



Proudly Serving Chicagoland for 49 Years

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

Volume 17 | Number 8 | April 18, 2023

B-MAC EDITION

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Village of Midlothian Vehicle Stickers

2023-2024 Vehicle Sticker/Pet Tag sales will be sold in person, at Village Hall, beginning in April 2023.

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 to avoid USPS delays, and allows 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 Friday, June 30, 2023, to purchase, and adhere them to your vehicle by midnight 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:

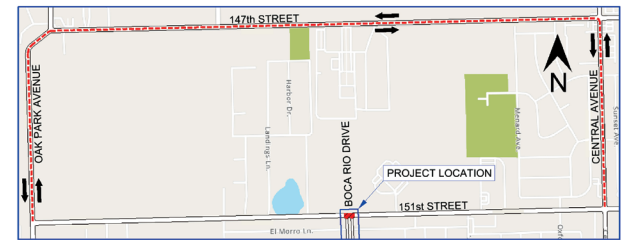
Current vehicle's registration that reflects your Midlothian address and current rabies certificate

New or additional vehicle is purchased, you will need to bring your registration information to the Village within 30 days.

Construction to begin soon on the 151st St culvert

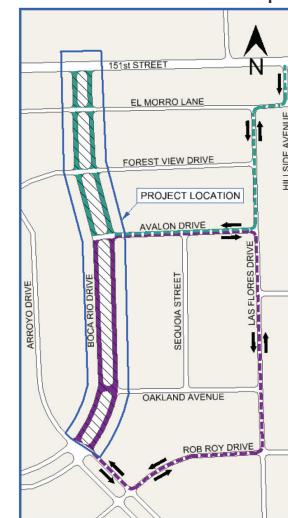
The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways will begin the 151st Street over Boca Rio Ditch Culvert Replacement and Channel Improvement Project in Oak Forest the week of April 24. Crews will be replacing the existing culverts carrying Boca Rio ditch under 151st Street with a new precast concrete box culvert to improve ditch drainage and create a cost-effective and more attractive storm water collection system. Residents should anticipate street closures in late May/early June. Project updates will be shared on the city's website www.oak-forest.org, social media platforms, and electronic newsletter. The project is anticipated to run through November.

The project replaces the existing culverts carrying Boca Rio Ditch under 151st St. with a new precast concrete box culvert. Work will include channel stabilization, bioswale, and sediment basins of the Boca Rio Ditch, the precast concrete box culvert and poured in



151st STREET DETOUR

place headwalls, pedestrian hand railing, HMA pavement removal and full depth



BOCA RIO DRIVE DETOURS

asphalt patching, asphalt shoulders, steel plate beam guardrail, storm sewer, pavement marking, signing, detour with traffic control protection and restoration.

During construction of the culvert and the pavement replacement, 151st Street will be closed to through traffic. Through traffic will be detoured to 147th Street by way of Central Avenue and Oak Park Avenue.

Boca Rio Drive will also be closed. Access to the neighborhood will be maintained by way of Condado Drive and Hillside Ave. east and Ridgeland Avenue, Spruce Lane, Willow Lane and Chestnut Lane west.

For questions: Cook County Department of Transportation & Highways Construction Bureau, 69 W. Washington St., 24th Fl., Chicago, IL 60602. Email: hwy.supt@cookcountyil.gov. Phone: 1-312-603-1601. Website: <https://www.cook-countyil.gov/agency/transportation-and-highways-0>.



Blue Island Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 29, 2023. Sign in begins at 8 a.m., cleanup 9-11 a.m., lunch at 11:30 a.m. Help us clean up Blue Island, and if you register in advance, you'll get a free t-shirt to commemorate the day! Following the cleanup, we'll host a cookout at York & Western.

Participate individually or with your friends and neighbors. Complete the registration form and return it to City Clerk's Office, fax to 708-396-7062 or submit an online registration by filling out the form below.

Meet at York & Western to register yourself and/or your group. You or your group will be assigned a clean-up location. You or your group will receive garbage bags at registration. The cleanup time is 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.. Leave garbage bags at your clean-up site for pickup and gather at York & Western for lunch immediately following cleanup.

Meet the Alsip Chamber of Commerce

The Alsip Chamber offers networking opportunities multiple times a year, helps support a scholarship program for Alsip students, works to attract and retain business in Alsip. We aid new and existing business about local and state incentives.

We recognize property owners who make an extra effort to improve the image of Alsip by maintaining their property in an exceptional manner. The



The Board of Directors for 2023 are as follows: Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks Executive Director, Vince Cullen, Richard Brink, Michelle Paige, Joe Schmidt, Tom Styczynski, Gus van den Brink, Cathy O'Hara, Ela Patel and Mike McPartlin.

Chamber answers questions daily about businesses in Alsip, requests for business referrals, and occasionally a complaint about a local business.

The Chamber publishes a business directory every other year which lists all the businesses in Alsip. The

publication is also part of the relocation packages distributed by The Village of Alsip to new businesses and residents. They are often included in corporate relocation packages and provided to real estate agents who need information on Alsip for their prospective clients.



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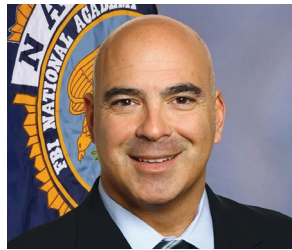
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Volume 21 | Number 8 | April 18, 2023

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Police Chief Rossi Graduates from FBI National Academy

At the March 20, 2023 Village Board meeting, Mayor Keith Pekau announced that Chief of Police Eric Rossi has graduated as a member of the 285th session of the FBI National Academy. The graduation took place at the National Academy in Quantico, Virginia on March 16, 2023. Chief Rossi joins the few before him in department history to complete this prestigious program. Nationally, fewer than one percent of public safety professionals have the opportunity to attend the program.



Police Chief Rossi

Internationally known for its academic excellence, the National Academy offers ten weeks of advanced communication, leadership, and fitness training. Participants must have proven records as professionals within their agencies to attend. On average, these officers have 21 years of law enforcement experience and usually return to their agencies to serve in executive-level positions.

The 285th session consisted of 247 law enforcement officers from 47 states and the District of Columbia. The class included members of law enforcement agencies from 28 countries, four military organizations, and five federal civilian organizations.

“This was a great opportunity for Chief Rossi to broaden his already exemplary skills,” said Mayor Pekau. “This is a tremendous benefit to the Village of Orland Park as well as the men and women of the Orland Park Police Department.”

Rossi has been a member of the Orland Park Police Department for more than 19 years serving the community as a patrol officer, bicycle patrol officer, field training officer, investigator, patrol sergeant, lieutenant in administration, Investigations Commander, Deputy Chief and now proudly serves as Chief of Police.

“Attending the FBI National Academy has been a highlight of my career,” said Chief Rossi. “I have met so many great leaders and learned from highly educated and well-respected professionals. I look forward to bringing this great leadership training back to the Orland Park community.”

Benches on the Avenue

Tinley Park’s Benches on the Avenue public art program has become one of the Village’s most popular attractions, drawing thousands of residents and visitors annually to Downtown Tinley. The colorful benches feature the work of both amateur and professional artists and provide spots to rest and enjoy the fantastic creations while strolling through town.



Artwork is based on a different theme each year, and benches are on display from early-May through mid-October in Downtown Tinley. Each bench is sponsored by a local business or individual, who takes possession of it after the program has ended.

2023 Benches on the Avenue: Industry, Invention and Progress.

The 2023 Benches on the Avenue will be themed “Industry, Invention and Progress” and will showcase groundbreaking creations that have made a mark on the world and changed the way we live. Each handcrafted wooden bench will be created by a local artist and sponsored by a local business or individual, who will take possession of it at the end of the season.

Construction to begin soon on the 151st St culvert

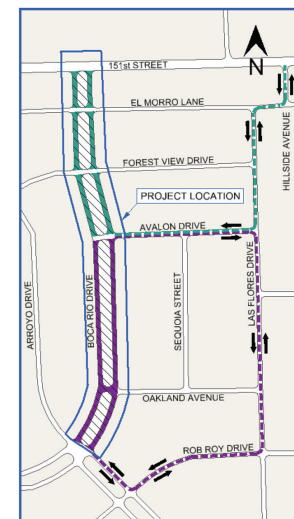
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151st STREET DETOUR

hand railing, HMA pavement removal and full depth asphalt patching, asphalt



BOCA RIO DRIVE DETOURS

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Annual Clean-Up Day Scheduled for April 22, 2023

All community members are invited to help clean-up Mokena on April 22nd!



Meet at the Village Hall 11004 Carpenter Street, 9:00 a.m. to noon, with family, friends, neighbors

and community organizations. Public Works crews will deliver volunteers to various areas to spruce up our community. Students can receive Community Service Hours.

At noon, volunteers will return to Village Hall for hot dogs, chips, and a beverage.

Wear work clothes and don’t forget to bring work



gloves. Come one, come all! We invite all members of the community interested in keeping Mokena clean! Please call us at Village Hall (708) 479-3900 with any questions. Students can receive Community Service Hours.



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Volume 24 | Number 8 | April 18, 2023

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

Help at Home in Chicago Ridge

Help yourself to \$50. Save your receipts. Spend \$100 at any Chicago Ridge retail business or restaurant. Bring in your original receipts beginning May 1

dated from March 1 thru June 30th to the Village Hall and choose ONE of the following:

Two free passenger stickers or One passenger



sticker and \$25 credit on your water bill or \$50 credit on your water bill.

26th Annual Rid Litter Day



Join us in front of the Palos Park Recreation Center for the 26th Annual Rid Litter Day on Saturday, April 22, 2023, at 8901 123rd St., Palos Park.

The first Palos Park Rid Litter Day, organized by The Beautification Committee, was in 1997. An estimated 3 tons of litter has been picked up over that time in our village thanks to Rid Litter Day volunteers like YOU. Together, we can continue to make a positive difference in our community!

Volunteers will meet at 9:00 AM in front of the Recreation Center. Gloves, vests, and bags will be provided. Service hour forms can be signed at that time. This event is in partnership with the Palos Park Beautification Committee.

For more information, please visit palospark.org or call 708-671-3760.

City of Palos Hills Flea Market

The City of Palos Hills will be hosting a Trash to Treasures Flea Market on Saturday, May 13, from 9:00am to 3:00 pm. The event will be taking place at the Palos Hills Community Center, 8455 W. 103rd Street. For more information, call 708-430-4500.

New Waste Collection Provider in Hickory Hills

The City of Hickory Hills has chosen Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) to be the exclusive service provider for the weekly collection of residential garbage, recyclables, and yard waste as well as home collection for household hazardous and electronic waste. LRS will begin servicing homes the week of June 5, 2023.

LRS has a dedicated team of customer service representatives ready to assist you. The City of Hickory

Hills is no longer accepting calls for waste program and transition service-related issues as the LRS team is best equipped to help.

Please call LRS at (844) 633-3577 or email service@lrsrecycles.com for assistance with questions regarding transition of service such as:

Cart delivery or removal request; Question on new collection day; Question on service time of day; Help with missed pick-up; Schedule appliance or special pick-up; Schedule

household hazardous or electronic waste pick-up; Comment on service or recycling questions.

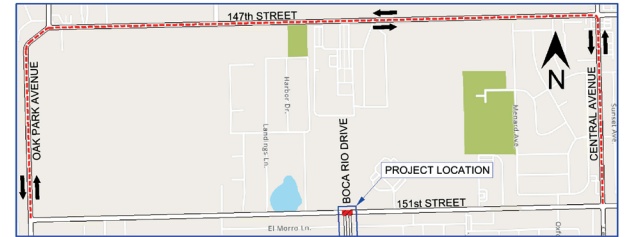
Plastic grocery bags & film are no longer accepted in recycle cart and new LRS carts are being delivered in late May. Hickory Hills homes will receive a new 96-gallon garbage cart and 96-gallon recycle cart.

LRS offers smaller sized (64-gallon carts) in place of 96-gallon cart(s), and additional carts and yard waste carts for rent.

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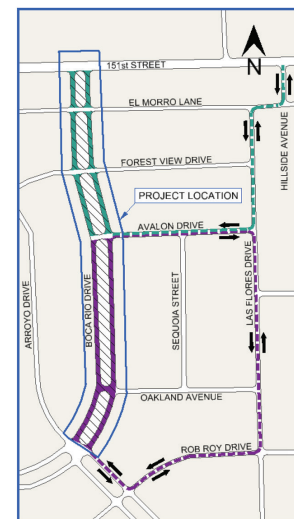
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Meet the Palos Area Chamber

In 1949, a small group of merchants joined together “for the purpose of advancing economic, industrial, professional, cultural, and civic welfare of the Palos Heights area.” For 68 years the Palos Area Chamber of Commerce has remained actively involved in the everyday life of our city, residents and business community. Supporting the communities of Palos Heights and Palos Park and our ever-growing member base is our top priority.

Our community is enriched by the services our members provide and we in turn, support them with a wide range of services and benefits including placement in the online member directory, a monthly email newsletter and membership meetings featuring timely programs and networking opportunities.

Chamber members understand the importance of civic responsibility and take great pride in the growth and development of our community. The Palos Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to promoting the business community and the many wonderful amenities our city offers to both residents and guests and is dedicated to making the Palos area a wonderful and convenient place to live, work, visit and build a business.



President Todd Probasco
Lakeside Bank



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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 49 | Number 20 | April 18, 2023

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

Monthly Message from Mayor Kelly Burke

Hello Neighbors, With the arrival of spring, it's a great time to renew our commitment to sustainability and take action toward protecting the environment. In this spirit, I would like to share some helpful tips on recycling and two upcoming community environmental events.

By following some simple guidelines, proper recycling is possible and will ensure that our waste is diverted from landfills and reused in an environmentally responsible way. First, keep in mind that most bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard can be recycled and follow these tips:

Recycle plastics labeled #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, and #7; Plastics labeled #1, should be screw top only and without caps; Plastics labeled #2 include milk jugs, water bottles, detergent, and shampoo bottles, remove caps; Narrow and screw top containers labeled with #3, #4, #5, #6, and #7, without caps; Rinse out and remove any food debris from glass, tin or aluminum cans, plastic containers, and cardboard containers and avoid putting plastic bags and pizza boxes in your recycling bin as they can cause issues at recycling facilities. Instead, consider recycling your plastic bags at your local grocery store.

Visit Waste Management's recycling website, RecycleOftenRecycleRight.com to learn more about accepted items and how to recycle more efficiently.

Earth Day events start this weekend. Along with the Environmental Recycling Commission, the Village will be hosting a textile recycling event on April 15th at Yukich Fields (89th and Kedzie). This is a great opportunity to dispose of old clothing, linens, and other textiles in an eco-friendly manner. Currently, many textiles end up in landfills. By recycling these materials, we can reduce our carbon footprint and support a circular economy. The event takes place from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM near the concession stand located on the north end of Yukich Fields.

On April 22nd, I want to invite all residents, businesses, and organizations to join us in our Earth Day Park Cleanup at 10:00 AM. This is a chance to come together as a community and show our pride in Evergreen Park. We will be cleaning up litter in various parks throughout the village. It will be a great opportunity to get some fresh air, meet new people, and make a positive impact on our environment. Interested volunteers are asked to pre-register at www.evergreenpark-ill.com so we can plan a successful event. This is a great opportunity for students in need of service hours.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our beautiful community. Let's continue to work together toward a more sustainable future on Earth Day and every day.



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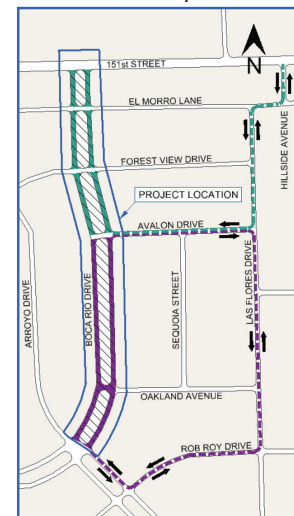
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About the BPCIA

The Bedford Park-Clearing Industrial Association (BPCIA) offers the opportunity to be proactive in the community and improve the area around your business. The common goal is to share information that may affect your business and the bottom line. The Association is growing due to the commitment of the members, the board of directors, and the elected officials focusing on strengthening the business climate in our area. We meet with legisla-

tors, community leaders, governmental agencies, and people who you may not conveniently meet or know but are affecting your business. We share information with our members through quarterly meetings, networking events, our website (www.bpcia.org), and our E-Newsletter.

The mission of the Bedford Park-Clearing Industrial Association is to build a partnership of business professionals and government officials working together



to protect and foster a healthy business climate through member education, networking events, business retention and planned expansion.

We welcome you to learn more about the BPCIA and how we can mutually benefit from a civic and business relationship. For more information, please contact us online or call our office at 708-496-0336.

May events at the Oak Lawn Public Library



The Oak Lawn Public Library, located at 9427 S. Raymond Ave., is pleased to announce ongoing and upcoming events that will take place from May 1-15, 2023. The library is especially excited to welcome patrons of all ages to Fan Fest, an all-day celebration of Free Comic Book Day and pop culture on Saturday, May 6.

Adult & Teen Programs: Mouse and Keyboard, Tech Help Hour, Acid Reflux: Get Me Off My Meds, Friends of the Library Movie Showing: "In the Heights" (2021), May the Fourth Party, Anime/Manga Club, OLPL Fan Fest Vol. 7: Guardians of the Library, Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Group, Who's Got Game?, The Yarnery Club, Friends Short Story Discussion Group, English Together, Movie Showing: "Top Gun: Maverick" (2022), Computer Basics, Teen Advisory Board, Race and Trauma: Supporting Families, Oak Lawn Writers' Group, Skin Cancer Screening with Advocate Aurora Health, Internet Basics, Snack & Study, The ABCs of High Blood Pressure and Werewolf.

Youth Programs: Family Taste-Off: Healthy "Chips" (All Ages), Messy Art Ages 2-3 ages 3-5 and Drop-In Craft: Make a Button (Ages 5 and up).

For more information, please visit our online event calendar at cal.olpl.org or call 708-422-4990.



Students earn Seal of Biliteracy

Written by Jennifer Jepsen, OLCBS Staff Writer

Oak Lawn Community High School is proud to announce that several students earned the Seal of Biliteracy for the 2022-23 school year. The Seal of Biliteracy is a national movement to recognize students for proficiency in English and in another language. This evidence of biliteracy is becoming increasingly lucrative in post-secondary life. Recipients will have a notation of this academic honor on their transcript and diploma. As a result, some students may automatically earn college credit or even receive a higher wage or salary with employers. In addition to demonstrating proficiency in English, students must also demonstrate proficiency in another language in the areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

The following students earned the Seal of Biliteracy: Shatha Abdeljaber, Abdelraouf Akili, Abdulmonem Akili, Mohammad AlSheikh, Imad Amra, Bushra Bawadi, Maysam Ibrahim, Janna Mahmoud, and Sajida Mulhem earned the Seal of Biliteracy in Arabic; Marcel Duda, Justyna Dzielska, Karolina Klocek, Paulina Komperda, Robert Slezak, Karolina Stachnik, Adam Trojak, and David Zajma earned the Seal of Biliteracy in Polish; Arely Alvarez, Carlos Bautista, Mia Bello Ruiz, Gabriella Cichorz, Giselle Gallegos, Samantha Guerrero, Edith Guijosa, Layla Khalil, Jonathan Mexicano, Dulce Moto, Crystal Neri, Dominique Orbea Herrera, Priscilla Pena, Selena Perez, Abram Ramos, Mayeli Ruiz, Mariana Salazar Morales, Alexandra Sanchez, Juan Sanchez, Ariana Sanchez, and Delilah Trujillo earned the Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish; and Thi Phan earned the Seal of Biliteracy in Vietnamese.

Senior Paulina Komperda said, "Earning the Seal of Biliteracy makes me so proud to represent my heritage and culture. I'm very happy to have the opportunity to earn college credit before I even start school next year." Dustin Greenberg, Department Chair of World Languages and English Language Learners, added, "I am so proud of what all our students have done to maintain and sharpen their language skills despite the challenges caused by the pandemic. We have amazing students at OLCBS who are globally minded and value the benefits of being biliterate in our vastly competitive global society."



The Cook County Department of Animal and Rabies Control (ARC) has announced its 2023 Partners in Prevention clinic locations. ARC is partnering with local animal organizations to offer low-cost or free 1-year rabies vaccines and microchips.

Rabies Vaccine and Microchip Clinics

Clinics are available to Cook County dogs and cats. Please bring proof of residency (driver's license or state ID) with you.

Please note: some clinics are available to dogs only as noted in the clinic description and on the flyer. Microchips are administered for free at all clinics and there is no registration fee. For more information about the microchips used, please visit: www.avidid.com. Check back often as

additional clinics may be added to the schedule.

Proud member of following 2023 Chambers

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| Alsip Chamber of Commerce
www.alsipchamber.org | The Hills Chamber of Commerce
www.thehillschamber.org |
| Bedford Park-Clearing Industrial Association
www.bpcia.org | Justice Chamber of Commerce
www.villageofjustice.org |
| Blue Island Chamber of Commerce & Industry
www.blueislandchamber.org | Oak Forest-Crestwood Area Chamber
www.oc-chamber.org |
| The Burbank Chamber of Commerce
www.burbankilchamber.com | Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce
www.oaklawchamber.com |
| Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.visitchicagosouthland.com | Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce
www.orlandparkchamber.org |
| Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce
www.evergreenparkchamber.org | Palos Area Chamber of Commerce
www.palosareachamber.org |

Oak Lawn Village View Newspaper Archive
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>.

Chicago Southland CVB releases new destination video

After months of hard work, the Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau (CSCVB) is thrilled to announce the official release of its updated Destination Video that includes first of its kind Clicktivated interactive video.

With Clicktivated, viewers engage with the items of interest as they watch a video, redefining the experience by showing a direct link of what is being viewed with more

detailed information on the featured attraction/amenity.

"Our goal was not only to create a buzz about the greatness within the Chicago Southland, but offer a quick and simple way for viewers to identify the attractions and restaurants they're seeing immediately," said Jim Garrett, President/CEO of the CSCVB.

61 different partner attractions, hotels and restaurants are featured



in the 2 minute 37 second video that will continue to get updated annually.

Simply click the link <https://www.visit-chicagosouthland.com/#clicktivated> to enjoy the 2023 Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau Destination Video.

For more information, go to VisitChicagoSouthland.com.

American Film Institute announces 2023 Cinematography Intensive for Women

The American Film Institute (AFI) announced it is accepting applications for the 2023 Cinematography Intensive for Women presented by Panavision. The four-day program will be held on the AFI Campus in Los Angeles on June 22-25. Designed for aspiring cinematographers, the goal of the program is to provide participants with a toolkit to secure on-set experience in the field and first-hand industry insights demonstrating the path to professional career success. The application period closes Monday, April 24, 2023. Applicants will be notified of status in early June. The application and eligibility requirements can be found on AFI.com.

The Intensive is spearheaded by AFI Conservatory Cinematography Discipline Head Stephen Lighthill, ASC. The AFI Conservatory Cinematography program has propelled women and non-binary cinematographers to great success, including Academy Award® nominee Rachel Morrison (Black Panther, Mudbound), the first woman ever nominated for an Oscar® for Best Cinematography, as well as Emmy® nominee Ava Berkofsky, ASC (Insecure), Carolina Costa (High School, Hala), Autumn Durald Arkapaw, ASC (Black Panther: Wakanda Forever), Paula Huidobro (Academy Award® Best Picture winner CODA), Mimi Leder (The Morning Show, as director), two-time Grammy® Award winner Melina Matsoukas (Beyoncé's "Formation," Insecure, as director) and Polly Morgan, ASC, BSC (The Woman King), among others.

"The AFI Cinematography Intensive for Women is designed to inspire participants to pursue professional opportunities and to also instill a passion for inclusive approaches to leadership," said Lighthill. "With recent trends, it is important that we support women and nonbinary cinematographers, and we look forward to welcoming the aspiring cinematographers for this transformative program."

The hands-on master classes in the fundamentals of cinematography will constitute the core of the program, along with discussions about the current environment of the film industry and what it means to navigate such environments as women, nonbinary and historically underrepresented cinematographers.

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We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Music department performs on the road

Written by Jennifer Jepsen, OLCBS Staff Writer

On Friday March 10, 2023, the Oak Lawn Community High School Music Department took the show on the road when the young musicians participated in the Deep Dish Music Festival at Columbia College Chicago, a popular music festival for local high school and college musicians. Twenty-one students in the Modern Music Ensemble and Modern Music Ensemble Workshop groups had the

opportunity to perform for professionals in the pop music field at the event.

On Saturday, March 11, the electric guitar ensemble competed in the 56th Annual Mundelein Jazz Invitational. The Spartans had two outstanding soloist awards: Caio Cordeiro and Diego Davila. Music teacher Bob Habersat said, "I couldn't be prouder of the students in the modern music and electric guitar ensembles. These groups are



Caio Cordeiro and Diego Davila

mostly student led and they are putting out professional sounding products." Department chair Eric Kallenborn added, "It's fantastic that we have educators that offer amazing educational opportunities for our students outside of the classroom walls."



Free Dog Vaccine and Microchip clinic

On Sunday, April 30 from 4 pm to 7 pm at the Midwest Animal Hospital 11205 183rd Place, Orland Park, Illinois 60467 there will be a free dog vaccine and microchip clinic.

Due to the struggling economy, free distemper and rabies vaccines and microchips are being offered to families who cannot afford to provide them for their dogs.

Call 708-478-7788 for more information.

MaryAnn Nowak has artwork on display at the library's first floor Gallery Wall through June.



A Chicago native, MaryAnn resides with her family in Tinley Park. As a lover of the arts, she tries to capture life and humor and evoke an emotional response. She is able to convey the unique life, energy, and personality with each subject, ranging from animals to portraits to landscapes. MaryAnn prefers to work in pastels for the artistic challenge that they provide as well as the richness of color and depth. As part of her artistic process, she enjoys working from photographs and with each painting, tries to convey... "a picture is worth a thousand words."

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A Healthy and Balanced Diet Improves Oral Health

(NAPSI)—Oral health is linked to whole-body health, which means that not caring for teeth and gums can contribute to other health issues such as heart disease, stroke, and more.

To help improve health, March is National Nutrition Month, spotlighting nutrition education and focusing attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits. On World Oral Health Day, March 20, the world unites to help reduce the burden of oral diseases everywhere.



Smart eating habits, along with regular brushing and flossing, help to keep the body healthy.

The dental community hopes these observances raise awareness about issues affecting people in every country and at home.

Eat Well, Smile Bigger.

A healthy lifestyle begins with making better nutritional choices. Choosing to eat healthier helps promote overall wellness. Making healthy choices also positively impacts oral health.

Foods high in calcium and nutrients such as low-fat cheese, milk, yogurt, and leafy greens can all provide nourishment and promote healthy teeth. Foods high in protein such as eggs, fish, meat, and poultry can also help protect the enamel on teeth and improve bone density. Even certain teas are good for oral health. Ditch sugary sodas for unsweetened black and green teas which contain plaque-inhibiting ingredients.

Foods that promote oral health also benefit the rest of the body. Most importantly, drinking plenty of water not only helps the body stay hydrated, it helps keep the mouth clean and healthy. One sign of good health is a healthy smile.

“Many patients usually only think of brushing and flossing as ways to keep their teeth healthy, but there are other factors that affect oral health,” said Dr. Gregory Theis, DDS, vice president of dental services at Delta Dental of Wisconsin. “Eating a balanced diet is important to maintaining a healthy smile, just like brushing and flossing.”

Be Mindful; Snack and Shop Smarter.

There are many different snack choices that are satisfying to eat and better for long term oral health. Fruits and vegetables, such as apples, carrots, and celery, help scrub plaque from teeth and freshen breath.

There are cost effective ways to stock fruits and vegetables at home. Buying in-season whole fruits and vegetables, buying in bulk, or opting for canned and frozen varieties are great ways to get more produce on a budget. Canned and frozen foods will last much longer and are usually just as nutritious.

Being proactive by keeping healthy snacks on hand will help stop the urge to reach for starchy or sweet junk food.

Sticky sugary candy, starchy foods, and carbonated soft drinks are some of the worst snack choices for oral health. When sugary foods are consumed, bacteria in the mouth produce acid after breaking that sugar down. This is what causes damage to the teeth.

There are ways to help reduce the damage sugar can cause. Dr. Theis recommends pairing dessert with your meal to help reduce the effect of acid on teeth and their enamel, as the mouth makes more saliva when eating a larger meal. “When sugary cravings strike, this trick helps to reduce the effects of acid production,” said Dr. Theis. It’s also helpful to limit snacks between meals when possible.

Being mindful of how food choices affect overall oral health is an investment in a healthier future. It’s never too late to start building healthy habits. This March and always, make a commitment to good oral health and better nutrition.

Allergy Avoidance

(NAPSI)—Ah, Spring: Flowers in bloom, birds on the wing, fun in the sun—and itchy eyes, runny noses, sneezing, coughing, hives, wheezing, fatigue and difficulty breathing for the more than 60 million Americans the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America say suffer from asthma or allergies. But there can be a solution.

The Problem.

Even the cleanest home can harbor all sorts of indoor allergens. Unseen contaminants and air pollutants including dirt, dust, pet dander, cigarette smoke, mold, mildew and chemicals. They get pulled into your home’s HVAC system and recirculated throughout the house several times a day.

An Answer.

A few simple steps can reduce and remove allergens.

Pet dander: Regularly steam clean your furniture, carpets, and window coverings. De-cluttering gives dander fewer places to hide. And regularly bathing your dog or cat sends excess dander down the drain.

Mold and mildew: Use mold inhibitors in your paints, clean your bathroom and kitchen with mold-busting products and use a dehumidifier or air purifier.

Air system filtration: Change air filters monthly. Consider HEPA filters, designed to catch the tiniest particles of pollutants.

Schedule a professional air duct cleaning: A good way to be sure you’ll get the



Allergy season doesn't have to mean misery if you heed a few hints for your home.

job done right is to hire a National Air Duct Cleaners Association (NADCA) member through the online directory at <http://nadca.com/en/prosearch/all>. NADCA members have technicians on staff with advanced training and certification in HVAC system cleaning.

Learn More.

For further facts and tips, go to www.BreathingClean.com.

Top Three Reasons To Try High-Value Dog Treats

(NAPSI)—If you’re like most pet parents, you want to give your pups the best when it comes to special treats.

Here’s why, according to the experts on canine health and happiness, Kolby and Kaleb Rush of Saint Rocco’s all-natural, human-grade treats.



You can treat your dog to top quality, all-natural goodies.

Training: Professionals agree that introducing a brand-new behavior, working on socialization, or emphasizing counter conditioning all take incredible focus. High-value treats are like giving your dog an A+ for behavior and training, enabling the highest focus and encouraging better results.

Health: Veterinarians have been touting the perils of processed dog foods and treats for years. Feeding dogs sub-par treats using rendered leftover meat waste, sugar, sodium, BHA, food coloring, and additives made in potentially filthy conditions or processing plants can contribute to lower life expectancy, allergies, certain cancers and unnecessary weight gain.

Taste: A treat should be just that: a TREAT and not an hourly occurrence or something sub-par and not worth it. Consider high-value treats the ice cream of options. The “mouth feel” that jerky-style high protein treats provide, and the quality, healthful ingredients and thoughtful, transparent production, mean even the most finicky pet (and owner) can see that high-value dog treats put the “eats” in treats.

Learn More: For further facts and tips, visit www.saintroccotreats.shop.



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Rising Stars in Concert this May

The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago will present its annual Rising Stars in Concert on Saturday, May 6, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lyric Opera House.

Rising Stars in Concert will feature the artists of the 2022/23 Ryan Opera Center Ensemble performing with members of the Lyric Opera Orchestra. The concert will be conducted by Roberto Kalb with stage direction by Crystal Manich, both in their Lyric debuts.

The program will showcase a wide variety of repertoire by Bartók, Gounod, Puccini, Rossini, Wagner, and more. The concert

is a celebration of the Ensemble's many accomplishments throughout their Ryan Opera Center tenures and a unique showcase performance for these soon-to-be world-renowned artists.

Audience members will enjoy performances by Ryan Opera Center sopranos Kathryn Henry, Lindsey Reynolds, and Denis Vélez; mezzo-soprano Katherine DeYoung; tenors Ryan Capozzo, Lunga Eric Hallam and Alejandro Luévanos; baritones Laureano Quant and Ian Rucker; and bass Wm. Clay Thompson.

The Ensemble members who will return to the



Kathryn Henry

program for 2023/24 include Kathryn Henry, Lindsey Reynolds, Ryan Capozzo, Alejandro Luévanos, Laureano Quant, Ian Rucker, Ron Dukes, Wm. Clay Thompson, Donald Lee III, Luther H. Lewis III, and Tess Naval.

Rising Stars in Concert is being recorded for broadcast on 98.7 WFMT and streaming on wfmt.com on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 5 p.m. For more information, visit lyricopera.org.

Drury Lane Theatre announces the cast of *Grease*

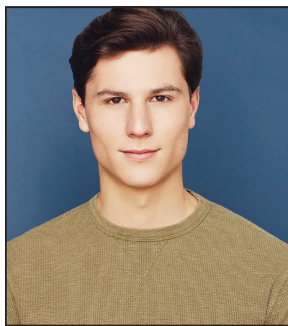
Drury Lane Theatre opens its incredible 2023-2024 season with the song and dance spectacular *Grease*, with book, music and lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey. Helmed by director and choreographer Paul Stancato, Drury Lane's production of *Grease* runs April 12 – June 4, 2023, at Drury Lane Theatre, 100 Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. Tickets are available by phone at (630) 530-0111 or online at www.drurylanetheatre.com.

Meet Rydell High's senior class of 1959, the hot-rodding "Burger Palace Boys" and the gum-snapping "Pink Ladies." Relive those "Summer Nights" with Danny and Sandy as they rediscover their summer romance.

Inspired by the look and sound of music legends Buddy Holly, Little Richard, and Elvis Presley, *Grease* became the soundtrack of a generation and one of the world's most popular musicals.

The cast is led by Jake DiMaggio Lopez as Danny Zuko and Emily Schultheis as Sandy Dumbrowski with Jordan Arredondo (Sonny Latierra), Anna Louise Bramlett (Marty), Ben Dow (Doody), Nik Kmiecik (Roger), Kyra Leigh (Miss Lynch), Evan Tyrone Martin (Teen Angel), Billy Rude (Kenickie), Elizabeth Stenholz (Jan), Ciarra Stroud (Frenchy), Alina Taber (Betty Rizzo), Victor Wallace (Vince Fontaine), Olivia Belfie (Patty Simcox), August Forman (Eugene Florczyk), Zac Richey (Johnny Casino), Emily Scinto (Cha-Cha DiGregorio). The cast is rounded out by: Brandon Acosta, Leah Casey, Clayton Cross, Daniela Johns, Conor Jordan, Abby Rose Merrill, Kerri Rose, Maxel McLoud Schingen, Brian Selcik, Angela Syrett, Amanda Walker and Anakin Jace White.

Tickets: Single Tickets: \$85 – \$95*; Wednesday and Thursday matinees: \$85.75*; Fridays, Saturday evenings and matinees, Sunday matinees: \$96.25*; Thursday and Sunday evenings: \$91* and *Prices include taxes and fees. \$5 discount available for Senior Citizens on Wednesday and Thursday matinees.



Jake DiMaggio Lopez as Danny Zuko

National Geographic Live's "Coral Kingdoms and Empires of Ice" is at the Auditorium Theatre

The Auditorium Theatre (Chicago's landmark stage at 50 E. Ida B. Wells Drive) proudly presents National Geographic Live's "Coral Kingdoms and Empires of Ice" with photographic team David Doubilet and

explore hidden underwater universes. Audiences will be treated to a visual journey of their National Geographic assignments to three unique marine environments.

Kimbe Bay, Papua New

St. Lawrence, an extraordinary world of whales, wolfish, salmon and the harp seal, a remarkable creature fighting to survive in a world of shrinking ice.

National Geographic Live's "Coral Kingdoms and Empires of Ice" takes place at the Auditorium Theatre Sunday April 30, 2023 at 2:00 PM. Tickets, priced at \$25 and \$48, are now available at auditoriumtheatre.org or by calling 312.341.2300, or at the Box Office at 50 E Ida B Wells Drive in Chicago, IL.

For more information on the Auditorium Theatre and a complete listing of events at the



Baby Green Sea Turtle, French Polynesia. Photo David Doubilet

Jennifer Hayes, Sunday, April 30 at 2:00 PM. Vice President of Conservation Research at Chicago's own Shedd Aquarium, Dr. Chuck Knapp, will introduce the speakers and host a Q&A providing audience members the valuable opportunity to talk directly with Doubilet and Hayes.

David Doubilet is one of the most prolific living photographers at National Geographic magazine and jokes that he's spent more of his waking hours underwater than on dry land. His wife Jennifer Hayes is an aquatic biologist and a globally published photo-journalist. Together, they

Guinea, is a corner of the coral triangle that also includes the Philippines and Indonesia- and the center of the world in terms of marine biodiversity. It is home to an unspoiled wilderness of water crowded with layers of life: from fingernail-sized pygmy seahorses to 60-foot-tall towers of barracudas. Further south, in the cold ice filled waters of Antarctica, the team moves through and under the ice to capture images of the hidden world of the leopard seal, penguins, shipwrecks, as well as the sculptural beauty of icebergs. Finally, Canada's Gulf of



David Doubilet with southern stingrays. Photo Jennifer Hayes

Auditorium Theatre, please visit AuditoriumTheatre.org. For more information on National Geographic Live and other National Geographic events, please visit www.natgeolive.com.

Nicodemus opens this weekend!

Back by popular demand *Nicodemus* (Rod Armentrout) battles it out with the religious council.

Nicodemus, an influential member of the clergy meets Jesus face-to-face for the first time. That encounter sets off a series of events that causes him to question his most foundational beliefs and be a part of history's biggest event. Set in modern day, this compelling play digs deep into the most important passage in all of the Bible.

Featuring Rod Armentrout, Demetrios Troy, Cydney Moody and Clayton Denton.

Nicodemus will run this spring until May 14, 2023 at the Athenaeum Theatre, Chicago Illinois. Tickets are on sale through our website, provisiontheater.org



Rod Armentrout as Nicodemus



Enter a galaxy far, far away with *Otherworld Theatre's Star Wars Day Weekend Celebration*

In honor of Star Wars Day, Otherworld Theatre Company today jumped into hyperdrive in announcing a weekend-long celebration of one of the most iconic fandoms in history. Beginning May the Fourth, Jedi, Sith, and droids alike will awaken the Force with an

extravaganza featuring special performances of Otherworld shows, podcasts, and a cosplay meet-up filled with more lightsabers, speeders, and Wookies than you can count. Tickets (\$10 - \$80) are available for individual events, single-day passes, or for the whole weekend.

Tickets to Otherworld Theatre's Star Wars Day Weekend Celebration are available on the theatre's website at www.otherworldtheatre.org, with full weekend passes priced at \$80; Saturday Day Passes at \$50; and Sunday Day Passes at \$25. Individual tickets to podcast tapings

and to the screening of "The Force Within Us" are available for \$10 each, and guests can pre-purchase "Star Wars Multiverse" to be autographed at the book signing for \$18, or bring their own copy with them. Individual tickets to Trade Federation are \$20 each throughout the weekend.

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Get Ready for Spring & Summer "Backyarding": Keep Safety in Mind

(NAPSI)—“Backyarding”—the art of taking indoor activities to the outdoors—is a trend that has caught on. As winter begins to wind down, thoughts of playing in and working in the yard often kick into high gear.



Getting your yard ready now can help you have a great season ahead.

Perhaps you are already dreaming of family gatherings, grilling and eating in your backyard. Or maybe you wish to add a yoga zone, design an outdoor movie theater, or build an agility course for your pet this year. Or perhaps this is the year you wish to add a pollinator garden or plant a vegetable or flower garden. Or are you hoping to

get that outdoor office setup with extended WiFi?

Knowing the purpose of your yard and how it will meet the needs of your family and pets is a great start to getting “backyard ready” for these warmer weather activities. Also, knowing your climate zone and the mix of trees, shrubs, grass and flowering plants that will grow sustainably is key to designing a dream yard. After all, our yards are not only an oasis for family but also for wildlife and important pollinators such as birds, bees and butterflies.

Now is the time to start planning. Visit your nursery, plant centers, outdoor power equipment service dealers, and/or contact a landscaper, according to the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI).

“Think about how your yard can work best for you, your family, pets and community, but do it now,” says Kris Kiser, CEO and President of OPEI. “And while you’re getting it in top shape for warm weather, remember to keep safety top of mind, especially with your equipment and tools.”

Here are some tips from OPEI to get your backyard ready, safely and efficiently:

Take stock of your outdoor power equipment to help you maintain your yard and make big jobs easier. A lawn mower will trim the grass, but perhaps you might need a cultivator for a garden, a chain saw to take down dead tree limbs, or a leaf blower to clear debris. Having the

right equipment on hand can help you save time and effort if you don’t want to hire a professional.

Follow equipment manufacturer’s guidance for safety and usage of all outdoor power equipment. Look over the manual for your equipment for a refresher on how to safely use it, and read the safety information on equipment manufacturer’s web sites. Review how to shut on and off equipment and make sure safety features are working and have not been disabled. Never disengage or disable manufacturer-installed safety equipment.

Remember to keep children and pets away from outdoor power equipment. No children on mowers.

Do not mow in reverse, and avoid starting, stopping or turning a mower on a slope. Follow manufacturer guidance to the letter on mowing on slopes.

Service equipment as needed and according to manufacturer’s directions. Well-maintained equipment will last longer and run more efficiently.

Buy fresh fuel for gasoline-powered equipment and be sure you have matched the correct battery with the right charger. Use only those batteries that are authorized for your equipment and do not use counterfeits.

Before working in the yard, clear the area of dead limbs, sticks and debris. Inspect trees for damage and clear the work area.

By keeping this information in mind, you can get your yard in its best shape safely.



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Shrub Trimming & Pruning
Garden Walkways • Yard Cleanup
Landscape Care • Sod • Flowers
Seeding-Soil-Mulch
Decorating Rocks • Garden Soil
FREE ESTIMATES JERRY - INSURED 708-785-5023



HELEN CUPRISIN EARTH DAY CELEBRATION & PLANT SWAP

Schedule of Events
Plant Swap 10 am to 1 pm
Lasting Legacies of Women Who Loved Nature with Mary Miritello 11 am
Earth Day DIY for Kids Noon to 2 pm
Teen Clothing Swap 1 to 3 pm
Petra van Nuis (vocals) & Andy Brown (guitar) 2 pm
Also: Taproot Farms and Brookfield Zoo Communities/Nature
Visit evergreenparklibrary.org/helen for more information.

SATURDAY APRIL 22



Spring Cleanup Week is April 24 to April 28

From April 24 through April 28, residents of single-family 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. Public Works chipping crews will be following Homewood Disposal's pickup schedule. Questions? Call Public Works at 708-535-4090.

SPRING SPECIAL

FREE Bonus Dollars
Spend \$20 Receive \$1
Spend \$50 Receive \$5
Spend \$100 Receive \$15



New Giant Load Washer
FREE Soap, Bleach & Fabric Softener

Drop Off Laundry \$1.50 | **April Special \$5 Gift Card**
We will Wash/Dry/Fold your clothes for only **lb.** with every Drop-Off Laundry Service Load
(20 lb. minimum)

**ALL WASH IS NOW SANITIZED
KILLING ALL BACTERIA, VIRUSES AND COVID-19**

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