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# Village View

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good news!

## B-MAC EDITION

Volume 17 | Number 9 | May 2, 2023

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

### City of Blue Island awarded urban forestry funding



The City of Blue Island was awarded a \$22,460 grant to complete tree inventories and develop a management plan for its urban forest.

The funds were provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Urban and Community Forestry Partner Grant Program, and administered by The Morton Arboretum and the Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CRTI).

Funding from the grant will provide a complete public tree inventory, management plan and updated tree ordinance for the City by July of 2024.

“This type of important planning will help to main-

tain and improve our city’s trees, reduce flooding, keep our air clean, cut air conditioning costs, and enhance property values,” said Blue Island Mayor Fred Bilotto.

The grants provide communities with a better understanding of the urban forest areas they’re managing by revealing an estimated number of trees, their size, condition and species. The inventories will also identify opportunities to increase planting, and will inform the development of a comprehensive, long-term urban forest management plan.

“Urban trees are critical infrastructure for a community, and this funding helps to protect one of its most important resources,” said Lydia Scott, director of CRTI. “Trees clean our air and water, reduce flooding and heat, improve our mental and physical health, and provide important habitat for birds and other wildlife.”

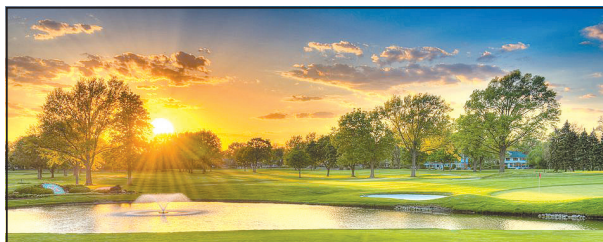
### Attracting Butterflies at Midlothian Public Library



Thursday, May 04, 2023 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM in the Commons Area.

This event details how to turn your garden into a butterfly haven! Learn what butterflies need to survive, which plants to use, and other tips for attracting butterflies to your garden. Presented by the Forest Preserves of Cook County. Please register.

This is an Adult Program. Presented by Jessica Becker, Forest Preserves of Cook County. For more information contact Laura Gaughan at (708) 535-2027 or email: lgaughan@midlothianlibrary.org.



### 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Midlothian Charity Golf Classic

Midlothian has been raising over \$550,000 for local charities over the past 36 years. This year’s event is hosted by Mayor Gary L’Heureux at the historic Midlothian Country Club 5700 W. 147th St., Midlothian, IL on Monday, August 14, 2023.

Golf and Dinner include 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch and on course refreshments, a pre-dinner open bar and dinner served in the Midlothian CC Majestic Club House.

There will be Prizes, Raffles and Split the Pot. Golf/Lunch/Dinner/Beverages is \$100 per person with Dinner only \$60 per person. Proper attire is required.

Golf check in time is 11 am with lunch at noon and the shotgun start at 1 pm. Dinner is following golf.

For more information email: MidloCharityGolf@gmail.com or call Jodi Hille at 708-259-2044.



### Multi-Chamber Night with the Windy City Thunderbolts

Join us for a Business After Hours event like you’ve never seen before! Bring your appetite as we have a premier ball-park experience in store for you. Wednesday, May 10th at Ozinga Field 14011 S. Kenton Ave., Crestwood, IL from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Network with business leaders from the Chicagoland area while enjoying an all-inclusive food and drink menu in our famous Glenmark #WinCity Party Patio. The fun doesn’t stop there as the night will also include field access for ThunderBolts practice and a chance to meet the team.

RSVP by May 5th by e-mailing Johnny Sole at jsole@wcthunderbolts.com. Please indicate which chamber you are a member of and how many individuals will be attending within your party.

Come and go as you please any time between 5:00 and 8:00 pm. Watch the team in their last practice before the season opener on May 11th. All food and drink is included, as attending this event is free.

### Help plant trees in Crestwood



Volunteers needed! Crestwood is teaming up with Chicago Trees Initiative to plant trees at Nathan Hale School. No experience is needed. Join us for this fun event on May 24, 2023, from 9 am to noon. Nathan Hale School 5324 West 135th Street, Crestwood, Illinois.

### Free Disaster Preparedness Training Starts September 6<sup>th</sup>



If you are interested in the Alsip Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course. The next 8 Week (20 Hour) CERT course will begin on September 6, 2023. Classes will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The final disaster scenario and graduation will be held on Saturday, October 28th.

(FEMA) sponsored volunteer pro-gram. Feel free to share the materials with your relatives, friends, neighbors, and colleagues. The CERT team accommodates people (residents and non-residents) from all ages (18 years and above) and all backgrounds. Note: The class is limited to a maximum of 25 people on a first come, first served basis.

After the initial 20-hour course, CERT members remain active by attending monthly training sessions and occasional meetings. When officially requested, members provide assistance during emergency and non-emergency events. It’s understood that volunteers are not always available to respond or attend training. However, members are encouraged to sharpen their skills and gain additional experience by remaining active on the team.

Informational is provided here: <https://villageofalsip.org/wp/esda>. You can also email: [cgeraci@villageofalsip.org](mailto:cgeraci@villageofalsip.org).

### Decorate a bag for Mom



We will be painting a bag for Mother’s Day. Children of all ages can participate, must be accompanied by an adult. Parents, please sign up for this program in the Children’s Department, space is limited.

Date: May 9, 2023 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Location: Makerspace in Blue Island Public Library

2433 York St., Blue Island. Organizer is Viviana Salgado her phone is 708-388-1078 Ext 22 or email: [vsalgado@blueislandlibrary.org](mailto:vsalgado@blueislandlibrary.org).



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## FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 21 | Number 9 | May 2, 2023

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

### City of Oak Forest approves 2023-2024 budget

The City Council approved the fiscal year 2023-2024 budget, which describes the city's revenue and expenditures for the 12 months beginning May 1, 2023.

The City Council approved a balanced budget with a modest 2.5 percent property tax increase. All increases in general operations will be funded by increases in sales and income taxes.

The annual budget includes capital projects totaling \$10.8 million. Major initiatives include the 2023 road program and the water main replacement project.

The water and sewer fund reports a surplus of \$428,000, which is necessary to build reserves and fund capital projects.

View the entire fiscal year 2023-2024 budget at [www.oak-forest.org](http://www.oak-forest.org).



### Village unveils new parking times

The Village of Tinley Park will be making a modification to its parking times at the Oak Park Avenue train station to better maximize the space at the lot and provide commuters with even more options for free parking in the heart of Downtown Tinley.

Starting May 1, lots will be open to free parking after 10 a.m. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays and Sundays. Permit parking will be available from 5 to 10 a.m. Mondays through Fridays.



There will be no overnight parking on Fridays.

The Village also is installing new signage at the lot to help guide visitors.

### Oak Forest water and sewer rates increase on May 1

The City of Oak Forest will increase its water and sewer rates on May 1 to cover the cost of operations as well as an increase from its suppliers – the City of Chicago and the Village of Oak Lawn. According to revenue policies, the city's water and sewer fund must be a self-supporting one.

The water rates will increase from \$10.33 per 1,000 gallons to \$11.02 per 1,000 gallons (\$.69 increase) for the first 25,000 gallons used (Tier 1), and from \$11.61 per 1,000 gallons to \$12.38 per 1,000 gallons (\$.77 increase) for usage above 25,000 gallons (Tier 2). The sewer rate will increase from \$2.12 to \$2.15 per 1,000 gallons.

The quarterly water base fee per individual meter will remain at \$30 and the fee for multi-family unit buildings serviced by one water meter will remain at \$10.

For more information regarding water and sewer rates, including capital improvement projects, how to reduce your water bill, and financial assistance programs, visit [www.oak-forest.org](http://www.oak-forest.org) or call 708-687-4050.



### Food Trucks on Front Returns May 3rd

Food Trucks on Front returns to Downtown Mokena beginning May 3rd from 4 PM to 8 PM!

Join the Village of Mokena for Food Trucks on Front! Food Trucks will be stationed on Front Street. Some trucks take cash only, so plan accordingly to keep all your options open.  
See you downtown!



### Oak Forest Vehicle Stickers on sale now

Purchase your vehicle sticker when the portal opens on May 1. Registered seniors, ages 65 and up, automatically receive their vehicle stickers in the mail. All vehicles that are housed in the City of Oak Forest must be registered with the city and must display a current vehicle sticker at all times. Vehicle stickers are valid from July 1 - June 30 of each year. Vehicle sticker applications are mailed annually to residents that currently have vehicles registered with the city.

Vehicle stickers must be purchased and displayed by midnight on June 30, 2023.

Purchase your vehicle sticker online. Or, visit City Hall, M-F, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or drop your payment in the night depository.

Vehicle sticker fees double on July 1, 2023.



Senior citizens, 65 and older, are eligible to receive two (2) free vehicle stickers per household with proper ID and vehicle registration. The vehicle must be registered in the senior citizen's name. Disabled Veterans, POWs, and active military may qualify for free registration.

New residents must register their vehicles within 30 days of moving in and must show proof of a move-in date. Please visit City Hall, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to purchase your sticker(s). One form can register up to three (3) vehicles.

### Meet the Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce

The Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce is proud to celebrate over 65 years of serving the Tinley Park community! The Chamber has remained a steadfast and loyal business partner advocating for the growth and prosperity of our business district. The Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce is committed to bringing innovative information and opportunities to businesses and the community to create a strong economy, we stand equipped with programs to build your business stronger month by month and throughout the year.

If you are a small to medium size business, entrepreneur, retail, not-for-profit, manufacturer/distribution or corporation, the Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce is your business partner specialized in tailoring your unique needs to support your drive for growth and achieve success. The Chamber holds annual signature community events Brew & Vine, Oktoberfest, Parade of Lights and Trim-A-Tree. Our membership Golf Outing is held in the month of July at The Odyssey in Tinley Park.

Laser focused on opportunity and growth, the Chamber is your gateway to networking, professional development, workforce, government advocacy, resources, and community connections. It's about the power of connection, and the Chamber is one of your best investments!



Don Macaluso, President Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce

### Orland District 135



Seventh graders from @CenturyWildcats made LED lights with play dough during STEM day at Moraine Valley.



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## SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 24 | Number 9 | May 2, 2023

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

### Chicago River Day 2023 with Worth Park District



Join us at Lucas Berg Nature Preserve on Saturday May 13th from 9 AM to 12 PM.

Make a difference by volunteering with Friends of the Chicago River. Fun, Free, Family-Friendly Annual Cleanup. The Chicago-Calumet River system is healthier now than it's been in 150 years, but litter continues to be detrimental, hurting people and wildlife and diminishing the beauty of our region.

Individual registration required, register before 05/05/23 & receive a Chicago River Day T-shirt.

Registration is open until a site is at capacity.

Space is Limited. Ages 8 & up are eligible to volunteer. Younger family members are welcome to observe provided they are supervised by an adult. Volunteers under 18 need their guardian to register.

Parking Across from Entrance. St Mark's Lutheran Church, 11007 S. 76th Avenue.

Lucas Berg Cleanup Entrance, 7550 W. 111th Street.

Site Captains: Michael Mcelroy, Mike Maddox.

Go to link or QR code to Register: [www.eventbrite.com/e/chicago-river-day-2023-lucas-berg-nature-preserve-tickets-559954227167](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/chicago-river-day-2023-lucas-berg-nature-preserve-tickets-559954227167).

### Moraine Valley to host child care resource fair

Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills is hosting a Child Care Resource Fair on Saturday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to noon at 9000 W. College Parkway in Building M. This free event is open to the public and will feature leading child care centers from the surrounding communities. Attendees can meet with staff and ask questions about programs offered at each center.

Anyone interested in taking classes in early childhood education can meet with faculty from Moraine Valley's Education Department. Information will be available about the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program, which offers qualified individuals the chance to earn credentials and/or a degree in early childhood education tuition-free.

In addition, individuals interested in obtaining a job in the early childhood education field can meet with child care centers and organizations that work with young children that have open positions. Attendees can apply at the event, and on-the-spot interviews will be available at the employers' discretion.

For more information, visit [morainevalley.edu/ecace](http://morainevalley.edu/ecace) or contact Cara Maca at [macac@morainevalley.edu](mailto:macac@morainevalley.edu) or (708) 974-5453 or Laura Douglas at [douglasl23@morainevalley.edu](mailto:douglasl23@morainevalley.edu) or (708) 974-5766.

### 30 Things to Do in Chicago under \$30



Presented at Chicago Ridge Public Library 10400 Oxford Ave., Chicago Ridge, IL on Monday, May 15th from 7 pm to 8 pm.

From big museums to little-known attractions, learn how to take advantage of everything our beautiful city has to offer, without breaking the bank.

In this presentation, Jez Layman will highlight 30 deals and free options to make the most of your weekend or staycation, ranging from history and culture to green spaces to quirky sites off the beaten path.

This event is for adults. For more information call 708-423-7753.

### Seniors must apply for "Senior Freeze" for first time in 2 years

After a two-year break, senior citizens eligible for the Senior Freeze property tax exemption will again have to complete application forms to renew the exemption. Annual renewal applications are usually required because eligibility for the Freeze depends on income, which can change from year to year. But according to Robert E. Maloney, the annual renewal requirement was waived during the pandemic.

Applications were mailed in mid-April and Palos Township Assessor's Office reminds residents that our office is available to help seniors complete and file the Freeze renewal application.

The Senior Freeze is one of two property tax exemptions available to people sixty-five years of age or older.

It is available for residential properties if an owner lived in the property in 2022 and was born in 1957 or earlier. If the property received the Senior Exemption last year, it should be automatically renewed unless the property sold recently.

The Senior Freeze provides seniors with additional savings if the combined income of all members of the household is \$65,000 or less, and if the senior has been an owner-occupant of the property since January 1, 2021. Seniors should complete and file a Freeze application by May 10.

"Taxpayers who recently turned sixty-five may not receive senior application forms in the mail," Assessor ElSaffar said. "I encourage such individuals to call my office for information about the senior exemptions. Information is also available on the Cook County Assessor's web site."

In addition, recipients of the Exemption for People with Disabilities will have their exemptions automatically renewed for the first time this year. Those who purchased their homes in 2021 will have to apply this year for the 2022 Homeowner Exemption and any other exemptions for which they are eligible.

Savings from all property tax exemptions will appear on the second installment of 2022 tax bills, which will likely be mailed in the fall of 2023. Taxpayers with questions about exemptions or needing help applying for them should feel free to call Palos Township Assessor's office at 708-598-4418.

### Beyond Antiquity

by architect and artist John "Yanni" Fotiadis

In a series of nearly 40 drawings, paintings and digital artworks, architect, and artist John "Yanni" Fotiadis explores classical antiquity in Greece and takes us into the present and future via the same subjects: architecture, myth, and landscape. Classical antiquity is omnipresent in Greece, where you can glance up from a cosmopolitan street in Athens and see the 2500-year-old Parthenon. The ancient past is woven into the cultural legacy of the country physically, psychologically, intellectually, and emotionally. It is an immense, epic, and unavoidable presence that inspires all of Fotiadis' art. The ancient Greek world also looms large outside of Greece: from London to Shanghai to Chicago, Greek antiquity lingers in our buildings, our books, and our language. The works in Beyond Antiquity, whether depicting classical architectural forms or imagining new metaphysical environments, ask the viewer fundamental questions about our relationship to the past and the future, the everlasting, and the ephemeral.



John "Yanni" Fotiadis at the Acropolis courtesy of the artist

This exhibition is generously sponsored by The John S. Koudounis Family and is curated by Dr. Katherine Kelaidis.

Beyond Antiquity will be exhibited at the National Hellenic Museum (333 S. Halsted Street, Chicago) from May 12 to September 30, 2023. Regular museum hours are Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and include admission to all exhibits, with special discounts available for seniors, students, and children. Admission to the museum is always free for NHM Members. For more information on current exhibitions, events, and memberships, visit [nationalhellenicmuseum.org](http://nationalhellenicmuseum.org) or call 312-655-1234.

### Palos Heights Clean Up Day



Let's tidy up our city on May 20th from 9:30 am to noon. Volunteers sign up at [www.LakeKatherine.org](http://www.LakeKatherine.org). Family friendly sites available or register the day of the event at Palos Heights city hall 7607 W. College Drive, Palos Heights, IL starting at 9:30 am.

Sponsored by the City of Palos Heights Public Works Department and the Green Team.

For more information call 708-361-1800.



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## SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 49 | Number 21 | May 2, 2023

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

### Oak Lawn Park District receives \$1.67 million grant!

We are thrilled to announce that our beloved Chamber Member, the Oak Lawn Park District has been selected to receive a \$1.67 million grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation through the Cycle 15 - 2022 Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) funding! The \$1,697,877 project will be to replace the pathways and lighting at Wolfe Wildlife Refuge (109th & Laramie Ave.).

“The ITEP funding is a wonderful opportunity to improve our walking and biking paths at one of our most popular parks,” said Tom Hartwig, executive director. “We have a fantastic team that put these grants together with the common goal of providing improvements to the places our community loves and I’m happy to see their hard work pay off.”

Oak Lawn Park District would like to thank Illinois State Senator Bill Cunningham, Village of Oak Lawn Board of Directors, Mayor Terry Vorderer, and the Southwest Council of Mayors for writing letters of support for the grant. Further details of the project and a timeline will be released soon.



### The Chamber Olympics Are Coming to Evergreen Park

Local businesses are invited to participate in the first-ever Chamber Olympics, coming to Evergreen Park Thursday, May 25. This free commu-

nity event will be held at the Evergreen Park Community High School Sports Complex at 2700 W. 91st Street and will include a variety of open-playsports

and games. The Chamber Olympics will feature an expo area for participating businesses to share information about fitness and wellness.



### Justice Chamber of Commerce Rib Roast 2023

The Justice Chamber of Commerce Will Hold its 21st Annual Rib Roast Fundraiser on Saturday, May 20, 2023 from 11 pm to

3:00 pm . at Wilkins School, 8001 S. 82nd Avenue, Justice. Eat-in or order curbside and pick up.

On the menu: BBQ ribs, Pulled Pork, Bake Beans, Chips and Desserts, Soda

Lemonade and water. For more info and pricing, call 708-594-1988 or visit Justice Chamber of Commerce.com

Ron Patrick President, Justice Chamber of Commerce.

### Message from Mayor Mike Howley

Hickory Hills Baseball and Softball Honors City Clerk Dee Catizone at Opening Day

It was a brisk opening day parade and opening season ceremony on Saturday, April 22, 2023. The many in attendance saw Hickory Hills Baseball and Softball honor City Clerk Catizone with a plaque expressing appreciation for her “continued help and service with kids from Hills Baseball and Softball.”

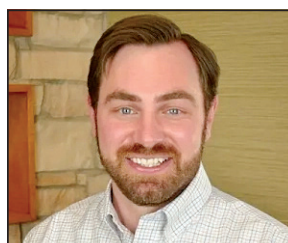


George Czarnik, President of Hills Baseball & Softball and Clerk Catizone

### About the Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce

The Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce has promoted a thriving business environment in our community since 1947. We foster cooperation and opportunity among local businesses, consumers, and government.

Officers and Directors on the Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce Board hold monthly meetings to conduct Chamber business, plan events, and share news. The EPCC Board of Directors Monthly Meeting is usually held on the first Tuesday of the month at 8:30 am in the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 S. Troy Ave.



Frank Murray President



### Fan Fest fun for all ages at Oak Lawn Public Library

Celebrate pop culture and Free Comic Book Day on Saturday, May 6 at the Oak Lawn Public Library’s Fan Fest Vol. 7: Guardians of the Library. This free, all-ages event will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 9427 S. Raymond Ave.

To start the day, stop by the welcome table to get checked in, sign up for the

cosplay competition, and receive a gift while supplies last. The exhibit hall featuring local artists, boutiques, writers and vendors opens at 9:30 a.m.

Local talent will lead panels and entertainment throughout the day. At 10 a.m., Dungeon Master Dave Hansen will guide attendees in Creating Characters for Dungeons and Dragons, and Geeks A Gogo will show young fans how to create their own foam masks, crowns and arm bracers during the Kids Cosplay Craft.

Performer Mikayla Wolford will instruct a K-Pop Dance Class for teens and adults at 10:30 a.m. K-Pop dance is an energetic activity, and attendees participate at their own risk.

The Orland Park Public Library, Palos Heights Public Library, Matteson Area Public Library District, Plainfield Area Public Library and White Oak Library District will join the Oak Lawn Public Library for the Library Fan Fest 101 panel at 11 a.m. These six area libraries will explain how to start a library “con” and offer inspiration for your next comic convention.

Balloon artist Smarty Pants will create superhero themed balloon sculptures to engage patrons of all ages at 11:30 a.m. Some lucky volunteers attending the library will even have an opportunity to become part of the show! Not all patrons will receive a balloon, but all will be entertained.

Join Geeks A Gogo at 12:30 p.m. for Getting Help on Your Cosplay: Library Edition, an educational panel on how you can utilize library resources, such as 3D printers and cutting machines, to create your cosplay.

Chicago K-Pop dance team Prism Kru, World Champions at the 2022 K-Pop Cover Dance Festival, will perform live at 1:30 p.m.

Learn the delicious and aesthetically pleasing Japanese art of boxed meals at 3:30 p.m. from The Obento Lady Sara Fujimura during Obento 101.

The exhibit hall will close at 4 p.m., but the festivities will continue at 6 p.m. with after-hours pop culture trivia at Cork & Bean, 4931 W. 95th St.

Explore more details, including prizes, crafts, cosplay competitions, a Marvel Snap tutorial, photo booth, scavenger hunt and the full schedule for this action-packed extravaganza at olpl.org/fanfest.

## Easy Honey Garlic Chicken Thighs



by Marcie and Julie at Platein28

Yields 4 servings, Prep time: 15 min., Cook time: 13 min., Total time: 28 min.

Ingredients for the chicken are 4-6 chicken thighs (boneless & skinless); ½ t salt; ½ t pepper; ½ t onion powder; ½ t garlic powder and 1-2 T olive oil.

The Honey Garlic Sauce is: ¼ cup chicken broth; ¼ cup honey; 1 T soy sauce; 1 T lemon juice; 1 T brown sugar; 5 cloves garlic (minced); sesame seeds (as garnish) and parsley (as garnish).

Season chicken thighs with salt, pepper, onion powder, and garlic powder.

Heat oil in large skillet over medium heat. Sear chicken for 6-8 minutes on each side and until cooked through.

Combine sauce ingredients in a small bowl. Pour over chicken, cover pan, and cook on low for 3-5 minutes or until sauce thickens.

Top chicken with a pinch of sesame seeds and parsley. Serve chicken with rice, pasta and/or a veggie of choice!

## Strawberry Summer Salad

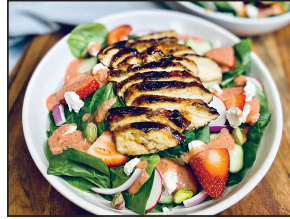
by Marvelous Munch

From our kitchen to yours, cheers!

Yields 2 Servings, Prep time: 10 Minutes Cook time: 15 Minutes Total time: 25 min.

Strawberry Mint Dressing: 1 cup washed and cut strawberries; ¼ cup lemon juice; ¼ cup olive oil; ½ cup fresh mint; 1 garlic clove and 2 tsp maple syrup.

Balsamic Chicken: 2 chicken breasts; 1 tbsp balsamic glaze; 1 tbsp honey; 2 tsp balsamic vinegar; 1 tsp olive oil; ½ tsp salt and 1 tsp garlic powder.



Summer Salad Ingredients: 4 cups spinach; ¼ cup red onion; 2 radishes thinly sliced; ½ cucumber thinly sliced; ¼ cup goat cheese broken up and ¼ cup pistachios.

Add all Strawberry Mint Dressing ingredients to a blender and blend until smooth. Set aside.

Add all balsamic chicken into a ziplock bag or bowls, mix well until chicken is completely coated in the marinade.

Let chicken sit in the marinade for at least 15 minutes. While chicken is marinating construct your salad. Lay the spinach at the bottom of your bowl and add your veggies

on top. Sprinkle pistachios and goat cheese on top of the salad.

In a medium pan add olive oil and heat over medium setting. Once oil is hot, add chicken to the pan and cook 5-7 minutes on each side or until chickens' internal temperature reaches 165°.

Remove chicken from pan and let rest 5 minutes before slicing. Lay chicken on top of the salad and add strawberry mint dressing.

## Greek Chicken Salad Cucumber Bites

by Hayley Saucedo



Yields 5 Bites, Prep time: 5 Minutes Cook time: 1 Minutes Total time: 6 min.

1 Cucumber; 1 Cup of Shredded Chicken; ½ Cup of Greek Yogurt; 1 Tsp Minced Garlic; 1 Tsp Chopped Fresh Dill; ½ Tsp Salt and ½ Tsp Pepper.

Peel the cucumber and cut thick slices. Using a spoon or scooper, make a little dip in the cucumber slices. Mix the remainder of the ingredients in a bowl. Add the chicken salad on top of the slices. Top with a sprig of dill and enjoy!

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**  
Mon-Sat 9am-6pm  
Sunday 9am-3pm

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We Salute Special Olympics Chicago

**DINING ROOM NOW OPEN!**

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**Happy Mother's Day**

# Capri

Dine In ♦ Take Out ♦ Catering ♦ Open 3pm

**Open Mother's Day - Call for Reservation**

**NOW OPEN** **CAPRI PIZZA**

12307 S. Harlem Ave., Palos Hts (North Side of Building)  
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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

**Plan now to attend!**

# Active Senior Expo™

**Wednesday, May 10, 2023**  
9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**CHICAGO GAELIC PARK, 6119 W. 147TH STREET OAK FOREST**

- Hundreds Of Products and Services For Seniors
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**20TH ANNIVERSARY**

# HEROES COOK-OFF

A FRIENDLY COMPETITION RAISING MONEY FOR SERTOMA CENTRE IN ALSIP AND MATTESON

**Saturday, May 20, 2023, 5:00 to 9:00 pm**  
115 Bourbon Street, 3359 W 115th St.

Meet Food Network's **Big Bad Budget Battle** contestant and **Stickney Firefighter Dominick Iovino!!!**

**\$20** includes taste portions of each competing entree  
Kids 4-12 \$10, 3 & under are free

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by Wes Davis | Dogs



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# Theatre

## Lead Casting Announced for Lyric Opera of Chicago's West Side Story



Ryan McCartan as Tony

Ryan McCartan, Kaniasha Marie Feliciano, Brett

Thiele, Amanda Castro, and Yurel Echezarreta will headline Lyric Opera of Chicago's production of Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim's groundbreaking American musical West Side Story. The highly anticipated musical event, featuring almost 100 artists, returns to Chicago's biggest stage. Regarded by the Chicago Tribune as "a suite of searing, soaring melodies," and heralded as

"musical theater euphoria," earning four stars from the Chicago Sun-Times, the critically acclaimed production is being presented June 2 to 25, 2023 at the Lyric Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago.

Single tickets for West Side Story start at \$30 and are on sale now at lyricopera.org/westsidestory, in person at the Lyric Opera House box office, or by calling 312-827-5600.

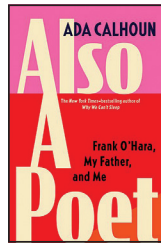
## Chicago Opera Theater announces 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season in 2023/24



COT reflects on first 50 years with a season of six works, all Chicago Premieres, and featuring the company's signature combination of vital new works, reimagined classics, and underperformed gems.

Mainstage early bird subscriptions start at \$98 for all three operas. Only subscribers may add special events at this time. Subscriptions are available at cot.org/season or by calling 312-704-8414.

# Book Review



## Ada Calhoun, *Also a Poet*

by Lorraine Schmall

It's National Poetry Month. Most of us can name, at most, three poets: 2 dead white men (Edgar Allen Poe ? Walt Whitman?); and what's-her-name, that adorable young woman who read at Joe Biden's inauguration. (Amanda Gorman).

The National Endowment for the Arts reports that 28 million adults read poetry, about 10% of the US population. We know poetry is good for us and says important things. Current poet laureate Ada Limón is quoted on this year's free National Poetry Month poster: "We were all meant for something." So, for the remaining 90% of us who are fans of neither rhyme nor meter, Ada Calhoun's *Also a Poet* is a rewarding and surprisingly fascinating book about people who write poetry: particularly gorgeous, openly-gay, promiscuous Frank O'Hara, killed at 40 in a (most-likely) drunken dune buggy accident; and another legion of poets who share their stories about Frank in this book featuring a two-generation, ultimately futile attempt to produce an authoritative biography on said O'Hara.

Frank was "the heart and soul" of the mid-century New York School, a community of Manhattan creatives who experimented and collaborated with paint and prosody. Although the artists, Grace Hartigan, Willem deKooning, Robert Motherwell, Cindy Sherman, and Larry Rivers, are more widely known than the poets, it is the latter we get to know in Calhoun's book. An almost-biography of Frank and his anything-goes, sexist, over-sexed, inebriate, abusive cohorts morphs into Calhoun's powerful memoir. The author's father, Peter Schjeldahl, a celebrated long-time art critic for the New Yorker and a part of this "in-crowd," tried to write a book about O'Hara, but gave up.

The daughter, Ada Calhoun, who's ghost-written several best-sellers and penned two of her own, plans to one-up her famous, negligent, self-absorbed dad ("I think off and on about people I love, but always about writing") and, using and supplementing the interviews he taped years earlier, pick up where he left off. Talking to more folks, ostensibly about Frank, she gets some great life advice, which Ada is humble enough to share with her readers: "I'm thinking maybe you want to make it more about yourself, you can make use of the tapes and have a conversation with your dad, too." Those conversations are not always peaceful. "You need a therapist," she shouts at him. She repeatedly articulates her disappointments. But she seems to take to heart what a friend tells her: "In therapy, I learned that, we don't always want to surpass our fathers. There's something sad about beating them." Ada thinks his dying might improve her life. "Take it from someone with two dead parents, when someone dies it just means nothing new happens. It doesn't mean you stop thinking about them or being tormented, now you're just left with whatever happened already and there are no more do-overs."

Ada recognizes that she's not just trying to compete with her father. "A part of me is writing this because I want people to know more about Frank O'Hara. But maybe, if I'm honest, what I also really want is for people to know about me, so I can feel like I left some mark on the world, however slight." She got what she wanted. And now I plan to go on-line and read all my daughter's poems.

2022-2023 Season

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Tickets: Adults \$25-30; Seniors (65+) \$20-25; Students \$7; Children 10 and under free  
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This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.



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**POP GO-GO THE 60'S!**  
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## Getting into the swing made easier

(NAPS)—As golf remains a significant piece of business and social culture, it's important for women to feel confident on the course. Knowing the basics of the game could encourage participation in key business decisions taking place on the course every day. Nearly 5 million women play golf these days and if you're among them—or would like to be—here are a few facts and tips you should know.



Lydia Ko, the youngest player in golf history to be ranked No. 1 in the world.

Where To Turn: Lexus, in partnership with the Metropolitan Golf Association, will host another round of complimentary golf clinics this season to familiarize women in the tristate area with the game and spur their love for the sport.

On May 8, 2019, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Golf & Body NYC with a special guest speaker; On June 20, 2019, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Bethpage State Park and in July 2019 in the Westchester, N.Y. and Conn. area (check the website [www.mgagolf.org/wgolf](http://www.mgagolf.org/wgolf) for the latest details).

During each event, attendees are taught the basics of putting and chipping, then offered one-on-one counsel from golf pros.

For further inspiration, there are TED-style talks from female golfing legends. The evening also includes light refreshments, gift bags, and the opportunity to meet other professional women in a fun and casual setting.

What's Being Done: This is just part of Lexus's involvement with women's golf. The company sponsors such legends as:

Lydia Ko, the youngest player in golf history to be ranked No. 1 in the world; Annika Sorenstam, considered the greatest female golfer of her generation and Natalie Gulbis, one of the most popular players on the LPGA Tour.

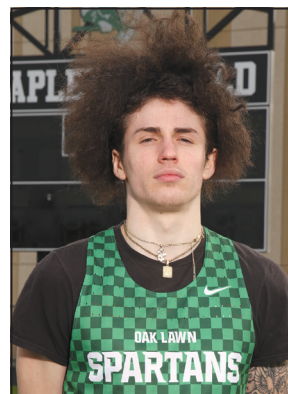
The car company says that they, like it, carefully hone their

## Oak Lawn's Wagner takes flight to earn athlete of month honors

Written by Brian Frangella, OLCHS Staff Writer

Robert Wagner is finding some rare air. He is reaching elite heights. He is soaring to success. He is doing it all for the Oak Lawn Community High School boys track and field team. And with the records he set and the medals he has earned, he has been selected as the Spartan Athlete of the Month for March.

Wagner opened the month at the Argo quad meet by running the anchor leg of the first-place 4x160 meter relay, taking first place in the long jump, and taking first in the high jump. For the long jump, he soared over 21 feet, which is Top 10 in the state of



Illinois. For the high jump, he cleared 1.9 meters, which is also Top 10 in the state.

Later in the month, he qualified for the Illinois Top Times Invitational in high jump, and he finished first with a personal record of 2.0 meters. That ranks him second in the state and ties a school record.

craft every day, remain focused on their game and strive for perfection.

Useful Tips To help your golf game:

Swing high. Swing the clubhead several inches off the ground so you're more likely to swing around your body instead of up and down. Aim to go through, not to, the ball. Give yourself room. Set up with a wide stance, ball forward, weight on your right side and a tilt in your shoulders. Hold the driver far enough away from your body to allow for a big, powerful swing.

Follow through. When you finish your swing, 90 percent of your weight should be on the left side, with your hips and chest left of the target.

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**Gonzalez continues improvement on diamond for Oak Lawn**

Written by Brian Frangella, OLCHS Staff Writer

**Let's play ball, Oak Forest!**

Happy Opening Day to the Oak Forest Baseball Association! The opening day parade stepped off from Kerkstra Elementary School 14950 Laramie Ave, Oak Forest, at approximately 9 a.m. on April 29th and headed to Hille Middle School 5800 151st St., in Oak Forest.

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After his freshman year at Oak Lawn Community High School, Ivan Gonzalez was selected as an all-conference honorable mention player in the South Suburban Conference Red. After his sophomore year, he was named as an all-conference selection. However, this year may be his best season yet.

The junior second baseman is hitting .407 with nine RBIs. He has several multiple hit games and continually drives in runners at the plate. He is also among the team leaders

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in fielding percentage at .933. He has played a major role the Spartans early season success in conference action.

"Despite battling injuries, Ivan has remained positive and is a team leader by example," head coach Bill Gerny said.

**Gaidelis aims to place at conference tennis meet**

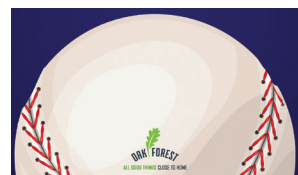
Written by Brian Frangella, OLCHS Staff Writer  
 Practice and focus have helped Oak Lawn Community High School boys tennis player Gabe

Gaidelis become a solid third doubles player on the varsity team. In addition to team practices, he practices on his own time, and he offers advice to teammates.

So far this season, he has three wins under his belt. Now, he is looking for even more on the court.  
 "Gabe often practices one-on-one with his

older brother," head coach Adam Winchell said. "He is a leader on the team, who other players go to for advice. If he continues practicing and stays

focused, he has a real shot at placing at the South Suburban Conference Red meet and at the Illinois High School Association Sectional."



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