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Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 14 | Number 18 | September 15, 2020

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood



Left to right: Monsignor Dennis Lyle, District Deputy Luis Vidales, New Member Joshua Meyer, Grand Knight Tony Rivera, and New Members Kevin Brown and Fr. Sunny Abraham

Induction for Blue Island Knights of Columbus

The Blue Island Knights of Columbus inducted three new members under the new Degree System, the first of its kind since the Blue Island Knights were founded in December 1908.

The new Exemplification system replaces the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degrees cur-

rently being used. The new system combines the three degrees representing Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, and welcomes family to be a part of the process. As a result, for the first time in 122 years of council history, new inductees and their families were invited to St. Benedict

Church in Blue Island for the ceremony, which was presided over by Monsignor Dennis J. Lyle and Grand Knight Tony Rivera.

New members include Fr. Sunny Abraham, Associate Pastor at St. Benedict Church and new Chaplain of the Blue Island Knights

of Columbus, Joshua Meyer, an educator at Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School, and Kevin Brown, Executive Director of the Blue Island Historical Society and Vice President of Browntown Communications. For more information, visit www.kofc.org.

Property Tax Assessment Appeal Webinars for Worth Township

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The webinar is co-hosted by Hometown Mayor Kevin Casey, Cook County Commissioner Donna Miller and State Rep. Kelly Burke. The hour-long session will educate taxpayers on how to file a successful assessment appeal.

The webinars include a presentation by Commissioner Dan Patlak explaining the appeal procedure at the Board of Review. Analysts will be available online via chat to answer specific questions and concerns. This event is free to the public, and there is no fee to appeal at the Board of Review.

The webinars will be held Thursday, September 17, at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Go to this link to register: <https://event.webinarjam.com/channel/PatlakAppealSeminar>.

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(ICCSAA) listserv, members commiserated about low attendance for spring virtual programs.

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Museum of Science and Industry offers free entry this month

Explore the power of curiosity and innovation inside the largest science museum in the western hemisphere all month long at the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI). Throughout September Illinois residents can receive free Museum Entry on select weekdays.

On September 16 to 17, 23 to 24, and September 30, Illinois residents can reserve a time to visit MSI

and receive their free tickets directly to their email for contactless admission. MSI is also adjusting Thursday hours to 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. so guests can enjoy the Museum later in the day.

Upon arrival, guests can pick up a free stylus to engage with more than a dozen exciting exhibits, including:

Science Storms: Witness a 40-foot indoor tornado

and a 20-foot Tesla Coil as it shoots off 1.5 million volts of lightning right above your head.

U-505 Submarine: Discover the epic story of the capture of the U-505, a World War II submarine alongside the sub itself.

Giant Dome Theater: Enjoy the Museum's recently renovated and capacity-controlled five-story wraparound domed theater to watch films

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added to any visit Wednesday-Sunday.

Advance ticket reservations are required, book

tickets online at msichicago.org/tickets. All guests ages 2 and older must wear a face covering.



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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 18 | Number 18 | September 15, 2020

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Crossing Guard Phyllis Karpola Honored for 34 Years of Service

A legendary figure was recognized recently, as retiring Crossing Guard Phyllis Karpola was honored with a proclamation by Mayor Frank Fleischer, Clerk Melissa Martini, and the Board of Trustees for her 34 years of service to the Mokena community.

Ms. Karpola, who began her professional career with the Village in 1986, dedicated her career to the safety and wellbeing of Mokena children, fulfilling her crossing guard duties loyally and faithfully at busy intersections near the community's schools. A trusted



and dependable friend to many schoolchildren over the years, she is never known to have called in to work sick.

In 2019, Ms. Karpola was selected to be Grand Marshal of the Mokena Chamber of Commerce's Fourth of July Parade, and was also honored last year with a Mokena Public School District Galaxy Award.

Village elected officials and staff wish Phyllis all the best in her retirement.

Orland Park Veterans Golf Classic 2020

The Orland Park Veterans Golf Classic will benefit the Orland Park Veterans Commission and American Legion Orland Memorial Post 111, Reber-Tesmond Orland-Palos Veterans of Foreign War Post 2604, and Veterans Voices, which provides support to local veterans groups.

The Orland Park Veterans Golf Classic is limited to 144 golfers. Foursomes fill-up fast, so register early! For additional information, please contact Darryl Wertheim at 708-403-6115 or email dwertheim@orlandpark.org

The event is Tuesday, Sept. 29, at the Silver Lake Country Club. There's an 8:30 a.m. check-in for golf and dinner at 3 p.m. The

registration deadline in Sept. 22.

Golf & dinner package: includes 18 holes of golf with all games on the course except the par 3 holes, 1/2 cart, continental breakfast, lunch on the course, on-course beverages, cocktail hour, dinner, and golfer's gift.

Program No. 88733, \$150 fee.

Golf only package: includes 18 holes of golf with all games on the course except the par 3 holes, 1/2 cart, continental breakfast, lunch on the course, on-course beverages, and tee gift.

Program No. 88735, \$120 fee.

Dinner only: Pre-dinner open bar and dinner. Program No. 88736, \$50 fee.

Pay online at <https://orlandpark.org/services/recreation/veterans-golf-outing> or call Darryl Wertheim at 708-403-6115.

Tinley Park Village announces 'Benches' winners

The Village announced the winners of its annual "Benches on the Avenue" public art program during the Music in the Plaza concert. Winners, listed below, received a cash prize and a trophy.

Best First-Time Artist: Emma Kresal for "Cheerio America"

Best Group/Family Project: Delaney and Kathleen Dillon for "The Luck of the Irish"

Best Use of Materials: Melissa and Veronica Arreola for "Looking Through the London Eye"

Best Portrayal of Theme: Amy Frale and Carla Zidek for "America the Beautiful"



Most Creative: Dante DiBartolo, Allen Jebens, Tom Liston, Bob Renaud and Terry Nugent for "Postcards of My Trip"

Best 3-D Bench: Tyler Stuckart for "Midgard's Bench"

Judges Choice: Sherrie Ordaz and Micahel Woodman for "Le Lourve's Starry Nights"

Many thanks to this year's Benches on the Avenue judges, which included Jackie Bobbitt (Tinley Park Marketing and Branding

Commission), Nancy Byrne (former Benches on the Avenue coordinator), Brandy Cafarelli (Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce), the Rev. Paul Seaman (St. George Church) and Pam Zukoski (Tinley Park Public Library).

Also, make sure you don't miss the Benches on the Avenue "Around the World" Scavenger Hunt! To play, print a game sheet and take it to Oak Park Avenue downtown. Use the clues provided on the game sheet

to locate each bench, then examine the bench closely to answer the question beneath the clue. Once you've filled out each one, deposit the game card in the drop-box outside the Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce, 17316 S. Oak Park Ave.

Those who answer all questions correctly will be entered into a drawing for some fun prizes, including one of this year's benches! All entries must be received by Oct. 1. Grab a game sheet and start playing now!

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Tinley Park welcomes new employees

The Village welcomed several new employees during recently Board meeting at the Tinley Park Village Hall.

Fire Chief Forest Reeder administered the oath to two new firefighters, Paul Cordero and Brian Wagner.

The Village Board also appointed Justice Buttala to the position of maintenance technician.



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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 21 | Number 18 | September 15, 2020

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

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Palos Park Concert on the Green on Friday features concerts from Big Dog Mercer

Big Dog Mercer will entertain guests with their blues and soul sound Fri-

day. Grounds open at 6:30 p.m. and concerts start at 7 and 9 p.m.

Registration is required for seating, which will consist of marked areas that are

socially distanced. Bring your own food, beverages, chairs and blankets. There

will be no picnic tables or concessions provided. Registration is accepted by

phone at (708) 671-3760 or the recreation registration portal at palospark.org.



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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 47 | Number 6 | September 15, 2020

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

Township Staffer Recruited by Illinois Department of Public Health

Louis S. Viverito, Stickney Township Supervisor and President, Board of Health, Stickney Public Health District, is pleased to announce that Patricia M. Kulikauskas, currently Emergency Response Coordinator for the Stickney Public Health District, will be leaving her post to take a position with the Illinois Department of Public Health later this month.

Kulikauskas, who has been in her current position for 15 years, will begin her new job as Regional Emergency Response Coordinator with the IDPH's Division of Disaster, Planning, and Readiness Office of Preparedness and Response on September 1.

A graduate of Reavis High School and St. Xavier University, Kulikauskas reflected upon her experience at Stickney. "I've learned so much here. It

was a great opportunity. I plan on taking everything I learned here to the state level and I'm hoping that I can provide a local level perspective. I feel like I'm leaving my family here, but it's time for me to take the next step." "Although we'll hate to lose her, I'm thrilled that the folks at the State level recognize the skills and talent that one of our own can provide," said Viverito. "Township govern-

ment provides real world, boots-on-the ground experience for people like Patti, and that benefits everyone."

Kulikauskas will be responsible for 13 Health Districts in the West Chicago and Bellwood Region in Northern Illinois, a territory that stretches from Kane County to the City of Chicago and from Lake and McHenry Counties to Kankakee.



Left to right: Hector Cesario, Stickney Township Clerk; Patricia Kulikauskas; Christopher Grunow, Psy.D., Stickney Public Health Director and Louis S. Viverito, Township Supervisor and President, Stickney Public Health District.

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Oak Lawn Park Executive Director of 25 Years Retiring

Oak Lawn Park District's long-serving Executive Director Maddie Kelly is retiring after 25 years in the leadership position.

Kelly is a Certified

Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) who has worked in the parks and recreation field for 33 years.

She started her Oak Lawn Park District career 30 years ago as the Community Pavilion Manager. She then held the title of



Maddie Kelly

Superintendent of Recreation before moving into her ultimate role as Executive Director.

"I will always treasure my years with the Oak Lawn Park District and what our team has been able to accomplish, particularly under a tax cap. Now it is time to move on and let our amazing team continue to move forward

by providing the best leisure experiences for our patrons," said Kelly.

Some of Kelly's proudest accomplishments include securing millions of dollars of grant money to renovate parks and playgrounds and improve infrastructure. She has also led the Park District team through seven national and state accreditations.

"I believe I utilized my

leadership skills to build a great team of Board and Staff, and together, we have been able to shape the District into one of the best in the state," said Kelly.

"Maddie has been an exemplary leader, highly respected by employees, residents and fellow recreation professionals," said Mary Pat Coughlin, Oak Lawn Park District Board

President. "The Oak Lawn Park District has been at the cutting edge of recreation programs, including construction of an all-inclusive park, Special Recreation programming, dance, gymnastics and many other programs. Her commitment to excellence has brought us national recognition. We will miss her tremendously."

Local Banker Appointed to Illinois Bankers Communications And Marketing Committee

Michael Bagniewski, Vice President, Hoyne Savings Bank, Worth, recently was appointed to the Illinois Bankers Association 2020-2021 Communications And Marketing Committee.

About the Committee / Board: "Reviews IBA communication vehicles, such as the Illinois Banker magazine, e-newsletters and the website, and makes recommendations for enhancements and improvements, while providing feedback on IBA communications and marketing programs. The Committee also reviews the IBA's public relations efforts and suggests ways for the IBA to better serve as a resource to its members. Minimum term of two years."

About the Illinois Bankers Association: The Illinois Bankers Association is a full-service trade association dedicated to creating a positive business climate that benefits the entire banking industry and the communities they serve. Founded in 1891, the Illinois Bankers brings together state, national and savings banks of all sizes in Illinois.

Secure Dropboxes for mail ballots

The Cook County Clerk's Office will have over 50 drop boxes around Cook County to ensure mail ballots can be securely delivered directly to the Clerk's Office without using the United States Postal Service. Secure dropboxes will be located at over 50 early voting sites throughout Cook County where voters can drop off their completed mail ballots. Mail ballots will be collected on a daily basis and will be time stamped. Voters who applied for their mail ballot online will receive an email at the time their mail ballot is sent to them, as well as an email notifying them when the completed ballot has been received back

from the voter.

Dropboxes for mail ballots will be available beginning October 9, 2020 at 69 W. Washington Street, as well as the 5 Regional Courthouses in suburban Cook County located in Rolling Meadows, Skokie, Maywood, Bridgeview and Markham. Dropboxes will be available at the remaining early voting sites beginning October 19, 2020. At this time, dropbox locations closest to Palos Park include Lemont Township Hall, Orland Township Hall, Palos Heights Recreation Center, and Tinley Park Village Hall. Hours are 8:30 am—7:00 pm Monday through Friday and 9:00 am—5:00 pm on

Pritzker Launches \$150 Million in Emergency Mortgage Assistance

Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) announced the opening of the state's new Emergency Mortgage Assistance (EMA) program to assist homeowners who have seen their income decline due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the EMA program, IHDA will allocate grants up to \$15,000 to help income-eligible homeowners who have struggled to make their mortgage payments as a result of the

pandemic. Applications are now available at ema.ihda.org and IHDA expects to assist approximately 10,000 households before the end of 2020.

"At a time when the connection between housing and health is clearer than ever, it is critically important that we keep families stably housed for individual well-being, public health and the recovery of our state's economy," Pritzker said. "My administration remains committed to

doing everything we can to provide much-needed support for Illinois residents who have been hit hardest by the pandemic, which is why we created the largest state housing assistance programs in the nation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to date. The Emergency Mortgage Assistance program will provide critical support for our homeowners, giving them the time, they need to regain their financial footing."

The Household Pulse Survey conducted by the U.S. Census found that over 1 in 10 Illinois homeowners have little-to-no confidence in making their mortgage payment in September. A single foreclosure costs the homeowner, servicer and local government nearly \$80,000, adding additional strain to the housing cycle. Foreclosed homes also lower neighboring property values by up to 3.9 percent according to the Federal Reserve.

Pappas: Are you getting an automatic refund?



More than 8,500 homeowners who overpaid their First Installment taxes are set to receive \$12.8 million in refunds without filing an application, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas said today.

"Since we launched the automatic refund program in July, 2018, 110,000 property owners have received about \$56.4 million in refunds without an application," Pappas said.

More than 60 percent of the refunds will be deposited directly into property owners' accounts. To see if you are receiving a refund, visit cookcountytreasurer.com and select the purple box labeled "Your Property Overview." Just put in your address.

The refunds will be is-

sued started recently and completed by Monday, October 2, 2020.

Most of the refunds go to homeowners receiving property tax exemptions, which are applied to the Second Installment tax bill and reduce the total taxes due. The exemptions include: Homeowner's, Senior Citizen, Senior Assessment Freeze and Disabled Persons.

The Second Installment property tax bill was due August 3, but property owners can pay without late fees through Thursday, October 1.

ComEd Announces New Package of Financial Assistance Options

Understanding that many households continue to experience financial hardship in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic, ComEd recently announced a new package of options designed to assist customers during this difficult time.

Financial assistance options include the following:

CARE Customer Hardship Grants: Households facing financial hardship may be eligible to receive one-time CARE grants from ComEd to help them get back on their feet.

Bill Payment Assistance Program: A one-time bill assistance credit of up to \$500 is available this year for income eligible households with a past-due balance. Contact ComEd to verify eligibility.

Flexible, Extended Payment Arrangements: For a limited time, residential

customers may be eligible for a flexible payment arrangement with a down payment on the past due amount and the accumulated balance spread over up to 18 months. Those facing financial hardship and income eligible households may be eligible for a flexible payment arrangement that spreads past-due balances over a period of up to 24 months with no down payment.

Waiver of New Deposits and Fee Relief: ComEd is waiving any new deposit requirements for a limited time and extending relief from various charges (such as reconnection fees) to help residential customers who may be eligible.

Complete details may be found at ComEd.com/Support, or by calling 1-800-EDISON-1 (1-800-334-7661)

Commissioners Urge Utilities to Extend Moratorium to Winter 2021

Concerned with steady coronavirus infection rates and the approaching cold weather, the Illinois Commerce Commission recently sent a letter to large state-regulated utilities requesting an extension of the moratorium on residential customer disconnections for non-payment until March 31, 2021.

The letter, signed by all five Commissioners, notes that the Illinois Department of Public Health has reported over 240,000 con-

firmed COVID-19 cases; and 30 Illinois counties stand at a warning level due to increasing COVID-19 cases.

While acknowledging that many utilities may now disconnect customers for non-payment, the Commission's letter requested that utilities voluntarily extend the moratorium on residential customer disconnections to align with the winter heating rules. Each year, the state imposes a winter moratorium for

gas and electric services beginning December 1st and ending on March 31st.

Recently the ICC announced the following companies agreed to extend the moratorium on disconnections for residential customers until September 30, 2020: Nicor Gas, Northshore/Peoples Gas, Illinois American Water, Aqua Illinois, and Utility Services of Illinois. Ameren Illinois and ComEd. Consumer Gas and Liberty Utilities previously agreed to not

disconnect customers until 6 months after the stipulated moratorium period expired, which occurred on June 26, 2020, taking them into the winter months.

The Commission encourages residents who are struggling to pay their utility bills to call their utility company and request assistance. Deferred payment arrangements are available to help low-income customers and those financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon

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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.



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708-389-7248
Monday - Friday 9:30-8:30 | Saturday 9:30-6 | Sunday 10-5
www.AnimalKrackers.com



Spyropoulos Honors Sister Jean for 101st Birthday

Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos, a proud alumna of Loyola University Chicago, recognizes Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt BVM (popularly known as Sister Jean). Sister Jean is a chaplain for the Loyola Ramblers men's basketball team of Loyola University Chicago and a religious sister of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

After teaching for twenty years in several elementary schools in the Los Angeles Archdiocese, Sister Jean was assigned to the Education Department of Mundelein College where she served until the affiliation with Loyola University in 1991.

Since that time, Sister Jean has been an academic advisor, campus minister on the Lake Shore Campus and Water Tower Campus,



and chaplain to the men's basketball team and to Regis Hall residents.

"Sister Jean is an inspiration to all of us and we wish her a Happy Birthday! Cheers to many more!" Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos said during the virtual MWRD board meeting.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) is an award-winning special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management. MWRD's mission is to protect the health and safety of the public, the quality of the water supply source (Lake Michigan) and protect businesses and homes from flood damages.

Sertoma is Wild about its DSPs

This week recognizes the incredible work of Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) nationwide. We are honoring them with a celebration as a token of our appreciation for the fantastic work they do and the vital role they play in supporting individuals with disabilities! #DSPRW2020.

We are so proud of our DSPs! Thank you for the courage, compassion and boundless energy you display throughout the year

and especially during these unwavering times. Thank you, DSPs, for your continued dedication to Sertoma Centre and its mission!

Sertoma Centre, Inc. is at 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803

Sweet Surprise: A sweet surprise will be delivered to the CILAs on Wednesday.

T-Shirt & Photo day is Thursday.

Raffle Prize Winner Announcements is Friday.

Snow Leopard Cub Born at Brookfield Zoo

The Chicago Zoological Society (CZS), which manages Brookfield Zoo, is happy to announce the birth of a female snow leopard cub born on May 22, 2020. The cub, named Ahava (pronounced ah-Ha-va), which is Hebrew for the word love, is currently bonding with her mother, Malaya, behind the scenes. The 3-month-old cub is expected to make her public debut in a few weeks. Until then, the public can view images of the cub on the zoo's Facebook page.

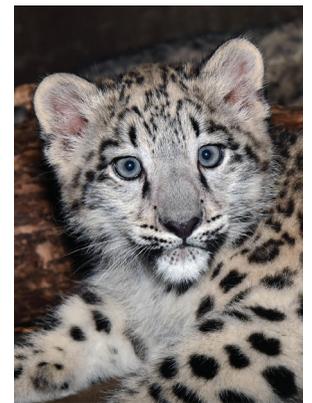
Malaya was born at Brookfield Zoo in 2015. Her mate, Buck, arrived at the zoo in 2017 from Philadelphia Zoo. The two were introduced to each other based on a recommendation from the Association of

Zoos and Aquariums' Snow Leopard Species Survival Plan (SSP), which CZS is a participating institution. An SSP is a cooperative population management and conservation program for select species in accredited North American zoos and aquariums. Each SSP manages the breeding of a species to maintain a healthy and self-sustaining population that is both genetically diverse and demographically stable. Currently, there are 137 snow leopards living in 53 institutions in North America. Brookfield Zoo has exhibited snow leopards since 1936.

Snow leopards are listed as a vulnerable species on the Red List by the International Union for Conserva-

tion of Nature (IUCN), the world's oldest and largest global environmental organization. The Snow Leopard Trust estimates there are from 3,500 to 7,000 of these elusive cats remaining in the wild. Native to the sometimes harsh and remote habitats throughout the mountain ranges of Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Threats to the species include habitat loss, illegal hunting for the fur trade, a decline in their prey, civil unrest, and retribution killing following livestock losses.

The species is definitely well suited for living at extreme elevations. It has long, thick fur that is soft gray or



Ahava, a 3-month-old snow leopard cub

cream in color covered with graying black spots helping it blend in with its environment. Its large paws help keep the cat from sinking into the snow like snowshoes. They are excellent jumpers and use the long tail, which is nearly as long as its entire body, for balance as well as for covering exposed body parts against severe weather conditions.

Elections, social issues drive MVCC Democracy Commitment

The Democracy Commitment (TDC) committee at Moraine Valley Community College has planned several virtual fall events around important social and electoral issues. All events will be held via WebEx and are open to anyone.

"Democracy doesn't take a timeout when life gets tough. We, simultaneously, are living through a pandemic, the highest unemployment in generations and widespread social unrest, so I think it's become much more tangible that what government does or doesn't do really matters. I think it matters more now than ever to improve civic literacy and citizen participation," said Kevin Navratil, associate professor of political science and Moraine Valley's Democracy Commitment coordinator.

This semester the programming is focused on election-related events, as only one out of every eight semesters has a presidential election. "Additionally, many have argued this is one of the most important elections in generations, so I wanted to have events that explained the Electoral College and key races in the 2020 election, and to consider the potential implications of this election

on both domestic and foreign policy," Navratil said.

TDC events will be:
A History of Epidemics and the Government's Response, Wednesday, Sept. 16, 11 a.m.-noon.

With concern over the COVID-19 pandemic dominating society, political science and history faculty members will discuss how the U.S. has grappled with past disease outbreaks such as Yellow Fever and Spanish Flu, how Americans coped and how governments sought to com-

bat the threats of disease.

The Electoral College: How It Works and Should It Be Updated? Tuesday, Oct. 20, 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Navratil will discuss why the Electoral College was created, the process of electing the president, and benefits and drawbacks of this electoral system versus electing the president by a nationwide popular vote.

2020 Election Panel, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Political science professors will discuss the 2020

presidential, House and Senate races, and the Graduated Income Tax Amendment.

2020 Election Analysis, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Political science professors will discuss the implications of the 2020 results on domestic and foreign policy.

Navratil plans to have the chat function open during the virtual events to field questions and allow for healthy and safe discussions with attendees.

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Mother McAuley announces new roles, welcomes new faculty and staff

Mother McAuley is pleased to announce the following staffing changes and additions. Science faculty member, Mrs. Kim Turnbull will serve as director of curriculum and instruction while current Dean, Mrs. Meg Griffin Gardner '99 will become assistant principal. The school also welcomes five new faculty and staff members.

Mrs. Kim Turnbull is now the director of curriculum and instruction. She will work closely with faculty in areas related to curriculum development, instruction, and school improvement goals. Turnbull will continue in her role as chair of the science department, in a non-teaching role. She will also chair the Academic Council, consisting of department chairs, with Principal, Eileen O'Reilly. Turnbull joined the McAuley faculty in 2001. She was instrumental in earning the school the distinction as an Amazon Future Engineer School in 2019.

Dean of Upperclasswomen, Mrs. Meg Griffin Gardner '99, will add the title of assistant principal to her role. Gardner will

serve as acting principal when Mrs. O'Reilly is unavailable. She also will serve in various leadership capacities for school improvement planning and strategic endeavors. As Dean of Upperclasswomen, Gardner has played a significant role in increasing student connectedness while continuing to foster a culture of high expectation and engagement through the creation of the Upperclasswomen Advisory Board and other school activities. Gardner joined McAuley in 2005. She also serves as assistant coach for the varsity volleyball team.

Ms. Mary Kate Duffy '14 joins the English faculty, teaching general English classes and broadcast journalism. Duffy earned a degree in education from Illinois State University. She most recently taught English at District 218 Dwight D. Eisenhower High School. She also taught a literacy workshop for students who required additional reading assistance.

Mr. Joshua Meyer is new to the science department, teaching general, honors and advanced placement and honors

chemistry. Meyer joins McAuley from Saint Benedict School in Blue Island, where he taught junior high science and math. He received a bachelor's of science in chemistry from Chicago State University and a master's of science in chemistry from Loyola University Chicago. He also has a master's of arts in teaching from Saint Xavier University.

New to the business and social science department is Hallie Fahey, who will be teaching psychology/American criminal justice courses, in addition to personal finance classes. Fahey recently taught history, politics, economics and business at Morgan Park Academy. She is a graduate of Butler University where she received a bachelor's of science degree in accounting. She also was awarded a juris doctor from The University of Illinois College of Law and worked as a commercial litigator in downtown Chicago law firms for 25 years. Upon making the transition to education, Mrs. Fahey earned a bachelor's of science in business education from Illinois State University and is working towards a



Ozana Paraga

master's in education in global studies from The University of Illinois.

Ms. Ozana Paraga joins McAuley's world languages department as a Spanish instructor. She recently spent three years as a Spanish teacher at St. Laurence High School. Paraga graduated magna cum laude from St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, IN with a bachelor's degree in history and a minor in Spanish and secondary education. She will be teaching freshmen through juniors.

Mrs. Ann Powers Gruber '89 is the new school nurse. Ann recently worked in the Emergency Department at Advocate Aurora Christ Medical Center. She also has experience working in the Medical Surgery Unit at



Ann Gruber



Joshua Meyer



Mary Kate Duffy

Christ. Ann earned her bachelor's of science in



Hallie Fahey



Kim Turnbull



Meg Gardner

nursing degree from Saint Xavier University.

A letter to Midlothian Library patrons

Here at Midlothian Public Library, we are in a constant process of evolution of with our reopening plan, becoming ever more flexible to serve you better.

Appointments are no longer necessary to browse, check out books indoors, copy, fax, scan or print from home, or apply for a library card--just walk in any time during our open hours!

Appointments are recommended but not required for computer and WiFi table use. You can call us at (708) 535-2027 and make an appointment for any time during open hours. Your appointment will be for 1 hour, extendable for one additional hour per day if space is available. Walk-ins are also permitted

at any time during our open hours for these services.

We will continue cleaning all computer stations and WIFI tables after each use, and our copier, fax/scanner, printer, self-check, credit card and signature pad machines are cleaned frequently throughout the day. We are also still limiting the number of patrons in the building to 25 at a time.

We are open Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM and Tuesday & Thursday, 1-7 PM.

For more information about library services during our reopening period, please visit www.midlothianlibrary.org/curbside.. Or stop in at Midlothian Public Library at 14701 South Kenton Ave, Midlothian, IL.

Wishing you safety and wellness,

Jennifer Cottrill, Director

Oak Lawn Library holding online conversations

Join our first online conversation on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. Check out our website, olpl.org, and the Library's social media for further information on discussions and programs including Craftivism 101 on Sept. 21 and King in Chicago on Sept. 28, both at 7 p.m. For more information, please call 708-422-4990, visit www.olpl.org,

Computer Apps: While Year of the App is on hold, the Oak Lawn Public Library still has lots of great new app suggestions for folks to check out. Check out some new apps to find more ways to connect during quarantine, build

up some skills in your free time, or find a new way to unwind.

Google Hangouts and Google Meet are a great way to connect with friends while maintaining safe social distancing. Put together a group chat for your friends to keep in touch or do a video chat brunch to reconnect with your family.

Houseparty is another way to connect with friends across distances. Create chat rooms for you and up to 7 other friends. Leave rooms open to enjoy face to face chats whenever someone is around.

Looking for a low key way to get into coding? Check out Mimo. Learn coding in Javascript, Python and HTML with just a few minutes of practice each day. No prior experience is needed so this is

a great app for users of all skill levels.

From Seed to Spoon provides information about all kinds of plants, when to plant, how much sun or shade they need and how long until you can harvest the fruits of your labor. Gardening can be a great hobby for stress relief, but it can be overwhelming to get started.

The Oak Lawn Pubic Library, 9427 S. Raymond Ave. now has an eNewsletter! Stay connected and up to date with current OLPL programs, events and services through email. To sign-up please visit <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/ef4vaGA>. For more information, please call 708-422-4990, visit www.olpl.org, or use the Ask a Librarian feature on our website.

VFW Post 2791 Rock Group live performance

Everyone is welcome to come, and see the '60s-'70s Rock group "Ambedextrous" at the VFW Post 2791, on Saturday, night on September 19th, 2020. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the band starts playing at 7. There will be a \$5 cover charge and everyone who enters will be required to have a face mask.

So, come early, there will be a capacity limit, to allow for social distancing. We will have a Cash Bar, and food menu to purchase from our kitchen. We will be serving Shrimp Boats, Sausage & Cheese Pizza and more.

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A new way to celebrate the start of the virtual fall season

Lyric Opera of Chicago will open the company's reimagined fall season with For the Love of Lyric, a virtual concert from the stage of the Lyric Opera House.

"Lyric's Opening Night Opera Ball has long been a signature project of Lyric's Women's Board," says Lyric's general director, president and CEO, Anthony Freud. "Even before we began to imagine the extent of public-health limits on events and performances, the Women's Board was hard at work rethinking what our season-opening event could and should be. Now, with further evolution and much hard work, we are proud to present For the Love of Lyric—a very special concert presentation available to the largest pos-



Renée Fleming

sible audience via streaming."

As originally announced, world-renowned soprano Renée Fleming, Lyric's special projects advisor and honorary Women's Board member, will team up with special guests for an evening of celebration and music-making. Performances from Lyric's mainstage will

include Tony Award® and Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter-actress Heather Headley (Broadway's Aida, The Lion King), soprano Ailyn Pérez (Marguerite/Faust, 2018, concert appearance, 2017), bass Soloman Howard (Wurm/Luisa Miller, Lawrence Brownlee & Friends concert, both 2019) and mezzo-soprano and Ryan Opera Center alumna J'Nai Bridges (Carmen/Bel Canto, 2015, Lawrence Brownlee and Friends: The Next Chapter, 2020)—with Doug Peck (Chicago Voices concert, 2017) serving as music director. Members of The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center Ensemble and members of the Chicago Children's Choir will also perform.

The For the Love of Lyric concert will be available to a select group of sponsors on for a special "first look" screening, with a variety of exclusive benefits at different levels of support. Hosted by Event Chair Mimi Mitchell and Lyric Women's Board President Caroline Huebner, all proceeds benefit Lyric Opera of Chicago. To learn more, please call 312-827-5676, or go to lyricopera.org/LoveSponsor.

To watch the For the Love of Lyric concert stream, on YOUTUBE or Facebook at Lyric Opera Chicago available for free streaming for 3 months, starting today. Go to lyricopera.org/love-concert and share your love of Lyric using the hashtag #ForTheLoveofLyric during the concert.

Lyric Opera House seating renovation project is underway

Lyric Opera of Chicago announced plans for a significant renovation and improvement project in Lyric's Ardis Krainik Theatre—one of the most ambitious improvement projects in the company's

history. This project includes replacement of all of the theater's seats, a restructuring of the sightlines on the main floor of the house, and greatly enhanced accessibility and overall guest experience.

This summer, the Lyric Opera House seats were removed with strict safety guidelines from the city and state followed throughout the process. Lyric's new seats were delivered to the Opera House recently and

will await installation in the coming weeks.

To learn more about this new seating plan and Lyric's continued commitment to accessibility, visit lyricopera.org/lyric-opera/new-seating/

McAninch Arts Center Presses "Play" On Fall 2020 Season

The McAninch Arts Center (MAC) is pleased to announce its fall 2020 season. The season will feature a highly entertaining roster of streamed events September through December 2020. The series includes a mix of free and ticketed online events. Tickets are now on sale and additional information is available at AtTheMAC.org.

"In times of challenge or joy, I have always found comfort and inspiration from the power of the arts to unite us. We are now set to press play on our fall season of online programming. As we say in the business, the show must go online!" says MAC Director Diana Martinez.

The MAC's fall 2020 season will open with three weekends of live streamed

performances of award winning magician Dennis Watkin's hit "The Magic Parlour At Home" (Sept. 11-25). Other live streamed performance events include MAC exclusive performances of The Second City's "I Saw Mommy Kissing the Second City" (Dec. 5) direct from the Second City's Chicago stage; and "Presley Perkins Lewis & Cash: Million Dollar Christmas" (Dec. 19), direct from the Belushi Performance Hall. As previously announced, New Philharmonic, under the baton of Kirk Muspratt, will also present three streamed concerts, all recorded exclusively for MAC audiences, including "The Music of John Williams" (Oct. 24-25), Holiday Sing-Along with the Symphony (Dec. 12-13) and the symphony orchestra's New Year's Eve Concert (Dec. 31).

Throughout the fall, the MAC is offering a series of Free Friday MAC Night events presented by Bi-Coastal Productions featur-

ing full-scale taped concerts of cover rock band THE HIT MEN, Rick Michel in "Sinatra Forever", the unbelievable vocal group Naturally 7 and Lee Rocker of The Stray Cats. MAC patrons are also encouraged to take advantage of the College theater and music programs and Cleve Carney Museum of Art Virtual Artist presentations that will be streaming as well.

In "2021 will also be the grand opening season of the Cleve Carney Museum of Art," continues Martinez. "We are thrilled we were able reschedule the Frida Kahlo exhibition to summer 2021 and we have been inspired by Kahlo's spirit of resilience each day as we have been navigating these fluid times. CCMA and the MAC have created a series of free events leading up to next summer's exhibition "Frida Kahlo: Timeless." Events include a Book Club event around "Frida in America The Creative Awakening of a Great Art-

ist" featuring a live Q&A with author Celia Stahr, and a discussion with COD faculty member Kathy Baum on "Fashions of Frida Kahlo" exploring Kahlo's influence on the world of fashion.

Although patrons are not able to mix and mingle in the MAC's lobby this fall as in prior years, the MAC is thrilled to present two interactive MAC Happenings this November. These include an online MAC Halloween Pageant Extravaganza (Oct. 31) and, in honor of Frida Kahlo, a Día De Los Muertos Drive Through Celebration and Food Drive (Nov. 1). More information will be forthcoming in the coming weeks at AtTheMAC.org.

The MAC encourages everyone enjoying the fall 2020 programming to consider making a donation to support the MAC's ongoing ability to continue to provide fun, creative and thought-provoking programming.



The Vanishing Half, by Brit Bennett

People are quite taken with Brit Bennett's fabulous second novel, *The Vanishing Half*. Since the book was published at the start of this turbulent summer—when matters of color and race and justice were thrust into view, 400,000 copies have been sold; six studios wrangled over TV rights; and 2,656 Chicago Public Library patrons are signed up and waiting to check it out.

It's no wonder.

Bennett has gifted us with an insightful, imaginative, compassionate story, and prose that robs you of oxygen, makes you rush to turn the page, and mourn when you reach the last one.

The book begins: "The morning one of the lost twins returned, Lou LeBon ran to the diner to break the news. Desiree looked exactly the same as when she left at 16, her skin the color of sand, barely wet ... and she was holding the hand of a girl, seven or eight, black as tar." Desiree and her identical twin, Stella, were born in a mythical town called Mallard, built by the mixed-race grandson of a slave and a slave master, for light-skinned "men like him, who would never be accepted as white but refused to be treated like Negroes. He'd married a mulatto even lighter than himself ... and he imagined his children's children's children, lighter still, like a cup of coffee steadily diluted with cream. A more perfect Negro. Each generation lighter than the one before." From this doubly-punishing "third space," the twins escaped, fleeing together to New Orleans for a new life, but losing each other in the process, "their lives splitting as evenly as their shared egg."

The Vanishing Half is a family saga that spans over a hundred years and a sibling coming-of-age story that begins in 1952 and hasn't stopped when the book does in 1988. It is a hodgepodge of love stories that jumble up race, and absence, and violence, and secrets, and gender and blood: complex, painful, but no less love, because, as always, there is "no single truth." And it gives us an eyeful of evils that weren't yet named when the twins were born: white privilege, systemic racism, colorism, sexism, homo- and transphobia.

Many of the characters are like mythical shape-shifters, losing half of themselves to become someone or something else. They change race, gender, class, and expectations: "The hardest part about becoming someone else was deciding to. The rest was only logistics."

It sounds simple. You know it isn't. Jump on the Brit Bennett Bandwagon; this book will capture you.

Lorraine Schmall
Dearborn Park

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Virtual expo

The Hills Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the Virtual Fall 2021 Business & Community Expo. With many conventions, trade shows, etc., being canceled we have found a way for them to reach out beyond our community in a safe way for both exhibitors and visitors.

All businesses (Chamber or non-Chamber members), crafters and direct sales exhibitors are welcome. We have no limit on the number of participants for this event, but we are limiting direct sales vendors to one of each brand.

Everyone will have the option to do a 2-minute

video trailer about their business, sell products and services, load up product/service materials for downloading purposes by prospective buyers, and be able to virtually chat (just like a Zoom Video Chat) with visiting shoppers. This event will actually be live over two separate weekends and once the event is over, it will remain online for an additional 30 days. There is a minimal fee (\$75 and under).

For more information, visit thehillschamber.org/expo, call or email Teresa at 708-233-6860 or info@thehillschamber.org. We are also hosting weekly Zoom Q&A sessions. Registration deadline is Oct. 5

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Statepoint Crossword

Theme: 1980s lyrics

ACROSS

- Lascaux and Mammoth, e.g.
- At the stern
- Eyeball rudely
- Inuit boat
- And not
- Sing like Sinatra
- Manicurist's file
- Old-fashioned "before"
- "If you _____, I won't cry. I won't waste one single day"
- "Steve walks warily down the street with the brim pulled way _____"
- "She's just a girl who claims I am _____"
- "Play it, _____," from "Casablanca"
- Boris Godunov, e.g.
- "All right stop collaborate and listen, _____ is back..."
- Between Phi and Kappa
- Restriction limiting use of lights during air raid
- J.D. Power awards competitors
- "Oh, back on the chain _____"
- Ann Patchett's novel "Bel _____"
- Slightly
- Algorithmic language
- French "place"
- Kind of potato masher
- Brickowski's brick
- Cleopatra's necklace

- Canine's coat
- Sol or fa
- National Institutes of Health
- "_____ Christmas, I gave you my heart"
- Trinitrotoluene
- "You were working as a waitress in a cocktail bar when I _____"
- "I wanna dance with somebody, with somebody who _____"
- Lithograph, for short
- Holstein sound
- Radio sign
- Killed, like dragon
- Commotion
- Yiddish shrew
- Sleep in rough accommodations
- Gourmet mushroom
- Cancel an edit, pl.

DOWN

- Whispered from a prompting booth
- Shells and such
- "Meeting you with a _____ to a kill"
- Brings home the bacon
- First U.S. space station
- Again
- "Hello, is it me you're looking _____?"
- Weight of refuse and chaff, pl.
- Black and white cookie
- One from Goa

Garage & Rummage Sales

Garage Sale

Thurs. 9/17, & Fri. 9/18
9am to 3pm
Sat. 9/19, 8am to 10am
5808 -90th Place, Oak Lawn
Yard & Kitchen Items, Baby Items, Clothes

Craft show

The Chicago South Elks Lodge at 4428 Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood, is having our Craft & Vendor Show. On Oct. 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 708-560-6771 for more information. Table space is still available.

Rummage Sale

First United Methodist Church of Oak Lawn at 100th and Central will be having their Rummage Sale on Thursday, September 24th from 4pm to 7pm, Friday, September 25th, from 9am to 2pm and Saturday, September 26th from 9am to 2pm.

We are asking everyone to wear your masks. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 708-423-1170.

CROSSWORD

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- "And I'm never gonna make it like you do, making _____ out of nothing at all"
- Compass reading
- One of religious orders
- Last letter of Greek alphabet
- Experienced
- Sine over cosine
- "I long to see the sunlight in your hair and tell you time and time again how much _____"
- Northwoods dwelling?
- The Goldbergs sibling
- "Cuase I'm your _____ cool one, and I'm built to please"
- Scotch ingredient
- Kitchen tear-jerker
- Wombs
- "Ooh, what's the matter

- with the crowd I'm seeing? Don't you know that they're out of _____?"
- Petals holder
- "Wake me up before you _____"
- It creates instant millionaires
- Count on, two words
- One from Laos
- Emissaries
- Poison ivy or Poison oak
- Religious doctrine
- Venus de _____
- Greek Hs
- Not that
- Pilot's stunt
- Not loony
- Catcher's gear
- Geological time periods
- Psychedelic acronym
- Lyric poem

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be able to safely dispose of personal documents, rid themselves of old electronics, and receive a flu shot from the convenience of their vehicle, according to the office of Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady.
 The Township is holding three events, at two locations, to allow residents to easily accomplish these tasks.

From 8 a.m. until noon, residents can visit the Orland Township Highway Department, 16125 S. Wolf Road, Orland Park, and drop off up to 5 banker boxes of documents for shredding, free of charge. This shredding event is not intended for businesses; residents only, please bring ID.

Additionally, residents that have old electronics they want to properly dispose of can bring those items to the Highway Department during the same timeframe. Computer monitors and televisions being dropped off require the purchase of a coupon:

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screens that measure diagonally smaller than 21 inches are \$25; screens measuring diagonally 21 inches and larger are \$35. Coupons can be pre-purchased online at recycling.eworksesi.org or in person on-site, via credit card only. To view a list of items accepted for electronic recycling, visit orlandtownship.org and click on Electronic Recycling.

Due to social distancing guidelines, residents attending the shredding / electronic recycling event are asked to adhere to the following:

Please wear a mask when interacting with Township staff
 Please always stay in your vehicle
 Place shredding and electronic recycling in trunk or cargo area of your vehicle. Township staff will unload your vehicle.

Please be sure to remove any items not intended for shredding or electronic recycling. Please have trunk or cargo area unlocked or can open/unlock from the inside of your vehicle.

Also happening on Saturday, Sept. 19, is Orland Township's Drive-Thru Flu Shot Clinic. From 9 a.m. until noon, residents can visit the Orland Township Administration Building, 14807 S. Ravinia, Orland Park and receive their flu shot without leaving their vehicle. Flu shot fees range from \$40 to \$55.

Flu shots will be given on a first come, first served basis, while supplies last. Those receiving a shot are asked to wear a short sleeve shirt.

In accordance with CDC guidelines, anyone attending the drive-thru flu shot clinic is asked to wear a mask when interacting with Township staff.

For more information on any of the above events, please visit orlandtownship.org or call (708) 403-4222.

RIP Tekla Zerebny

Tekla Zerebny's (98) earthly journey came to an end the morning of August 31, 2020. Tekla was preceded in death by her husband Ivan; and is survived by her loving son Roman (Marilyn) and daughter Marianna (Taylor); her grandchildren Stephen (Dani), Thomas (Colleen); great grandchildren Rylan, Brooks and the late triplets McKay, Asher and Kenji.

In Western Ukraine, Tekla was born to Ivan and Eva (Majkowycz) Luczka and was the last surviving sibling of nine. She was a longtime resident of Evergreen Park, IL and formerly of South Chicago. She leaves behind many loving relatives in Ukraine, Argentina and America whom she cherished dearly.

Tekla was baptized at St. Dmytro by Father Theodore Lewytkyj in Radoszyce, Ukraine

Visitation Funeral Service Saints Peter & Paul

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Ukrainian Orthodox Church 8410 West 131st Street Palos Park, IL. Very Reverend Vasyl Sendeha officiating. Interment at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Arrangements by Kosary Funeral Home (708) 499-3223 or www.kosaryfuneralhome.com.

Shredding, E-Recycling and Flu Shots

On Saturday, Orland Township residents will

FALL SPECIAL

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Spend \$20 Receive \$1
Spend \$50 Receive \$5
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