



We serve our community with good news!

Village View



B-MAC EDITION

Volume 18 | Number 7 | April 2, 2024

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

"Bill W. and Dr. Bob," extended by popular demand through April 28 at the Biograph Theater



L to R: Ronnie Marmo as Bill W., Steve Gelder as Dr. Bob in "Bill W. and Dr. Bob". Photo Theatre 68

"Bill W. and Dr. Bob," produced by Theatre 68 and directed by and starring

Ronnie Marmo, has been extended by popular demand through April 28 at the Richard Christiansen Theater of the Biograph Theater in Lincoln Park (2433 N. Lincoln Ave.). This critically acclaimed production, written by Samuel Shem and Janet Surrey, portrays the powerful, funny, and profoundly inspirational true story of the two founders of Alcoholics Anonymous: New York stockbroker Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith, a surgeon from Ohio. Tickets, starting at \$69, are on sale now at billwanddrbobonstage.com.

Ronnie Marmo is playing the role of Bill W. with Steve Gelder starring alongside him as Dr. Bob. Katherine Wettermann will play Bill W.'s wife Lois Wilson while Elizabeth Rude take on the role of Dr. Bob's wife Anne Smith. Sharing the stage with them are Phil Aman in the role of Man and Bill W. understudy, and Marla Seidell as Woman.

Best of Blue Island Award Winners 2024

Cheers Blue Island! Congratulations to our winners, to all the nominees, and a huge thank you to everyone who joined and supported the Best of Blue Island Awards 2024. Official photos coming soon!

2024 Best of Blue Island Award Winners: Community Spirit Residential Category – Joe Leamanczyk & Ben Walker, 12905 Greenwood Ave.; Community Spirit

Business Category – The Lyric Theater; Healthcare Professional of the Year – Dr. Dan Ahrens, Meyer Eyecare; Educator of the Year – Josh Meyer, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School; Non-Profit of the Year – Blue Cap; Volunteer of the Year – Dennis Ziolkowski, St. Benedict Food Pantry; Man of the Year – Scott Arnold, The Lyric Theater; Woman of the Year – Amanda Garetto-Melvin, Beggars

Pizza, The Lyric Theater, Iversen's Bakery, Be.illinois; Business of the Year – Van's Maplewood Inn, and Civic Leadership Scholarship Awards – Esther Heyboer & Brianna Torrence-Jones, Eisenhower High School.

Congratulations to our 2024 Executive Committee, Chairwoman Jackie Barton, Vice Chair Kim Gunaka, and Treasurer Bruce Bronson, and welcome to the board Anna Wassenaar!

Gaslighter: Songs of the Dixie Chicks

Friday April 5, 2024, doors open 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Gaslighter is a journey into the heart of The Chicks adventurous spirit and musical artistry. Not only do they capture the look, but also the attitude of The Chicks, delivering soaring harmonies and musical prowess that pay homage to the best-selling female group of all time. Girl power and more.

The Lyric Theater is at 12952 Western Ave, Blue Island, IL 60406, 708-972-0700. Tickets start at \$44.95 plus fee. Tickets can be purchased online at www.lyrictheater.com.



GASLIGHTER
SONGS OF THE DIXIE CHICKS
Gaslighter. Photo courtesy Lyric Theater.

Community Clean-up Day in Blue Island

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 Memorial Park 12804 Highland Ave.

Saturday, April 27, 2024. Sign in begins at 8 a.m., cleanup 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., lunch is at 11:30 a.m.

Participate individually or with your friends and neighbors; Complete an online registration by completing and submitting the form at: <https://blueisland.org/2024/02/27/community-cleanup/> and return it to City Clerk's Office, or fax to 708-396-7062; Meet at Memorial Park (12804 Highland Ave) 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; Cleanup time is 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.; Leave garbage bags at your clean-up site for pickup and gather at Memorial Park for lunch immediately following the cleanup.

The Friends of the Midlothian Public Library 2024 Gala Fundraiser

Presented in Partnership with the Village of Midlothian Events Committee.

Due to the slow pace of advance ticket sales, the Friends of the Midlothian Library and the library administration have made the difficult decision to cancel "Groovin' at the Library." Unfortunately, it became apparent that the event would result in a loss rather than serve its purpose to raise funds for the work

of the Friends. All individuals who purchased tickets will be contacted to receive a full refund. For those disappointed to not hear Sonia Perez and the Nova Son Trio, keep an eye out for this group at the library's Hispanic Heritage Month program upcoming in September. To all the local businesses who donated prizes, these will be raffled later in the year at other Friends events, thank you very much for

your generosity! To the Village of Midlothian Events Committee, co-sponsors of the event, we thank you for your cooperation and look forward to future collaborations. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please contact Jennifer Cottrill, Library Director, jcottrill@midlothianlibrary.org. Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Avenue, Midlothian, IL 60445, 708-535-2027.

Experience the magic of Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young with Marrakesh Express!

Join us on Saturday, April 13th, 2024, at 8 pm for an unforgettable evening of timeless classics and intricate harmonies. Tickets \$30. Don't miss out on this rare opportunity to witness the

music that defined a generation! Whether you're a die-hard fan or a curious newcomer, Marrakesh Express promises an energetic concert filled with nostalgia and excitement.

Get your tickets now and join us for a journey through the golden era of rock music!

Beverly Arts Center is at 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago, IL 60655. Call the Box Office at 773-445-3838.

Blue Island Area Chamber of Commerce 72nd Annual Blue Island Classic

Join us for golf, awards, food, and fun!

Friday, June 7, 2024, 10:00 am registration and 11 am shotgun start.

Our annual golf outing is a great way to relax, catch up with friends, business

owners and city officials, all while helping raise funds for the Chamber Civic Scholarship program.

The outing begins with registration at 10:00 am, a shotgun start at 11:00 am and includes a full round of

golf, your lunch, and reception after golf. Sponsorships also available!

For more information, visit blueislandchamber.org. The Meadows Golf Club is at 2802 123rd Street, Blue Island, Illinois.



We serve our community
with good news!

Village View



FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 22 | Number 7 | April 2, 2024

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

The Joffrey Ballet announces 2024 – 2025 season at Lyric Opera House

69th Season highlights include: U.S. Premiere of Cathy Marston's *Atonement*; Christopher Wheeldon's *Holiday Classic the Nutcracker*; *Golden Hour* featuring the World Premiere of *Princess and the Pea* by Dani Rowe; *Heimat* by Cathy Marston, *Under the Trees' Voices* by Nicolas Blanc; a World Premiere by Yuri Possokhov; and the Chicago Premiere of Christopher Wheeldon's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

The Joffrey Ballet begins its 69th season with Cathy Marston's U.S. premiere of *Atonement*, October 17 through 27, 2024, a full-length narrative ballet of a tragic love story set against the historical backdrop of 1935 England. Soon after, the Joffrey once again brings holiday magic with the return of Christopher Wheeldon's *The Nutcracker*, December 6 to 28, 2024, followed by *Golden Hour*, February 20 through March 2, 2025, with original work



The Joffrey Ballet The Nutcracker, Maxwell Dawe and Nae Kojima. Photo by Todd Rosenberg.

by Dani Rowe and Yuri Possokhov, accompanied by pieces from frequent Joffrey collaborators Nicolas Blanc and Cathy Marston. Closing out the season is a not-to-be-missed highlight of the year, plunge down the rabbit hole into the fantastical world of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, where two-time Tony Award®-winner Christopher Wheeldon brings Lewis Carroll's fantastical world to life with instantly recognizable characters such as the high-strung Queen of Hearts, the entrancing Caterpillar, and the tap-dancing Mad Hatter, June 5 to 15, 2025.

Three-program subscriptions for the fall, winter,

and spring season productions, which do not include *The Nutcracker*, start at \$129. Subscriptions are available for purchase online at joffrey.org, by mail (Joffrey Ballet Subscriptions, The Joffrey Ballet, Joffrey Tower, 10 East Randolph Street, Chicago, IL 60601), by telephone at 312-386-8905, by fax at 312-739-0119 or by email at patronservices@joffrey.org.

Single tickets for the October, February, and June performances, as well as *The Nutcracker*, will be available starting this summer, by telephone at 312-386-8905 or online at www.joffrey.org.

Tinley Park Fire Department receives Class 1 ISO rating

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) recently graded the Village of Tinley Park as an ISO Class 1 community, which is the best rating possible and indicates that the Tinley Park Fire Department is well-equipped to handle fire emergencies.

The rating not only took into account the readiness of the Tinley Park Fire Department, but also that of the Village's Water Department and 911 Communication Center.

"I'd like to thank the entire Village Board and Village Administration

for investing in the Fire Department, which allowed us to achieve this goal," Tinley Park Fire Chief Steve Klotz said.

The Village of Tinley Park is one of only 22 fire departments in Illinois that have earned a Class 1 rating.

Annual Village of Mokena Clean-Up Day Scheduled for April 6, 2024

The Village of Mokena is happy to announce its Annual Clean-Up Day will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2024. All community members are invited to help clean-up our community!

Clean-Up Day will begin at Village Hall located at 11004 Carpenter Street. Meet at 9:00 a.m. with family, friends, neighbors,

and community organizations. The Public Works Department will be on-site and will deliver volunteers to various areas of the community for some sprucing up. The Village will also plant trees for Arbor Day.

At noon, volunteers will return to Village Hall and are invited to join us for lunch. Hot dogs, chips, and pop will

be served.

Students can receive Community Service Hours for their participation in Clean-Up Day. All volunteers are encouraged to wear working clothes and bring work gloves.

If you have any questions, contact the Village at (708) 479-3900 or stop by at 11004 Carpenter Street.

See you on April 6th!

Tinley Park Business Breakfast coming May 9

Mark your calendars for the 2024 Tinley Park Business Breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Thursday, May 9 at the Tinley Park Convention Center, 18451 Convention Center Drive, Tinley Park, Illinois 60477.

The morning will include breakfast and a State of the

Village report by Mayor Michael Glotz, followed with presentations by Lakota Group President Scott Freres and Thomas Walstrum, a senior business economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. The Village will also present the annual Business Recognition Awards.



Thomas Walstrum, Photo courtesy Village of Tinley Park

Spring Clean Up Week begins April 22 in Oak Forest

From April 22 through April 26, Oak Forest 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 at <https://mydisposal.com/residential/ewaste-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 the Oak Forest Public Works Department at 708-535-4090.

Spring Branch and Leaf Pickup in Mokena

Free Spring Leaf & Branch Pickup will be held on Wednesday, April 10th. Leaves must be bagged in paper or plastic. Branches must be bundled in 3 to 4 foot lengths.

Call the Village at (708) 479-3900 or visit mokena.org to schedule a pick-up.



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Village View



SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 25 | Number 7 | April 2, 2024

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

The Southwest Symphony Orchestra presents *The SSO Journeys Southwest!*

On Sunday, April 7, 2024, the Southwest Symphony Orchestra presents The Southwest Symphony Orchestra Journeys Southwest!, under the direction of David L. Crane.

Music evocative of the southwest will be featured starting with the Billy the Kid Suite by Aaron Copland. Other pieces are the Go West! Suite featuring such favorites as Magnificent 7, The Good Bad & The Ugly and Hang 'Em High, William Grant Still's Southwest from "The American Scene", and the Grand Canyon Suite by Ferde Grofé. In addition,

there will be 8 square dancers from the Glenview Squares performing three traditional square dance tunes to round out the afternoon.

Finally, this concert will feature the World Premiere of Desert Moods from "Celebrate America" a composition by local Tinley Park composer, Gordon Wallin. There will be an accompanying video presentation during this piece.

The concert is located at 6601 W. College Dr. (Route 83), Palos Heights, Illinois, Ozinga Chapel Auditorium.

Concert begins at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday April 7, 2024



Gordon Wallin. Photo courtesy Southwest Symphony Orchestra.

Ticket prices are \$7.00 for students, \$20.00 to \$25.00 for seniors, adults \$25.00 to \$30.00, children 10 and under are free.

Tickets are available in advance and at the door.

Go online at www.southwestsymphony.com or contact us at southwestsymphony@gmail.com, or call 708-802-0686.

Palos Park Police

Police Foundations: Don't My Taxes Pay for That?

Palos Park Police Foundation President Melissa Gracias talks about Police Foundations, and the importance of these partnerships for 21st-Century Policing "Today Police Department operating budgets for most police departments, struggle to be competitive to hire the best qualified dedicated officers and the allocation of salaries and benefits play a big part in that. The dilemma police executives deal with is finding the resources to incubate innovation, keep

pace with rapidly changing technology, meet time-sensitive needs, or implement vital new projects".

Many communities have found the answer in long term partnerships between the police and the public. Palos Park was the first Illinois Police Department Foundation. In Palos Park, our Police Foundation funds enhanced training, crime fighting through modern technology and equipment geared to promote better and smarted policing strategies.

What Is our Palos Park Police Foundation?

These community mem-

bers share a common purpose and similar organizing principles. They promote excellence in our police department by providing resources not readily available from traditional sources. Palos Park Police frequently use foundation grants to purchase equipment, provide specialized training, encourage professional development, recognize employee valor, and offer support make sure we are crafting a clear, concise, and compelling case that establishes the value of a police foundation to public safety.

Palos Park Woman's Club 2nd Annual Mother's Day Walk

Come join our second annual Mother's Day walk along beautiful Lake Katherine on 1-mile or 3-mile paths on Saturday, May 11, 2024, from 8 am until 11 am. Join us in our efforts to raise funds in support of our community.

Register by April 15 to get

your t-shirt! Adults \$25.00, 18 and under \$15.00, 2 and under are free.

Registration after April 15 Adults \$30.00, 18 and under \$20.00. T-shirts are based on availability.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/mr4dhtkt>. For information about the Palos Park



Woman's Club, go online to www.palosparkwc.wordpress.com.

Lake Katherine is at 7402 Lake Katherine Dr, Palos Heights, IL 60463.

Eddie Izzard performs Shakespeare's Hamlet

Chicago Shakespeare Theater announces today a thrilling addition to the season: Tony Award-nominated actor Eddie Izzard brings her celebrated solo theatrical performance of Hamlet to Chicago. Izzard portrays 23 characters in William Shakespeare's iconic play in this dynamic new staging adapted by Mark Izzard and directed by Selina Cadell. This strictly limited

two-week engagement plays April 19 through May 4, 2024, in the Courtyard Theater.

In Hamlet, The King of Denmark is dead, and Prince Hamlet is determined to take revenge, initiating a cascade of events that will destroy both family and state. Izzard portrays men, women, ghosts, scholars, tyrants, courtiers, lovers, fools, and poets.



Eddie Izzard performs Shakespeare's Hamlet. Photo Carol Rosegg.

More information at www.chicagoshakes.com/hamlet. Chicago Shakespeare Theater is at 800 E. Grand Ave. on Navy Pier, Chicago, IL 60611.

The Choir of Man is at the Apollo Theater Chicago

This is The Choir of Man, an uplifting celebration of community and friendship where everyone is welcome! It's a party, it's a concert, it's a theater experience unlike any before.

Set in the best pub in the world, a cast of nine (extra) ordinary guys combine hair raising harmonies, foot stomping singalongs, world class tap dance, and poetic meditations on the power

of community. Featuring pop, classic rock, folk melodies, and pub anthems from artists such as Adele, Paul Simon, Katy Perry, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Luther Vandross and so much more, The Choir of Man is 90 minutes of feel good entertainment that has something for everyone and is unlike anything else in Chicago!

With a real working bar on



stage, come ready to drink in the excitement. Raise a glass with us, Cheers!

Apollo Theater Chicago is at 2250 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago. Show begins at 7:30 pm, Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

The Village of Palos Park Arbor Day Celebration

"Cicadas in the Park", Featured presenter, Tricia Bethke, the Morton Arboretum, The Center in the Lodge, 12700 southwest highway, Sunday, May 5th at 12:00 p.m.

All attendees will receive a raffle ticket to win door prizes at the end of the celebration.

Free seedlings: shagbark

hickory, white oak, chinquapin oak, eastern wahoo, smooth hydrangea, hardhack-(steeple bush), comes in 1-gallon containers.

Poster contest: posters can be turned in at the Kaptur Center, 8999 W. 123rd St. by May 1st.

8.5 x 11 paper can be used; colored pencils, crayons, and markers may be used.



Please provide name, age and phone number on back.

Judging will be ages 4 to 5/6 through 7/8 to 9 and 10 to 12, and \$25.00 prize per age group.

Presenter: Tricia Bethke, MS

Tricia conducts statewide outreach training on invasive forest pests in Illinois.



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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 50 | Number 19 | April 2, 2024

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

Mercy Circle, 7th graders, Alderman Matt O'Shea prepare backpacks for homeless shelters

For the sixth year, generations united to spread hope and the spirit of the Easter holidays with homeless youngsters and teens served by Margaret's Village. Their goal was to show children of homeless families they are not alone, others care about them and want to brighten their Easter holiday.



Queen of Martyrs students Evan Hoffbauer and Ryan Panosh
Photo Marc Monaghan.

Alderman O'Shea spoke with Queen of Martyrs seventh-grade students about the plight of homeless families and how the two shelters at Margaret's Village provide a safe haven for 45 children and their parents.

Mercy Circle residents and the students filled colorful backpacks with toys and books, journals, pens, personal gifts, and traditional Easter candy, along with toothpaste and tooth-



Queen of Martyrs student Stephen VanHook and Mercy Circle resident Sister Margaret Brennan. Photo Marc Monaghan.

brushes donated by Perfect Smiles, Beverly. The students also selected charms and affixed them with personalized gift tags to the backpacks.

For more information about Mercy Circle or to schedule a private appointment and tour, please call 773-253-3600 or visit MercyCircle.org.

Jersey Boys the Story of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons

Playing now through May 19, 2024, purchase tickets at <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35981/production/1176165>.

Directed by Executive Producer Walter Stearns and Brenda Didier. Music by Bob Gaudio and lyrics by Bob Crewe.

Winner of Best Musical at both the Tony Awards and Olivier Awards, "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. Full of electrifying performances of chart-topping hits including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," "My Eyes Adored You," and more "Jersey Boys" will have you "Beggin'" for more!

Jersey Boys is recom-



mended for ages 12+

Mercury Theater Chicago is at 3745 N. Southport Avenue, Chicago, IL 60613. Email Info@Mercurytheaterchicago.com. Box Office hours noon until 5 pm Monday through Friday. Call (773) 360-7365.

Porchlight Music Theatre announces Cast of Chicago Sings Broadway Pop II

Porchlight Music Theatre is proud to announce the cast for Chicago Sings Broadway Pop II, its annual fundraising concert, Monday, April 15, at the House of Blues Chicago, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago. This concert, with a new program of music, includes live performances by Chicago music theatre's best loved artists, the presentation of the 2024 Guy Adkins Award for Excellence in the Advancement of Music Theatre in Chicago to Roberta Duchak by last year's recipient Rick



Chicago Sings Broadway Pop II. Photo Anthony La Penna.

Boynton and more.

Chicago Sings Broadway Pop II offers attendees two ways to participate in this unforgettable night: a Main Floor ticket, \$200.00 per person, includes reserved table seating on the main floor and access to the VIP cocktail hour with complimentary drinks and appetizer buffet before the performance and a Balcony

ticket, \$75.00 per person, hosted by the Porchlight Young Professionals, includes a standing-room spot on the first balcony and two drink tickets. Tickets are now on sale at www.PorchlightMusicTheatre.org. Main Floor reception begins at 5:30 pm, Balcony reception begins at 6:30 pm, and Performance begins at 7:00 pm.

Message From the Mayor of Justice

Dear Friends and Neighbors, This was one strange winter, if you can even call it a winter. The meteorologist's kind of predicted it, due to El Nino event, which warmed up the jet stream. I, for one am not complaining. But experience is telling me, that, in our area anything may happen. So, hang on to your hats and gloves a little bit longer.

Construction season is starting. The 90th Street project is in full swing, electric poles were installed and we are ready to brace and stabilize the street. Marion Drive reconstruction has commenced, a new water line is being installed and when it's finished, we will install underground tanks to solve the flooding problems.

The reconstruction of 79th Street, Cork Avenue and Archer Avenue will be let this month, and work will begin in June. It will cause

inconvenience and I am imploring you to be patient. You will like the end result.

The proposed development of the hotel and convenience store/gas station will also begin soon. IDOT has finally issued permits to access the property and things are moving forward. Our Police Department continues with their ongoing training to keep our residents, businesses and Village safe, and we are close to full strength now. Last year we were in 6th place as the safest town in Illinois under 50,000 residents.

Our Public Works Dept. is getting ready for Spring and April showers, cleaning ditches, sewers, and drainages. We are hoping to minimize flooding, but it will also depend on Mother Nature.

Our Building Department is bracing up for construction season, we expect it to be a busy one. We are

also asking residents to be aware of shady contractors and scams, targeting especially our seniors. If something is fishy, please call our Building Department and they will check things and help out when they can.

We are seeking grant funds to build the sidewalks on the North Side near Brodnicki School. This will improve the safety of kids and parents walking to school. Speaking of safety, I'm asking parents to be mindful when they drop off their children, not to speed.

Our budget is finished, and I have to say, that we are in a good financial position. I'm proud of everyone who works hard to watch how the Village spends taxpayer dollars.

We look forward to a busy and exciting year in our Village. Yours Sincerely, Kris Wasowicz, Mayor/Village President.

Easter Blessing

Wednesday, March 27th, after being in a restaurant with my monthly luncheon friends, I decided to go shopping at Aldi in Alsip. After being there shopping for an hour, I went to the checkout counter and my credit card was declined. Oh no, I realized my card was compromised and I was waiting for the new card? As a flash back, I realized I paid the restaurant bill in the exact amount cash

with tip. So how was I to pay a \$90.02 bill since I had no money. I had mentioned this to the cashier, left the basket and started toward the door. Before I entered the automated door, the cashier came running with the filled basket saying here it's yours and paid in full. I thanked her and she said "thank him and I mouthed thank you. After bagging everything I looked back to thanked him again, and he nodded.

the store and said, "I want to return the money to you, he said it's on me. I'm so thankful to you please let me send you the money. He said, "it's for you". This was a young man in his 30's, I just want everyone to know there are people out there very concerned about others. The cashier may have told him my story, but they didn't know I had no food in the house and was waiting for my credit card to arrive. God is Good!

I was now out by the car and waited for him to leave

Village View usually shy's away from anonymous letters but would not neglect this one.

Grassroots Republican

Christine SHANAHAN MCGOVERN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 36

"We live in the most corrupt government money can buy. Stop paying for it with your vote."

FAITH FAMILY FREEDOM

I want to express my sincere gratitude to the people of District 36 who took the time to vote-by-mail or in person. Our campaign is growing stronger and gaining momentum each and every day. We have a strategic plan that will successfully bring back common sense and Midwestern values to District 36.

Please join our email list at www.ShanahanMcGovern.com to stay up to date with our initiative.

Please consider becoming a Precinct Captain. All things are possible with faith, strength, and hard work! Together WE will WIN District 36.

Christine Shanahan McGovern

www.ShanahanMcGovern.com

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Look at the Oak Lawn Library website at <https://www.olpl.org>.

Village View Publication, Inc.

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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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Celebrating Women in Business

Midnight at the Masquerade – A Masquerade Murder Mystery Dinner



Saturday, April 13, 2024, 6:00 pm until 10:30 pm. The rustle of silks and feathers under muted conversation was probably the last thing heard by the tragically and unexpectedly deceased at the Billionaires' Club Annual Masquerade Ball. With a mystery under each feathery façade, unmasking the killer may be quite a challenge. It's up to you to determine which partygoer is guilty, bring this crime to justice, and save the party!

Attend the Billionaires' Club Annual Masquerade Ball and help get this soiree

back on track by trading clues with your guests, gathering information, and solving the crime before the masked menace gets away! Evening wear, ball gowns, Venetian masks, suits, and tuxes are what to wear to this high-class night of masks and murder. Get ready for a glamorous evening of mystery, intrigue, and murder at this masquerade ball murder mystery party!

Tickets include a Buffet Dinner featuring a Carving Station with Steak, Chicken Piccata, Mashed

Potatoes, Seasonal Roasted Vegetables, Soup, Salad and Dinner Rolls as well as a Dessert Table with Coffee and Tea

Tickets are \$75.00 or \$100.00 (with open bar included). Buffet begins at 6:30 pm and show starts at 7:30 pm. Wear your best Masquerade Ball attire. For more information go to www.murdermysteryco.com.

Located at: Chicago Gaelic Park 6119 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, Illinois 60452. Call (708) 687-9323 for more info.

Assessor's Office Encourages Veterans to Apply for Property Tax Savings

Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi urges veterans in Cook County to apply for property tax-saving exemptions this spring.

In the coming weeks, the Assessor's Office will participate in several events for veterans, during which interested applicants can learn more about which exemptions they may be eligible to receive.

Veterans who have been mailed booklets from the Assessor's Office with renewal applications must return those booklets by April 26.

"Veterans with significant service-related disabilities face heightened obstacles to homeownership in Cook County and across the nation," said Assessor Kaegi. "I'm proud to offer these exemptions in order

to help ease that burden." The Assessor's Office administers two exemptions for veterans:

The Veterans with Disabilities Exemption is for veterans with a service-connected disability as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The exemption reduces the equalized assessed value (EAV) on the primary residence of a veteran with a disability, very likely lowering the tax bill. Veterans who are 70% or more disabled receive an EAV reduction of \$250,000, and because of this can be totally exempt from property taxes.

Veterans must renew annually, except for those who are rated 100% disabled and classified as "totally and permanently

disabled" by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. They are automatically renewed once the 100% rating and the "total and permanent" status is registered with the Assessor's office.

The Returning Veterans Exemption is for veterans returning from active duty in an armed conflict involving the armed forces of the United States. They are eligible to receive a \$5,000 reduction in the equalized assessed value of their property only for each taxable year in which they return and the year after.

For a list of outreach events, visit www.cook-countyassessor.com/event-list.

For more information visit www.cookcountyasessor.com/exemptions.



Sweet Reminder

Fun with the hits of yesterday... Today!



1376 Joliet Rd., Romeoville



401 N Roselle Rd., Schaumburg

2024 Lunch and Dinner Show Schedule

Pop Go-Go The 60's
Pop tunes of the 60's delivered in go-go boot style!

White Fence Farm
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Nancy Baumet

It's all about "Fun with the hits of yesterday... Today" at Sweet Reminder Entertainment! Nancy Baumet has been focusing on just that for over 18 years as owner and lead performer of the popular entertainment entity that caters to mostly senior groups looking for fun nostalgic music delivered in an entertaining playful style.

Starting out in 2006 as lead singer Patty Andrews of an Andrews Sisters tribute act, Nancy gained a whole lot of experience and discovered a whole lot of love for our wonderful veterans while "entertaining the troops" for all different kinds of veteran's events. Most notable

was performing mini "USO-type" shows for all the Honor Flight Chicago flights leaving from Midway Airport for over 13 years! Sweet Reminder operates mainly as a duo with Nancy and her singing partner Dia Madden, and they still perform their popular Andrews Sisters Musical Revue for a wide range of audiences from Jacob Henry Mansion and Starved Rock to Dellwood Park's military days in Lockport as well as one of the largest WWII reenactment events at Midway Village in Rockford each year.

You can book Sweet Reminder to entertain at your event, or you can join them for an after-



Nancy Baumet of Sweet Reminder Entertainment

noon lunch and a show at White Fence Farm in Romeoville or Chandler's in Schaumburg. Check out the Sweet Reminder website at www.sweetreminder.net or call (630) 375-9717 for more information. Remember when you could understand all the words to the popular music? Everyone could use a little Sweet Reminder!

Celebrating Women in Business

The Drama Group's 92nd season continues with *Quartet*.

Like a breath of sweet Spring, The Drama Group's next production in our 92nd season is the sophisticated comedy, *Quartet*, directed by MaryEllen Fawk with book by Ron Harwood.

Show times for *Quartet* are 7:30 pm beginning Friday, April 12, 13, 18, 19 and 20; Added: Saturday matinee April 20 at 2:00 pm and Sunday matinees at 2:00 pm April 14 and 21.

The Drama Group has an online ticketing service, BookTix Ticketing and Livestreaming. All tickets are available by going to The Drama Group BookTix website dg.booktix.com.

Or you may always opt to call our Box Office at 708-755-3444. Chicago Heights Drama Group is at 330 W. 202nd Street, Chicago Heights, IL 60411.

Quartet is a charming tale of four aging opera singers living in the South of England. Cecily, Reggie and Wilfred reside in a magnificent retirement home in England where the rumor circling the halls is that the home will soon play host to a new resident, and word is it's a star. When Jean arrives old rivalries resurface, secrets are revealed and chaos unfolds, but in true theatrical tradition, the show



The Drama Group's Quartet. Photo courtesy Tina Zagone

must go on. A celebration of the twilight years and the hilarity of growing old disgracefully!

Come and indulge your imagination and enjoy a hearty, hardy holiday laugh.

Gaelic Park Players present *Anyone Could Rob a Bank*

The Gaelic Park Players are delighted to present their Spring 2024 production of "Anyone Could Rob a Bank" by Tom Coffey. Showing April 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21, 2024.

This comical farce follows the story of three men, Badger, Jerreen, and Windy, who discuss how easy it would be to rob the local bank and come up with the perfect plan to do so. However, they are shocked to wake up and

discover that the bank has been robbed using many details of their own scheme. As a result, they begin to suspect each other, leading to a series of hilarious and entertaining events.

In addition to the show, Gaelic Park is an excellent place to enjoy a meal. Join us for Dinner and the Show at Gaelic Park. Theatre-only tickets are available for \$15.00, with performances on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. On Fridays and

Saturdays, the Pub Dinner-Theatre Combo. Tickets are priced at \$35.00. On Sundays, the Buffet-Theatre Combo tickets with Buffet after the show are priced at \$45.00. Reservations are a must, particularly for the Pub Dinner. Please book no later than 6:30 pm for Friday or Saturday reservations. Call (708) 687-9323 to reserve.

Chicago Gaelic Park is at 6119 147th Street, Oak Forest, Illinois 60452.

Village of Oak Lawn 2024 Street Resurfacing

Paving season is here, and the Village of Oak Lawn has the following streets scheduled for resurfacing starting the first week of April. Please be patient and cautious when driving through our work zones. Your safety and our street crew's safety is our

priority. Thank you.

51st Ave. (96th St. north to cul de sac); Yourell Ave (53rd Ave. to 52nd Ave.); 96th St. (54th Ave. to 53rd Ave.); 91st St. (Central Ave. to 54th Ct.); 91st St. (Austin Ave. to Menard Ave.); 93rd Pl. (Natchez Ave. to Ridgeland Ave.); Natchez

Ave. (93rd Pl. to 93rd St.); 92nd St. (Crescent Ct. to Ridgeland Ave.); Crescent Ct. (92nd St. to 91st St.); 91st St. (Oak Park Ave. to Crescent Ct.); Dumke/Cook Ave.; Library Parking Lot, and Concrete Alley (Parkside/Central - 94th St. to 95th St.).

Eileen Kerlin Walsh, J.D., Principal Attorney, Kerlin Walsh Law



Eileen Kerlin Walsh, J.D. grew up on a small farm in Ireland. She came to the U.S. in 1989 and fell in love with Chicago and the American dream. Eileen began her legal career with the Will County and Cook County Public Defender Offices before establishing her own Estate Planning practice at her kitchen table, with her eye on her infant children in 2001.

Since having founded her law practice, Kerlin Walsh Law has been named one of the Top

20 Estate Planning Law Firms in Chicago. Eileen earned a Woman of Substance award and has been featured on TV and in national publications. And, most recently, Eileen was named one of the 20 Most Inspiring Women Leaders.

Eileen serves her local and business community as a Moraine Valley Community College Board Trustee. She provides mentoring for local students through the Moraine Valley Community College Job Resource Center and is a recent Past President of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce. You may also see her speaking to large audiences at community venues where she shares the Essentials of Estate Planning.

Today, Kerlin Walsh Law is dedicated to drafting Wills and Trusts with warmth and competence. After 25 years of practicing law and nearly 25 years of consulting with clients in her office, their homes and hospital rooms, she has discovered no area of law is more important or rewarding. Eileen has helped hundreds of families preserve their assets and their family harmony.

As we celebrate Women in Business, and pay tribute to the Village View's 50th Year, we support excellence and women who are successful entrepreneurs, embody curiosity, enthusiasm, and lifelong learning and most importantly, become our community influencers.

Need a Will or Trust? Call 708-448-5169

Justice Veterans Registry

If you are a veteran that resides in the Village of Justice and have not registered with the village as a veteran, please contact

our Village Hall Finance Department by calling 708-458-2520 to be added to the Veteran Registry. The Village will add your

name to the dedicated Veteran page on the village website and you will be notified of any upcoming veteran events.

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The Feed Store was opened in 1948, by my grandfather, Joseph Bestwina, and grandmother, Anna Bestwina. My father David

Bestwina and Uncle Joseph Bestwina took over the business in 1992, when my grandfather passed. More recently, myself,

Brooke Bestwina and my sister, Blaire Gibson have bought the business after my father passed away in 2017. It is not easy, but we work together with our wonderful employees and appreciate everything they do.

We specialize in backyard chicken keeping and sell about 20 different kinds of chicken and game bird feeds. We also make 3 types of chicken food, right here at The Feed Store. We sell baby chicks, year-round, but the spring is the best time to start raising them. We can answer any

questions people may have, anytime, during business hours. There are always interesting animals and products that you cannot find anywhere else!

We do a lot of chicken business, but we also carry high quality dog and cat food. We say it's like a candy store for dogs in here! Also, rabbit, turtle, fish, ferret, pigeon, and all types of caged and wild bird seeds and treats, not to mention squirrel feed and different types of nuts, by the pound or in bulk!

We welcome new customers and cherish our



Here is a picture of my sister and I, (Brooke on the right, Blaire on the left). Photo Credit: employee at our store.

regulars, stop by, and check us out! Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm,

Brooke Bestwina, The Feed Store, 5408 South Harlem Avenue, Summit, Illinois, (708) 458-1327. Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We are closed on Wednesdays.



Kathy Janes of Class Act Travel

Kathy Janes

My name is Kathy Janes and I have been the owner of Class Act Travel in Worth for the past 31 years.

I retired from General Motors Acceptance Corporation in 2000 and then devoted my time to the travel industry. I have been

very fortunate in my career to have done quite a bit of travel. My husband, as I put it, was a very good tourist, so that made traveling a joy.

We went skiing in Colorado with our group for over 12 years and each year we went to a different

destination.

I guess that is how I came to enjoy the travel industry as much as I do. We even do a 30-minute travel program once a month on Palos Heights TV channel 4. Come on and check us out, we have a different guest each week.



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Linda Kosary

Funeral Director and Owner, Business Woman, Community Supporter, Mother, and Friend.

Linda Kosary is a woman whom everyone should know. She is a professional who combines business savvy, industry knowledge, a caring spirit, and sincere warmth and compassion that helps individuals and families through times of loss. She spends her very

fulfilling and productive life in service to her customers, community, and family. She dedicates her time to helping others, and has done so with faith, grace, and compassion.

Linda's passion for helping others led her to an interest in funeral services as a profession. She graduated from mortuary school in 1988. At that time, she was one of very

few female funeral directors, and one of even fewer owners of funeral homes. She began working with her late husband Walter, at their former Chicago funeral home in 1972. In 1989, they opened Kosary Funeral Home at 9837 South Kedzie Avenue in Evergreen Park.

Linda became involved in Evergreen Park since moving to the community. She immediately joined the Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce, and quickly was nominated and elected to the board of directors. After a few years, she rose to the ranks of being an officer, and moved up to the top leadership role as president. Today, she remains a loyal and active member of the Chamber. She received a leadership award from the Village of Evergreen Park in 1996.

The Village Party reached out and asked her to become involved.

In addition to financially supporting the organization that provides food to the less fortunate, she serves on the board of directors. A woman of faith, Linda practices her religion, while supporting

several churches in the market area of the Kosary Funeral Home. Linda is a great role model for women, business leaders, and people who are interested in community involvement.



Linda Kosary, Director



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Split the Pot draws off at 9pm during Karaoke ~ Tickets \$5

Come as our guests and watch your favorite sports teams & spend some time playing our video gaming machines!
More info is available for all events in the Canteen during normal business hours

Bremen High School District 228 Schools Score Big at DECA State Competition

Congratulations to our D228 schools for their outstanding work in the DECA State Competition! Bremen, Hillcrest and Oak Forest each competed in various competitions in business, hospitality, retailing, marketing, and much more.

Bremen High School's State DECA competitors consisted of 50 members, which is a record high for the school. We would like to recognize Dominique Mejia and Destiny Villagomez for finishing 3rd place in Business Solutions. Special shoutout to Elina Aguilar, Isabella Estrada, and Yoseline De La Rosa for their second-place finish in Business Solutions. Congratulations

to our State Champions, Andrea Orozco, Michelle Ramos, and Elizabeth Rosales in the Sales Project. The Bremen Chapter of DECA was awarded for being a Superstar Chapter and being a Gold Level IConnect Winner at the State Competition. Bremen was the only chapter in the state of Illinois to receive the highest level of the Membership Campaign.

Oak Forest had 43 students qualify for the state competition. The school earned a philanthropy award, Gold recertification for their operation of the Bengal Bean, Gold recertification for their operation of the Busy B's T-shirt shop, and the highest award for commu-

nity service, ethical and promotional involvement in the community. Based on their involvement throughout the school year, each member was invited to participate in the National Competition.

Hillcrest qualified for Nationals by achieving the Thrive Level of the Chapter Campaigns, and three out of eight in the state came from District 228. All 20 DECA members from Hillcrest qualified for the state competition, but only seven were able to attend.

The fantastic seven were Jesstasia Washington, Johnel Brown, Patrick Otis, Eric Pike, Edward Young, Azariah Love, and Kahajiona McNeil-Spencer. Edward Young, Eric Pike,



Bremen, Hillcrest and Oak Forest High School DECA teams scored big at DECA state! Courtesy of Dist. 228.

and Johnel Brown won a certificate for gaining competence in their Role Plays and exams. Jesstasia Washington and Patrick Otis competed in the Sales Project event, where they presented on the Hungry Hawk after school cart. Jessica and Patrick were among the top 10 attendees at the Sales Project event.

Chicago Kids Company presents *Jack and the Beanstalk*

Chicago Kids Company, Theater for Children (CKC) presents Jack and the Beanstalk. Come along with Jack and his best friend Carmelita (a Spanish-speaking cow), as they try to save their village from a crazy giant! Along the way you'll meet a beautiful singing Harp, a Golden Goose, and a wacky

Bean Salesman. Watch the Giant Beanstalk grow on stage!

Beverly Arts Center at 2407 West 111th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60655. Weekdays at 10:30 am on May 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, and 24; June 26, 27, and 28, and July 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, and 26. Weekends and Holidays at

11:00 am on May 18.

Single Tickets: \$18.00 to \$22.00 each. Lap children under 2 years old free. Groups of 20 or more: \$10.00 each. Call our Box Office at 773-205-9600.

More info at www.ChicagoKidsCompany.com or email info@chicago-kidscompany.com. School groups, birthday parties and other group kids' activities are encouraged to attend.

All Chicago Kids Company's performances are partially supported by grants from the Illinois



Jack and the Beanstalk. Photo courtesy Chicago Kids Company.

Arts Council, a State Agency, and The City of Chicago, Department of Cultural Affairs.

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Sheridan starts Girls Indoor Track Season with two gold medals

by Brian Frangella, OLCBS Staff Writer
As Molly Sheridan competes for the Oak Lawn Community High School girls track team, she takes it personally, as in setting new personal records.
And recently, she set a new personal record in the 800-meter run. In the first indoor meet of the year, Sheridan took first place in the open 800 and anchored the first-place 1,600-meter relay team. At the extremely competitive Olivet Nazarene University indoor meet consisting of 18 teams, she set another PR in the 800 and

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Molly Sheridan. Photo Oak Lawn Community H.S.

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