

A Message From Mayor Ronald M. Serpico

With great pleasure, I offer a round of applause to some special Melrose Park residents for their recent accomplishments. Congratulations and a gracious thank you for making Melrose Park proud!

Also, with Memorial Day approaching, let's take a moment to remember the brave men and women who made possible the opportunities this great country offers.

We'll never forget their courageous commitment. God bless them all!

Dear Neighbors,

It is with great pleasure that I offer the following accolades to some special Melrose Park residents. First, I would like to applaud Melrose Park born and raised Andrew Tufano for making his Broadway debut in the play, *Tommy*. He, along with his castmates, performed a medley of songs from the play on the NBC *Tonight Show* on March 25. Andrew is following in the footsteps of another Melrose Park legend, Broadway star Carol Lawrence, who was the original Maria in *West Side Story*.



Ronald M. Serpico
Mayor

The next shout-out goes to Alexia Carbonara Filice, who is also a native of Melrose Park. She was recently named the Educator of the Month by WGN TV. She was nominated for this award by the parents whose students attend St. Luke grammar school in River Forest where she has been a teacher for over 20 years.

Another round of applause goes to lifelong resident, Aaron M. Rieger, the son of Melrose Park Police Lt. Mark Rieger. Aaron recently sailed across the Atlantic, stopping in Belgium, Netherlands and Germany as part of his Coast Guard midshipman coursework. Aaron was admitted to the prestigious United States Merchant Marine Academy as one of Congressman Chuy Garcia's five allotted military academy appointments. He is due to graduate in 2025. Wherever that assignment brings him, Aaron is ready to display our village flag in all ports of calls. We thank you for your service, Aaron!

A final hurrah goes to Natale Caputo, president of Caputo Cheese, located on 15th Avenue in Melrose Park. The firm's fresh mozzarella cheese took first place in the 2024 World Championship Cheese Contest, held in Madison, Wisconsin, in March. The Caputo winner, "a nodini" – meaning in Italian "small knots" – won the award, beating out other mozzarella cheeses from all over the United States, Canada and Japan.

This May 27 is Memorial Day. We set this day aside to honor the 1,354,664 military service members who bravely served their country and gave their lives to protect our freedom and ensure our way of life.

Memorial Day's beginnings date back to the Civil War, which claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries. By the late 1860s, Americans began holding springtime tributes to these fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

Thus, these tributes grew into what became known as Decoration Day, which originally honored only those lost during the Civil War. Once the United States entered World War I and more Americans died in battle, the holiday soon evolved into a day that commemorated all American military personnel who died during war. It did not take long for Decoration Day to become known as Memorial Day.

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30. However, in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as a federal holiday to be held on the last Monday in May.

As we enjoy the Memorial Day weekend festivities, let us take a moment and offer our gratitude and prayers to the brave men and women who made possible the opportunities this great country offers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Serpico".
Mayor Ron Serpico



Follow us on Facebook.



Follow us on Instagram.

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



Village of Melrose Park

Ronald M. Serpico, Mayor

Mary Ann Paolantonio, Village Clerk

Trustees

Anthony J. Abruzzo • Jaime Anguiano

Arturo J. Mota • Sonny Nicotera

Mary Ramirez Taconi • Anthony "Tony" Williams



To Know

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

Hours – Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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

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

Water, Tickets, Etc.

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

Police Emergency911

Non-Emergency(708) 344-8409

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

Fire Emergency911

Non-Emergency(708) 344-1210

Public Safety/Homeland Security(708) 649-8000

Library(708) 343-3391

Public Works(708) 343-5128

Building and Code(708) 343-4000

Civic Center(708) 450-0555

Hall and Field Rentals, Sports, Etc.

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

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

Taste of Melrose Park

Dial A Ride(708) 343-7047

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

Economic Development(708) 865-8809

Important Upcoming Dates

Village Board Meetings.....May 28, June 10

Village Hall Holiday ClosingsMay 27, June 19

Resident Response

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

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to both of you for the assistance I was afforded by the Melrose Park Fire Department on Jan. 18, 2024.

Upon my return home after my hip surgery, I needed assistance to enter my house. Capt. Sebastian Lorenzo's shift provided the necessary help to me to maneuver the stairs to enter my home.

I want to commend Lt. Pete Pulkownik, firefighters Anthony Scudiero, Cid Sanchez and Shawn Bond, along with EMS John Simon and Mark Guerrieri for their professionalism and care in assisting me in getting up the stairs to my home. They helped to alleviate a very difficult situation.

Both of you should be commended for employing these men who have chosen to help the Melrose Park community. Melrose Park residents truly benefit from the dedicated members of the Fire Department.

• Gratefully,
Loretta Gustello

Dear Director of Police Sam Pitassi and Deputy Chief Anthony Greco...

I am writing to express our sincere appreciation for the invaluable support provided by officers Schiller and Sullo during the incident that occurred on Feb. 7, 2024, at 6:08 a.m., at Woodward MPC in Niles.

The coordinated effort and professionalism displayed by responding officers significantly contributed to the successful resolution of a challenging situation.

On that day, the Niles Police Department responded to an organized pro-Palestinian protest in the area of Howard and Croname, where participants had bound themselves together, obstructing traffic and creating a hazardous environment. Despite numerous instructions to vacate the roadway, the individuals refused, necessitating additional assistance.

The swift response of the NIPAS Mobile Field Force ensured the safe removal of self-induced restraints from all bound protesters, leading to their subsequent custody without any reported injuries. This collaborative effort played a crucial role in the efficient resolution of the incident.

As a result of the collaborative efforts, both Howard and Croname roadways were reopened by 12:31 p.m., minimizing disruption to the community.

In total, seven adult males and 26 adult females were charged with Unlawful Assembly 430 ILCS 70/4, a class A misdemeanor, and were processed and released from the Niles Police Department on the same day.

Once again, I express my appreciation for your support in ensuring the successful resolution of this incident. The cooperation between our agencies exemplifies the strength of our community's commitment to safety.

• Best personal regards,
Luis C. Tigera, Chief of Police
Niles Police Department

Dear Mayor Ron Serpico, Director of Fire Department Rick Beltrame and Chief of EMTs ...

I would like to say thank you ever so much to your EMTs who were dispatched to my home.

They got here lickety split in less than five minutes.

My brother, Joey Sarlo, fell and went low sugar. I was trying to help him realize it and he was sitting at the kitchen table mumbling, and I knew immediately what was happening.

Joey has been a diabetic for 25 years – he's been doing fairly. Lucky for him, I was there.

I had a hard time getting him to stay in the chair, and feared he would fall and hit his head. I saw the EMTs coming and ran to the door. They couldn't have been nicer.

I so appreciate every one of the firemen, EMTs and MPPD employees of the village of Melrose Park. As you know, we are lifers and run our business from home these days.

Craig and Mark did a great job in record time. Thank you ever so much. I truly believe they helped me save his life. So glad I called 911. Thanks to them as well.

Forever in debt. It was a lifesaving, phenomenal job.

- Your friends,
Marilyn and Joey Sarlo

Dear Deputy Police Chief Anthony Greco ...

We cannot thank you, and officers Lascola and Andres Guzman enough for sharing your time (and talents) with our students and faculty for Career Day. It is so meaningful for our students to be exposed not only to various careers, but to learn how those paths were charted (with God's help) after high school. Know that you made an impact!

- Gratefully,
The Walther Christian Academy Career Day Planning Committee

Dear Mayor Ron Serpico ...

This is to thank you for your generous donation in December 2023.

It came to us at a time of unexpected growth in the number of clients we serve.

As in 2023, the number of households we served was 78% more families than in 2022. This trend continues as we have served 85% more families than in the first two months of 2023. This is a result of the increase in the population of migrants who are stuck in a circumstance of not being able to feed their families, leaving them food insecure.

Every month, we find 25% of the families we serve are first-time visitors.

So far, your gift has allowed us to purchase two stainless steel tables we use to distribute our meat, eggs and dairy products.

We were also able to purchase a double-door cooler for the increasing supply of milk for our clients. Our plan is to paint and decorate the shopping area this spring.

Once again, thank you for your generous gift. It was a blessing for the families we serve.

- Sincerely,
Deacon John Battisto, Director
Our Lady of Mount Carmel – CASA Food Pantry

Dear Mayor Serpico ...

I am a senior citizen and have lived in Melrose Park over 45 years.

I am writing to commend you and Director of Police Pitassi for the police response.

I called for police service on the evening of April 7 regarding a frightening incident on my block. Sgt. Anzaldi arrived quickly. The officer acted in a calm and professional demeanor, the assisting officer, Ofc. Marleen Rodriguez, acted that way also.

Thanks to you and your office, we have a well-trained and professional Department of Police.

- Thank you,
John W.



**Village Vehicle Stickers
Expired Dec. 31, 2023.
2024-2025 Stickers Can be
Purchased at the Village Hall.**

Sticker Fee for Passenger Vehicles is \$30 for Two Years (2024-2025).

Truck Fees Vary Based on the Type of Class/Plate and Are Good for One Year Only (2024).

Seniors Over 65 Years of Age are Free.

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

Limit one free sticker per household.

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

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

Vehicle Sticker Fee Details

Sticker fees are as follows: Passenger Plates – \$30 for two years (2024-2025);

Senior Citizen – One free per household for two years (2024-2025);

Trucks – Good for one year (2024 only).

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

PASSENGER VEHICLES	NOW-JUNE 30 \$40 Every Two Years	JULY 1 AND LATER \$55 Every Two Years
B Plate	\$65	\$95
C Plate	\$90	\$145
D Plate	\$90	\$145
F Plate	\$90	\$145
H Plate	\$90	\$145
J Plate	\$95	\$155
K Plate	\$95	\$155
L Plate	\$105	\$175
M Plate	\$110	\$185
N Plate	\$115	\$195
P Plate	\$120	\$205
Q Plate	\$120	\$205
R Plate	\$125	\$215
S Plate	\$130	\$225
T Plate	\$140	\$245
V Plate	\$150	\$265
X Plate	\$160	\$285
Z Plate	\$170	\$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.

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

VEHICLE STICKERS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL VEHICLES REGISTERED UNDER A MELROSE PARK ADDRESS, EVEN IF THEY ARE NOT LOCATED, PARKED OR STORED AT THE HOUSE AND MUST BE PURCHASED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RESIDENCY.

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

**19th Avenue Bridge Dedication Ceremony
All Set for Saturday, May 18**

The Public is Invited to Join in the Celebration

Mayor Serpico and the village of Melrose Park will be hosting a dedication ceremony for the 19th and North Avenue bridge on Saturday, May 18, 2 p.m., and you're invited! Please join us on Frenzel Drive (south of North Avenue and adjacent to Silver Creek) for the get-together. Light snacks and beverages will be served.

For updates, visit our website (www.melrosepark.org) and social media pages. We hope to see you there.





**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.



Community Nutrition Network
and Senior Services Association *A non-profit organization*



You Can Change a Life!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

Monday thru Friday mornings
Volunteer 1 day a week or more!
Mileage reimbursement available!



**Contact Us at (312) 207-5290 or
Email Volunteer@cnnssa.org.**

Funds, in whole or in part, for this publication were provided through AgeOptions under Title III of the Older American Act as administered through the Illinois Department on Aging and the Federal Administration on Aging.



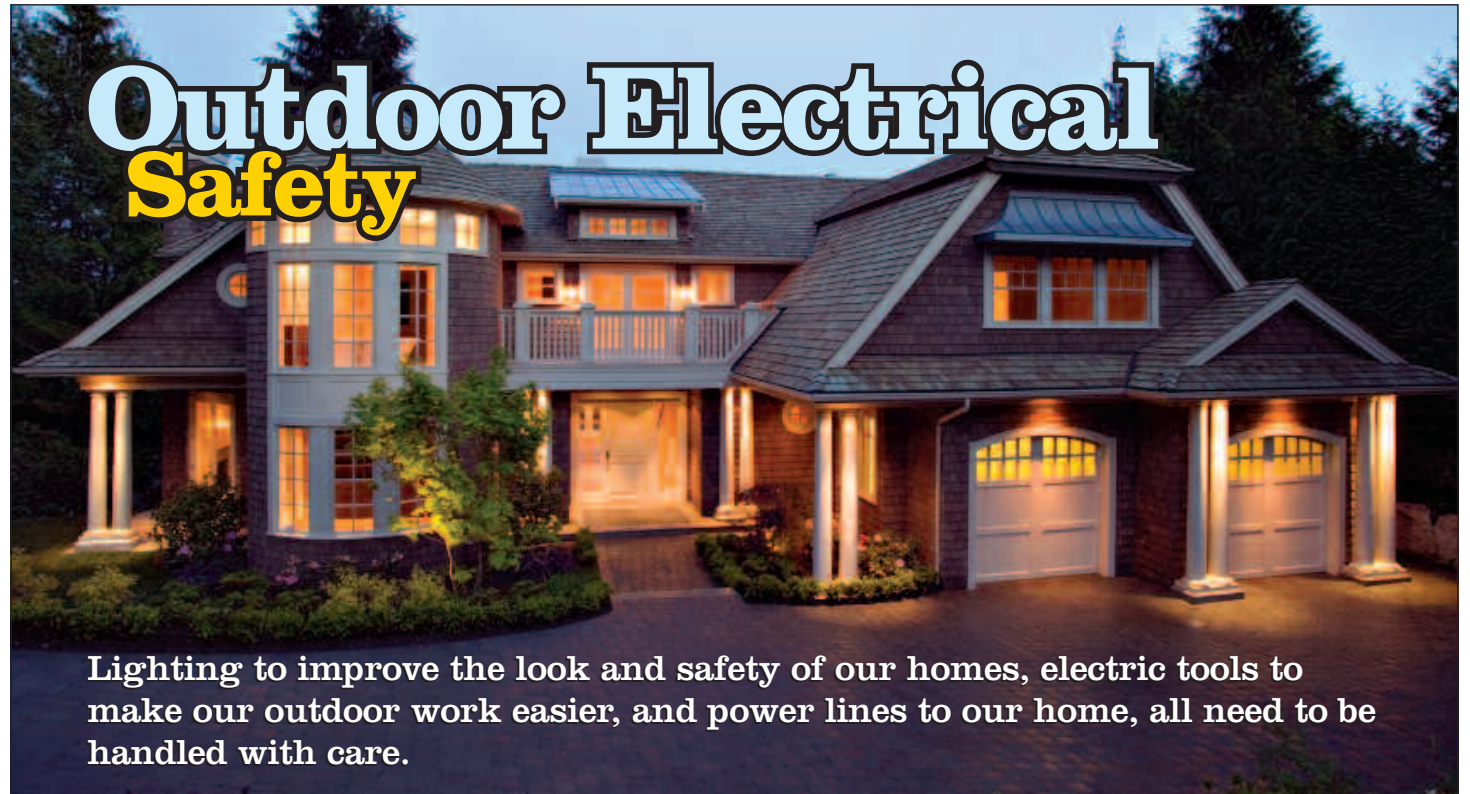
Melrose Park Fire Department NEWS



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 outdoor electrical fire safety tips on behalf the Red Cross and National Fire Protection Association. Please follow these tips to ensure your family's well-being and safety!



Outdoor Electrical Safety

Lighting to improve the look and safety of our homes, electric tools to make our outdoor work easier, and power lines to our home, all need to be handled with care.

Outside Electrical Work

- Have a qualified electrician do all electrical work.
- To prevent an electrical shock, make sure all your outside electrical receptacles are GFCI (ground-fault circuit interrupter) protected.

Equipment Safety

- Use lighting and power tools that are listed by a qualified test laboratory and make sure they are made for outdoor use.
- Store your electrical tools indoors.
- Keep electric tools away from children.
- Keep the area around your electric meter and other electrical equipment clear.
- Check lighting and extension cords for damage before using. Replace any damaged cords right away.
- Use extension cords that are listed by a qualified test laboratory and are marked for outdoor use.
- Extension cords are not meant for long-term use.

POWER LINES

Have a professional tree cutting service trim branches that might fall on electric wiring. Use a wooden or fiberglass ladder outside. Keep the ladder at least 10 feet away from power lines. Never touch anyone or anything in contact with a downed wire. Power lines may be live, stay a safe distance away. Report downed wires to authorities right away.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Call "Before You Dig" (8-1-1) before any digging on your property. They will mark where your underground utilities are located. *It's a free service!*



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169



MELROSE PARK
FIRE DEPARTMENT

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



MELROSE PARK POLICE MICKINZIE-VERTUNO F.O.P. LODGE 19 CAR SHOW



Saturday, July 20, 2024 • 10 a.m.

1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park

**Registration Begins at 9 a.m. • \$10 Per Car
Voting Begins at 12:30 p.m.**

Email @ mvfoplodge19@gmail.com



BEST IN SHOW PRIZES



Food & Beverages available for purchase as well as a 50/50 Raffle!

Melrose Park Police Department

A Message from Director of Police Sam C. Pitassi



*Sam C. Pitassi
Director of Police*



IMPORTANT NEW PARKING NOTICE

A QUICK NOTE TO UPDATE WEEKEND PARKING RULES ...

**As of April 1, 2024, parking is permitted on both sides
of the street on weekends**

(Friday, 5 p.m.-Monday, 9 a.m.) until Dec 1, 2024.

**These hours do not include the
Winston Park and West Melrose areas.**

**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.**

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.

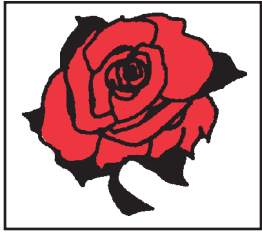
However, if you would like to be contacted by a police officer, just include a telephone number or email address where you can be reached.

Submit to tips@melroseparkpd.com.

Visit the Melrose Park Police Department Website at www.melroseparkpd.com ...

• For Melrose Park Police Department General Information • To Pay Tickets • To Obtain Police Reports

The website can be translated to Spanish and Polish.



Village of Melrose Park Public Works Report

*From the Desk of
Gary Marine,
Director of Public Works*

19th and North Avenue Bridge

The 19th and North Avenue bridge is now open. Please watch for details on our spring 2024 dedication ceremony.

Multi-Purpose Field

A new state-of-the-art, multi-purpose field has been set in place at the Ralph "Babe" Serpico Memorial Field on 25th Avenue. The new diverse field can be used for a football field, soccer field, unified lacrosse field and a new walking track. The field is now open to the public.



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.

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 has been out sweeping roadways. Please follow all street sweeping signs located on village streets. Please remove your vehicle from the street to help expedite sweeping.

2024 Fall Tree Planting Program

The list is now open for 2024 Fall Tree Planting. To request a tree for 2024, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128.

2024 – 50/50 Sidewalk Program

If you would like to participate in the 2024 – 50/50 Sidewalk Program to request replacement of sidewalk squares, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 343-5128 for more information.

Melrose Park Dog Park

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

Please follow rules posted at the park.



Silver Creek Restoration Project

Under the direction of Mayor Ronald M. Serpico, the Village of Melrose Park Public Works employees constructed the Silver Creek Eagles Nest Park. This is a natural preserve that includes a walking path and a pavilion/gazebo, along with a canoe/kayak launch.

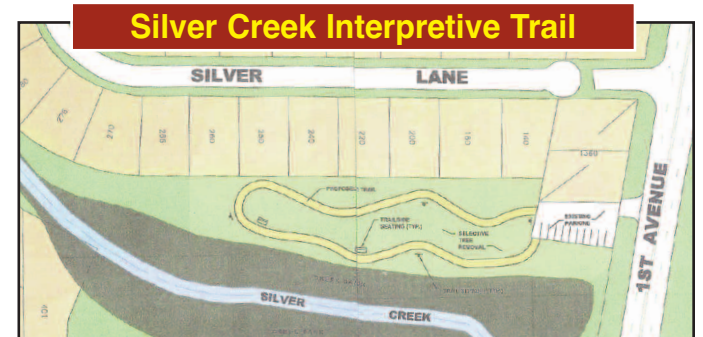
Phase 5 and 6 of the Silver Creek Stabilization Project have been completed. Phase 7 is underway.

This stabilization 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.



Silver Creek Trail Park

The Silver Creek Trail Park is located off of First Avenue. The trail is centered off the pond between Silver Creek and its tributary, the Des Plaines River. Native plants of this area were once lost to development and are now being reintroduced to the area. With the help of these native plants, more wildlife is returning to the area – from the Bald Eagle (sighted in the area), the Northern Pike, Red Foxes, Black-Crowned Night Herons and Cooper's Hawk, to name a few.



Do's and Don'ts While Visiting the Silver Creek Trail Park

1. No littering. Please clean up after any activities.
2. Pets must be leashed.
3. Smoking or fires are prohibited.
4. Please clean up pet waste and dispose of it.
5. Do not disturb any plants, trees or wildlife.
6. No loitering.
7. No hunting.
8. Fisherman must clean up any cut line, bail containers and all litter.
9. Park opens one hour after sunrise and closes one hour before sunset.
10. Enjoy the park.

The Public Works employees are always in full force, working to keep the village of Melrose Park clean and well-maintained. If you have a request, please feel free to call Gary M. Marine, director of Public Works at (708) 343-5128.

Apply Now for the 2024 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 (right) 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**

2024 Senior Painting Program list
will be closed July 31, 2024.

Only one item will be painted per year.
Get your request in early as the list fills fast.

Mayor Serpico's 2024 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. 2024 list will be closed July 31, 2024.

Phase 7 of the Silver Creek Stabilization Project is Underway Here's Some Photos Showing Restoration Work and Progress ...



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, United States Space Force and POW/MIA are being 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 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 or by phone – (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4414.

Donations of any amount to support Melrose Park's Avenue of Flags initiative are appreciated and can be sent to: Village of Melrose Park/Avenue of Flags, 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, Ill. 60160. Please make checks payable to the Melrose Park Youth Commission or Melrose Park Sports & Family Benefit Fund.





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

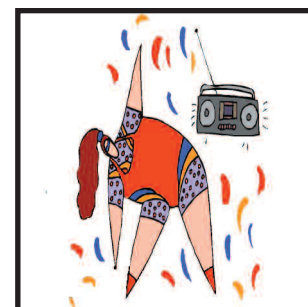
Beneficio de Acceso para el Programa de Beneficios

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.

Free Exercise for Melrose Park Seniors

Come Join in the Fun with Instructor Barb Rubright (Rube's Garage)



Monday-Friday • 9-10 a.m.

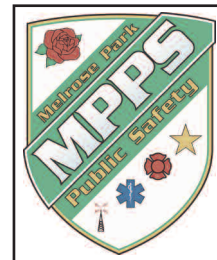
Melrose Park Civic Center

1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park

Socially Distanced Activity • Face Masks Required

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

Melrose Park Public Safety News



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

Lightning: What You Need to Know

- No place outside is safe when thunderstorms are in the area!
- If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you.
- When you hear thunder, immediately move to safe shelter: a substantial building with electricity or plumbing or an enclosed, metal-topped vehicle with windows up.
- Stay in safe shelter at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

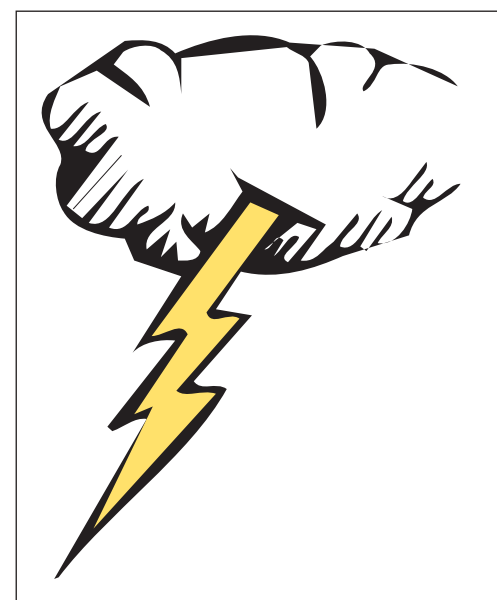
Indoor Lightning Safety

- Stay off corded phones, computers and other electrical equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity.
- Avoid plumbing, including sinks, baths and faucets.
- Stay away from windows and doors, and stay off porches.
- Do not lie on concrete floors, and do not lean against concrete walls.

Last Resort Outdoor Risk Reduction Tips

If you are caught outside with no safe shelter anywhere nearby the following actions may reduce your risk:

- Immediately get off elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges or peaks.
- Never lie flat on the ground.
- Never shelter under an isolated tree.
- Never use a cliff or rocky overhang for shelter.
- Immediately get out and away from ponds, lakes and other bodies of water.
- Stay away from objects that conduct electricity (barbed wire fences, power lines, windmills, etc.).



Lightning Safety Myths and Facts

Myth: Lightning never strikes the same place twice.

Fact: Lightning often strikes the same place repeatedly, especially if it's a tall, pointy, isolated object. The Empire State Building is hit nearly 100 times a year.

Myth: If it's not raining or there aren't clouds overhead, you're safe from lightning.

Fact: Lightning often strikes more than three miles from the center of the thunderstorm, far outside the rain or thunderstorm cloud. "Bolts from the blue" can strike 10-15 miles from the thunderstorm.

Myth: Rubber tires on a car protect you from lightning by insulating you from the ground.

Fact: Most cars are safe from lightning, but it is the metal roof and metal sides that protect you, not the rubber tires. Remember, convertibles, motorcycles, bicycles, open-shelled outdoor recreational vehicles and cars with fiberglass shells offer no protection from lightning. When lightning strikes a vehicle, it goes through the metal frame into the ground. Don't lean on doors during a thunderstorm.

Myth: A lightning victim is electrified. If you touch them, you'll be electrocuted.

Fact: The human body does not store electricity. It is perfectly safe to touch a lightning victim to give them first aid. This is the most chilling of lightning Myths. Imagine if someone died because people were afraid to give CPR!

Myth: If outside in a thunderstorm, you should seek shelter under a tree to stay dry.

Fact: Being underneath a tree is the second leading cause of lightning casualties. Better to get wet than fried!

Myth: If you are in a house, you are 100 percent safe from lightning.

Fact: A house is a safe place to be during a thunderstorm as long as you avoid anything that conducts electricity. This means staying off corded phones, electrical appliances, wires, TV cables, computers, plumbing, metal doors and windows. Windows are hazardous for two reasons: wind generated during a thunderstorm can blow objects into the window, breaking it and causing glass to shatter and second, in older homes, in rare instances, lightning can come in cracks in the sides of windows.

Myth: If thunderstorms threaten while you are outside playing a game, it is okay to finish it before seeking shelter.

Fact: Many lightning casualties occur because people do not seek shelter soon enough. No game is worth death or lifelong injuries. Seek proper shelter immediately if you hear thunder. Adults are responsible for the safety of children.

Myth: Structures with metal, or metal on the body (jewelry, cell phones, Mp3 players, watches, etc.), attract lightning.

Fact: Height, pointy shape and isolation are the dominant factors controlling where a lightning bolt will strike. The presence of metal makes absolutely no difference on where lightning strikes. Mountains are made of stone but get struck by lightning many times a year. When lightning threatens, take proper protective action immediately by seeking a safe shelter – don't waste time removing metal. While metal does not attract lightning, it does conduct it so stay away from metal fences, railings, bleachers, etc.

Myth: If trapped outside and lightning is about to strike, I should lie flat on the ground.

Fact: Lying flat increases your chance of being affected by potentially deadly ground current. If you are caught outside in a thunderstorm, you keep moving toward a safe shelter.

Tornados

Before a Tornado

Know the terms used to describe tornado threats.

Tornado Watch – Tornados are possible. Watch the sky and listen to the radio or television for more information. Be prepared to take shelter. If you see any rotating funnel-shaped clouds, report them immediately by telephone to your local law enforcement agency. If you live in a mobile home, this is the time to move to a more substantial structure.

Tornado Warning – A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter. Turn on a battery-operated radio or television and wait for the "all clear" announcement by authorities. Determine the best location in your home and office to seek shelter when threatened by a tornado. A basement or cellar will usually afford the best protection. If an underground shelter is not available, identify an interior room or hallway on the lowest level. Conduct periodic tornado safety drills with your family.

During a Tornado – Take the following actions when a Tornado Warning has been issued by the National Weather Service, when sirens have been activated or when a tornado has been sighted near your area.

At Home – Go at once to your predetermined shelter (storm cellar, basement or the lowest level of the building). In a basement, go under the stairs, under a heavy piece of furniture or a workbench. Stay there until the danger has passed. If there is no basement, go to an inner hallway or a small inner room without windows, such as a bathroom or closet. Stay away from windows, doors and outside walls.

Go to the center of the room. Outside windows and walls may be penetrated by high speed, wind-borne missiles.

Get under a piece of sturdy furniture, such as a workbench or heavy table, and hold onto it.

Use pillows, mattresses or cushions to protect your head and neck.

If in a mobile home, get out and seek shelter elsewhere. A mobile home can overturn very easily even if precautions have been taken to tie down the unit. If there isn't a substantial shelter nearby, seek shelter in a low-lying area. Shield your head with your hands.

In a School, Nursing Home, Hospital, Shopping Center or at Work – Go to the designated storm shelter, basement or to an inside hallway on the lowest level.

Avoid places with wide-span roofs, such as auditoriums, cafeterias, gymnasiums and large hallways. Stay away from windows and open spaces.

Get under a piece of sturdy furniture, such as a workbench or heavy table or desk and hold onto it. If sturdy furniture is not available, make yourself the smallest target possible. Squat low to the ground. Put your head down and cover your head and neck with your hands.

If in a high-rise building, go to small, interior rooms or hallways on the lowest level possible and seek protection as detailed above. Stay away from windows and outside walls.

Learn how to shut off the utilities to your home. Decide how and where your family will reunite.

If you live in a mobile home, identify a safe shelter outside of your mobile home such as a community park shelter, a neighbor or friend's house, or a nearby public building.

In a mobile home, consider installation of an underground shelter that is large enough to accommodate you, your family or several other nearby mobile home residents.

Consider retrofitting your house with special fasteners, connectors and reinforcing bands to strengthen the structural integrity. Also, consider installing a reinforced concrete and steel "safe room" as a small room within your house, or excavated and installed beneath your garage floor.

In a Vehicle – Never try to outrun a tornado in a vehicle. Heavy rain, hail and traffic may impede your movement. Tornados can change directions quickly and can easily lift up a vehicle and toss it through the air.

Get out of the vehicle immediately and try to take shelter in a nearby building. Do not park under a bridge or underpass.

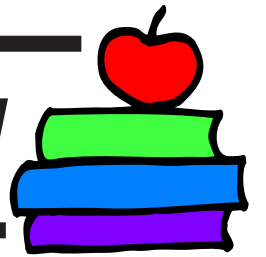
If there isn't time to get indoors, get out of the vehicle and lie in a ditch, culvert or low-lying area away from the vehicle.



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



Melrose Park Public Library



M P Melrose Park
P L Public Library

www.MPPLibrary.org

Saddle Shoe Sisters: Best of 40s, 50s & 60s

The Saddle Shoe Sisters are bringing us harmony through the decades! Hear the best music of the 40s, 50s & 60s from a fabulous retro girl group who sing and play their own instruments!

Adults & Seniors
Thursday, May 16th
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Registration Required

Visit mpplibrary.org for details



Rhonda's Rhythms

CHAIR YOGA

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

For Adults & Seniors

2024 Schedule

FRIDAYS
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

DATES

May 17th	September 20th
June 21st	October 18th
July 19th	November 15th
August 16th	December 13th

Registration Required
visit mpplibrary.org to register

PHONE: (708) 649-7485
EMAIL: mpref@mpplibrary.org

Begin Your Journey...



Summer Reading Program

Paper Flowers Workshop

Create beautiful and colorful paper flowers using tissue paper!

Thursday, July 18th
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Adults & Seniors
Registration required.
Visit mpplibrary.org to register!

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



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

Last Saturday of the month - Closed
Sunday - Closed

Memorial Day thru Labor Day - Closed on Saturdays

MPPLibrary.org

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



Melrose Park Public Library



M P Melrose Park
P L Public Library

Youth Services



Make It Mondays

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



ABC Adventures

Join our interactive playtime for fun with stories, music, puzzles and toys. Ages 1-5 with a caregiver.

Wednesdays - 10:00am - 11:00am



Summer Programs 2024



Summer Reading @ MPPL June 14th to July 26th
Our theme is "Read, Renew, Repeat!"
Check out our website for all the details and special programming coming soon!

Fantastic Fridays & So Much More This Summer!

Here are a just a few of our special summer programs we have planned for you! So join the family fun at the library. We hope to see you soon!

All Ages. Registration required and Melrose Park residents have first priority.



Jason Kollum Variety Show



**Friday, June 14
2pm-3pm**

Tall Tales & Silly Songs

music SHOW



**Friday, June 21
2pm-3pm**

Young Artists Workshop



**Friday, June 28
2pm-3pm**

All dates and times are subject to change without prior notice. Please see the website, or call us for updated programming information. All programs at the library are free but registration is required. MPPL card holders have first priority. To register, or with any further questions, please call 708.649.7400



Melrose Park Public Library



IN PERSON SERVICES

- Books, eBooks, audiobooks, DVDs, newspapers, hotspots, & iPads
- Computers, internet/WiFi access, study rooms, programs
- Copy, fax, remote print, & scan

BORROWING

- Loan Period: 3 weeks for materials
- Request and pick up items from other SWAN Libraries
- Items automatically renew unless there is a hold on an item or you have reached your five renewal limit
- Interlibrary loan-request items from other libraries

DATABASES

Access our databases to research 24/7 with your Melrose Park Public Library card. Visit mpplibrary.org. Databases include: EBSCO Suite, Consumer Reports, Mango Languages, Ancestry (in Library use only), & more.

GET A LIBRARY CARD FOR FULL ACCESS TO OUR SERVICES!

SWAN LIBRARY SERVICES

The Melrose Park Public Library is part of the SWAN Consortium with 100 member Libraries across the suburban Chicago area. Your library card allows you to access & borrow from any member Library. Manage your account online or via the SWAN Libraries + app.



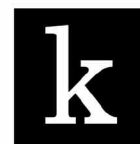
Download the new SWAN Libraries + app
Available for IOS & Android

DIGITAL LIBRARY

Our Digital Library is always open! Install these apps for 24/7 access to eBooks, movies, music, and more.



Media on Demand | Libby app:
eBooks, magazines, & more



Kanopy:
Stream movies for free



Hoopla:
eBooks, movies, & more

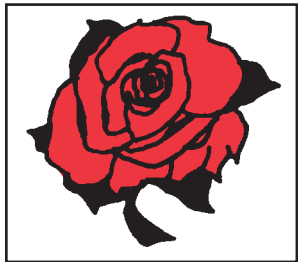


Freemusic:
Stream millions of songs



Comics Plus:
Digital comics, graphic novels, & manga





Melrose Park Public Library



Museum Passes

Use your Melrose Park Public Library card to check out an adventure! You can receive admission or a special discount at participating Chicagoland area and Illinois destinations.

MUSEUM ADVENTURE PASS www.museumadventure.org

*Must have a valid MPPL card
Call ahead for availability | Passes are printed only in person

Chicago

- American Writers Mus.
- Bronzeville Children's Mus.
- Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures

Aurora

- Aurora Regional Fire Mus.

Brookfield

- Brookfield Zoo

DeKalb

- Ellwood House

Elgin

- Elgin History Mus.
- Elgin Public Mus.

Evanston

- Mitchell Mus. of the Native Amer. Indian

Frankfort

- Kids Work Children's Mus.

Glencoe

- Chicago Botanic Garden

Naperville

- Naper Settlement

Oak Brook

- Lizzardo Mus. of Lapidary Art

Oak Lawn

- Children's Mus. in Oak Lawn

Oak Park

- Pleasant Home Foundation

River Grove

- Cernan Earth & Space Center at Triton College

Skokie

- Illinois Holocaust Mus.

St. Charles

- St. Charles Heritage Mus.

Sugar Grove

- Air Classics Mus. of Aviation

Union

- Illinois Railway Mus.

Volo

- Volo Auto Museum

Wheaton

- Cantigny Park

Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

- Geneva Lake Mus.

EXPLORE MORE ILLINOIS ATTRACTIONS <https://exploremore.quipugroup.net>

*Log in with your Library card credentials
Make a reservation | print or download pass

Chicago

- American Writers Mus.
- Annoyance Thea.
- Art Institute of Chicago
- Bronzeville Children's Mus.
- Chicago Children's Mus.
- Chicago History Mus.
- Chicago Lyric Opera
- Chicago Maritime Mus.
- Chicago Red Stars Soccer
- DuSable Black History Mus.
- Haitian American Mus.
- The Insect Asylum
- Lincoln Park Zoo
- Mus. Of Contemporary Pho.
- Mus. of Science + Industry
- Nat. Mus. of Mexican Art
- Nat. Mus. of P.R. Arts & Cul.
- Newberry Library
- Peggy Notebaert Nature Mus.
- Pritzker Military Mus.

Arlington Heights

- Metropolis Performing Arts Center

Bloomington/Normal

- Children's Discovery Mus.
- Community Players Thea.
- David Davis Mansion
- Normal Theater

Buffalo Grove

- Raupp Mus.

Danville

- Vermillion Co. Mus.

Dekalb

- Ellwood House

Evanston

- Block Mus. of Art

Glencoe

- Chicago Botanic Garden

Kankakee/Bourbonnais

- Exploration Station
- Kankakee Co. Mus.

LaSalle

- Hegeler Carus Mansion

Lincoln

- Lincoln Heritage Mus.

Mahomet

- Mus. of the Grand Prairie

Naperville

- DuPage Children's Mus.

Oak Brook

- DuPage Children's Mus.

Oak Park

- Hemingway Birthplace Mus.

Peoria

- Peoria Riverfront Mus.
- Soulside Healing Arts

Quincy

- Governor John Wood Mans.

Rockford

- Discovery Center Mus.
- North Suburban Library Dist.
- Rockford Art Mus.
- Rockford Symphony Y.O
- Tinker Swiss Cottage Mus. & Gar.

Skokie

- IL Holocaust Mus.

Sterling

- Dillon Home Mus.

Springfield

- Abraham Lincoln Pres. Library & Mus.
- Edwards Place
- Kidzeum of Health & Sci.
- Springfield Art Assoc.

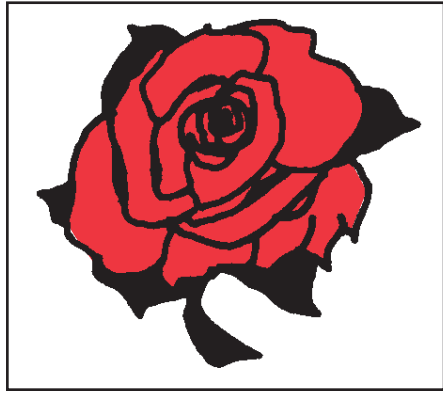
Kenosha, Wisconsin

- Civil War Mus.
- Dinosaur Discovery Mus.
- Kenosha City Mus.

Davenport, Iowa

- Bix Beiderbecke Mus.
- German American Heritage Center & Mus.





Village of Melrose Park Dial A Ride Program for MP Residents

Convenient Ride Service Now Available 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

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, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To make a reservation, please call (708) 343-7047. You can make appointments during the hours of 8 a.m.-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.

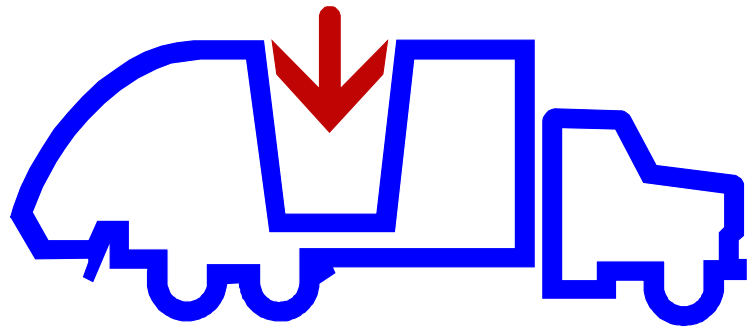
You must stay at your destination you are going to for a minimum of an hour. Any residents of Victory Centre MUST go with the group provided at their center for grocery shopping, etc. Any doctor appointment can be made with us.

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 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 to be left out and are to be put out for the next scheduled pickup.

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

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

This information is also available at www.melrosepark.org.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS – CALL TO REQUEST REPLACEMENT RESIDENT GARBAGE CANS

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

REPLACEMENT RESIDENT RECYCLING CANS

For the new larger recycling cans, please call Republic 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.



Village of Melrose Park

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



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

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

Important Melrose Park Village Notice ...

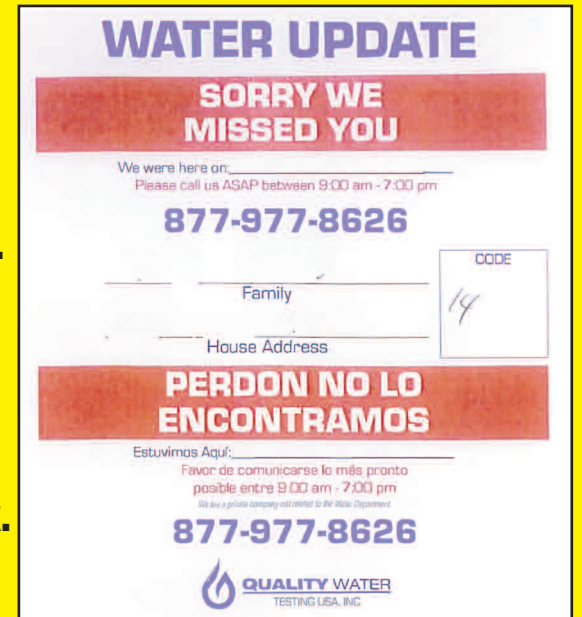
**Alert, Alert, Alert!
Water Update Flyer Being Circulated is Not from the Village of Melrose Park.
Do NOT Contact This Company!**

Dear Residents, Please be advised, the pictured flyer is being distributed in the village from Quality Water Testing USA, Inc. regarding a water update.

Please do not call this company as they are not affiliated with the village of Melrose Park.

Should you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rose in the Melrose Park Water Department by calling (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4435.

Thank you.



Manage Your Water Bill Online ... It's Easy!

The village of Melrose Park provides residents with an option to manage their water bill online. Residents can visit 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 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.



Village of Melrose Park

Garage Sale Notice

Garage Sales are Back ...

It's Time to Sell All Those Treasures

The rules on garage sales held in the village of Melrose Park are as follows:

Garage sales will be held on the third weekend only during the months of May, June, July, August and September. Sales are to be conducted on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the designated weekends. No sales are allowed on Sundays.

The dates for 2024 are May 16-18, June 13-15, July 18-20 Aug. 15-17 and Sept. 19-21.

Garage sales shall be conducted only during the hours of 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

No permit is needed for garage sales, however the following rules must be followed:

- No garage sales may be conducted in apartment buildings.
- No garage sales in the frontyard, i.e., on the grass.
- All garage sales to be conducted in backyard, garage or on driveway.
- All sale items to be displayed on tables, not on the ground.
- No sale items shall be located and no sale activity shall be conducted in the frontyard area, on the premises of any public sidewalk, parkway area or other public property.
- No sale signs, handbills or other advertising material shall be located or posted upon public parkway or on public property, signs, poles or light poles within the village of Melrose Park.
- Signs advertising the sales shall not exceed 3-by-5 feet and may be located only in the frontyard (private property) of the address having the garage sale, and must be removed immediately after the sale.
- The sale will be conducted without the use of outdoor loud speakers, amplification equipment or illuminated advertising devices.

Any person violating these rules shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500.

A copy of garage sale rules is available at www.melrosepark.org.





A Note Regarding Your New Melrose Park Water Bill

Account No.	Due Date	Amount Due	After Due Date
45678-001	2/1/2024	0	0
Service Address		Remit Address	
2345 MAIN ST MELROSE PARK, IL 60160		Village of Melrose Park 1000 N. 25th Ave. MELROSE PARK, IL 60160	
Mailing Address			
JANE DOE 2345 MAIN ST MELROSE PARK, IL 60160			
Account No.	Service Address		
45678-001	2345 MAIN ST		
Service Period		Meter Readings	
1/1/2024 - 1/31/2024		Water & Sewer	
Meter No.	Read Dates	Days	Previous
23456789	1/31/2024 1/31/2024	0	1
			2
			1
			100 CF
Previous Balance			
0.00			
Penalties			
0.00			
Adjustments			
0.00			
Payments Received			
0.00			
Balance at Billing			
0.00			
Current Billing			
Charge Code	Amount		
WATER			
Current Charges			
Balance Due			
Due Date	After Due Date		
2/1/2024			

Melrose Park has refreshed its Water Bill layout and introduced a new format effective Feb. 1, 2024.

Pictured is an example of the redesigned bill.

Residents are asked to please register their accounts by visiting www.melrosepark.org, clicking Water Bill Payment, then Water Bill Management.

You'll need your current account number and the correct name on the account to complete the registration.

After registering your account, click on EBILL ENROLLMENT to receive a copy of your bill.

By registering your account, you'll be able to view current account information and past bills, and receive your bill in a quicker, safer and more reliable way than traditional mail.

For more information, send an email to rv@melrosepark.org or call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4435.

Answer the Call...

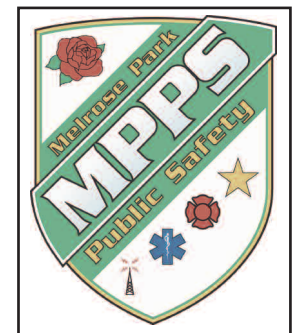
Melrose Park's Homeland Security and Public Safety Departments are NOW Recruiting!

- 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 to join one of the most prestigious public safety departments in the region!



Visit our website at www.mpps.us for more information about our department.



Time to Celebrate ... Melrose Park Block Parties with Street Closures are Now Allowed

Residents wishing to have a block party must bring or mail in an application for a special permit in the Building Department at the Village Hall. The permit is free, but must be submitted to the village trustees for approval since traffic must be rerouted to accommodate a party. The village will provide barricades on both ends of the block. Any questions, please call (708) 343-4000 and ask for the Mayor's Office.

For a Block Party Permit Application, visit MelrosePark.org.

Overnight Parking Procedures Approved 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, 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.

Village Hall Announces Holiday Closings

The Melrose Park Village Hall will be closed for the following holidays: Memorial Day – Monday, May 27, 2024; Juneteenth – Wednesday June 19, 2024; Independence Day – Thursday, July 4, 2024; Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 2, 2024; Columbus Day – Monday, Oct. 14, 2024; Veterans Day – Monday, Nov. 11, 2024; Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024; Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, Nov. 29, 2024; Christmas Eve (1/2 Day) – Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024; Christmas Day – Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024; New Year's Eve (1/2 Day) – Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024; and New Year's Day – Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025.

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 2024 is: Tuesday, May 28; June 10; July 22; Aug. 26; Sept. 23; Oct. 28; Nov. 25; and Dec. 23.

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

Franciscan Resource Center Offers Local Assistance

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

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

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

Centro De Recursos Franciscanos

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

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

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



The 42nd Annual Taste of Melrose Park is Looking for VOLUNTEERS to Be a Part of a Great Weekend

Mayor Serpico and the Taste of Melrose Park are seeking volunteers for the beverage booths (individual or groups of eight or less) or ticket booths (a group of six or less) to help support this year's big event and we appreciate any assistance you can provide over the three-day festival.

All volunteers receive a 2024 Taste of Melrose Park T-shirt and we're sure you'll have plenty of fun!

Friday, Aug. 30 • 5:30-11 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 31 • 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or 5:30-11 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 1 • 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or 5:30-10:15 p.m.

To volunteer, please complete the Taste of Melrose Park Volunteer Form and mail it to:
Taste of Melrose Park, Attn.: Lorena Anguiano,
1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park, IL 60160

Interested parties, please respond before Aug 1, 2024.
If submitting as a group, please send a main contact person's information.

Mayor Serpico and the Taste of Melrose Park Volunteer Form

Please print clearly.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Apt. # _____

City _____

Phone _____

Please check all that apply.

Individual Group

Available to work: Friday Saturday Sunday

Would like to volunteer for:

Ticket Booth Beverage Stand

For more information, call Lorena at (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4452.

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Mayor Ronald M. Serpico



Celebrating Our 42nd Year

August 30th Thru September 1st

©COURT 42-L

**FAMILY
FRIENDLY**

**FAMILY
AFFORDABLE**

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

For 2024 Taste of
Melrose Park info,
e-mail us at:
taste@melrosepark.org
or visit: www.melrosepark.org
or call: 708-343-4000
ext.4448



WELCOME TO THE 42ND ANNUAL TASTE OF MELROSE PARK

Dear Friends of Melrose Park,

I am sending this letter in the hope that you will financially participate as a sponsor of the 42nd Taste of Melrose Park, which will take place over the Labor Day weekend, August 30th thru September 1st.

The Taste is a family-friendly food festival that hosts over 200,000 patrons every year. We are unique to the world of food festivals because the vast majority of our food vendors are local residents who serve up original family recipes. In addition to all the culinary delights, we also provide continuous free entertainment on our three stages.

Your sponsorship helps underwrite many of the costs associated with our 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.

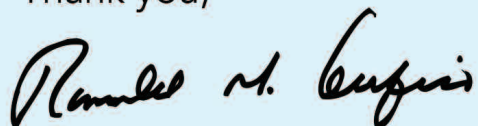
It is with your financial help that we can not only host this wonderful family affordable event but also help keep our per serving price at \$4 or less even though food costs have risen.

And to all of you, who so generously supported the Taste of Melrose in the past, I sincerely thank you and hope that you will kindly consider continuing your financial patronage in 2024; without your magnanimous backing we could never host such an ambitious undertaking.

Please read this flyer, it contains information about different Taste of Melrose Park sponsorship packages that can fit your budget. If you see a one that fits your budget then please fill out the separate application form found in this envelope.

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

Thank you,



Ronald M. Serpico
Mayor of Melrose Park





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 2024 Taste of Melrose Park, Friday, Aug. 30-Sunday, Sept. 1.

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

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

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

\$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 3RD** ★

\$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.



TASTE OF MELROSE PARK ORDER FORM

See Page 28 for the
42nd 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 June 14th To:
Taste Of Melrose Park
1000 N. 25th Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

©2008 42-L

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.

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 3rd)

____ \$1,000.00 VIDEO WALL SPONSOR

____ \$850.00 3 X 4 COLOR BANNER

____ \$500.00 2 x 4 COLOR BILLBOARD

____ OTHER

Important Please Read!!!

No later than June 14th we need you to email us your billboard or banner
Camera Ready Artwork or email us the vital information we need for us
to create your billboard or banner to: taste@melrosepark.org

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



Entertainment Schedule

**Unlimited
Carnival
Rides!**

Saturday
and
Sunday,

\$30 Wristbands
Each Day,
Noon-5 p.m.,
All You
Can Ride!

Main Stage

Friday, Aug. 30
6-7:30 p.m. – Anchors Away Band
8-10 p.m. – I POP
Saturday, Aug. 31
3:30-4:30 p.m. – Pretty the Wolf
5-7 p.m. – Soul Sacrifice
Santana Tribute
8-10 p.m. – ARRA
Sunday, Sept. 1
5:15-6:45 p.m. – Are You Ready for It?
A Taylor Experience
7:15-9:30 p.m. –
Chicago's Own Piano Man Band

**MAIN DRIVE
SHOWS**

**JESSE WHITE
TUMBLING TEAM**
Saturday, Aug. 31 and
Sunday, Sept. 1
2:30 p.m.

Peroni Garden

Friday, Aug. 30
7-10:15 p.m. –
Tony Ocean and The Rat Pack
Saturday, Aug. 31
3:30-5 p.m. – Lake Effect
5:30-7:30 p.m. – Toy Robots
8-10:15 p.m. – Xplosive Sounds
Sunday, Sept. 1
4-5:30 p.m. – Jersey Girls
6-9:30 p.m. – R-Gang

**Fireworks
Display**

Sunday, Sept. 1
9:30 p.m.

**Sabor de
Mexico
Stage**

To be announced.
Watch for
information as it
becomes available.

**Continuous Free Entertainment
All Weekend Long!**

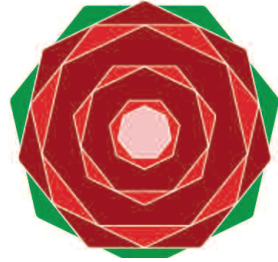
TASTE OF MELROSE PARK 2024 FOOD VENUE

ALL ITEMS PRICED AT \$4 OR LESS

- | | |
|---|---|
| Camaci's Italian Sausage | Lil Jimmy's Pierogies |
| Camaci's Arancini | Cody's Root Beer Floats |
| Blast from the Past Sherbert | Cheesy Mac and Cheese |
| Sam & Sammy's Italian Egg Rolls | Athenian Foods Greek Chicken w/Rice |
| Carlotta's Sweet Aroma Linguine w/Garlic&Oil | Strawberry Slushies |
| Shwings Fried Shrimp | Squire's Cotton Candy |
| Iannelli's Panzerotti | Pepe's Ceviche |
| Mickey's Italian Beef | Nutella Crepes |
| GALS Hot Dogs | Nirvana's Brownie Sundaes |
| Putt's Breaded Steak Sandwich | J.T.'s Italian Meatball Sandwich |
| Larry's BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich | Antney's Italian Lemonade |
| Richie's Curly Fries w/Cheese | Ashley's Snow Cones |
| Los Comales "Taco Bout It" Horchata | Volunteers of M.P. Tiramisu |
| Los Comales "Taco Bout It" Tacos | Marilyn's Delicious Hamburgers |
| The Roasted Cob | Riccio's Chocolate Frozen Banana |
| Cata's Flautas | Scudiero's Pizza |
| Cilla's Steak Teriyaki | Scudiero's Pepperoni Rolls |
| Cervone's Homemade Cannoli | Clara's Dippin Dots |
| Ron & Debbie's Fried Dough | Eli's Cheesecakes |
| Siciliano's Old Fashioned Fried Bologna | Lil Dean's Lyza & Nella Raviolis |
| Levato Affogato | Vinnie Laraia's Baked Clams |
| Frankie G's Chicken Parmesan Sandwich | Lil' Ralphe's Fruit Cup |
| Gia & Nat's Gnocchi | Jessica's Tamales |
| Paula's Fried Meatball Sandwich | Paco's Cuban Sandwich |
| Nacho Mama's | Sinatra Sandwich (Italian Sausage Meatloaf) |
| Soon's Tres Leches Cake | Corz Kids Garlic Shrimp |
| Italian Stuffed Mushrooms | Corinne Ariola Principe's Artichoke Casserole |
| Carm and Gino's Fried Calamari | Elio's Funnel Cakes |
| Uncle Frankie's | Missionary Sisters of St. Charles "Sfingi" |
| Mostaccioli in Tomato Basil Sauce | Sacred Heart & St. Eulalia Parish Food Carry Trays |
| Nikki's Zucchini Cheese Puffs | Guacamole |

THE TASTE OF MELROSE PARK IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!
Interested parties, please call (708) 343-4000, Ext. 4448.





MELROSE PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

New Chamber Members and Renewals

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) welcomed 13 new business members in February and March, and now has over 200 members. Please help us welcome Above and Beyond Black Onyx, Inc.; Colonial Life; Erskine Broody IV and Janice R Johnson Cancer Lupus Association of Proviso Twp.; Fricold Heating and Cooling; Insperity; Legacy Leaders International; Let's Reason Lawn Service, LLC; La Piel Perfecta; Missionary Sisters of St. Charles; Solaris Energy Efficiency Solutions, Inc.; Sugar Milk Café and the village of Maywood as new members of the chamber, as well as Chili's Grill & Bar and Suburban Sporting Goods, who joined the MPCCCD at premier partner levels!

We also want to give special thanks to the 15 businesses that renewed memberships the past two months and continue to participate in networking events, information sessions and provide feedback and surveys to help the chamber connect them with the resources and solutions needed to support and fuel economic growth in our community! Please join us in thanking and supporting these businesses, they are A&M Italian Ice; Aqua Fiori, Inc.; Cozzi Recycling; D&P Construction, Inc.; David King & Associates; Development Services Corp.; Elite Electric; Lincoln Technical Institute; Marchan Consulting; Maywood School District 89; Melrose Park Library; Rapid Electroplating Process, Inc.; Sacred Heart Parish and West Central Municipal Conference.

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development now has over 200 members and the list continues to grow each month. If you are not currently a member of the MPCCCD, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at ibazbaz@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.

For information about membership, please visit the chamber website Membership page at <https://mpcccd.org/benefits-dues/>.

Chili's Celebrates Grand Opening

On March 18, MPCCCD Executive Director Isaac Bazbaz joined representatives from the village of Melrose Park, and Chili's Grill & Bar to cut the ribbon and officially grand open their new location at 915 W. North Ave., Melrose Park, to welcome customers to their newest location in Illinois.

The managing partner for the Melrose Park location indicated that the community support and interest in Chili's Melrose Park has been incredible and even said that during the unadvertised soft opening on March 16 and 17, sales at the Melrose Park location not only exceeded expectations, but were tops in the district!

If you haven't stopped by the new Melrose Park Chili's yet, please put this one on your list and support this new business in our community. Chili's is open from 11a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday-Thursday, and 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday.



Legislative Breakfast Rescheduled for June 28, 2024

The Annual Legislative Breakfast hosted by the MPCCCD and the village of Melrose Park needed to be rescheduled due to schedule conflicts. The new date is Friday June 28, 9:30 a.m.-noon (registration and breakfast 9:30-10:30 a.m.). The event will be held at the Melrose Park Civic Center at 1000 N. 25th Ave.

Illinois Senate President Don Harmon and Speaker of the House Emanuel "Chris" Welch will lead conversation on legislative issues regarding business and economic development in the region and throughout the state.

Online registration for this event will open on May 27 on EventBrite.

If you are not receiving emails or newsletters from the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, subscribe today at <https://mpcccd.org> for information on the Legislative Breakfast, as well as monthly seminars, networking events, etc.

Connecting Businesses to Necessary Resources!

On Feb. 27, more than 40 business owners and managers attended this year's Access to Capital Event hosted by the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development. This year's panel included representatives from BMO, Huntington Bank and Proviso Community Bank who led discussion regarding traditional funding opportunities and special programs available to help connect business owners to the capital they need to sustain and grow their business.

One of the clear messages shared by all is that it is important to have a relationship with your business banker and that every bank has a different menu of programs and services to meet your business needs! Take the time to meet with other business bankers if you can't find the right solution at the first place you check!

On April 2, the MPCCCD partnered with Leyden Township Supervisor Rocco D. Biscaglio and Cook County Commissioner Frank Aguilar, and hosted representatives from IMEC and Custom Direct to inform small and midsize manufacturing companies about the Cook County Manufacturing Reinvented Grant that provides up to \$25,000 for projects focused on growth, production improvements, workforce or leadership development.

To learn more about the Manufacturing Reinvented Grant Program, please visit www.ccmfg.org/.



Thanks to all who attended! To learn more about upcoming events, sign up for the chamber newsletters at <https://mpcccd.org>.

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 and networking sessions, and to participate in community events.

Upcoming Events

May 21 – Connecting Businesses to Resources from the State of Illinois

On May 21, Sacella Smith, regional manager with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, will lead a conversation on grants, loans and incentives available to businesses, and provide guidance and direction on how to connect to these state resources. This seminar will be from 8:30-10 a.m., at 900 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park.

June 28 – Legislative Breakfast

Illinois Senate President Don Harmon and Speaker of the House Emanuel "Chris" Welch will provide an update on state legislative issues related to business and economic development in our region. Registration and breakfast runs 9:30-10:30 a.m., and the panel discussion and Q&A will be from 10:30 a.m.-noon. This event will be held at the Melrose Park Civic Center, located at 1000 N. 25th Ave., Melrose Park.

Watch for information and details on MPCCCD events on the event calendar on the MPCCCD website at <https://mpcccd.org/events/>.

Learn More About the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development!

If you are not getting emails from the MPCCCD about events, training or technical assistance offered for certifications, grant applications, etc., sign up for our newsletters at <https://mpcccd.org>. You can also follow the chamber on Facebook or LinkedIn to stay current on chamber activities!

To schedule an appointment to learn more about the chamber or to get information on membership, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at ibazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule a time to meet with you.

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 TO CUSTOMER SATISFACTION**



Sammy Alfano
sammya@apnissan.com



The **ROSE** AD RESERVATION FORM

Save the Dates!
 Next Issue – June 2024
 (Deadline for material May 25, 2024.)
 Schedule for 2024
 June, August, October and December

Dear Community Member,
 The Village of Melrose Park publishes *The Rose* (the official newsletter of the Village of Melrose Park) and mails the publication to all Melrose Park residents and businesses. We are offering advertising space and would greatly appreciate your participation.

Included is display ad pricing for your review.

If you are interested in advertising in one or more issues that will be delivered every other month, please complete this form and mail with completed ad to:

The Rose c/o Village of Melrose Park • 1000 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park, IL 60160
or Email to: therose@melrosepark.org w/pdf or jpeg file.

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



Rates – Full Color Ads

- Full Page
\$400 per issue (9 x 10 1/2)
- Half Page
\$200 per issue (9 x 5 1/4)
- 1/4 Page
\$100 per issue (4 1/2 x 5 1/4)
- 1/8 Page
\$50 per issue (4 1/2 x 2 5/8)

Date _____

Name of Business _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

The **ROSE**

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



—◆— *The Legacy Lives On!* —◆—

HOME OF THE \$100 DOWN!

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Choose **Al Piemonte Ford** when shopping for a new vehicle or servicing your current one.

Al Piemonte 

25TH & NORTH AVE.
IN MELROSE PARK

(708) 345-9300
apford.com

Veterans Park District

Programs & Happenings

Early Childhood

Toddler Turf Time

Ages 2-5 (2's and 3's with adult)

Join us for a morning filled with fun, fitness and sports challenges! Each day will include play-based themed stations, interactive circle time with music and movement. Please bring your child in comfortable clothing that is easy to move around in (no dresses or shirts) and a water bottle with their name on it.

- Mondays, April 29-June 10 (no class May 27), 10-11 a.m.; Class is held at George A. Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park; Fee – R\$55/NR\$65.

Parent & Tot Yoga

Ages 2-5 (2's and 3's with adult)

Join us for a morning filled with yoga, mindfulness and meditation! Ms. Victoria will provide you and your child an introduction to yoga in a fun and positive atmosphere. Each day will include interactive circle time, a yoga story and mini yoga sessions. Please bring your child in comfortable clothing that is easy to move around in (no dresses or shirts) and a water bottle with their name on it.

- Tuesdays, April 30-June 4, 9:30-10:15 a.m.; Class is held at Grant Park, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake; Fee – R\$50/NR\$60.

Happy Planters Workshop • Ages 6+

Thinking of a Mother's Day gift? Everyone enjoys a flower or a plant. Gardening is known to promote happiness while reducing stress and connecting to nature. Using terracotta pots, we will create a character by painting a unique happy face with painted clothing. This charming planter will be a special addition to your porch, patio and garden.

- Tuesday, May 7, 5:45-7:45 p.m.; Class is held at Bulger Park Community Center, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park; Fee – R\$30/NR \$40.

Travel with VPD

Amish Tour: Countryside Makers of Shipshewana, Middlebury & Northern Indiana

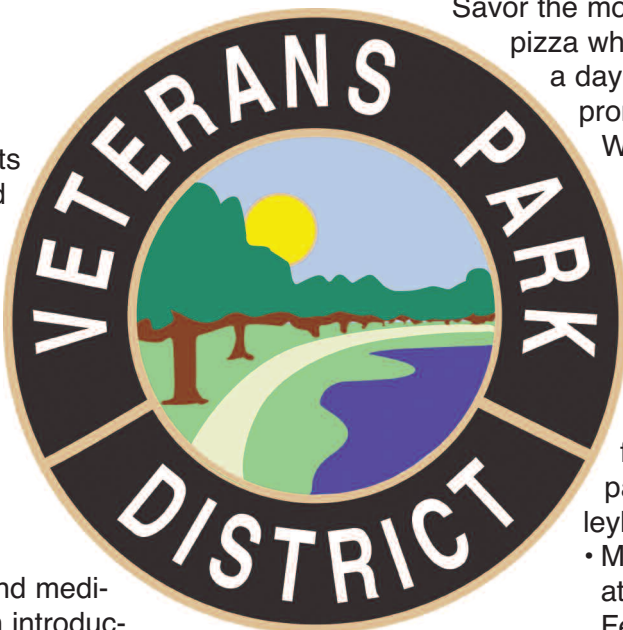
Welcome to a place of invention, creativity and resourcefulness. From chimes to wooden baskets to noodles to homemade goodies, this tour immerses you in the Amish culture, where life is natural, straightforward and easy to understand. Delight yourself in a one-of-a-kind homemade Thresher's Meal.

- Thursday, May 16; Departure at 6:45 a.m. from Cimbalo Fitness Center in Melrose Park and 7a.m. from Grant Park in Northlake; 7 p.m. estimated return time; Fee – \$130.

Chicago Architectural Tour &

Giordano's Lunch at Navy Pier

Step aboard on a captivating journey through Chicago's Architectural Tour. Glide along the picturesque Chicago River for 75 mesmerizing minutes, guided by an expert narrator who unveils the secrets and stories behind over 40 iconic structures, marvel at the innovative designs of renowned landmarks and glide beneath historical bridges, immersing yourself in the rich history and vibrant culture of the city. After the tour, indulge in a delectable lunch experience at Giordano's, nestled in within the iconic Navy Pier.



Savor the mouthwatering flavors of Chicago's famous deep-dish pizza while soaking in panoramic views of Lake Michigan. It's a day of exploration, enlightenment and culinary delight that promises unforgettable memories in the heart of the Windy City.

- Thursday, June 27; Departure at 9:15 a.m. from Grant Park in Northlake and 9:30 a.m. from Cimbalo Fitness Center in Melrose Park; 4 p.m. estimated return time. Fee – \$105.

Youth Sports

Sand Volleyball • Ages 8-12

Come on out to the Gouin Park sand volleyball court for this fun class! Participants play up to 11 with a partner or three vs. three. Class meets at the sand volleyball court each week.

- Mondays, June 3-24, 11 a.m.-noon; Classes are held at Gouin Park, 2400 Scott St., Franklin Park; Fee – R\$55/NR \$70.

Summer Basketball Clinic • Ages 7-10 and 11-15

These four-week basketball clinics focus on increasing basketball skills. Coach Vince Rociola will start the day with warm-ups, drills and moving right into scrimmage games.

- Fridays, June 7-28, 6-7 p.m. (ages 7-10)/7-8 p.m. (ages 11-15); Classes are held at Grant Park, 44 W Golfview Dr., Northlake; Fee – R\$55/NR\$70.

Baseball • Ages 8-12

This slow-paced class covers the basic skills/drills of baseball, including throwing, catching, fielding and hitting. Please bring a baseball bat and glove.

- Wednesdays, June 5-26, 11a.m.-noon; Classes are held at Gouin Park, 2400 Scott St., Franklin Park.; Fee – R\$55/NR \$70.

Adult Sports/Fitness

Pickleball

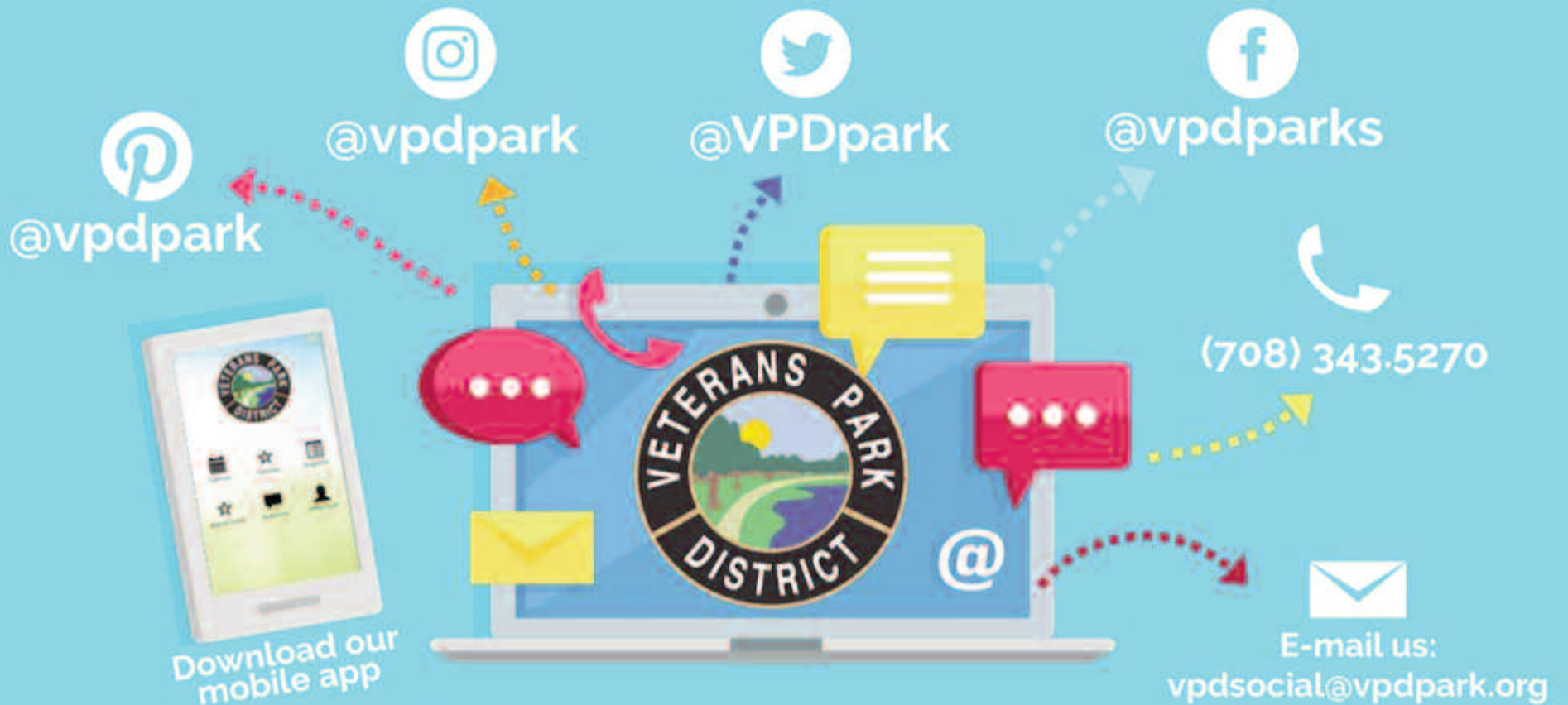
Head over to Cimbalo Fitness Center to get in on the fun with one of America's fastest growing sports, pickleball! The rules are simple and easy to learn, making it fun for athletes of all ages, but can also develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players. Court rental fee is \$7/hour (paddles/pickleballs are provided). Lessons coming this June! Call (708) 343-5151 for more information.

Golf Simulator

Come experience Cimbalo Fitness Center's Golf Suite! With over 85 courses, multiple skill challenge courses, a driving range and a variety of challenge games/modes of play, we can provide users with a great experience customized to their goals, whether that be improving their golf game or just having fun. Starting May 1, our summer pricing of \$20 for one hour and \$10 for a half-hour rental goes into effect. Please call ahead to reserve a time slot. Golf lessons coming soon! Cimbalo Fitness Center is located at 1203 N. 24 Ave., Melrose Park. Call (708) 343-5151 to reserve a time.

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

CONNECT WITH US!



A central graphic features a laptop displaying the Veterans Park District logo. Surrounding the laptop are various social media icons and contact information. A smartphone on the left shows the mobile app interface with the text "Download our mobile app". Social media handles are listed: @vpdpark for Pinterest, Instagram, and Twitter; @VPDpark for Twitter; and @vpdparks for Facebook. A phone icon is accompanied by the number (708) 343.5270. An envelope icon is accompanied by the email address vpdsocial@vpdpark.org. Dotted lines with arrows connect the social media handles to the central laptop.

@vpdpark

@vpdpark

@VPDpark

@vpdparks

Download our mobile app

(708) 343.5270

E-mail us:
vpdsocial@vpdpark.org

Visit us online at: vpdpark.org



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**Veterans
Park
District**

*Programs
&
Happenings*

**WE ARE
HIRING**

**JOIN OUR TEAM
AT VPD**

We have seasonal opportunities for:

- ☑ Lifeguards
- ☑ Head Lifeguards
- ☑ Swim Instructors
- ☑ Fitness Instructors
- ☑ Summer Camp Counselors
- ☑ Youth Sport Instructors
- ☑ Concession Stand Staff

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 vdpark.org/jobs



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





**Veterans
Park
District**
*Programs
&
Happenings*

VETERANS PARK DISTRICT GOUIN POOL & WATER SLIDES



EARLY BIRD POOL PASS

Now-May 25

\$50 RESIDENTS  **PER PERSON AGES 3-55**
\$70 NON RESIDENTS

*\$20
Savings!*

REGULAR SEASON PASS FEE IS \$70R/\$90NR

ON SALE AT THREE "3" LOCATIONS

George A. Leoni Complex

800 N 17th, Melrose Park
708-716-4822
M- F 8am-6pm

Cimbalo Fitness Center

1203 N 24th, Melrose Park
708-343-5151
M-F 6am-8pm WEEKENDS 8am-2pm

Grant Park Rec Center

44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake
708-343-5270
M-F 8am -6pm



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Veterans Park District

Programs
&
Happenings



Men's 16" Major /Open Roster
Men's 16" A/B Division
Coed 14" Mushaball

Thursday, August 1 – Sunday, August 4

Veterans Park District hosts its Annual Softball Tournament at Bulger Park, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

Team spots fill up fast for this yearly event so register your team now! We are looking for:

- 8 Men's 16" Major teams 'Open Roster'
- 12 Men's 16" A/B Division teams
- 12 Coed 14" Mushball teams

Don't miss this action-packed weekend of softball, food and drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic).

- A deposit is required to hold your spot or you can pay the fee in full.
- Registration will be taken throughout the spring and early summer.
- Monetary prizes and trophies will be awarded to all winning teams of each tournament.

Game times to be announced.

Non Refundable Deposit: \$100 (applied towards balance).
Fee: \$200

Check quickscores.com/vpd for league updates.

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

Bocce Ball Tournament

Saturday, August 3-Sunday, August 4

Join Veterans Park District as we celebrate the tradition of Bocce Ball, a game that can be enjoyed by all ages. Sign up your team for the 2024 Tournament now! Call Nico at (708) 343-5270. There must be two players on a team. Court times will be assigned the day of the tournament. Preregistration required: \$20 per team.



WEEKEND LINE UP:

Thursday & Saturday
A/B games

Saturday
Major Games

Friday & Sunday
Coed Games

Saturday & Sunday
Bocce Tournament



Interested in marketing your business to hundreds of residents, participants and local businesses?

Become a VPD Softball, Bocce Ball Tournament sponsor!
Call Greg Stanczyk at (708) 343-5270 or email: gstanczyk@vpdpark.org



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EGGmazing, EGGsceptional EGGstra Special ... Easter Bunny Visits MP!

The Easter Bunny made a few visits to our community this year to bring some big smiles to all and wish everyone a very Happy Easter!



Melrose Park Police Department
Easter Bunny Parade



Melrose Park Youth Commission/Veterans Park District
Egg Scrambler - Egg and Candy Hunt



The Melrose Park Youth Commission and Veterans Park District would like to thank Pan American Bank for their generous donation that helped cover the cost of the Easter Bunny's travel expenses.

Midshipman Aaron Rieger Takes Melrose Park Pride to Belgium

Midshipman Aaron Rieger, a distinguished resident of the village of Melrose Park and a proud student enrolled in the United States Merchant Marine Academy, has garnered attention for his patriotic display overseas. Recently serving in Belgium as part of his assignment aboard a MAERSK container ship, Aaron took the opportunity to showcase his Melrose Park pride by posing with the village's flag in front of the historic Antwerp Belgium City Hall.

This gesture has not gone unnoticed, especially by the mayor of Melrose Park, Ron Serpico, who expressed immense pride and gratitude for Aaron's representation of the community on the international stage. Mayor Serpico has lauded Aaron's commitment to both his military duties and his hometown, highlighting the importance of such displays of allegiance and service.

Aaron's journey to the United States Merchant Marine Academy is marked by dedication and excellence. In 2021, he was nominated by U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth, a testament to his outstanding qualities and potential. Currently a junior at the academy, Aaron is pursuing a degree in marine system engineering and is set to graduate in 2025 with a Bachelor of Science degree.

One of the notable milestones awaiting Aaron upon graduation is receiving an engineering license from the U.S. Coast Guard, enabling him to work on various vessels. Additionally, he will be commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy, a prestigious honor that reflects his leadership abilities and commitment to service.

Mark and Lisa Rieger, Aaron's parents, are filled with immense pride regarding their son's achievements. Looking ahead, Aaron's future is bright and full of possibilities. With the option to serve in the Navy Reserve as an officer or explore opportunities in the private sector, he stands at the threshold of a rewarding career.

Furthermore, Aaron's aspirations include potentially pursuing a graduate degree in engineering, showcasing his ambition and determination to excel in his field.

As Midshipman Aaron Rieger continues to make strides in his academic and military pursuits, his dedication to representing his community and country with honor and pride serves as an inspiration to many. Melrose Park celebrates his achievements and eagerly anticipates his future contributions to the maritime industry and beyond.



Midshipman Aaron Rieger



Midshipman Rieger at Antwerp City Hall.



Midshipman Rieger and
U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth.



Triton College NEWS

Triton Men's Basketball Team Earns Runner-Up Spot in NJCAA Division I Championship

The Triton College men's basketball team finished as the national runner-up and garnered several awards March 30 at the NJCAA Division I Championship Tournament in Hutchinson, Kansas.

The Trojans finished the season 34-3, tying the most wins in team history. Amar Augillard and AJ Dixon were named to the All-Tournament Team. Dylan Williams earned the Best Small Man Award. Triton also won the Team Sportsmanship Award for the NJCAA Division I Championship Tournament.

The team has been unbelievable," said first-year Triton College head coach Brian Burns, who received the Midwest District Coach of the Year Award at the national tournament.

In the championship game, the Trojans fell on the short end of an 88-73 loss to Barton County Community College (KS). Despite the loss, Burns said he was "proud of the way the guys hung in there."

"Obviously it's great for the school. Two Final Fours in three years and now a national runner-up, not just a semifinalist," he said. "It's been a great run."

For more information, visit tritonathletics.com.

Fall in Love – *Launch Day* Performance Set for May 3-4, May 9-10

Fall in love with Triton College's production of *Launch Day* (Love Stories from the Year 2108), Fridays and Saturdays, May 3-4 and May 10-11, 7-8:30 p.m., in the George R. Cox Auditorium located in the Fine Arts Building (J Building).

Get entangled in a story about a brilliant engineer that has decided to leave our ailing planet to colonize another world. Along the way, the engineer's ex-boyfriend believes the Earth – and their relationship – can be saved.

Entry is available with a \$5 donation. Admission is free with a Triton ID.

For more information, please contact archaweedhamavasi@triton.edu.



Augillard Named NJCAA Division I Men's Basketball Player of the Year

Triton College Men's Basketball player Amar Augillard was named the 2024 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Men's Basketball Player of the Year.

The Triton Trojans finished as the national runner-up and garnered several awards March 30 at the NJCAA Division I Championship Tournament in Hutchinson, Kansas.



Augillard (sophomore, guard) posted 841 points, 168 rebounds, 87 assists, 63 steals and 20 blocks in 37 games played and started. Augillard's 841 points aided in the Trojans leading the nation in scoring with a total of 3401 points.

"I'll never forget this team," said Augillard. "Next year, I would like to win Player of Year again and keep it going until I get to the league. My goal is to become a professional basketball player."

"I'm so happy for Amar. He had big goals when he came to Triton and he has achieved them and then some," said head coach Brian Burns. "He has seized this opportunity to show what a tremendous basketball player he is. He's conducted himself as a professional on and off the court all season. I'm beyond excited for him to pick his next spot and represent Triton College and the NJCAA in a positive light."

"Amar is a great basketball player, but most importantly a better individual," said Garrick Abezietian, Associate Vice President of Athletics. "He will go down as one of the best men's basketball players to wear a Triton uniform. I am extremely proud of him being named NJCAA Division I Player of the Year and look forward to seeing what is next in his future."

For more information, please visit <https://tritonathletics.com/>.

Get FIT at Triton this Summer

Are you ready to get fit this summer? Triton College is offering several health classes to help students prepare for beach days and fun in the sun.

Health, Sport and Exercise Science

First Aid and CPR (HTH 281 001) will be on Mondays and Wednesdays, 9-10:25 a.m., beginning June 10. All classes will be held in the R Building (Room R-217). This is a one-credit-hour class.

This course will teach the fundamentals of first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED) for adults, children and infants. Students earn the American Heart Association Heartsaver First Aid and Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Provider Certificate.

Online Health Courses (No class visits required.)

Triton College will be offering multiple online personal health and sports classes this summer. Please refer to the class schedule for times.

- (HTH 104 070) Science of Personal Health, beginning June 10.
- (HTH 120 770) Nutrition Science, beginning June 10.
- (HTH 120 771) Nutrition Science, beginning May 28.
- (HTH 175 270) Drug and Alcohol, beginning July 1.
- (PED 194 070) Principles of Coaching, beginning June 10.

Physical Activity Classes

Students Can Earn One College Credit Hour

The college will also be offering several fitness classes this summer. Get in shape during the summer months!

Hatha Yoga (PED 101 001) will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., beginning June 11. The class will be held in the R Building (Room R-229).

This class teaches hatha yoga techniques for muscular strength, flexibility, endurance and concentration. Students will also learn breathing techniques, postures and meditation.

Boot Camp Fitness (PED 105 001) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, noon-1:15 p.m., beginning June 10. The class will be held in the R Building (Room R-101C).

This class will improve cardiovascular fitness, build strength and flexibility, and improve body composition. The course will focus on improving components of mental, social and physical wellness.

Total Fitness (PED 106) for credit will be held in Triton's Fitness Center in the R Building. Total Fitness teaches students the safe and effective way to use strength and cardio exercise equipment.

The goal of the class is to improve body composition, physiological strength and flexibility. The course can be repeated for a maximum of four accrued credits.

Aquacize (PED 113 001) will be on Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:20-7 p.m., beginning June 10. The class will be held in the pool, R Building (Room R-POOL).

This swim class combines low-impact and high-energy challenges in shallow water to improve cardiorespiratory endurance, muscular strength, flexibility, balance and coordination. Students should feel comfortable in shallow water.

Walking for Fitness (PED 117 001) will be on Mondays and Wednesdays, 10-11:55 p.m., beginning June 10. The class will be held in the R Building (Room R-104).

Experience the joy and health benefits of walking while having fun! Meeting new people, socializing and listening to music is emphasized during walks. Triton's indoor and outdoor track will be utilized depending on weather.

Boxing for Fitness (PED 125 001) will be on Mondays and Wednesdays, noon-1:50 p.m., beginning June 10. The class will be held in the R Building (Room R-101B).

This course will focus on learning boxing skills and improve fitness for beginners. Skills learned will include developing balance, coordination, strength and endurance.

Lifeguarding (PED 198 001) will be on Thursday and Friday, 5-10 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., July 11-13. This class is an entry-level lifeguarding course for individuals ages 15 and up. The course will teach participants the knowledge and skills to prevent, recognize and respond to aquatic emergencies. Students will learn to provide support or aid for breathing and cardiac emergencies, injuries and sudden illness, until an EMS responder arrives.

To register for any of these classes, visit triton.edu/summer.

For more information, please email juliannemurphy@triton.edu or call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3130.

Travel with Triton to the World's Fair, Jackson Park

Participation is Open to All

Experience one of Chicago's premier and landmark destinations through a Triton College guided community day trip. Guided by Triton's experienced tour guides, students and area residents are invited to participate in the following tour:

Saturday, May 4 – The World's Fair, Jackson Park.

The trip includes transportation from Triton's campus to the guided destination, tickets and gratuities. Cost for the trip is \$150 per person (cost of lunch is not included).

This guided community day trip is hosted by Triton College's School of Continuing Education, a program committed to providing high-quality, professional and personal continuing education opportunities for learners of all ages.

For more information, visit triton.edu/ce. To register, call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3500, or email ce@triton.edu.

We're Bringing Good People
Together Again for Something
Incredibly Special!

Triton College Foundation 26th Annual Golf Outing

Thursday, June 27

White Pines Golf Club • Bensenville
Individual Golfers – \$160
Foursomes – \$640

Hole-in-One Special!

Par Sponsorships – \$850

Includes one foursome, hole signage on two courses
and name/logo on promotional material for event.

It's that time again! The Triton College Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization will host its 26th annual golf outing on Thursday,



June 27, at White Pines Golf Club in Bensenville. The event, open to novice and skilled golfers alike, will kick off at 10 a.m., with an 18-hole round of golf, golf carts, goodie bags, lunch, dinner and prizes.


Golfers may register as individuals for \$160 per person or as a foursome for \$640.

Exclusive Friend of the Foundation, corporate, par and hole sponsorships are also available.

Sponsorships begin at \$200. The Foundation also is accepting raffle prizes. Sponsorships and donations are tax deductible.

Proceeds from the annual golf outing will benefit Triton College Foundation scholarships and more.

**To register for the event or to become a sponsor,
contact the Triton College Foundation for details!
Call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3758, or
send an email to tcfoundation@triton.edu.**



Make it your summer of success

Save time, money and get closer
to your goals!

triton.edu/summer

Classes begin May 28, 2024.



Triton College

triton.edu



NEWS89 **School District89** BRIEFS



Jane Addams School Says Thank You to Burlington

We want to thank Burlington Stores for their generous donation to Jane Addams. On Feb. 16, Burlington opened up a new store in Winston Plaza and donated \$5,000 to Jane Addams under the Adopt a Classroom Program. The teachers were so thankful and able to order supplies for their classrooms. Thanks Burlington!



JA Students Have Tons of Fun at PBIS Glow Party

On Feb. 23, Jane Addams had their PBIS Glow Party to recognize all the hard work and positive behavior that students have shown throughout the year. Students had so much fun! Keep “glowing” JA!

www.maywood89.org • Follow Us on Twitter “@maywood89”



SMS Seapearch Makes Splash at Lake Forest Academy

The Stevenson Middle School Seapearch teams made a big splash this year at the regional competition at Lake Forest Academy! This year's mission theme was deep sea exploration nearby the harsh conditions of hydrothermal vents. Mission tasks challenged the R.O.V's to assist scientists in collecting data, to opening elevator doors, pick up rocks, and cover the hydrothermal vents. The R.O.V's also had to complete the mission obstacles with the best time. The Bizarre Barnacles placed 2nd and the Octonauts 3rd overall in the middle school class! Congratulations to all the teams that competed!

Irving Middle School Students Illuminate the Season with Spectacular Events

Irving Middle School students have been spreading cheer and excitement throughout the community with a series of engaging and memorable events. From enchanting winter musical performances to thrilling outings, the students have been making the most of the season.

One of the highlights of the winter season was the delightful winter musical, *Elf*, performed by the talented Showstoppers group. Bringing the beloved holiday tale to life, students showcased their singing, dancing and acting skills, mesmerizing audiences with their spirited performances. The joyous atmosphere set the perfect tone for the holiday season, leaving everyone in high spirits.

In a display of both sportsmanship and camaraderie, the League of Tigers, Irving Middle School's Twenty First Century Program, attended an exhilarating Bulls game. Cheering on their favorite team with unwavering enthusiasm, students soaked in the electrifying atmosphere of the arena, creating unforgettable memories with their peers. Continuing their quest for adventure, the League of Tigers embarked on an exciting trip to iFly, where they experienced the thrill of indoor skydiving. With adrenaline-pumping excitement, students soared through the air, defying gravity and conquering new heights. The experience left them exhilarated and eager for more adrenaline-fueled adventures.

Not to be outdone, eighth grade students embarked on a memorable journey to Springfield, where they explored the rich history and vibrant culture of the capital city. From visiting historic landmarks to immersing themselves in the legislative process, students gained valuable insights and experiences that will stay with them for a lifetime.

These diverse and enriching experiences not only provide students with opportunities for growth and exploration but also foster a sense of community and belonging within Irving Middle School. As the winter season unfolds, students continue to embrace new challenges and adventures, united by their shared experiences and boundless enthusiasm for learning and discovery.



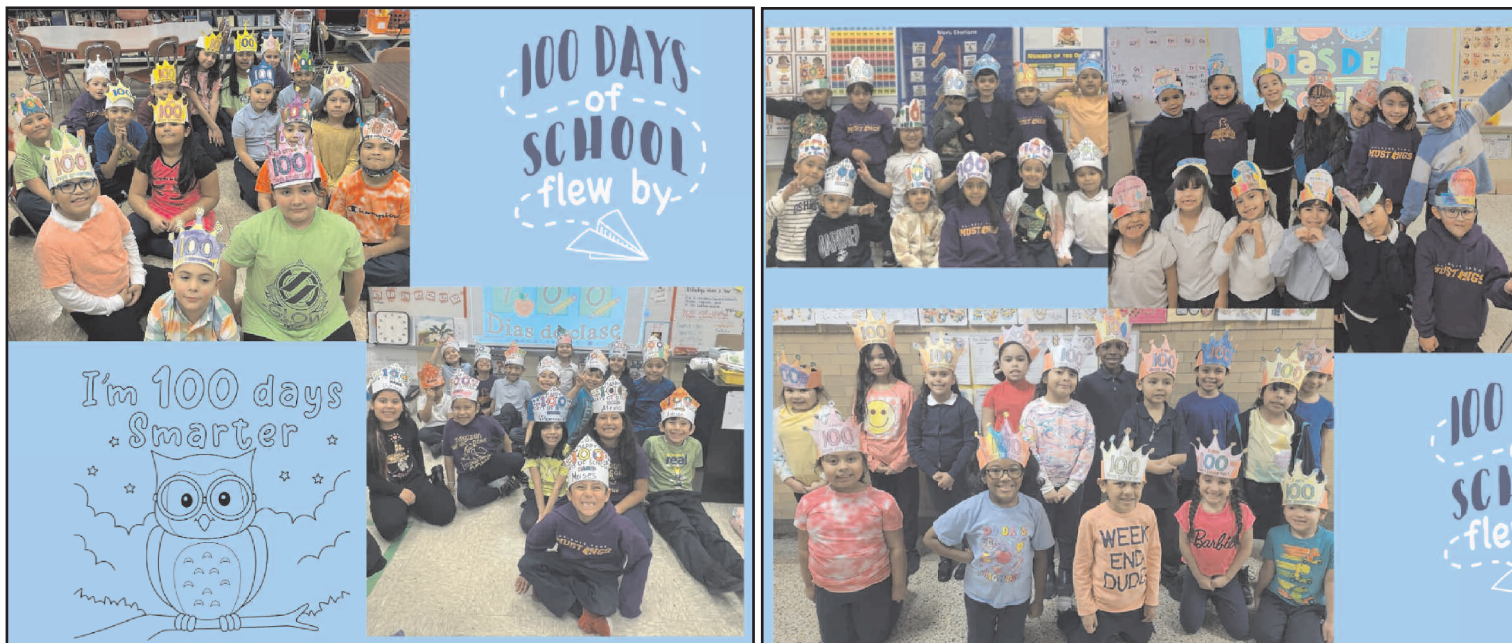
School District 89 Family Night, Thursday, April 4, 2024



The focus was Culturally Linguistically Response (CLR)

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NEWS89 School District89 BRIEFS



Celebrating Teachers

Congratulations to Ms. Fernandez and Ms. Cawthorne on their nomination and receiving the PMSA Teacher Impact Award. This award was presented by Mustang alumni to teachers they felt greatly impacted their preparation in school

Mrs. Fernandez is a dual language/ bilingual educator teaching at Melrose Park School for 23 years and all in kindergarten. Mrs. Fernandez was nominated by Yajaira Figueroa.

Mrs. Cawthorne is the reading teacher in third grade and has been teaching for 22 years all at Melrose Park. Mrs. Cawthorne was nominated by Maria Morales-Montiel who was in her class during the 2018 school year.

Both teachers spend countless hours dedicating their time to students by participating in before- or after-school programs. They are also part of the several committees for the school and district, including the District Leadership Team which helps guide curriculum and professional learning for teachers districtwide.

Melrose Park School Celebrates 100 Days

Students celebrated being “100 Days Brighter” by doing counting activities and art. They were able to showcase all their learning since the beginning of the school year.



Field Trip Fun at Melrose Park School

Students from all grade levels extended their learning and experiences this past quarter by going on field trips.

Kindergarten was able to walk to the Melrose Park Library.

First grade students were able to see a play and go to the children's museum.

www.maywood89.org • Follow Us on Twitter “@maywood89”



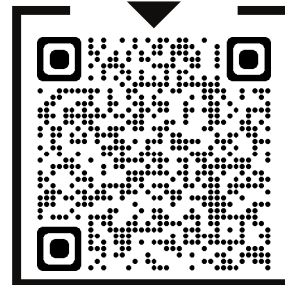
PRESCHOOL SCREENINGS

Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview SD 89



Sign Up Here!

SCAN ME



About the Program

- 2.5 hour program Monday through Friday
- Two sessions:
 - AM: 8:10am-10:40am
 - PM: 11:40am-2:10pm
- Children must attend a screening to be considered.
- Limited enrollment- placement is not guaranteed.

Summer Screening Dates By Appointment Only

- Wednesday, June 12th from 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Thursday, June 20th from 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Tuesday, June 25th from 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Monday, July 8th from 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Tuesday, July 16th from 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Wednesday, July 24th from 12:30pm-5:30pm
- Tuesday, August 6th from 12:30pm-5:30pm

Please note: additional screenings will not be held until after the school year starts

Updated 2/1/2024

NEWS
89
School
District
89
BRIEFS



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Melrose Park, IL 60160

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Lakebook.com

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Join Melrose Park Boy Scout Troop 4112 Today!

The Melrose Park
Boy Scouts Program is
Looking for
New Members.

Any boys interested in joining the
troop are encouraged to call
Fred Croncich at (708) 609-
5539.



To learn more about the Boy
Scouts of America, including infor-
mation on exploring, activities, mem-
bership details and more, visit
www.scouting.org.

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Alexia Filice Named WGN TV Teacher of the Month

St. Luke School kindergarten teacher and life-long Melrose Park resident, Alexia (Carbonara) Filice, was recently named the WGN TV Teacher of the Month for March.

Mrs. Filice has been teaching at St. Luke School in River Forest for over 22 years. She is an integral part of their Early Childhood Program, teaching both preschool and kindergarten since 2002. Alexia and her husband Sergio have three children, all of whom are St. Luke Bearcats: Frankie '19, Liliana '20, and Nico '25.

"She is motivated to instill inclusivity and works hard so each student feels comfortable and free to be their true self at such an early stage. She takes the time to get to know each individual student and their family and encourages a play structure for students that builds confidence socially and academically.", shared one of her nominators.



Interested in Learning More About St. Luke School?
St. Luke School is now accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year. For over 100 years, St. Luke has been offering a strong faith-based education to students from preschool to 8th grade.
Visit www.stlukeschoolrf.org to schedule your tour today.





ST. LUKE SCHOOL

Academic Excellence since 1921

Now Accepting
Applications

DISCOVER THE ST. LUKE DIFFERENCE

- Rigorous and engaging academic programming resulting in 77.5% of students above proficiency in reading and math
- Reading and language arts instruction is driven by evidence based practices with explicit teaching in phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension
- A student-teacher ratio of 10:1 allows for a higher impact teaching environment
- No-cut athletics program begins in 4th grade, creating opportunities for personal growth, teamwork, and leadership
- A culture rooted in academic rigor, kindness, and service positions our graduates for success in high school and beyond



Contact Jessie Wiktor to
schedule your tour today!
jwiktor@stlukeschoolrf.org

www.stlukeschoolrf.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.



Alleluia, Alleluia ... Christ is Alive

Glory to God in the Highest. We have waited for 40 days to sing the glory and now we rejoice because our Lord and Savior is risen alleluia, alleluia. The resurrection of Jesus Christ means that He is alive, and we no longer die because of our sins. We are so accustomed to hearing that Jesus is risen and we might say “I know all about it” and miss the whole mystery of Easter.

It is because of Easter that the Roman Catholic Church exists, it is on the HOLY NIGHT that Eucharist becomes the center of our liturgies and the sure hope that DEATH is not the end.

Glory to God in the Highest. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is rejoicing because we are finally back in the Church. After a few months of remodeling, scaffolds, wood workers, dust, and hardworking ... we finally can worship in the Temple.

Easter is a celebration of life. And as the psalm says, “Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.” Let the house of Israel say, “His mercy endures forever.” His mercy has conquered darkness and His mercy is the sign that we celebrate life today.

My dear friends, today we are overjoyed after celebrating Lent with an increase of attendance and seeing the community connected to its faith and traditions.

Jesus Christ is risen today so we can move into our worship and find peace in a world that continues wanting to raise a global war.

Jesus Christ is risen today so in our renewed and remodeled “home,” Our Lady of Mount Carmel, we can intercede for peace between Russia and Ukraine.

Jesus Christ is risen today so during our novenas we may pray for the thousands of people affected by natural disasters in America and worldwide.

Jesus Christ is risen today so we can say it is so good to be back home and having a roof to reach out to God.

My dear friends, Jesus Christ is Risen Today, and I am so glad to invite you to come back to your home. Your Church is open to worship again. And this is the day that the Lord has made; let all the Earth rejoice.

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



131st Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady Mt. Carmel

The Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Feast Committee recently announced the 131st anniversary celebration schedule of events. Please save the dates and participate with us.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Feast 2024 Schedule of Events

Friday, July 5-Saturday, July 13

7:30 p.m. – Solemn Novena Presided by Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A.

Tuesday, July 9

7 p.m. – Banner Presentation

Wednesday, July 10

6 p.m. – Rose Presentation

Thursday, July 11

7 p.m. – Memorial Service for Deceased Members of Feast Committee

7 p.m. – Caliendo's Banda Napoletana Marches Through the Streets

Friday, July 12

6 p.m. – Feast Celebration Dinner

Saturday, July 13

3 p.m. – Mass in Spanish

5:30 p.m. – Mass in English

Sunday, July 14

7:30 a.m. – Mass in English

9 a.m. – Solemn Mass in Italian

10:30 a.m. – Statue Leaves Church in Procession to the Field Mass

Noon – Field Mass on Church Grounds with Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A., and Fr. Leandro Fossá, C.S.

1:30 p.m. – Traditional Street Procession Continues Through the Streets

4 p.m. – Statue Returns to Church, Benediction Follows

Food and beverages will be available for purchase on Sunday, July 14.

Refreshments will be served each night after Novena.

An ad book will be available for our sponsors and friends.

Grand Raffle with drawing to be held on July 13, 2024, after Novena.

Please see Pages 56-57 for information on Altar and Rosary, and Feast Committee Rose Basket reservations and the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Feast Dinner tickets, sponsorships, ad book and raffle ticket reservation options!

For more information, visit www.olmcp parish.org or www.facebook.com/olmcp parish.

131st Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady Mt. Carmel Rose Basket Reservation Form



Dear Devotee of Our Lady of Mount Carmel:

The 131st Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is approaching very rapidly. The Altar and Rosary and Feast Committee are sponsoring the Rose Presentation for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel which will take place on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 6:00 PM prior to the Novena.

Baskets of red roses are once again available for \$65 and must be paid at the time of placing the order.

To ensure that your basket(s) will be presented to the Blessed Mother and your intentions read during the presentation on the evening of July 10, please return your order form below to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish/Shrine by Friday, June 30, 2024. No exceptions will be made for orders placed after June 30. Additional order forms will be available in the rectory.

As in the past, single roses will be available for purchase the night of the event for \$2.00 each or \$8.00 half dozen or \$15.00 a dozen.

Thank you and may the Blessed Mother bless you and your family!

The Altar and Rosary Society
The Feast Committee

Please make checks payable to:
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish/Shrine
Mail to:
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish/Shrine
1101 N. 23rd Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

Name _____

Phone _____

Number of Baskets: _____ @ \$65.00 Total: \$ _____

_____ I will be in attendance to receive my basket/s

_____ I will not be in attendance to receive my basket/s

Please make check payable to: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish/Shrine or pay online at:

<https://www.givecentral.org/location/317/event/33585>

If paying online, email your intentions to: feast.olmc@gmail.com

Prayers/Intentions (to be read upon presentation :)

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.....the Italian National Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago

For more information, visit www.olmcparish.org or www.facebook.com/olmcparish.

131st Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady Mt. Carmel Sponsor/Ad Book/Dinner/Raffle Ticket Reservation Form

Feast Sponsor - \$500

(Includes full page in ad book)

Feast Celebration Dinner Ad Book

Place your congratulatory messages and business ads in our dinner ad book.

The deadline is June 30, 2024.

Full page ad - \$100 Half page ad - \$50

Please email your ad information to: feast.olmc@gmail.com

Feast Celebration Dinner and Grand Raffle

The Feast Celebration Dinner will be held on Friday, July 12, 2024 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 1101 N 23rd Ave, Melrose Park, IL. Donation is \$25 per ticket.

Grand raffle tickets - \$20 for a book of 10 tickets

Please Reserve: _____ Sponsor - \$ _____

_____ Ad Book - \$ _____

_____ Dinner tickets - \$ _____

_____ Raffle tickets - \$ _____

Total enclosed - \$ _____

Please make check payable to OLMC Feast Committee and mail it to the Parish. For online payment, go to - <https://www.givecentral.org/location/317/event/9521>

Business/Name: _____ Contact: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish-Shrine

1101 N 23rd Ave, Melrose Park, IL 60160 Tel. (708) 344-4140

Feast.olmc@gmail.com

www.olmcparish.org

www.facebook.com/olmcparish



For more information, visit www.olmcparish.org or www.facebook.com/olmcparish.



Upcoming Events at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

May 2024 Events

Month of Mary

St. Joseph the Worker • Wednesday, May 1/6:30 p.m.

Trilingual Mass

National Day of Prayer • Thursday, May 2

Mass – 8 a.m. (English) • Individual Prayer and Meditation – All Day
Confession and Holy Hour – 5:30 p.m. • Mass – 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)

Feast of St. Peregrine • Friday, May 3/6:30 p.m.

A Special Trilingual Mass and Blessing for Cancer Patients and Survivors • Veneration

Feast of Crocifisso San Giovanni Bosco • Sunday, May 5/10:30 a.m.

Mass

May Crowning • Sunday, May 5/Noon

Mass

Ascension • Sunday, May 12

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Mother's Day • Sunday, May 12

Dedicated to All Mothers

Our Lady of Fatima • Monday, May 13/6:30 p.m.

Trilingual Mass – Rosary, Reception

Feast of St. Rita • Saturday, May 18/9 a.m.

Mass and Breakfast

First Holy Communion • Saturday, May 18/10 a.m.

Pentecost Vigil • Saturday, May 18

English Prayer – 6:30 p.m. • Reception – 7:30 p.m. • Spanish Prayer – 8:30 p.m.

Pentecost • Sunday, May 19

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Feast of St. Rita, Pilgrimage to the Shrine • Wednesday, May 22

4:30 p.m. Departure • Reservations Required

Confirmation • Saturday, May 25/10 a.m.

Holy Trinity • Sunday, May 26/9 a.m.

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Memorial Day • Monday, May 27/9 a.m.

Trilingual Mass

Visitation • Friday, May 31/6:30 p.m.

Outdoor Trilingual Mass, Rosary, Reception

June 2024 Events

Corpus Christi • Sunday, June 2

Procession of the Holy Eucharist • Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Sacred Heart of Jesus • Friday, June 7/6:30 p.m.

Trilingual Mass

Father's Day • Sunday, June 16

Mass Dedicated to All Fathers

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Mass for Padre Pio • Sunday, June 30/10:30 a.m.

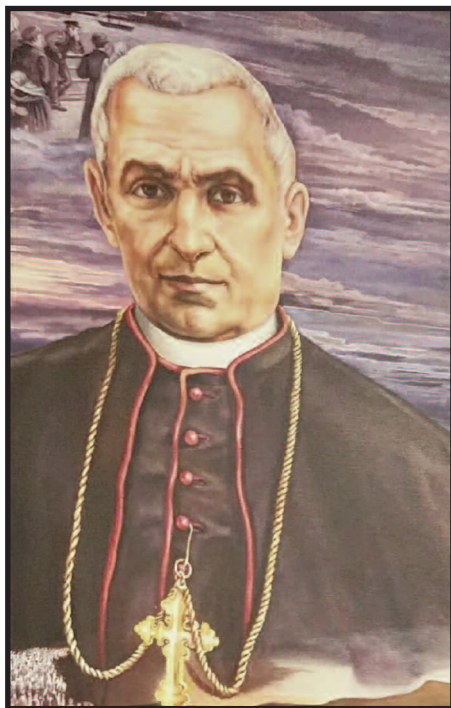
Mass and Reception

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



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Special Feast Celebrations

**Celebrate the
Feast of
St. John Baptist Scalabrini**
Founder of the Scalabrini Order
Bishop, Apostle, Father, Inspirer



Saturday, June 1, 2024 • 5:30 p.m.
Trilingual Mass and Reception

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish & Shrine
1101 N. 23rd Ave. • Melrose Park, IL

The Feast of St. Anthony 2024



The St. Anthony Society of
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Parish & Shrine
in Melrose Park,
Invites You to the Annual
Feast of St. Anthony 2024

Actual Feast Day
Thursday, June 13, 2024
Mass Followed by
Outdoor Reception ... 7:30 p.m.

Triduum ... Days Two and Three
Friday, June 14.....7:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 15.....5:30 p.m. Mass

Feast Celebration
Sunday, June 16.....10:30 a.m. Mass
Followed by blessing of the bread
and veneration of his relic,
outdoor procession
accompanied by Banda Napolitana
and continental breakfast reception.

Please join us in the largest celebrations
honoring St. Anthony in the Chicagoland area.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish & Shrine
1101 N. 23rd Ave. • Melrose Park, IL

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

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Sacred Heart & St. Eulalia Parish

You Are Invited to Come Celebrate the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus!

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Nightly from **Thursday May 30** to **Friday, June 7**
at **6:30pm** at **Sacred Heart Church** in Melrose Park.

Friday, June 7

8:00am Morning English Mass

4:00pm Blessing & Consecration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus statue

4:30pm Neighborhood Procession with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Statue

6:00pm Welcoming of Sacred Heart of Jesus statue into Church & Novena

7:00pm Solemn Mass

(Family Candles & Intentions with offertory of flowers.)

There will be an ice cream social after Solemn Mass in Marian Hall.

Saturday, June 8

4:30pm
English Mass

6:00pm
Spanish Mass

7:30pm
Worship Concert in Church

Sunday, June 9

8:30am
English Mass

10:30am
Spanish Mass

9:00am to 3:00pm
Sacred Heart Feast Festival
*Come and enjoy good
food, music and raffles!*

Sunday Masses at St. Eulalia Church:

10:30am English Mass

12:30pm Spanish Mass

Sacred Heart Feast Festival Raffle

1st Prize: \$600
2nd Prize: \$400
3rd Prize: \$200
4th Prize: \$100

You may purchase raffle tickets for
\$2.00 each at our Rectory Office.
Please call **708-344-0757** for more
information.



Sacred Heart Church
St. Eulalia Church

819 N. 16th Ave., Melrose Park, IL
1825 S. 9th Ave., Maywood, IL

PHONE:
708-344-0757

SACRED HEART & ST. EULALIA PARISH

WEBSITE: shsparish.org

PHONE: 708-344-0757

EMAIL: shseparish@archchicago.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



First Friday Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Every First Friday of the month **7:00pm** at **Sacred Heart**.

May 3rd

June 7th (Solemn Mass)

July 5th

Second & Third Saturday Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Every *Second Saturday* of the month in **English** and every *Third Saturday* of the month in **Spanish** at **3:00pm** in **St. Eulalia**.



Thursday Adoration and Confession at 7:00pm



May 9 & 23 at **St. Eulalia**. **May 16 & 30** at **Sacred Heart**.

June 13 & 27 at **St. Eulalia**. **June 20** at **Sacred Heart**.

July 11 & 25 at **St. Eulalia**. **July 18** at **Sacred Heart**.

Women's Club Camaraderie Meeting on Friday, May 10

7:00pm in **Sacred Heart's Marian Hall**. Bring a snack to share!



May Crowning on Sunday, May 12

During all Sunday Masses at both **Sacred Heart** & **St. Eulalia**.

Taco Sale Hosted by Book Club on Pentecost Sunday

May 19 from **11:00am—3:00pm** at **St. Eulalia**.



Corpus Christi Outdoor Procession with Blessed Sacrament



After **10:30am** Spanish Mass at **Sacred Heart** and
after **12:30pm** Spanish Mass at **St. Eulalia** on **Sunday, June 2**.

Anointing of the Sick Service & Thursday Adoration

Thursday June 20, 7:00pm at **Sacred Heart** with Holy Hour.



The ROSE

Wants to Hear Your Story ...

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

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

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

Please send all your exciting details
by direct mail to:

The Rose
c/o The Village of Melrose Park
1000 N. 25th Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160

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

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

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**



You're Invited to Attend Melrose Park Free Methodist Church Services

All are welcome to join us on Sundays, 11:15 a.m., 841 Elsie Dr. (corner of Ninth Ave. and Elsie Dr.).

We resolve to learn more about God in 2024!

For more information, please contact Rev. Jim Pagani at (708) 343-2386 or email melroseparkfmchurch@aol.com.

Need a Place to Meet?

Is your church, organization or group looking for a place to meet? If so, we may be able to help you! We are located in Melrose Park at 841 Elsie Dr.

Reasonable rent, solid reputation in the community and easy to find building!

For more information, call (708) 343 2386.

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1609 N. 36th Ave.
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Monday-Friday • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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Walgreens First Community Pharmacy to Accept a Broad Array of Medicare Advantage Supplemental Benefits Online and in App

Eligible Medicare Advantage Members Can Now Use Their Benefits to Purchase Approximately 1,700 Items Digitally for Shipping, Pickup or Same-Day Delivery

Walgreens recently announced it is the first community pharmacy to accept a broad array of Medicare Advantage supplemental benefits online, through Walgreens.com and the Walgreens app. Eligible members can now shop from a catalog of approximately 1,700 Shop Eligible Products on Walgreens digital channels. Consumers have been able to shop using their Medicare Advantage supplemental benefits in stores since 2019 and this brings even greater convenience with new digital shopping solutions regardless of payment method.



“As a health and well-being destination for everyone, Walgreens is always looking for ways to enhance the customer experience with solutions for every shopper,” said Tracey D. Brown, EVP, president, Walgreens retail and chief customer officer. “Accepting Medicare Advantage supplemental benefits online and on the Walgreens app improves shopping solutions for those who are homebound, have limited mobility or are simply short on time.”

This new offering builds on Walgreens commitment for accessible care by providing additional digital health and well-being offerings, including 30-minute pickup and one-hour delivery of retail products, same-day prescription delivery, Walgreens Rx Savings Finder, Walgreens Virtual Healthcare, Seniors Day held every first Tuesday of the month and more.

Who is Eligible?

Walgreens accepts Medicare Advantage supplemental benefits online from numerous well-known providers. Customers may check eligibility by visiting their Medicare Advantage plan website. Customers may also call the number on the back of their Medicare Advantage card to determine if their supplemental benefits are eligible online through Walgreens.

How to Shop Using Medicare Advantage Benefits

The customer experience on Walgreens.com and the Walgreens app is seamless and simple for Medicare Advantage members.

- Members can browse eligible products as per their plan on Walgreens.com and Walgreens app via our dedicated OTC landing page. Members will see a list of eligible items associated with their plan along with common eligible OTC items across multiple plans.
- Members can purchase OTC eligible items, including Walgreens brands items like 12 Hour Mucus Relief DM Extended-Release Tablets, Pulse Oximeter with Respiratory Rate, Arthritis Pain Relieving Gel and Ultra Probiotic Capsules by inputting their Medicare Advantage card numbers as their first form of payment. Eligible OTC products will be paid for using their available card funds. Members will need to use another form of payment for items outside of their OTC supplemental benefits.
- Members can participate in Walgreens Seniors Day, where patients 55 and older, and their caregivers can save 20% off eligible regular-priced merchandise on the first Tuesday of every month or online all week with code SENIOR20 at checkout.
- To finish the transaction, members can choose from several convenient pickup or delivery options including:
 - **One-Hour and 24-Hour Same Day Delivery Options:** Walgreens offers one-hour delivery nationwide, allowing customers to place orders by 7 p.m. local time (hours may vary) for delivery of more than 27,000 retail items right to their door. In addition, those with OTC health care and retail product needs outside of these hours may order and select 24-hour delivery from over 450 Walgreens locations.
 - **30-Minute Pickup:** Walgreens offers 30-minute pickup nationwide. Customers must place their order at least one hour before their Walgreens store closes. Pickup hours vary by location based on store operating hours.
- We continue to enhance capabilities by adding new payer plans for OTC and associated eligible items.

myWalgreens benefits

Medicare Advantage members can make their dollars go even further by using myWalgreens, America’s largest free health and wellness loyalty program, to earn and redeem Walgreens Cash rewards on their purchases. myWalgreens is free to join in-store, online at Walgreens.com or from the Walgreens app.

New Culinary Gem "Sugar Milk Cafe" Opens its Doors in Melrose Park

Sugar Milk Cafe, an exciting new restaurant offering a delectable range of options from breakfast to dinner, along with irresistible pastries and artisanal coffees, has officially opened in Melrose Park. The grand opening was attended by esteemed guests, including Mayor Ron Serpico, the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce team and owner Saul Cabrera.

Located at 2219 W. Lake St., Sugar Milk Cafe invites patrons to indulge in a culinary experience like no other. From flavorful breakfast dishes to satisfying lunch and dinner options, as well as an array of delectable pastries and expertly brewed artisanal coffees, the cafe promises a feast for the senses.

Mayor Serpico welcomed Sugar Milk Cafe as a valuable addition to the community's dining scene. Mayor Serpico praised the cafe's commitment to culinary excellence and its role in fostering a vibrant dining culture in Melrose Park. "The diverse menu and warm ambiance make it a fantastic addition to our community. I'm excited to see the positive impact they will have on our local dining scene," said Serpico.

Owner Saul Cabrera expressed excitement about bringing Sugar Milk Cafe to life, emphasizing the cafe's dedication to quality ingredients, innovative flavors and warm hospitality. Guests at the grand opening were treated to a preview of the cafe's menu, showcasing a diverse selection of dishes crafted with care and creativity.

"We are thrilled to introduce Sugar Milk Cafe to the wonderful community of Melrose Park," said Saul Cabrera, owner of Sugar Milk Cafe. "Our goal is to provide a memorable dining experience that combines delicious food, friendly service and a welcoming atmosphere for everyone to enjoy."

Sugar Milk Cafe's menu features a range of breakfast favorites, hearty lunch and dinner options, delectable pastries, and a curated selection of artisanal coffees and beverages. The cafe aims to be a gathering place where friends, families and food enthusiasts can come together to savor delightful flavors and create lasting memories.





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Our Locations

1210 S. Highland Ave.
Lombard, IL 60148
Tel: (630) 953-1950

4310 W. Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL 60630
Tel: (773) 685-2273

**2225 W. North Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160
Tel: (708) 344-2273**

489 W. Boughton Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
Tel: (630) 679-1580

1830 W. Army Trail Rd.
Hanover Park, IL 60133
Tel: (630) 372-2475

5200 Main Street
Skokie, IL 60077
Tel: (847) 329-8500

1024 S McHenry Ave.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
Tel: (815) 455-2273

8104 S. Roberts Rd.
Justice, IL 60458
Tel: (708) 594-2273

1717 W Golf Road
Mount Prospect, IL 60056
Tel: (847) 427-2273

1837 Larkin Ave.
Elgin, IL 60123
Tel: (847) 608-9352

2900 W. Devon Ave.
Chicago, IL 60659
Tel: (773) 274-1380

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Congressman García Secures \$12.2 Million in Community Project Funding for IL-04



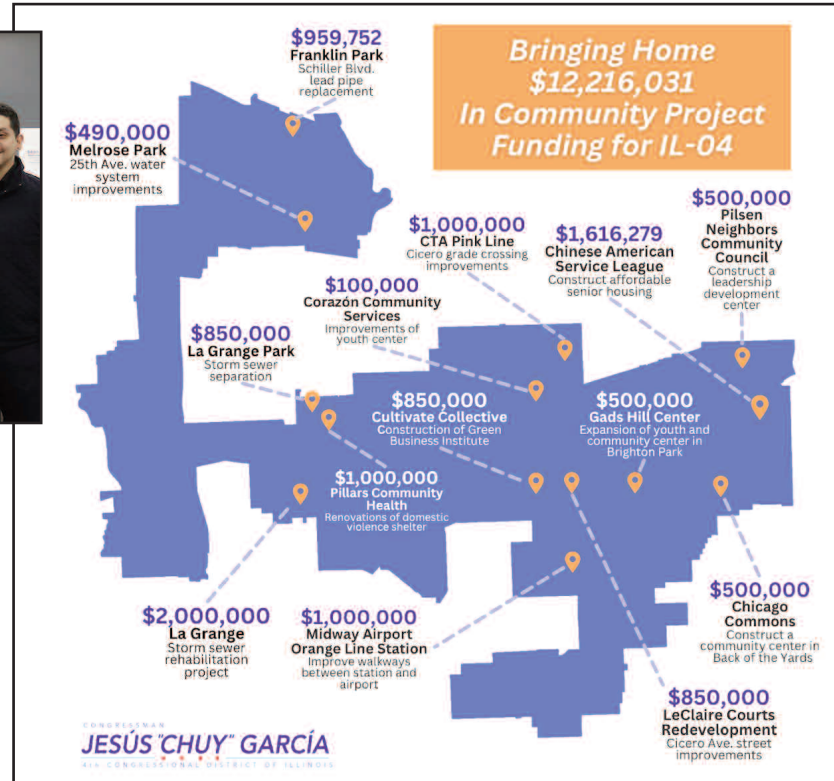
Congressman García celebrates Community Project Funding with leaders from awarded organizations.

Congressman Jesús “Chuy” García recently secured \$12,216,031 in Community Project Funding for IL-04 for fiscal year 2024. These funds respond directly to some of the most pressing needs in the region.

“These investments include funding for airport and public transit renovations, affordable housing, child care, youth centers, roadway and water supply rehabilitation, and workforce training spaces. I am proud to have delivered investments that will make our community healthier, safer and stronger,” said the congressman.

Congressman García secured funding for 14 projects, including \$490,000 for the Village of Melrose Park Water System Improvements Project to reconstruct the newer parallel water main replacements along 25th Avenue. Congressman García has secured nearly \$50 million in Community Project Funding for his district since arriving in Congress.

You can learn more about the funding Congressman García has secured for the district by visiting his website at <https://chuygarcia.house.gov/services/community-project-funding>.



Map showing Community Project Funding awardees for fiscal year 2024.



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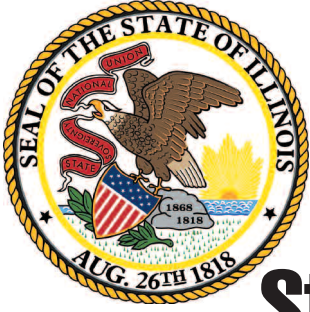
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Illinois State Representative
NORMA HERNANDEZ
77th District



*Illinois State Representative
 Norma Hernandez*

State Rep. Norma Hernandez Hosts the MUJERES: Business and Fitness Fair at Bulger Park in Partnership with Veterans Park District

On Saturday, March 23, State Rep. Norma Hernandez launched the inaugural MUJERES: Business and Fitness Fair in honor of Women’s History Month. The event showcased local health and fitness businesses owned and operated by women. These businesses were spotlighted through tabling opportunities and specially curated fitness programming that included zumba, yoga, self-defense and crossfit.

Among them was O’Hare Crossfit, owned and operated by Melrose Park’s very own instructor Susie Castro, located in Franklin Park. Master Erika



Bucio and her Warriors Taekwondo School from Northlake brought all the action, opening up with a special youth-led martial arts performance. Instructor Marcella Vellazquez from Marce’s Dance and Fitness Club featured zumba. The Illinois Northwest Hispanic Chamber of Commerce sponsored yoga, instructed by Jennifer Gullang, owner of The PIEProject. Later Master Erika Bucio and her Warriors closed out the event with a women’s self defense class.



Elected officials from all across the 77th District were present for this inaugural event. Expressing her gratitude Rep. Hernandez thanked officials in attendance by saying “Thank you to Melrose Park Trustee Arturo Mota, Leyden Township Supervisor Rocco Biscaglio and Bensenville Trustee Rosa Carmona. I’d also like to give a special thank you to our speakers, Clerk of Franklin Park April Arellano; Dr. Patty Garcia, chief of staff for Congressman Chuy Garcia; NWHCC President Ivette Cano; and MWRD Commissioner Eira Corral-Sepulveda.” Speakers told motivating stories and shared their personal journeys by addressing the struggles of maintaining women’s physical health and emphasized the importance of women’s mental health issues throughout our community.

Health organizations and nonprofit orgs participated by bringing various resources to share with attendees. Some organizations included Rincon Family Health Services, CareAdvisors, Sinai Health System, Sarah’s Inn and P.A.S.O. the West Suburban Action Project amongst

Rep. Norma Hernandez – “Thank you to all those who stopped by and joined us, especially to our speakers. We know how important it is to integrate fitness into our daily lives. We wanted to also make sure we highlight some of the great women-owned businesses that exist in our district.”

As a follow-up to this event, Rep. Norma Hernández has once again partnered with CoachSusie to launch a new series of business crawls. Community members will have the opportunity to tour busy business corridors within the 77th District alongside Rep. Hernandez. The first in the series kicks off in Melrose Park on Sunday, May 5, 10 a.m., to meet at the Melrose Park Village Hall. This business crawl will go along the Lake Street and 19th Avenue business corridor visiting select women-owned businesses with a workout in between. For more information, check out our social media platforms @Rep.NormaHernandez, call our office at (708) 365-8498 or email us at district@repnormahernandez.com.

Springfield Updates – State Rep. Norma Hernandez Moves Property Tax Relief Bill Out of Committee

State Rep. Norma Hernandez is working to provide property tax relief for home buyers and expand access to housing by creating a property tax exemption for certain kinds of newly built homes.

“Many Illinoisans are looking to achieve their American dream and purchase their own home. Unfortunately, property tax burdens can make this dream unobtainable, leaving these homes to go unsold or be bought by those not looking to make that home their permanent residence. This leads to even less construction of new homes, further diminishing the options available to potential home-buyers. This new legislation will help buyers of new homes with property taxes and lead to greater utilization of existing land.”

Rep. Hernandez’s House Bill 1377 allows homebuyers to receive a 50% reduction value used to calculate property tax assessments for eight years, followed by two years of a 33% reduction. The bill would apply to recently built constructions and is limited to certain areas, emphasizing areas that have been historically underutilized.

IL-77th State Rep. Norma Hernandez Expands Youth Engagement Programing with the Launch of the New “Young Ambassadors Program”

Last April, State Rep. Norma Hernandez launched the 77th District’s first-ever Youth Advisory Council and implemented a participatory budgeting component. \$5,000 in funds were donated towards the youth council by Rep. Hernandez so participating students could have a budget to discuss and decide on how to properly allocate funds towards projects that would be most beneficial to youth in the 77th District. Students from local area high school districts overlapping with the 77th District convened every month to share their ideas and discuss which were the best projects to select and fund for the coming year.

A winning project from last year’s cohort is our new Youth Ambassador Program, which was amongst two selected projects by our young participants. This youth program consists of 10 students who were selected through an application process to become youth ambassadors. Each youth ambassador comes from a high school district that overlaps with the 77th District. These youth ambassadors are split up into cohorts based on township, and each cohort actively participates in attending library, village and board of education meetings. Our monthly meetings serve as a platform for the students to share and discuss their experiences, as well as what they’ve learned from these meetings.

Rep. Hernandez stated the following, “I’m excited to continue growing this initiative, it provides an opportunity for young people to really understand how local government works. I’m looking forward to seeing how our youth council continues to help build capacity for our young leaders and that they see our office as a safe space to be able to do that.”



School District 89 Students from Stevenson Middle School Visit State Rep. Norma Hernandez in Springfield

While in Springfield, State Rep. Norma Hernandez received Melrose Park middle school students from Stevenson. Students were visiting our state’s capital back in the month of February. During that visit, Rep. Hernandez ran into her former Stevenson School teacher, Ms. Motsinger.



Women Leaders Come Together for Third Annual 16th District Women's Power Brunch

On Friday, March 15, Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar, 16th District Commissioner on Women's Issues Claudia Ayala, Leyden Township Supervisor Rocco Biscaglio and Franklin Park Mayor Barrett Pedersen hosted the Third Annual 16th District Women's Power Brunch to celebrate women leaders throughout Cook County and the 16th District. The event, located at Pescatore



Cook County Commissioner
Frank J. Aguilar



Restaurant in Franklin Park, brought over 100 individuals to honor and celebrate Mrs. Fiorito and the other women elected officials and leaders of the 16th District.

"It was my pleasure to select Mrs. Fiorito as the 16th District's Unsung Heroine Award winner," said Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar. "I have known Debra to be a focused and proactive community leader, someone who sees her goals and initiatives through to the end. Her priority is her community, and I know she will continue to do great things for the 16th District. Thank you to everyone who joined us today to celebrate Debra and all the other amazing women of our district."

In attendance were honored guests Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle and State Rep. Elizabeth "Lisa" Hernandez, State Rep. Norma Hernandez, the 16th District Peggy A. Montes Unsung Heroine Award winner Debra Fiorito, and local women elected officials and community leaders throughout the municipalities of the 16th District.

Also in attendance was Mrs. Fiorito's family, who with the other women electeds, were credited by Mrs. Fiorito as the reason she became involved in politics and community service.

"I am both humbled and honored to receive this award," Mrs. Fiorito said. "Thank you to everyone who thought of me."

This ceremony featured a power panel of women leaders who discussed their work, goals and policies they advocate for with state, county and municipal leadership. On the panel was the 2024 Unsung Heroine Award Winner Debra Fiorito, State Rep. Norma Hernandez, and Franklin Park Director of Health and Human Resources Lisa Anthony. After the panel, Franklin Park Village Clerk April Arellano delivered closing remarks.

During the ceremony, Mrs. Fiorito received two resolutions. The first was sponsored by Commissioner Aguilar and was unanimously adopted during the March board of commissioners meeting. The second was sponsored by Congressman Jesus "Chuy" Garcia at the United States Congress, and was presented to Mrs. Fiorito by Congressman Garcia's staff.

"In this role, I have learned to identify what makes us different, and more importantly what makes us come together to strengthen communities and each other," said 16th District Commissioner on Women's Issues Claudia Ayala. "It was an honor to celebrate Mrs. Fiorito alongside Cook County Commissioner Aguilar, Leyden Supervisor Biscaglio, Franklin Park Mayor Pedersen, and the women of Leyden Township and Franklin Park."

Given to one woman in each of Cook County's 17 districts, plus one countywide winner, the Peggy A. Montes Unsung Heroine Award seeks to honor outstanding women throughout Cook County who have made positive contributions in their communities. Any woman, as long as they are not an elected official, can be nominated. This award is designed to recover and tell the story of the powerful impact women have had throughout history on the development of our social, cultural, economic and political institutions.

"Congratulations to Debra Fiorito on being selected for the Peggy A. Montes Unsung Heroine Award for the 16th District," said Mayor Barrett Pedersen. "Debra has proudly served the communities of Leyden Township as a volunteer and as a public servant. Mrs. Fiorito has inspired the next generation of women in Leyden Township to consider careers in public service. I look forward to continuing to work with Debra on behalf of the communities in Leyden Township."

The Cook County Commission on Women's Issues was created by resolution of the Cook County Board of Commissioners in October of 1995. The commission advises the president and members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners on issues of concern to women and girls. It develops policy and program recommendations and collaborates with a wide range of governmental and private sector organizations on projects addressing a variety of issues affecting the status of women and girls, including domestic violence, child care, economic equity and health. The commission works to elevate the status of women and girls of Cook County, improve the delivery of services to women and their families, and eliminate inequalities in laws, practices and



conditions that impact Cook County women and girls.

"Debra Fiorito is a lifelong public servant and community leader," said Leyden Township Supervisor Rocco Biscaglio. "Her involvement in the community is decades-long, beginning when she organized local moms from the neighborhood to revitalize an area on Mannheim Road by successfully advocating for the removal of an adult entertainment establishment. Through the collective power of women and community organizing, Debra has contributed so much to so many."

Cook County United Against Hate Hosts Hate Crime Prevention Panel

Cook County Commissioners Frank J. Aguilar, Scott Britton, Tara Stamps and Maggie Trevor, and River Forest Mayor Catherine Adduci Invited Residents to Learn How Law Enforcement Investigates Hate Crimes and Repairs Communities

On Tuesday, March 12, Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar joined Commissioner Scott Britton, Commissioner Tara Stamps, Commissioner Maggie Trevor, and River Forest Mayor Catherine Adduci to host a workshop on how hate crimes and hate incidents are handled by Cook County criminal and civil agencies.

The panel featured representatives from Cook County departments, including the Sheriff's Office, State's Attorney, Department of Human Rights and Ethics, and Public Defender. Experts discussed how incidents of hate are investigated, the criteria to determine a crime, the prosecutorial process, and how the county partners to repair victims and communities. Attendees left knowing how they can play an important role in identifying a hate crime and supporting their community, and what we can all do to prevent hate before it becomes a crime.

"These conversations force us to think about how we ensure justice is served for those who experience hate crimes and give residents the tools they need to be leaders in combating hate in their communities," said Commissioner Aguilar. "We cannot do this alone, and so with our partners, we are able to present a united front and be unequivocal that hate has no home in Cook County."

"Our goal is to equip residents with the knowledge to respond to a hate crime should they have the misfortune of witnessing such an event," said Commissioner Britton. "We are living in difficult and emotionally charged times. Education is key. Giving the community the tools to properly report a hate crime, creating awareness of available support services and introducing tactics for disrupting hate in their communities is paramount. Together, we can stand up and say, 'hate is not the answer.'"

As of Oct. 31, 2023, at least 256 hate crimes had been reported in the Chicago area, far surpassing the 206 reported in the whole of 2022. Hate crimes in every category, which can range from vitriolic graffiti to homicide, have been on the rise over the last 22 years. This comes amid a rise a white nationalism, anti-Asian rhetoric during the pandemic, sweeping anti-LGBTQIA+ rhetoric, and heightened antisemitism and anti-Muslim sentiment.

"Prejudice and hate that leads to violence and other repulsive behavior just because of someone's race, religion, economic status, etc., is completely against what we stand for as a society and will never be accepted," said Sheriff Thomas J. Dart. "Citizens need to be aware of these rights and be assured we are committed to pursuing justice for victims of hate crimes."

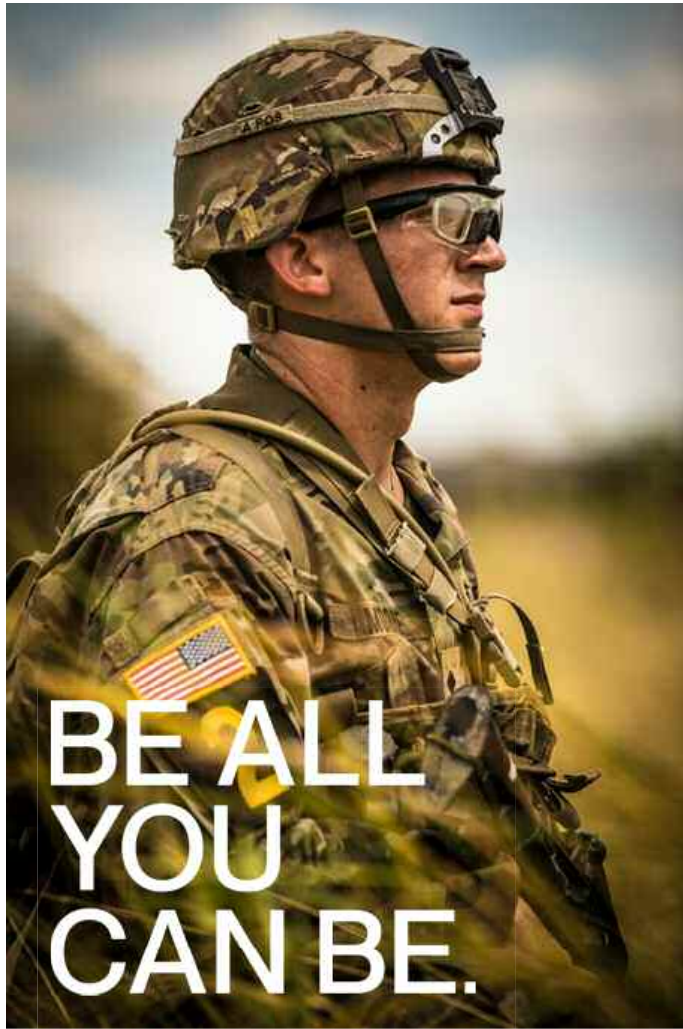
"The Cook County State's Attorney's Office is steadfast in its commitment to prosecute those who perpetrate hate crimes, ensuring justice for victims and maintaining the fabric of our diverse community," said State's Attorney Kim Foxx. "As we continue to experience a rise in hate crimes, this panel discussion is a vital step towards educating and empowering our residents to recognize and report hate crimes. By working together we can fight against acts of intolerance and prejudice, and create a safer, more inclusive Cook County where hate has no refuge."

"Enforcing anti-discrimination and harassment laws in Cook County is of the utmost importance," Jennifer King, Esq., director of the Cook County Commission on Human Rights, said. "Cook County Commission on Human Rights works diligently to ensure individuals who experience discrimination and harassment can file a complaint in our jurisdiction or are directed to a peer agency with jurisdiction or a community-based organization for additional support. We are grateful to everyone who is working to make Cook County a welcoming place."

"The Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender is excited to be a part of this discussion and stand together with our counterparts in believing that hate crimes must be eradicated. We look forward to solutions that prioritize community safety and healing," said Cook County Public Defender Sharone R. Mitchell, Jr.

Cook County United Against Hate was launched in 2022 to inspire everyone, everywhere, to be proactive in standing against racism, bigotry and discrimination of any kind. Learn more about Cook County United Against Hate by visiting <https://www.cookcountyunitedagainsthate.com/>.





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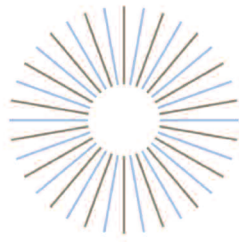
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New Strategy Devised to Engage, Educate and Connect the Community to Mental Health Resources

The Proviso Township Mental Health Commission launches a new digital media strategy designed to enhance residents' access to mental health resources in the community. Similar to effective health care models that coordinate patient care, health education and resources, their strategic communication approach follows suit. You may have noticed the tidbits of information, relatable content and testimonial videos on their social media, which are geared at meeting the community where we are at in our current conceptualization of mental health, engaging with us and guiding us to next steps in accessing resources.

While the Proviso Township Mental Health Commission has been around for over 50 years, many community members are still learning about the service agencies and resources the PTMHC funds in their own community. The Proviso Township Mental Health Commission ensures that we have prevention and treatment services in our community. These services include mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, developmental disabilities, senior care, youth prevention and crisis intervention.

Mental and physical health go hand in hand and most people will experience symptoms of a mental health condition at some point in their lifetime. The most common mental health conditions are anxiety and depression; conditions most commonly heard of, if not experienced.

In addition to the direct-to-community messaging, the commission has taken initiative to provide the communities its services with information and resources that are simple and easy to incorporate into their existing resident communication channels; an effort to help keep everyone informed. "It's refreshing to us to say that we're making an impact with the resources that we're providing," says Commission President Mike Corrigan.

To learn more or get connected to resources in your community, visit www.ptmhc.org or call (708) 234-TALK(8255). Their friendly and caring team will connect you to resources that are a fit. It's completely confidential.

You can also learn more by following them on social media.



PROVISO TOWNSHIP | MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

4565 W. Harrison St., Third Floor
Hillside, IL 60162
www.ptmhc.org • 708.449.5508

**DEDICATED TO THE SPECIAL
NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY**

The Proviso Township Mental Health Commission ensures that you have prevention and treatment services in your community. Services include mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, developmental disabilities, senior care, youth prevention and crisis intervention.

Connect with us – Call (708) 234-Talk (8255) or visit ptmhc.org to learn more about resources in your community. It's completely confidential.



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Angela D. Walker, Vice President • Orlando Velasquez, Secretary • Cedric D. Giles, Treasurer

Michelle De La Rosa, Commissioner • Nicole Gilhooley, Commissioner

Thomas D. Olson, Commissioner

Jesse D. Rosas, Executive Director



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Proviso Township Mental Health Commission Welcomes its Newest Commissioner



The Proviso Township Mental Health Commission (PTMHC) is pleased to announce that Thomas Olson has been sworn in to serve on the board of commissioners for the 58-year-old organization serving the residents of Proviso Township. Olson is a lifelong resident of Proviso Township and was sworn in during the February board meeting.

"We're incredibly grateful for all of the work Tom has done in the Proviso community over many years," said Proviso Township Mental Health Commission President Mike Corrigan. "I look forward to the energy and positivity that he will bring to our team."

Olson has a long record of serving philanthropic, civic and community groups. He is the president of the Triton College Foundation at his alma mater Triton College, where he previously held the position of executive director of Marketing and received the college president's Excellence in Service Award. Olson also serves as a commissioner on the Veterans Park District board and as a board member for the School District 89 Education Foundation.

"I'm thankful for the trust that is placed in me to serve the residents of Proviso Township," said Olson. "I look forward to helping the PTMHC improve lives and create healthy, productive communities."

Pictured is Thomas Olson (left) taking the oath of office given by PTMHC Board President Michael Corrigan (right).



Proviso Township Handyman Program

April 2024 – Proviso Township Handyman News

Spring is here! Do you need to replace your drapes? Do you need blinds repaired or new ones installed? Do you need to repair or install hand rails?

Time to open the windows and let the fresh air in. We can help take your storm windows off and put them away and install window screens. It's time to slide a new filter in your furnace in preparation for summer.

Do you have a rain barrel that needs to be connected to your gutter? We can do that for you.

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 and register for our program.



**Bellwood · Berkeley · Broadview · Brookfield · Forest Park · Hillside ·
LaGrange Park · Maywood · Melrose Park · North Riverside · Northlake
· Stone Park · Westchester · Western Springs**

+ Only Homeowners within the boundaries of the Proviso Township+

**Michael A. Corrigan
Supervisor**

**Anthony "Tony" Williams
Clerk**

**Steven J. Zawaski
Assessor**

**Gay F. Chase • Evelyn Chavez • Joseph Christopher • Clarence E. Thomas
Trustees**

Proviso Township Handyman Program



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

- Minor repairs only.
- \$5 per visit plus cost of parts, if needed.
- Provide referrals on a variety of home maintenance issues.
- Appointments are 45 minutes or less.

The Proviso Township Handyman Program 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

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

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

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News from Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias

Illinoisians Can Now Get Documents Notarized Without Leaving Home

Giannoulias Launches E-Notary Adding New Convenience for Residents & Businesses

Illinois residents will no longer have to notarize documents in person under a new electronic-notary system administered by Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias' office.

Electronic notarization, or "E-Notary," will radically change the way people use notary services, Giannoulias predicted. Without leaving the home or office, an individual or business can have their documents notarized and signed electronically within minutes.

"In keeping with our ongoing effort to modernize the Secretary of State's Office, E-Notary serves as a game-changer for Illinoisians by now providing a convenient way to notarize documents without leaving their home or office," Giannoulias said. "Enabling commissioned notaries to work virtually makes the process faster and more secure for individuals and businesses alike."

E-Notary allows both the customer and notary to sign with an electronic signature, and to electronically attach both the notarial certificate and notary seal to a document.

In 2021, the Illinois General Assembly passed legislation to allow the secretary of state to implement electronic notarization.

Upon taking office last year, Giannoulias made it a priority to gain state approval of administrative rules, create a new application reflecting the E-Notary requirements, review and approve E-Notary technology platform providers and train staff to process the new E-Notary applications.

Illinois now joins 47 other states that allow electronic notaries to operate.

Although Illinois had allowed remote notarization, it required all parties, (the notaries, signers and witnesses) to be located in Illinois. Additionally, while someone could sign the document remotely by audio-video communication, the notary had to sign the notarized paper document and apply the notary seal in ink. With E-Notary, the document, signing and seal are all electronically applied, dramatically reducing the time it takes to notarize a document. Additionally, while the notary must be present in Illinois, the other parties may be located outside the state.

To find a notary who offers electronic notarization, customers can visit apps.ilsos.gov/notarysearch. Customers will need a computer, phone or other device that supports audio-video communication and a valid form of identification to complete the notarization electronically.

When getting a document notarized, the notary public or electronic notary will:

- Require the customer to personally appear before them via an audio-video communication platform during the notarization.
- Check over the document to ensure its complete and verify the name on the document matches the customer's ID.
- Confirm the identity of the customer by examining their ID.
- Once steps one through three are done, the customer will be permitted to sign the document electronically.
- The notary public will then complete the notarial certificate and affix their seal.

Fees for services vary by provider, but are capped by state law at \$5 for any notarial act and \$25 for any electronic notarial act. All notaries public are required to provide receipts and keep records of the fees they charged for services provided.

2024 Secretary of State's Vehicle Show Set for Sept. 7 Secretary Giannoulias Makes Special Event License Plates Available Until May 10

The Illinois Secretary of State's Office is highlighting the 60th anniversary of the iconic 1964 Ford Mustang at its annual Vehicle Show in Springfield, Secretary Alexi Giannoulias announced recently.

Giannoulias made the announcement while revealing the Vehicle Show will take place on Saturday, Sept. 7, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., in downtown Springfield.

A limited number of commemorative license plates featuring the Mustang and promoting the Vehicle Show are now available for \$32 per pair until May 10.

Illinois vehicle owners who purchase the plates may display them on their vehicles for up to 60 days before the show from July 10-Sept. 7, 2024.

"The Vehicle Show brings together car enthusiasts and families from across the Midwest to downtown Springfield," Giannoulias said. "A broad collection of classic vehicles featuring all makes and models will be on display this year. We look forward to hosting the event that will help draw visitors to Springfield and provide a boost to local businesses."

"The Illinois Secretary of State's Classic Vehicle Show is an exciting event that provides a unique experience to visitors and local residents alike," said Springfield Mayor Misty Buscher. "This iconic car show has left an indelible mark on automotive history, embodying the spirit of ingenuity and craftsmanship. This event also provides us with the opportunity to showcase Springfield's finest businesses, restaurants and historic downtown."

The event will honor one vehicle with the Illinois State Champion Award, given to the vehicle judged best by the show's advisory committee. First-, second- and third-place winners will also receive awards in at least 60 classes.

Ford began manufacturing the Mustang in March 1964, creating a new class of automobiles known as pony cars. The Mustang's styling proved wildly popular and inspired other manufacturers to copy its look.

First held in 1949 as an Antique Auto Meet, the Secretary of State's Vehicle Show features some of Illinois' finest antique and classic vehicles, sports cars, motorcycles, trucks and tractors.

Last year's event brought more than 1,000 visitors to downtown Springfield with more than 600 Illinois drivers purchasing specialty plates.

For more information or for a brochure, including a Vehicle Show Registration Form, please call (312) 793-8876 or email vehicleshow@ilsos.gov.

The plate order form and the show's full schedule is available at http://www.ilsos.gov/services/vehicle_show/home.html.



Giannoulas Makes 130+ Languages Available on Secretary of State Website

Language Translations Make Programs and Services More Accessible

Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulas is now offering over 130 languages on the office's website to help ensure that Illinoisans whose primary language is not English can access critical information and resources in their preferred language.

"Language should never serve as a barrier to attaining equal access to essential government services," Giannoulas said. "Since day one, I've been focused on modernizing the office and by utilizing technology, we've made our website fully available to those who understand one of more than 130 of the world's languages."

A list of all of the languages available can be viewed online at <https://www.ilsos.gov/news/2024/march/240307d1-attach.pdf>.

Users can choose any available language to perform any task offered on the website, including renewing a driver's license or obtaining a vehicle sticker.

Powered by Google Translate, the website enhancements are one part of Giannoulas' multi-pronged approach to modernizing the office and will ensure accessibility to the increased number of services offered under Giannoulas' Skip-the-Line and Do-it-Online programs.

Beginning in September of last year, the office's Skip-the-Line program launched appointment scheduling to shorten lines and wait times at the state's busiest DMVs and implemented "Senior-Only" walk-in facilities for older Illinoisans who may encounter difficulty while attempting to schedule an appointment. The Do-it-Online Program built on the success of the Skip-the-Line Program, making more services readily accessible online.

2024 Summer Job Program Kicks Off Secretary of State Offers Summer Employment for College, Trade and Grad Students

Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulas has announced his office is now accepting applications for the second year of his administration's summer job program.

More than 120 positions are available for college, trade school and graduate school students or graduating high school students who are enrolled in college or trade school in the fall. Job offerings include working at DMVs or at one of the various departments in the Secretary of State's Office.

"The goal of our summer jobs program is to provide a pathway for young people to explore career opportunities, build their skill sets, earn money and make connections through a real-world job experience," Giannoulas said. "This type of hands-on work also helps with future academic and professional success, and can translate into long-term benefits for our communities."

Along with building job skills for students and learning about state government, the program bolsters the office's customer service efforts during the busy summer months.

Available positions include work in Secretary of State offices in Chicago, surrounding suburbs, Springfield and downstate facility locations. Pay is \$16 per hour for college and trade school students, and \$25 per hour for specific contractual intern positions for graduate school students.

Interested applicants can apply at www.ilsos.gov/summerjobs, and must submit a resume and cover letter explaining their interest in working at the Secretary of State's Office. Applicants may list up to three choices for their preferred work location.

Summer employees can begin their employment as early as May 13.

New "One-Stop-Shop" DMV Experience Unveiled DMV Revamp Showcases New Efficiencies to Further Reduce Wait Times

Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulas revealed a more customer-focused, professional and efficient DMV experience that will soon be rolled out at facilities statewide.

The new "One-Stop-Shop" DMV design was officially launched at the Secretary of State's Office in west suburban Plano.

As a part of the office's ongoing modernization efforts, the new DMV experience will save customers considerable time and several steps by offering both vehicle and driver services at a single service counter.

"For too long customers have been required to follow an illogical path through the state's DMV facilities. My administration used data to determine the most efficient paths for customers in order to cut down on confusion and save time," Giannoulas said. "I'm excited to see customers' reactions at the new look and feel of our DMV facilities. The 'One-Stop-Shop' experience tears down silos, revolutionizing how our facilities serve Illinoisans."

At a single service counter, customers can obtain the following services:

- Apply for a REAL ID or a new driver's license or state ID card.
- Renew a driver's license, state ID or Temporary Visitor Driver's License (TVDL).
- Order a new license plate using Pick-A-Plate.
- Register or renew their vehicle registration.
- Join the Illinois Organ and Tissue Donor Registry.

Drivers services and vehicle services employees at "One-Stop-Shop" DMVs are now cross-trained to provide both sets of services. The office has redesigned customer service counters and signage to create a more logical flow.

The "One-Stop-Shop" experience will be implemented at all new DMV facilities. The office is conducting an assessment of existing facilities and prioritizing the rollout of this new experience.

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

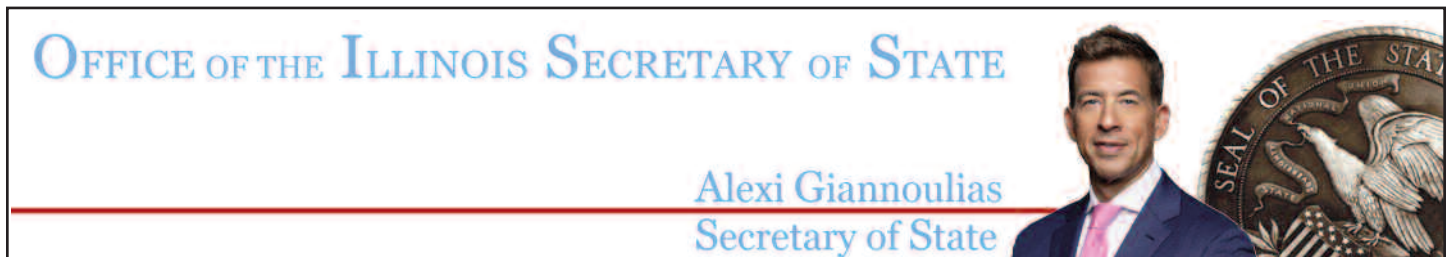
The Illinois Secretary of State Office, located at 1903 N. Mannheim Rd. (Melrose Park), is open for business and provides the following services ...

- **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.



Everyone Has the Right to Live Where They Choose

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

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

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



Village of Melrose Park



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

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

State Treasurer Michael Frerichs Pushes to Reunite Residents with Unclaimed Property, Missing Money \$5 Billion Waiting to be Claimed Through I-Cash

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs likely has missing money for you, your spouse, your business or your favorite charity.

Hundreds of thousands of people have billions of dollars in cash and property they have not claimed under the Illinois State Treasurer's I-Cash Program, which safeguards unclaimed property including unpaid life insurance benefits, forgotten bank accounts and unused rebate cards.

Illinois State Treasurer Frerichs' reminder is part of a statewide digital media, newspaper and direct mail push to reunite residents with more than \$5 billion in unclaimed property. State law requires the Illinois State Treasurer's Office to publish newspaper ads in each of the state's 102 counties every six months and to send letters to residents who have newly reported unclaimed property of \$100 or more.

"It's often a surprise for people to find out they have an overlooked investment account or final paycheck that did not make it to them. We aim to address that oversight, and it's easier than ever to do," Frerichs said. "This money and property belong to the people of Illinois. It should be in their pocketbook rather than the state's safe."

An estimated one-in-four adults in Illinois who search I-Cash find unclaimed property and the average claim is \$1,000. Treasurer Frerichs has returned a record \$1.9 billion in unclaimed property through 1.5 million claims during his tenure after he prioritized changes in technology, efficiency and state law to streamline the process.

Thousands of items are reported and remitted annually to the Illinois State Treasurer's Office and residents are encouraged to check the unclaimed property database twice each year. Set up a reminder on your smart phone's calendar or fire up your computer and do a search when you change your smoke detector batteries every six months. Visit www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICASH to enter your name and find out if unclaimed property is waiting for you.

I-Cash/Missing Money Trivia

- The most common name to have missing money? Amy.
- Largest amount paid to an individual? \$11 million to a Chicago man who led a very frugal lifestyle and never married nor had children. It is the largest amount ever returned to an individual in the United States.
- Largest amount paid to a business? \$8.1 million to a global company that manufactures automotive products.
- Average amount of a claim paid to a business in 2023? \$9,170.
- Average amount of a claim paid in 2023 to survivors of a loved one who passed away? \$7,521.

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs Opens 2024 Cream of the Crop Photo Contest Contest for Young Photographers Marks its 12th Year

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs is encouraging young Illinois photographers to submit photos for the 2024 Cream of the Crop Photo Contest, which provides students with a creative opportunity to share their vision of agriculture in our state. Students ages 8 to 18 may submit contest entries until the deadline of June 14.

Bright Start scholarships of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250 will be awarded to students who place first, second or third in each of the three age categories. "Our great state is a leader in the agricultural industry, thanks to skilled workers, millions of acres of rich farmland and diversity in products," Frerichs said. "The Cream of the Crop competition is designed to inspire students to pick up their cameras and phones, go out and explore, and showcase the beauty of Illinois agriculture."

The Treasurer's Office is accepting electronic submissions for the Cream of the Crop Photo Contest at www.CreamoftheCropContest.com. Top photographs will be chosen in three age-based categories – ages 8-10, 11-14 and 15-18. Each student may submit up to two photos by June 14, 2024.

To read the rules, terms, and legal conditions associated with this contest, visit our website at www.CreamoftheCropContest.com or contact Teri Whitfield at (217) 900-0075.

Now in its 12th year, the photo contest offers Illinois students an opportunity to showcase their most innovative or scenic pictures that depict their vision of agriculture in our state. More than 700 students have participated in the contest since it debuted in 2013 and they have submitted over 1,200 photos.

The Cream of the Crop Photo Contest is part of the Illinois State Treasurer's Ag Invest Program. Winning photos will be featured in Ag Invest marketing material and next year's Cream of the Crop calendar, as well as at the 2024 Illinois State Fair.

Ag Invest is one of the nation's largest agricultural linked deposit programs, celebrating 41 years in 2024. It helps hundreds of Illinois farmers and agriculture professionals. The State Treasurer's Office, through Ag Invest, partners with eligible financial institutions to offer farmers and ag businesses operating lines of credit and long-term, low-interest loans which can be used for operating costs, equipment purchases, construction-related expenses and livestock purchases.

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs Returns Nearly \$20 Million in Missing Money in February

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office returned nearly \$20 million in missing money during February, Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs announced recently.

The total includes more than \$17.1 million in cash and interest, and nearly \$2.5 million in stock value. All told, 19,046 claims were paid in February.

"We help Illinois' economy by putting money back in people's pockets," Frerichs said. "Our efforts to improve the efficiency of reuniting people with their missing money are paying off."

Illinois' missing money program – also known as I-CASH – is one of the state's oldest consumer protection initiatives. The Illinois 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 \$5 billion in unclaimed property.

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office has returned more than \$1.9 billion during Frerichs' time in office. When Frerichs first became treasurer, there were 60,000 claims paid in a year. Today, more than 200,000 claims are paid each year.

So far in 2024, the Treasurer's Office has returned more than \$36.8 million through 44,480 claims. Frerichs completely restructured the missing money process. The Illinois State Treasurer's Office has added electronic claims, eliminated red-tape that slowed small-money claims, and leveraged technology to allow payments to be made without a claim even needing to be filed.

Frerichs also has added a friends and family "share" feature. When visitors to the I-CASH 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 missing money, along with the name of the friend or relative who spotted it. Then, that individual can start the process of retrieving it.

Illinois is a national leader in the unclaimed property space and is frequently consulted by other states who are reforming their unclaimed property laws, rules and procedures.

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office recommends that people check for missing money at least twice each year. You can check icash.illinoistreasurer.gov to see if missing money is waiting for you.

State Treasurer Michael Frerichs' Bright Start College Savings Plan Named Best in the Nation

Bright Start has been named the nation's Best 529 College Savings Plan for 2024 by *Business Insider*, Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs announced recently. "It's important to note that not all 529 accounts are built the same," *Business Insider* wrote. "The best state 529 plans have low minimum requirements, low fees, diverse investment options and a tax deduction benefit."

State Treasurer Frerichs said he appreciates the recognition for the office's work on Bright Start, which has gone from one of the nation's worst college savings plans before he took office to one of the best.

"We negotiated lower fees for families to help them save more money for college," Frerichs said. "We also updated the program to offer more options for families to invest their college savings dollars. We have boosted enrollment by working every day to convince families that they have the ability to save for the future, no matter the financial pressures they face today."

Bright Start is a college savings plan an individual can open without assistance. It's counterpart, Bright Directions, is a college savings plan an individual can open through a financial advisor. Both are 529 tax-advantaged plans, meaning the investment grows tax-free when used for qualified expenses, such as tuition, housing or books. Funds saved in Bright Start or Bright Directions can be used at thousands of colleges, universities, trade and technical schools.

Business Insider noted that Bright Start offers six target-risk portfolios, 17 individual fund investment portfolios, as well as mutual fund options. The publication also noted that married couples can deduct up to \$20,000 a year in Bright Start contributions, while individuals can deduct up to \$10,000.

The number of accounts and money invested in them has more than doubled since Frerichs first took office in 2015. Together, there are 880,000 accounts with \$18 billion in assets, up from 375,000 accounts with \$7 billion in assets. Since 2015, families have used these accounts to pay for \$5 billion in college expenses.

The *Business Insider* recognition is the latest for Bright Start, which also has been recognized as among the best 529 plans by Morningstar, Forbes and Savingforcollege.com.

In 2022, the College Savings Plans Network, the national network of 529 plans, states and private-sector partners, honored Frerichs with the Distinguished Service Award, its highest honor.

Research shows a child is three times more likely to attend college if they know they have a dedicated college savings account. For more information, or to open an account, visit brightstart.com and click on the college savings button. There is no minimum amount to open an account.

About the Illinois 529 College Savings Programs

The Bright Start Direct-Sold College Savings Program ("Bright Start") and the Bright Directions Advisor – Guided 529 College Savings Program ("Bright Directions") are part of the Illinois College Savings Pool and are designed to qualify as qualified tuition programs under the provisions of Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code. Bright Start and Bright Directions are sponsored by the state of Illinois and administered by the Illinois state treasurer, as trustee. Union Bank & Trust Company serves as program manager and Northern Trust Securities, Inc. acts as distributor of the advisor-sold plan. Investments in Bright Start and Bright Directions are not guaranteed or insured by the state of Illinois; the Illinois state treasurer; Union Bank & Trust Company; Northern Trust Securities, Inc.; the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; or any other entity.

An investor should consider the investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses associated with municipal fund securities before investing. This and other important information is contained in the fund prospectuses and the Bright Start Program Disclosure Statement and Bright Directions Program Disclosure Statement (issuer's official statement), which can be obtained from your financial professional, on BrightStart.com and BrightDirections.com, and should be read carefully before investing. You can lose money by investing in a portfolio. Each of the portfolios involves investment risks, which are described in the Program Disclosure Statement.

An investor should consider, before investing, whether the investor's or designated beneficiary's home state offers any state tax or other benefits, such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors that are only available for investments in such state's 529 plan. Investors should consult a tax advisor.



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**

Senior Fitness Walk – Wednesday, May 1 • 9 a.m.

Thatcher Woods (Chicago Avenue, West of Thatcher Avenue, River Forest)

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

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

I am a Scientist – Wednesday, May 1 • 10 a.m.

Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center (9800 Willow Springs Rd., Willow Springs)

Ignite your child's sense of wonder and curiosity as we explore, experiment and make discoveries. Ages 4 and up w/adult.

Registration required – Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897.

Contact – (708) 839-6897/littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Phone-tography 101 – Thursday, May 2 • 10 a.m.

Deer Grove (Quentin Road, North of Dundee Road, Near Palatine)

Enjoy a morning in the Preserves and learn the basics of photography using a smartphone. Grove 5.

Registration required – Call (773) 758-8899.

Contact – (773) 758-8899/Experience.Nature@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Be a Better Birder: Beginner Field ID – Saturday, May 4 • 8-10 a.m.

Maple Lake Boating Center (Wolf Road, South of 95th Street, Near Willow Springs)

Take the skills you learned in the virtual sessions into the Preserves. Bring a chair, as we will be staying in one spot. Limited binoculars available to borrow.

Registration required – Register at <https://forms.gle/8dVphNCPihk7CHEAA>.

Contact – (312) 415-2970. Cost – Free.

Touch a Tractor at Crabtree – Saturday, May 4 • 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Crabtree Nature Center (Barrington)

Interact with some of the important equipment used to preserve and maintain Crabtree.

Contact – (847) 381-6592/Crabtree.NatureCenter@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Wellness Walk – Saturday, May 4 • 1 p.m.

Thatcher Woods – Chicago Avenue, West of Thatcher Avenue, River Forest)

Mindful and meditative guided nature walk. Ages 18 and up.

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

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

Spring Sensory Walk – Saturday, May 4 • 1:30-3 p.m.

Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center (9800 Willow Springs Rd., Willow Springs)

Enjoy a leisurely walk and appreciate the sights, smells and sounds of springtime in nature.

Registration required – Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897.

Contact – (708) 839-6897/littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Spring Festival – Sunday, May 5 • Noon-3 p.m.

Thatcher Woods Pavilion (Chicago Avenue, West of Thatcher Avenue, River Forest)

Enjoy interactive programs, kids' tree climb, guided wildflower walks, bird banding, kid's nature crafts, gardening info and much more!

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

Frog Frenzy – Sunday, May 5 • 1:30 p.m.

River Trail Nature Center (3120 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook)

Learn how to dress, act and live as a frog.

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

Dark Sky Walk – Tuesday, May 7 • 9 p.m.

Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center (9800 Willow Springs Rd., Willow Springs)

Enjoy an evening walk through our woods and get a close-up view of the night sky.

Registration required – Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897.

Contact – (708) 839-6897/littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyil.gov. Cost – Free.

Open Nature Play Day – Wednesday, May 8 • 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center (Western Avenue and 87th Street, Chicago)

Bring your little one for open nature playtime. Enjoy the Dan Ryan Woods nature play space while helping your children connect with nature. Enjoy stories, art and exploration each time. Ages 3-10 w/adult.

Contact – (312) 415-2970. Cost – Free.

S.E.N.I.O.R.S. – Thursday, May 9 • 10 a.m.

Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center (9800 Willow Springs Rd., Willow Springs)

Seniors Enjoying Nature Inside/Outside Rain or Shine! Ages 55 and up.

Registration required – Call Little Red Schoolhouse at (708) 839-6897.

Contact – (708) 839-6897/littlered.schoolhouse@cookcountyiil.gov. Cost – Free.

Adult Game Night – Thursday, May 9 • 6-8 p.m.

Caldwell Woods (Devon Avenue and Nagle Avenue, Chicago)

A night of outdoor games, trivia and nature play. BYOB (no glass). Ages 21 and up.

Contact – (773) 758-8899/Experience.Nature@cookcountyiil.gov. Cost – Free.

Nature Story Trail: "Stick and Stone" By Beth Ferry –

Friday, May 10-Monday, May 27 • 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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

Follow a short trail and read a posted children's nature story. Then pick up an activity bag with a craft and suggested outdoor activities.

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

Printmaking Workshop – Friday, May 10 • 5-7 p.m.

Evans Field (Bloomingdale Avenue and Thatcher Avenue, River Grove)

Learn basic printmaking techniques using natural materials. Supplies provided. Bring items you wish to decorate.

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

Chicago River Day – Saturday, May 11 • 9 a.m.- Noon

Beaubien Woods (Doty Avenue, Southeast of 130th Street and Ellis Avenue, Chicago)

Celebrate the 32nd anniversary of Chicago River Day. Do your part to clean and restore our waterways and the land around it.

Registration required – Register at <https://chicagoriver.org/>.

Contact – (312) 415-2970. Cost – Free.

Teen Exploration Day: Volunteer Day – Saturday, May 11 • 10 a.m.

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

Help remove invasive garlic mustard. Supplies provided. Earn service-learning hours. Ages 15 and up.

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

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

Learn to Kayak – Saturday, May 11 • 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Saganashkee Slough Boat Launch

(107th Street, West of Willow Springs Road/104th Avenue, near Willow Springs)

This class will introduce you to the fundamentals of kayaking in a comfortable setting and at a relaxed pace. You will learn about proper strokes and paddling techniques, and get the chance to practice these new skills on a beautiful, local waterway. REI's expert guides will also teach the basics of water safety, trip planning and how to have an enjoyable time on the water. This is a great way to build a new skill set or improve upon what you already know about kayaking. Ages 14 and up. Presented by REI. Kayaks, paddles and all necessary safety equipment provided.

Registration required – Call (312) 533-5751.

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

Star Party – Saturday, May 11 • 7-9 p.m.

Deer Grove-East (Dundee Road, West of Hicks Road, Near Palatine)

Explore astronomy on this family-friendly night in the Preserves. Crafts, stargazing and refreshments included. Grove 3.

Contact – (773) 758-8899/Experience.Nature@cookcountyiil.gov. Cost – Free.

Spring Nature Walk – Sunday, May 12 • 10:30 a.m.

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

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

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

Mother's Day Art Fair – Sunday, May 12 • Noon-4 p.m.

Sand Ridge Nature Center (15891 Paxton Ave., South Holland)

Come see some amazing art inspired by Mother Earth and mother figures alike.

There will be great conversation and food on site.

Contact – (708) 868-0606/sandridge.naturecenter@cookcountyiil.gov. Cost – Free.



Spring into creativity with Trailside Museum's Birdhouse Building Contest, explore the trails and vote for your favorite design all summer long

Thank you for participating in our Birdhouse Contest, where we aim to emphasize the importance of nesting sites for birds while showcasing your creative building skills. Birdhouses constructed by registered participants will be displayed throughout the summer and judged by visitors. Prizes will be awarded to all participants!

How to Enter

Submit your birdhouse now-May 15, 2024. Space is limited, so be sure to submit your entries early.

Voting

The birdhouses will be exhibited on our grounds throughout the summer. During this period (May 24-Sept. 1), visitors can cast their votes for their favorite birdhouses. Ballots will include the builder's name and the birdhouse's name.

Winners

The winners will be announced in early September on Trailside's Facebook page. Winners will be notified and birdhouses can be picked up Sept. 6-Oct. 6.

Prize Categories

1. Most Creative.
2. Best for Birds.
3. Best Kids (Under 14 years old.)
4. People's Choice

Eligibility

Everyone is encouraged to enter. Youth groups and participants under 18 must be registered by an adult. Employees of the Forest Preserves of Cook County can enter the contest, but are not eligible for prizes.

For more information, please call Trailside Museum – (708) 366-6530.

**Take some time to explore
our website at www.fpdcc.com
for additional events and
valuable information linked
to the Cook County
Forest Preserves experience!**

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.brookfieldzoo.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!

Newly Released! Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Calendar of Events ... Save the Dates!

Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Digital Photo Contest May 24-Aug. 2, 2024

Calling all shutterbugs! Brookfield Zoo is a photographer's paradise with more than 3,000 animals representing over 500 species. So, grab your camera and head to Brookfield Zoo Chicago, where you might just capture a winning shot to enter in the zoo's 2024 Digital Photo Contest. Professional photographers will judge the photos and choose the grand prize winner, as well as select their top seven picks in each of the following categories – mammals, birds, and reptiles/amphibians/invertebrates/fish. The public is being asked to then go to the zoo's website and vote for first-, second- and third-place winners in each of the three categories. Photos may be submitted between May 24 and Aug. 2, 2024. For additional information, including the official rules, and to fill out an entry form and upload your photo to submit electronically, go to brookfieldzoo.org/digitalphotocontest or call (708) 688-8351.

Roaring Nights – Summer Concert Series

June 22 – The Fray • July 12 – Barenaked Ladies • July 27 – Gin Blossoms

Take in the sounds of popular bands at Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Roaring Nights Summer Concert Series, presented by Meijer®. From anthemic tunes and high-energy performances to familiar genre-defying lyrics and melodies, and signature blends of rock and pop, guests can enjoy three unforgettable nights of music, fun and dancing the night away on the zoo's East Mall. Bring lawn chairs or blankets and make it a date night or a family night. A wide selection of delicious food and beverage items, including at the Tacos Caja and The Coop food trucks, Nectar and Graze, and the Beer Garden (sponsored by Coors Light), will be available for purchase. Proceeds from the concerts contribute to the care of the zoo's animals, education programming and global conservation efforts. Limited capacity and reservations are required. For more information, including band lineup and ticket pricing, visit brookfieldzoo.org/roaring-nights or call (708) 688-8000.



A Midsummer Night's Feast Progressive Dinner Saturday, July 20

Enjoy a progressive dinner safari around the zoo – sipping cocktails and enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres while visiting multiple animal habitats and learning about the amazing creatures that call Brookfield Zoo Chicago home. The safari ends with a delicious three-course meal at the zoo's open-air Swan Pavilion with dessert served at The Carousel. The event benefits the education, scholarship and conservation initiatives supported by the Women's Board. For additional information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8393.

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

ZooBrew – Saturday, Aug. 17

Enjoy samplings from a selection of beers, lagers, ales, seltzers, ciders and hard lemonades at Brookfield Zoo Chicago's annual 21-and-over beer-tasting event. Libations will be poured by brew representatives at the zoo's pavilions from 1-5 p.m., with a VIP ticket option beginning at noon. Designated driver tickets, featuring unlimited soft drinks, are also available. All tickets include commemorative swag and admission, and parking to the zoo, allowing plenty of time to see your favorite animals. Children are not allowed in the event area. Photo ID is required upon entry. For additional information, including pricing and to make reservations, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.



Zoo Run – Sunday, Sept. 8

Whether you choose to run or stroll at a leisurely pace in Brookfield Zoo Chicago's annual Zoo Run, you'll help support the more than 3,000 animals that slither, hop, swim, fly, swing and walk at the zoo 365 days a year. The fun-filled event features a chip-timed 5k race at 8:30 a.m., followed by a chip-timed 1-mile race for kids ages 4-13. Each runner receives commemorative Zoo Run swag, bib containing timing chip, and snacks and beverages. Runners can bring along family and friends for free to cheer them on and visit the animals after the races! Proceeds from the event benefit the zoo's Animal Care and Conservation Fund. To register and for further information, including pricing, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.



Photo credit – Brookfield Zoo Chicago.

Hispanic Heritage Fest – NEW Saturday, Sept. 21

Join us at Brookfield Zoo Chicago this fall for a new, vibrant Hispanic Heritage Fest on Saturday, Sept. 21! Delight in live music, delectable cuisine, cultural performances and more – all included with your zoo admission for a day of celebration and exploration. For more information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.

Oktoberfest – Saturday, Sept. 28

Prost (cheers) to Oktoberfest and the season of donning your lederhosen and enjoying live polka music at Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Oktoberfest, presented by Leinenkugel's. The festive event, which takes place on the zoo's East Mall, is free with general admission. Zoogoers can also pick up sponsor giveaways while taking in the sounds of Oktoberfest. Additionally, a seasonal menu featuring bratwursts, sausages, pretzels with beer cheese and more is available for purchase. For more information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.



Photo credit – Brookfield Zoo Chicago.

Recycling Event – Saturday, Sept. 28

If you weren't able to do a spring clean earlier in the year, Brookfield Zoo Chicago is hosting a fall recycling event. Drop off your unwanted electronics, textiles and used books, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in the zoo's main parking lot located at 8400 31st St., in Brookfield. Representatives from Brookfield Zoo Chicago and its partner organizations – eWorks and USAgain – will be available to collect and recycle a variety of items. For a complete list of acceptable recyclables, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.

Boo! at the Zoo

Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 5-6, 12-13 and 19-20

Gather your ghoulfriends, and little ghosts and goblins, and head to Brookfield Zoo Chicago for its annual Boo! at the Zoo Halloween celebration. Families will have a fang-tastic time enjoying the fall season and the many themed photo frames and vignettes to take memorable snapshots. Take a spin on the Creepy Carousel or the zoo's Anniversary Ferris Wheel to view the park in its beautiful fall foliage. Zoogoers can learn about some not-so-scary critters during special zoo chats. Or, watch as some animals receive Halloween enrichment treats – pumpkins. Youngsters can receive their own sweet treat before they leave. For more information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8000.



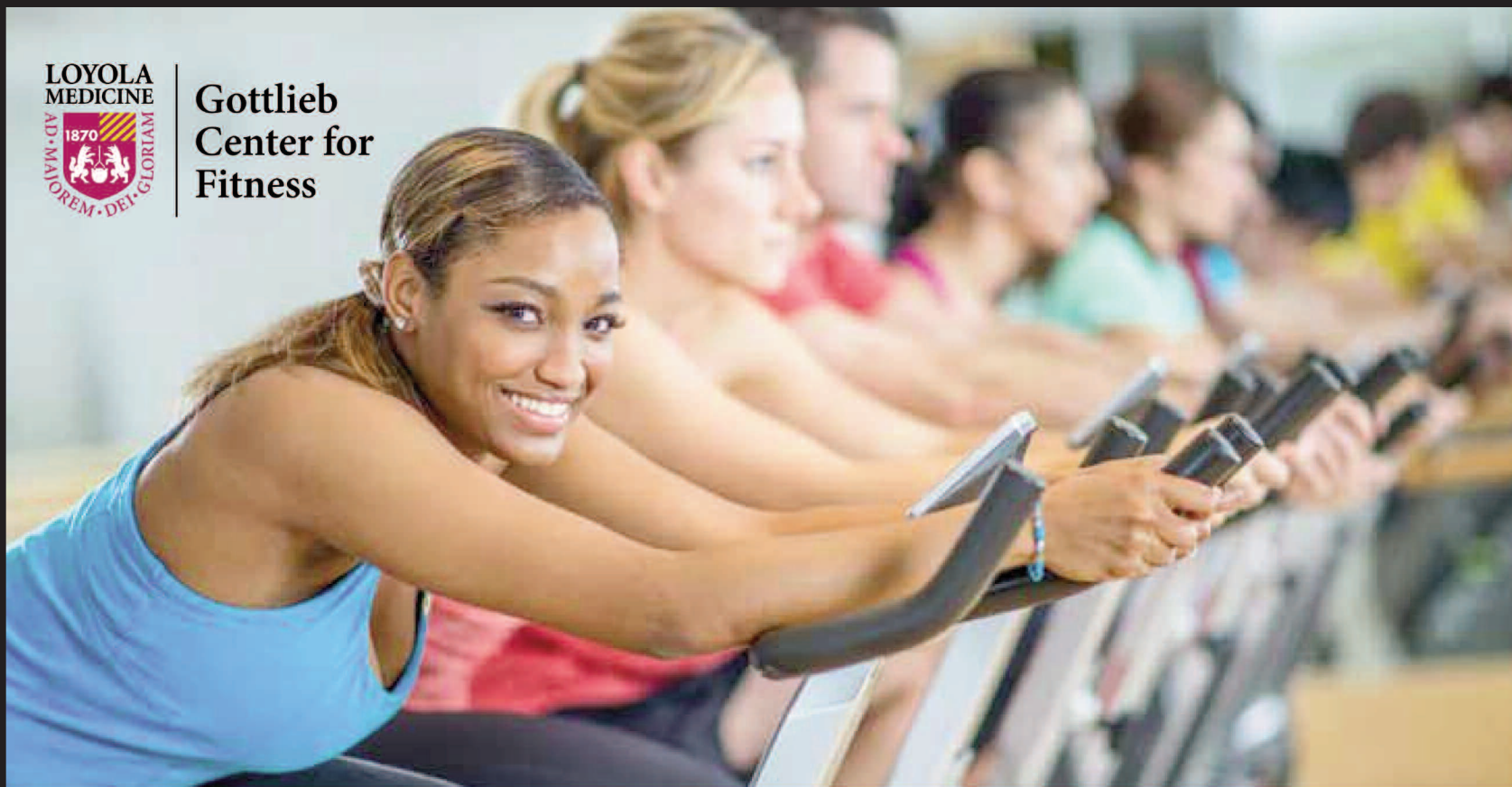
Photo credit – Brookfield Zoo Chicago.

Conservation Leadership Awards Dinner – Monday, Oct. 7

Brookfield Zoo Chicago is proud to honor recipients at its 21st annual Conservation Leadership Awards Dinner held at the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, 120 East Delaware, Chicago. During the fundraising event, individuals and organizations are recognized for their collective impact and commitment to conservation and animal welfare, and will be presented with the George B. Rabb Conservation Medal, the Corwith Hamill Lifetime Achievement Conservation Award and the Edith Rockefeller McCormick Partnership Award. Proceeds from the evening's event benefit the zoo's conservation, education and animal programs. For more information, visit brookfieldzoo.org/events or call (708) 688-8393.



Gottlieb Center for Fitness



LIVE YOUR HEALTHIEST LIFE.

Join our fitness community today.

The Gottlieb Center for Fitness offers a variety of membership options including Individual Membership at just \$65 per month and Senior Membership at \$58 per month. At half the cost of other premium fitness centers, we offer all the amenities you need to help you achieve your fitness and well-being goals.

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708-538-5790
gottliebfitness.org

Nicor Gas Reminds Communities to 'Call 811 Before You Dig'

Warmer spring weather provides the perfect timing for outdoor projects. As a part of National Safe Digging Month, Nicor Gas reminded everyone to contact 811 before they begin any digging project. This includes jobs such as mailbox/fence installation, planting trees or putting in a pool. It also applies to professional excavators when performing work such as paving, tunneling or blasting.



Contacting 811 is free. There is no cost to have your underground utility lines marked. It's also a law designed to help to protect both our communities and to ensure the underground utilities stay safe and connected. Nicor Gas offers the following safe digging guidelines:

- **Contact 811 Before You Dig:** Before starting an outdoor digging project, contact 811 or visit georgia811.com to request having underground utility lines marked at least three days prior to digging.
- **Allow the Required Time for Marking:** After contacting 811, allow time for the underground utility lines to be marked before digging. The approximate location of the lines will be marked with color-coded spray paint, flags or stakes that correspond to the utility. The natural gas markings will be yellow.
- **Respect the Marks:** Only use hand digging tools in areas near the utility line markings.
- **Excavate Carefully:** Make sure the marks remain visible during the project. If the markings are no longer visible, contact 811 to have lines remarked. If a natural gas line is damaged accidentally or the distinctive rotten-egg odor associated with natural gas is present, call 911 or the Nicor Gas 24-hour emergency phone line at 1-888-642-6748 from a safe location.

Nicor Gas maintains more than 34,300 miles of natural gas infrastructure across Northern Illinois. In addition to those lines, there are underground communications, water and sewer lines, and other utility lines. Knowing where underground infrastructure is before you dig helps prevent injuries, property damage and inconvenient service outages.

For more information about natural gas safety, visit nicorgas.com/811.

NEWS FROM LOYOLA MEDICINE, A MEMBER OF TRINITY HEALTH

Loyola Medicine Allergy Count Returns

For more than 20 years, Loyola Medicine's Gottlieb Memorial Hospital has provided the Chicago area with updated allergy counts every weekday during allergy season. This year's official count resumed on Monday, April 1. Allergy sufferers can follow @LoyolaAllergy on X (formerly known as Twitter) or visit loyolamedicine.org/allergy-count for the latest numbers.

Rachna Shah, MD, leads the Loyola Medicine Allergy Count and warns that tree pollen counts are already rising due to the recent unseasonably warm weather. "At the beginning of February, some of my patients started to say, 'I feel like I'm sneezing more, have itchy eyes, a runny nose and drainage in the back of the throat;' all of the symptoms typical of spring allergies. Typically, I don't see maple pollen until maybe mid-April to May. I was already seeing that a few weeks ago."

She advises allergy sufferers to stay informed, "Allergy counts are important to help monitor symptoms and prepare for the day." When pollen levels are high, she recommends people with severe pollen allergies stay indoors, but if that's not practical, "pollen counts are highest before 10 a.m., so try shifting activities to later in the day. And if you do outdoor activities for more than a couple hours, it can be really helpful to come inside, rinse off and change clothes."

In a video at youtube.com (search for "Loyola Medicine Allergy Count"), Dr. Shah explains how the count is performed. Pollen samples are gathered every weekday morning from the roof of Gottlieb Memorial Hospital. Pollen grains and mold spores are collected from a cubic meter air sample and counted under a microscope. The counts include daily numbers for mold, tree, grass and weed pollens.

Spring allergies often cause itchy, watery eyes, a runny nose, sneezing, nasal congestion and post-nasal drip. Difficulty breathing, coughing, wheezing and/or shortness of breath can also be triggered by seasonal allergies.

Allergy season commonly runs from March through the first hard freeze in October. Tree pollen generally begins to rise in late March to April, grass pollen arrives in May and June, while weed pollen is most prevalent in July to August. Ragweed typically peaks from late August to the first frost and mold can strike in damp conditions throughout the season.

The daily allergy count is easy to track by following @LoyolaAllergy on X (formerly known as Twitter). For more information, please visit loyolamedicine.org/allergy-count.

ComEd Proposes Discount Program to Reduce Energy Burden for Income-Eligible Customers

Income-Based Discount to be Available as Early as 2025, Pending Regulatory Approval

ComEd recently presented a proposal to the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) outlining a new Low-Income Discount (LID) Program to help income-eligible customers manage their energy bills. The proposed program would enable qualifying customers to receive a percentage-based discount on their monthly electric bill determined by income level. Those with household incomes less than or equal to 50% of the federal poverty level (FPL) will receive the greatest discount. However, customers with household incomes up to 300% of the FPL will be still eligible for a discount. ComEd hopes to begin providing discount credits in 2025, pending final approval from the commission.

“ComEd’s newly proposed low-income discount program builds upon our longstanding commitment to keep bills affordable for all customers,” said Gil Quiniones, president and CEO, ComEd. “Electricity is an essential service and LID will provide a measure of security for households dealing with financial challenges.”

ComEd’s LID aims to ensure residential customers’ energy expense does not exceed more than 3% of household income (or 6% for electric space heat customers). The program will also promote opportunities for low-income households to participate in the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program, which helps customers manage energy use to save money on future energy bills. Since 2008, the award-winning program has helped hundreds of thousands of customers save a total of \$9 billion on their energy bills, as well as a total of 82 million megawatt-hours of electricity, which is enough energy to power more than 9.5 million ComEd customers’ homes for one year.

Should ComEd’s proposal be approved by the ICC, applications to participate will be available in mid-2025. To make it easy for customers to apply and participate, ComEd proposes to leverage existing relationships with local administrative agencies. Those enrollment pathways include:

- **Auto Enrollment:** ComEd will automatically enroll in LID those customers who have been enrolled in other income-qualified programs within 12 months from date of implementation. Examples of income-qualified programs include Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), Supplemental Arrearage Reduction Program (SARP) and Give-A-Ray, or customers who qualify for past due payment charge and deposit waivers.
- **Local Administrative Agencies (LAAs):** When applying for LIHEAP or PIPP assistance with LAAs, customers will be able to concurrently apply for ComEd’s LID program.

The LID program will build upon ComEd’s long history of efforts to expand the options for customers, particularly income-eligible customers, to manage energy bills. Efforts to support families and individuals include bill-assistance options, energy-management programs tailored for income-eligible customers, along with electric vehicle charger and installation rebates reserved for equity-eligible communities.

Avoid Energy Scams: What You Need to Know

How to Spot, Report and Avoid Scams

At ComEd, the safety and well-being of our customers, communities and employees is our top priority. We know that losing money or your personal information can be devastating, so we want to do our part to help protect you from fraud, identity theft and energy scams.

ComEd Will Never Call or Come to Your Home or Business to:

- Demand a direct payment or accept payment through a bogus website or via a QR Code, with a prepaid cash card, or through a third-party payment app like Cash App, Zelle, Venmo, QuickPay or cryptocurrency, such as Bitcoin
- Ask for personal information such as Social Security number, Tax ID or bank information
 - We also will not ask for your new ComEd account number, unless you contact us first to enroll in a program or service.
 - Sell you electricity.
- Threaten to disconnect your service.

Call ComEd immediately at 800-EDISON1 (800-334-7661) if you believe you've been the target of an energy-related scam.

Imposters and Scams

You Have the Power to Stop Energy Scams

ComEd cares about your safety. We regularly receive reports of individuals posing as ComEd employees. We want to help you be better informed and avoid being the victim of an energy scam or disconnect-related fraud. Be aware, be prepared!

These imposters may contact you and falsely claim that your electric service will be disconnected unless payment is made. They may instruct you to buy a prepaid credit card and call back to a different phone number with the personal identification number (PIN) or other personal information. They also use a tactic called “spoofing” to manipulate the Caller ID displayed phone number so that it appears as a ComEd number.

Tips to Help You Identify Energy Scams

We Will Never Call or Come to Your Home or Business to:

- Threaten to disconnect service.
- Sell you electricity.
- Ask for direct payment or accept payment through a bogus website or via a QR Code, with a prepaid cash card, or through a third-party payment app like Cash App, Zelle, Venmo, QuickPay, or cryptocurrency, such as Bitcoin.
 - ComEd never collects payments at kiosks that issue prepaid cash cards or cryptocurrency, such as Bitcoin.
- Ask for personal information, such as Social Security number, Tax ID or bank info; we also will not ask for your ComEd account number unless you contact us first to enroll in a program or service.
- Ask to see your energy bill.



How You Can Recognize a ComEd Employee:

A ComEd field employee may knock on your door if we are unable to access equipment, like our meter or pedestal transformer. You can identify a ComEd employee by:

- Uniform – all ComEd field employees wear a uniform with the blue ComEd logo, including a shirt and safety vest.
 - ID – employees will be wearing a ComEd ID badge with the logo and employee's first name.
 - Vehicles – all ComEd vehicles are white with a ComEd logo.
- ComEd underwent a logo change in 2022, so you may continue to see the red ComEd logo on uniforms, badges and vehicles until it is phased out.

BEWARE! Scammers also may be wearing ComEd clothing and a fake ComEd ID badge. To confirm that someone is really a ComEd employee, simply call 800-EDISON1 (800-334-7661) before engaging with the person. A true ComEd employee is happy to wait while the call is made.

We Also Ask Customers to be Wary About Sharing the Following Information:

- ComEd account number.
- Passwords to your accounts.
- Information on your last payment.
- Social Security number.
- A copy of your energy bill.

Different Types of Scams Can Occur at Anytime:

- Telephone and text or smishing scams – the scammer is reluctant to answer questions about the business or the offer, or might request that you "confirm your personal information."
- Doorstep criminal scams/In person – examples of this can be switching a customer's account/stealing personal info, to walking homeowner into backyard while accomplice enters home to steal valuables.
- Website/email or phishing scams – these scams will take you to a bogus website and involve a request of payment with gift cards, cryptocurrency or banking apps, or QR code.

Please Be Aware of Cyber-Security Threats:

- Carefully review messages originating from outside your organization's network.
- Check the name of the sender and business in the email and make sure it matches the name and business in the email address. Look for bad grammar, spelling mistakes and zeros in place of the letter O.
- If you don't recognize the sender, call the individual or business directly to verify the message is legitimate. Use a phone number from your own records or the company's official website and not the number provided in the email.
- Confirm the contents of the email look legitimate especially when a request can impact your business, such as transferring money.
- Hover over website links before clicking to confirm the legitimacy of the site.

If at any time you are uncomfortable or you feel you are experiencing suspicious behavior, call 1-800-EDISON-1 (1-800-334-7661).

Report Phone Scams

Report any suspicious behavior immediately. Call 800-EDISON-1 to report. If you believe you have been the target of a phone scam, ComEd urges you to contact the Illinois Attorney General's Office at 1-(800) 386-5438 (TTY 1-800-964-3013), or visit the Illinois attorney general's website at www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov and select the "Protecting Consumers" link.

Report Scams

The Better Business Bureau Scam Tracker is a free tool anyone can use to report suspected scams. Consumers are encouraged to report scam encounters whether or not you lost money because your reports warn others so they can avoid similar cons. Visit BBB.org/ScamTracker.

Report Identity Theft

If you believe your identity has been stolen and a ComEd account has been opened in your name, you may make a claim regarding the fraudulent activity by filling out an Identity Theft Affidavit (available at <https://www.comed.com/my-account/customer-support/contact-us/fraud-theft/imposters-scams>).

Please mail or fax completed forms to:

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Obituaries

Arias

Manuel Arias. Beloved husband of Beatriz Arias; loving father of Gabriella (Gregory Eyre) Arias Eyre, Rocio Arias, Manuel (Laura) Arias, Yuni Arias (George) Lonebear, Leslie Arias and the late Maria Marcela Salazar; fond grandfather of Armando Salazar Jr., Uriel Salazar, Eduardo Salazar, Stefan Salazar, Jonathan Arias, Jessica Cervantes, Vanessa Arias, Stephanie Arias, Vivienne Arias, Damian Arias, Sophia Lonebear and Fox Reeves; fond great-grandfather of Alexander Marcus Medina, Nathan Medina, Aliyah Arias, Jaylin Martinez, Ismael Martinez, Hugo Martinez, Kaitlyn Aguirre, Kamilah Cervantes, Emmanuel Villaruel and Naomi Villaruel; dear brother of 12; Loving uncle, brother-in-law, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Ayala

Felicita R. Ayala. Beloved wife of the late Abdon S. Ayala; cherished mother of the late Olga A. (Bob) Rhode (deceased), Juanita A. Rodriguez and Bruny A. (Samuel) Santiago; loving grandmother of Victoria (Peter) Eupierre, Guy (Monica) Ramirez, Angela (Christian) Hermanson and Samanthony (Bethany) Santiago; dear great-grandmother to Abigail, Ashley, Danny, Madeline, Samantha, Vinny and Natalia; fond sister, aunt and friend to many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery.

Cundari

Robin Cundari. Dearly beloved soulmate of Vito Brescia; loving mother of Amy Voyles, Nicole (Mike) Blangin and Gianna Brescia; beloved daughter of the late Carmen and Geraldine Cundari; cherished nana of Isabella and Michael Charmoli; dear sister of Al "Butchie" (Melody) Cundari and William "Billy" (Bridget) Cundari; fond aunt of Ashley and Carmen; fond great-aunt of Olivia and Alessandra; loving cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment Mount Emblem Cemetery.

D'Amelio

Giacomo D'Amelio. It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Giacomo on Thursday morning, the seventh of March. He was born in Campobasso, Italy, 1937. Giacomo was a devoted husband to Antonietta for 63 years, loving father to four children and a doting grandfather to six. He resided in Glendale Heights for 47 years after moving from Forest Park in 1977. He was extremely proud of his Italian heritage. An avid member in the Flowers of Italy Club in Melrose Park, he became president of the club multiple times and was an influence within the community and worthwhile philanthropic events. Giacomo actively participated in many endeavors of the JCIAA. After graduating from the Tool and Die Institute in 1972, a successful career of 28 years took place at BorgWarner. When he decided to retire, his passions were quite simple, but fulfilling. The most important was making his own wine from the best grapes. "Solo il meglio." He enjoyed barbecuing with friends and family, and sitting in the garage talking about life. The many trips he took back to Italy were enjoyed by family traveling with him learning about ancestors and his growing up in San Marco. When family from Italy came to visit, he was a most gracious host and an ambassador to our sites. He is survived by his wife – Antonietta; children – Victor

(Bonnie) of Schaumburg, Carmela (Tony) of Carol Stream, Josephine (Steve) of Bartlett and Theresa (Michael) of Villa Park; grandchildren – Andrew, Matthew, Samantha, Mark, Steven and Brooke. Giacomo will be missed by his many friends and extended family. RIP in the arms of our Lord. May the Earth be light for you. We will always carry you in our hearts. Arrangements by Salerno's Rosedale Chapels. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Fitzgerald

Carmela Fitzgerald, nee Carpino. Dearly beloved wife of the late John "Jack" Fitzgerald; loving mother of Maria (Frank) Matarrese and John (Thamara) Fitzgerald; cherished nana of Alyssa and Bryan; loving sister, aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Flores

Francisco Flores. Beloved son of the late Gonzalo and Estela Flores; loving brother of Mario H. Flores, Marco A. Flores, Victor M. Flores, Maria E. Ruvalcaba and Claudie Flores; cherished uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Garza

Rodolfo Garza Valdes. Born to Rodolfo Garza and Ester Valdes; second oldest of six children; married to Angelica Garza on Dec. 18, 1981.

Rodolfo was a man you could always rely on. He helped those in need. His passion was disassembling and reassembling machinery, cars and electrical units. He was a problem solver and he could fix anything – a true jack of all trades. He was a family man, a husband, father, brother, uncle and cousin who was well loved, dependable and respected. He will be missed greatly and forever in our hearts.

Dearly beloved husband of Angelica; loving father of Rodolfo, Alexis and Deirdre; father-in-law to Nowis Duerto Garza.

Socialite, courageous and strong

Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Gibson

Frank Gibson Jr., 70, of Chicago, was born to the late Mary and Frank Gibson. He was married to his high school sweetheart Linda (nee Vicari) for 50 years. He was a loving father to Ceil (Larry) Pierce, Lisa (Brian) Story and Tony. Proud papa of Adin, Francesca, Antonia, Merrissa Keith and Brian Story Jr. Frank was the favorite son-in-law of Wilma and the late Lou Vicari. He was a fond brother of Dominic (Jennifer) Gibson, Lou (Fran) Vicari, Mark (Roxanne) Vicari and Ralph (Liz) Vicari, and a loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Frank worked for the city of Chicago bureau of electricity and was a proud member of Local 9 for 28 years. He was also a sir knight of the fourth degree in the Knights of Columbus. Frank will truly be missed by his family and friends. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Gusich

Gregory T. Gusich. Dearly beloved husband of Maria A. Gusich (nee Impastato); loving father of Theresa (Vince) Fanelli, Juliann (Pasquale)

Ligato and Gino T. Gusich; cherished grandfather of Giovanni, Nica, Lorenzo and Giada; dear brother of Mark Gusich and the late Cynthia Ragainskas; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Hamilton

Christine Hamilton. Dearly beloved wife of the late Gary Hamilton; loving mother of John and Andy Jr. DeTolve; beloved daughter of the late Florence and Joseph; cherished grandmother of Dina (Kyle), Nina, Mia (Emilee), Madison, Gia, Byron and Anderson; fond niece of Adeline Kukla; cherished aunt of Diana, Danny, Mia, Derrick and Devon; loving cousin and friend of many. To all who had the honor to know her, she put a smile on your face. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment St. Adelbert Cemetery.

Mendicino

Emilia Mendicino. Dearly beloved wife of the late Santo Mendicino; loving mother of Frank (Joanne) and Dante Mendicino; cherished grandmother of Michael and Daniel (Jen) Mendicino; great-grandmother of Rosalina; dear sister of Aldo Ricciardi and the late Mario; loving sister, aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Michaels

Michelle Michaels. Beloved wife of Bradley; loving mother of Giuliana; beloved daughter of Antoinette and the late Phil; dear sister of Mark (Rachel) Michaels; fond aunt of Gabriella Michaels; loving cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Pellicori

Louis Carmen Pellicori, July 4, 1962-March 25, 2024. Arrangements by Trinity Memorial Funeral Home, Trinity, Florida.

Polkow

Harold Polkow. Beloved husband of the late Elizabeth; loving father of David (Judith), Linda (Roger) Bartkowicz, John (Yesenia), Mary (Peter) Gonzalez, Anne and William; loving father-in-law to the late Kathleen; beloved son to the late William and Bernice; fond grandfather to Alisha (Dan), Jennifer, Stephen, Stephanie, Amanda, Katelyn, Rachel and Daniel; fond great-grandfather of Aiden, Mason and Hunter; dear brother of the late Kenneth (Dolores) and the late Margaret (the late Robert) Burns; loving uncle, cousin and friend of many. Lifetime member of The Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge Order 777. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home.

Prete

Marlene Prete. Beloved daughter of Marie and the late Joseph; dear sister of the late Anthony; cherished friend of Ada Marie Morella and Fran Valentine. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Schrader

Louise (Red) L. Schrader passed away peacefully on March 22, 2024, at the age of 91 years old. She was born on Oct. 16, 1932, in Chicago, to Rudolf and Edna Kliem.

Louise grew up in Melrose Park with her parents, brother and sister, attending Melrose Park Grade School and then Proviso East High School.

After graduation, she began working at Chicago Rivet in Bellwood, where she helped replenish the US Military with machined parts coming out of

WWII and then the Korean War.

Louise and Eugene (Wags) first met in 1950; it was a spark that Eugene would remember for quite awhile as he needed to go into the Korean War. After returning from the Korean front in 1953, Eugene did not waste much time getting back in touch with Louise, as she met him at Midway Airport with other close family members. Her naturally red hair, caring personality and great smile were quite an attraction. Many dates and dancing into the night led to their marriage on March 6, 1954, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Melrose Park. They were devoted to each other for 70 years having two sons – Richard in 1957 and Scott in 1960.

Louise and Eugene bought their first house on 17th Avenue in Melrose Park in 1956 and raised their family there. After taking a break from American Rivet to raise a family, Louise went to work at Dominick's Finer Foods in 1966 to support their buyers and helped grow the grocery retail chain locally. She stayed with Dominick's until 1996 in a variety of different buyer-support roles, making a lot of lifetime relationships. Louise was very active both with outside-of-the-house work, as well as managing the household and volunteering at church and Cub Scouts. She loved shopping in general, reading magazines and newspapers, the holidays and all of the house decorating that goes with it.

Louise is lovingly remembered by her husband Eugene; her two sons, Richard (Cynthia) and Scott; her sister Arlene; sister-in-law, Carol; two grandsons, Garrett (Michelle) and Ryan (Kristen); five great-granddaughters (with a soon to be grandson). She will be greatly missed by all. Arrangements by Woodlawn Funeral Home.

Soper

Judy L. Soper, nee Camaioni, a cherished beacon of loving kindness, passed away peacefully on April 1, 2024, at the age of 84. Born on March 27, 1940, in Oak Park, Illinois, Judy's life was a testament to the power of love, family and unwavering dedication. She departed this world in the comfort of her daughter's home in Orland Park, Illinois, surrounded by the love of her family.

A longtime resident of Stone Park and formerly of Melrose Park, Judy, along with her husband, was the proud co-owner of Arthur's Pub in Stone Park. She also contributed her meticulous skills as a secretary at Midwest Ink. Judy's professional life was marked by the same warmth and care she bestowed upon her loved ones. She was the beloved wife of 63 years to Arthur, a partnership that stood as a symbol of enduring affection and mutual support.

Judy's role as a mother was one she held closest to her heart. She was the loving mother of Cathy (Kevin) Davis, Tim Soper and Arthur "Lincoln" (Darlene) Soper. Her children remember her as a guiding light, always leading by example and providing a safe harbor in any storm. Judy was also the proud grandmother of Allison Soper, Robin (Jim) Devitt, Lincoln Soper, Justin (fiancée Charlotte Kline) Davis, John (fiancée Jenna Hebel) Davis and Juliana Soper, who will carry forward her legacy of love and spirit.

The daughter of the late Bernice and Freddy Camaioni, Judy's family roots ran deep. She was a dear sister to David Camaioni, Michael (Pat) Camaioni, Betty (Michael) Zito, Phillip (Pam) Camaioni, Terry Camaioni, Mark (Debbie) Camaioni, Steven Camaioni and predeceased by her siblings Nikki (the late Denny) O'Leary, Jimmy (Linda) Camaioni, Mary (Joe) Peters, Butchy Camaioni and Pauly Camaioni. Judy's extended family included numerous fond nieces and nephews, all of whom benefited from her selfless and spirited nature.

Those who knew Judy will remember her as the embodiment of love and selflessness. Her spirited approach to life was infectious, inspiring all who crossed her path. Judy's ability to connect with people, to make them feel seen and valued, was one of her most remarkable qualities. Her presence could light up a room and her laughter was the melody that played in the hearts of those she touched.

Arrangements by Chapel Hill Gardens West Funeral Home. Final resting place Queen of Heaven Cemetery-Christ the King Mausoleum.

Judy's life was a beautiful tapestry woven with threads of joy, compassion and an unwavering commitment to her family. As we bid farewell to this extraordinary woman, we celebrate the indelible mark she has left on the lives of so many. Her memory will live on, not just in the hearts of her family, but in the countless lives she enriched with her boundless love.

Tidaback

Deandra Tidaback. Loving mother of Troy and Katelin Tidaback; beloved daughter of the late Guy and Sandra Guerine; dear sister of Joseph Guerine, Gordon Guerine and the late Kenneth Guerine; cherished aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private.

Trojan

Deborah Trojan. Loving mother of Vanessa (Joseph) and Jeff (Lindsay); cherished grandmother of Matthew, Giana, Talia, Joey Jr., Jackson, Kali, Wyatt, Liam and Maddox; loving sister, aunt, cousin and friend of many. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Interment private. Final resting place Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Welch

Ray Ralph Welch, 73, of Kildeer, Illinois, was surrounded by family when he passed away at home March 16, 2024. He was born Dec. 18, 1950, in Melrose Park, Illinois, to the late Walter and Myrtle Welch. Ray is survived by a circle of family who will love him always – his devoted wife Patricia Welch (nee Salvinolo); loving children Michele (William) Giambrone, Lisa Welch and Anthony (Corey) Welch; proud grandchildren Victoria, Michael, Marie, Anthony, Juliana, Alison and Morgan. Ray was also a fond brother, uncle, godfather and friend to many. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his brother, Walter Welch.

Ray and Tricia were married Dec. 26, 1969, spending 54 years together. Ray worked hard to provide a loving and happy life for the family he and Tricia created and supported together. He worked his way up through the construction industry, eventually founding and co-owning Ricci/Welch contracting company which subsequently became the biggest underground sewer contractor in Illinois. Ray was a proud business owner through his retirement in 2018. It was then that he purchased his first boat and began taking classes to learn how to navigate the waters along the Florida coast. He loved his new hobby because it provided a fun and beautiful environment to share with family and friends. Enjoying the sunshine alongside the people he loved became a gift he gave routinely for many years. Ray will be remembered for his generosity, extreme love, strength of spirit and the forever life lessons he shared with family. He gave freely and never asked for anything in return, just like the warmth of the sun he so enjoyed. Arrangements by Carbonara Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery.



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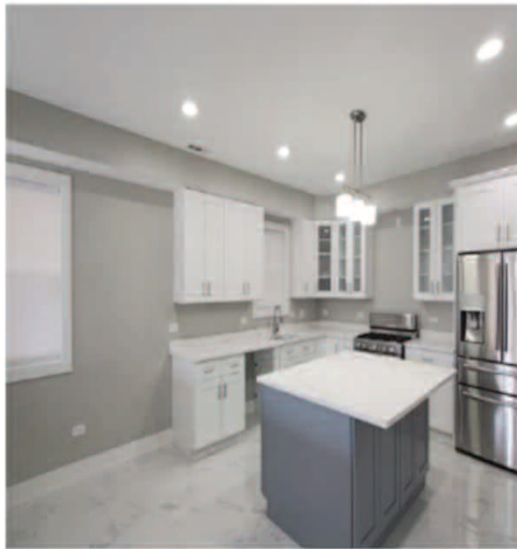
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