instructor Barb Rubright  
of Rube's Garage!*

**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 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.

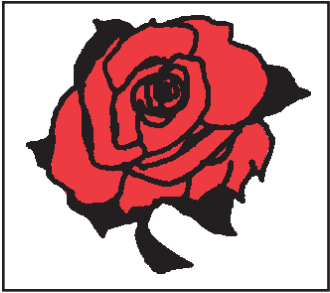
You must stay at your destination you are going to for a minimum of an hour. Any residents of Victory Centre MUST go with the group provided at their center for grocery shopping, etc. Any doctor appointment can be made with us.

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.**



# 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

The village of Melrose Park has earned a Class 7 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 15 percent discount off the premium cost.

### Flood Protection Information

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Flood Protection Assistance

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

### Sand Bags

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

### Flood Event Suggestions

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

### Be Prepared!

Have a plumber inspect sump pumps regularly!

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

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

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

### Community Effort

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

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

### Flood Insurance

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

**For more information regarding important Melrose Park flood information, please visit our village website at [www.melrosepark.org](http://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.**

# Building Department Development Progress – Winter 2023

I am very excited about the continued economic growth in Melrose Park. Below is a list of construction jobs presenting economic growth within the corporate limits of the village. This is only a partial list:

- 100 W. North Ave. – Strickland Brothers 10 Minute Oil Change – Permit issued.
  - 120 W. North Ave. – 7/11 Gas Station – Nearing completion.
  - 550 W. North Ave. – Discount Tire – Nearing completion.
  - 915 W. North Ave. – Chili’s Restaurant – Coming in the fall.
  - 2621 W. North Ave. – Midwest Express Clinic – Currently open for business.
  - 3225 W. North Ave. – Belle Tire – Currently under construction.
  - 10400 W. North Ave. – Navistar Buildings 1, 2 and 3 – Currently under construction.
  - 900 Winstom Plaza – Chicken Bonchon – Permit issued.
  - 930 Winston Plaza – Northern Tool – Complete and open.
  - 950 Winston Plaza – Cermak Foods – Currently under construction.
  - 1384 Winston Plaza, Crab & Go Restaurant – Currently under construction.
- 2001 Cornell Ave. – Industrial Building – Nearing completion.
  - 2085 Cornell Ave. – Lake Book Manufacturing – Improvements currently under construction.
  - 2100 N. 15th Ave. – New building construction.
  - 1975 Ruby St. – Demolition of Bodycote – Complete.
  - 2045 and 2033 N. 17th Ave. – Unifirst – Expansion.
  - 1710 W. Lake St. – AllState Insurance – Open.
  - 1502 N. 19th Ave. – Freeway Insurance – Open.
  - 1618 Division St. – Division Cleaners – Permit issued for remodeling.
  - 1418 N. 15th Ave. – Playas Nayaritas Mexican Seafood Restaurant – Currently under construction.
  - And much more!

## Building Department Construction Project Resource Information

With spring weather on the way, 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](mailto:rsorce@melrosepark.org).

Go to [www.melrosepark.org](http://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](http://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.

## Help Keep Our Village Clean!

Help keep our village clean by making sure you keep all garbage in your 90-gallon blue garbage container to keep garbage from blowing throughout the neighborhood. The village is proud of the garbage and debris services it provides our residents. Help keep the parkways clean and in the front and rear of your house or building.

**The village is dedicated to working with and for our citizens – together we can make Melrose Park look even better!**





# Melrose Park Public Library



M P Melrose Park  
P L Public Library

www.MPPLibrary.org

class schedule 2023

## Chair Yoga Classes

RHONDA FENTRY



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

[Click here to Register!](#)

**FRIDAYS**  
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**DATES**

February 10th	August 11th
March 10th	September 8th
April 14th	October 13th
May 12th	November 17th
June 9th	December 8th
July 14th	

**FOR ADULTS & SENIORS**

PHONE: (708) 649-7485 | EMAIL: [mpref@mpplibrary.org](mailto:mpref@mpplibrary.org)



## ComicsPlus now available at MPPL!

Unlimited access to thousands of digital comics, graphic novels, manga, and more!

Ask a Librarian for more details!



**COMICSPLUS** [#ReadAllTheComics](#)





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](mailto:mps@mpplibrary.org)  
(708)649-7400



# Melrose Park Public Library



[www.MPPLibrary.org](http://www.MPPLibrary.org)



[www.nkfi.org](http://www.nkfi.org)

## 2023 Take Charge

### Chronic Disease Self-Management Program



Take Charge is an 8-week workshop for participants who are in various stages of Chronic Kidney Disease.

**To Register:**  
Call: (312) 321-1500  
Visit: [nkfi.org/takecharge](http://nkfi.org/takecharge)  
Email: [amarseille@nkfi.org](mailto:amarseille@nkfi.org)

**March 16th - May 4th**  
**Thursday Afternoons**  
**3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

Classes will be held at the Melrose Park Public Library.

**Hurry! Registration is limited to 15 participants.**



## TRITON COLLEGE: SENIOR TAX FILING ASSISTANCE

### Need assistance filling your taxes?

Triton College is here to help seniors file their taxes.

Triton College offers free tax assistance for seniors age 60+ from low- and moderate-income households through RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program). Call to make an appointment: (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3835.

**Hours:** 9:30 am - 12:00 pm  
**Dates:** February 6th, 13th, 27th  
March: 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th  
April: 3rd & 10th  
**Location:** Melrose Park Public Library





[www.triton.edu](http://www.triton.edu)



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](mailto:mps@mpplibrary.org)  
(708)649-7400





# Melrose Park Public Library



[www.MPPLibrary.org](http://www.MPPLibrary.org)

## Youth Services



### 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

Bi-Monthly on YouTube

We are posting virtual story times online the first and third Wednesdays of 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! You will find all our videos on the Melrose Park Library Official YouTube channel.



### Tinker Tuesdays

It's back by popular demand! Drop in for some fun activities at the library every Tuesday afternoon. Time: 2:30 pm-4:00 pm. Ages: 6-11



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](mailto:mps@mpplibrary.org)  
(708)649-7400



# Mayor Serpico's Christmas Lights Parade with Santa

Mayor Serpico coordinated with officials from the North Pole to have Santa make a very special visit to our town in December and participated in our annual Christmas Lights Parade. First responders from the Melrose Park Fire, Police, Homeland Security and Public Safety departments, along with staff from other village departments, put together a number of lighted/decorated vehicles and guided Santa in a parade through the village, bringing the holiday spirit to the children.



## Christmas in Proviso

Mayor Serpico and the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) participated in the 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, Illinois Speaker of the House Emanuel "Chris" Welch, state Sen. Kim Lightford and other elected officials who serve our township.







## Overnight Parking Procedures for Melrose Park

### Approved Visitor, Construction or Family Emergency Vehicles Will Avoid Being Ticketed

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

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

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

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

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



#### MELROSE PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

1 NORTH BROADWAY, MELROSE PARK, IL 60160  
(708) 344-8409 [www.MelroseParkPD.com](http://www.MelroseParkPD.com)

#### PARKING PERMISSION REQUEST FORM

*LIMIT 3 DAYS PER MONTH*

DATE OF REQUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME OF REQUEST: \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_ AM / PM until \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_ AM / PM

ADDRESS: (Vehicle must be parked at this address or permission will be invalid)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### VEHICLE INFORMATION:

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ License Plate: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

#### REQUESTOR INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

#### REASON FOR REQUEST: (Circle)

Visitor | Driveway Repair | Family Emergency

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: If approved this permission will not allow the violation of village ordinances or parking laws. All violators will be ticketed.*

*Form must be filled in and returned to the Melrose Park Police Department to be approved*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shift Supervisor Signature Date

## Village Hall Announces Holiday Closings

The Melrose Park Village Hall will be closed for the following holidays: Good Friday – Friday, April 7, 2023; Memorial Day – Monday, May 29, 2023; Independence Day – Tuesday, July 4, 2023; Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 4, 2023; Columbus Day – Monday, Oct. 9, 2023; Veterans Day – Friday, Nov. 10, 2023; Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 23, 2023; Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, Nov. 24, 2023; Christmas Eve (1/2 Day) – Friday, Dec. 22, 2023; Christmas Day – Monday, Dec. 25, 2023; New Year's Eve (1/2 Day) – Friday, Dec. 29, 2023; and New Year's Day – Monday, Jan. 1, 2023.

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 schedule for calendar year 2023 is: March 13; April 10; May 8; June 12; July 10; Aug. 28; Sept. 25; Oct. 23; Nov. 13; and Dec. 11.

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

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Alt: +1 (773) 996-6487



[info@svstones.com](mailto:info@svstones.com)  
[www.svstones.com](http://www.svstones.com)



1440 N 25th Ave, Melrose Park  
IL, 60160



## 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, migración, 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.

## 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](mailto:TheRose@melrosepark.org).

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

## We Buy Houses

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

*Over a decade in business in the community.*



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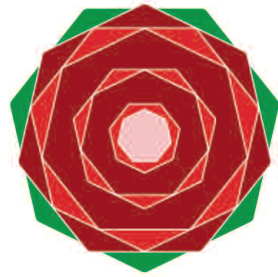
✓ Pay No Commission

**708-545-5252**

**Se Habla Español.**

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





**MELROSE PARK**  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

## Welcome New Chamber Members!

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) welcomed eight new members in December and January! Please help us welcome Old National Bank; D.L. Perkins and Sons LLC.; Crafted Events, LLC.; Little Achievers Childcare and Development Center; Alkaline Real Estate; International Driving School; Iskali; and The Joint Chiropractic.

We also want to thank and recognize Lincoln Technical Institute; Proviso Community Bank; Way Back Inn; IHOP Melrose Park; Rapid Electroplating Process, Inc.; Lucky Dog; RFL Delivery Service, Inc.; Way Back Inn; and Melrose Commons Senior Residences; for their recent renewals and continued partnership with the MPCCCD.

If you are not currently a member of the MPCCCD, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at [lbazbaz@mpcccd.org](mailto:lbazbaz@mpcccd.org) or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule a time to meet with you to discuss the benefits of partnering and working with our chamber.

## March Madness ... Discounted Chamber Memberships for One Month Only!

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development has its version of March Madness every year and it's back! Any business that joins or renews its chamber membership for the year during March gets a 10 percent discount on each of the four membership levels.

### March Pricing by Membership Level

- **Bronze Membership** – Regularly \$250/In March it is only \$225!
- **Silver Membership** – Regularly \$500/In March it is only \$450!
- **Gold Membership** – Regularly \$2,000/In March it is only \$1,800!
- **Premier Membership** – Regularly \$3,500/In March it is only \$3,150!

For information regarding membership benefits, pricing or to join online, visit the MPCCCD website at <https://mpcccd.org/benefits-dues/> or contact Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at [lbazbaz@mpcccd.org](mailto:lbazbaz@mpcccd.org) or call (708) 343-9500 to discuss details ... Join today!

## Upcoming Events, Training and Information Sessions

One of the primary functions of the MPCCCD is to connect businesses to resources to help support growth and to make a difference in the community. Although this takes many different shapes and approaches, one of the primary efforts is to host monthly training events, informational meetings, networking sessions and participating in community events.

• **March 15, Chamber After Hours Networking Event** – This event will be held at Crab Du Jour, located at 851 W. North Ave., Melrose Park, from 4-7 p.m. These networking events are free to all chamber members and although there is a nominal charge for non-members, this is a great opportunity to network with other businesses, identify new customers, vendors and to learn more about the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development.

• **March 23, Job Fair at Jane Addams Elementary School in Melrose Park** – This event has been very popular for both businesses and job seekers over the past two years and we've been asked by the business community to host it again this spring! There will be more than 35 businesses on hand to talk to potential applicants about employment opportunities in health care, financial services, social services, manufacturing, transportation/distribution, education, retail and hospitality. All companies represented have immediate opportunities available and are looking for both part-time and full-time candidates.

Additional details regarding the job fair will be available on the event page of the MPCCCD website at <https://mpcccd.org/events/> or call (708) 343-9500 for more information.

• **April 11, Annual Legislative Breakfast** – Join business and community leaders at 8:30 a.m., in the Melrose Park Civic Center, located at 1000 N. 25th Ave. Illinois Speaker of the House Emanuel "Chris" Welch and Illinois Senate President Don Harmon will be on hand to discuss current and upcoming legislation and programs of interest to our local businesses. There is also a Q&A at the end of the presentation where questions from businesses are addressed by the panel.

Details regarding the legislative breakfast are available on the event page of the MPCCCD website, and you can also register to receive our event emails and newsletters at the bottom of the home page at <https://mpcccd.org>.

These events are growing in popularity and demand, and will be hosted every two months in 2023!

# **The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce & Community Development Facebook Page Has Changed**

Due to errors and problems with the old Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development Facebook page, we have decided it is best to create a new page to better utilize this platform to keep businesses and the community informed of programs and services available to help our businesses, as well as to share information regarding our Melrose Park businesses with the broader community.

The new Facebook page for the MPCCCD is titled Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce. Please like, follow and share us on the new page as we try to rebuild our network on the Facebook social media platform.

If you followed us on the old Facebook page, you need to like and follow us on the new one as Facebook/Meta will not allow us to transfer followers from the old page to the new one.

You can also join us from the bottom of the MPCCCD website by clicking the link for Facebook, as it will connect you to the new Facebook page.

Sign up for our newsletter and follow us on Facebook

## **Not a Chamber Member? Join Now!**

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 today and become a member and partner supporting the MPCCCD and its efforts to support the local community!

For information about the benefits of membership and packages available, contact Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at [ibazbaz@mpccd.org](mailto:ibazbaz@mpccd.org) or call (708) 343-3715 and we will schedule a time to meet.

## **Sign Up for Our Newsletter and Follow Us on Facebook**

Stay up to date on what's happening at the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development by signing up for our newsletters at [MPCCCD.org](http://MPCCCD.org).

You can also follow the chamber on Facebook or LinkedIn to stay current on chamber activities.



# ***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](mailto:peg@melrosepark.org))

or you can call  
(708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448,  
for more information.



*Mayor  
Ronald M. Serpico*



**Celebrating Our 41st Year**

**September 1st Thru September 3rd**

**FAMILY  
FRIENDLY**

**FAMILY  
AFFORDABLE**

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

For 2023 Taste of Melrose Park  
info, e-mail us at  
[taste@melrosepark.org](mailto:taste@melrosepark.org) or  
visit [www.melrosepark.org](http://www.melrosepark.org)





# WELCOME TO THE 41ST 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 41st **Taste of Melrose Park**, which will take place over the Labor Day weekend, September 1st-3rd.

Your sponsorship helps underwrite many of the costs associated with our annual Taste of Melrose Park. It is also a great marketing tool for your business or organization to have your name placed before the eyes of the thousands of food aficionados that visit our 3-day event. Please read this flyer, it contains information about different **Taste of Melrose Park** sponsorship packages that can fit your budget.

The **Taste of Melrose Park** always brings people together to enjoy savory food choices, celebrate life, and that warm 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 or less 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](mailto: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  
2 - VIP Parking Passes

## \$5,000.00 GOLD SPONSOR PACKAGE

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

## \$3,500.00 SILVER SPONSOR PACKAGE

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

## \$1,500.00 BRONZE SPONSOR PACKAGE

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

## \$1,000.00 MAIN STAGE VIDEO WALL ADVERTISING PACKAGE

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

## More Sponsorship Opportunities

### \$3,000.00 T-SHIRT SPONSOR

Your Company Logo  
Printed On 500+ Volunteer Shirts  
(T-Shirt Space Will Be Limited)

★ **MUST SUBMIT BY JUNE 1ST** ★

### \$1,250.00 SHUTTLE SERVICE SPONSOR

Your Name Displayed on an "A" Frame  
in Shuttle Pickup and Dropoff Area  
1 Free Business Card Size Ads to run  
six times in *The Rose* Newspaper

### \$850.00 COLOR BANNER

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

### \$500.00 COLOR BILLBOARD

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

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

2023

TASTE OF MELROSE PARK



# TASTE OF MELROSE PARK ORDER FORM

See Page 30 for the  
41st Annual  
Taste of  
Melrose Park  
Sponsorship  
Details!

## MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TASTE OF MELROSE PARK

Please Return This Form With  
A Check Or Money Order  
**No Later Than May 1st To:**  
**Taste Of Melrose Park**  
**1000 N. 25th Ave.**  
**Melrose Park, IL 60160**

Please Select One of  
the Following Packages:

\_\_\_\_ \$8,000.00 PLATINUM SPONSOR

\_\_\_\_ \$5,000.00 GOLD SPONSOR

\_\_\_\_ \$3,500.00 SILVER SPONSOR

\_\_\_\_ \$1,500.00 BRONZE SPONSOR

\_\_\_\_ \$3,000.00 T-SHIRT SPONSOR

**(Submit by June 1st)**

\_\_\_\_ \$1,250.00 SHUTTLE SPONSOR

\_\_\_\_ \$1,000.00 VIDEO WALL SPONSOR

\_\_\_\_ \$850.00 3 X 4 COLOR BANNER

\_\_\_\_ \$500.00 2 x 4 COLOR BILLBOARD

\_\_\_\_ OTHER

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Sponsor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Important Please Read!!!

**No later than 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](mailto: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](mailto:taste@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  
2023 Taste of Melrose Park,  
Friday, Sept. 1-Sunday, Sept. 3.

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](mailto:peg@melrosepark.org) or call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.

# Everyone Has the Right to Live Where They Choose

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

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

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

**Village of Melrose Park**  
**Brian Miller, Office of the Village Attorney**  
**(708) 343-4000, Ext. 4487**



***Village of  
Melrose Park***



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Them All!”***

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**Melrose  
Park**

## Village Hall News

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

### Birth Certificates

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

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

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

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

### Death Certificates

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

### Vehicle Sticker Information

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

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



# Veterans Park District

## Programs & Happenings

Resident Early Bird Passes for Gouin pool and water slide will be available for purchase from March 1-April 29.

Purchase your early-bird pass and receive your pool ID at George A. Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park or at Grant Park. Season Passes are non-refundable. Gouin pool and water slides will be opening the end of May 2023.

For more information, please call (708) 343-5270.

### Youth Speed Training, Ages 8-15

This new and exciting class taught by a certified strength and conditioning coach is designed for youth athletes wishing to prepare for their upcoming athletic season. Focusing on speed, agility, coordination and conditioning, Youth Speed Training helps build a strong foundation for future success.

- Wednesdays, March 29-May 3, 5 p.m.; Fee \$40R/\$55 NR; Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park.

### Strong Nation™, Ages 16 and Up

This class combines body weight, muscle conditioning, cardio and plyometric training moves, synced to music that is specifically designed to match every single move.

- Saturdays, April 1-29, 9:30 a.m.; Fee \$40R/\$55NR; Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park.

### Multi Sports, Ages 7-9 and 10-12

Kids are introduced to a new sport each week. Sports include soccer, field hockey, ultimate sports, handball and flag football.

- Wednesdays, April 5-26; Ages 7-9, 4-4:45 pm./Ages 10-12, 5-5:45 p.m.; Fee R\$55/NR\$70; George A. Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park.

### Mini Multi Sports, Ages 4-6

Just like Multi Sports, children are introduced to an age appropriate new sport each week. Sports include tee ball, soccer, field hockey and beach ball volleyball.

- Thursdays, April 6-17, 4-4:45 p.m.; Fee R\$55/NR\$70; George A. Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park.

### Dodgeball, Ages 10-12 and 13-15

Various dodgeball games are played throughout the session, including dodgeball, scatter ball and Pirates Prison.

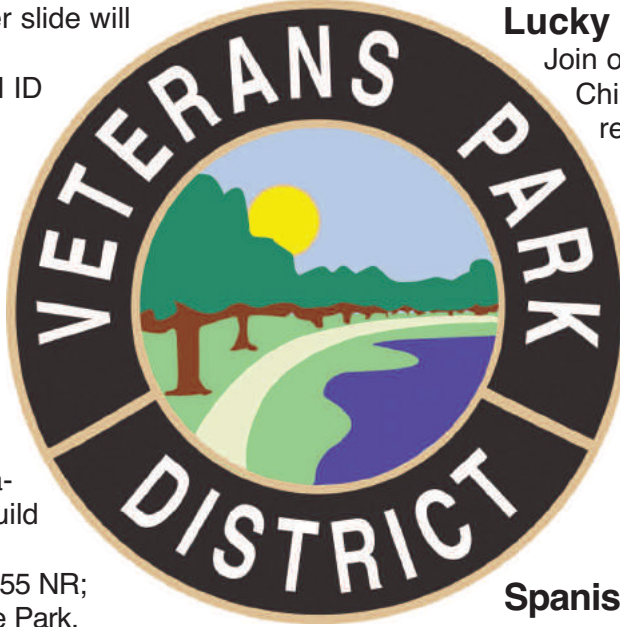
- Tuesdays, April 4-25; Ages 10-12, 4-4:45 p.m./Ages 13-15, 5-5:45 p.m.; Fee R\$55/NR\$70; George A. Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park.

## Early Childhood

### Start with Art (Offered at Two Locations), Ages 2-5 (2-3 with an Adult)

Each week young minds listen to a different story and create a craft associated with that story. These weekly art projects are designed to promote a love for learning!

- Mondays, March 27-May 1, 10-10:45 a.m.; Fee R\$50/NR\$60; Bulger Park Community Center, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park, and at Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.



### Lucky Leprechaun Scavenger Hunt, Ages 3-6

Join our Lucky Leprechaun Scavenger Hunt adventure!

Children will hunt throughout Grant Park for lucky leprechaun items and a special prize at the end.

- Thursday, March 16, 4:30-5:15 p.m.; Fee R\$15/NR\$20; Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

### Bunny Craft & Egg Coloring with Parent, Ages 3-6

Celebrate Easter by creating a bunny craft and coloring eggs with your child. A variety of art materials are available to decorate the eggs and make them sparkle!

- Tuesday, April 4, 4:30-5:15 p.m.; Fee R\$15/NR\$20; Bulger Park Community Center, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

### Spanish Language Adventure without Parent, Ages 3-5

Learning a new language is always an adventure! Your little one will have the opportunity to learn Spanish one word at a time. Classes will be full of stories, singing and activities.

- Tuesdays, April 4-May 23, 10-10:45 a.m.; Fee R\$50/NR\$60; Bulger Park Community Center, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

## Creative Arts

### Easter Wreath Wall Decoration, Ages 7 and Up

Hippity-hoppity, hop your way over to Bulger Park to make an Easter bunny wreath! Be creative, using colorful mesh ribbons and neon-painted eggs.

- Tuesday, March 23, 5:45-7:45 p.m.; Fee R\$30/NR\$40; Bulger Park Community Center, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

### Cinco De Mayo, Ages 7 and Up

It's fiesta time at our two-day workshop! A fiesta always includes a colorful pinata. Learn how to make a pinata out of paper mâché and simple ingredients. After you finish decorating your project, we will fill it with tasty candies.

- Tuesdays, April 18 and 25, 5:45-7:45 p.m.; Fee R\$30/NR\$40; Bulger Park Community Center, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

## Tweens

### Babysitter Training with Pediatric CPR/First Aid, Ages 11-15

This class is designed for young people to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to safely and responsibly give care to infants and children in a residential setting. Learn about basic child care and basic first aid.

Participants receive a certificate of completion for Babysitter's Training.

Participants also receive a two-year certification for Pediatric CPR/First Aid.

An adult must be present with a participant the entire length of the training.

- Wednesday, March 29 and Thursday, March 30, 9 a.m.-3:15 p.m.; Fee R\$194/NR\$204; Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake.

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



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**Veterans  
Park  
District**

*Programs  
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Happenings*

**WE ARE  
HIRING**

**JOIN OUR TEAM  
AT VPD**

*We have seasonal opportunities for:*

- ✓ **Lifeguards**
- ✓ **Summer Camp Counselors**
- ✓ **Youth Sport Instructors**
- ✓ **Fitness Instructors**

*Veterans Park District is looking for energetic and talented individuals, who want to contribute to our fun summer atmosphere. Seasonal jobs for all ages!!! (Under 16 must have a workers permit.)*

*Apply at the following VPD locations:*

- *Grant Park 44 W. Golfview Drive, Northlake*
- *Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th, Melrose Park.*
- *Cimbalo Fitness Center, 1203 N. 24th, Melrose Park*

*Monday – Friday 9 AM-5 PM*

*Download our job application at [vpdpark.org/jobs](http://vpdpark.org/jobs)*



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**Veterans  
Park  
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*Programs  
&  
Happenings*



Veterans Park District Active Adult

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**HARRINGTON'S CORNED BEEF  
LUNCHEON**

**MARCH 15**  
**11:30AM**  
**BULGER PARK**  
1601 HIRSCH, MELROSE PARK  
**\$25.00** per person

Registration Deadline is MARCH 10th

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**Veterans  
Park  
District**

*Programs  
&  
Happenings*

# Friday Nite Family

# BINGO!

**Bulger Park**

**1601 N. Hirsch, Melrose Park**

**5:45pm-7:45pm**

**March 17 - Lucky Leprechaun Bingo**

**April 21 - Earth Day Bingo**

**\$25 R/ \$35 NR**

**Per family of 4**

**( \$ 5 per extra guests )**



**Fee Includes : Slice of Cheese Pizza per person  
Popcorn, Sweet Treats, Punch,  
& Prizes for Bingo Winners  
1 Bingo Card per person**

**Registration Deadline 1-week before**



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**Veterans  
Park  
District**

*Programs  
&  
Happenings*

# Veterans Park District **Little Chefs' Celebrations!**

**Ages 3.5-5 without adult  
Saturdays | 9:45-11:45AM  
R\$20/NR\$30 per date**

Create your own special dishes that highlight different themes. Participants will learn about cooking, utensils, safety and basic food preparation by following simple recipes.



**March 18 (St. Patrick Theme)**

**April 15 (Earth Day Theme)**

**May 6 (Cinco De Mayo Theme)**

**Grant Park, 44 W. Golfview Dr, Northlake**



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**Veterans  
Park  
District**

*Programs  
&  
Happenings*

# Veterans Park District Easter Wreath Art & Craft Workshop

Hippity-hoppity, hop your way over to make an Easter Bunny Wreath. Be creative, using colorful mesh ribbons and neon painted eggs.

Ages 7 and up | 5:45-7:45PM  
Tuesday, March 23  
R\$20 / NR \$30



Bulger Park Community Center  
1601 Hirsch St, Melrose Park



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## Veterans Park District

*Programs  
&  
Happenings*



# Easter EGG HUNTS



## Flashlight Egg & Candy Hunt

**AGES 6-10 FREE FAMILY EVENT!**

**Thursday, March 30 • 8 PM**

**Gouin Park Playground, Franklin Park**

We will scatter the park with eggs and candy. THIS HUNT TAKES PLACE AT NIGHT, SO REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR FLASHLIGHT and a basket to collect your eggs and candy. The hunt starts EXACTLY at 8 PM, rain or shine.

## Bulger Egg Scrambler

**AGES 2-10 FREE FAMILY EVENT!**

**Friday, March 31 • 6:30 PM**

**Bulger Park Playground, Melrose Park**

Veterans Park District and the Melrose Park Youth Commission are proudly sponsoring an Egg and Candy Hunt at Bulger Park playground in Melrose Park. Eggs and candy will be hidden high and low for children to find. Remember to bring your basket to collect your goodies.

THIS HUNT TAKES PLACE AT NIGHT, SO REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR FLASHLIGHT. Parents may help 2- and 3-year-old children. 4- to 10-year-old children can hunt on their own. This Event starts EXACTLY at 6:30 PM rain or shine.

## Trumbull Park Egg & Candy Hunt

**AGES 2-10 FREE FAMILY EVENT!**

**Saturday, April 1 • 9:30 AM**

**Trumbull Park Playground, River Grove**

Hey, kids! The Easter Bunny will be hiding eggs and candy at Trumbull Park. Bring your baskets to collect your goodies. Each hunt will be divided into age groups and will start at EXACTLY 9:30 AM rain or shine.

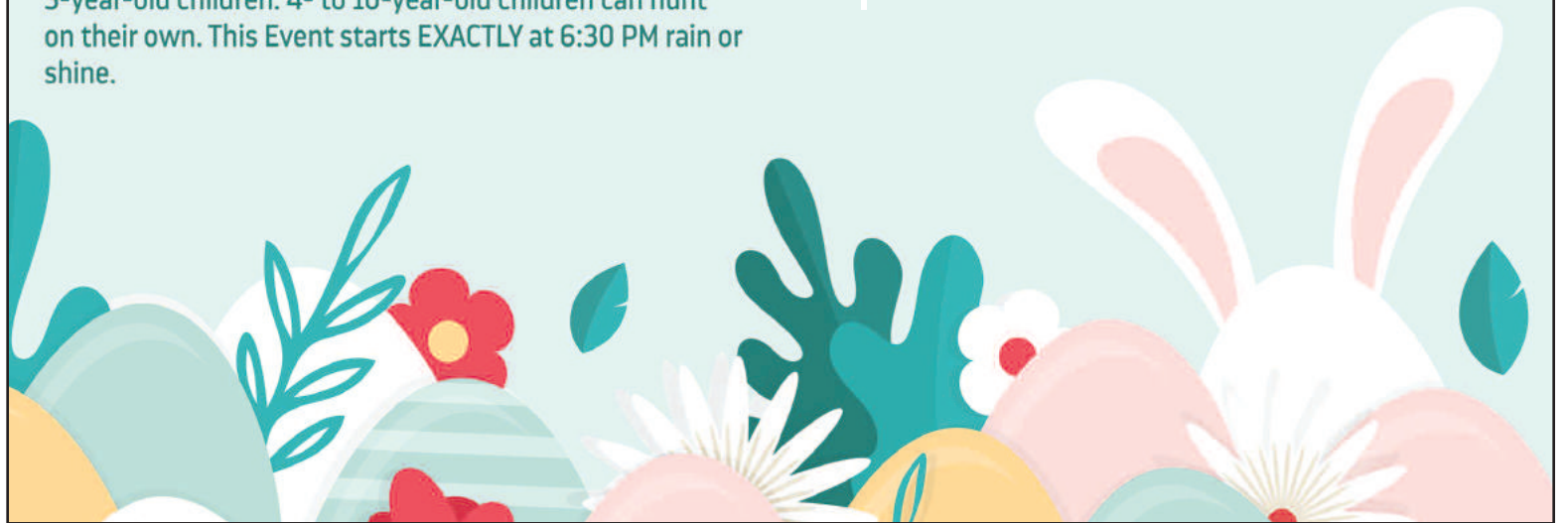
## Grant Park "EGG"stravaganza

**FREE ALL AGE FAMILY EVENT**

**Saturday, April 1 • 11 AM**

**Grant Park Playground, Northlake**

Veterans Park District and the City of Northlake are proudly sponsoring an Egg and Candy Hunt at Grant Park playground in Northlake. Eggs and candy will be hidden high and low for children to find. Remember to bring your basket to collect your goodies. This Event starts EXACTLY at 11 AM rain or shine.



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# Triton College NEWS

## Cernan Earth and Space Center will Domestream *Birds: It's Not About What But Where*



The Triton College Cernan Earth and Space Center will domestream “Birds: It’s Not About What But Where,” on Wednesday, March 8, from 7-8 p.m. Admission is free and registration is not required.

The Cernan Earth and Space Center is excited to domestream “Birds: It’s Not About What But Where,” a lecture presented by the William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College in Champaign, Ill. The lecture will examine birdwatching in central Illinois, with commentary from Jeff Bryant, a mathematician for WolframAlpha. Bryant is an avid naturalist, bird watcher and bird photographer.

Bryant will be highlighting parks, ponds, rivers and bird sanctuaries around Champaign, as well as his bird photographs.

This domestream will utilize the immersive environment of the planetarium as the presentation flies to different birding locations. Visitors will be able to ask Bryant questions as part of the event.

“This is our second time working with Parkland College,” said Wayne Foster, one of the Cernan Center’s Planetarium educators. “This is a great collaboration between the institutions for a common interest of nature, wildlife and birds.”

The Triton College Cernan Earth and Space Center hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Saturday, 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Cernan Center is closed on Sundays.

For more information, contact [cernan@triton.edu](mailto:cernan@triton.edu) or visit <http://triton.edu/Cernan>.

## Cernan Center Features Pink Floyd’s Dark Side of the Moon Cosmic Light Show

The Triton College Cernan Earth and Space Center planetarium will be showing Pink Floyd’s Dark Side of the Moon Cosmic Light Show from March through April, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Pink Floyd album release. This is a family-friendly show.

Audiences of all ages are invited to sit back ... relax ... and enjoy this timeless classic accompanied by brilliant lasers, digital effects and thousands of stars!

From 1973 to 2023, Pink Floyd’s Dark Side of the Moon continues to be the quintessential soundtrack for a planetarium light show. Take a voyage to the dark side of the moon within the unique environment of the planetarium.

Showtimes for the Dark Side of the Moon Cosmic Light Show are 8:30 p.m., on Saturday evenings throughout March and April, except April 1. Special afternoon performances will be offered Monday through Friday, March 27 to April 7, at 3 p.m.

Planetarium admission is \$5 for youth (ages 2-17) and seniors (55+), and \$10 for adults.

For more information, contact [cernan@triton.edu](mailto:cernan@triton.edu) or visit <http://triton.edu/Cernan>.

## Apollo 17 50th Anniversary Celebration Receives Accolades from Public Feedback

The Triton College Cernan Earth and Space Center’s 50th anniversary celebration of Capt. Eugene “Gene” Cernan’s Apollo 17 Mission has received positive feedback from the Triton district and beyond, attracting a wide variety of visitors.

The celebration began Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2022, and runs through Saturday, April 8, 2023. Admission to the exhibit is free.

The most exciting temporary exhibit is the lunar sample, also known as a moon rock, actually collected during Capt. Cernan’s Apollo 17 NASA Mission in 1972. The moon rock is encased within a lucite pyramid and sits atop a lighted pedestal for public viewing.

“Many visitors remark how the “moon rock” looks like a charcoal briquette,” noted Kris McCall, director of the Cernan Earth and Space Center. “They don’t expect it to be almost black, but that’s because this sample came from one of the dark areas on the lunar surface which was filled in by ancient lava flows.”

According to McCall, visitors have traveled from near and far to see Triton’s new exhibits, with field trips ranging from the city of Chicago to the far western suburbs.

Wayne Foster, one of the Cernan Center’s Planetarium Educators, said a favorite exhibit among elementary students is the interactive game “Colonize Mars,” which is a flat-touch-screen table and has become a permanent addition to the Cernan Earth and Space Center. Multiple users can work to develop a colony on Mars through several stages of objectives. Players can work individually or together to build their colony as quickly as possible.

The anniversary celebration has received positive feedback within the media, as well. Space and Things podcast host David Giles, of England, recently visited and praised the Cernan Center for promoting the 50th anniversary Apollo 17 trip in his What Makes a Good Space Museum episode. Listeners were encouraged to visit the Cernan Center and experience the celebration.

Jim Kapsa, the host of the show Sports Entertainment People and Places, filmed an episode at the Cernan Center highlighting the many artifacts and exhibits the center has to offer.

In addition to the exhibits, visitors can travel Forward! To the Moon by viewing this special Planetarium production and discover plans to take new steps to the lunar surface in the coming years. The planetarium show schedule and ticket pricing are available at [triton.edu/cernan](http://triton.edu/cernan).

The Triton College Cernan Earth and Space Center hours are Monday-

Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Saturday, 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Cernan Center is closed on Sundays.

For more information, contact [cernan@triton.edu](mailto:cernan@triton.edu) or visit [triton.edu/Cernan](http://triton.edu/Cernan).

## **Triton College Hosting 'Campus Visit Day' for Aspiring Students**

### **College Tours and Admissions Info Available**

Triton College's Admissions Office is hosting "Campus Visit Day," Thursday, March 23, from 6-7:30 p.m., in the Student Center Cafeteria (B Building). Advanced registration is encouraged.

Triton College's Admissions advisors will assist aspiring students through the enrollment process and give campus tours.

To register, visit <https://triton.elluciancrmrecruit.com/Apply/Events>.

For more information, please contact [admissions@triton.edu](mailto:admissions@triton.edu).

## **'Sneak Peek' Scheduled for Saturday, April 15**

Triton College's Admissions Office is hosting Sneak Peek, Saturday, April 15, from 10 a.m.-Noon, in the Student Center Cafeteria (B Building). No reservation is necessary.

Sneak Peek allows students to learn about different program options, to begin the enrollment process and explore Triton's campus. Come see what Triton has to offer and how we can help you reach your future academic goals and dreams!

Tours and admissions info sessions will begin at 10 and 11 a.m.

For more information, please contact [admissions@triton.edu](mailto:admissions@triton.edu).

## **Triton Welcomes 50th Annual Triton Troupers Circus**

Step right up to see an amazing, spectacular, incredible show! The Triton Troupers Circus is back with its 50th annual show! Located at Triton College in the Collins Center Gymnasium (R Building), the circus will feature skilled performers and circus specialties. Admission is \$6 per person and tickets can be purchased at the door with limited seating. No credit or debit cards are accepted.

Audience members should be prepared to be wowed by clowning, juggling, trapeze, unicycling, wheel gymnastics and feats of strength, among other stunts and entertainment.

Showtimes include Thursday, March 30, 7 p.m.; Friday, March 31, 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 1, 1 p.m. (this show interpreted for the hearing impaired); and Saturday, April 1, 7 p.m. Doors will open one hour before the performance.

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

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [tritontrouperscircus.com](http://tritontrouperscircus.com), call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3383, or TTY (708) 456-0991.



## **Triton Now Offers Certified Public Accountant Pathway Certificate**

The Triton College School of Business is offering a certified public accountant (CPA) pathway certificate program. This certificate program is for students with a bachelor's degree who are seeking necessary qualifications to sit for the CPA examination in Illinois.

To qualify, those interested must have completed 120 hours of acceptable college-level education, including at least a bachelor's degree. To be certified, 150 semester hours must be obtained. (This became effective Jan. 1, 2023).

At least 30 of those 150 hours must be in accounting and an additional 24 hours must be in business courses, including business ethics.

Most students with bachelor's degrees, even those with degrees in business and/or accounting, have less than the minimum acceptable qualifications in credit hours.

Triton College's CPA Pathway Certificate Program allows for interested students to meet those requirements to qualify to sit for the CPA examination.

The program prerequisites include a completion of both ACC 101 and ACC 105 that were taken less than 10 years ago or approved.

Upon completion of the certificate, the student should submit transcripts to the Illinois Board of Examiners.

For more information, contact [joannaoleksiak@triton.edu](mailto:joannaoleksiak@triton.edu) or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3219, or [williamgriffin@triton.edu](mailto:williamgriffin@triton.edu) or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3579.

## **Cannabis Dispensary Certificate Program Begins Fall 2023**

The Triton College School of Businesses is launching a Cannabis Dispensary Certificate Program, beginning in the fall of 2023. This certificate program provides students with the training needed for employment or advancements in a licensed retail cannabis dispensary.

Coursework includes specific business, technical, legal and regulatory aspects to effectively interact with and serve customers in a cannabis retail environment.

For more information, contact [joannaoleksiak@triton.edu](mailto:joannaoleksiak@triton.edu) or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3219, or [williamgriffin@triton.edu](mailto:williamgriffin@triton.edu) or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3579.

## **Enjoy Some Sweet Treats at the Triton College Bakery Cookies, Cakes, Pies and More!**

Are you looking for a sweet treat to brighten your day? Triton College's Hospitality Industry Administration (HIA) Bakery has returned for the spring semester.

Enjoy sweet treats created by Triton's baking and pastry students! Each week will bring a variety of baked goods that are freshly made. Items can range from cookies to cakes to French pastries!

The Bakery, located in the Student Center Cafeteria (B Building), is open for business on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact [lorethasmith@triton.edu](mailto:lorethasmith@triton.edu) or [jasminebilbao-romero@triton.edu](mailto:jasminebilbao-romero@triton.edu).





Make it a brighter  
**Summer**

Take in some credits,  
with time to take in some sun.

**REGISTER NOW!**  
Summer semester begins May 22, 2023

There's  
a place  
for you.

**Triton College**



**Sunday, April 30, 2023 • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Triton College East Campus**

Check out dozens of hot rods, classic cars and big rigs,  
then take a tour of Triton's incredible Automotive Technology facilities.

**For more information go to [triton.edu/carshow](https://triton.edu/carshow).**

In case of inclement weather, alternate date will be May 7.



The  
Community  
Colleges  
of Illinois

FOR EVERY  
STUDENT  
FOR EVERY  
COMMUNITY

There's  
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**Triton College**  
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Triton College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution.



Want to make  
a difference in your  
community?

#AmeriCorpsSeniorsWorks



# MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH RSVP

Put your talent and experience at the service of American communities. Join the AmeriCorps Seniors Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at Triton College. We can help identify a volunteer match in your community.

**You can:**

- Work at a local food pantry.
- Help ESL students practice their English conversational skills.
- Give companionship by visiting, listening, talking or reading to older adults.
- Serve as a mentor.
- Work with children.
- And more.

**What you will receive in return is the joy of volunteering, as well as:**

- Free membership in a national organization.
- A quarterly newsletter.
- Mileage reimbursement upon request.
- Supplemental auto insurance.
- Invitation to volunteer appreciation events.

**Call the RSVP Office at  
Triton College for more information.  
(708) 456-0300, Ext. 3599.**



# NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS



## 100 Days

Kindergarten students across District 89 celebrated the 100th day of school.



## D89 Elementary Basketball Champions

D89 hosted its Boys Elementary Basketball Championship Game on Jan. 25, at the Boys and Girls Club in Maywood. What an exciting game. Both the Lincoln Lions and Garfield Giants played with enthusiasm and spirit! It was a close game, but the Giants prevailed and beat the Lions with a score of 13-10.

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# Bernie's Book Bank Visits D89 Schools

Students throughout D89 were in for a treat on Jan. 19 and 20, as Bernie's Book Bank trucks delivered bags of books to students K-sixth grades. Thank you, Bernie's Book Bank, for being a part of our #D89Community!



# Lincoln Cheerleading Squad Takes the First Place Title



On Feb. 1, District 89 hosted its first cheerleading competition at Irving Middle School. The competition focused on enthusiasm (team spirit), difficulty, motions, facial expressions and voice, and synchronization/spacing. The Lincoln Cheerleading Team, led by Mrs. Pacheco and Ms. Ziegler, received a perfect score! Their hard work and dedication were well deserved. Roosevelt Cheer received second place and Garfield Cheer came in third place.

# D89 STEAM Family Night



On the evening of Dec. 6, 2022, D89 students, families, staff and community members came together to learn about STEAM – science, technology, engineering, art and math. Students had the opportunity to fly drones, test out a VR headset, make slime, play coding games and so much more! Thank you to our community partners for joining us in all the fun.



# NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS

## Winter Hats and Gloves for D89 Students

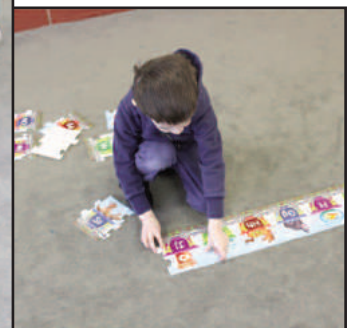
Proviso Community Bank provided \$300 towards the purchase of over 120 winter hats and over 130 winter gloves for D89 students. Your gift of warmth is much appreciated.



## U89 Wrestling Team

The Middle School U89 Wrestling Team participated in the Dale Keith Invitational at John J Lukancic Middle School in Romeoville on Feb. 3-4.

The team is a coop with members from Irving Middle School and Stevenson Middle School. The following students from the team placed individually – Jamiel Castleberry, 105, first place; Kevin Jay, 185, second place; Daisean Thomas, 100, third place; and Martrel Davis, 95, fourth place.



## Preschool for All

Jane Addams students in Mrs. Schak's Preschool for All (PFA) Program have lots of fun learning every day! Interested in learning more about the Preschool for All (PFA) Program? Visit <https://www.maywood89.org/preschool/> to find out more information!

## Embrace Training

On Friday, Jan. 20, D89 lead teachers and specialists were trained on the new district IEP/Section 504 document management system, Embrace. Embrace provides custom reports, regular updates to forms, real-time language translation and the ability to electronically transfer IEPs to/from other districts. Partial implementation will occur now through June and full implementation will begin in July. This training was presented by Brandon Groves, implementation specialist from Embrace Education.



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# SpellingBees

In mid-January, Irving Middle School, Stevenson Middle School and Washington Dual Language Academy hosted their annual school spelling bees. The winners competed at the District 89 Spelling Bee in February. Please watch for results.

## Irving Middle School Spelling Bee Results

Sixth Grade Irving Spelling Bee lasted for 12 rounds with the winning word being 'bobbed.' Jamarrie Shaw

took first place, Caylee Morales took second place, Mariah Flowers took third place and Naomi Green was named the alternate.

Seventh Grade Irving Spelling Bee lasted for eight rounds with the winning word being 'embrace.' Daniel Gills took first place, Natazia Holman took second place, Jimmy Eggleston took third place and Zoey Walker was named the alternate.

Eighth Grade Irving Spelling Bee lasted for 31 rounds with the winning word being 'quibble.' Jahleel Akbar took first place, Demarco Christian took second place, Demari Alexander took third place and Kendrick Hampton was named the alternate.

## Stevenson Middle School Spelling Bee Results

Sixth Grade Stevenson Spelling Bee lasted for 35 rounds with the winning word being 'query.' Casandra Padilla took first place, Vida Delgado took second place, Deborah Adeyemi took third place and Brianely Salas was named the alternate.

Seventh Grade Stevenson Spelling Bee lasted for 25 rounds with the winning word being 'blunder.' Levi Dordoba took first place, Eliyah Gallo took second place, Sofia Prather took third place and Jayden Hernandez was named the alternate.

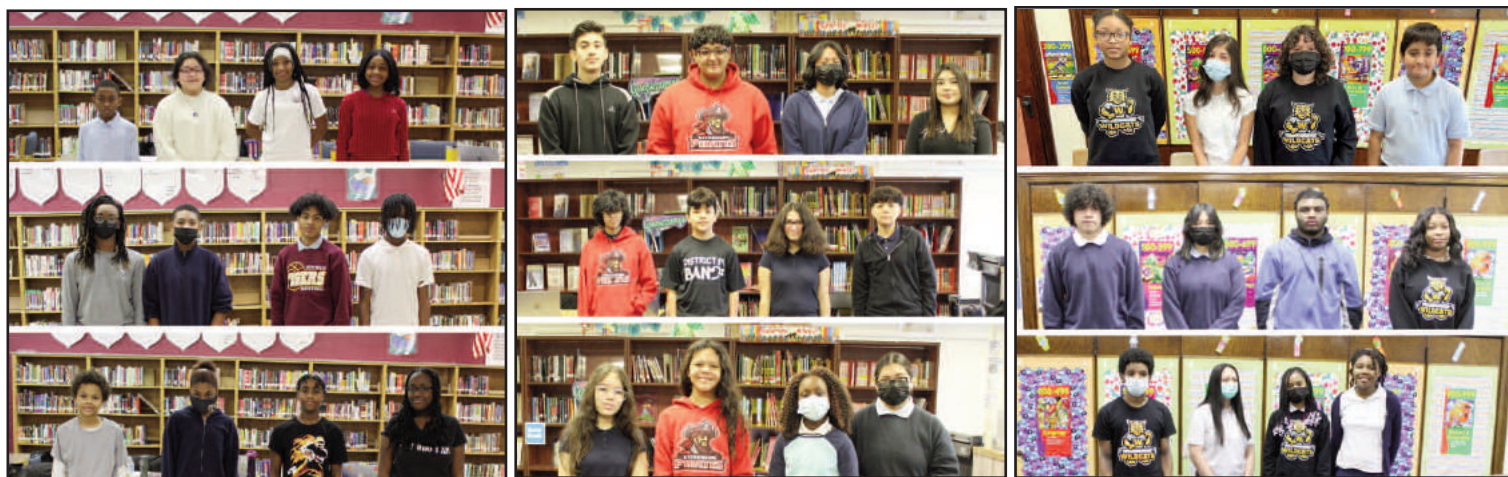
Eighth Grade Stevenson Spelling Bee lasted for nine rounds with the winning word being 'provocation.' Jose Ayala took first place, Joel Aguilar took second place, Dalila Robles-Salguero took third place and Dalila Tellez was named the alternate.

## Washington Dual Language Academy Spelling Bee Results

Sixth Grade Washington Spelling Bee lasted for 15 rounds with the winning word being 'vestments.' Trinittey Ratcliff took first place, Jayleen Martinez took second place, Teresa Lopez took third place and Nicholas Galindo was named the alternate.

Seventh Grade Washington Spelling Bee lasted for 11 rounds with the winning word being 'pistons.' Isaiah Johnson took first place, Ilani Herrera took second place, Lauren Washington took third place and Melanie Smith was named the alternate.

Eighth Grade Washington Spelling Bee lasted for 37 rounds with the winning word being 'reputed.' Edgar Bonilla took first place, Sofia Roman took second place, Nathaniel Bell took third place and Harmony James was named the alternate.



# WDLAStudentsHold FoodDrive

On Monday, Jan. 30, WDLA's Middle School Student Council, sponsored by Mrs. Roa, donated a little over 200 nonperishable food items to The Second Baptist Church of Maywood.

As part of a community service project, our young scholars organized a school food drive to collect items to donate to a local pantry. Students were a bit discouraged when the last two days of the food drive were cut short by e-learning and a snow day as they anticipated

these two days to be the largest donation days. When dropping off their donation, Reverend Brown, senior pastor of the church, thanked them for their donation and reassured them that no donation is too small. Their contribution might seem small to them, however, it will make a difference to families in our community.

We are so proud of Washington Dual Language Academy's Middle School Student Council and are so grateful to Mrs. Roa for enriching our scholars with the opportunity to give back and serve our school community.



# WDLAScientists

Sixth grade students at Washington Dual Language Academy learned about weathering and erosion in Mr. Jeronimo's science class. Students created a model to demonstrate the weathering and erosional effects of water and wind on landforms – all in Español of course!



# NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS



## 2022 D89 Winter Concert

On the evening of Dec. 7, 2022, families gathered to enjoy the D89 Band and Orchestra Winter Concert. The D89 Concert Orchestra performed *King Williams March*, *Rockin' up the Housetop* and *Jolly Old St. Nicholas*. The Concert Band performed *Jingle Bells* and *Feliz Navidad*, and closed out the evening with *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*.

Thank you to all the administrators, teachers, and other personnel for supporting our band and orchestra programs. Also, thank you to all the custodians who set up the gym for this evening. The students have worked so hard and we thank them for all their hard work. Lastly, thank you to all the parents for allowing your students to be a part of our wonderful groups.

Check out the District 89 Facebook page for some video clips of the concert.



## Holiday Gifts for Students

A special thank you to Melrose Park Mayor Ronald M. Serpico and to our community partners at Los Comales for sponsoring Christmas presents for every one of our Mighty Mustangs at Melrose Park School!

A special thank you to the Chicago Hispanic Business Network for providing well over 100 gifts over the holiday season to students at Lincoln, Melrose Park and Stevenson Middle School.

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# NOW HIRING INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Illinois State Board of Education Professional Educator Licensure (PEL) for Paraprofessional  
*(Will support to obtain)*
- 60 semester hours at a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
- or
- High School Diploma or GED
- ETS Parapro Test
- ACT Workkeys Test

## ABOUT US

- Part-time position
- Grade Levels: PK-8th Grade
- Working hours during school days. (Hours may vary)
  - Max of 29.10 hours per week M-F
  - Preschool: 8:00am-2:30pm
  - Elementary: 8:45am-3:25pm
  - Middle School: 8:00am-2:35pm

## APPLY HERE



## CONTACT US:

[www.maywood89.org](http://www.maywood89.org)

708-450-2460



**DISTRICT 89**

MAYWOOD | MELROSE PARK | BROADVIEW





## NEWS FROM WALTHER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

### A Message from Tim Bouman, Head of School

Greetings from Walther! – February is a busy time at Walther, as we are well into the swing of things for our second semester. On the admission side, we just had our third successful open house and anticipate another great freshman class for the fall. Our Bronco Benefit was held on the 11th and a wonderful time to gather as a Walther community and to raise much-needed funds to support our ministry. As we're in the Lenten Season, we once again scheduled our Ash Wednesday Chapel at St. Paul, Melrose Park, on Feb. 22. Finally, as always, we celebrated Black History Month at Walther with special posters and decorations, student activities, and projects in classes.

I want to take this opportunity to highlight our middle school this month. This is our seventh year of incorporating sixth-eighth graders in the building and it has been a huge success. We have 50 middle schoolers each year, and most years about 90 percent of graduating eighth graders join the high school as freshmen. It has a strong STEM component and academically advanced students can start taking high school classes early. This year we added a new middle school cheerleading team, led by Walther alum Amanda Smith, and nearly every middle school girl joined! They have a lot to cheer for, as our middle school boys basketball team has won every game this season but one and are heading to the state tournament. Go Broncos!

I thank you for taking the time to read about Walther, and for your interest and support. May God bless you!

Tim Bouman, Head of School

### A Message from Sally Ruecking, Director of Advancement

Dear Walther Alumni and Friends – We just hosted the Roots & Wings Bronco Benefit 2023 and it was a big success! Over 200 people gathered with alumni from 1959 to 2022, as well as sponsors, vendors, our students, faculty, teachers and friends! So many alumni that attended said they were so happy to reconnect with long-lost friends from their class. All of our events at Walther are an opportunity to reconnect with friends and make new ones! We exceeded our revenue goal, which supports our students and school, and we are so grateful.

This was the first time we used an online platform, so alumni that couldn't attend could also bid on our auction items! Many thanks to friends, family, teachers and staff who donated amazing auction items this year. It really takes a team to pull an event together.

A very special thank you to our student musicians and singers who performed. We are so lucky to have Samantha Rose, Lori Boyer, Cheldon White and Darryl Holiday lead our talented students! We had four students representing grades nine-12 speak at our Bronco Benefit that spoke of the power of Walther Christian Academy. The students each chose a topic to highlight – Faith, Academics, Extracurricular Activities and Community.

Our third annual report was mailed a few weeks ago to all of our donors. If you weren't mailed a copy, please take a look at it on our website. This year, I chose to highlight our student's service and volunteerism along with our academics and other activities throughout the year. I hope you enjoy reading about the "state of Walther today!"

Lent has started, which for so many, means changing your life, for turning things around, for getting on the right path and for repentance. We are all lucky at Walther to be able to celebrate God freely and openly.

Thank you, everyone for supporting a school that has changed the lives of so many. Please come visit Walther soon.

Sally Ruecking, Director of Advancement

P.S. Our third annual Bucking Bronco 5K Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, June 3.

Visit RaceRoster.com to register or visit this link – <https://raceroster.com/events/2023/71513/bucking-bronco-5k-runwalk>.

### Meet Tyrese Ingram, Class of 2022



*Tyrese Ingram*

Many at Walther Christian Academy know that Tyrese, who graduated last year, is a talented artist. Some of his works were featured in our *2021-2022 Aura Art and Literature* magazine.

Currently Tyrese is attending Malcolm X College, part of the City College Chicago. His design was chosen to represent the Chicago Blackhawks collaboration with limited retail clothing wear produced in honor of Black History Month.

To the right is the back of a sweatshirt hoodie designed by Tyrese that our teacher Catie Urban generously purchased and donated in support of our Bronco Benefit.

We all wish Tyrese continued success in studying art!



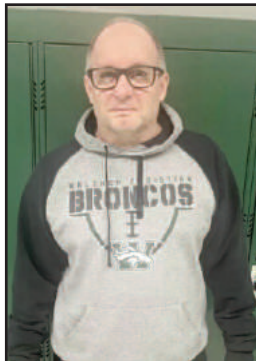
## Save the Date!

### Career Day at Walther is Friday, April 14, 2023.

If you are an alumni or a sponsor and would like to represent your chosen career, please send us your occupation and graduation year. We are especially looking for representatives who are in the health care field, marketing, IT, web design and analytics, teaching, church workers or philanthropy. Please send an email to [Sally\\_Ruecking@WaltherAcademy.org](mailto:Sally_Ruecking@WaltherAcademy.org).

## Meet Tim Eberhard, Registrar

Tim Eberhard is Walther's registrar, and has taught and coached at Chicago Public Schools, Grace English Lutheran School, Luther North High School, Walther Lutheran Academy Forest Park, Concordia University Chicago and Walther Christian Academy. He has held a myriad of positions at Walther and serves as not only our registrar, but coaches football and wrestling.



Tim Eberhard

Tim holds a BA in elementary education from Concordia University Chicago and is married to Marcia Eberhard, who teaches math. Together they share two daughters, Claire and Natalie. It's no surprise that Tim mentioned his daughters will attend Walther in the future! He also said he really enjoys serving students from all backgrounds.

Thank you, Tim, for the work that you do!

## Purchase a Paver!

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

The time is now to become a permanent part of Walther by purchasing an engraved paver. You can purchase one on our website by choosing the paver purchase option to honor your time at Walther, thank a parent for sending you here, thank a teacher, honor a memory, or give recognition to your business! The pavers are \$200 each.



If you would like to support our spring track athletes and live close by, consider purchasing Track and Field Spirit Wear by visiting [www.fanclath.shop/EXXVJ](http://www.fanclath.shop/EXXVJ).

## 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](mailto:Sally_Ruecking@WaltherAcademy.org) to discuss your wishes.

# Let Us Do the Cooking For You!



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

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

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

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





*Sacred Heart & St. Eulalia Parish*  
*Join us for Our Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Services!*



**Sacred Heart &  
 St. Eulalia Parish**  
**ST. JOSEPH TABLE**  
 Dinner & Desserts

**Saturday**  
**March 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00pm to**  
**8:00pm**

**Monetary  
 Donations  
 Accepted  
 at the Door**

Sacred Heart Church  
 Marian Hall  
 (Church Basement)  
 15th Ave & Iowa St.  
 Melrose Park, IL  
 708-344-0757



*Lent Services*

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS | Fridays in Lent**

**6:00pm** English at **Sacred Heart**

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



*Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter*

**PALM SUNDAY | April 2**

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

**10:30am** Spanish Palm Sunday Mass at **Sacred Heart**

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

**12:30am** Spanish Palm Sunday Mass at **St. Eulalia**

**7:00pm** Bilingual Palm Sunday Mass at **Sacred Heart**

**Holy Week and Easter Services**



**HOLY THURSDAY | April 6**

**8:00am** Prayer Service at **Sacred Heart**

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

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

**GOOD FRIDAY | April 7**

**8:00am** Prayer Service at **Sacred Heart**

**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**

**HOLY SATURDAY | April 8**

**8:00am** Prayer Service (Laudes) at **Sacred Heart**

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

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

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

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



**EASTER SUNDAY | April 9**

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

**10:30am** Spanish Easter Mass at **Sacred Heart**

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

**12:30am** Spanish Easter Mass at **St. Eulalia**

**7:00pm** Bilingual Easter Mass at **Sacred Heart**

**SACRED HEART:** 819 N. 16th Ave., Melrose Park | **ST. EULALIA:** 1845 S. 9th Ave., Maywood

**Phone:** 708-344-0757

**Email:** parish@shsparish.org



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

## Greetings from Fr. Leandro Fossá, C.S.



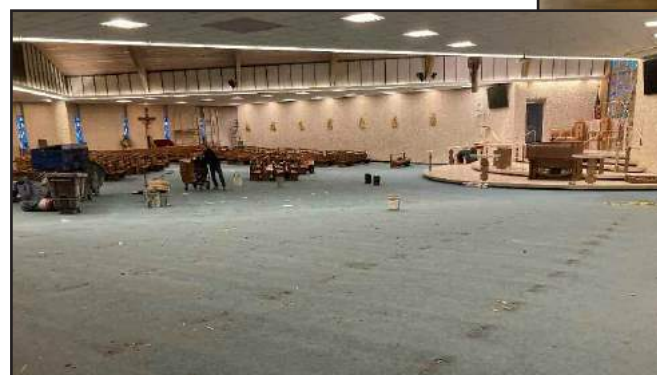
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is in reform. After a few decades, we have decided to repair and rebuild. The parish has not changed the carpet for many years and replacing it required moving the pews. Therefore, it was decided we would make a new floor and new pews for the church. At that point, we were not aware it would take so much planning, work and repairing.

Currently we are delighted to show that Our Lady of Mt. Carmel has a new floor, washed walls, repainted ceiling panels and new confessionals. During this Lent, conversion started with our church, an initiative to face the reality we needed to break ground.

Reform! A word that might connect each Catholic to the season of Lent, a time where we are called to be more solemn. The sacrament of reconciliation – where we ask God for forgiveness – becomes more popular. The Stations of the Cross, a tradition often taking place on Fridays during Lent, allows us to pray Jesus' final hours. Weddings and the big celebrations that accompany this wonderful sacrament are less common during this time. More solemn songs replace celebratory hymns during Mass. Singing our most joyful hymns during Lent would be like throwing an outdoor pool party in the dead of winter – It just doesn't fit with the season.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel will walk this journey of Lent, a journey of penance, reflecting about our missing pews and barren floors. A new beginning for a time where society has changed, and we prepare our hearts to walk with Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Fr. Leandro Fossá, C.S.  
Pastor and Rector



## Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Lent Schedule

**Fridays, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 – Stations of the Cross, Trilingual in the Church at 7:30 p.m.**

**Friday, March 3 – Fish Fry, In the OLMC Gym from 5:30-9 p.m.**

**Saturday, March 11 – Retiro de Cuaresma (Spanish), In the OLMC Gym from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, March 19 – Feast of St Joseph, Italian Mass at 10:30 a.m., Followed by Procession and St Joseph's Table**

**Saturday, March 25 – Feast of the Annunciation, In the OLMC Gym at 9 a.m., Mass, Rosary and Breakfast**

**Monday, March 27 – Easter Reconciliation, Confessions for the Community in Church, 7 p.m.**

**Thursday, March 30 – Lenten Evening of Recollection, In the Parish Gym, 6 p.m.**

**Mass dinner and reflection by Fr. Thomas R. McCarthy.**

**Thursday, April 6 – Holy Thursday, Pilgrimage to the Seven Churches**

**The bus departs from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel at 7 p.m. Call the church to register and pay by April 1.**

**Friday, April 7 – Good Friday**

**3 p.m. – Adoration of the Cross (Trilingual) • 4 p.m. – Live Stations of the Cross in Spanish**

**6 p.m. – Rosary and Procession of Cristo Morto in Italian**





# Upcoming Events at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and Shrine

## *March 2023 Events*

### **St. Anthony Annual Lenten Fish Fry • Friday, March 3/5:30-9 p.m.**

**\$15 Donation (\$10 Children Under 12) • Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Gym**

After three long years, the St. Anthony Annual Lenten Fish Fry is back! The same fun evening of delicious food, raffle and entertainment is returning.

Feast on fish 'n chips, cole slaw, corn on the cob, coffee, soda and sweets. For an extra donation, there's a wine and beer bar!

For reservations, call the rectory (708) 344-4140 or Lucia at (312) 860-2530, or any St. Anthony member.

All proceeds go toward the Feast of St. Anthony, which will be celebrated on Sunday, June 11, at the 10:30 a.m., Italian Mass followed by the traditional blessing of the bread, veneration of his relic, outdoor procession with Caliendo's Banda Napolitano and a continental breakfast.

On St. Anthony's actual feast day, Tuesday, June 13, there will be a 7:30 p.m. Mass followed by refreshments.

### **Stations of the Cross (Trilingual)**

**Every Friday in March (3, 10, 17, 24 and 31)/7:30 p.m.**

### **Feast of St. Joseph • Sunday, March 19/10:30 a.m.**

Italian Mass followed by the outdoor procession and the traditional St. Joseph Table. Donations accepted.

### **Annunciation • Saturday, March 25/9 a.m.**

Trilingual Mass and rosary followed by breakfast.

### **Mass for St. Pio • Sunday, March 26/10:30 a.m.**

Italian Mass followed by reception.

### **Easter Reconciliation • Monday, March 27/7 p.m.**

Community confession.

### **Altar & Rosary**

### **Lenten Evening Recollection • Thursday, March 30/7 p.m.**

**6 p.m. – Mass/Dinner/Reflection • \$20 Donation • Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Gym**

**Fr. Thomas R. McCarthy** – Teacher – Administrator – Retreat Director – Parish Mission Preacher – Vocation Director

Director of St. Rita Cascia Shrine – Director of Community Relations at St. Rita Cascia High School

Prior of Pre-Novitiate Community of St. Clare of Montefalco Friary in Chicago – Director/Prior of Marylake Augustinian Shrine & Monastery in Ontario

Part of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization in Rome – Named a Papal Missionary of Mercy by Pope Francis in 2018

For reservations or more information, see an Altar & Rosary member, or call the Rectory at (708) 344-4140. Last day for reservations is Friday, March 24.

**For more information, please call the Rectory at (708) 344-4140.**

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# April 2023 Events

## Palm Sunday • Sunday, April 2

Distribution of ashes at all Masses.

**Feast of Madonna del Arco • 10:30 a.m. Mass**

## Holy Thursday • Thursday, April 6

**Mass of the Last Supper • 6 p.m. (English and Italian)/8 p.m. (Spanish)**

**Pilgrimage to Seven Churches • Bus Departs from Church at 7:15 p.m.**

**Altar of Response • Adoration in the Shrine Until Midnight**

The Mass of the Lord's Supper and the washing of the feet will be celebrated. After Mass, the Altar of Repose (in the shrine) will remain open for adoration until midnight. Altar & Rosary will be sponsoring a pilgrimage to seven churches, leaving immediately after the 6 p.m. Mass. Churches will be in Cicero and Melrose Park – St. Mary Czestochowa, Our Lady of Charity, Mary Queen of Heaven, Our Lady of the Mount, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Francis of the 5 Wounds (merged with St Mary of Celle and St. Francis of Rome) and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish & Shrine. Reservations are limited to the first 55 people and payment must be made in advance. Deadline to sign up is Thursday, March 30. Call the Rectory for details or to make a reservation (708) 344-4140.

## Good Friday • Friday, April 7

**Confession – 9 a.m.-Noon • Trilingual Service – 3 p.m.**

**Via Crucis/Communion – 4 p.m. (Spanish) • Passione/Rosary-Liturgy-Procession – 6 p.m. (Italian)**

**Via Crucis ... The Way of the Cross** – Two words that mean the same in all languages around the world. Whether you come to the stations of the cross in the afternoon, the funeral dirge in the evening or just to pray at 3 p.m. as the church bells mark the time of Jesus' death, it's a day of reflection and each interpretation transcends any language barrier. All are welcome to all three experiences.

**4 p.m./Via Crucis** – The Hispanic community re-enacts the passion of the Lord with a procession through Melrose Park. The procession starts at Melrose Park School on 17th and Rice, and proceeds through the town, ending at the Village Hall. Come walk the stations of the cross with Jesus and feel the torture he endured as he carries his cross, accompanied by the soldiers who walked with him and the ones riding horseback with their swords and shields.

**6 p.m./Venerdi' Santo** – Over 25 Italian societies who originally started the Comitato Venerdi' Santo, come to participate with the Italian community to continue the Good Friday traditions that are still carried out in Italy today. The procession of banners into the church signals the start of the rosary, followed by reciting the *Lord's Passion* and veneration of the cross. The presentation of Our Lady of Sorrow and Cristo Morto conclude the service. As the band plays the funeral dirge, all banners and statues leave the church for a candlelight procession through the streets in town.

## Easter Vigil • Saturday, April 8

**Trilingual Mass – 8 p.m.**

## Easter • Sunday, April 9

Regular Sunday Mass schedule.

## Divine Mercy • Sunday, April 16

Rosary before each Mass. Regular Sunday schedule.

**Feast of Santa Gemma – 10:30 a.m. Mass followed by a reception.**

## Scalabrini Retreat • Monday, April 17-Friday, April 21

Service only. No Masses.

## Mass for St. Pio • Sunday, April 30

**10:30 a.m. Italian Mass followed by a reception.**



# Activity News from Melrose Park Free Methodist Church

## Free Essential Supplies Giveaway – Sunday, March 26

All are welcome to join the Melrose Park Free Methodist Church for a free essential supply giveaway on Sunday, March 26, 11:30 a.m.  
Essential supplies will be given away free of charge, while supplies last.

## Happy Easter! Free Egg Hunt – Sunday, April 9

Join the Melrose Park Free Methodist Church for our annual Free Community Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 9, 11 a.m.  
Children, ages 2-12, are welcome to stop by and participate in the holiday fun.  
This is a ready, set, go hunt! Please arrive early! The hunt will begin at 11 a.m. sharp!

## Register Now! Free ESL Classes Beginning Sunday, April 16

Register now for Melrose Park Free Methodist Church ESL classes.  
Classes, free of charge, begin Sunday, April 16, 10 a.m. Happy learning!  
Please call (708) 343-2386 to register. Leave your name/phone number with the answering service and someone will contact you.

**All activities will be held at Melrose Park Free Methodist Church, 841 Elsie Dr., Melrose Park.  
(Corner of Ninth Avenue and Elsie, behind the Target store.)**

**Everyone's welcome! We are bilingual. For more information, please call (708) 343-2386.**



# SELLING YOUR HOUSE?

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MANAGING BROKER

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Center, Suite 300  
Westchester, IL 60154

[ParksHomesRe.com](http://ParksHomesRe.com)



Under Contract

### CHICAGO \$279,900 Brick Bungalow

7-8 bedrooms, 3 Full Baths,  
Full Finished Basement,  
9 ft high 2 car Garage



Price Reduction

### MELROSE PARK \$99,900 Business Only For Sale

Great opportunity to own an  
established clothing store.  
All equipment included.  
Turn the key & start making  
money. Busy, historical area  
of MP business district.



Coming soon to the market

### ELMWOOD PARK Brick Bungalow

3 Bedrooms and 3 Fullbaths,  
Full finished basement.  
Wood deck, 2 Car garage  
with double doors and more!



# Dominican Literacy Center Continues to Provide English Instruction and More ...

The Dominican Literacy Center originally began in Chicago, at the request of the pastor of Our Lady of Grace Parish in 1996. In 2008, the building housing the center was deemed to need extensive repairs and could not be used. In June of 2008, the center was graciously welcomed to rent a part of Sacred Heart Convent in Melrose Park, where it has continued to provide English instruction for the past 14 years.

The goal of the Dominican Literacy Center is the empowerment of persons who experience personal and economic limitations within our English-speaking society. Through literacy education and personal relationships, we strive to provide a small step toward eliminating racial and cultural prejudice and stereotypes, as well as a step up for persons seeking improvement in their personal, familial and economic abilities.

The Dominican Literacy Center provides weekly one and half hour tutored sessions in which one student meets with one tutor. The center provides tutoring in speaking, reading and writing English, as well as tutoring in preparation for the Citizenship interview and exam. This individualized instruction is provided for immigrant women and men (ages 17+) who are – endeavoring to reduce literacy and its consequential effects of isolation (due to their inability to communicate in English with health care providers, children's teachers, neighbors, co-workers, community leaders and/or first responders); in low-level jobs (due to lack of training or skills, or an inability to demonstrate their already achieved skills and knowledge); powerless to supervise their adolescent children or to influence systemic change; lacking confidence to enroll in traditional classes and or fear of requesting help when needed.

## English Classes

English classes are provided for those who want to learn to speak, read or write in English. One student meets with one tutor, once a week.

These classes are offered at the Dominican Literacy Center, 1503 Rice Street, in Melrose Park (near Sacred Heart/St. Eulalia Parish).

Our program also assists persons studying for their Citizenship interview/exam.

We presently offer classes on Monday through Thursday, in the mornings and afternoons.

Please call Sr. Judith Curran at (708) 338-0659.

**Dominican Literacy Center**  
1503 Rice Street • Melrose Park, IL 60160

## English Classes for Women

### Clases de Inglés para mujeres

Clases de Inglés para aprender como hablar, leer y escribir.

Clases para mujeres que quieren aprender a leer, escribir y hablar en Inglés serán ofrecidas en el Centro Dominicano de Alfabetización, 1503 Rice St.

Nuestro programa tambien ayuda a hombres y mujeres que están estudiando para pasar el examen de ciudadanía.

En este momento, tenemos maestras disponibles para clases por las mañanas.

Si a usted le gustaria aprender Inglés mejor, por favor llamar a Hermana Judith Curran – (708) 338-0659.

**Centro Dominicano de Alfabetización**  
Calle Arroz 1503 • Parque Melrose, IL 60160

# MP Boy Scout Troop 112 Will Participate in 2023 Food Drive

## Please Help Support the Cause



Melrose Park Boy Scout Troop 112 will participate in this year's Annual Scouting for Food Drive.

The Scouts will be circulating a limited amount of door hangers on Saturday, April 15, then collect parcels of food on Saturday, April 22.

The Scouts will be out covering the whole village of Melrose Park on April 22 making their collections.

All food items received will be delivered to the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Food Pantry to help families in need.

For additional information, please call Fred Crancich at (708) 609-5539.

## 3% Commission on Selling Any Type of Real Estate

**RON FABIANI,**  
**MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR AWARD WINNER,**  
**WILL SELL ANY TYPE OF REAL ESTATE**  
**AT A 3% COMMISSION ...**  
**LET MY 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE**  
**REPRESENT YOUR SITUATION!**



**CALL RON FROM "MID-AMERICA REALTY"**  
**1 (708) 415-2484**  
**FOR YOUR PRIVATE APPOINTMENT.**



# Little Bits & Pieces

## Check Out These Clips from the Launch

40 CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, Friday, May 18, '56

### TRADE SECRETS' SPILLED

# Big Builder Builds,

## 2 Weekends---800 Homes Snapped Up

BY ALBERT JEDLIKA JR.

Top brass of an Eastern building firm has disclosed the "trade secrets" of a whirlwind operation that has sold approximately 800 homes in Melrose Park over two weekends.

The buyers have been among the thousands who have viewed the 900-unit Winston Park development near 5th and North avs. since the first grand showing of homes last September.

The 300 split-level homes in the first addition were sold out over the first weekend.

More than 400 persons stayed up all night over the May 4 weekend to be among the first in line for a "private" sale of 600 units in the second addition.

The firm reported sales of 434 units in this addition for that weekend and 66 others since then.

The homes, containing from 2,000 to 2,150 square feet of living space, range from \$23,600 to \$29,900.

They contain three bedrooms, 1½ to 2½ baths, finished recreation rooms, basements, attached one- and two-car garages, birch cabinet kitchens and built-in ovens and ranges.

THE FIRM is headed by Norman K. Winston and David Muss, two high-powered New York building executives who operate on a national scale.

Before opening the Melrose Park development, they joined in a 1,346-unit defense housing project in Waukegan with Tom Lively and Clint Murchison, Texas construction and business tycoons.

Muss visits the Chicago operation every 10 days. Winston, the senior partner, comes in about every three weeks.

MEANWHILE, a supervisory team headed by Robert H. Richards, general manager, and Everett Dahlquist, controller, keep operations rolling.

Dahlquist said the key to the company operations is "thinking big."

This applies to the design as well as construction and selling of the homes.

THE FIRM will spend a year planning a project. In the case of Winston Park, designs and layouts of the split-levels were revised constantly over a five-month period before details finally were settled.

"Muss picks up a lot of ideas by studying other builders' developments in his travels throughout the country," says Richards.

Once construction is scheduled to start, economies are achieved by:

- Direct mass buying of lumber, windows, gypsum sheathing, nails and other staple items. When the firm started operations in Melrose Park, for example, it had \$250,000 worth of lumber dumped on the site.
- Precutting and assembly of some structural framing on the site.
- Gearing sub-contracting operations to a volume basis. To achieve this objective, the firm has brought in out-of-town subcontractors familiar with its techniques for the masonry, heating, painting and electrical trades.

THE BIG THINKING is carried into the actual sales of homes.

Smash promotion techniques are designed to bring out large crowds for fast sales, lowering selling costs.

Andrew N. Rebori, Chicago architect, will address a dinner meeting of the Chicago Cut Stone Contractors Association May 21 at the Chicago Metropolitan Home Builders dining



Chicago Daily News - Friday, May 18, 1956

Typical street scene in one of the most booming subdivisions in the Chicago area. Approximately 800 of the split-level homes have been sold in the 900-unit Winston Park development near 5th and North avs. in 1 and frame home 900 brackets are mum 65-foot lot and driveways.

This typical three-bedroom home, containing 2,100 square feet of living space, includes 2-car garage and 2½ baths. Finished 17 by 14-ft lower level. Kitchen and oven.

**How Much Do You Remember About the Winston Park Development Project that Began More Than 60 Years Ago**

We're tracking some history, and seeking stories and photos for future issues of *The Rose*! If you have any news or pictures we can use, please send a note to *The Rose* c/o Village of Melrose Park, 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160 (include a phone number that's best to reach you at) or you can send an email to [therose@melrosepark.org](mailto:therose@melrosepark.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

## WELCOME TO WINSTON PARK

WINSTON PARK is a newly created subdivision of ultra modern split-level homes. Situated in the Village of Melrose Park adjacent to the fine residential areas of River Forest and Oak Park.

You will find WINSTON PARK to be endowed with excellent community and neighborhood facilities... beautiful homes, curved streets, separate sanitary and storm sewers, finest landscaping, concrete sidewalks and drives, nearby schools (others to be constructed), churches, ideal transportation and many other neighborhood facilities.

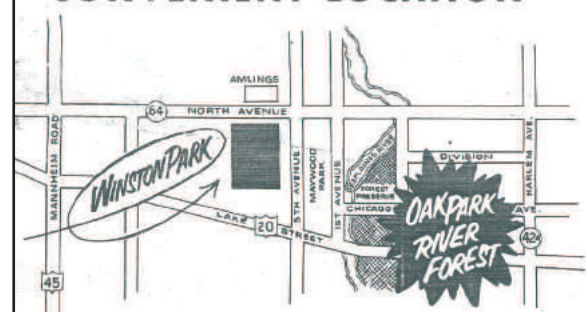
Your shopping needs have not been overlooked for an ultra modern shopping center is an integral part of our present development plans.

Yes, WINSTON PARK is not only your future address of distinction, but also, a community of fine homes designed to meet the needs of the growing American family.

**ARCHITECT STYLED FOR MODERN LIVING AND BUILT BY ONE OF THE NATION'S FOREMOST BUILDERS WITH A RECORD OF \$250,000,000.00 WORTH OF TOP QUALITY HOMES.**



## CONVENIENT LOCATION





# from the Past ...

## of Home Sales in the Winston Park Area



**Village of  
Melrose Park**

Now you can have your  
*Dream Home*  
for less than you ever  
thought possible!

LOCATED IN  
**WINSTON PARK**  
CHICAGOLAND'S LAST  
CHOICE CLOSE-IN LOCATION

**The Canterbury**

MODEL C-1

★ the CANTERBURY

JUST  
**\$29,900**

\*Price subject to change without notice.

FURNISHINGS:  
CANTERBURY:  
Maywood Furniture, Maywood  
Drapery by  
Century Drapery, Oak Park

### Rare charm - individuality - gracious, distinctive design!

This is the greatest advance in home building since the advent of the split-level. A gracious, inviting, front-to-rear split-level home for the hard to please buyer. The CANTERBURY presents a charming entrance foyer with guest closet and powder room. It has a full two-story high studio type living room with a vaulted cathedral ceiling, mezzanine balcony with wrought iron railing, stone ceiling height fireplace and windowed wall. The informal second living room is full height and can be easily converted into a library or den. A spacious, sunny, open dining room with a studio window is ideal for formal gatherings. The large kitchen is laid out in step saving fashion. It contains a built-in wall oven and counter top range, Formica counters, birch cabinets and an exhaust fan. Three master sized bedrooms with sliding doors, wardrobes and linen closets, are arranged on one level. Two baths are furnished with colorful ceramic tile, color keyed fixtures and deluxe vanitorium. A big two car garage has a separate inside entrance leading to the laundry room. The basement is extra sized with plenty of room for the workshop. Fully landscaped and seeded.

**The Beverly**

MODEL B-2

★ the BEVERLY  
with stone

JUST  
**\$26,300**

\*Price subject to change without notice.

Same Model without stone \$25,900

FURNISHINGS:  
BEVERLY:  
Rusack's, Oak Park  
Drapery by  
Century Drapery, Oak Park

### Beauty - spaciousness - livability - luxury living at its best!

Beautiful from every angle. Your eyes will tell you, this is the home for you. That's because it's big enough to take care of the larger than average family with ease and comfort. The BEVERLY contains exterior face brick all around with stone and/or wood trim. Expansive rooms provide the utmost in family living. The large living room is brightened with a bowtype paneled window and is provided with a guest closet. A spacious family dining room is served from a large, well equipped kitchen. A built-in wall oven and counter top range accentuates the many step saving features. Birch cabinets, formica counters, and colorful grease-proof tile floors blend in modern color schemes. A mezzanine balcony with wrought iron railing overlooks the living room. Three third level bedrooms of exceptional size each contain full size walk-in closets with sliding doors. A ceramic tile bathroom is equipped with colorful bath fixtures, while the master bath features a glass enclosed shower stall. The family sized recreation room with its own half bath, has a separate entrance opening on the patio level. The basement provides ample space for workshop, storage, and a children's play area. A laundry room contains complete plumbing facilities. The BEVERLY is provided with an oversize 2 car garage. Fully landscaped and seeded. Available in several intriguing elevations.

**The Ashley**

MODEL A-1

★ the ASHLEY

JUST  
**\$23,600**

\*Price subject to change without notice.

FURNISHINGS:  
ASHLEY:  
F. Vignola Furniture,  
River Forest  
Drapery by Vignola

### Excitingly different styling - beauty - convenience!

For more value than ever before, you must see this dramatically different split-level home. Your present rent "buys" here. Seven spacious rooms in all, this plan includes a 28 ft. finished recreation area. Three huge, cross ventilated bedrooms on the third level strike a note of expansiveness. A smart wrought iron balcony overlooks the living room with its picture window and entrance hall. Colorful ceramic bath tile and color keyed bath fixtures further dramatize the full glamour of this value packed home. A full family sized dining area is conveniently served from the adjoining kitchen which contains beautiful birch overhead and base cabinets, formica counters, and grease proof asphalt tile. These features along with the convenient design of this kitchen, set a new high in home comfort. Oak flooring and smartly styled lighting fixtures accentuate over-all charm. A full basement area for the family workshop and a spacious garage add to the functional design. This home is adequately wired for today's modern appliances and accessories. Fully landscaped and seeded. The ASHLEY is the home with unbelievable qualifications for the money. IT IS A MUST—A HAVE-TO-SEE FOR EVERY DISCRIMINATING HOME SEEKER!



Al Piemonte

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TO CUSTOMER SATISFACTION



**Sammy Alfano**  
**sammya@apnissan.com**



## The ROSE AD RESERVATION FORM

### Save the Dates!

Next Issue – April 2023

(Deadline for material March 25, 2023.)

Schedule for 2023

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](mailto:therose@melrosepark.org) w/pdf or jpeg file.**

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



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The  ROSE

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# New Features on Illinois' ICash Website Make It Even Easier for People to Find Their Unclaimed Property

People checking for unclaimed property on the ICash website can now ask questions of a chatbot named Abe and they can alert friends or relatives who do not know they have unclaimed property.

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs recently highlighted the two ICash website improvements, which make it simpler than ever for people to discover and collect unclaimed property. The National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators launched the Unclaimed Property Day initiative three years ago to raise awareness of unclaimed property and help reunite Americans with their lost assets.

One of Frerichs' responsibilities as state treasurer is to safeguard unclaimed property that is reported to his office.

The ICash website ([www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICASH](http://www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICASH)) is a searchable database where people can check for unclaimed property.

Through the Friends and Family "share" feature on ICash, anyone can help the Treasurer's Office connect with individuals whose names appear in the unclaimed

property database. Whenever visitors to the ICash website come across the name of someone they know, they can select the "share" icon and provide the email address of their friend or relative. Frerichs' office then will notify the individual by sending an email that mentions the unclaimed property, along with the name of the friend or relative who spotted it. Then, that individual can start the process of retrieving the property.

"Abe," the automated chatbot, is available to anyone visiting the ICash website during and outside of normal business hours. Capable of responding in English or Spanish, Abe provides an interactive way for people to obtain information when they ask short, simple questions about unclaimed property.

Illinois' unclaimed property program — also known as ICash — is one of the state's oldest consumer protection initiatives. In Illinois, the state treasurer is tasked with safeguarding unclaimed property, such as the contents of overlooked safe deposit boxes, unpaid life insurance benefits, forgotten bank accounts and unused rebate cards. Illinois holds more than \$3.5 billion in unclaimed property.

Since 2015, Frerichs' office has returned more than \$1.6 billion in unclaimed property, a record-setting amount since the program was established in 1961.

The state treasurer is legally required to return the property to the rightful owners no matter how long it takes.

Unclaimed property is reported to the Treasurer's Office twice each year, so people are encouraged to check the database every six months. An estimated one-in-four adults in Illinois who search ICash find unclaimed property and the average claim is \$1,000.

To find out if you have unclaimed property, visit [www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICASH](http://www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICASH).

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



## Illinois Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program Hits \$100 Million Mark

Workers who participate in the Illinois Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program have set aside more than \$100 million of their own money for their retirement, Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs said recently.

The threshold signals a growing recognition that workers understand Social Security alone will not provide enough income after their working days are over and reflects data that shows workers are more likely to save for retirement if they can do so through workplace payroll deductions.

Through Illinois Secure Choice, workers can save for retirement through individual retirement accounts (IRAs) funded by payroll deductions facilitated by their employers. The default option for program participants is to enroll in a target-date Roth IRA with a 5 percent contribution rate. Participants can choose to change their contribution level or fund option at any time. Accounts are owned by individual participants and are portable from job-to-job. Investments are held in a separate trust outside the Illinois Treasury and are managed by private-sector investment managers.

The General Assembly created Illinois Secure Choice in 2015 and declared employers must either offer a retirement savings program or participate in Illinois Secure Choice. Lawmakers assured employers they would not be responsible for investment decisions and barred them from contributing to a worker's account. Lawmakers assured workers their accounts would travel with them if they changed employers.

In addition, lawmakers created a seven-member board to oversee the program; determined that investments would be managed by the private sector; and assigned implementation of the savings program to the Illinois State Treasurer's Office. The program launched in 2018, based on recommendations from the board and consultations with lawmakers.

Today, 117,000 workers, many of whom never thought they could save for retirement, have worked with 9,350 employers to set aside more than \$100 million.

Enrollment was apportioned by employer size so as not to overwhelm employers. Wave one in 2018 included employers with 500 or more employees. Wave two in 2019 included employers with 100-499 employees and another wave that same year included employers with 25-99 employees. The deadline for wave four, employers with 16 or more employees, was Nov. 1, 2022. The deadline for wave five, employers with five or more employees, is Nov. 1, 2023. Eligible employers can register or report an exemption at [www.ilsecurechoice.com](http://www.ilsecurechoice.com) anytime before their applicable deadline.

Illinois Secure Choice is critical because 40 percent of the state's private-sector workers do not have access to an employer-sponsored retirement plan. The numbers are even higher for those at small businesses. Among businesses with 10-24 employees, nearly 59 percent of workers are not covered by a workplace retirement plan, and for businesses with fewer than 10 employees, that figure is nearly 73 percent, according to AARP.

The employer component is key because workers are 15 times more likely to save for retirement if they can do so through payroll deductions, according to an AARP study. And there's a need to save — 23 percent of Illinois seniors rely upon Social Security for 90 percent of their retirement income, although Social Security was not designed to be the sole source of income in retirement.

For additional information about the Illinois Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program, please visit [www.ilsecurechoice.com](http://www.ilsecurechoice.com).



# Cook County Announces \$23 Million for Rental Assistance and Services for Returning Residents

On Wednesday, Jan. 18, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, the Housing Authority of Cook County (HACC) and the Cook County Justice Advisory Council (JAC) announced an American Rescue Plan Act – funded reentry initiative that will provide rental assistance and wraparound support services to residents returning to Cook County from periods of incarceration.



*Cook County Commissioner  
Frank J. Aguilar*

“The re-entry period is a vital time to lay foundations for future safety and success,” said Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. “Justice involved residents face challenges when they return home to their communities. Access to stable housing and supportive services are key in helping them successfully navigate challenges and achieve their goals.”

The program will support individuals who have returned home to Cook County from prison in the last 24 months. Eligible individuals will be referred by a reentry case manager or a parole officer and will receive rental assistance via direct payments from HACC to their landlord.

Residents participating in the program will also receive individualized wraparound services, such as case management, education and employment support, health care services and legal assistance. Enrolled participants are expected to begin receiving rental assistance and services this summer.

“This important initiative underscores the county’s commitment to equity by helping to close the gaps in support that exist for justice involved residents,” said Richard Monocchio, executive director of the Housing Authority of Cook County. “We cannot overstate the integral role stable housing plays for returning residents. The support these residents will receive through this program will impact their lives for years to come and will ultimately contribute to safer and more equitable communities in Cook County.”

“Returning citizens face many challenges and us as elected officials must be prepared to give them the tools to successfully re-enter society,” said County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar. “These investments will give resources, training and support systems for returning citizens, an unprecedented investment into a far too often overlooked population. We must emphasize access, first and foremost, to ensure those returning from incarceration are able to find stable employment, stable housing, affordable health care, and the skills they need to move on to the next chapter of their lives. This funding will do just that.”

The types of wraparound services that will be funded under the initiative are:

1. Case management services, including needs assessments, transition planning, connecting to and navigating services and support.
2. Legal support, including expungement, petitions and record sealing.
3. Housing access advocacy, including assistance with finding housing, communicating with landlords and advocating for legal rights.
4. Employment supports, including job readiness training, job placement and entrepreneurship opportunities.
5. Health care services, including physical, mental and behavioral health services, and substance abuse support.
6. Educational supports, including GED and literacy programs, certification programs and special education services.

Eligible organizations interested in partnering to provide wraparound services for returning residents receiving rental assistance will respond to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from the JAC. The RFQ has been published on the JAC Grants website. The deadline to submit a response is Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 5 p.m.



## Cook County Announces Call for Transportation and Community Grant Program Applications

The Cook County Board of Commissioners and President Toni Preckwinkle announced a call for applications for the Department of Transportation and Highway’s (DoTH) “Invest in Cook” Grant Program to assist communities with transportation infrastructure improvements. In conjunction, the Bureau of Economic Development (BED) is also accepting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications to support economic development in the county through capital improvement, public service and Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) programs.

“Making investments in transportation and economic development projects throughout Cook County is essential,” said President Preckwinkle. “These investments allow municipalities to begin or continue advancing crucial projects vital to the growth of the county and the residents that call our community home.”

“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 that these new programs and investments are accessible for all residents to participate in. I strongly encourage eligible individuals and groups to apply to these opportunities throughout Cook County and our 16th District.”

### **Department of Transportation and Highways – Invest in Cook Grant Program**

For the seventh year in a row, DoTH will make available \$8.5 million in Invest in Cook infrastructure grants to help prioritize transit and other transportation alternatives, support the region’s role as North America’s freight capital, promote equal access to opportunities, maintain and modernize what already exists, and increase investments in transportation.

Invest in Cook is an initiative of Connecting Cook County, which lays the groundwork for how the county invests in transportation to attract and retain businesses, people, capital and talent. In its first six years, Invest in Cook awarded \$48.7 million to fund 205 projects throughout the county.

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

"I am incredibly proud to offer this grant program for a seventh year," said Jennifer 'Sis' Killen, superintendent of DoTH. "Invest in Cook is an important resource to further transportation-related projects across the county. This funding serves as a stepping stone for municipalities to begin a project or push an existing project across the finish line."

#### **Bureau of Economic Development – Community Development Block Grant Program**

For over 40 years, Cook County has administered the CDBG Program to support critical community development needs across suburban Cook County. Under CDBG, BED announced the call for applications for three grant programs including capital improvement, public service and ESG. These programs are designed to support street and sewer improvements, HVAC and roof repairs/replacements, as well as social service and homeless prevention needs in income-eligible areas of suburban Cook County. In 2022, over \$7.9 million was awarded to 71 applicants across all three programs. "Investing in traditionally underserved communities will create a better Cook County for us all," said Bureau of Economic Development Chief Xochitl Flores. "The critical assistance provided through these grant programs creates equitable solutions for all suburban Cook County residents and businesses."

CDBG funding comes from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and must be invested in line with Moving to Implementation, BED's five-year strategic plan that guides the use of these HUD resources. CDBG funding can also be invested in capital projects that will lead to job creation and retention.

#### **How to Apply**

The application deadline for all grant opportunities is Friday, March 17, 2023, at 5 p.m. CST.

#### **Invest in Cook**

Under the Invest in Cook Program, DoTH is seeking applications from local governments and transit agencies. Private and nonprofit organizations can also submit project proposals.

For more information and to apply, visit [www.cookcountyil.gov/investincook](http://www.cookcountyil.gov/investincook).

#### **Community Development Block Grant Program**

BED is seeking applications from local units of government and nonprofit organizations.

For more information and to apply, visit <https://www.cookcountyil.gov/content/grant-applicants-2023-cdbg-esg>.

Award letters for all grant programs will be sent out late summer 2023 and a corresponding list of grantees will be published on the Invest in Cook and Community Development Block Grant program's webpages.

## **Cook County's 16th District Receives Over \$3 Million in Violence Prevention Grants**

As of January 2023, over \$3 million in gun violence reduction grants have been awarded to organizations that serve the 16th District. These violence prevention grants are funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and are managed by the Cook County Justice Advisory Council (JAC). Since 2015, the JAC has managed over \$50 million in county-funded grants for violence prevention, services for returning residents and other areas that increase community safety and help prevent involvement in the criminal justice system. Prior to the ARPA funded gun violence prevention initiative, 13 community organizations that serve the 16th district were supported by almost \$3 million of Cook County funded grants awarded over the last three years.

"Gun violence is not acceptable anywhere and can never be accepted as normal. We cannot accept children growing up without parents, lost to gun violence. We cannot accept a world where parents lose their children to senseless shootings," said Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar. "These grants, and all the hard work of elected officials, stakeholders, dedicated frontline organizations and families, are our promise to never accept gun violence as normal. I commend the 16th District organizations for doing the necessary work and coordinating efforts with my office to ensure that violence in our district is addressed comprehensively, backed by evidence, with support from the community."

Under the Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction Grant initiative, an initial \$75 million was split between 68 organizations, providing an array of evidence-based violence prevention services, including street outreach, case management, counseling and mental health services, employment support and youth programming. Cook County is working with state partners to fund additional organizations under the initiative with grants awards in 2023. This new grant initiative was designed as a direct response to the increased levels of gun violence experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant program prioritizes community areas and municipalities in Cook County that have endured the highest rates of gun violence.

"Cook County is committed to supporting community-based organizations that provide vital programs and services to young people and our most vulnerable residents," said Avik Das, director of the Cook County Justice Advisory Council. "Through targeted grant investments, we increase access to these vital services, benefiting not just individuals but entire communities. We are honored to be partnering with many dedicated commissioners and community organizations throughout Cook County. Together we will build the safe and thriving communities that all residents deserve."

With this historic and unprecedented investment into eliminating gun violence within Cook County, electeds must continue coordinating efforts between residents, community stakeholders and organizations, and fellow electeds to make sure resources continue to provide relief to communities. By supporting evidence-backed solutions, Cook County and local organizations are meeting the moment to address violence from root causes to immediate needs.

"In the past two years, area families have experienced the perfect storm of health disparities, food insecurity, gun violence and a mental health crisis," said Norman Alexandroff, director of Marketing and Fundraising for Youth Crossroads. "Commissioner Aguilar has been an essential partner in helping our organization secure significant grants from Cook County to develop programs and services to meet these challenges. Our Justice Advisory Council Grant is making it possible for us to offer comprehensive after-school programs and counseling services to the youth and families most at risk of being impacted by gun violence."





**A Note from  
Cook County  
Public Health ...  
Don't  
Miss  
This  
Opportunity!**

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

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

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

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



**This program is available to all of the communities in West Suburban Cook County. For more information and to find out if you qualify, contact the West Suburban Neighborhood Preservation Agency (WSNPA) Office at (708) 410-2300 or (708) 278-3860, or by sending an email to [wsnpa@hotmail.com](mailto:wsnpa@hotmail.com).**

## **What is Lead Poisoning?**

Lead poisoning is the number one environmental illness of children.

Lead is a poisonous metal that our bodies cannot use. Lead was used in paint before it was banned in the United States in 1978. Deteriorating lead-based paint, lead dust from renovation or deterioration in buildings and contaminated soil remain the most likely sources of childhood lead exposure. Water from lead pipes, make-up, imported spices and candy can also be sources of exposure.

Lead poisoning is hard to see, but it is very harmful. There is no safe blood-lead level.

Lead can cause lowered IQ and learning problems; trouble concentrating and paying attention; speech disorders; anemia (a disease caused by low iron levels), which can result in tiredness, shortness of breath, and difficulty paying attention; and when exposed children become adults, they have a higher risk of high blood pressure and heart disease.



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[gottliebfitness.org](http://gottliebfitness.org)  
708.538.5790



**Gottlieb  
Center for  
Fitness**



# Nicor Gas Commits \$250,000 to Support National Energy Education Development Project's 'Energizing Student Potential' Initiative

Expanding on its commitment to enable economic opportunity through educational programming and early interest in the energy industry, Nicor Gas is



committing \$250,000 over five years to support the National Energy Education Development Project's (NEED)

"Energizing Student Potential" (ESP) initiative in Illinois, bringing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects to local classrooms.

As one of the founding partners of the Illinois initiative to encourage elementary and middle school students to discover their own path to innovation, Nicor Gas has provided \$350,000 in grant funding since 2015. With this support, NEED has worked with nearly 400 schools, 700 teachers and more than 91,000 students across Illinois over the last seven years.

"At Nicor Gas, we believe that educating students about careers in STEM fields, and in the energy and natural gas industry in particular, should begin at an early age," said Pat Whiteside, senior vice president of Operations at Nicor Gas. "With our support over the next five years, NEED will have the ability to support approximately 280 additional schools, 450 teachers and 65,000 students across our Northern Illinois service territory and across the state."

Through the ESP initiative, NEED brings interactive and compelling STEM-based, energy-focused activities that educate students on a variety of energy sources, electricity generation, natural gas, climate science, energy efficiency and more.

"Thanks to the support of our founding partners like Nicor Gas, we are able to reach more Illinois teachers and students with exciting, hands-on opportunities that bring the energy industry to life," said Mary Spruill, executive director of NEED. "With this donation, we can ensure that our balanced and multidisciplinary education programs continue to open the minds of children to the potential of STEM careers from a young age."

Recently, Nicor Gas hosted more than 100 teachers at its headquarters in Naperville for a workshop on the science of energy and careers in the field. Participants also had the opportunity to visit the company's state-of-the-art technical training center where employees learn how to respond to any potential natural gas service situation safely and effectively.

To learn more about Nicor Gas' commitment to educational initiatives, as well as free resources for teachers and students, visit [www.nicorgas.com/company/workforce-development](http://www.nicorgas.com/company/workforce-development).

## Nicor Gas Provides More Than \$1.2 Million in United Way Grants in 2022

### Company and Employee Donations Benefit Community Partners Throughout Northern Illinois

Nicor Gas, a top 25 corporate partner of United Way of Metro Chicago, and its employees have contributed more than \$1.2 million to United Way chapters across its service territory. This funding is allocated to local affiliates, nonprofit partners and organizations in underserved communities to support food and energy insecurity, health care, education and housing initiatives for customers throughout the Nicor Gas footprint.

"Our partnership with United Way has continued for more than six decades, and from the beginning we shared a mutual interest of advancing the well-being and common good in the more than 650 communities we are proud to serve," said Wendell Dallas, president and CEO of Nicor Gas, who also serves as a board member and 2022-2023 campaign chair for United Way of Metro Chicago. "As the largest natural gas provider in Illinois, it is our responsibility to do all we can to improve the lives of our customers and their families who need and rely on it most."

The 2022 United Way contributions include employee donations of more

than \$225,000 and more than \$1 million directly from Nicor Gas and the Nicor Gas Foundation. These grants will be spread across the 23 United Way chapters located in Nicor Gas' Northern Illinois service area, with the largest being United Way of Metro Chicago.

"United Way brings together businesses, government, philanthropic, community and individual leaders, including our incredible donors. With the support of long-standing partners like Nicor Gas, we're able to help our neighbors meet their basic needs and support our community partners' goals for equitable transformation in their neighborhoods," said Sean Garrett, president and CEO of United Way of Metro Chicago.

With our corporate partnership dating back to 1954, Nicor Gas is committed to United Way's initiatives. Nicor Gas is also committed to investing in other organizations that deliver critical resources to continue charitable operations in service of those in need. To learn more about Nicor Gas' charitable giving and employee volunteerism, visit [nicorgas.com/community](http://nicorgas.com/community).

# Nicor Gas Customers May Be Eligible for a \$250 Bill Assistance Grant

## Applications Opened for The Salvation Army's Shield of Caring Program in January

As of Monday, Jan. 16, income-eligible Nicor Gas residential customers are able to apply for a grant of up to \$250 a year through The Salvation Army's Shield of Caring Program. The program is dedicated to assisting families that are past-due on their monthly natural gas bill and have a financial hardship, such as a job loss, illness, military deployment, disability or other circumstance.

In December, Nicor Gas announced an additional commitment of \$5 million to the program to support customers struggling to pay their monthly natural gas bill or needing assistance with other basic necessities. The Salvation Army founded the program in 2021 with the support of Nicor Gas through an initial \$5 million contribution to help those impacted by the global health and financial crises.

Residential customers with a household gross income in the last 30 days below 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level can apply at [www.shieldofcaring.com](http://www.shieldofcaring.com). If a customer is eligible to receive assistance grants from other programs, such as the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) or the Sharing Program, they should apply for a grant from these programs first to maximize their benefits.

Customers who still have a past-due account balance after receiving assis-

tance from those programs may be eligible to receive a grant of up to \$250 a year under the Shield of Caring Program.

During the first program year, The Salvation Army distributed \$1.75 million in grants to support 8,000 customers with bill payment assistance and 9,500 families received basic needs support including winter coats, food boxes and emergency disaster services.

Since 1983, Nicor Gas has been proud to support The Salvation Army through its Sharing Program that offers bill payment assistance to eligible residential customers in need. The Sharing Program continues to operate as it has for nearly 40 years, with one-time annual grants of up to \$500 for income-eligible residential customers.

Nicor Gas offers a variety of programs to help customers pay their natural gas utility bills. To better connect customers with available support options, the company is debuting the new Community Assistance Navigator.

This free online resource provides customers with individualized recommendations, including bill payment support, basic needs assistance and energy efficiency offerings. Customers can visit [nicorgas.com/ccn](http://nicorgas.com/ccn) to learn more.

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# ComEd Offering \$500,000 in Grant Funding for Community-Oriented Projects Across Northern Illinois

## Annual Powering Communities Grants Program Provides Grants of Up to \$10,000 Each to Improve Infrastructure and Quality of Life in Illinois Communities

ComEd recently announced that municipal and community organizations in northern Illinois can now apply for the 2023 Powering Communities Grants Program, which advances environmental initiatives, enhances public safety and increases access to arts programs in communities ComEd serves. Organizations are encouraged to apply for one of the three annual grant programs: Green Region, Powering Safe Communities, and Powering the Arts.



Qualifying proposals are eligible for grants of up to \$10,000 each.

Organizations interested in applying for the Powering Communities Grants Program should visit [ComEd.com/Grants](https://www.comed.com/Grants) for more information, including how to apply for funding. Applications will be accepted through 11:59 p.m. CST, on March 24, 2023.

"At ComEd, we do more than make sure the lights stay on – we power communities," said Gil Quiniones, CEO at ComEd. "We are thankful for our partnerships with Openlands, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and the League of

Chicago Theatres which allow us to support important projects that help improve climate resiliency, safety and the quality of life in the communities we serve."

The annual competitive grants program is part of ComEd's comprehensive investment in the communities it serves. Since its origin, these programs have delivered over \$4 million in funding to support hundreds of local community-based projects.

The Green Region Grant Program, in partnership with Openlands, supports nonprofit, educational and public organizations in their efforts to plan for, protect and improve open space. Now in its 11th year, the grant program has supported the development of ADA-accessible trails, planted thousands of trees and vegetation, and facilitated land improvements, among other projects. A summary of 2022 Green Region Grant recipients can be at [www.comed.com/News/Pages/NewsReleases/2022-08-18.aspx](https://www.comed.com/News/Pages/NewsReleases/2022-08-18.aspx).

"As the impacts of climate change pose a greater threat to northern Illinois communities, we are proud to continue partnering with ComEd to support nature-based solutions that help mitigate the most severe effects of climate change," said Jerry Adelman, president and CEO of Openlands. "We must all do our part to ensure the region's climate resiliency and a healthy quality of life for years to come."

The Powering Safe Communities Grant Program, in partnership with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, supports local municipal and public safety initiatives. These grants support projects designed to increase public safety, reduce carbon emissions and improve community resiliency. A summary of 2022 Powering Safe Communities Grant recipients can be found at <https://www.comed.com/News/Pages/NewsReleases/2022-08-02.aspx>.

"The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is proud to continue our partnership with ComEd for the ninth year through the Powering Safe Communities Grant Program," said Neil James, executive director at Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. "Through this program, we are providing our communities with the infrastructure and support needed to create a cleaner and safer future. This funding will help reduce carbon emissions, accelerate electrification, and improve air quality for communities across northern Illinois."

The Powering the Arts Grant Program, in partnership with the League of Chicago Theatres, recognizes the impact increased access to the arts has on the vibrancy of local communities. These grants support initiatives and workshops across northern Illinois communities to boost public awareness, community programming, engagement and enjoyment of the arts. A summary of 2022 Powering the Arts Grant recipients can be found at <https://www.comed.com/News/Pages/NewsReleases/2022-09-15.aspx>.

"The League of Chicago Theatres is excited to continue this partnership with ComEd," said Marissa Lynn Ford, executive director of the League of Chicago Theatres. "Funding of this nature is essential to helping artists share their stories with their communities. By providing neighborhoods with theatre, music, dance, film and other art forms, the organizations supported by this funding create new relationships within communities, open up new opportunities to experience and have dialogue about culture, and deepen pathways to healing through therapy and outreach."

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

## New Study Projects Clean Energy Transition Could Create More than 150,000 New Jobs in Illinois by 2050

### First-of-its-Kind Study of Illinois Energy Transformation Identifies Job Training Needs, Also Projects Clean Energy Transition Could Create More Than 40,000 New Jobs in Illinois by 2030

National economic and workforce applied research firm BW Research recently released a first-of-its-kind study in Illinois that found that the transition to clean energy could create a net increase of more than 150,000 jobs for the state by 2050. The study was commissioned by ComEd to better understand the economic and workforce development challenges and opportunities communities will face in the transition to clean energy. The results include a statewide and regional job analyses.

"As evidenced by this foundational study, Illinois stands to gain tens of thousands of good-paying jobs from the transition to a clean energy future and we must ensure that all communities benefit from this economic opportunity," said ComEd CEO Gil Quiniones. "This research will help ensure that, working with community partners, we can build a diverse pipeline of talent ready to power the state's journey to a cleaner, brighter future."

The study examines the impacts to regional and statewide employment from two scenarios on the transition to a net zero energy future. It captures ini-

tial and secondary employment outputs across four sectors of the economy – electricity, fuels, transportation and buildings – and assesses opportunities for growth and areas of displacement across these four sectors to determine employment outcomes.

To complement BW Research's analysis, ComEd conducted in-depth interviews with more than a dozen local business and community groups, ranging from workforce development organizations and educational institutions to labor unions. The study incorporates insights from these interviews on the impacts of the economy and pandemic recovery on the local workforce, the effect of decarbonization on the region's future workforce and the need for public-private partnership to prepare for workforce needs in coming decades.

"This study shows us that we're at a unique moment in the energy space that offers a tremendous opportunity to create new jobs and bring economic prosperity to communities across Illinois," said Don Finn, business manager and financial secretary for IBEW Local 134. "We're hopeful that we can attract new jobseekers and build a diverse talent pipeline to support Illinois for generations to come."

The first scenario assumes a business-as-usual approach that examines the impact of decarbonization driven by laws such as Illinois' Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) and the federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) on employment across the state. It assumes no additional efforts to accelerate the electrification of transportation, buildings or industry. Under this scenario, Illinois would see a net increase of 15,000 jobs between 2021 to 2030 and an increase of 38,000 jobs between 2021 to 2050.

The second scenario includes the job projections under the business-as-usual approach, but also factors in additional actions beyond CEJA and the IRA to achieve economy-wide decarbonization by 2050, with high levels of electrification and a significant role for hydrogen and gas backup for heating. This scenario finds a net increase of 41,000 jobs in Illinois between 2021 and 2030 and a net increase of 151,000 jobs between 2021 to 2050.

These scenarios are the same as two of the scenarios identified in a recent independent study by national sustainability firm Energy and Environmental Economics, Inc. (E3) that outlines pathways for Illinois to achieve full, economy-wide decarbonization by 2050, consistent with the state's pledge as part of the U.S. Climate Alliance to pursue the Paris Agreement.

"Our clean energy future is going to create more and better paying jobs, and education and job training will be critical in our work to ensure all communities benefit from this economic opportunity," said Juan Salgado, chancellor of City Colleges of Chicago. "This study will help us better expand existing educational programs and build new ones that will ensure the future workforce has the training and stackable skills necessary to thrive in this sector." The study also revealed that, under both scenarios, job quality would improve, with high paying and mid-wage jobs expected to increase by roughly 7 percent under the business-as-usual scenario to 17 percent under a moderate electrification scenario.

"We are working to ensure underserved communities across Chicago have access to good-paying jobs and the necessary training to qualify for these jobs," said Andrew Wells, vice president of Workforce Development for the Chicago Urban League. "Working with ComEd and others, we are committed to maximizing the opportunities presented by the clean energy future to benefit every person, particularly communities who have historically lacked access to these opportunities."

ComEd will use the study to inform its existing job training programs, and internal hiring and training plans to support projected workforce needs, as well as to inform partnerships with state and local organizations to expand and develop job training programs to support the transition to clean energy. The company currently offers or supports a range of in-depth job training and apprenticeship programs, including the CONSTRUCT Infrastructure Academy, which, over the past decade, has helped more than 700 participants from diverse backgrounds prepare for careers in the skilled trades.

Other training opportunities include the Chicago Builds Program at Dunbar High School through a partnership with Chicago Public Schools and the ComEd-sponsored Overhead Electrical Line Worker Training at Dawson Technical Institute.

The full study by BW Research can be accessed at [https://bwresearch.com/docs/BW\\_ComED-Jobs&EquitableEnergyTransitionStudyReport2022.pdf](https://bwresearch.com/docs/BW_ComED-Jobs&EquitableEnergyTransitionStudyReport2022.pdf).

## ComEd Launches New Assistance Programs to Help Families Working to Make Ends Meet

As local communities continue to face economic hardships, ComEd is stepping up with new and enhanced customer-assistance options that will make more customers aware of the help available, provide more grants to help with electric bills and remove barriers customers sometimes face when accessing assistance options.

ComEd customers can access the assistance options through ComEd's Smart Assistance Manager, or ComEd.com/SAM. SAM is a free online, self-service tool that helps families and individuals more easily access financial-assistance and energy-saving options that are available to them, based on their income and household size.

### ComEd's New Assistance Offerings

- **Catch Up and Save** – A two-part program that first provides monthly credits to a customer's bill to eliminate past-due balances. To help families save on future energy bills, the program also provides a free energy savings kit, while supplies last. Each kit includes home products designed to help lower home energy use while improving the efficiency of the home.
- **Fresh Start Services** – To help customers become aware of and navigate the options available to manage bills and energy use, ComEd offers both online and person-to-person help. This service also offers customers tools that will alert them when their energy use is trending higher than usual and help them be aware of financial assistance programs they may be eligible for.
- **Your Neighbor Fund** – To be funded by donations from ComEd's 6,000 employees who proudly work and live in the communities the energy company serves. This fund, managed in collaboration with Neighborhood Housing Services, provides another needed source of grant money to help limited-income families pay their ComEd bill.

These offerings add to the range of programs to which ComEd can connect income-eligible families and individuals to help them manage energy bills and access clean-energy options. They include federal grants like LIHEAP, payment assistance options, energy-efficiency offerings, community solar programs and more.

ComEd customers can access all of the energy company's support options at ComEd.com/SAM. Customers without internet access can call ComEd at (800) 334-7661 (800-EDISON1), Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.





# 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](http://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!

## Zoo's Animals Receive Post-Holiday Enrichment

Now that the holiday season is over, Brookfield Zoo's Grounds staff is chipped more than 800 trees, which were decorated by community organizations, families, and corporations and on display for Holiday Magic. The mulch will be used for landscaping around the 235-acre park. However, as in past years, several dozen trees are being repurposed and given to the animals for enrichment.

On Jan. 13, Hudson, a 16-year-old polar bear, received a tree adorned with some of his favorite vegetables and lard. The zoo's African lions – Brutus and Titus – seemed to enjoy the raw meat hidden in their trees, as well as the trees themselves, which were hung from bungee cords. Animal care specialists placed bones, and pig ears and snouts on the trees given to the African painted dogs. And ... the zoo's bison and reindeer used the trees to rub their horns and antlers on, and even toss around.

Winter is a great time to visit Brookfield Zoo to see many of the animals who enjoy the cooler months. Guests can also warm up indoors in the animal buildings with a more tropical climate.

Animal care specialists are always thinking of ways to physically and mentally stimulate the animals at Brookfield Zoo. One way is by providing them with enrichment items they normally do not receive on a regular basis, including the seasonal trees.



*An African painted dog at Brookfield Zoo eyes a large bone in a Christmas tree that many of the animals received for enrichment.*  
Credit – Jim Schulz/CZS-Brookfield Zoo.



*Titus, one of Brookfield Zoo's African lions, eyes raw meat hidden in a Christmas tree hung from a bungee cord. Many of the zoo's animals received the trees for enrichment.*  
Credit – Jim Schulz/CZS-Brookfield Zoo.

## Brookfield Zoo Renews Level II Accreditation from ArbNet Accreditation Program

Brookfield Zoo, which is managed by the Chicago Zoological Society, has renewed its Level II Accreditation by The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program and The Morton Arboretum. The program is the only global initiative to officially recognize arboreta at various levels of development, capacity and professionalism. Brookfield Zoo is also recognized as an accredited arboretum in the Morton Register of Arboreta, a database of the world's arboreta and gardens dedicated to woody plants.

Since opening in 1934, Brookfield Zoo has connected an urbanized population in the Chicagoland area with nature and wildlife through its diverse animal collection and flourishing landscape that includes native and nonnative trees. Internationally recognized for taking a cutting-edge role in animal care and conservation, the 235-acre cultural institution also provides a unique experience for guests to enjoy its more than 100 tree species.

When visiting Brookfield Zoo, guests of all ages can see their favorite animals while strolling the picturesque walkways lined with hundreds of trees. From a serene walk around Swan Lake to more frequented pathways past the majestic roars of the zoo's African lions or the graceful gaits of the reticulated giraffes.

Notable native tree species at Brookfield Zoo include the magnolia 'butterflies,' a deciduous hybrid magnolia known for its beautiful yellow flowers in the spring, rather than the more familiar pink blooms, and the shagbark hickory, which is named for the "shaggy" appearance of its bark that peels away in long strips. The tulip tree, native throughout most of the eastern United States and located on the northwest side of Brookfield Zoo's Mary Ann MacLean Conservation Leadership Center, is a member of the magnolia family with tulip-shaped flowers. The bald cypress, is one of the few cone-bearing trees that drops its reddish-brown needle-like foliage in the winter and has new growth of green needles in the spring.

Nonnative species include the golden rain tree, which is a fast-growing tree that is one of only a few trees that flower in midsummer in the Northern Hemisphere. Outside Brookfield Zoo's south gate arches are Dawyck purple-leaved beech trees. The columnar tree, native to Central and Southern Europe, reaches a diameter of less than 10 feet. It has showy red-orange bronze foliage in the fall, and when it loses its leaves, the silver bark is striking in the winter.

As the seasons change, so does the landscape at Brookfield Zoo. Zoogoers can experience the beauty and wonders of nature year-round. A tree identification guide and map can be downloaded at [www.CZS.org/TreeGuide](http://www.CZS.org/TreeGuide).



# Join Us for These Exciting Events!

## Earth Day: A Party for the Planet – North Parking Lot Saturday, April 22 • 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Every day is Earth Day at Brookfield Zoo, but on this very special day, we'll be showcasing some of the steps you can take that will truly make a difference for animals across the globe!

If you've been storing items in your basement and garage, waiting for the perfect time and most Earth-friendly way to dispose of them, you can recycle them at Brookfield Zoo! On Saturday, April 22, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., the zoo will be collecting electronics, textiles and used books.

**Location** – To access the recycling event, please enter through the gated entrance directly off of 31st Street, (around the corner from the main north lot entrance). Do not enter through the main North Gate parking lot to enter the recycling event.

The process is easy. Drive into the designated recycling area and representatives from the zoo and its partnering organizations will collect your items for recycling. Please note – The zoo can become busy during warm spring days. Coming before zoo hours or planning to arrive early to the zoo to recycle items is highly recommended.

There is no charge to drop off recycling – however, tickets or membership is required if you plan to visit the zoo.

**What You Can Donate** – See the full list of items that are acceptable, as well as items that will not be accepted by visiting <https://www.czs.org/PartyPlanet>.

Additional questions? Contact us at [marketingteam@czs.org](mailto:marketingteam@czs.org).

## Earth Day Run – Zoowide • Sunday, April 23

Spring has sprung and there's no better way to celebrate Earth Day than by getting outside, enjoying nature and visiting our wildlife. Lace up your sneakers and join us Sunday, April 23, for the Earth Day Run – A Run for the Planet, a 2.2 mile "fun run" through the twist and turns of Brookfield Zoo during our pre-park hours. The non-competitive run is geared to participants of all ages – fun for the whole family to enjoy!

For more information or to register, visit [www.czs.org/EarthDayRun](http://www.czs.org/EarthDayRun).

## 42nd Annual Whirl Gala ...

### Gorillas in Our Mist – Saturday, April 29 • 6 p.m.

The Chicago Zoological Society celebrates the 42nd anniversary of its annual black-tie gala, the Whirl, on Saturday, April 29, 2023. Co-hosted by the board of trustees and the Women's Board of the Society, this celebration highlights the impactful work of our educational, animal welfare and conservation programs.

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

**Location** – Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60605.

**Time** – 6 p.m.-midnight.

**Table Levels** – Host Committee tables are available at \$75,000, \$50,000 and \$25,000. A table of 10 is available for \$10,000. Individual tickets are available at \$1,000 each. Seating for the event is limited.

For more information or to purchase a table or tickets to the Whirl, contact Kerri Doherty at [Kerri.Doherty@czs.org](mailto:Kerri.Doherty@czs.org) or call (708) 688-8670.



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





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

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

Take some time to explore  
our website at  
[www.fpdcc.com](http://www.fpdcc.com).

## **Fitness Hike – Thursday, March 9 • 10 a.m.**

### **Sunset Bridge Meadow (North Avenue, East of First Avenue, River Grove)**

Fitness Hikes are over 3.1 miles, offer less information and are at a faster pace. 7 miles.

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

## **Camping 101 – Wednesday, March 8 • 5:30-7 p.m.**

### **Camp Reinberg (1801 N. Quentin Road, Palatine)**

Free workshop covering basic camping skills.

Contact – (708) 771-1573/experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

## **Walk and Talk – Friday, March 10 • 10 a.m.**

### **Spears Woods (96th Avenue, South of West 87th Street, Near Willow Springs)**

Walk and Talk hikes are under 3.1 miles, have a theme and are slower paced. 2.5 miles.

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

## **Wildlife Connections – Tuesday, March 14 • 10:30 a.m.-Noon**

### **River Trail Nature Center (3120 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook)**

Stop by the visitor center to learn about reptiles, mammals and birds from the residents of Misericordia – Heart of Mercy.

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

## **Fitness Hike – Saturday, March 18 • 10 a.m.**

### **Midlothian Meadows (Crawford Avenue, North of 159th Street)**

Fitness Hikes offer less information and are at a faster pace. 2.7 miles.

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

## **Maple Syrup Festival – Sunday, March 19 • 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**

### **River Trail Nature Center (3120 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook)**

Celebrate the arrival of spring with a special day of activities, including crafts, games, tree tapping and maple syrup history.

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

## **Walk and Talk: Women in Conservation – Thursday, March 30 • 11 a.m.-Noon**

### **Harms Woods-North (Harms Road and Old Orchard Road, Near Skokie)**

Walk and Talk hikes are under 3.1 miles, have a theme and are slower paced.

Registration required – Call (773) 758-8899.

Contact – (773) 758-8899/experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

## **Teen Exploration Day: Fire Building 101 – Thursday, March 30 • 3:30-6:30 p.m.**

### **Camp Sullivan (14630 Oak Park Ave., Oak Forest)**

Learn different methods for fire building outdoors.

Registration required – Email [experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov).

Contact – (708) 771-1573/experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

## **Spring Bird Migration Walk – Friday, April 7 • 8 a.m.**

### **Crabtree Nature Center – (3 Stover Rd., Barrington Hills)**

Sponsored by Citizens for Conservation, track spring bird migration with naturalists on a guided walk. Bring binoculars and insect repellent, if desired, and dress for the weather. Duration of the walk is flexible and participants can leave when they need to.

To register or for more information, contact [susan.baert@citizensforconservation.org](mailto:susan.baert@citizensforconservation.org) or (847) 532-5764.

Contact – <http://citizensforconservation.org/>. Cost – Free.

## **Spring Bird Walks – Sunday, April 16 • 8 a.m.**

### **Sand Ridge Nature Center (15891 Paxton Ave., South Holland)**

Join Chicago Ornithological on a spring migration bird walk. Bring binoculars, some are available to borrow. For more information, contact [edwarhzan@gmail.com](mailto:edwarhzan@gmail.com).

Contact – <https://www.chicagobirder.org/>. Cost – Free.

**Spring Bird Migration Walk – Friday, April 21 • 8 a.m.**  
**Crabtree Nature Center (3 Stover Rd., Barrington Hills)**

Sponsored by Citizens for Conservation, track spring bird migration with naturalists on a guided walk. Bring binoculars and insect repellent, if desired and dress for the weather. Duration of the walk is flexible and participants can leave when they need to.

To register or for more information, contact [susan.baert@citizensforconservation.org](mailto:susan.baert@citizensforconservation.org) or (847) 532-5764.  
Contact – <http://citizensforconservation.org/>. Cost – Free.

**Camping Leadership Immersion Course (CLIC) – Saturday, April 29-Sunday, April 30**  
**Camp Sullivan (14630 Oak Park Ave., Oak Forest)**

CLIC is an overnight training at Camp Sullivan in Oak Forest designed to give participants the skills and experience to plan and lead camping trips at Camp Sullivan. The training course covers camping safety, day hiking, tent and stove setup, team building and leadership skills, educational offerings, and will help familiarize you with the reservation process. By completing the CLIC training, leaders gain access to the CLIC gear library (onsite) and designated group site at Camp Sullivan. Must be at least 18 years old and be affiliated with an organization to participate. Fee is \$25/person and includes food and camping gear for the night.

Register at [experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov). Visit <https://fpdcc.com/things-to-do/camping/camping-leadership-immersion-course-clic/> to learn more.  
Registration required – Email [experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov).  
Contact – (708) 771-1573/[experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov). Cost – \$25.

**Winter in the Preserves – There’s Still Plenty to Do!**

Winter in Chicagoland is typically considered a time for staying cozy inside and drinking a hot cocoa. If families are thinking about the Forest Preserves of Cook County, it’s often reminiscing warmly about (or looking forward to) adventures during the balmy seasons. But when you and yours are in the mood for some fresh air and get away from the built environment, the preserves have plenty of fun, educational and contemplative activities to offer.

Here are just a handful of suggestions on how to enjoy the Preserves throughout winter. Check our website for other locations for these activities – and there are plenty more ideas in our *Winter Guide*, too!

- Sledding at Caldwell Woods on Chicago’s Northwest Side. The sledding hill at Caldwell Woods opens for thrill-seekers whenever the ground is frozen and covered with at least 3 inches of snow. As with all preserve sledding sites, your sled must be in good repair with no sharp edges and no metal rail sleds, skis, non-winter tubs, carpets or toboggans are allowed. Hills at Caldwell Woods are lit up and staffed from 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and until 8:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday. Adjacent to Bunker Hill, Caldwell Woods also features a warming shelter, access to the North Branch Trail and habitats from floodplain forests to open savanna.
- Ice fishing at Powderhorn Lake in Hegewisch or at several sites near Palos Hills and Tinley Park. Senior fisheries biologist Steve Silic recommends Powderhorn Lake for northern pike, perch and bass; Turtlehead Lake and Arrowhead Lake near Tinley Park for bass and perch, and several sites in the Palos area, including Saganashkee Slough and Tampier Lake, which “are all good for different things ... and if you’re not doing well at one of them, you can drive five minutes to another one.” For safety’s sake, with all ice fishing sites, look for at least 4 inches of solid ice, away from moving water, dams and culverts. Clear ice is typically safer than cloudy or snow covered. A valid state fishing license is required with each angler limited to two poles and two hooks per pole.
- Cross-country skiing at Sagawau Environmental Learning Center in Lemont. Anytime there’s enough snow for skiing between mid December and early March, this site transforms into Sagawau Nordic, a full-service facility with ski rentals, groomed trails and lessons at all levels from a PSIA Gold Medal Ski School. The facility is open seven days per week with skis, bindings, boots and poles available for use at Sagawau only. As with all preserve sites, skiers are urged to use courtesy and common sense, keep to trails, stay a safe distance from others, and overall, don’t get in over your skis! Sagawau also offers educational programs and interpretive hikes about the natural environment, and exhibits on human and natural history, geology and habitat management.

- Snowshoeing at the Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center in Willow Springs. This site offers live animals and exhibits in addition to three unpaved walking trails and a paved accessible garden trail for a wooded-snowshoeing experience that connects to the Palos Trail System, notes Jacqui Ulrich, Conservation and Experiential Programming director. Snowshoeing also requires at least 3 inches of snow. It’s free, first-come and first-served, with all sizes available, and at all nature centers except Sagawau Environmental Learning Center.
- Bunking down at Camp Sullivan in Oak Forest. Hardier souls still can tent-camp in the winter, but those who want minimal creature comforts can try one of four cabins with bunk beds accommodating eight people, fire rings, picnic tables, porches and ceiling fans. Those who want less rusticity can try the 16-person bunkhouse or one of two 36-person bunkhouses, which add heat, indoor plumbing, kitchens and dining areas to the list of amenities. The bunkhouses and two of the cabins are accessible for people with disabilities. The site offers opportunities for nature exploration along with its iconic red barn featuring a climbing wall and other activities. Veterans and nonprofit groups can book accommodations for half price on weeknights.
- Kayaking and canoeing at Schuth’s Grove and Miller Meadow along the Des Plaines River near Maywood. You’ll need to dress warmly – and be especially careful you don’t capsize – but you can take advantage of the newest canoe and kayak launch located along the Des Plaines River. The new launch provides accessible features, including parking, a paved path to the landing, and a firm, stable surface right up to the river’s edge. Miller Meadow also offers an off-leash dog area (membership required), model airplane flying field, outdoor shelter and connections to 2 miles of trails where you also can walk your dog (but a leash is required).
- Taking a long walk on a quiet trail in the snow at Sauk Trail Woods near South Chicago Heights. This preserve features the 3.5-mile Black Paved Loop trail that starts and ends at the central parking lot. Visitors can enjoy in-line skating and cross-country skiing in addition to hiking along the trail, which connects to the larger Thorn Creek Trail System. Sauk Trail Woods also features a 29-acre lake for fishing and bird watching under towering oak trees. With the ravine overlooking the lake, Sauk Trail Woods “can be pretty amazing on a snowy day,” Ulrich says, not only for contemplation, but also for photography. “You get a black-and-white, grayscale view of nature vs. the green of other seasons,” she says. “How do you look differently at the forest in the winter? Sauk Trail Woods is a great place for that.”

**For more information, visit [www.fpdcc.com](http://www.fpdcc.com).**





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# Know your options.

## Make the choice that is right for you.

## Beginning **May 7, 2025,**

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

\* For a complete list of acceptable REAL ID-compliant documents, visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov).

### You **NEED** a REAL ID if:

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



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

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

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



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

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

**For additional information:**

**REALID.ilsos.gov**  
**833-503-4074**



**ALEXI GIANNOULIAS**  
Secretary of State

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois, January 2023 — 1 — EX 857



# REAL ID DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

Effective **May 7, 2025**, a **REAL ID-compliant driver's license (DL) or identification card (ID)** will be required to board domestic flights unless you have a valid U.S. passport. To apply for a REAL ID DL/ID, please bring the appropriate documentation from each category specified below to your local Driver Services facility.



## Acceptable Documents of Identification



Documents of identification that are acceptable for the purpose of obtaining a Real ID card are listed by group. **All acceptable documents presented for verification or proof must be valid (current and not expired).** Hard copy documents are required; images from a cellphone are not accepted. An applicant may print the image (e.g., bank statement) and provide the printed copy when presenting documentation. **Photocopies will not be accepted.**

### GROUP 1: Proof of Identity, Date of Birth and U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Status

Requires one of the following documents:

- ☐ Certified copy of a birth certificate filed with a state office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in the individual's county of birth.
- ☐ Valid U.S. passport or passport card.
- ☐ Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) issued by the U.S. Department of State, Form FS-240, Form DS-1350 or Form FS-545.
- ☐ Certificate of Citizenship issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Form N-560 or Form N-561.
- ☐ Certificate of Naturalization issued by DHS, Form N-550 or Form N-570.
- ☐ Employment Authorization Document (EAD) issued by DHS, Form I-766 or Form I-688B.
- ☐ Foreign passport with a valid U.S. visa affixed accompanied by the approved Form I-94 documenting the applicant's most recent admittance to the United States.
- ☐ Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551) issued by DHS or the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.
- ☐ REAL ID DL/ID card issued in compliance with the standards of Part 37 of Title 6 of the Code of Federal Regulations (pursuant to federal rule, this document alone is not sufficient to prove lawful status).

Name change documents, such as a **certified marriage certificate**, etc., will be required if the applicant's current name is different than the name that appears on the birth certificate. If a passport is in the applicant's current name, then name change documents are not needed. **Multiple name change documents will be required if your name has changed multiple times.**

### GROUP 2: Full Social Security Number (SSN)

Requires one of the following documents:

- ☐ Social Security card.
- ☐ W-2 with full SSN.
- ☐ Most recent pay stub or printed electronic deposit receipt bearing the applicant's name and full SSN.
- ☐ SSA-1099 Form.
- ☐ Non-SSA-1099 Form.

### GROUP 3: Residency

Requires two of the following documents:

**All documents must contain full residence address. A document listed in Group 1 or 2 that contains the full residence address is acceptable as proof of residency. Account numbers must be visible.**

- ☐ Bank statement (dated within 90 days prior to application).
- ☐ Canceled check (dated within 90 days prior to application).
- ☐ Certified grade/high school or college/university transcript.
- ☐ Credit card statement (dated within 90 days prior to application) Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover.
- ☐ Credit report issued by Experian, Equifax or TransUnion (dated within 12 months prior to application).
- ☐ Deed/title, mortgage or rental/lease agreement.
- ☐ Insurance policy (homeowner's or renter's).
- ☐ Letter on official school letterhead (dated within 90 days prior to application).
- ☐ Medical claim or statement of benefits from private insurance company or public (government) agency (dated within 90 days prior to application).
- ☐ Pay stub or printed electronic deposit receipt.
- ☐ Official mail received from a state, county, city or village, or a federal government agency that includes first and last name of the applicant and complete current address. This may include, but is not limited to:  
Homestead Exemption receipt.  
Jury duty notice (issued within 90 days prior to application).  
Selective Service card.  
Social Security annual statement.  
Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) statement.  
Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits statement.
- ☐ Pension or retirement statement.
- ☐ Phone book (produced by a phone book publisher).
- ☐ Report card from grade/high school or college/university.
- ☐ Tuition invoice or other official mail from a college/university (dated within 12 months prior to application).
- ☐ Utility bill — electric, water, refuse, phone (land or cell), cable or gas (issued within 90 days prior to application).
- ☐ Voter registration card.

## GROUP 4: Written Signature

Requires one of the following documents:

- ☐ Illinois DL/ID (current or expired less than one year).
- ☐ Temporary DL/ID or Commercial Learner's Permit.
- ☐ Out-of-state DL/ID (current).
- ☐ Canceled check (dated within 90 days prior to application).
- ☐ Cooperative Driver Testing Program Certificate.
- ☐ Court order.
- ☐ Credit card/debit card – Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover.
- ☐ DL/ID (current) issued by an agency of the U.S. government (e.g., Department of State).
- ☐ Passport (U.S. or foreign).
- ☐ Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Identification Card Verification Form.
- ☐ Medicare card – with suffix A, J, H, M or T.
- ☐ Mortgage or installment loan documents.
- ☐ Social Security card.
- ☐ U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) forms:
  - Form I-551 (Permanent Resident Card).
  - Form I-766 (Employment Authorization Card).
  - Form I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record) with valid passport.
- ☐ U.S. military DL/ID.
- ☐ U.S. military service record (e.g., DD 214).

## Additional Information

- Per federal law, an individual can hold a REAL ID driver's license or a REAL ID identification card, but not both simultaneously.
- After review of all identification presented, Driver Services or Secretary of State management has the right to accept or refuse any document.
- Applicants who are homeless applying for a no-fee REAL ID identification card must present one document from each of Group 1, 2 and 4, as well as a homeless status certification, as described in Section 1030.12, to satisfy the requirements for Group 3.
- Applicants who are under the age of 18 may submit documents from Groups 3 and 4 issued to their parent or guardian provided that they reside with the parent or guardian.



REAL ID  
Gold Star  
Designation

Effective **May 7, 2025**, a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or identification card will be required to board domestic flights unless you have a valid U.S. passport.

REALID.ilsos.gov  
833-503-4074

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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?

Time to check the caulk around your tub and sinks! Leaky sinks mean higher water bills! Replace your furnace filter for better air flow.

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.**

**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 - <b>No Rodding</b>
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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F: 708-202-1265  
[www.provisotownship.com](http://www.provisotownship.com)

**The Proviso Township Handyman Department  
Only Serves Homeowners Within the Boundaries  
of Proviso Township.**

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

# Obituaries

## ***Ambron***

Hilda Ambron, nee Cortizas. Loving mother of Hilda (Dan) Smith and Lourdes (the late Frank) Arriola; cherished grandmother of Kiki, Jenny, Danny and Dina; great-grandmother of Gabriella, Anthony, Lia, Vinny and Baby K; dear sister of the late Margarita Sanchez; fond aunt of Margie Manso; cherished cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Woodlawn Cemetery.

## ***Angelico***

Anthony "Russ" F. Angelico, 95, of Des Plaines and Chicago, United States Merchant Marine and Army veteran, at rest Dec. 17, surrounded by his adoring family. Beloved husband of the late Leona Angelico (nee Kucyk); loving father of Louise (Nick) Tepavchevich, John (Mary) and Michael (Donna); devoted granddad of Gina (Ryan) Hosch, Amy (Tanner) Mitchell, Ellen (Rachel) Angelico, Gabby Angelico, Rachel (Brian) Martini, Anthony Angelico and Michelle (Nolan) Angelico; proud great-granddad of Kyla and Owen Mitchell; beloved brother to Irene (Sam, deceased) Cumbo. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment at Mount Carmel Cemetery. He was a gentleman and a gentle man.

## ***Ardito***

Janis Josephine Ardito. Beloved wife of Bob L.; loving mother of Bobby; beloved daughter of the late Benjamin and Irene Spatafora; dear sister of Carole and Linda (Don); loving aunt, cousin, godmother and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

## ***Asta***

Mary Candace "Candy" Asta, nee Hansen. Beloved wife of the late Pasquale Peter Asta; loving mother of Joseph (Cindi) Asta, Christopher (Kim) Asta and Colleen Asta; beloved daughter of the late Mary Merle and the late Thomas Hansen; fond grandmother of Hillarie Rovi, Ashley (Tyler) Asta-Reeder, Erin Asta, Fernando Jaramuzchett, Alexander Asta, Jeremy (Jordan) Wood, Samuel (Nicole) Asta, Joseph C. Asta, Peter Asta, Vincent Asta, Anthony Asta, Olivia Asta and the late Pamela Asta; fond great-grandmother of Averie Asta-Ferrario and Parker Wood; fond sister of Thomas Hansen, the late William Hansen and the late Robert Hansen; loving cousin, aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

## ***Boulahanis***

Petro "Peter" Boulahanis. Dearly beloved husband of the late Eda Boulahanis (nee Masilotti); loving father of George P. (Karen Nystrom) Boulahanis, Ann M. (Nicholas J.) Triantafel, Kathryn Boulahanis and Paul P. Boulahanis; cherished grandfather of Natalie (Josh) Beckett, Brian Boulahanis, Dr. Kara Boulahanis (Tyler Brooks), Dr. Bridgit Boulahanis (Brandon Maister), Peter Zito, George Zito and James Triantafel; great-grandfather of Alyssa Zito, Avey Zito, Luke Beckett and Henley Beckett; dear brother, uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Elmwood Cemetery.

## ***Bova***

Amelia Bova. Dearly beloved daughter of the late Samuel and Mary Bova; cherished sister of Rose lola and the late Louis Bova; loving aunt of Leticia (Chris), Michele, Angela (Michael), Natalie (Joseph) and Renee; loving cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Inurnment Elmwood Park Cemetery.

## ***Butler***

Calvin Butler. Loving father of Ciera, Shyla, Damon, Chante, Calvin Jr., Keyon and Bryson; beloved son of the late Peter and Melva Butler; fond grandfather of Justice, Lauren, Halo, Isabella, Hazel and Madison; dear brother of Ollie, Mary, Claud and the late James. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

## ***Buttitta***

Dominick Buttitta, age 52, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 21, at McNeal Hospital surrounded by his family. Beloved husband of Bernadette; loving father of Rosalie, Francis, Dominick Jr. and Nicholas; devoted son of the late Francis and Patricia. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

## ***Cano***

Modesto Leon Cano. Loving father of Amarely, Giovanni, Jennifer, Maria, Santiago, Lupita, Ruben, Junior, Rodrigo, Luis, Cindy and Sylvia; beloved son of the late Jose and Juana; proud grandfather of 23; loving brother, uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

## ***Colantonio***

April Dawn Colantonio, nee Babendererde, age 59, passed away peacefully Jan. 29, 2023, surrounded by her loving family. Beloved wife of the late Angelo J. Colantonio; loving mother of AJ (Amy Claycomb) and Andrea (Dale Medved); devoted daughter of the late Melva and Henry Babendererde; loving daughter-in-law of Anthony "Tony" and Anita "Pat" Colantonio; beloved sister of Lu Ann (BJ) Barber; dear sister-in-law of Anthony (Suzanne) Colantonio and Phyllis (David) Hemmelgarn; proud aunt of many nieces and nephews; cherished friend of many! Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

## ***Cozza***

Francesco M. Cozza. Beloved son of Chiarina and Salvatore Cozza; dear brother of Rosa (Joe) and Gianna; fond uncle of Michael, Frankie, Dilaila and Jennifer. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

## ***Fagiano***

Lisa Marie Fagiano. Loving mother of Damien and Frank; dear sister of Angel (George) Chiarelli, Anthony, Frank (Toni) and Michael; beloved daughter of the late Frank; cherished aunt of Anthony, Joey and Gabriela; cherished great-aunt to Paul and Carlo; fond partner to Anthony Allen. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment All Saints Mausoleum.

## ***Falotico***

Rocchina Falotico. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

## ***Fitzgerald***

John "Jack" Fitzgerald, proud veteran of the United States Army. Dearly beloved husband of Carmela (nee Carpino); loving father of Maria (Frank) Matarrese and John (Thamara) Fitzgerald; cherished papa of Alyssa and Bryan; loving brother, uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private. Member of the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Holy Name Society.



***Gagliano***

Joanna Gagliano, nee Battaglia. Loving mother of Michael (Jamie), Sam (Cristina), Donald Jr. and Francis; beloved daughter of the late Sam and Angela Rose Battaglia; cherished nanna of Angela Rose, Nina and Gina; dear sister of the late Sam Jr. and Richard. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Mount Carmel Cemetery.

***Grabowski***

Carl J Grabowski, CPA, age 72. Dearly beloved husband of Marianne Grabowski (nee Hadzima) of 38 years; loving father of Laura Marie; beloved son of the late Adam and Emilia Grabowski; dear brother of Felicia (Gary) Schlechter and Patricia (Edward) Looby; dear brother-in-law of Daniel Hadzima; cherished uncle, cousin and friend of many. Proud graduate of St. George High School and DePaul University, and CPA for 48 years. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Resurrection Cemetery.

***Herrera***

Carmen R. Herrera. Loving mother of Yanet (Jose) Garcia, Yurisma Herrera, Yesenia Herrera, Jorge L. (Kathy) Herrera Jr. and Geovanni Herrera; fond daughter of the late Raymundo and Adelina Silveyra; fond grandmother of Vanessa Herrera, Sofia Herrera, Adelina Garcia and Aria Garcia; dear sister of eight; loving aunt and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

***Junious***

Sharnell Junious was born Oct. 28, 1986, in Chicago, Ill., to parents, Joyce Pruitt and Darnell Junious. Sharnell was the middle sibling of three. Sharnell accepted Christ at an early age and was a member of the Living Word Christian Center. She was a member of the Joshua Choir and volunteered in several ministries, until her departure Feb. 1, 2023. Sharnell graduated from Notre Dame High School for girls. She received a cosmetology and esthetician license from Pivot Point. Sharnell's bright and charismatic energy can not only be seen through her smile, but through her incredible fashion sense. Sharnell was a strong woman and chose to protect her family and friends as she endured her illness. Sharnell leaves to cherish her memory, her beloved mother and father – Joyce Pruitt and Darnell Junious; two sisters – Shanetha (Thomas) Donaldson and Shantell Junious; one loving grandmother – Jeanette Pruitt; four aunts – Lenette, Candace, Kim and Michelle. Sharnell leaves behind a host of cousins, nephews and nieces. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

***Montes***

Joseph Montes. Beloved husband of the late Josephine; loving father of Emily (Edward) DeGrenier and Salvatore (Sharla); fond nonno of Hannah and Isabella; dear brother of Giovanni (Gandolfa); loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

***Morales***

Angel Morales Jr. Beloved son of Angel Morales and Rafaela Guerra; dear brother of Matthew Morales, Anastacio Morales, Carlos Ruiz, Monika Kozuch, Emily Kozuch and Guayn Quesada. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven.

***Moschetto***

John Moschetto. Beloved husband of the late Angela; loving father of John (Germaine) and Michele; fond grandfather of John Luca; dear brother of the late Mildred “Mickey” Pass and the late Annette Fitzgibbons; loving uncle, cousin, brother-in-law and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

***Norkewicz***

Wanda Helen Norkewicz, nee Korczynski, age 99, of Melrose Park, passed away peacefully in her home on Jan. 24. She was just two months away from her 100th birthday and the party her family was planning. Wanda was the beloved wife of the late Leo R. Norkewicz (1920-2014); dearest mother of Patricia (Ralph) Badalamenti, Nancy (Michael) Wasielewski, Gerry Norkewicz and the late Paula Lee Norkewicz (1955-1956); loving grandmother of David Badalamenti (Dan Cowan), Lara Badalamenti, Ryan (Lauren) Badalamenti, Jonathan (Amy) Badalamenti, Michael (Melissa) Wasielewski and Amanda Wasielewski (Agri Ismail); cherished great-grandmother of Jacob, Vincent and Wesley Badalamenti; Henry, Bria and Fiona Wasielewski; Max and Leo Badalamenti; and Van Wasielewski-Ismail. She was born in Chicago on March 26, 1923, to Stanley and Sophia (nee Skura) Korczynski. Her older brother Stanley and younger sister Loretta preceded her in death. After marrying Leo, they moved to Villa Park briefly and then settled in Melrose Park for the past 70+ years where they raised their family. When her children were older, Wanda worked retail in Winston Plaza and in various secretarial jobs until she retired. God blessed Wanda with a wonderful long life. Her greatest joy was being together with her loving family and friends throughout the years and sharing holidays, birthdays and special occasions. She and Leo adopted several pet cats when their children were older, the favorites were the two Siamese cats Missy and Tiffy who delighted them with their antics. In her later years when she became less active, she enjoyed relaxing in her TV room watching the Hallmark Channel – she was a big fan of its romantic and mystery shows. Wanda’s most favorite dessert was whipped cream strawberry shortcake, which she enjoyed as often as possible. Special thanks goes to all of Wanda’s home caregivers for the past eight years, especially “her angels” Helen and Irena, whose gentle kindness, love and smiles were a great comfort to her in her final days. The family also wishes to thank Vitas Hospice – nurse Pam, social worker Catherine and the entire Vitas team – for their compassionate care and family support. Arrangements by Bormann Funeral Home.

***Ordaz***

Petra Ramos Ordaz. Dearly beloved wife of Bernardo Ordaz Corpus; loving mother of Miguel, Juan and Guadalupe; beloved daughter of the late Genaro and Maria Luisa; loving grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

***Polizzotto***

Anna Maria Polizzotto. Beloved wife of the late Frank Polizzotto; loving mother of Jennie and Dominic (Beth); cherished grandmother of Francesca and Isabella; dear sister of the late Nino Norscia (the late Beverly); loving aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

***Prado***

Jaime Prado. Beloved husband of Karina Prado; loving father of Christian Prado and the late Iker Sebastian Prado; beloved son of Ruben and Maria Prado; beloved son-in-law of Coco Gutierrez, Rico Torres and Gerardo Lara; dear brother of Ricardo (Carolina) Prado, Nancy (Josh) Prado and Jose Prado; dear brother-in-law of Nereida Lara, Gladys Lara, and Ulises Lara; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery



**Rodriguez**

Isaiah Noel Rodriguez. Beloved husband of Juliana Rodriguez; beloved son of Noel and Melissa (Javier); fond grandson of Maria Cruz and Nelida Rodriguez; fond great-grandson of the late Casimiro Rodriguez and the late Agustin Cruz; dear brother of Isabel Montgomery, Isaac Berrios, Isaly Berrios, Abigail Rodriguez and Isabella Vazquez; loving grandson, nephew, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Mount Emblem Cemetery.

**Valentino**

Mary Ann Valentino, nee Montino, of Melrose Park. Mother of Tina Valentino; sister of the late Christine Montino; daughter of the late Jerry and Carmella (nee D' Antonio); lifelong friend of Carmella Macino; best friend of Jennie Francisco, Dee Tintori, Rena May, Ellyn Blauser and Betty DeLeon; godmother, friend and cousin of many. Lifelong devotee of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, member of the Altar and Rosary Society of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, past president of the Veterans Park Senior Club. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

**Velazco**

Francisco Z. Velazco. Beloved husband of Griselda Velasco (nee Deleon); loving father of Paco (Francisco Jose), Tony (Jorge Antonio), Martha Alicia and the late Caroline; cherished grandfather of Jorge, Rebecca, Carolyn, Rune and Arthur; dear brother of Ramona, Maria, Cocho, Martha, the late Juan, the late Anita, the late Matilde and the late Alicia; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

**Vicari**

Ralph Anthony Vicari, 94 years old, proud first-generation Italian, passed away Dec. 12, in Jacksonville, Fla. Son of Alvera (Franceschini) Vicari and Ralph Vicari, he was loving known as "Junior" by his family. He was born and raised in Chicago on Ohio Street in Johnsons building. He grew up in a predominately Italian neighborhood and was an avid athlete. He met the love of his life Mary Ann Rizzo at 16 years old in the athletic programs and married her in 1952. He graduated from Lane Tech High School with honors. He served in the Army during the Korean War. He worked his entire life for the federal government at the Railroad Retirement Board where he started in the mailroom at 18 years old. He retired years later as the director of Data Processing. He is brother to Joseph (D), Mary (D), Rose (D), Louis (D) and Vincent Vicari. He is father to Dr. Ralph Vicari (D) and Dr. Michele Vicari-Christensen. He is grandfather to Katherine, Brian, Ellen and Justine, and great-grandfather to Amelia, Lucy, Mary Ann, Meara, Taryn, Gemma, James, Brennan and Colleen. He was a kind and gentle spirit, and loved deeply by all. He will be greatly missed. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

**Zito**

Rossana Zito, nee Nicoletti. Dearly beloved wife of Ronald Zito; loving mother of Patrick (Rose) Glasso and Enrico (Rose) Glasso; loving daughter of the late Sirio and Teodora Nicoletti; cherished Nonna of Patrick (Alexa) Glasso, Nick (Karolina) Glasso, Frank Glasso, Anthony Glasso, Rosario Vazzano and Mario Vazzano; great nonna of Grayson Glasso and Carson Rose Glasso; dear sister of Nancy Carbone and the late Fileno Nicoletti; fond aunt of Mike and Sara (Shelly) Carbone; great-aunt of Isabella, Gianna and Jemma; loving cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

# Carbonara Funeral Directors

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Melrose Park, IL 60160  
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**CLERK**

Mary Ann Paolantonio

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