### Blue Island Arbor Day Celebration

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Blue Island's Arbor Day Celebration will be held on Friday, April 26th from noon until 2:30 p.m., starting with an educational planting in the morning at Whittier School at 13043 Maple Avenue, Blue Island, Illinois and concluding at Blue Cap 1962 Broadway Steet, Blue Island, Illinois with another tree planting and an afternoon celebration. This event also celebrates the completion of the Chi/Cal Grant Blue Island was awarded, giving us 115 trees through the Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Advance registration for this event is strongly encouraged. Sign up now by going online to www.blueisland.

### **Cook County Property Tax Exemptions**

Property tax exemptions are savings that contribute to lowering a homeowner's property tax bill. The most common is the Homeowner Exemption, which saves a Cook County property owner an average of approximately \$950 dollars each year. To determine which exemptions are currently

being applied to a residence, homeowners can review their Property Details at this address: https://www.cookcountyassessor.com/address-search#address, and then review the Exemption History and Status section to determine which exemptions they received.

Exemption applications

for tax year 2023 are now available. Visit the Cook County Assessor's website at: https://www.cookcoun tyassessor.com/exemptions to review the exemptions and apply online. As a reminder, property tax savings from exemptions are only reflected on the second installment tax bill.

### Veterans Memorial Middle School Spring Community Fair

Tuesday, April 23, 2024, from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the VMMS Cafeteria, this family event will have raffles and prizes. The following organizations will be participating: Blue Island Park District, Blue Island Library,

Blue Island Untouchables, Alsip Falcons Football and Cheer, Alsip Library, Alsip Park District, Blue Island Fire Department, Blue Island Clerk's Office, The Meadows Golf Course, Blue Island Chamber of Commerce and many additional organizations.

Veterans Memorial Middle School is at 12320 Greenwood Avenue, Blue Island, Illinois 60406. Call 708-385-6630 for more information.

### 2024-2025 Vehicle Sticker and Pet Tags will be sold at Midlothian Village Hall

Vehicle Sticker/Pet Tag renewal application will be mailed to residents who previously purchased a Vehicle Sticker/pet tag this past year. Renewal forms will be enclosed with your quarterly water bill.

In effort to avoid long lines, and USPS delays, and allow for efficient processing, we are encouraging residents to purchase their Vehicle Sticker/Pet Tag during your scheduled quarterly water bill month.

Only Residents who receive their renewal form will be able to purchase their Vehicle Sticker/Pet tag at Village Hall.

We highly encourage residents to purchase your Vehicle Sticker/Pet tag during your scheduled water billing month. However, residents will have until Saturday, June 29, 2024, to purchase, and adhere them to your vehicle by midnight, Sunday, June 30, 2024, to avoid a citation.

Residents who do not have water bills in their names or get a water bill mailed to them will have their renewals mailed out individually.

New resident ONLY. New residents can purchase a

Vehicle Sticker/Pet tag in person at Village Hall at any time. To obtain a Vehicle Sticker/Pet Tag, please provide the following:

Current vehicle registration that reflects your Midlothian address and current rabies certificate.

If a new or additional vehicle is purchased, you will need to bring your registration information to the Village within 30 days

For questions or more information fee structure, please contact Village Hall 708-389-0200 or go to our website at www.village ofmidlothian.net.

### Memorial Day Ceremony in Alsip

Monday May 27, 2024, let us remember all who gave and sacrificed for all.

All gave some, some gave all. Remember them this

Memorial Day.

Come out to the Alsip VFW Post 450 at 11800 South Cicero Avenue, Alsip, Illinois 60803 at noon.

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood



### Midlothian Library Hosts Kiwanis "April Food Day" Collection

Now through April 23, Kiwanis Club of the Oak Forest and Crestwood Area will be collecting for United Way of Metro Chicago's annual "April Food Day" event. Midlothian Public Library, located at 14701 Kenton Avenue, Midlothian, Illinois, will serve as a dropoff site for non-perishable food items and other household goods. A bin for these items will be located near the Checkout Desk.

Kiwanis Club volunteers will deliver the donations to the April Food Day event on April 25 at the Tinley Park Convention Center. According to United Way of Metro Chicago, the purpose of April Food Day is "to come together to promote food security and recognize our community leaders advancing equity in the south-southwest suburbs, a region facing high levels of poverty and systemic education, health, and wealth inequities."

Year-round, community members can help out their neighbors in need by donating food and personal hygiene items to the Midlothian Library micro pantry located in the library's café area.



Photo courtesy Midlothian Public Library.

For more information about the Kiwanis April Food Day collection, the library micro pantry, or any other library events or services, call (708) 535-2027.

### Alsip no longer requires Vehicle Stickers

Alsip Residents & Businesses no longer need to purchase a Vehicle Sticker. I recommended and Board members Rick Dalzell,

Christine McLawhorn, Chris Murphy, Catalina Nava-Esparza and Dave Perretta agreed to discontinue requiring residents and applicable businesses to have Vehicle Stickers.

Feel free to remove your Vehicle Stickers after June

### The Lyric Blue Island presents Icons of Country Toby Keith & Miranda Lambert

Saturday, April 20, 2024, doors open 7:00 p.m., show begins at 8:00 p.m.

Get ready for a fun-filled evening country music fans! Two tribute artists! One energy filled night! Presenting the Made in America Icons of Country tributes to Toby Keith and



Icons of Country. Photo courtesy the Lyric Theater Blue Island.

Miranda Lambert. Three hours of hits from TWO country legends under our roof in Blue Island. It's going to be a party. Tickets start at \$40.00 online at www.lyrictheater. com. The Lyric Blue Island is at 12952 Western Ave., Blue Island. Call 708-972-0700.

Street resurfacing to begin April 15 in Tinley Park

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The Village's annual Street Resurfacing Program will begin Monday, April 15 and will repair or replace 8.3 miles of roadway on 45 streets.

The Village's contractor, Iroquois Paving, will inform

### National Tourism Showcase announced for May 23 in **Orland Park**

Visit Chicago Southland will host their 2024 National Tourism Day Celebration and Hospitality Showcase on May 23, 2024, at the Orland Park Civic Center. The annual event is meant for leading business professionals from the Chicago Southland area and beyond to network and celebrate tourism.

For attendees, who must

### Animal Control facility dedication for former Alderwoman Laura Gray

Recently, Mayor Hank Kuspa and the City Council recognized the life and legacy of former First Ward Alderwoman Laura Gray by dedicating the Animal Control facility in her memory. Mayor Kuspa presented the plaque that will be affixed to the outside of the building to her husband Terry.

A passionate public servant and animal lover, residents with a door notice a day before any work is done on their apron or curb. Work will proceed approximately in the order listed on our website.

The Street Resurfacing Program includes asphalt resurfacing, replacement of selected areas of concrete

sidewalk, curb and gutter removal and replacement, pavement striping, and other miscellaneous items. The Village typically budgets \$3.5 million dollars annually for the construction of this program.

Learn more at TinleyPark.



Photo courtesy Visit Chicago Southland.

be 21 or older, the showcase will stage over 50 area partnered amenities including hotels, restaurants, attractions, entertainment venues, sports teams, caterers, casinos, breweries and more. Registration is required at https://lp. constantcontactpages.com/ ev/reg/v8rfz6p.

The 2024 National Tourism Day Celebration and Hospitality Showcase is in conjunction with 2024 National Travel and Tourism Week from May 19th through the 25th.

 $For further information \, on \,$ the showcase, contact Visit Chicago Southland Business Development Manager Chris Craven at chris@visitchicagosouth land.com and 708-351-



Oak Forest Mayor Henry L. Kuspa and Terry Gray. Photo by City Administrator Kristin

Laura was instrumental in establishing the Friends of Animal Control group to provide rescue and re-homing of unclaimed and abandoned animals, improve facility conditions, and educate the community in responsible pet ownership and care. She also sponsored numerous city ordinances for the betterment of animals and supported

many local animal rescue groups throughout her life.

Animal rescue was Laura's true passion in life. Nothing made Laura happier than snuggling with her pets.

The number of loved ones who attended last night's meeting to witness the unveiling of the plaque is a testament to the impact Laura had on our community. She is truly missed.

### Street resurfacing to begin April 15 in Tinley Park | Active Senior Expo to be held in Oak Forest

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Active Senior Expo, an event "Dedicated to inform, educate and entertain senior citizens", will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at Chicago Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest. Show hours are 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Active Senior Expo features hundreds of products and services designed specifically for seniors. Offerings include health care, retirement communities, assisted living, financial, insurance, legal, estate planning, home care, consumer products, government programs and

Special attractions include free health screenings and door prize drawings. A Farmer's Market featuring fresh produce will be presented by BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois. Live entertainment will take place at 11:00 a.m.

The following seminars are free for all attendees: 10 a.m. is Understanding Medicare. At 11 a.m. is Saving Money and Energy

presented by Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program.

At Noon is How to Get Your Home Ready to Sell presented by Ventimiglia Realty Team.

No registration is required and regular admission to the event is \$2. Attendees can obtain a free admission coupon by visiting www. activeseniorexpo.net.

For information, contact Silver Star Expositions at (630) 620-6347. Fax: (630) 620-7996. E-Mail: activeseniorexpo@hotmail.com.

### Mokena Park District staff member is Young Professional of the Year

Mokena Community Park Dist. is excited to announce that Brenna Bowers, Recreation Supervisor, was recently awarded the South Suburban Park and Recreation Professional Association, Young Professional of the Year. In recognition of Brenna's dedication, vision and service in the Parks and Recreation Field. The SSPRPA brings Parks and Recreation professionals together for education, training and support that benefits the south suburban communities.

Brenna has been with the Mokena Park Dist. since 2021. As a Recreation Supervisor she manages staff members, volunteers, and a wide variety of programs and events for all ages, from summer



Brenna Bowers, Photo courtesy Mokena Park Dist.

camps to senior lunches. Congratulations Brenna!

### Sgt. Borrowdale wins HIDTA Award

Tinley Park Police Sgt. Russell Borrowdale and his team recently received a HIDTA National Award in Washington, D.C. for their work with Operation Brian's Hammer, an ongoing Federal investigation by the Chicago HIDTA/OCDETF Strike Force Group 3 (CHSF3) and the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois.

HIDTA stands for "High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas" and is a program that provides assistance to Federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies operating in areas determined to be critical drugtrafficking regions of the United States.

CHSF3 is comprised of representatives from the Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Customs and Border Protection, the U. S. Secret Service, the Will County Sheriff's Office Gang Suppression Unit, the Porter County Sheriff's Office, and



courtesy Village of Tinley Park.

the Tinley Park, Chicago, Summit, Oak Lawn, Sauk Village, Posen, and South Holland Police departments.

### 2024 Palos Park Chipper

of the season is April 29. The chipper will begin on the west side of the Village

The next chipping date of Palos Park and move east until all public streets have been covered. Visit our website for all chipping information including regulations on what can and cannot be set out for the chipper.

### Vehicle Stickers Regulations in Chicago Ridge

All vehicles registered or housed in the Village of Chicago Ridge (including automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, mopeds, and recreational vehicles) must have a current village vehicle sticker properly affixed and displayed on the windshield.

All vehicle stickers shall be

valid for a one-year period beginning July 1 and ending June 30. Half-year rates shall be applicable for vehicle stickers purchased between January 1 and May 31. Halfyear rates do not apply to late sticker purchases.

For newly purchased vehicles or new residents, the

owner shall have one month from the date of purchase or residency to a buy a vehicle sticker at the regular annual rate. Documentation will be required. Penalties will apply to late purchases. For further info, call the Village Hall at 708-425-7700 or go online to www.chicagoridge.org.

### Sip 'N' Sing Karaoke Night at McCord Gallery

McCord's got talent! Looking for a night of fun with neighbors and friends while helping to benefit McCord Gallery and Cultural Center? Then join us for an evening of song as you take to our stage to perform, or simply cheer and applaud the talent

Give us a call for tickets at 708-671-0648!

You can sing your heart out or just hang out with friends! Give us your best diva solo or perform in a group! Nobody's judging, we're here for the fun!

Saturday April 27, doors

open at 7 pm. Tickets are \$50.00 which includes refreshments.

An evening to benefit McCord Gallery and Cultural Center at 9602 W. Creek Road, Palos Park, Illinois. For more information go to www.mccordgal lery.org.

### Visit Chicago Southland wins Illinois Excellence in Tourism Award for Best Website

Visit Chicago Southland has won the Illinois Excellence in Tourism Award for Best Website Budget A. The recognition came during the 2024 Governor's Conference on Travel and Tourism in Peoria, Illinois.

The three-day Illinois Governor's Conference on Travel & Tourism, the state's premier educational and networking conference for tourism industry professionals, gathered more than 360 tourism and hospitality leaders, travel experts and visionaries at the Peoria Civic Center to explore the latest industry trends and insights that contribute to Illinois tourism. Annual awards were presented on night one.

"Awards such as this 2024 Illinois Excellence in Tourism Award for Best Website Budget A give us pride and validation that our efforts to help promote and grow tourism in the Chicago Southland area are worthwhile," voiced Visit Chicago Southland President/CEO Jim Garrett. "Our team cares deeply for this region and its people."

Illinois Governor JB Pritzker, one of the conference's speakers, emphasized the fiscal dependence on drawing tourists to his state: "As Governor, I'm always proud to boast Illinois'

impressive tourism industry, which thrives as a cultural and economic benefit to our state. Thank you to all the travel and tourism professionals across Illinois, who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to welcome visitors and make this industry stronger than ever before."

Enhancements to Visit Chicago Southland's website include AI-powered accessibility widgets, Plan Your Trip interface, interactive video, 360-degree virtual tour videos, mobile device responsiveness, a downloadable app, heightened photodriven navigation, and more user-generated content.

### Baker named new principal at Shepard High School in Palos

The District 218 Board of Education recently voted to hire Dr. Timothy Baker as the new principal at Shepard High School.

Baker currently serves as associate principal at Shepard. He will succeed Dr. Jennifer Pollack, who will become the new Executive Director of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math for District 218.

"This is a dream job. I am eager and excited to serve the Shepard community as Principal. My goal is to foster a positive culture and climate for students and staff. I believe in our district's values and will work tirelessly to ensure students have the opportunity to realize their full potential," Baker said.

Baker began his career in District 218 at Richards as a science teacher in 2002. In 2012, he became Athletic Director at Eisenhower and in 2015 became the Assistant



Dr. Tim Baker will become the new principal of Shepard High School this fall. Photo Bob McPharland.

Principal of Discipline and Activities. In 2022, Baker became the Associate Principal at Shepard.

### Clear the Air of Indoor Pollutants This Spring

(NAPSI)—In the Spring, people often focus on the outdoors when it comes to air quality. But indoor air quality (IAQ) is also a crucial aspect of overall health and well-being. Unbeknownst to many, common pollutants can lurk inside homes, affecting health in subtle yet significant ways. Here are some of the most prevalent indoor pollutants and strategies you can use to identify and mitigate their impact on your home's air quality:

Dust is a well-known indoor pollutant that includes dead skin cells, pollen, textile fibers, and other debris. Dust can aggravate respiratory conditions such as asthma and allergies. Regular dusting and vacuuming, along with using HEPA filters, can significantly reduce dust levels in

PRO TIP: If you find yourself having to dust more often, you may want to consider air duct cleaning.

Mold: The Unseen Threat Mold exposure can trigger

allergic reactions and respiratory problems. Regularly

clean and inspect susceptible areas in your home.

PRO TIP: Maintain proper ventilation, control moisture levels, and promptly address any water leaks or damage.

Pet Dander: Furry Friends, Hidden Hazards

Pets are beloved family members, but their dander and fur can exacerbate respiratory issues as they circulate through your home via your HVAC system. To minimize pet-related pollutants, bathe and groom pets regularly and keep them out of bedrooms.

PRO TIP: Pet owners should change HVAC filters once a month.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs): The Invisible Culprits

VOCs are chemicals emitted as gases from common household products. To reduce VOC levels in your home, opt for low-VOC or VOC-free products. Proper ventilation is also crucial for minimizing the effects of VOC emissions.

PRO TIP: Incorporating



Discover the hidden hazards lurking within your home. From dust to pet dander and volatile organic compounds, indoor pollutants affect your health but simple strategies can clear the air for a healthier living space.

indoor plants can help absorb VOCs.

Maintaining healthy indoor air quality requires vigilance and proactive measures to identify and mitigate pollutants. For a fresh start, schedule an inspection of your HVAC system. Find a qualified professional near you at NADCA.com.

Learn More: For more information visit www. NADCA.com/Homeowners and follow @Breathing\_ Clean on Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok.

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

### St. Germaine School has a new playground

Mr. Philip O'Rourke, the principal of St. Germaine School at 9735 S. Kolin Ave, Oak Lawn, IL, stood at the forefront of the gathering of teachers and students who had worked hard to raise

the funds for the new playground. The official ribbon was cut amidst cheers and applause for their brandnew playground equipment.

For the students of St.

Germaine School, the new playground is more than just a place to play, it is a symbol of community, teamwork, and the power of coming together to achieve a common goal.

### Majoch named new principal at Richards H. S. in Oak Lawn

The District 218 Board of Education recently voted to hire Dr. MaLinda Majoch as the new principal at Richards High School.

Majoch currently serves as associate principal at Eisenhower High School. She will succeed Dr. Mike Jacobson, who will become the new Executive Director of Student, Family and Community Engagement for District 218.

"It is a privilege to be able to return to Richards after ten years and serve as the principal. It is a fantastic

### Evergreen Park Candlelight Theatre presents Over the River and through The Woods

A comedy by Joe DiPietro. Four performances only: Thursday, April 25, Friday, April 26, Saturday, April 27 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 pm.

Nick is a twenty-something bachelor who enjoys spending his time with his adoring grandparents.

When he announces to them that he will be moving away to accept a job offer, they conspire to keep him in his hometown.

A wildly funny play which touches the heart and

school and my intention is to provide an optimal learning experience for the students and a supporting environment for staff. It's an exciting opportunity to build upon the strong foundation and history that makes Richards special," Majoch said.

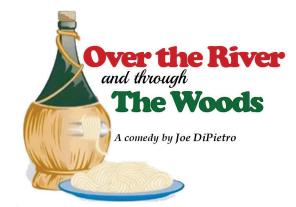
Majoch began her career in District 218 in 2003 as a social worker at Richards. In 2007, she oversaw the Small Learning Community at Richards before being named the Assistant Principal of Attendance,



Dr. MaLinda Majoch. Photo Bob McPharland.

Discipline and Special Education in 2009.

In 2015 she became the Director of Community and Grants before assuming the role of Associate Principal, most recently at Eisenhower.



reminds one to value those family and friends whom we hold dear.

The Evergreen Park Candlelight Theatre is a community activity brought to you by the Evergreen Park Recreation Department.

Performances of the Evergreen Park Candlelight Theatre take place in the Evergreen Park Senior Center, 9547 S. Homan Ave.

The Evergreen Park

Candlelight Theatre Program is a community theatre, that provides an outlet for local talent of all ages. Tickets for all productions are available now, in advance at the Community Center, 3450 W. 97th St. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors.

For more information go to https://evergreen park-ill.com/396/Candle light-Theatre.

### The Evergreen Park Recreation Dept. presents Rich Daniels and The City Lights Orchestra

Vocalist Linda Clifford, Suzanne Palmer, Bruce Mattey, Mark Madsen and Paddy Homan present Spring is in the Air Concert sponsored by the Chicago Federation of Musicians on Sunday April 28th at St. Bernadette Church 9343 S. Francisco in Evergreen Park, Illinois from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

Tickets are available now at the Evergreen Park

Recreation Department at 3450 West 97th Street. Tickets are free with a limit of 4 per household, first come first serve. You may call 708-229-3373 for more information.

## Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce recognizes winners of the 2023 Fire and Public Safety Coloring Book Contest

The winners of the 2023 Fire and Safety Coloring Book contest were honored at the recent Oak Lawn Village Board of Trustees meeting. Representatives from the Oak Lawn Fire and Police Departments were on hand to congratulate the winners who were honored by Village President Terry Vorderer, during the meeting. Also in attendance was Natasha Miller Willliams of Three20 Media, President of the Oak Lawn Chamber, Jeff Reynolds of Nothing Bundt Cakes and Immediate Past President of the Oak Lawn Chamber, and Michelle West of The Children's Museum of Oak Lawn and Director of the Oak Lawn Chamber.

Fire Safety Winners: 1st Place Tristan Guzman, 2nd grader from Columbus Manor, Tristin's artwork will be featured on the Fire Safety cover of the 2024 F ire and Safety Coloring book; 2nd Place Bella Aguayo, 3nd grader from Covington Elementary School and 3rd Place Jonelle Irankunda, 3rd grader from St Linus Catholic School.

Public Safety Winners: 1st Place Jacob Carohedi, 1st grader from St. Linus Catholic School, Jacob's artwork will be featured



L to R: Fire Safety Winners: Mayor Terry Vorderer, Bureau Chief Wheeler, Bella Aguayo (2nd Place), Tristan Guzman (1st Place), Jonelle Irankunda (3rd Place) and Oak Lawn Police Officers. Photo courtesy Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce.

on the Public Safety cover of the 2024 Fire and Safety Coloring book, 2nd Place Luke Lebarre, 1st grader from St. Linus Catholic School and 3rd Place Stasia Dobill, 2nd grader from St. Linus Catholic School. They were honored at the March Chamber Member Luncheon. Those artists include: Christianna Bell, Gianna Delorenzo, Haley Dynia, Daniel Harvey, Victoria Mendoza, Alani Moseley, Lance Pereira,



L to R: Public Safety Winners: Mayor Terry Vorderer, Jacob Carchedi (1st Place), Luke Lebarre (2nd Place), Stasia Dobill (3rd Place) & Chief Vittorio. Photo courtesy Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce.

The coloring book used drawings from talented student artists led by Art Teacher Jen Clark at Oak Lawn Community High School (OLCHS).

Ashley Tillman, Mona Saleh, and Miriam Cote. The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce donated \$200.00 towards the OLCHS Art Program.

### Rep. Rita joins Attorney General to fight underage vaping

State Rep. Bob Rita has joined Illinois' top law enforcement officer in the ongoing fight to protect youth from illegal vaping products.

Rita, D-Blue Island, recently led the Illinois House Executive Committee in overwhelming approval of House Bill 5069. The legislation requires vapor manufacturers to give their retail partners a vapor-product certificate showing how their products meet federal and state law safety standards. It now is up for consideration by the full Illinois House.

Manufacturers also must disclose the application they have filed to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration so their products can be approved for sales. Those disclosures will create a directory of all legal vaping products, so retailers buy only legitimate products and to help law enforcement identify and keep illegal vapes off store shelves.

Rep. Rita was joined in support of the legislation by Illinois Attorney



State Rep. Bob Rita, D-Blue Island, joins Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul. Photo courtesy of Bob Rita's office.

General Kwame Raoul. Both condemn a flood of vape products from overseas that appeal to young people but either have been rejected by the FDA or have not gone through the proper safety checks.

"The current federal regulatory process can be confusing, and it's difficult for consumers and even for retailers and local law enforcement to know for sure where products stand in that process," Raoul said. "This bill would help clear up confusion and would add to the toolbox of law enforcement trying to combat the sale of illegal and potentially dangerous vape products."

In 2021, Illinois banned the sale of vape products that do not comply with regulations requiring premarket federal approval. Foreign manufacturers try to skirt the requirement by offering flavored, single use "disposable" products that change names and falsify importation documents.

Youth vaping use has skyrocketed by 2,600 percent since 2019, and millions of high school students and even younger kids now are using e-cigarettes. Without a database of federally approved products, illegal sales by retailers are hard to track and more youth get their hands on harmful contraband.

Rita said this measure is one of several he is working on this year to keep youth safe from the scourge of illegal vaping products.

"While we wait for more action from the federal government, Illinois youth are being put in danger every day," Rita said. "We must take action, and this legislation will give our retailers and law enforcement the help they need to keep legal products on the shelves and hold bad actors accountable."

### Public Works following

YOUR community! Let's clean up our Village! Juice, coffee and donuts Saturday, April 27th will be provided in the meet at 8:30 am at the morning. Local vendors

will provide lunch at Public Works Garage 14801

Make a difference in S. Pulaski Rd., Midlothian, Illinois. clean-up.

> For more information contact Sue Stacey Sstacey @villageofmidlothian.org or call 708-389-9658.

### senior citizens

Sponsored by Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias, 19th Ward Alderman Matt O'Shea Illinois senior citizens can save time by scheduling a visit to the Secretary of State's Department of Motor Vehicles Mobile Unit that will be stationed at Mercy Circle, 3659 West 99th Street in Chicago's Mt. Greenwood neighborhood on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, from 10 am to 2

Advance registration for a specific time for an appointment is required. Area residents may visit www.19thwardmobile. com or call 773-238-8766 to make a 15 minute appointment for services including:

Mercy Circle to host Illinois DMV Mobile Unit for

Renew/correct Driver's License (seniors age 75 or older must visit DMV); Obtain a State ID (no charge for seniors age 65 or older); Purchase vehicle registration sticker; Register to vote with renewal of Driver's License or State ID: Become an organ donor with renewal of Driver's License or State ID; Secure a disability identification card and receive a veteran designation Driver's License and ID (www2.illinois.gov/

Proper identification is required for these services and some restrictions apply. For more information, download the information packet on the 19th Ward's website or visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com. Fees may apply paid to the Secretary of State using check, money order and all major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover.)

"The goal of the Illinois DMV Mobile Unit is to reduce travel and wait times for senior citizens needing commonly needed services," says O'Shea. "Partnering with Alexi Giannoulias to bring these services to our citizens on the Southwest Side makes life much easier for them."

### Cunningham protects vehicle owners from roque towing companies

A new measure sponsored by State Senator Bill Cunningham will protect vehicle owners by updating towing regulations often abused by rogue towing companies.

"The more I have learned about the towing industry in Illinois, the more I see that we need to make changes," said Cunningham, a Democrat who represents portions of Chicago and the Southwest Suburbs. "This measure will stop towing companies from holding medical devices, like hearing aids, hostage if a vehicle is stolen and later towed."

The legislation was brought to Cunningham from a constituent of the 18th District. The constit-

The Hills Chamber

uent's vehicle was stolen from outside their residence in Chicago and was eventually located by law enforcement and towed in Alsip. The constituent did not find out where their vehicle was located until a week after it was recovered, receiving a letter in the mail from a suburban towing company that was holding the vehicle. When the constituent went to recover the vehicle, they were told they would have to pay a fee of \$1,500 and were not allowed to recover a hearing aid from the vehicle until the fee was paid.

Cunningham's measure would add medical devices and other items to the list of property that can be recovered from a towed vehicle without payment. Cunningham also discovered that there was an issue with the notificaTo address that issue, the measure requires towing companies to provide written notice to the vehicle's owner within two days of towing. Additionally, if the owner recovers the vehicle within seven days, the towing company would not be able to charge any storage fees. In order to streamline the notification process, the measure also requires law enforcement to give towing companies the name and mailing address of the vehicle owner when a tow is authorized.

"The rules we are putting in place will give car owners more rights when they go to recover their towed vehicle," said Cunningham. "If we see more problems arise on this issue, we'll be in a good place to be able to make further changes as needed".

Senate Bill 2654 passed the Senate on Thursday and awaits further consideration in the House.

If you would like to receive a 2024 Media kit, email us at vvnew@sbcglobal.net.

You can also fill out our Contact Form on our website at www.vvnew.com or call 708-425-1910.

#### www.alsipchamber.org www.thehillschamber.org tion process when a vehicle **Justice Chamber** is stolen and later towed.

Proud member of the following

2024 Chambers of Commerce

**Bedford Park-Clearing Industrial Association** 

Alsip Chamber

www.bpcia.org

Blue Island Chamber

www.blueislandchamber.org

The Burbank Chamber www.burbankilchamber.com

Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.visitchicagosouthland.com

**Evergreen Park Chamber** www.evergreenparkchamber.org

justicechamberofcommerce.com Oak Forest-Crestwood Area Chamber www.oc-chamber.org Oak Lawn Chamber www.oaklawnchamber.com Orland Park Area Chamber www.orlandparkchamber.org Tinley Park Chamber www.tinleychamber.org

UBAM

www.ubam.org

#### Oak Lawn Village View Newspaper Archive

Explore digitized microfilm from the Oak Lawn Village View. Hosted by the Internet Archive. Look at the Oak Lawn Library website at https://www.olpl.org.

### **Village View Publication, Inc.**

Midlothian Spring Clean-Up 2024

708-425-1910 Fax: 708-221-6663 vvnew@sbcglobal.net

#### www.vvnew.com

Like us on Facebook!

Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

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.

### Johnson-Phelps VFW Auxiliary Annual Spring Penny Social

VFW Auxiliary will be holding their Annual Spring Penny Social on Sunday, April 21st from 1

The Johnson-Phelps 52nd Avenue, Oak Lawn,

Search for hidden Treasures on the Nickel, Dime, and Quarter Tables. Try pm to 5 pm at 9514 South your luck at the Raffle Table. The Kitchen will be open for Lunch. Children are welcome. Admission is free.

For more information call 708-423-5220 or go to www.oaklawnvfw. com. Like us on Facebook VFW Post 5220 Oak Lawn, Illinois. or the Auxiliary Facebook VFW Auxiliary 5220 Oak Lawn.

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first three sessions are two weeks long and culminate in a showcase in The Baffes Theatre. The fourth session, Summer Show Camp, is four weeks long and ends in two performances of Camp Rock The Musical! Campers can take one session, mixand-match, or spend the whole summer creating and performing with their friends at the BAC!

Campers can choose one session, mix and match, or enjoy the summer creating and performing at BAC!

Register now at https:// thebeverlyartscenter.com/ summer-camp or call 773-445-3838 for more info.

The Beverly Arts Center, on Chicago's South Side, is an organization building community through diverse, quality arts programming, education, and entertainment for all ages. Located at 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago, IL 60655.

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### How to Talk to Mom and Dad about Creating an Estate Plan

Despite the valid challenges to having conversations about death and dying, you should not avoid the topic. Having a plan to care for your parents money

and property will preserve their legacy and help them care for those they love most. Having this difficult conversation will also ensure that your parents have a voice regarding their end of life or when they can no longer make financial or medical decisions for themselves. In the absence of conversations about these scenarios and a legal delegation of decision-making authority, state law governs what happens. Those default rules may not reflect your parents' wishes. In addition, failure to have your parents' wishes properly documented may result in their heirs having to engage in expensive and time-consuming court processes.

So, how do you raise the issue with your parents? The

following are some key ideas to keep in mind when you have this conversation.

• Do not nag. If you are trying to persuade your parents to talk about completing an estate plan, the last thing you want is to make the process and yourself an annoyance. You do not want to inadventantly.

not want to inadvertently create an atmosphere where your parents start avoiding you or become suspicious of vour motives.

• Be open and honest about your concerns. To facilitate effective planning for your parents and their legacy, you must address the awkward family issues.

legacy, you must address the awkward family issues. You must ask the difficult questions now, when your parents are available to provide their insights. Be standing their wishes and helping them to protect those desires.

- Ask your parents what their wishes are. Find out what your parents want and hope for. Do not make assumptions. Be direct and ask them what their ideal situation is.
- Discuss the planning already in place. A critical component of having an effective conversation begins with asking your parents if they have any of the following documents—and if they do, the documents should be reviewed/updated.
  - > past wills,
  - > past trust documents,
  - > powers of attorney,
  - > HIPAA authorization forms, and
  - > insurance policy and retirement plan beneficiary designations.
- Include benefits to their children and grandchildren. Finally, addressing how your parents will build their legacy

through their children (you and your siblings) and grandchildren is critical. Explore how your parents want their money and property distributed.

If you approach your parents about end-of-life planning and you can all have clear conversations about the topics addressed above, you will be establishing the right foundation for effective estate planning.

#### You Do Not Have to Do This Alone

If you feel overwhelmed or would like help facilitating the conversation and guidance regarding how the estate planning system works, you should seek consultation with a professional estate planning attorney.

Kerlin Walsh Law, located in Palos Heights is dedicated to drafting Wills and Trusts with warmth and competence. After 25 years of consulting with clients in her office, their homes and hospital rooms, Eileen Kerlin Walsh, J.D., Principal Attorney, has discovered no area of law is more important or rewarding. Eileen has helped hundreds of families preserve their assets and their family harmony and is ready to help you with her "Healing Law" approach. Need a Will or Trust? Call 708-448-5169.



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Tickets: Adults \$30-35; Seniors (65+) \$25-30; Students \$7; Children 10 and under free; *Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door* 

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### La Havana Madrid at Pritzker Pavilion Millennium Park

Collaboraction and Teatro Vista Productions are excited to announce the companies will team to present a free, outdoor, staged concert version of Sandra Delgado's smash hit La Havana Madrid, Friday, August 23, 2024, at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion as part of Millennium Park's 20th Anniversary Season, presented in partnership with the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE).

Step back to the 1960s as the Jay Pritzker Pavilion is transformed to honor La Havana Madrid, a real nightclub at the corner of Belmont and Sheffield where newly arrived Latino immigrants gathered to dine, dance, and find

### **Auditorium** Theatre invites you to attend the Alvin Ailey **American Dance** Theater

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater returns to its Chicago home, the landmark Auditorium Theatre, for its 55th engagement here, with six dynamic performances, April 17 through 21, 2024. Celebrating its 65th Anniversary season in 2023-24, the company will perform three distinct programs certain to appeal to both longtime Ailey fans and new audiences discovering this joyous company for the first time: audience favorites, all-new, and Ailey classics.

A new production of Ronald K. Brown's Dancing Spirit (2009), set to music community. As the glorious rhythms of mambo and salsa form the heartbeat of an ever-changing city, audiences learn the stories of Latine newcomers seeking a home in Chicago, discovering their destinies, and falling madly in love.

Starting at 6 p.m., DJ Julio Bishop will spin classic salsa music to get the party started. The performance begins at 6:45 p.m. Bring your dancing shoes. Admission is free. The Jay Pritzker Pavilion is located at 201 E. Randolph in downtown Chicago. Visit MillenniumPark.org for more information

La Havana Madrid is one of five local productions to be presented this summer by Chicago-based cultural producers as



Sandra Delgado, creator and star of La Havana Madrid. Photo Ioel Maisonet.

part of the Millennium Park Residency program for Millennium Park's 20th Anniversary Season in 2024, produced in partnership with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE). It's one of dozens more special events this summer celebrating what's now the #1 tourism destination in the Midwest. For more, visit MillenniumPark



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Solomon Dumas, Constance Stamatiou and Yazzmeen Laidler in Alvin Ailey's Revelations. Photo by Paul Kolnik.

by Duke Ellington, Wynton Marsalis, and War, which pays tribute to the women of Ailey by evoking the elegance, dignity, and generosity of Judith Jamison and borrowing the title of her autobiography.

Are You in Your Feelings? In his third commission for the Ailey company, Kyle Abraham's newest work is a celebration of Black culture, Black music, and the youthful spirit that

perseveres in us all.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater performs at the Auditorium Theatre: April 17 at 7:30 pm; April 18 to 19 at 7:30 pm; April 20 at 1 pm and 7:30 pm; and April 21 at 3 pm. Tickets start at \$40 and are now available at AuditoriumTheatre.org, by calling 312-341-2300, or at the Box Office at 50 E. Ida B Wells Dr. in Chicago. Box office hours are Monday to

Friday noon to 5:00 pm.

### Brookfield Zoo Chicago's 90th Anniversary **Summer Concert Series**

Roaring Nights, presented by Meijer®, features three exhilarating nights of music, fun, animal experiences and dancing the night away on the Zoo's East Mall. This year's lineup includes The Fray on June 22, Barenaked Ladies on July 12, and Gin Blossoms on July 24, with each ticket sold directly contributing to the care of the Zoo's animals, education programming, and

global conservation efforts.

On concert nights, several of the Zoo's animal habitats will be open until 7 p.m. And zoogoers can meet some of the animal ambassadors on the East Mall between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. each evening.

Guests can choose from a variety of ticket options. Tickets purchased individually range in price from \$45 to \$55. For every individual adult ticket

purchased, one child 12 and under is free. VIP offerings for guests 21 and over feature a Brutus Package at \$160 to \$170 and a Titus Package for \$90 to \$100. Parking is \$17 to \$20.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.brookfieldzoo. org/roaringnights.

Brookfield Zoo Chicago is located at 8400 31st Street, Brookfield, Illinois 60513. Call (708) 688-8000.

### Judgment Day at The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare

Tony and Emmy Award winner Jason Alexander makes his Chicago stage debut in the hilariously irreverent world premiere Judgment Day, April 23 through May 26 in The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare.

All rise for Jason Alexander's Chicago stage debut in the hilariously irreverent world premiere Judgment Day, staged by Tony-nominated Broadway director Moritz von Stuelpnagel and written by awardwinning TV screenwriter

Rob Ulin. Alexander plays Sammy Campo, a staggeringly corrupt, morally bankrupt lawyer who's threatened with eternal damnation by a terrifying angel after a near-death experience. In a desperate attempt to redeem himself, Sammy forms an unlikely bond with a Catholic priest having his own crisis of faith. Filled with razorsharp wit, this deliciously devious comedy rollicks through the timeless questions of Western philosophy, "morality," "faith,"



Jason Alexander. Photo by Rebecca J. Michelson.

and "Are people any damn

Curtain 7:30 p.m. The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare, 800 E. Grand Avenue, Call 312-595-5600. Tickets \$41.00 to \$68.00.

### Jersey Boys Newly extended to July 28, 2024

Mercury Theater Artistic Director Christopher Chase Carter proudly announces additional dates for the first built-in Chicago Production of Jersey Boys, the Tony Award-winning story of Frankie Vallie and The Four Seasons. Jersey Boys has been extended through July 28, 2024, at Mercury Theater Chicago, 3745 N. Southport Avenue.

The production, originally scheduled to run through May 19, opened on March 28 to rave reviews and high audience demand. Tickets for Jersey Boys, priced \$60 to \$90, are on sale now at the box office,

3745 N. Southport Avenue in Chicago, www.mercurytheaterchicago.com. Mercury Theater Chicago has upgraded its seating.

Jersey Boys follows the fascinating evolution of four blue-collar kids who became one of the greatest successes in pop music history. Winner of Best Musical at both the Tony Awards® and Olivier Awards<sup>®</sup>, Jersey Boys takes you behind the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons to discover the secret of a 40-year friendship as the foursome work their way from the streets of New Jersey to the heights



of stardom. Audiences will be thrilled with performances of chart-topping hits including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," "Dawn," and "My Eves Adored You," which brought The Four Seasons the highest honor: induction into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame.

### Lookingglass Theatre Company announces a new artistic director and more

Lookingglass Theatre Company shared new initiatives that they have established since its announcement of the pausing of operations. Since that announcement, Look-ingglass has met with its staff, ensemble, and board to review the past and look to the future. The company has created a new business plan allowing the company to continue its mission of presenting unique and original works and enhancing its outreach programs. This plan was announced at the company's annual unGALA: LEAP. Lookingglass shared that its current 2023 to 2024 fundraising goals have been met as well as information about the new business plan, new staff and ensemble additions.

"Lookingglass' home on Michigan Ave. is a location that is primed and ready to become a center for Chicago arts, history and social events," said Lookingglass's new Artistic Director Kasey Foster. "This historic landmark building survived a great fire, and now, we too, emerge from the ashes. To realize our mission to "change, charge and empower" while providing Chicago and its visitors a place to gather, to learn, to experience theatre at its most theatrical and to have fun, today and into the future."

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Pepper Family Wildlife Center's captivating African lion habitat. Photo courtesy Lincoln Park Zoo.

### Olejniczak finishes scoreless march on mound for Spartans

by Brian Frangella, OLCHS Staff Writer

There is solid pitching, and then there is domination. For the month of March, sophomore lefthander John Olejniczak has been simply dominant on the mound for the Oak Lawn Community High School baseball team.

He did not allow a single run during his three appearances in the month. He struck out 19 batters. And he threw a no-hitter

against Morton. He went 3-0 and only gave up two hits along the way. The Spartans defeated Crete-Monee, Morton, and Simeon.

As a result of his sizzling March, he was named "Athlete of the Month".



John Olejniczak. Photo courtesy of Oak Lawn Community H.S.

### IMLS Names Lincoln Park Zoo as National Medal Finalist

Last week, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) named us as a finalist for its 2024 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The prestigious award honors institutions for making exceptional contributions to their communities, and 30 organizations have been nomi-

nated this year. Just three institutions are from the Midwest, and Lincoln Park Zoo is the only one from Illinois. Winners will be announced the end of May.

Lincoln Park Zoo is at 2001 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois. For more information go to www.lpzoo.org or call 312-742-2000.

### Check out our website at www.vvnew.com

### Earth Day Fair in Tinley Park

Tinley Park's Environmental Enhancement Commission presents Earth Day Amplified.

Enjoy a week of activities to do at home with your family, outdoor hikes, and educational seminars culminating with our second annual Earth Day Fair. Share photos from your Earth Week on the Village Instagram, Facebook, and X using #TinleyEarthAmplified.

April 22 is Earth Day Community Clean-Up Gather your family and friends to clean up litter in your backyard andneighborhood! Share a photo of your clean-up crew in action on social media using the hashtag #TinleyEarthAmplified. April 23 is 3R Day. Find new ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle with your household. Share these ideas with #Tinley EarthAmplified

April 24 is Forest Preserve Hike. Join naturalists from the Forest Preserves of Cook County for a hike at St. Mihiel Woods located at 167th and Central.

April 25 is Veggies 101. 7 pm at Tinley Park Village Hall kick off your spring gardening plans with a presentation from U of I Extension's Master Gardener Program.

April 26 is Take it Outside. Enjoy the outdoors at a preserve, park, or your own backyard! Keep us engaged with all of your fun using

#TinleyEarthAmplified.

April 27 is Earth Day Fair. 10 am until 2 pm at Tinley Park Village Hall Learn more about sustainability and ecology with local organizations and lots of family-friendly activities! From 10 am until 2 pm at Kallsen Center Tinley Park Village Hall 16250 South oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park, IL, (Northwest Entrance). Family friendly activities, nature, sustainability, and ecofocused community resources. Free native tree saplings, Tinley Park Public Library Storytime and Bookmobile, Food Truck from I Can't Believe It's Not Meat!

For more information visit www.TinleyPark.org/ EEC.

### Spring Clean Up Week begins April 22 in Oak Forest

From April 22 through April 26, residents of singlefamily homes can dispose of multiple bulk items on their regular garbage day.

Spring Clean Up Week is held in cooperation with Homewood Disposal, the city's waste hauler. Residents are asked to place all trash and bulk items curbside by 6 a.m. on their pick-up day. Please be sure to bag, contain, or bundle garbage at the curb.

Residents can dispose of durable goods or household items such as mattresses, furniture, and carpet, as well as washers, dryers, and



refrigerators, please take doors off appliances before placing curbside.

Unfortunately, Spring Clean Up Week does not include hazardous materials or electronics. However, residents can schedule e-waste pickups by calling Homewood Disposal at 708-798-1004 or completing an online form. Acceptable items

include televisions/monitors, printers, computers, electronic keyboards, video game consoles, and more.

Finally, Public Works chipping crews will be following Homewood Disposal's pickup schedule. Please leave your branches at the curb by 7 a.m. on your pickup day.

Questions? Call Public Works at 708-535-4090.

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### Sign Up for Earth Day Run at Brookfield Zoo Chicago

Earth Day Run is right around the corner! On Sunday, April 21, join us at Brookfield Zoo Chicago for the Earth Day Run, A Run for the Planet, a 2.2 mile "fun run" through the twist and turns of the zoo during our pre-park hours.

Each registered runner will receive an Earth Day Run commemorative medal and seeds to spread the Earth Day cheer in

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### Together We Cope is back in business!

Together We Cope's resale shop, Nu2u, reopened in mid-April after more than a year closure due to a fire in the agency's main building at 17010 S. Oak Park Avenue in downtown Tinley Park. Only the resale shop is open at this time; the food pantry and business offices will reopen at a later date.

Resale shop hours are the same as before the fire, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. As has been the practice in the past, all items in the shop are 50% off the marked price.

The shop once again will accept donations of gently used clothing and housewares to be sold at Nu2u to generate revenue for agency programs. Donations can be brought to the rear of the building on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Further information is available at 708-633-9180.

Together We Cope is a nonprofit homeless prevention agency based in Tinley Park and serving 27 south suburban communities by assisting families in crisis with food, clothing, and some financial assistance



Earth Day Run at Brookfield Zoo Chicago. Photo courtesy of Brookfield Zoo Chicago.

your own garden. Spots are going quickly, so be sure to register today!

Register online at: https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Brookfield/Brookfield ZooEarthDayRun. Cost is \$35.00 and registration ends on April 20, 2024, at 11:59 pm CDT.

Additional race information can be found at https://

www.czs.org/earthdayrun.

The race will take place at 8400 31st Street, Brookfield, Illinois U.S. 60513.

If you have any questions about this race, go to the registration page and click on the "Question?" button to submit a question. The Course Map can also be found on that page.

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District 218 will host

a meeting for parents of

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education staff will conduct

the meeting at the district

Special education staff

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For more information, contact Director of Special Education Kerri Piscitelli at 708-424-2000 x2562.

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VFW Cinco de Mayo Dance

Meeting for District 218 parents

of students with disabilities

Everyone is welcome to join VFW Bremen Post #2791 at 17147 South Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park, Illinois for our Cinco de Mayo dance, on Saturday,

May 4th, 2024. The cover

charge is \$5.00. To reserve a table of 8 in your name, 8 tickets are \$40.

We will be having, Latin flavored music, along with regular music, line dancing, music requests and so much more.

Bring your friends and family plus bring snacks. ¡Olé!

For more information call the Post #2791 at 708-532-2333.

To advertise call 708-425-1910 or email us at vvnew@sbcglobal.net. Website is www.vvnew.com.

### Library Seeks Teen Summer Intern

Midlothian Public Library invites teens looking for a summer job to apply to be this year's Teen Intern. This paid 10-week position will give the intern experiences in a variety of aspects of library work, from Help Desk and Checkout Desk service, to hosting programs, to work with the teen book collection.

Applicants must be at least 16 years of age and

have completed at least 2 years of high school or equivalent educational experience by the beginning of June. Applicants over 19 years of age will not be considered. Those interested should send a resumé and 3 references to Teen Services Librarian Maricela Kim at mkim@midlo thianlibrary.org by April 24, 2024. Questions may also be sent to this email

address. For more details about the position, visit https://www.midlothian library.org/employment.

The library is located at 14701 Kenton Avenue, Midlothian, IL. For more information about any of the library's programs, services, or resources, please call the library at (708) 535-2027 or visit the library's website, www. midlothianlibrary.org.



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