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Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 15 | Number 7 | April 6, 2021

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Gov. Pritzker Announces Income Tax Filing Extension to May 17

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"The fastest, most secure way to receive a refund is to file tax returns electronically and request a direct

deposit into a checking or savings account," said David Harris, Director of the Illinois Department of Revenue. "The filing extension for individual income tax takes effect automatically, so no further action is required by taxpayers to take advantage. For taxpayers awaiting a refund, utilize IDOR's Where's My Re-

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Where's My Refund? link. Taxpayers may also look up IL-PINs, amounts of any estimated tax payments made, and (when necessary) amounts reported on Form 1099-G with MyTax Illinois.

For the most up-to-date information, forms, schedules, and instructions visit tax.illinois.gov.

Moraine Valley arts center to host final two 'Meet the Artist' series livestream

The Moraine Valley Community College Fine and Performing Arts Center (FPAC) has hosted its free "Meet the Artist" series live on Facebook and YouTube for nearly a year. It will end the series with two final guests this month.

Tommy Hensel, managing director of the FPAC, interviews popular artists who have previously performed at the college.

In the final session, he will interview Moraine Valley alumnus Ronnie Malley on Tuesday, April 6, at 7 p.m.

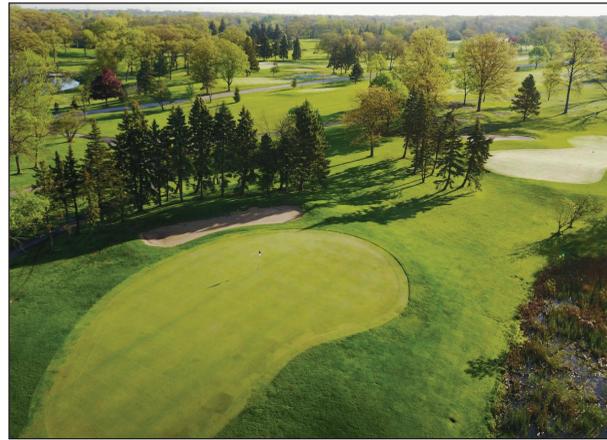
The final interview will be of Hensel and conducted by Mallory Lewis and Lamb Chop (the first interview in the series)

on Tuesday, April 13, at 7 p.m.

Malley is a multi-instrumentalist musician, actor, sound designer, producer and educator with several theater credits that include the Broadway-based musical "The Band's Visit" and "American Griot." Hensel has worked for more than 35 years as a professional actor, singer, stage manager, director and arts presenter, and he was the founding artistic director of the Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival.

Watch the events on the FPAC Facebook page, facebook.com/MVCCFPAC/, or on its YouTube channel.

For more information, visit morainevalley.edu/fpac.



Save the Date For Blue Cap Foundation's Invitational

Tee off with Blue Cap on June 9 for the 27th Annual Charity Invitational at Silver Lake Country Club.

Event Highlights Include: Shotgun Start at 9 a.m.

Advertise your business through sponsorship.

Spend the day networking with other golfers.

Play on the superb South course.

Lunch on the course.

Awards and Cocktails at the 19th Hole.

All proceeds go directly to Blue Cap Foundation, which ensures the future of Blue Cap's programs and services for people of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Questions? Contact Jill Hart at (708) 389.8137 Ext. 108 or email to JillH@Blue-Cap.org.

Alsip Park District Commissioner Elected Trustee of Statewide Association

Joe Schmitt, Commissioner of the Alsip Park District, was recently elected to the Illinois Association of Park Districts' (IAPD) Board of Trustees.

As an IAPD Trustee, Schmitt will assist the association with its mission of advancing Illinois park districts, forest preserves, conservation, recreation, and special recreation agencies in their ability to preserve natural resources and improve the quality of life for all people in Illinois. He will work with the 19-member board to advise the association in providing service, research, advocacy, public awareness, and educational programs to its membership of 360 park, recreation, and conservation agencies and nearly 100 affiliated business partners.

"Joe is an outstanding proponent of enhancing the quality of life in Illinois through the services of park districts, forest preserves, conservation, recreation, and special recreation agencies," said Peter Murphy, IAPD President and Chief Executive Officer. "He is a



great addition to the IAPD Board, and I know that with his guidance and expertise, Illinois parks, recreation, and conservation will thrive and continue to rank among the nation's best."

Schmitt serves on the IAPD Honors and Resolutions Committee and the Program Committee. He was elected to the Alsip Park District board in 2003.

IAPD strives to improve Illinois' quality of life through park districts, forest preserves, conservation, and recreation agencies by establishing grants and other new revenue streams for park land, facilities, and services; educating the public about the positive effects parks and recreation have on communities; and meeting the problem of decreasing open space in Illinois

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 19 | Number 7 | April 6, 2021

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

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their Illinois Individual Income Tax refunds using the Where's My Refund? link. Taxpayers may also look up IL-PINs, amounts of any estimated tax payments made, and (when necessary) amounts reported on Form 1099-G with MyTax Illinois.

For the most up-to-date information, forms, schedules, and instructions visit tax.illinois.gov.

Village's Annual Curbside Spring Clean-Up Week of April

Spring is almost here and with it comes the Village of Orland Park's annual Curbside Spring Clean-Up. This year's clean-up collection will be offered on residents' regular garbage pick-up days during the week of April 12-16, 2021.

Orland Park's Curbside Spring Clean-Up is held in cooperation with the Village's refuse hauler, Waste Management. Residents are to place all trash and bulk items curbside by 6 a.m. on their pick-up day and in an orderly fashion, i.e. bagged, contained or bundled, with no loose garbage.

"The Village is happy to again partner with Waste Management to offer the

Curbside Spring Clean-Up," said Mayor Keith Pekau. "This will be the eighth year that we've offered curbside pick-up and each year we see an increase in the amount of household items getting safely and properly disposed of."

Residents can dispose of durable goods or household items like furniture, textiles, carpets, as well as white goods including washers, dryers and refrigerators. Residents should note that the doors on any white goods and appliances should be removed before being placed at the curb to prevent children from playing on or around them.

Those wishing to dispose of/recycle electronics and other materials NOT accepted during Curbside Spring Clean-up Week can utilize the At Your Door Program and schedule a pickup date.

Orland Park's At Your Door Program by Waste Management provides the service to properly dispose of and recycle home-generated special materials. Items can include paints, household cleaners, compact florescent lamps (CFL), automotive products, garden chemicals, batteries, electronics and more.

Residents may visit www.wmatyourdoor.com to complete a request form for the At Your Door service. Requests for pick-up can also be made via telephone at (800) 449-7587 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., CST Monday through Friday. This program is limited to Village residents only and is not available for businesses.

Further information is available by calling Waste Management at 1-800-796-9696.

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



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.

Read more about the legislative change at cook-countyassessor.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.

Celebrate Cinco De Mayo at VFW Post 2791

Our Cinco De Mayo Celebration is Back again on Sunday May 2nd. Our Dinner Dance tickets will be \$20 each (Cash Only) and will be available to purchase in the Canteen starting Tuesday April 6th. You will enjoy a delicious meal from Canton Regio' (Formerly Nuevo Leon). This will include

Steak Mexicana, Chicken Fajitas, Stewed Pork in Red Sauce, Cactus Salad, Salsa and Chips. We will also be serving Margaritas, Corona and Modelo Beer at our Cantina Cash Bar. Cocktails will start serving at 4 p.m. and Dinner at 5 p.m.

We will be all be Dancing from 6 to 9 p.m. to a great selection of Music as

in past years. We hope you will all come out to help us make this coming out party a success. Face masks will be required to enter, and you will need them in the food serving line and at our cash bar.

Please join us at the Bremen VFW 2791 Hall at 17147 Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park, IL.

Hurley Sponsored Bill to Extend "Age Out" Date for Special Education Students

Special education students will be eligible to stay enrolled in education programs longer under a new bill created by state Rep. Fran Hurley, D-Chicago.

"Currently, special edu-

cation students are only able to go to school through their 22nd birthday, no matter when that date falls during the school year," said Hurley. "This leaves these students unable to finish

the rest of the school year and puts a burden on the parents of these students who now have to find alternative educational options for their children."

Hurley's bill, House Bill

40, will allow all special education students to finish the school year of their 22nd birthday.

Hurley's bill passed out of the House Human Services Committee last week

and now moves to the full House for consideration.

"Students and their parents depend on these educational programs, but it leaves them with very little options when they

are abruptly taken out of the classroom with their friends and teachers in the middle of the year," continued Hurley. "The current system isn't fair to the students or their parents."



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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 22 | Number 7 | April 6, 2021

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

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Hurley’s bill, House Bill 40, will allow all special education students to finish the school year of their

22nd birthday.

Currently, special education students are allowed to go to school from ages 3 to 21. Once the student turns 22 years old, they are no longer eligible to attend school, even if their birthday is in the middle of a school year.

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“The current system isn’t fair to the students or their parents. A constituent of mine, Katie Hurley Kettering, and her son, Charlie, came to me with this bill idea in 2019 and I have been passionate about getting this passed since. I also invite any supporters of this bill to reach out to their family and friends and encourage them to reach out to their legislators to vote ‘yes’ on House Bill 40.”

Palos Park is a Tree City USA

The Village of Palos Park is proud to announce that we have been named a “2020 Tree City USA” by the Arbor Day Foundation, in honor of our commitment to effective urban forest management. The Village of Palos Park has now received this designation for 28 consecutive years.

The Village achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program’s

four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, annual funds available for forestry, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The Village Council and staff realize that one of the many reasons people reside in the Village of Palos Park is to live and raise their family in a natural environment. Trees being planted and cared for by Palos Park ensure that all

generations will enjoy a better quality of life.

The Village of Palos Park prioritizes our trees and natural environment knowing that it helps to clean the air we breathe, nurture the ecosystem and create an overall sense of well-being.

The Village of Palos Park is currently planning the Arbor Day Celebration for Sunday, May 16, at 1:00 pm, so save the date.

Apply to STEM Leadership Academy

Applications for the summer 2021 Exelon Foundation STEM Leadership Academy are now open through April 25!

The Exelon STEM Leadership Academy is a free, week-long, residential (as long as local health regulations and requirements allow) program for 10th and

11th grade girls interested in STEM to learn from women working in STEM and other leaders; explore sustainability, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate change; and connect with like-minded peers.

The Academy concludes with an energy challenge

and a chance to win great prizes! Each participant will also receive an iPad to use for Academy activities and to take home at the end of the week.

Learn more information and encourage girls interested in STEM to apply at exelonstemacademy.org.

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 47 | Number 19 | April 6, 2021

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

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Newman votes to pass American Rescue Plan

Recently, U.S. Representative Marie Newman (IL-03) voted to pass the American Rescue Plan, a historic stimulus package designed to crush the COVID-19 virus, rebuild our economy, launch a national vaccine campaign and provide Americans and small businesses with the critical relief they need and deserve

“Americans have been asking Washington for a historic and bold relief package that meets the enormity of the challenges we face. President Biden’s American Rescue Plan lives up to that vision by putting shots in arms, money in pockets, children in schools and people in jobs,” said Congresswoman Marie Newman. “This comprehensive relief package is what

we need to not only put an end to this public health crisis but also reignite our local economies, keep our small businesses open and put Americans back to work.”

Here are some key provisions in the bill:

Survival Checks: In December, Congress enacted a COVID-19 relief package that provided a direct payment of \$600 per person. The American Rescue Plan Act builds on that down payment, providing another \$1,400 per person.

Establishing a National Vaccine Campaign: The American Rescue Plan will provide more than \$20 billion to establish a national COVID-19 Vaccination Program, with approx. \$275 million going to Illinois to boost the state’s vaccination rate.



Queen of Martyrs students lend a hand to those in need

Queen of Martyrs students stepped up to help this year by donating over 36 Easter baskets chock full of goodies for the less fortunate in the area.

Students rallied to donate

rosaries, socks, restaurant gift cards, small toys, and more. Packed up in baskets donated by the Student Council, the items were distributed to shelter and churches in the area.

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ComEd Adds \$9 Million in Bill Assistance and Extends Payment

Recognizing that many Illinois families continue to be adversely affected by economic challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, ComEd is increasing financial assistance funding by \$9 million to help customers regain their financial footing.

ComEd worked with the Illinois Commerce Commission staff, the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, other large Illinois gas and electric utilities and a broad group of consumer advocates to develop a comprehensive support package to help residential customers through the continued challenges of the pandemic. The package, which the Illinois Commerce Commission unanimously approved earlier recently, also includes enhanced payment arrange-

ment options, and special reconnection programs for eligible customers. Each of these programs will be offered for a limited time.

"The new programs being offered today extend our ongoing efforts to help customers get to a place of stability," said ComEd CEO Joe Dominguez. "Even before the pandemic hit, ComEd provided customers with the support they needed and worked with community organizations to generate awareness amongst customers who need help the most. In 2020, we connected customers to a record more than \$75 million in financial assistance and supported more than a quarter million customers with stabilizing grants."

Limited time, financial assistance options

ComEd Bill Payment Assistance Program. In April 2021, ComEd will increase the amount of funds available to provide more one-time bill credits of up to \$500, while funds are available. These credits are for eligible residential customers who have outstanding balances or who are looking to reconnect their electric service.

More Flexible Payment Arrangements. Through June 30, 2021, ComEd is offering extended payment arrangement plans to eligible households, which allows customers to spread outstanding balances over 18 monthly installments with no money down. Eligible residential customers facing financial hardship who enroll in an 18-month, no money down payment

plan will be exempt from disconnection through June 30, 2021. All other eligible residential customers with outstanding balances can enroll in an 18-month payment plan with a 10-percent down payment through June 30, 2021.

Service Reconnection Assistance. Through July 10, 2021, eligible households that had electric service disconnected for a non-safety reason in 2021 can have their service reconnected by providing only 25% of their outstanding balance. Any remaining outstanding balance will be rolled into an 18-month, no-money-down payment plan.

Additional financial assistance options

The ComEd CARE programs also offer a range of financial-assistance options,

while funding is available, to help eligible customers pay their electric bills. There are programs available for residential, small-business customers and nonprofit organizations, as well as activated and deployed members of the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard, Reserves and honorably discharged veterans.

Any customer experiencing a hardship or difficulty with their electric bill should call ComEd immediately at 1-800-334-7661

(1-800-EDISON1), Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to learn more on how to apply. Information on each of these options, along with eligibility requirements, can be found at ComEd.com/PaymentAssistance.

ComEd also offers usage alerts and energy-management tips to help customers manage energy use to save money now and on future electric bills. For information, visit ComEd.com/OnlineTools.

Proud member of following 2021 Chambers

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

Newman, Bonamici introduce bill to end use of paycheck protection program by predatory debt collectors

Recently U.S. Reps. Marie Newman (D-IL) and Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) introduced legislation to prevent predatory debt collectors from accessing funding through the Paycheck Protection Program.

The Ceasing Unreserved Relief Benefits for Debt Collectors Act (CURB Debt Collectors Act) would prevent debt collectors that have committed violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act from accessing PPP forgivable loans. Debt collectors, including firms that are known to have violated consumers' rights, have received millions of dollars in PPP funding.

"Throughout this pandemic, we've seen how predatory debt collectors and lenders have taken advantage of this economic crisis by collecting PPP loans that are intended for America's small businesses, who need the relief and support the most," said

Congresswoman Marie Newman. "With this legislation, we are ensuring that predatory debt collectors who have violated the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act are barred from ever receiving PPP loans. I'm proud to co-lead this legislation so that we can further ensure relief is going towards local restaurants, mom-and-pop shops, and the smallest of America's small businesses."

"The Paycheck Protec-

tion Program was designed to provide a lifeline to the many small business owners who are trying hard to keep their businesses afloat during the pandemic," said Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici. "It is unacceptable that predatory debt collectors have been able to take advantage of this program, diverting funding away from small businesses that desperately need help during this economic crisis. The CURB Debt Collectors

Act will put an end to this exploitative practice."

During the pandemic, many small businesses have faced challenges trying to access relief programs, and consumers have struggled with unfair tactics by abusive collectors. The CURB Debt Collectors Act can help businessowners and consumers by making sure relief dollars go to local entrepreneurs instead of to unscrupulous collection agencies.

**Thank you for reading.
This paper is out because of you, the customer.**



**VOTE for
Harley M. Schinker
Village President
of Mokena 2021**

**Vote For Trustees
Eddie Donnelley
Jason Wagner**

Paid for by Harley M. Schinker

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/>

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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.

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**

Follow me on:







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

Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council #1444 Hosts Blood Drive

Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council #1444 invites members of the community to become 45-minute heroes by participating in a blood drive scheduled for Saturday, May 22nd from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Perez Clubhouse, 3422 W 111th in Mount Greenwood. Phlebotomists

and nurses from Vitalant (formerly LifeSource) will draw the donations.

Grand Knight Nate Smith is chairing the drive. "It's usual to think of donated blood being used in life-threatening trauma events. Much more blood needed for those fighting cancer or coping with a life-

threatening illness," he said. "COVID and extreme winter weather that has slowed the number of blood donations greatly. The need has rarely been greater than it is this spring"

Donors must be at least 17 (16 with signed parental consent). A photo ID is required.

While walk-ins are welcome and much appreciated, Smith urges appointments. Donors are advised to eat well and stay hydrated.

Appointments can be made by logging onto Vitalant.org and using code 323G or by emailing Smith at southsiders1123@yahoo.com.



Oak Lawn Theater Program clinches state championships

Written by Jennifer Jepsen, OLSHS Staff Writer

The Oak Lawn Theater Program won state championships in both Drama and Group Interpretation. Led by coaches TJ Kahriman, Annie Truffa, Bob Beland, Mike Olsson, Tim Sipple, Matt Capriola, and Erika Johnson, this marks the second time in school history that the Spartans have won both Drama and Group Interpretation in the same year, a feat only accomplished four times in the IHSA history of Drama/Group Interpretation. Both Drama and Group Interpretation were Sectional Champions this year. This is the 7th State Championship for Drama and the 7th State Championship for Group Interpretation, who



also won in 2019, making this a pandemic back-to-back win.

The drama production of The Insanity of Mary Girard included student actors Jada Jackson (All-State Cast), Daniel McLawhorn, Jake Majerczyk (All-State Cast), Grace Sievers, James Walsh, Emma Mathews, Tori Prause, and Edward

Quinn Haywood. Crew members included Haven Rupsch, Abigail Sodaro, Joyce Reising, Michael Reising, Maggie Hernandez, Olha Huska, Monica Nowak, Jenny Granados and Matthew Perry.

The Group Interpretation of Solutions and Other Problems included student performers Emma

O'Malley Galvan (All-State Cast), Omar Alqazaq (All-State Cast), Alondra Camacho, Layla Nemri, Ella Moore (All-State Cast), Hailey Rabideaux, Emma Faucault-Miller, Maya Quinonez, and Orlando Ramirez.

Congratulations to everyone involved in these fantastic shows!

Blue Cap Collection Boxes

Blue Cap has set up collection boxes to make it easy for you to make a donation to their Food Pantry.

They can be found at the Blue Island Library, 2433 York St., First Midwest Bank, 12015 S. Western Ave., Council Oak Montessori School, 2521 Grove St., John D. Rita Rec Center, 2805 141st St., and Ac-

cess Family Health, 13000 Maple Ave., Blue Island, IL 60406.

They accept non-perishable food, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo/conditioner, shaving cream, disposable razors, toilet paper, tissue, laundry detergent, dish soap, multi-purpose cleaners, disinfectant wipes, and baby diapers and wipes.



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New Canteen Hours Noon to Close Daily

Public Welcome for 2021

Cinco De Mayo is Back for 2021!
Sunday, May 2nd - Tickets \$20 each Cash Only
Cocktails at 4PM, Dinner at 5PM Dancing afterwards
Limited Seating - Food from Canton Regio' (Formerly Nuevo Leon)

Card & Bunco Shake Raffle & Roll Afternoon!
Sunday, April 18th - Doors open 12:30PM - Games will play 1-4PM
Advance Tickets \$6 at the door \$5

Our New Queen Of Hearts Drawing Is Back Each Wednesday
Queen of Hearts \$7 Dinners have returned w/Covid Restrictions

Our Award-Winning Banquet Hall is back open and available for you to book parties for any occasion - Stop by and check it out
Stop in to watch all your favorite sporting events in our friendly and comfortable Canteen, which also has Video Gaming with some great new games



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Brookfield Zoo's spring events

Virtual Spring 5k Run/Walk: Now through May 30. Brookfield Zoo's first-ever Virtual Spring 5k Run/Walk takes you outdoors to enjoy the warmer weather and glorious colors of sprouting blooms. You choose the time and place: take a hike in a forest preserve, jog along a waterfront trail, or stroll through a neighborhood. Or, run the full 5k to compare your time with other runners. The cost is \$30 per person. Each participant receives a beanie, virtual medal, and completion certificate. Race materials will be mailed. To register and for additional information, visit CZS.org/SpringRun2021.

Earth Day: A Party for the Planet: Saturday, April 24, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Every day is Earth Day at Brookfield Zoo, but on this special

day, the zoo will be hosting a recycling event, presented by the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program, to encourage everyone to help make a difference for wildlife and the natural world.

So, if you've been waiting for the perfect time, and an environmentally friendly way, to dispose of items that have been taking up space in your basement or garage, head to Brookfield Zoo. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., representatives from the zoo and its partner organizations will be stationed in the zoo's main north parking lot collecting a variety of unwanted items, including electronics, textiles, and used books. For a complete list of acceptable and unacceptable items, visit CZS.org/PartyPlanet. Follow the signs directing vehicles to enter the lot off 31st.

South Suburban student named to Illinois Community College Board

The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) announced this week the appointment of South Suburban College (SSC) student Jaleel Harris to its 2021-22 Student Board. Candidate review and voting from the pool of nominations was recently conducted by the ICCB Student Advisory Committee.

Harris, a 26-year old resident of Chicago, first enrolled at SSC after graduating from Homewood Flossmoor High School in 2012. He is currently studying Business Administration.

"I am honored to serve my students and community through the amazing opportunity," said Harris. "Here at SSC, our Mission is to serve our students and community through lifelong learning. With pleasure, this is a mission I will honor throughout my professional journey and one I will cherish when performing my responsibilities with the ICCB."

Harris said he has future plans to further his education in Sociology with the goal of starting a foundation focused on the needs of at-risk youth.

"My experience here as



Jaleel Harris

"I am honored to serve my students and community through the amazing opportunity."

both a student and student employee has taught me a variety of values. Most importantly, I have learned the significance of acquired knowledge and service." Harris added, "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once stated, 'life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?'"

Harris represents the second South Suburban College student elected to serve on the state-wide board. Dr. Lynette Stokes previously became the first SSC President named to the Illinois Community College Board in 2020.

For more information about SSC, please visit www.ssc.edu.

Many events at Blue Island library

This month, The Blue Island Public Library will resume collecting fees for overdue and lost materials. Guest pass fees are also reinstated, so don't forget to sign up for a library card.

The library will celebrate National Library Week's 'Welcome to Your Library' campaign in the month of April. We are so close to registering our 100,000th library card and will have a gift card for the winner for signing up this month.

May 1 is Planting Day at Blue Island Public Library! The library is converting the asphalt parkway on York Street near the library entrance into a native plant pollinator garden. The garden will be a new home in the area for Monarch butterflies and other important species and will be a bright spot color all year long. On May 1, join the Friends of

the Library and members of the Blue Island tree keepers in a planting project on the parkway.

In addition, on May 1 educators from Brookfield Zoo's Communities and Nature Program will lead participants in an outdoor Blue Island Bioblitz, where in families will learn about the nature around us. The pollinator garden is made possible through the support of the Awesome Foundation, as well the Friends of the Library (rain date May 8).

Don't forget the library when getting started on your spring cleaning! The library is once again accepting donations of clean gently used/new books for the Friends of the Library Book Sale. The book sale will take place socially distanced in the lower level conference room from May 17-22.

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Nifty 50's & 60's - Have some fun with the jukebox gems that captured the hearts of teenagers across the country! Whether we're wearing our poodle skirts and saddle shoes or our mini-skirts and go-go boots, these tunes are delivered in **Sweet Reminder's** signature playful style!
Jailhouse Rock, Que Sera Sera, Sincerely, My Guy, Downtown, Boots **June 10**

Sweet Reminders of Christmas - The magic of the holiday season comes alive with cheerful sounds and light-hearted fun in each festive song celebrating "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!"
Santa Baby, Suzy Snowflake, Sisters (from White Christmas), Winter Wonderland **December 10**

Reservation price \$41 ea. or \$38 for parties of 15 or more. **INCLUDES ENTIRE EVENT:** Delicious 4-piece chicken meal with all the fixin's: baked potato, homemade corn fritters, kidney bean salad, cottage cheese, coleslaw, coffee or tea beverage, dessert, tax, gratuity, and the show! Lunch served 11:30, Show to follow. Appropriate spacing for seating will be followed in helping keep everyone safe and healthy. Masks will be worn while entering and getting up from table.
MUST CALL TO RESERVE SEATING: 630-375-9717 | www.sweetreminder.net

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\$20 curbside pickup or in-person

includes sample portions of each competing entree

Kids 4-12 \$10, 3 & under are free

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- Beer & Wine Cash Bar from Pollyanna Brewery
- \$1 Pop, Water and Chips • Dessert options for sale

Proceeds support our mission to empower individuals with disabilities.

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American Red Cross Announces 2021 Local Heroes

The American Red Cross of Greater Chicago is honoring extraordinary individuals for their acts of heroism, service and dedication to building better communities.

“We are honored to recognize these amazing individuals who have put the needs of others before their

own. This extraordinary class of heroes includes many who have given a voice to the vulnerable while providing them with resources to build a better life. This includes a local chef who is using her passion for cooking to feed struggling families during the COVID-19 pandemic,

a Chicago firefighter who founded an organization to keep young people off the streets, a navy veteran who stepped up and set up food pantries for veterans in need, and many additional upstanding individuals. Each one embodies compassion, selflessness and commitment to strength

during the COVID crisis,” says Celena Roldán, chief executive officer of the American Red Cross of Illinois.

For the past 19 years, the Chicago Red Cross has honored each class of heroes at its Heroes Breakfast, typically attended by nearly 1,000 individuals.

As we continue to work hard to put the coronavirus pandemic behind us, the Chicago Red Cross will honor this year’s class of heroes during a virtual event on Thursday, April 29th at 9 a.m. Please visit redcross.org/hero to register to attend this free event and find more informa-

tion. “We are proud and thankful for the dedication that all of the 2021 Class of Heroes demonstrates every day to serve others. Each of them is making a lasting impact as we continue our road to recovery from this public health crisis,” adds Roldán.

Mercy Circle celebrates National Catholic Sisters Week

Mercy Circle residents Sister Nancy Kennelly, IBVM and Sister Jane Schlosser, RSM shared a story with Oak Lawn resident Roberto Chavez as they celebrated National Catholic Sisters Week at Mercy Circle, the only faith-based senior living community on Chicago’s southwest side. A week filled with activities included Mercy Circle staff members each day wearing a sticker with a

different question to spark conversations with residents, who are members of religious orders including the Sisters of Mercy, the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Order of St. Francis.

All the sisters, who live at Mercy Circle, also wrote about an important time in their ministries and posted them with a recent or photo from long ago on a bulletin board as a way to share their



Mercy Circle residents (L and R) Sister Nancy Kennelly, IBVM and Sister Jane Schlosser, RSM share a story with Oak Lawn resident Roberto Chavez. Credit: Marc Monaghan

remarkable contributions. Festivities included an ice cream social for all Mercy Circle residents and employees; a pizza party hosted by the Sisters of Mercy

West Midwest, the sponsor of the Mercy Circle; donuts delivered to every resident’s apartment; and a movie night with fresh popped popcorn.

Card & Bunco Shake Rattle & Roll

The Bremen VFW Post 2791 Auxiliary is hosting a Card & Bunco Shake, Rattle & Roll Afternoon on Sunday, April 18, 2021. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. Games begin at 1:00 p.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. Advance Tickets are \$5.00 and At the Door price is \$6.00. We’ll have Door Prizes, 50/50 Split the Pot, and Raffle Prizes. Coffee and Desserts will be provided.

Please join us at the Bremen VFW 2791 Hall at

17147 Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park, IL for a fun afternoon.

For advance tickets and further details, please contact Gloria Stotts at 708-532-4653 or Eva Reyes at 708-819-0385. Parking is available at the VFW Hall, also across the street from the VFW, and the lot East of the Subway Sandwich Shop parking lot. All proceeds go toward our Veterans and Military Family Programs!

Electronics, household hazardous waste collection

Beverly Morgan Park area residents can safely dispose of household electronic and hazardous household waste from 8:30 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, May1, by bringing items to

the Morgan Park United Methodist Church parking lot located at 110th Place and Longwood Drive. The event is organized by the Green Sanctuary Group of Beverly Unitarian Church.

The following electronic items will be accepted: computers, monitors, printers and all peripherals, cell phones, tablets and TVs no larger than 24 inches.

The following hazard-

ous household items will be accepted and must be properly sealed: mercury-florescent bulbs, antifreeze, used motor oil, gasoline, oil-based paints, paint thinner, spray paints, car batteries, rechargeable batteries, lawn chemicals, pesticides, solvents, drain cleaners, pool chemicals, hobby chemicals, mercury thermometers.

Eyeglasses and clean Sty-

rofoam also will be accepted for reuse or recycling.

The following items will NOT be accepted: alkaline batteries, appliances, bio-hazardous products, telephones and peripherals, standard cleaning products, Freon, incandescent bulbs, boom boxes, stereo equipment, televisions larger than 24 inches, water-based paints (including latex and acrylic paints).

Hickory Hills community blood drive

A blood drive will be held Sunday, April 11, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the main room of the Hickory Hills Community Center, 7800 W. 89th Place.

For more information or

to schedule a donation call: 877-258-4825 or visit us at: vitalant.org and use Group Code C112

Appointments are required. Masks are required.

Advertise in our April 20 Issue, for Health & Senior Care, Banks & Finances. Call 708-425-1910.

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Clean-Up Week is April 17-24

From Saturday, April 17, through Saturday, April 24, you and/or your group can join other residents and businesses, along with Mokena's Community Affairs Commission and elected officials and staff, in picking

up trash in one or more litter "hot spots" around town.

Trees will also be planted in selected locations on the 24th as part of this environmentally conscious week.

Call (708) 479-3900 to sign up and for more info.

Oak Forest Yard Waste Pick-Up Starts in April

Beginning April, yard waste can be placed curbside on your scheduled garbage day. Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, branches, etc. (no dirt or rock).

Branches should be cut into 3- to 4-foot lengths and be no wider than 6 inches in diameter. Read more about yard waste disposal at mydisposal.com.

Place yard waste in brown paper yard waste bags, reasonable-sized bundles tied

with twine or string, or a HDS yard waste blue cart. If you don't have one, you can rent the large 95-gallon wheeled yard waste carts from HDS. Visit <http://mydisposal.com/cart-form-oak-forest> for all cart requests or call 708-798-1004. There is a discount for seniors 65 and older.

"Yard waste only" stickers are only needed when your regular 35-gallon garbage cart is used only for yard waste. Stickers are available at the Clerk's Office in City Hall. There is a limit of two stickers per household.

FYI: It is illegal to dispose of yard waste with regular garbage in the state of Illinois

Residents Reminded to be Aware of Scam Tactics

With Spring approaching, residents are being advised to be on the lookout for scam artists posing as contractors. Be aware of people who:

Solicit door to door. Professionals do not do this.

Claim to be working in your neighborhood and noticed that you need repairs.

Offer a free inspection which always turns up with a major repair.

Tell you that you need to act right away.

Tell you that they have left over materials from

another job that you could use.

Want to be paid in cash. Do not provide a detailed contract.

Ask for a large down payment.

Make sure that anyone doing work for you is registered with the Village and has pulled all necessary permits. The Building Department is here to help protect you from these unscrupulous individuals. Call us at (708) 671-3730 to verify if a contractor is registered with the Village of Palos Park.

Spring cleaning? Consider the "new to you" rummage sale

"Out with the Old." It's time to clean out your closets and basements and the Auxiliary would love to have your rummage to help support our organization!!

Our Annual (all new) 'NEW TO YOU' Rummage Sale will be held the last week of April. A perfect way to clean house and feel good about it! Keep us in mind this year! We would LOVE to re-purpose your stuff!

Your Tax-Deductible donations accepted include, but are not limited to: (IN GOOD CONDITION) Household items, small appliances, tools, decorative items, books, cd's, electronics (*NO* tube TV's please), furniture, clean and undamaged clothing etc.

Drop off your donations Monday, April 19th, and Tuesday, April 20th, from noon until Post closes; or we can arrange for a pickup of your rummage if you can't get out and about!

Tell your friends and neighbors to save their stuff too!! Please help us make this the most successful fundraiser yet!

New to you sale is open to the public on thursday 9am to 7pm and friday 9am to 3pm. Friday is \$5.00 Bag day!!

Hope to see you at Marris-Meyer Aux #991 at 11001 S. Depot St., Worth, IL

And, once again I need to remind you that our Great Post is a strictly VOLUNTEER organization! If you can help out on any day during the week of April 19, just stop by and say, "I WANT TO HELP"! Volunteers needed to sort and price donations, set up the hall for the sale and work the sale... Help needed every day that week!! We thank you for your support!

Contact Vicki Walsh for more information. call/text 708-606-1526 or email vickster1727@yahoo.com.

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Does Your Project Need A Permit?

With warmer weather in the offing, you may have begun thinking about starting projects around the house. As you contemplate which project to start, remember that Mokena requires you to obtain a building permit for many types of home improvement projects. There are essentially two

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Margo Lynn Lullo; beloved wife of George; loving mother of George Lullo, Denise (George) Chakinis, Jeffrey Lullo, Tony (Gail) Lullo, and Dean (Cindy) Lullo; cherished Grandmother of George, Gianna, Nicholas, Michael, Margo, A.J., Vincent, Joey, Olivia, Dean, Isabella, and Domi-

types of building permits, those that do not require a fee and those that do.

Building permits that do not require a fee include those issued for roof replacement, replacement of a hot water heater or water softener, replacement of a window with a similar sized window, and replacement of home siding. Building permits that do require a fee include those issued for home additions, garages, sheds, fences, flat work, pools, plumbing, and electrical

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nic. Visitation and Funeral Mass at St. Bernadette Church 9343 S. Francisco, Evergreen Park. Interment Holy Sepulcher Cemetery 708-499-3223 or Kosary-FuneralHome.com

repairs/upgrades. Projects falling into these categories require inspection by Village staff, and a nominal fee is assessed for the inspection(s) to ensure that your work complies with current building codes.

Did you know that when you apply for a building permit from the Village, you can see if your contractor is properly registered in Mokena? While registration in and of itself is no guarantee of the quality of a particular con-

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tractor's work, it does help protect you against those that may be operating in our area fraudulently or in an otherwise unscrupulous manner.

Need to apply for a building permit now? Call (708) 479-3900 or stop by the Community Development Department at the Mokena Village Hall between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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Off Reg. Off Lrg.

combination subs. #1-5 & #26



Wednesday

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Thursday

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Friday

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Adreannia Robinson
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Wednesday's



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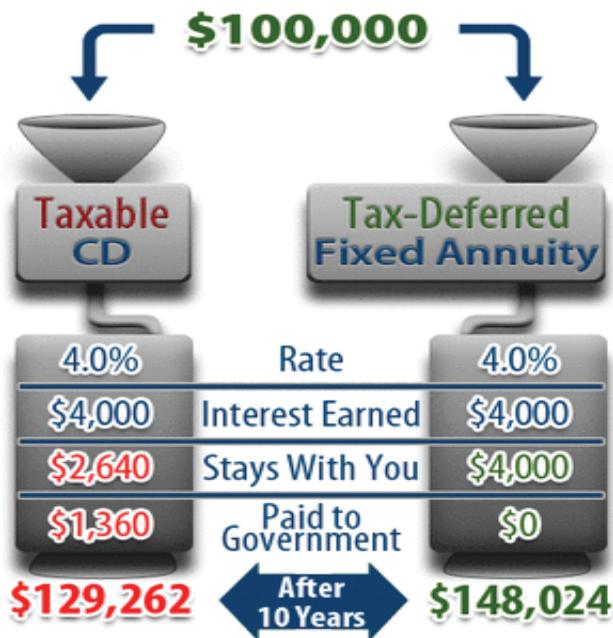
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Karen and Ron Dowling

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Rates Are Fixed And Guaranteed?	Yes	Yes
Interest Withdrawals?	Yes	Yes
Early Surrender Penalties?	Yes	Yes
Can Withdraw Principal During Term?	Yes	No
Account Can Be Stretched At Passing?	Yes	No
Grows Tax-Deferred?	Yes	No
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