



Proudly Serving  
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# Village View

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## B-MAC EDITION

Volume 16 | Number 10 | May 17, 2022

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

### Nonprofit Diveheart, Los Angeles filmmaker present world premiere of *Adapting to Dive* May 18

Diveheart, a Downers Grove-based nonprofit tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, and Los Angeles filmmaker David Marsh will be presenting the world premiere of the documentary called “Adapting to Dive” at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at Classic Cinemas Tivoli Theatre, 5021 Highland Ave. in Downers Grove.

trip research, Marsh felt he understood the spirit of the Diveheart mission and vision. He had completed backstories on many of the adaptive divers who went on the trip when his son passed. He chose to go on the trip and said nothing to anyone until asked about his experience on the very last day. He then shared his loss and that he had been remotely plan-

ning his son’s funeral while filming the documentary. “We are so grateful to David for capturing Diveheart in action,” Elliott said. “I’m hoping this documentary will reach many people and give awareness to Diveheart’s mission: to revolutionize rehabilitation by using zero gravity underwater to help those with everything from mobility issues to chronic pain



Since 2001, Diveheart has been helping youth, veterans, and others with disabilities through adaptive scuba and scuba therapy. Last year, Marsh went on a life-changing Diveheart scuba adventure trip to Cozumel, Mexico. As a result, he experienced a transformational journey while doing the film after losing his son to an overdose just seven days before the trip.

After doing some pre-

and post-traumatic stress disorder. We help our participants find that self-confidence, personal strength, and independence, and we will continue to do so in the years to come.” To see a trailer of the documentary, visit this [www.Diveheart.org](http://www.Diveheart.org). Tickets are \$12 for general admission and accessible seating. For information about the documentary and tickets, visit this [www.Diveheart.org](http://www.Diveheart.org).

### New Illinois highway map on the streets announced

The Illinois Department of Transportation announced the release of the new Illinois Official Highway Map. The map includes route updates as well as a new feature that shows mileage between

towns and marked route junctions to help residents and visitors alike plan their travels throughout Illinois. The new map’s cover features a beautiful shot of the capitol building in autumn.

The photograph was the winner of IDOT’s employee map cover contest, submitted by Andrew Bolinger, an office assistant. For those with a smartphone, QR codes printed on



South Suburban College Performing Arts Center on the Main Campus

### South Suburban College to host Cook County Career Connect free hiring & resource fair

South Suburban College (SSC) will host the Cook County Career Connector Hiring & Resource Fair on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Kindig Performing Arts Center. This event marks the kickoff of the Cook County Career Connector program sponsored by Cook County and The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (The Partnership) with support from Employment & Employer Services (E&ES) and the South Suburban American Job Center (AJC).

The Cook County Career Connector promotes a more inclusive and equitable economy as Cook County emerges from the pandemic by connecting

County residents to quality jobs and connecting County employers to a skilled and diverse talent pool.

“The County is committed to utilizing American Rescue Plan Act dollars to provide opportunities to address the needs of both businesses and job seekers as we continue to recover from the upheaval caused by the Covid-19 pandemic,” said Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle.

More than 20 ready-to-hire employers will be on hand in fields that include Manufacturing, Healthcare, Transportation, Distribution and Logistics (TDL) and other sectors. Employers include National Tube Supply, Symphony Care Network,

Walgreens, Illinois Tollway Call Center, Amazon, PACE Suburban Bus and more who will offer competitive wages and benefits.

Job seekers should bring at least 15 copies of their resume, dress appropriately and be prepared to interview during the Career Connector Hiring & Resource Fair. Job seekers can register at [ChiCookWorks.org/CCFair](http://ChiCookWorks.org/CCFair).

Masks and temperature checks are required for admittance on the college campus. The SSC Main Campus is located at 15800 S. State St. South Holland, IL 60473. The mission of South Suburban College is to Serve our Students and the Community through lifelong learning.

### Rules of the Road course offered at Worth Township

If you are a senior looking for activities and classes, then look no further than Worth Township. Senior trips and other activities may be found on our website at [www.worhtownship.com](http://www.worhtownship.com).

On Wednesday, June 1, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am, the Senior Department is offering a Free Rules of the Road Course sponsored by

the State of Illinois Secretary of State’s Office (SOS).

The course is created to give senior citizens an overview and knowledge of what is needed to renew or obtain a driver’s licenses in the state. According to the SOS website, the course combines an explanation of the driving exam and a practice written exam. Items covered include

Illinois driving laws, traffic signs and practical driving skills. Registration is required in advance of the course.

Sign up early to ensure participation in any of the activities. For more information, please call the Senior Department at their direct line 708-972-7854 or contact them by email: [seniors@worhtownship.com](mailto:seniors@worhtownship.com).

the maps provide easy access to information on IDOT’s Getting Around Illinois site for travel conditions, Amtrak, the Office of Tourism’s Enjoy Illinois campaign as well as Illinois Department of

Natural Resources historic sites and parks.

The Illinois Official Highway Map is paid for with funds from the Federal Highway Administration and published by IDOT every two

years on recycled paper with soybean oil-based inks. To request a map, contact DOT. [maps@illinois.gov](mailto:maps@illinois.gov). Free copies also will be available soon at interstate rest areas and other IDOT facilities.



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# Village View

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## FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 20 | Number 10 | May 17, 2022

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

### Memorial Day ceremony in Oak Forest

Please join the Owen W. Winter, Jr. VFW Post 4241 and the City of Oak Forest for a Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 30, 2022 at the Veterans Memorial outside City Hall at 15440 Central Avenue, Oak Forest, Illinois. The program begins at 11 a.m. Local organizations, city departments and commis-



sions will present wreaths to honor our veterans as a reminder of the sacrifices they made while in service.

The ceremony also will include members of the Oak Forest High School choir and band.

### Farmers Market opening soon

Shoppers from across the area won't want to miss the Tinley Park Farmers Market, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year and enjoys the distinction of being one of the longest continuous farmers market in the south and southwest suburbs.



Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park. This year's focus will be on food and plant products, with plenty of live music and entertainment scheduled throughout

the season. See the list of vendors below.

Come on out and help celebrate 25 years of the Tinley Park Farmers Market!

### City Council approves award of contract for 2022 Road Program

The Oak Forest City Council approved an award of contract in the amount of \$1,483,020.25 to Iroquois Paving Corporation for the 2022 Road Program. As part of the program, the following street segments will be resurfaced:



Lorel Avenue 157th Street to the cul-de-sac; 156th Place Sayre Avenue to New England Avenue; Chesnut Lane Forestview Drive to 151st Street; Orogrande Drive Victoria Drive to Catalina Avenue; Orogrande Drive ictoria Drive to 157th Street; Oakridge Avenue Knottingwood Avenue to Lockridge Avenue; Dover Road Edward Drive to

Duncan Road; Kimberly Court Forest Avenue to cul-de-sac; Parkwood Court Ridgewood Drive to cul-de-sac; Edgewood Court Ridgewood Drive to cul-de-sac; and New England Avenue 156th Place to 150th south.

The contractor is anticipated to begin work in late June or early July. Residents who live on the streets that will be paved will receive a notice from the Public

Works Department with additional information and where to park while work is being done.

If you have any questions, please contact Public Works at 708-535-4090. The Road Program is subject to schedule and work changes, so visit [www.oak-forest.org/164/Construction-Notices](http://www.oak-forest.org/164/Construction-Notices) or sign up for the city's weekly e-newsletter at [www.oak-forest.org/list.aspx](http://www.oak-forest.org/list.aspx) for regular updates.

### Benches out now along Oak Park Avenue in Tinley Park

Whether it swims in the sea, flies in the sky or walks on the ground, the 2022 Benches on the Avenue has it covered!

Come take an "Animal Adventure" now through October along Oak Park

Avenue from 172nd to 176th streets and see all kinds of critters such as sharks, dogs, lions, otters, fish, a giant cat and much more. The nearly two dozen benches were created by talented local artists and sponsored



by local businesses and organizations.

Grab the kids (and a camera) and come on out! You'll have fun—we ain't LION!

### Village of Orland Park announces 2022 summer event lineup

The Village of Orland Park proudly announces its 2022 Summer Event lineup. This year's events include an abundance of concert opportunities, veterans' programs and the annual events that Orland Park is known for such as the Taste of Orland Park and the Independence Day Celebration.

"We are excited to bring a myriad of events and celebrations to Orland Park this summer," said Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau. "We have given people a variety of options, from outdoor movies to Markets in the Park to large-scale concerts at Centennial Park West."

The Village has a full schedule of events planned to begin with the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 30 at 1 p.m. at the Ara Pace: Place of Peace Memorial at Village Center.

Market at the Park returns on June 2 and runs through August 18 at Crescent Park. In addition to welcoming over 30 local vendors, the weekly event will offer free, live music including a variety of bands and sounds ranging from country to classic rock to throwbacks from the 40s.

Two free concerts in the park will be offered this summer at Crescent Park. First, we welcome rock band, The Davenport Project on June 12 and then on July 10



we will enjoy the sounds of the 1950's & 60's with The Sting Rays!

The Village's annual Independence Day celebration kicks-off with the annual Veterans Liberty Run & Walk on Friday, July 1. Celebrate the 4th of July with a concert featuring 4CAST and a musical firework display at Centennial Park.

The Taste of Orland Park will be held the weekend of August 5 through 7 at Village Center.

"We are very excited to announce this year's Centennial Park West Concert series," said Pekau. "We have two fantastic concerts confirmed and plan to announce a third very soon. All concerts feature different musical genres with something for everyone."

The 2022 Centennial Park West Concert Series kicks off with Blood Sweat and Tears and up-and-comer Phillip-Michael Scales on June 25 and on September 3, 90's Alternative Rock bands Hinder, Spin Doctors and Dishwalla.

Tickets are on sale now. Residents, first responders and veterans receive a discounted ticket price of \$50 for a 2-concert ticket or \$30 for a single date ticket. New this year, resident rate tickets can be purchased online through [universe.com](http://universe.com) or in person at the Village of Orland Park Sportsplex located at 11351 W. 159th Street or at Village Hall, 14700 Ravinia Ave. Visit [universe.com](http://universe.com) for complete instructions regarding how to receive the resident discount. Proof of residency required. Registered residents may also purchase tickets by calling 708-403-5000 or 708-403-6170.

Tickets are also available to non-residents at a cost of \$60 for a 2-concert ticket or \$35 for a single date ticket at [universe.com](http://universe.com).

"I can't wait to see the community out enjoying all Orland Park has to offer," said Pekau. "See you this summer."

Visit [orlandpark.org/concertseries](http://orlandpark.org/concertseries) for more information.



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## SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 23 | Number 10 | May 17, 2022

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

### More than 37,000 properties will be part of Cook County's Tax Sale running through May 18<sup>th</sup>

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas will conduct the annual sale of delinquent property taxes through May 18, 2022. This Tax Sale is for delinquent property taxes from Tax Year 2019, which were due in two installments in 2020.

Approximately \$175.6 million in unpaid 2019 property taxes are overdue on 37,176 properties in Cook County. The properties include homes, businesses and vacant land throughout Chicago (17,709 properties) and

Cook County suburbs (19,467 properties). Less than \$1,000 is owed on 19,350 properties.

Owners of these properties were sent notices via certified mail informing them that their unpaid taxes are to be auctioned, which would put a lien against their properties. However, the U.S. Postal Service has returned nearly 15,000 bills and subsequent notices.

"Many residents may be unaware that their property is eligible for the Tax Sale," Pappas said. "The majority

of the taxes offered are for properties in minority communities. I started 'Black and Latino Houses Matter' to help homeowners find refunds and apply for tax exemptions."

How To Get Your Property Off The Tax Sale List?

Log on to [cookcountytreasurer.com](http://cookcountytreasurer.com)

Search for your home or other property by entering your Property Index Number

Under Illinois law, the Cook County Treasurer's



Maria Pappas

Office is required to put delinquent taxes, not the property itself, up for auction.

Visit [cookcountytreasurer.com](http://cookcountytreasurer.com) and click on "Avoid the Tax Sale" for more information and to see if your property is on the Tax Sale list.

### Welcome Robert Peppo to the Palos Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

Robert Peppo has been the owner of Peppo's Great Sub-Sandwiches since 2006, though it has been his family business 45+ years! He is sitting board member for Palos Area Chamber of Commerce. He is a public speaker with Toastmasters International for three years and a Podcast Host.

An ambitious, community-minded, influential individual with goals of not only growing his own business, but helping others to do the same, through his entrepreneurial skills and experiences. Robert prides himself on making a difference to customers, and everyone he encounters through various networks - by having a positive mindset, professional and personable attitude.

Robert has served with



Robert Peppo

the Illinois National Guard (2016-2022) as a Sergeant serving as Team leader and Squad leader. He completed Basic Leadership Course, and operated reconnaissance Drone's for his infantry company. He was awarded Battalion Soldier of the year 2021 and ARCOM, and physical fitness awards. He is an Afghanistan GWOT Veteran.



### Colonial Flag Foundation, Field of Honor, sponsored by Sertoma

A sea of full-size 150 flags will be on display in Palos Hills from September 10 to 13, 2022 at Moraine Valley Community College, Bennett Park at 9000 College Parkway, Palos Hills. Events will include an Opening Ceremony on September 10, at 11 am to include a Patriotic Concert and an Honor walk.

Walk among the rows of flags knowing that each U.S. Flag represents an individual and tells a story.

This will be the first Field of Honor display in our community and is the perfect opportunity for all of us to remember our heroes who have served and sacrificed.

The moving display is a gift to the community made possible through donations, sponsorships, and the efforts of the many dedicated volunteers.

You can show your support and gratitude by sponsoring a flag or giving to this patriotic cause. This display is open to everyone with no charge.

For more information contact Mike Lebarre at 708-717-6002 or Donna O'Connell at 708-420-2326 or you can email [fieldofhonorpalos@gmail.com](mailto:fieldofhonorpalos@gmail.com). Visit our website at [www.fieldofhonor/events/paloshillsil22](http://www.fieldofhonor/events/paloshillsil22).

### Village of Palos Park branch chipping begins in May

Chipping service will begin on the following dates during 2022 starting on the side of town listed below.

Chipper starts on the east side of the Village on: May 23, August 1, September 26, and the final week October 31.

Chipper starts on the west side of the Village on: June 20, August 29, and October 10.

The start location of the chipper will alternate depending on the month. During the weeks of, May 23, August 1, September 26, and October 31 the Chipper Crew will begin on the eastern edge of the Village and move west across the Village until all the public streets have been serviced. During the weeks of June 20, August 29, and October 10 the Chipper crew will begin on the western edge of the Village and move east across the Village until all the public streets have been serviced.

Once a street has been serviced the chipper crew will not return until the next chipping date please do not put branches out until the weekend before the chipper week.

Please review all of the branch chipping regulations.

Residents living on a private street or in a private subdivision please call the Public Works Office 708-671-3721 no later than the Wednesday before the chipping week to schedule chipping service.

Residents living in a Private Unit Development (Condo or Townhouse) must submit a request for chipping service through their Homeowners Association. There is a \$1.00 fee for the service. The Homeowners Association must contact Public Works Department at least one week in advance of the chipping week. The \$1.00 fee will be charged on your next utility bill for ordering the service.

### Village of Worth 2022 vehicle stickers are on sale

Stickers can be purchased in person, by mail or by drop box. Make any changes to the information on your application. Print phone number on your application. Need Driver's License Number for each owner of car.

Reduced Stickers: Proof required, one discount per person. Must be 62 as of July 1, 2022 for senior discount, the discount is per person for the first vehicle.

Physically Disabled person with permanent disabled license plate or placard. Senior Citizens who qualify for the IL. Benefit Access Program, Disabled Veterans of the Military Armed Forces.

Stickers purchased in the month of May receive \$2.00 off. Stickers are due on the vehicle by June 30 at midnight. Visit the website for more information [www.villageofworth.com](http://www.villageofworth.com).

### Memorial Day remembrance ceremony in Palos Park

Join us for our Annual Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony on Monday, May 30, 2022. In honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

A short program will be held at 11:00 am at the VFW Memorial at 8901 West 123rd Street, Palos Park. For more information call 708-671-3760.



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## SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 48 | Number 22 | May 17, 2022

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

### Illinois American Water reminds customers to conserve water

Conservation Program is in effect for customers with Lake Michigan water source.

Illinois American Water is reminding customers to use water wisely. Annually, May through September 15, residents are required to follow water conservation measures in the company's Northern Illinois operations.

These measures require watering of lawns and other outdoor uses to only be done on an "odd/even" watering basis. Customers whose street addresses end in an odd number may water only on an odd numbered calendar day and vice versa. These measures are approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission for communities that are supplied with Lake Michigan water or have a Lake Michigan water

allocation.

Customers are also encouraged to implement wise water use practices:

Water your lawn only when it needs it. An easy way to tell is to simply walk across the grass. If it springs back you don't need to water, but if you leave footprints, it's time to water.

Set your lawn mower one notch higher to make your lawn more drought tolerant.

Consider using drip irrigation or a rain barrel to water your outdoor plants and water in the early morning. As much as 30 percent of water can be lost to evaporation by watering during mid-day.

Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your sidewalk, driveway or patio.

Forego the hose and wash your car with a bucket and

sponge instead, which uses only a few gallons to do the job, while a hose left running can waste as much as six gallons per minute.

Keep a pitcher of cold tap water in the refrigerator. You will avoid the cost and environmental impact of bottled water.

Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth can save eight gallons per day.

Regularly check your toilet, faucets and pipes for leaks and have them fixed promptly.

An easy test for toilet leaks from EPA WaterSense is to place a drop of food coloring in the tank. If the color tints the water in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak.

More wise water use tips can be found at [www.illinoisamwater.com](http://www.illinoisamwater.com).

### 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Rib Roast in Justice

by Ron Patrick

Join us for the 19th Annual Rib Roast on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 12 Noon to 3 pm. The Rib Roast will be at Wilkins School, 8001 S. 82nd

Avenue, Justice. We will be featuring; Barbeque Ribs, Baked Potatoes, Corn-on-the-Cob, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Cake, and Soda and Water. We will also have many raffle prizes,

Split-the-Pot, and Guess the Candy Jar contests. The Cost is Adults: \$25, Children 6-12 Yrs. \$12, Children under 6 Years are Free. For more information: 708-594-1988.

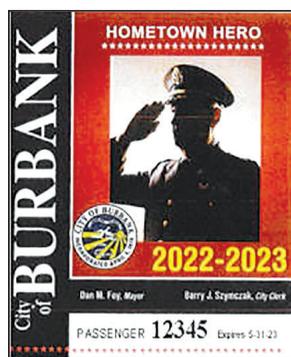
### Burbank Vehicle Sticker must be displayed by May 31, 2022

The City of Burbank welcomes a new way to purchase your Burbank Vehicle Stickers. When you receive your application in the mail, verify that all your vehicle and personal information is correct. Make necessary changes in the appropriate shaded area.

Easiest method: Order and pay online with credit card. Click the link City of Burbank V-Pay (green-pay.us) to complete the process. A 2.3% service charge is

applicable, same as over the counter. Allow 10-12 business days for processing.

Renew by mail: Mail in



completed form, along with check or money order, in return envelope. NO CASH! Allow 10 to 12 business days for processing.

Over the counter: Purchase in person at Burbank City Hall, 6530 West 79th, Street, Burbank, IL or call 708-533-5500, during normal business hours.

New stickers must be displayed by May 31st, or 100% penalties will apply on June 1st, 2022.



Nacho Bautista with Maria Newman and Maria Newman with Jessica Saucedo

### Maria Newman presented her first two Dignity of Work awards

My team and I {Maria Newman} presented our first Dignity of Work Awards to honor workers who go above and beyond to support their communities.

Jessica Saucedo at the Children's Museum in

Oak Lawn was nominated because she truly exemplifies the culture of respect and adaptability that any business or nonprofit should strive for.

Nacho Bautista is the owner of Gio's Cafe in Bridgeport and was nomi-

nated for being dedicated to providing support not just for his employees and customers but for the entire community.

It was an honor to present them both with this award recently! Congratulations Jessica and Nacho!

### Ben Reiff to attend New York summer institute



Written by Jennifer Jepsen, OLCHS Staff Writer

Oak Lawn Community High School teachers strive to better understand and engage with their students daily. In an effort to engage with his students from all backgrounds, social studies teacher Ben Reiff applied and was accepted into the Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute. Ben will work with leading scholars of religion, meet with diverse religious leaders, visit local houses of worship, explore the

religious life of the city, and develop curriculum projects to bring back to Oak Lawn Community High School.

Ben primarily teaches world history and government and wants to help our students engage in the meaningful study of lived religion. His desire to better understand religion and approach the teaching of it with a scholarly pedagogy has led him to attend professional developments from the Harvard Divinity School. From there, Ben has analyzed the diver-

sity in religions, while also challenging his students' notions of what religion in action looks like. This has been beneficial particularly in world history courses to help students understand the effect of religion on cultural development.

Social Studies Department Chair Kristin Kuchyt recognizes that what sets Mr. Reiff apart from many teachers is how he goes above and beyond to connect with his students. Ben teaches several EL courses, and due to the additional languages being spoken in his classroom, he is enrolled in Spanish language lessons to better connect with his students. Communicating in students' languages fosters a strong connection that strengthens rapport between student and teacher. It is this dedication to his students and curriculum that will enhance the social studies department when Mr. Reiff returns to share what he has learned at the Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute.

## 31 years of history with the USO at Midway Airport

by Annette Dixon

Donna Vickroy, retired writer for Southtown Economist, was first to cover the news in 1991, about a development for a USO at Midway Airport in Chicago, Illinois. The story was about Annette Dixon's excursion on an afternoon in downtown Chicago. There was an attack on the Island of Grenada and the United States thought we were in war, so the streets were empty, with no cars or pedestrians, but Annette was there and scared. The only thought that entered her mind was "what will happen to her daughter who was in the Navy. She knew that women could not fight on the front nor be in a submarine, so she knew she was safe, but worried about all the men in the military."

Therefore, Annette searched for the Downtown USO, which was open, she approached Retired Lt.

Ralph Eldridge with the idea of having a facility of a USO at Midway Airport, for all the military passing through Midway Airport. He agreed with her and requested she get petitions and further the cause by presenting them to the Mayor's Office. She went home compiled a sample of a document stating the request for a USO at Midway Airport and proceeded with 25 spaces for signatures and 25 copies to give to the members attending a meeting that evening. Her request was for each person to make additional copies and to have the full amount delivered to her home within the week. Within four weeks and over 100,000 signatures, the Alderman and Mayor Richard Daley voted for the USO to be a tenant within the airport. It was a scary time, but that war lasted three days. Annette did not know at the time how successful this project would

become, but the timing was within her realm since it was during the time of Desert Storm and Gulf War. Later, the Persian Gulf War became a reality and many military personnel passed through Midway, mainly the Navy because of their base in Great Lakes.

Now that the USO became a tenant in the airport, they needed to build a facility that would be big enough to accommodate the needs of Military Families, also traveling. So, Annette took over and contacted VFW Johnson Phelps 5220 in Oak Lawn back in the fall of 1991. They in turn connected her to the Post Commander Jerry Bogaczyk who was a Vietnam Veteran. The membership conducted fundraising drives for the intention of a fully equipped kitchen and dining areas of the new Midway Airport USO Center. They raised enough to purchase the wall and base cabinets, tables, chairs, counters, and electrical appliances. Three retired carpenters donated their skills and time to do the necessary installation work. A new tile floor was also purchased and installed by the Oak Lawn Post 5220, located near the entrance of Terminal B.

The United Service Organization, USO was finished and located in the main terminal of Midway Airport. It was Annette Dixon that operated the USO with the help of

financing from Amvets, American Legion Posts, VFW Posts and USO Headquarters, since USO, is a private non-for-profit organization which relies entirely on donations and volunteers.

On May 31, 1992, the USO Center formally opened, per article in the Southtown Economist, written by Cornelia Grumman. "That was the kind of service Oak Lawn resident Annette Dixon had in mind when she proposed offering a USO center at Midway Airport during the height of the Desert Storm and Persian Gulf War. On June 6, 1992, Midway USO center held an open house to coincide with the airport's three-day commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Midway during World War II. The center has a director, Marcia Warda, and a staff of two, Dorothy Krzysiak and Annette Dixon. A three-room area with a large screen television set and videocassette recorder, magazines, books and free coffee, hot dogs, and soda; a children's room equipped with crib and a kitchen. "This was one of the nicest, cleanliest airport USO's I have seen in my 18 years of military service," wrote Ted Warywoda, a Washington, D.C. base serviceman, in the center's comment book."

Ten years later, 2002, Rick Techman, writer of Village View Publications, Clearing and Garfield Ridge edition, "More than 100 armed U.S. Army military police patrol the Midway Airport terminal and sensitive buildings on the airport grounds alongside Chicago Police Officers and private airport security personnel to prevent breaches of air travel safety here since the September 11 tragedies. Now the USO moved, and renovation took place in the airport."

The history of the Midway USO has been established 29 years ago and currently with the coronavirus, I am sure recommended safety prevails with the City's guideline.

The history of the USO was first chartered by the United States Congress in 1941 as a not-for-profit

charitable corporation and received no direct funding from any level of government.

In Illinois, April 1942, was the first USO constructed at the Central Railroad Station on Roosevelt and Michigan in Chicago, then in May 1942, they were moved to 313 S. Wabash. They closed their doors after World War II in Illinois and started up again in July 1948 during the Korean War. The first one was in O'Hare Airport 1969; Great Lakes Naval Base, 1985; USO Midway Airport, August 21, 1991, Navy Pier, 2002; Second USO at O'Hare Airport Terminal 3, in 2010, and lastly Rock Island Arsenal, Moline, 2011.

At the USO Midway, there has been several moves or teardowns. Terry Lemke the Director stated that more than 2800 military people have passed through the current location monthly. If you can help with your donation to the USO Midway Airport to support our Military Personnel, it will be greatly appreciated. For more information about Midway Airport USO, contact Terry Lemke at 312-208-6075 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.



## VA national cemeteries to commemorate Memorial Day

The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs' (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) announced that it will commemorate Memorial Day this year with solemn wreath laying ceremonies.

Another offering is a new online memorial feature allowing the public to pay tribute to Veterans interred in VA national cemeteries across the country.

Effective immediately: Visitors should use the CDC's community-level guidance for the county in which a VA national cemetery is located to determine masking requirements for indoor spaces.

Other public events typically associated with Memorial Day at national cemeteries, including group placement of flags at gravesites, will not take place. However, all VA national cemeteries will be open Memorial Day weekend from dawn to dusk for public visitation.

Cemetery visitors are asked to adhere to health and safety guidelines and maintain physical distancing while visiting. Visitors are also urged to consider visiting Friday, Saturday, or Sunday to avoid possible crowds on Memorial Day. Families may continue the tradition of placing flowers and small American flags at their Veteran's gravesite.

**JCC** 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Rib Roast  
**JUSTICE** Saturday, May 21, 2022  
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 12 Noon - 3 P.M.

**Wilkins School**  
**8001 S. 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Justice**  
*Barbeque Ribs, Baked Potatoes,*  
*Corn-on-the-Cob, Coleslaw, Baked Beans,*  
*Cake, Soda, Water, Many Raffle Prizes,*  
*Split-the-Pot, Guess the Candy Jar Contest*

Adults: \$25; Children 6-12 Yrs. \$12;  
 Children under 6 Yrs. Free

**For more information: 708-594-1988**  
**JusticeChamberofCommerce.com**

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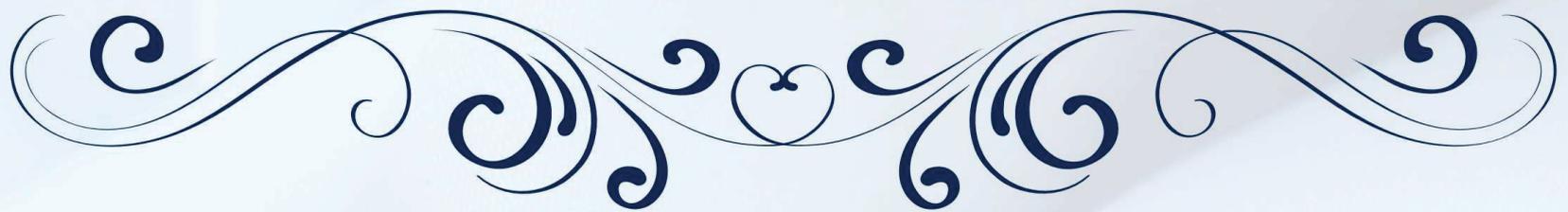
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**Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon**  
**Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net**

**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.**



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## Learning history about Ireland will help with the attraction of various counties

by Annette Dixon, A tour of Ireland at the Drake Hotel

After accepting the invitation to the Drake Hotel and meeting several representatives of various counties in Ireland, I was happy to have a friend for many years inform me of the history of this Country. Dublin, for example at this particular time is considered the youngest, and friendliest, in the

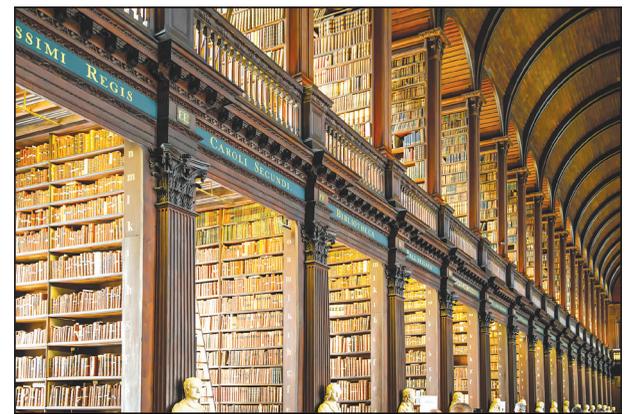
National Republic and also it is the Capital. In the past centuries, there were many strifes and famines in Dublin, and throughout Ireland, but this is a report on traveling and what you may be interested in sight seeing. The Parliament building and many memorials, Boomtown, O'Connell Street, Grafton Street, St. Steven Green Park, Georgian Bungalows,

Colored doors, Trinity College with the book of Kells, the Hill of Tyra, Knowth Passage Tomb, the River Leavy, Guinness Brewery, and the Kinvalen Jail, these are just a few of the historic sites that can be seen in Dublin.

The feel of Ireland, and its attraction to the Island, is well known by using the airport in Dublin, and acquainting yourself with the surroundings of a beautiful city, also using public transportation. If you have time try to see a play at the famous Abby, or visit the oldest zoo in Europe, you may also feel the presence of the Irish people and their spirited conversations. There are many other counties with different landscapes, and the people there would also offer hospitality whether, you

are in the Northern Park of Ireland, or the East or West, but in the east coast there are thousands of years of history. The swirl of Neolithic monuments such as Norman Castles, Abbeys, Churches, will give you the astonishing surprise of your life.

Throughout your trip to various counties, you may want to see the six century monastic sites, such as Gongane Barra in the wilds of West Cork, the ancient stone circles that rest on the landscapes such as Beaghmore, County Tyrone. The legacy of the Vikings lingers on in the cities of Waterford and Dublin. If you stroll around ancient Armagh, you will know why it reveals the reputation as the "city of saints and scholars". A favorite place for the American,



Library of Trinity College Dublin

Photo Credit Irina Schmidt - stock.adobe.com

is a visit to Belfast for the site of the Titanic and in County Antrim is the Carrickfergus Castle. In County Mayo, two of the cities which took my interest were Castlebar and Westport. A famous place is Croagh Patrick in County Mayo where St. Patrick spent 40 days in the year of 441.

Ghilian Campbell, destination sales officer, took time to explain the increase of tourism in Armagh City, and Bonbridge, Craigavon,

Borough Council. Armagh is also famously known for its "Bramley" apples and known as being an "Orchard of Ireland". For two and a half centuries Irish linen had a worldwide reputation for excellence, so a visit to the famous Thomas Ferguson Irish Linen Factory or view a hand-embroidered tapestry which was woven for the epic TV drama, Game of Thrones. Ireland is a treasure of history and is a very exciting country to visit.



Murrisk Abbey with Croagh Patrick

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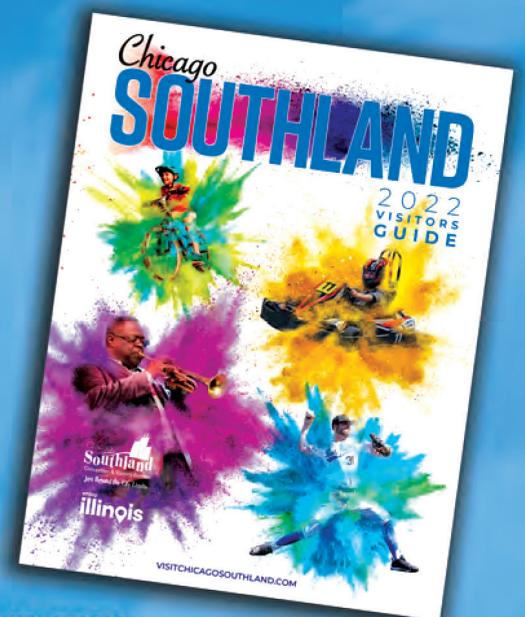


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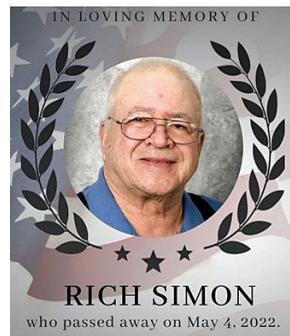
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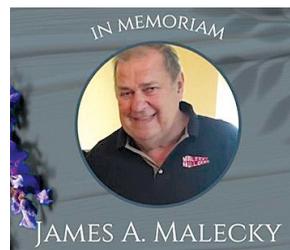


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IN MEMORIAM  
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The City of Oak Forest mourns the loss of James A. Malecky, honorable mayor from 1985-1993, 3rd Ward alderman (1977-1985), and prominent businessman. We extend our deepest sympathies to the Malecky family during their time of sorrow.

Alderman Simon served the residents of the 2nd Ward in the City of Oak Forest for nearly 40 years, the longest serving alderman in the City's history. He was a proud veteran of the US Navy. Rich was the founder of Simon Plumbing and an active member of local football, baseball and softball youth programs.

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