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Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 15 | Number 6 | March 16, 2021

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Free Tax Preparation Assistance Available Throughout Illinois

Low-to-moderate income families and older Illinoisans needing assistance filing their 2020 individual income taxes can receive free help through several trusted programs across the State of Illinois. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and AARP Tax-Aide programs are providing free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals in select locations statewide. How taxpayer assistance is provided and when services are available varies by region, based upon several variables including COVID-19 conditions and vol-

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"Taxes are due on April 15 this year. If a qualified taxpayer needs help filling out their return, free assistance is available," said David Harris, Director of the Illinois Department of Revenue. "While in-person assistance is more limited due to the COVID pandemic, certified volunteers are still available to help people over the age of 50 years and working-class taxpayers file their state and federal returns accurately and on time while ensuring the health and safety of taxpayers and volunteers."

The IRS Volunteer In-

come Tax Assistance and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly programs offer free tax help for individuals making \$57,000 or less, persons with disabilities, limited English speaking taxpayers and individuals 60 years of age or older. Taxpayers can search for a free tax assistance provider closest to them by visiting the Illinois Department of Revenue's website tax.illinois.gov. Additional assistance is also being offered through the IRS-sponsored Ladder Up Virtual Tax Assistance Program, which also provides free basic tax return preparation for low-to-

moderate income and elderly taxpayers.

"I want to thank the Illinois Department of Revenue, Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE), and AARP Tax-Aide programs for providing this much needed service to our older adults across the state," said Paula Basta, Director of Illinois Department on Aging. "I'm encouraged by the innovative approaches to service delivery to protect our most vulnerable, and I encourage everyone to spread the word to those that need assistance with filing their 2020 income taxes."

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Get the latest news and updates from the Illinois Department on Aging by following the department on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, or by calling the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (hearing impaired call 888-206-1327) or by email aging.ilsenior@illinois.gov.

A message from the County Clerk

Dear Voter,

You may apply online now to Vote By Mail for the April 6 Consolidated Election.

When you apply online to Vote By Mail, the Cook County Clerk's office will send you emails when your ballot is mailed to you, when the Clerk's office receives your Ballot Return Envelope, and when your ballot has been processed and counted.

We will start mailing ballots in late March.

All Vote by Mail ballots come with postage-paid Ballot Return Envelopes.

You may also submit your Ballot Return Envelope in a secured drop box at one of four convenient locations. Go to cookcountyclerk.il.gov/MBdropbox to find hours and locations.

You may also use standard U.S. mail. If you use standard U.S. mail to send your Ballot Return envelope, you must get a postmark before or on Election Day, April 6.



Questions? Learn more here, call 312-603-0946 or email mail.voting@cook-countyil.gov.

Make your home your polling place!

Sincerely,
Karen A. Yarbrough
Cook County Clerk

Alsip Police Department Launches Mobile App

The Alsip Police Department is thrilled to announce the launch of their custom mobile app for iPhone and Android devices. Village of Alsip residents now have a direct connection with the department for the latest community news, instant public safety notifications, and more.

"Gone are the days of traditional neighborhood watch, with our app citizens will be able to stay informed of crimes utilizing our interactive map to get reliable crime information, in a timely manner at their fingertips" Alsip Police Chief Jay Miller.

The app's multi-channel messaging system makes it easy for the department to deliver the right message at the right time, encouraging two-way communication. Once residents download the Alsip Police Department application from either the Apple and



Android app stores, they can instantly connect to the agency through tools and features specifically tailored to public safety, including: Crime Map, Frequently Asked Questions, Sex Offender Registry, Local Ordinance Access, Citizen Resources, Special Needs Registry and Smart 911 Registry.

The technology that powers Alsip Police Department app is Apex Mobile's proprietary platform. The system was designed to help police departments, sheriff's offices, and pub-

lic safety agencies across the country develop, deploy, and manage mobile apps that drive effective community engagement. Apex's technology is being used by public safety agencies nationwide.

For more information about the Alsip Police Department please call 708-385-6902 or go to www.alsippolicedepartment.com. To learn more about Apex Mobile and their applications for public safety agencies, please call (949) 305-7008 or visit www.apexmobile.net.

Property Tax Exemptions Automatically Renewed

Due to COVID-19, the Illinois legislature took action to allow the Cook County Assessor to automatically renew the following exemptions for taxable year 2020, for homeowners who received them last year (taxable year 2019): Senior Freeze Exemption, Homestead Exemption for

Persons with Disabilities, and Homestead Exemption for Veterans with Disabilities.

The above one-year renewals are in addition to the automatic annual renewal of the Homeowner Exemption and the Senior Exemption.

The Cook County As-

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If you have any questions or need further assistance, please reach out to Guy Gattone, Oak Forest Taxpayer Advocate at ggattone@oak-forest.org.



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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 19 | Number 6 | March 16, 2021

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

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Read more about the legislative change here: cookcountyassessor.com/news/automatic-renewal-3-property-tax-exemptions-2021-due-covid-19. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please reach out to Guy Gattone, Oak Forest Taxpayer Advocate at ggattone@oak-forest.org.



Silver Cross Establishing Footprint in Mokena

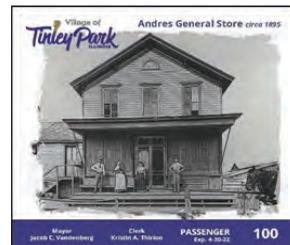
The intersection of U.S. Route 30 (Lincoln Highway) and Owens Road is quickly shaping up as a hub for health care. Recently, Mokena Village Board approved a preliminary plat of subdivision and a development agreement for the Silver Cross subdivision, slated for 8.6 acres at the southeast corner of the busy, gateway junction. The development agreement, a three-part pact between the Village, Lincoln Owens Development LLC, and Silver Cross Hospital, provides for the construction of a 20,000 sq. ft. medical office building on Lot 1, and up to a 40,000 sq. ft. addition on Lot 2 of the subdivision. Upon completion, the Silver Cross facility will bookend the newly constructed Palos/Northwestern Memorial Health medical office building slated to open later this spring di-

rectly across Owens Road to the west. Together, the two health care facilities will bring significant numbers of new employees to Mokena, increasing the area's daytime population count. This growth in the workforce is expected to substantially boost business for existing local restaurants and retailers while enhancing the attractiveness of commercial lots still available in the immediate area.

Early Voting Reminder

As a reminder, Early Voting for the April 6 Consolidated Election is right around the bend. The Mokena Village Hall will host Early Voting starting Monday, March 22. Registered voters may cast their ballots Monday, March 22, through Friday, March 26, and Monday, March 29, through Thursday, April 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You may also Early Vote at the Will County Clerk's Office, located at 302 N. Chicago Street in Joliet, Monday to Friday from

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For complete details on Early Voting at the Clerk's Office, please visit their website by clicking the link at the bottom of this article. Not going to be in town for Early Voting or Election Day? You may request a "Vote by Mail" ballot now through March 29. To obtain a ballot request form, you can visit us at Village Hall, call us at (708) 479-3900 to have one mailed to you, or contact the Will County Clerk's Office at (815) 740-4615. If you have questions, call (708) 479-3900 or visit thewillcountyclerk.com.



Tinley Park vehicle stickers on sale April 1

The 2021-22 Tinley Park vehicle sticker goes on sale April 1 and features Andres General Store, circa 1865 which today is home to Primal Cut Steakhouse. Stickers are available at Tinley Park Village Hall, 16250 S. Oak Park Ave., and the Police Department, 7850 W. 183rd St. Stickers are valid from May 1, 2021, to April 30, 2022, and the deadline to purchase and display them is June 30.

2021 Fleadh Around Town

Huge thanks to everyone who came to support the 12th Annual Fleadh sponsored by the Oak Forest-Crestwood Chamber of Commerce. Families of all ages participated in the virtual 5K, enjoyed pre-parade activi-

ties at the Oak Forest Park District, spotted leaping leprechauns at Acorn Library, watched the parade down Central Avenue and dined at local establishments. We can't wait until next year!



Voting in Palos Township

Palos Township Clerk Jane Nolan announces the beginning of Early Voting for the 2021 Consolidated Election. The first day of Early Voting will be March 22, 2021 in most voting precincts. Early Voting will begin March 10 through April 5 at 69 W. Washington. There will be 54 Early Voting sites in Cook County, and any registered voter can vote at any of those. The four closest sites for township residents are Palos Heights Recreation Center, 6601 W 127th St.,

Palos Heights; Orland Township, 14807 Ravinia Ave., Orland Park; Oak Lawn Village Hall, 9446 S. Raymond Ave., Oak Lawn; and Burbank (Prairie Trails Library District) at 8449 S. Moody Ave., Burbank. The times vary somewhat as early voting progresses. The last day for Early Voting is April 5. Lists of the closest early voting sites and times are available at Palos Township. Please call Clerk Jane Nolan with any questions at 708-598-4418.

Moraine Valley releases fall 2020 academic achievement lists

Moraine Valley Community College has released the students named to its President's List, Dean's List and Part-time Student Scholastic Achievement List for the fall 2020 semester. Students are organized by town on all lists, which

can be found on the news page on the college's website. Qualification for the President's List is a semester grade point average of 3.75 to 4.00. Visit morainevalley.edu/presidents-fall20 to view this list. Qualification for the

Dean's List is a semester grade point average of 3.50 to 3.749. Visit morainevalley.edu/deanfall20 to view this list. Part-time students on the Scholastic Achievement List have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, 24 or more

credit hours earned and at least a 3.5 grade point average for the semester the distinction is received. Qualified students must earn three to eight credit hours during the semester the distinction is received. Visit morainevalley.edu/partfall20 to view this list.



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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 22 | Number 6 | March 16, 2021

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

Scholarship encourages women to seize the day in STEM

The Carpe Diem Women's STEM Scholarship has been established with the Moraine Valley Community College Foundation to support women who want to pursue a career in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). The \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a current or incoming female student majoring a STEM field at Moraine Valley.

Brittany Keith, who works in information technology (IT) in the automotive industry, created the scholarship to help other women get STEM-related jobs. "The automotive industry is a male-dominated industry, as is IT. Combine them, and there are many times I'm the only woman in a meeting," said Keith, a product manager for Volkswagen. "I definitely see the need for more diversity in

these industries. That's why I felt it was a good opportunity for me to establish a scholarship for STEM and for women."

She worked with the Moraine Valley Foundation to establish the scholarship during the pandemic because she wanted to help others. "I am lucky that I am in the position to do so – especially during this hard time. COVID has impacted us all in various ways, so I felt it was a good time to start something and give back to the community."

Keith, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, who later earned an MBA from Duke University, chose to start the scholarship at Moraine Valley because she believes students at community colleges come from varied backgrounds. "I liked the idea that this scholarship could

help someone who couldn't go to a four-year school or perhaps was going back to school because she was a single mom," she said.

The scholarship's recipient must show evidence of volunteerism. "I think volunteering in your community teaches you a lot, and I feel giving back through volunteering shows a lot about someone's character," said Keith, who has a strong personal commitment to volunteering.

Keith named the Carpe Diem Women's STEM Scholarship in honor of the phrase her mother would often say to her and her sister while they were growing up. "We were raised that we should seize every day to the best of our ability. I think the name is fitting because for a woman to get into STEM, there



Brittany Keith

are naturally more hurdles," Keith said. "I hope the scholarship helps whoever receives it to expand their knowledge and be their best self."

For more information on creating a scholarship at Moraine Valley, contact Kristy McGreal, executive director of the Moraine Valley Foundation, at mcgreal2@morainevalley.edu.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 47 | Number 18 | March 16, 2021

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

Moraine Valley Foundation's spy-themed gala helps students

The Moraine Valley Community College Foundation is holding its Mission IMPOSSIBLE Virtual Fundraising Gala on Friday, April 23, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The spy-themed gala will have a family-friendly focus and feature entertainment, a live and silent auction, interactive activities and a raffle. A highlight of the event will be a performance by Katie Kadan, a popular contestant on NBC's "The Voice" and an alumna of Moraine Valley.

People can purchase either a Secret Agent Viewing Party ticket for \$150 or an Agency Headquarters Viewing Party ticket for \$75.

The Secret Agent Viewing Party includes a signature bottle of wine complemented by desserts prepared by Moraine Valley culinary arts students and wine-pairing tips. Both tickets grant access to the Virtual Fundraising Gala for everyone viewing in the ticket holder's home. A top-secret activity package, that



Katie Kadan

can be picked up on campus or mailed, and a raffle ticket also are included.

Anyone purchasing either viewing party ticket by April 7 will be entered for a chance to win a four-night stay at the Mayan Palace in Mexico.

Tickets to the event are on sale now at morainevalley.edu/gala.

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Hurley to Host Mindful Monday

To promote mental health awareness and emotional well-being, state Rep. Fran Hurley, D-Chicago, invites residents to a virtual Mindful Monday meditation and yoga seminar on Monday, March 29 at 7 p.m.

Hurley is partnering with state Rep. Kelly Burke to host the event via Zoom. Yoga and meditation specialist Toni St. Paul will be presenting meditation and stretching techniques to improve emotional and mental well-being. The event is free and open to the public. To RSVP email repfranhurley@gmail.com or call 773-445-8128.

Plan before you party

With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, the Oak Lawn Police Department is reminding motorists to plan ahead for a sober ride home to keep celebrations from turning deadly.

"We understand people are looking for a reason to celebrate, but we urge you to do so safely," said Sgt. Acke. "While festivities may look different this year, the basics remain the same: If you'll be drinking or using cannabis or an-

other impairing substance, make the right choice to find a sober driver to get you and your friends home safely."

In addition to patrolling for alcohol- and drug-impaired drivers, the Oak Lawn Police Department will be stepping up seat belt enforcement, particularly at night when seat belt usage rates are lowest. Speed limits and distracted driving laws will also be strictly enforced.

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PALOS TOWNSHIP INDEPENDENT PARTY

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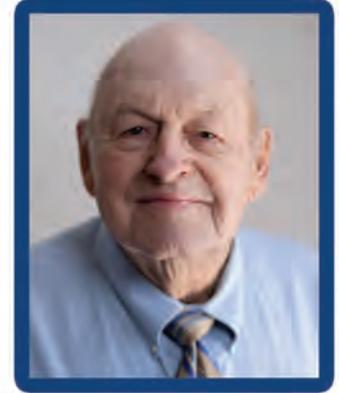
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Schumann
SUPERVISOR
#71**



**Jane Nolan
CLERK
#72**



**Robert E. Maloney
ASSESSOR
#74**



**Gene Adams
HIGHWAY
COMMISSIONER
#76**



**Brent Woods
TRUSTEE
#78**



**Tasneem Abuzir
TRUSTEE
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**Richard C. Riley
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Vote Tuesday, APRIL 6, 2021

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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 vvnw@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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Easter Champagne Brunch
Sunday, April 4th, 2021 | 10:30am to 3:00pm

All You Can Eat Easter Favorite Culinary Delights Served Buffet Style
such as Glazed Ham, Whole Salmon and Many Others... and a choice of one plated Entrée

Bourbon Chicken & Waffle	Roasted Beef Chuck
Braised Pork Shank	Penne Pasta Alfredo
Build your Own Omelet	Bottomless Mimosas

Per person prices: Adults \$35, Seniors \$25, Kids 6-12 years old \$15 and Kids under 5 years of age – complimentary
All prices are subject to 18% gratuity and applicable taxes

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Oak Lawn Village View Newspaper Archive
Explore digitized microfilm from the Oak Lawn Village View.
Papers range from 1973 to 2013 and are hosted by the Internet Archive.
Look at the Oak Lawn Library website at <https://www.olpl.org/>

Kathleen
MCDERMOTT
For Oak Lawn Library Trustee

KATE PLANS TO ENSURE THE LIBRARY REMAINS A SUPPORTED AND FUNDED STAPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY



EARLY VOTING:
MARCH 22 @
THE VILLAGE HALL

ELECTION DAY:
APRIL 6

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*Paid for by "Kathleen McDermott for Oak Lawn Library Board" Committee



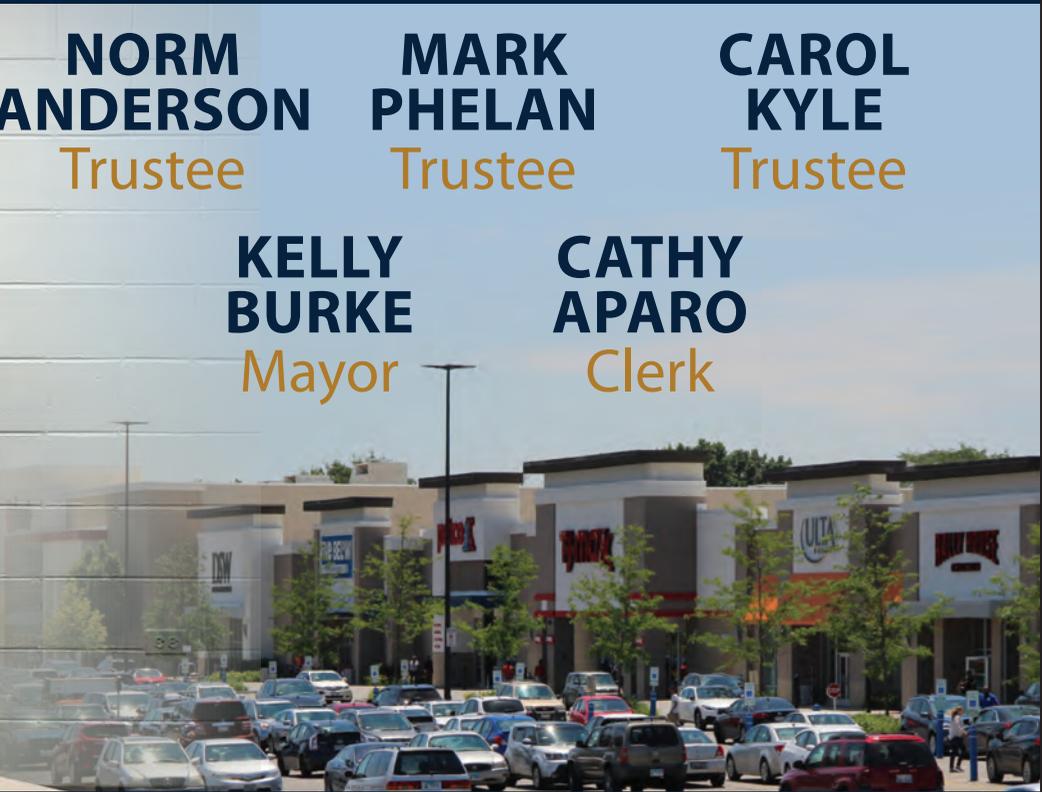
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MOVING ORLAND PARK FORWARD

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- SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES**
- KEEP OUR FAMILIES SAFE**

OneOrland

VOTE EARLY OR ON APRIL 6
Paid for by One Orland Party

YOUR GOOD GOVERNMENT TEAM:
Working with local business, supporting our residents to keep Evergreen Park a place to "Live, Work and Raise a Family"

NORM ANDERSON
Trustee

MARK PHELAN
Trustee

CAROL KYLE
Trustee

KELLY BURKE
Mayor

CATHY APARO
Clerk

SAVE THE DATE

ELECTION DAY IS APRIL 6, 2021

Paid by The Good Government / UHO

South Suburban College COVID Drive-Thru Testing Site Now Open Weekdays Only

The South Suburban College COVID-19 testing site has scaled back its operation

from seven days a week to five days a week in response to slowing demand. Testing will continue Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through April as part of its most recent intergovernmental agreement renewal with the Illinois Department of Public Health. No appointment is necessary for the drive-thru tents set up at the College's Main Campus parking lot. Testing

site inquiries may be made by calling (888) 297-7208.

Vaccinations continue Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Cook County's mass vaccination site in the college's gymnasium. Vaccinations at all Cook County Health sites are provided by appointment at vaccine.cookcountyl.gov, or call (833) 308-1988 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Friday.



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Meet Evergreen Park Village Trustee Candidate Cesar Salazar

Cesar Salazar running for Evergreen Park village trustee in the upcoming April 6 consolidated election. Salazar has been involved in community athletics with the Evergreen Park Athletic Association (EPAA) and Evergreen Park Baseball Club (EPBC). Salazar currently serves as treasurer for the Evergreen Park Stallions. "Now it's time to expand my dedication to the village and be of service to everyone." There has not been a change in the village trustees for a while and it is time to have new faces with new ideas for our village.



Early voting starts March 22.

Paid by Gustavo Ruvalcaba from Gus Realtor

CHICAGO RIDGE PERFORMANCE PARTY

CHARLES TOKAR
for
MAYOR

EDMUND KOWALSKI
for
TRUSTEE

"We're turning the corner, let's keep pushing forward"

LISEL'S HIGHLIGHTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ensured accountability and responsible spending leading to a \$300K reduction of this year's tax levy.

Oversaw the distribution of 1,000 face masks to our residents.

Secured testing sites for Covid-19 and the antibody in our community.

Served various Chicago Ridge non-profit organizations for over 15 years.

WILLIAM LAMMEL
for
TRUSTEE

"My family and I love this community. Over the last 3 decades we have been actively engaged in Chicago Ridge"

WILLIAM'S HIGHLIGHTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Worked to bring the Lions Club back to Chicago Ridge after a 35-year absence and served 3 years as its first President.

Worked with Lions and businesses to provide food baskets to Senior Citizens.

Partnered with the Lions to bring vision exams and glasses for students in need.

VOTE ON APRIL 6

PAID FOR BY CITIZENS FOR CHUCK TOKAR

"It has been an honor serving you the last 4 years. Along with the Mayor and Trustees, we continue to move Chicago Ridge forward"

EDMUND'S HIGHLIGHTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fostered the re-development of the Yellow Freight area.

Made significant investments into the Police Department, including a state-of-the-art training and education system and a narcotics canine.

Re-purposed the old Village Hall into a training center for Police/EMA and as a warming/cooling center.

BARBARA HARRISON
for
CLERK

LISEL KWARTNIK
for
TRUSTEE



Celebrating Norma Johnson 100th Birthday

Norma Johnson, a resident of Alvernia Manor

Senior Living in Lemont, is celebrating her 100th birthday on March 26.

Norma lived in Lemont all her life. She was dedicated to serving and putting her talents to

good use. Volunteering at schools, church, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and serving on the Library Board were some of the leadership roles she accepted. Norma served as

President of the Lemont Band Boosters as well as President of Lemont Historical Society. She was chosen to be the Grand Marshal of the Keepataw Days parade.

Norma has four children and has been living at Alvernia Manor for the last 4 years. She enjoys working her crossword puzzle or reading the newspaper to keep her mind active.



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Chicago Tribune



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Tom Hawley Treasurer	Bill Fahrenwald – 4th Ward
	Gabriel McGee – 5th Ward
	Lauren Trinidad – 6th Ward
	Josh Roll – 7th Ward
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