



Proudly Serving
Chicagoland for 47 Years

Village View

We serve our
community with
good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 15 | Number 13 | July 6, 2021

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Nicole making big strides at Blue Cap

Nicole, who participates in Blue Cap's Life Enrichment, Employment and Residential Programs, has taken time to work on her goals and achieving personal outcomes at home and in the community. Since Nicole was last featured in Blue Cap's Stories of Ability back in 2019, she has overcome challenges and is thriving within her community and home. She was heavily involved in Special Olympics at that time, but has now taken on a new goal of community employment.



a janitorial company that offers efficient, high quality cleaning programs for the federal building in downtown Chicago. She is responsible for keeping offices and other public areas neat and organized. Her main

duties include sweeping, mopping and vacuuming floors, dusting countertops, ceilings and furniture and sanitizing bathrooms, kitchens and other public areas. Mike, Job Coach at Blue Cap, said "It is great to see Nicole getting involved in the community through the Employment Services Program. She has really excelled in achieving new goals."

Blue Cap is a nonprofit based in Blue Island that is dedicated to serving as a catalyst for children and adults with intellectual disabilities to be educated, have quality life experiences, be respected and be a valued



member of their community.

Visit blue-cap.org to learn more.

Fireworks rescheduled

Blue Island's annual waterfront celebration was moved to July 31st! Mark your calendar now! Enjoy the summer with music, food, and drinks, followed by a dazzling fireworks display over the waterfalls along the Cal Sag Channel. Cash-only vendors. Free parking!

The festivities start at 4 p.m., fireworks start at 9 p.m., at Waterfall Park/SEPA Station #3 at the corner of Irving Ave and Fulton St.

Crestwood police to host document shredding fundraiser

It's on. The date for this year's Shredding Event hosted by the Crestwood Police Department has been set for Saturday, July 10th, from 9:00am-12:00pm or until the trucks are filled to capacity. The shredding will take place at the Crestwood Police Department located at 13840 S. Cicero Ave.

All are welcome to bring their personal and business documents for shredding. This includes old tax returns, business records, bank statements, cancelled checks, credit card statements, bills, receipts, and any other documents. Unlike other shredding events, there is no limit on the amount of shredding you bring, and you do not have to be a Crestwood resident.

Shredding will be done for \$10 for the first box and \$5 for each additional

box. All shredding is done onsite, and you can watch as your documents pass through the truck-mounted shredder provided by Beaver Shredding.

Identity theft is the nation's fastest growing crime, according to FBI statistics. Nearly 9 million Americans have their identity stolen each year. In fact, you or someone you know may have experienced some form of identity theft. Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personally identifying information — like your name, Social Security number or credit card number — without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes.

There is no easier way to protect yourself from identity theft while simultaneously helping us to raise money for the Special Olympics!



Blue Island Neighborhood Walking Tour: The Architecture of Robert Seyfarth

Learn about the life and career of Blue Island-born architect Robert Seyfarth, followed by a walking tour featuring nearly a dozen of his designs. The program begins at the Historical Society's Albee House, with a slideshow and presentation on Sey-

farth's life and career.

Following the presentation, our official Historian, Ken Jellema, will lead the group on a walking tour of the surrounding neighborhood, stopping at some of Seyfarth's most iconic works to speak about the history, signifi-

cance, and architectural details of each home.

The event is Saturday, July 10, 1 p.m. Tour begins at the Albee House, 13018 Maple Ave.

Cost is \$15 per person for BIHS members; \$20 per person for non-members.

Notice of Public Hearing

The Village of Alsip has scheduled a Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m. July 19 in the Council Chambers at Village Hall, 4500 W 123rd Street, to discuss the proposed Appropriation Ordinance for formally prepared Appropriation Budget.

Documentation will be accessible for viewing in the City Clerk's Office and online at villageofalsip.org.

Pre-K health screenings

Children in the Midlothian School District can get free screenings for vision, hearing, speech/language, and motor and social-emotional skills from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 28 and 29.

Screenings at Central Park School, 3621 W 151st St., are by appointment only. Call 708-385-4546.



Proudly Serving
Chicagoland for 47 Years

Village View

We serve our
community with
good news!

FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 19 | Number 13 | July 6, 2021

Mokena, Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Oak Forest Asks You to Conserve Water

Water conservation is required for suburban communities using water from Lake Michigan. These rules apply regardless of rainfall trends and are intended to keep Great Lakes water sustainable to serve the millions of residents that rely upon this natural resource.

Why We Conserve Water: The city's water restrictions could be more accurately called water conservation measures. In 1967, there was a Supreme Court decision declaring that any state using Lake Michigan water was required to pass water restrictions to limit the amount of water removed from Lake Michigan.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources in-

stituted guidelines that state that, at a minimum, any town that uses Lake Michigan water must limit the time allowed for water sprinkling between May 15 and September 15. That is why watering restrictions are imposed 7:00 am - 11:00 am and 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm on odd/even days according to your address.

If the last digit in your street address is odd (1, 3, 5, 7, 9) then you may sprinkle only on odd numbered calendar days. If the last digit in your address is even (2, 4, 6, 8, 0) then you are restricted to sprinkling on even numbered calendar days.

There are more stringent restrictions if drought conditions occur

or the Oak Lawn distribution center has mechanical problems. The Public Works Department will continue to notify residents if and when any of these situations occur. We are extremely lucky to have such a bountiful natural resource at our disposal but Lake Michigan is not an endless supply. Please help conserve our natural resources.

What Can You Do to Save Water?

- Check inside faucets for leaks. Even a faucet with a small drip can waste a lot of water.
- Keep showers to five minutes or less in length.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or washing your hands.
- Keep a pitcher of water



in the refrigerator. Then you won't have to run tap water to cool it.

- Use dishwashers and clothes washers for full loads only.
- Use a broom to sweep your driveway, garage or sidewalk instead of using water.
- Use a bucket of water to wash your bike or car. Rinse it quickly with the hose.

• Be careful to water the lawn, not the sidewalk or street.

- Water your lawn at night or in the early morning to avoid evaporation.
- Check outside hoses, faucets and automatic sprinklers for leaks.
- Use water only when you need it. Always turn it off when you are finished.
- Install and maintain a rain barrel.

Christmas In July Vendor & Craft Show

Hosted by the Tinley Park's VFW Post 2791 Auxiliary, this event will take place Sunday, July 25th, from 11am-3pm. Admission is free.

We invite you to come and browse through all the wonderful and creative tables that we will have there for you to check out and purchase something for yourself or your home or maybe even a gift.

If you get a little hungry or thirsty while you're there we will have food and drinks available for you to purchase.

We look forward to seeing you there at 17147 Oak Park Ave.

EIDL funds available for small businesses

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is offering the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) to small businesses and non-profit organizations that are suffering substantial economic injury as a result of COVID-19.

These loans may be used for debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can't be paid because of the disaster's impact, and that are not already covered by a Paycheck Protection Pro-

gram loan.

The interest rate is 3.75% for small businesses and 2.75% for nonprofits. The first payment is deferred for one year. The deadline to apply has been extended to Dec. 31, 2021. The SBA has also extended deferment periods for all disaster loans (including EIDL) until 2022.

For more information and the application, visit sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-re-

[sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-re-](https://sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-re-lief-options/eidl/covid-19-eidl)

lief-options/eidl/covid-19-eidl

Small Business Tax Credit Programs: Did you know that the American Rescue Plan extends a number of critical tax benefits, particularly the Employee Retention Credit and Paid Leave Credit, to small businesses? Visit the U.S. Department of the Treasury website for more information.

Virtual Mentoring and Training: Small Business Development Centers,



Women's Business Centers, Veterans Business Outreach Centers and other resource partners are providing free business mentoring and training by phone, email and video. Visit the SBA website to find a local partner near you.

Longtime Tinley Park treasurer to retire June 30

On June 30, the Village said goodbye to longtime Treasurer/Finance Director Brad Bettenhausen, who retired. Brad has been the Village Treasurer since 1984 and is a lifelong resident of Tinley Park.

"Brad has been an invaluable resource for many departments and countless employees through the years," Village Manager Dave Niemeyer said. "The Village has thrived under his financial leadership, and you'd be hard pressed to find someone who knows more about Tinley Park than he does."

Brad is the 15th Village Treasurer in the community's history, following in the



footsteps of his ancestral relative, Christian Andres Sr., who served in the same position from 1892 to 1908.

Brad is the third generation of his immediate family to have served Tinley Park in an official capacity. His grandfather, Henry J. Bettenhausen, served as a Village Trustee in two separate terms, and his father, Robert Bettenhausen, served as Fire Chief and Village Fire Marshal, with combined service longer than any other person in the history of the Tinley Park Fire Department.

Mokena Village Board Adopts Budget for Fiscal Year 2022

Your Mokena Village Board recently adopted the Village's fiscal year 2022 budget. Action came at the Board's June 28 meeting following a public hearing and budget presentation by Village Administrator John

Tomasoski.

The budget includes overall revenues of \$30.7 million and expenditures of \$37.6 million, with the gap between revenues and expenditures attributable to the anticipated expen-

diture in fiscal year 2022 of capital outlay monies escrowed in past years for necessary and planned upgrades to the Village's wastewater treatment plant.

The budget further allo-

cates monies for key infrastructure improvements, provides funding for an additional police sergeant, patrol officer, and parttime evidence clerk, and dedicates cash towards a new public safety facility.



Proudly Serving
ChicagoLand for 47 Years

Village View

We serve our
community with
good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 22 | Number 13 | July 6, 2021

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

Newman urges Biden administration to expand access to legal counsel for migrant children

U.S. Representatives Marie Newman (D-IL-03), Ann McLane Kuster (D-NH-02) and Norma Torres (D-CA-35) led members of Congress in a letter to U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra urging them to expand access to legal counsel for unaccompanied migrant children.

In the letter, the lawmakers call for the newly reinvigorated White House Legal Aid Roundtable (LAIR) and Department of Justice

(DOJ) access-to-justice programs to include expanding representation for unaccompanied migrant children as one of their central priorities.

“Without legal representation, it is nearly impossible for unaccompanied children to navigate the U.S. immigration system,” said the lawmakers in the letter. “To ensure we advance access to representation and justice for all, including the most vulnerable, we respectfully urge the administration to expand representation for unaccompanied

migrant children as one of LAIR and the DOJ’s access-to-justice function’s central priorities.”

Under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (TVPRA), the federal government must ensure all unaccompanied children have counsel to represent them in legal proceedings to the greatest extent practicable. However, recent data has shown that more than half of unaccompanied children lack representation. To further promote counsel for all

unaccompanied children, the lawmakers are urging the Biden administration to make full representation for this vulnerable population a priority for LAIR and the DOJ to include multiple recommendations in its access-to-justice plan to aim for full representation for unaccompanied children in all immigration proceedings.

In the letter, the lawmakers call on the administration to not only assign a high-ranking HHS official that has purview over children’s legal services to the

White House Legal Aid Interagency Roundtable, but to also improve transparency through annual reporting on the number of unaccompanied children in immigration proceedings. Additionally, the lawmakers urge the DOJ to promote child-friendly court rooms that permit child advocates to assist children, and engage with child welfare experts to develop child-friendly adjudication practices that consider the child’s mental health during what can be a traumatic experience.

The letter is also signed by U.S. Representatives: Nanette Diaz Barragán, Donald S. Beyer Jr., Suzanne Bonamici, Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D., Joaquin Castro, Suzan DelBene, Mark DeSaulnier, Adriano Espaillat, Jesús G. “Chuy” García, Raúl M. Grijalva, Jahana Hayes, Pramila Jayapal, Mondaire Jones, Derek Kilmer, James P. McGovern, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Mark Pocan, Linda T. Sánchez, Kim Schrier, M.D., Rep. Greg Stanton, Dina Titus, and Juan Vargas.

Classic Car Show in Palos Heights

See the largest gathering of Classic Cars in the area from 5-9 p.m. Thursday, July 15. View hundreds of classic cars from the 1920’s through the 1980’s all on display on both sides of Harlem Avenue, between 122nd Street through 125th Street.

Enjoy food from local merchants, beverages for the kids, and ice-cold beer from the local bars and restaurants. Live music and a disk jockey will be playing all of the classic hits throughout the evening!



This year’s car show will feature a Split-the-Pot Raffle, Tickets \$5 each

On-site registration donation is \$10. No pre-registration. First come, first parked.

Participating cars should have a model year of 1990 or older.

For more information about displaying your car or the event, please email Bob Starzyk at 56buick@att.net. Email him also if you are interested in sponsoring the event, would like to have a sponsorship packet sent to you, or you would like to volunteer.

Public Works Chipper resumes action in August

There is not a chipping week in July. The next Chipper Truck will start August 2 at the east side of the Palos Park and will continue west until all the public streets have been serviced.

Please do not place branches at the street until the weekend before August 2nd. Once the chipper services your street it will not return until the next chipping date.

Landscape companies hired to remove trees or trim bushes should also remove the cut branches. The Chipper Service is for homeowners cutting their own trees and bushes.

Moraine Valley kicking off Summer Series

The theater is back! The Moraine Valley Community College Fine and Performing Arts Center (FPAC) is returning in-person performances starting with its Summer Series on Aug. 1.

Broadway Women, Featuring Joan Curto, Sunday, Aug. 1, 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. — Joan Curto highlights women who wrote songs for Broadway as well as the women who made them famous on stage. Featuring songs from classic shows: “Mame,” “Hello Dolly,” “Chicago,” “Funny Girl,” “Beautiful,” “Waitress” and more.

Laughing Matters: The Life and Laughs of Carol Burnett, Featuring Hilary Ann Feldman, Wednesday, Aug. 4, 3 and 7 p.m. — Join cabaret artist Hilary Ann Feldman, along with pianist/comic foil Beckie Menzie, as they guide a tour of Carol Burnett’s life and laughs and bring back some of her most memorable characters.

Broadway Baritones, Featuring David Edelfelt, Sunday, Aug. 8, 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. — David Edelfelt brings the best of the last 100 years of songs from leading men of the Great White Way. He will go from Kern and Porter, Rodgers and Hammerstein, and Lerner and Loewe, to Maltby and Shire, and Stephen Sondheim.

Rags to Rhinestones: The Life and Music of Dolly Parton, Featuring Marianne Murphy Orland, Wednesday, Aug. 11, 3 and 7 p.m. — Marianne Murphy Orland brings the life, stories and music of national treasure and country music icon Dolly Parton. Murphy Orland’s port wine voice and special brand of storytelling and humor will bring Dolly’s beloved songs to life.

Good Humor Men, Saturday, Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m. — Three of America’s funniest stand-up comedians (with numerous appearances on “The Tonight Show,” “The

Late Show,” “Conan” and “The Daily Show”) join forces to showcase their original brand of humor in an evening packed with punch lines, clever writing and hair-trigger laughs.

The FPAC has taken many measures to ensure the safety of the audience, performers and staff. All attendees must wear a face mask; all performances will be held in the Dorothy Menker Theater; there will be a cap of 50 people in the audience; all attendees must submit a health screening via the Campus Clear app before entering the building; no intermission; and the theater will be cleaned and sanitized one hour before each performance.

Tickets are available for in-person (\$35) or livestreaming (\$15) performances, and will go on sale starting Tuesday, July 6, for online purchase only at morainevalley.edu/fpac. For questions, email Box-Office@morainevalley.edu or call (708) 974-5500.



Proudly Serving
Chicagoland for 47 Years

Village View

We serve our
community with
good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 48 | Number 1 | July 6, 2021

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

Hurley Highlights Extensions for Drivers License and ID Card Expirations

State Rep. Fran Hurley, D-Chicago, is informing residents of new expiration date extensions for Illinois drivers licenses and ID cards announced by the Secretary of State's Office.

"Due to Illinois entering into Phase 5 and returning

to 'normal,' we are seeing an increase of residents going to the DMV," said Hurley "With social distancing guidelines still being enforced, many facilities may experience longer lines and longer waiting times. By extending the expira-

tion deadline, hopefully less people will be waiting in the heat outside."

The expiration deadline will increase from Aug. 1, 2021, to Jan. 1 2022. The Secretary of State was able to extend these deadlines due to legislation, backed

by Hurley, that gave the Secretary of State's Office authority to do so. The Secretary of State's Office still urges residents to use on-line services when possible instead of waiting in line at an office. Residents can renew car stickers, among

other things, at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

"As the state learns how to handle an increase of new requests in all state departments, I am happy to see deadlines are being extended so residents are not disadvantaged from a

high volume of requests," continued Hurley. "I encourage everyone use the Secretary of State's website to handle any business possible online and to help plan a visit to an office, if needed."

Kosary Funeral Home honors the military on Flag Day

On June 14, 2021, in honor of Flag Day, Evergreen Park American Legion Post #854 presented to Kosary Funeral Home, U.S. Flags representing each branch of the United States military.

These are the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Marine Corp., the United States Air Force, and the United States Coast Guard.

Receiving the flags for Kosary Funeral Home was Linda K. Kosary Owner / Director and wife of the late Walter E. Kosary and Elizabeth Kosary Graca Director and daughter of Walter. This plan was put



into action by Post #854 past Commander John Weinberger two years ago. Commander Weinberger followed the Post's procedures to secure funding to purchase the Flags, poles, and stands, which can be used at funerals and wakes of veterans.

In addition, this was to

honor the decades of commitment to veterans by the late Walter E. Kosary, who proudly served during WWII, in the United States Navy as a Petty Officer, Third Class, Pharmacists Mate.

Kosary Funeral Home has served for decades as a final place of honor and

tribute for U.S. Veterans, who called Evergreen Park, Chicago, surrounding suburbs and communities home.

The Flags were presented in a ceremony performed by the Post #854 Color Guard, under the direction of present Commander Gary Brockman.

Party to honor James Sexton

Please join us for a retirement party honoring former Evergreen Park Mayor James Sexton from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, July 21. The party is at the 115 Bourbon Street entertainment complex, 3359 W. 115th St., Merrionette Park.

Please join us in celebrating 40 years of dedication and commitment to the people of Evergreen Park.

Tickets are \$40 at the



door, no need to make reservations or RSVP. Includes drinks, appetizers and live entertainment.

Hickory Hills Park District Is Offering Preschool

The Hickory Hills Park District has openings in the Little Learners Preschool classes: Five days a week (M-F) \$1,760.00 for year, three days a week (M/W/F) \$980.00 for year, and two days a week (T/TH) \$805.00 for year

Classes start in September and run thru May 2022. Class times are 8:45

a.m.-11:45 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

The office is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for registration. To register, your child's birth certificate and immunization records are required. Children and staff are currently required to wear a face mask when social distance is not possible.

Preschool & Kindergarten Before & After Care: Is your child enrolled in half day preschool or kindergarten, and you need somewhere for them to go the rest of the day? You can sign them up for before or after care program. Before Care runs 8:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. \$82 Resident; \$87 Non-Resident per

week. After Care 12:00 P.m. - 4:15 p.m. \$103 Resident; \$108 Non-Resident per week. Children and staff are currently required to wear face mask when social distance is not possible.

For more information, please call (708) 598-1233 or visit www.hhparkdistrict.org.

Evergreen Park Chamber wants to introduce you to golf

Don't Miss the Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce's Next Intro to Golf lesson, featuring expert instruction from Tom Ollenburger, who heads up our summer golf outing.

Join other Chamber members for this fun and informative after-hours event, on Wed., July 21, at 6:00 pm. Chamber members get discounted tickets!

Visit evergreenparkchamber.org/event/intro-to-golf-2 for more information and to reserve a slot.



to-golf-2 for more information and to reserve a slot.

Closing Gender, Racial Labor Market Gaps Can Boost GDP

A new dashboard from the Federal Reserve simulates unrealized economic gains for every US state and Washington D.C., resulting from racial and gender gaps in the labor market.

Dashboard visitors can select a specific state to simulate the GDP gains by eliminating labor market gaps by race, gender, or both. Incremental gains are also displayed for earnings, hours worked, employment-to-population levels, and educational attainment. The simulation is based on 15 years of data spanning 2005-19 and estimates are in 2019 dollars.

"We wanted to dig deeper into how a more equitable labor market would impact state economies. Every place has unique demographics, and the ways disparities play out are just as varied," says Bina Shrimali, community development research manager at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

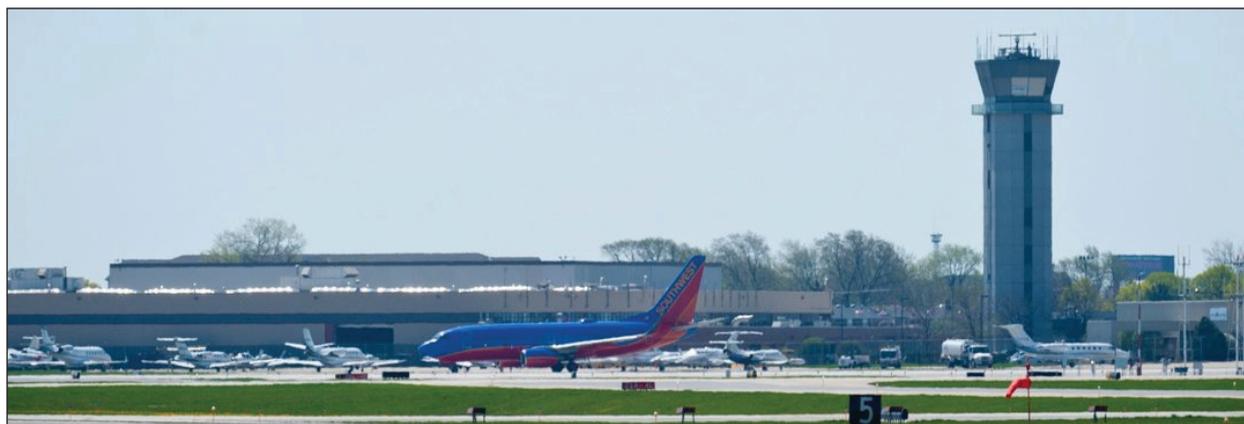
For each state, the simulation helps community organizations, community investors and policymakers understand where: women and people of color face the

largest labor market gaps, closing gaps would produce significant GDP gains, programs and policies currently are producing equitable workforce outcomes, and new pathways and solutions are needed to help everyone thrive.

"The biggest takeaway from this work is that closing racial and gender gaps in the labor market is not a zero-sum game. Our simulation shows the potential to grow state GDP by millions to billions of dollars annually. Economic impact would extend well beyond those who would no longer face these types of disparities," says Shrimali.

Community development researchers, analysts and outreach specialists from the U.S. central bank produced the simulation, available at Fed Communities. The group adapted methodology from a recent Federal Reserve working paper, which estimated that disparities in the labor market cost \$2.6 trillion in lost GDP nationally in 2019.

Detailed methods and downloadable source data are available at fedcommunities.org.



CBP Advises International Passengers to Prepare as Peak Summer Air Travel Returns to Chicago's Airports

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced the implementation of proactive measures in anticipation of an expected three-fold growth in passenger volume for the 2021 summer season at Chicago O'Hare (ORD) and Midway International Airports (MDW).

CBP expects the passenger count to reach 18,000 a day, compared with 4,500 a day in the summer of 2020, an increase of more than 300 percent.

The expected reemergence of international travel is the result of the current vaccination levels, and subsequent lifting of local COVID-19 restrictions which will bring more international tourists as local attractions re-open.

"CBP is proactively mitigating any potential impact in wait times by maximizing our available resources," said LaFonda Sutton-Burke, CBP Director of Field Operations in Chicago. "In order to improve the traveler's

experience this summer, we are realigning personnel during the peak hours and will be constantly adjusting those resources based on passenger demand."

CBP at ORD and MDW will combine available resources to staff primary inspections during peak times, while maximizing the use of biometric technology to create a more seamless, secure, and safer travel experience to expedite passenger processing. CBP will also work closely

with industry partners and stakeholders on passenger flow efficiencies and will keep the traveling public informed about how to avoid unnecessary delays.

"We are advising travelers to be prepared for a high volume of passenger traffic," said Shane Campbell, Area Port Director-Chicago. "Just downloading the CBP Mobile Passport Control App (MPC) on their smartphones would allow travelers to skip long lines by using MPC dedicated lanes."

Illinois Tollway awards \$12M in June for construction contracts

The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors has approved six construction contracts totaling nearly \$12 million at its June Board meeting, including five contracts awarded as part of the agency's efforts to support small businesses.

To date, more than \$8.8 billion has been invested by the Illinois Tollway since the Move Illinois Program began in 2012, with more than \$2 billion of that total committed to small, diverse and veteran-owned firms. In addition, the capital program has created or sustained an estimated 95,950 total jobs as of May 2021.

"Our agency has taken the challenge to heart to increase economic opportunities for small and emerging construction firms by finding ways to give them an opportunity to compete," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director

José Alvarez. "Right-sizing contracts offers small firms the opportunity to step up from subcontracting and supports the ultimate goal of building capacity and opportunities for growth."

The Illinois Tollway is intended to increase opportunities for small construction companies to participate on Tollway construction contracts. The program puts small businesses in a position to succeed and grow by identifying select construction contracts, generally with values of approximately \$5 million or less, specifically for small businesses to perform as prime contractors.

Construction contracts awarded include:

A \$6.2 million contract to Lorig Construction Company, Des Plaines, IL, for construction of a new pedestrian bridge across the Central Tri-State Toll-

way (I-294) between Hinsdale and Western Springs near 47th Street.

A \$2.1 million contract to Western Remac Inc., Woodridge, IL, for toll plaza improvements at seven locations along the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294) and Edens Spur Tollway (I-94).

A \$1.5 million contract to Marking Specialists, Buffalo Grove, IL, for system-wide pavement marking.

A \$1.1 million contract to Lion Construction, Mokena, IL, for pavement repairs on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) at Illinois Route 53.

A \$770,805 contract to Foundation Mechanics, Des Plaines, IL, for access road from the new Aurora (M-8) Maintenance Facility to the eastbound Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88).

A \$283,395 contract to Meru Corp., Niles, IL, for installation of right-of-way

fencing along the Illinois Route 390 Tollway between Illinois Route 83 and York Road.

The approved contracts include four prime contractors and 10 subcontractors that are certified as disadvantaged, minority- and women-owned business enterprise (D/M/WBE) firms and four subcontractors that are certified veteran-owned firms. Commitments for D/M/WBE participation range from 20.41 percent to 39.5 percent per contract and commitments for veteran participation range from 3.06 percent to 3.37 percent per contract.

Construction contracts for Illinois Tollway projects are competitively bid under the rules of the Illinois Procurement Code. All contracts are presented to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors for review and approval.

Proud member of following 2021 Chambers

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

Village View Publication, Inc.

708-425-1910

Fax: 708-221-6663

vnnew@sbcglobal.net

www.vvnew.com

Like us on Facebook!

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 vnnew@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.

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/>

Survey Shows Nursing Homes Are Struggling

The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living, representing more than 14,000 nursing homes, assisted living communities, and other long term care facilities across the country, announced the release of a recent survey of providers across the U.S. Results from the survey showcase the urgent need to address the economic crisis facing the profession.

Key findings include:

Only a quarter of nursing homes and assisted living communities are confident they can last a year or more.

More than half of nursing homes and nearly half of assisted living communities say their organization is operating at a loss.

Nearly half of nursing homes and assisted living communities have had to make cuts in 2021.

The top three costs facilities have incurred due to COVID-19, regardless of whether they have had cases or not, are additional pay for staff, hiring additional staff, and personal protective equipment (PPE).

In 2021, 84 percent of nursing homes said they are losing revenue due to fewer post-acute patients coming from the hospital.

Ninety-two percent of nursing homes and 62 percent of assisted living facilities said the Provider Relief Fund helped during COVID.

Over half of nursing homes and more than one-third of assisted living com-

munities say that Medicaid fee-for-service is problematic in covering the actual cost to provide care to residents.

“Even though COVID cases in long term care are at historic lows, providers are struggling to recover from the economic crisis the pandemic has induced. Too many facilities are operating under shoestring budgets simply because policymakers have failed to dedicate the proper resources, and this can have devastating consequences,” said Mark Parkinson, president and CEO of AHCA/NCAL.

Read the executive summary at ahcancal.org/News-and-Communications/Fact-Sheets/Fact-Sheets/Financial-Survey-June-2021.pdf

5 Situations When You May Want to Pause Retirement Savings

Being financially healthy throughout your journey to retirement is just as important as being financially healthy once you retire.

For that reason and inspired by a recent U.S. News and World Report article,¹ let's explore a few situations when it may make sense for you to stop saving for retirement — temporarily, of course.

This information is especially relevant for some people during the pandemic, but these ideas really apply anytime, whether the economy is up or down. And, to make it abundantly clear, these are all temporary situations that may make sense to pause retirement savings.

1. To rebound from a health crisis. During a health crisis it may be beneficial, or perhaps even essential, to pause saving for retirement. If you get slapped with medical expenses that your insurance company doesn't cover, those bills have to be paid out of your own pocket. And it's safe to say that it doesn't take long for healthcare bills to add up. If you have an ongoing relationship with a financial services professional, they're going to be a go-to should you have a health crisis. They'll be equipped to help you find ways to cover those dreaded out-of-pocket expenses without jeopardizing your future. If you aren't working with a financial services professional, you may want to consider it.

2. To get rid of credit card debt. If you're currently saddled with credit card debt large enough that you can't pay it off each month, it may be a wise move to take a break from saving for retirement so that you can get rid of your credit card debt once and for all. As the article notes, the interest you're paying on your credit cards may very well wipe out the gains you're enjoying in your retirement strategy.¹ That means getting your credit cards under control will have financial payoffs beyond just reducing your monthly expenses. Consider this: If you have a credit card balance with an interest rate of 17% and your retirement accounts are earning 8%, you've obviously got a gap that you'll want to address as quickly as possible.

3. To cover unexpected unemployment. Losing your job is a terrifying prospect and if you find yourself in that position, you're entitled to take the necessary steps to get through it. If you or your spouse is temporarily out of a job, you can use the money you were dedicating to retirement to cover household expenses. Then, when your employment situation stabilizes, you can get right back to socking money away for retirement.

4. To save to buy a home. Using the money you were dedicating to retirement to save up a larger down payment or to cover closing costs may be an appropriate financial move that could help you build equity faster in a long-term asset — your home.

5. To build an emergency fund. Having enough cash saved to cover unforeseen expenses is critical and many experts recommend having enough money to cover your expenses for six months to a year.¹ A great thing about pausing for an emergency fund is that it has a clear endpoint. If you need to save \$8,000, you know how to get there, and once you hit that number, you can pivot right back to bulking up your retirement savings.

Your financial health on your journey to and through retirement is important. Contact a financial services professional if you'd like some suggestions on ways you can stay financially healthy.

¹ <https://money.usnews.com/money/retirement/401ks/articles/times-to-stop-saving-for-retirement>

Advisory services are offered by Chancellor Financial Services, Inc a Registered Investment Advisor in the State of IL. Insurance services offered through Dowling Consulting Services, Inc. dba Dowling Legacy & Retirement, an affiliated company. Neither Chancellor Financial Services, Inc., nor Dowling Legacy & Retirement, are affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any government agency.

NOW LEASING

GRACE POINT PLACE

AN ANTHEM MEMORY CARE COMMUNITY

5701 W. 101ST, Oak Lawn, IL | 708-290-3255

www.gracepointplace.com

Innovative Alzheimer's & Dementia Care

We are 100% dedicated to caring for those with Alzheimer's and dementia. We provide personalized care in a secure environment with a focus on social engagement and supported by state-of-the-art technology.



ALVERNIA MANOR

Senior Living ♥ Adult Day Services ♥ Short Term Stay



What can our family do for your family?

13950 Main St. Lemont, IL
630.257.7721 alverniamanor.org

Home Care For A Loved One

Comfort Keepers® provides the kind of in-home care services that help people maintain full and independent lives, all in the comfort and familiar surroundings of their own home. We would be happy to arrange a free in-home visit to help you learn more.





7225 W. 105th St., Suite #1
Palos Hills, IL
708-598-1900

- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Medication Reminders
- ♥ Mobility Assistance
- ♥ Transferring and Positioning
- ♥ Incontinence Care
- ♥ Transportation - to Doctors etc
- ♥ 24 hour care available
- ♥ Emergency Response System
- ♥ Cooking ♥ Life Housework
- ♥ Errands ♥ Shopping
- ♥ Laundry ♥ Grooming
- ♥ Bathing ♥ Dressing help








Over 700 independently owned and operated offices

WWW.COMFORTKEEPERS.COM



ANIMAL KRACKERS PET CENTER

Local Family Owned and Operated since 1998

Premium Dog and Cat food,
Refrigerated and Frozen Dog and Cat food.
Salt & fresh fish including cichlids,
small animals, birds, reptiles and a large
selection of supplies for all your pets

3309 W. 115th Street | Merrionette Park

708-389-7248

Monday - Friday 9:30-8:30 | Saturday 9:30-6 | Sunday 10-5

www.AnimalKrackers.com



Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Steve Decker and Edward Izzi

IA Literati to shine spotlight on local writers, debut play

IA Literati 2021, Casa Italia's 17th annual celebration of local Italian-American authors, will run from 9 a.m.-noon on July 10 in the newly renovated Italian American Community Room (the former Chandler Room) in the Community Center.

The event will begin with a meet-and-greet with the authors, followed by presentations. Additional activities include book sales, book signings and raffles, and the event will end with a light lunch.

Several new authors, including LaRue Agresti, Albert Melone and Ronald Rufo, will take part in the event along with veteran literati Edward Izzi, Mary Matury-Gibson, Steve Decker and Arthur Cola.

The keynote speaker will be poet, artist and professor Maria Mazziotti Gillan. Mazziotti Gillan is a Bartle professor and professor emerita of English and creative writing at Binghamton University-SUNY as well as editor of the Paterson Literary Review.

"As Italian Americans, we need to save our stories,

or we will lose our heritage. Our IA Literati writers are in the forefront of that effort and deserve our full support," says Dominic Candeloro, Italian Cultural Center curator and event founder.

There is no fee for this event, but free-will donations are encouraged and reservations are required.

Afterward, Casa Italia will be presenting a live performance of the short play "Seatonville."

The play dramatizes the journey of Caterina and Antonio from Northern Italy to the coal fields of western Illinois and how one day changed their lives forever. The work centers around the Cherry mine disaster of 1909, which still stands as the worst mine fire in U.S. history.

The play will be directed by its author, Terry Quilico. The players are Frank Di Piero, C.J. Martello, Jeanette Risatti Viehman and Anna Weiss.

For more information or to make reservations, call 708-345-5933, visit casaitaliachicago.org or email casaitalialibrary-aaweiss@yahoo.com.

Chicago Philharmonic announces '21-'22 season

Terell Johnson, the incoming Executive Director of Chicago Philharmonic, proudly announces Chicago Philharmonic's 32nd Season titled "Rejoice!" as it marks the orchestra's long-awaited return to live performances.

The Chicago Philharmonic's 2021-22 season is conducted by Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Scott Speck, named 2021 Conductor of the Year by Illinois Council of Orchestras, and features three World Premieres by composers Nicholas Hubbell

and Chicago Philharmonic Composers-in-Residence Jonathan Bingham and Reinaldo Moya, plus the Midwest Premiere of Pulitzer Prize and three-time Grammy-winner Jennifer Higdon's mandolin concerto performed by classical music superstar Avi Avital.

"There are many reasons for us to rejoice!" said Johnson, who officially began his new position as Executive Director on July 1. "I am so proud to be moving to Chicago to join the prestigious Chicago Philharmonic, an organization

deeply committed to transforming diverse audiences with the beauty and power of great artistry. This forthcoming season, we promise a triumphant return and look forward to welcoming audiences back to some of our beloved venues, including North Shore Center for the Performing Arts and Harris Theater for Music and Dance."

Single tickets and subscriptions for the 32nd Season begin at \$25 (students \$10) and go on sale Monday, July 19 at 12:00 pm at chicagophilharmonic.org.



Evergreen Park Public Library is hosting an Autism- and Disability-Friendly Reader's Theatre for teens and young adults, Saturday, July 17, at 3 pm in the outdoor tent.

Under the direction of Oak Lawn Community High School Theatre Coach Mike Olsson, attendees choose a role to play in *The Powerpuff Girls: Homecoming*. After a 40-minute rehearsal, the program concludes with a performance for family and friends.

"The library is excited to debut this program and aims to provide more recreational opportunities for teens and young adults with disabilities," said Youth Services Assistant Mary Black.

To learn more about this program or to volunteer, contact Mary Black at blackm@evergreenparklibrary.org.

If you would like to be part of this production, register online at evergreenparklibrary.org or call 708.422.8522.

Broadway in Chicago awaits your return Oct. 5

Broadway In Chicago is thrilled to announce the much-anticipated reopening of its theatres on October 5.

The shows include two pre-Broadways, "Paradise Square" and "The Devil Wears Prada"; four direct-from-Broadway productions, Disney's "Frozen," "What the Constitution Means to Me," "Come From Away" and "Moulin Rouge!

The Musical"; and the national launch of "Six."

You can also catch "Rent: 25th Anniversary Farewell Tour," "Alton Brown Live: Beyond the Eats," "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical," "Leslie Odom, Jr. The Christmas Tour," "Pretty Woman: The Musical," "The Simon & Garfunkel Story" the Lincoln Center Theater production of Lerner & Loewe's "My Fair

Lady" and "Jesus Christ Superstar."

All Broadway In Chicago schedules and productions will continue to be reviewed as further guidance and recommendations are provided by the CDC, Illinois State and Chicago Departments of Health.

For the latest health and safety procedures and guidelines visit BroadwayInChicago.com/COVID19.

Siskel Film Center to stream local filmmaker's new doc

Oak Park filmmaker Seth McClellan's ("Little Wound's Warriors") new documentary about Tibetan refugee children in the Indian Himalayas, "Others Before Self," will stream exclusively in the Gene Siskel Film Center's virtual cinema through Thursday, August 5.

"Others Before Self" is an hour-long portrait of Tibetan Children's Village, a boarding school started by the Dalai Lama for refugees from Tibet and their children. Through candid interviews and stunning footage of the young people and the community they share with their teachers and elders, the film engages with the Tibetan religious beliefs and traditions taught at the school and



how they inform the students' worldview. The film spotlights how the students are keeping Tibetan culture alive after China's annexation of their country.

A tenured instructor of mass communication at Triton College and resident of Oak Park, McClellan says, "This new film is something of a follow-up to my last documentary, LITTLE WOUND'S WARRIORS, that profiled young people on a Native reservation in South Dakota. I'm really interested in and trying to raise awareness about how kids un-

derstand and engage with their larger political and social context, particularly kids in traumatized populations. Both films try to engage with what happens to communities when the invaders, the USA or China in these cases, forbid the practice of the more vulnerable cultures' traditions. How does that impact the people and particularly children? Both films are about young people trying to keep their cultures alive in reaction to colonization and genocide."

Visit siskelfilmcenter.org/others-self.

Activating Freedom

The Chicago History Museum exhibition *Facing Freedom in America* spotlights eight moments in our nation's past when Americans struggled over the meaning of freedom.

The exhibition and its companion website use images, artifacts, and media to explore familiar and not-so-familiar stories from U.S. history. From the Civil War to women's suffrage, from Japanese Internment to the founding of the United Farm Workers union, *Facing Freedom in America* examines some of the ways Americans have struggled to define freedom for themselves.

Learn more at facing-freedom.org.

Swamped Illinois parents happy for kids to spend more time online

Forty percent of parents have changed their outlook towards spending more time online to a more positive one since the pandemic.

More than half admit lockdowns would have been harder without their kids having access to online games.

Fifty-five percent of parents say they've bonded more with their children since the start of the pandemic.

Just like the rest of us, kids' screen time has skyrocketed since the pandemic; and while it's surely been a major win for young ones during lockdown, it's more likely that parents are benefitting more from the digital distraction... While in pre-pandemic times, parents would often limit screentime and encourage their kids to spend more time outdoors, it appears spending time online, such as gaming, has brought with it invaluable breathing room for parents who continue to work from home, in which they attempt to do their jobs while running a household.

Solitaired.com ran a poll of 3,000 parents, revealing that parents in Illinois are

allowing their kids to spend over 40% more time online now, as compared to before the pandemic.

When it comes to online gaming, almost half admit they've changed their attitudes towards it since the start of the pandemic, and are seeing it as a positive addition to their kids' lives, rather than something that's an unhealthy obsession. Of course, it's important to balance screen time with activities like exercise and getting outdoors. For many kids who have had to do these activities alone over the past year due to lockdowns, online gaming has often been their main social connection to the outside world.

When asked what benefits parents think are provided by online gaming, 9% agreed that it's a boost to their kids' reading skills. Another 9% agree that it's good for visual-spatial skills, 38% said it assists

with problem-solving skills; provides social connections with similar interests (16%); boost to creativity (16%) and an optimistic 13% feel it could turn into a career.

Over half of parents (56%) admit that lockdowns would have been harder without their kids having access to online games. But that aside, it's nice to hear that 55% of parents say they've bonded more with their children since the start of the pandemic. Indeed, through the course of history, parents have often struggled to relate to teenagers. And spending more time with them over the past year, it would be assumed they would at the very least pick up some words and phrases on how they communicate with friends, particularly when it comes to online. Apparently not, according to the survey. When quizzed on online slang and gaming lingo, they per-

formed particularly poorly. Just 31% of Illinois parents were able to understand the meaning of words like 'Lit' [amazing, cool or exciting], 'Dope' [cool or awesome], 'Thirsty' [trying to get attention], 'Snatched' [looking good, perfect or fashionable] or 'Shook' [to be shocked or shaken up] — although higher the national average of 27%.

Solitaired.com has created an online quiz so that you can test your own familiarity with online gaming vocab.

'It's something that would have been totally unexpected in pre-pandemic times: parents now view online games in an overwhelmingly positive way' says Neal Taparia from Solitaired.com. 'Rather than have to drag kids away from laptops and consoles, they now appear to recognize online gaming's overwhelmingly positive attributes.'

FLOW helps empower women

The FLOW (For Lives of Women) Foundation is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization and resource center for domestic violence awareness and prevention, whose purpose is to help save lives of women.

Our mission is to educate, empower and assist women and children of domestic violence, including emotional, economic, sexual, and physical abuse.

We assist with securing emergency and transitional housing, emotional support, and a diversified continuum of services focused on safety, empowerment, and self-sufficiency.

Through community partnerships, FLOW seeks to raise awareness, provide services, and educate community members about domestic violence, in efforts to reduce its effects.

The FLOW Foundation was founded in 2019, 12

years after the founder's own sister was shot and killed by an ex-boyfriend, in a murder-suicide. Kleo Barrett was a vibrant and loving 27 year old sister, daughter and friend to many, whose life was tragically cut short at the hands of a man who claimed to love her. She was an outstanding citizen of Chicago who loved to give back to her community and help others...

And that is what this organization intends to do — help others. Help others who have been victims of domestic violence; help family members who have lost loved ones to domestic violence; help others get out of violent relationships and help others become more aware of the warning signs and silent cries for help, and ultimately help prevent domestic violence!



VFW Johnson-Phelps Post 5220

Banquet Halls Available

Our halls are the perfect place to hold any event for any occasion

- Weddings • Bautizo • Quinceañera • Baptism • First Communion
- Showers • Meetings • Seminars • Birthday Parties
- Awards Ceremony • Charity Fundraisers
- Sweet 16 • Anniversary Parties • Class Reunions • Benefits

Accommodations for parties up to 180 people

9514 South 52nd Ave., Oak Lawn, IL
708-423-5220
www.oaklawnvfw.com vfwbanquets@att.net



Time to make plans and celebrate life!

Join *Sweet Reminder* for a fun afternoon with a delicious lunch and unique musical experience down memory lane that'll make your heart sing!

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
July 29 • Niko's Supper Club, 7509 S. Grant Hwy, Marengo, IL
(Outside in the beautiful Pavilion)

August 31 • Chandler's, 401 N. Roselle Rd., Schaumburg




VFW BREMEN POST #2791
17147 Oak Park Ave. Tinley Park II.
Serving Veterans for more than 75 yrs.
708-532-2333
www.vfw2791.org | vfw2791@yahoo.com
You can also find us on Facebook

New Canteen Hours Noon to Close Daily

Public Welcome for 2021

Cruise Nights every Tuesday weather permitting
thru August 31st, 5pm till dusk - Food, Drinks & Tee Shirts will be available in our Tents out front

"Christmas In July Craft Show" Sunday, July 25th, 11am-3pm
(Free Admission) Start Your Christmas Shopping Early

Tinley "Block Party"
Sun., July 18th Noon-6pm | Lot's of Food & Beverages Plus Great Music

Sock-Hop Dinner Dance Sat., Aug. 14th Tickets \$25 EA.
All Pre-sold. Tickets On Sale Tues. July 6th, Only 150 available!

Queen Of Hearts Weekly Drawing Every Wednesday
Now over \$11,000 - \$7 Dinners Available 4-7pm

ANDREWS SISTERS MUSICAL REVUE

Celebrate the toe-tappin' hits of America's Wartime Sweethearts, the legendary Andrews Sisters! With their upbeat songs, choreography, witty humor, and patriotic hearts, you'll experience why the music of these sisters helped unify the nation during the trying times of WWII.

Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree, Rum and Coca-Cola, Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen

November 9 • Pinecrest Golf Course, 11220 W. Algonquin Rd., Huntley



Sweet Reminders of Christmas

Cheerful sounds of the season!

Santa Baby, Suzy Snowflake, Sisters, Winter Wonderland
December 7 • Chandler's, 401 N. Roselle Rd., Schaumburg
December 10 • White Fence Farm, 1376 Joliet Rd., Romeoville
December 14 • Pinecrest Golf Course, 11220 W. Algonquin Rd., Huntley



Reservation price of \$41 or \$38 for parties of 15 or more.
INCLUDES ENTIRE EVENT - Delicious meal with all the fixin's, dessert, tax, tip and the Show! Lunch served at 11:30, Show to follow.

MUST CALL TO RESERVE SEATING: 630-375-9717
www.sweetreminder.net

Service Directory

BURGERS

Top Notch
Since 1942
BEEFBURGERS



Open for Carry Out
We Salute Special Olympics Chicago

2116 West 95 Street
773-445-7218

NOW OPEN
Monday-Saturday 8am-8pm • Closed Sunday

BUTCHER

Mon-Sat 9am-6pm
Sunday 9am-3pm

JACK & PAT'S
Old Fashioned Butcher Shop



10717 S. RIDGELAND AVE., CHICAGO RIDGE
708-636-3437
WWW.JACKANDPATS.COM

We carry a Full Line of: Imported Irish Grocery's, Homemade Soda Bread, John Diamond & Winston's Irish Sausage and some puddings

FUNERAL HOME



Kosary Funeral Home

9837 SOUTH KEDZIE AVENUE
EVERGREEN PARK, IL
(708) 499-3223
www.kosaryfuneralhome.com

Serving Your Family With Traditional
And Personal Attention

Cremation & Pre Need Services Available
Independently Owned

Linda Kosary
Director

REAL ESTATE ANALYSIS

FREE
MARKET ANALYSIS

What is your HOME worth in today's market?

Linda Dabbs-Griffin
RE/MAX "Hall of Fame"



708.912.0081
35+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

RE/MAX SYNERGY

ROOFING

State Licensed, Bonded & Fully Insured

HERITAGE
ROOFING

Free Roof Inspection
Senior Discount



New Roofs Tear-offs

708-253-2561
www.HeritageRoofers.net

PREFERRED CONTRACTOR

SPA

Express Med Spa, LLC
3537 W. 111th St., Mt. Greenwood
11 South White Street, Frankfort

1-877-E-MED-SPA
EXPRESSMEDSPAS.COM

Where Vintage Charm Meets Modern Day Beauty

FIRST RESPONDERS & THEIR SPOUSES:
FREE* BROW OR LIP WAXING

TREE SERVICE

Reasonable Discount!
Lowest Prices in Town



La Brothers Tree Service Inc.

Stump Removal - Tree Removal

Licensed and Bonded
Senior Citizen Discount
lbrotherstreeservice@gmail.com

773-239-3570
708-913-8968

TRUCK REPAIR

A-AUTO & TRUCK
11818 S. Cicero Ave., Alsip
(708) 385-2210 | aautotruck@comcast.net

We Specialize in Truck Repair!*

I.D.O.T. Testing Lane Facility
Diesel Emissions Testing



*Affiliated with IL Dept. of Transportation since 2008.
Focusing on inspections for Uber, Lyft, School Buses, Semitrucks, Ambulances & Village Owned Vehicles

Let's fix Medicare sign-ups

By Janet Trautwein

Each year, an obscure federal rule forces thousands of seniors to pay penalties for the rest of their lives simply because they made an honest mistake while signing up for Medicare. That number will rise unless Congress modernizes the program's enrollment process.

Seniors are twice as likely to be working today as in 1985. So more of them have to decide whether to sign up for Medicare when they become eligible at age 65 or keep their job-based health plan. Making the wrong decision can be costly.

Enrollment in Medicare Part A, which covers hospital care, is automatic and free for most people. But seniors must elect to join Parts B and D, which cover doctor's bills and prescription drugs, respectively.

Seniors can postpone signing up for Parts B and D until they stop working, at which point a special enrollment period begins.

But some of these people may be better suited to stay on their employer-sponsored plans temporarily under the terms of a 1985 law known as COBRA. The law allows people to remain enrolled in an employer-sponsored plan for up to 18 months after exiting a job, provided they pay the full premium.

Perhaps they've already met their deductible for the year. Or maybe they have a younger spouse still on their health plan. In each case, COBRA may be a better option.

Because their employer-sponsored coverage continues seamlessly, these seniors may believe they can continue to delay enrolling in Parts B and D. But that's not the case — and so the "COBRA trap" is sprung.

Medicare requires seniors to have "creditable coverage" if they choose not to enroll in the program. In other words, they must have health benefits that Medicare considers to be as good as or better than its

own. Employer-sponsored plans count as "creditable." COBRA generally does not.

That doesn't make sense. If an employer-sponsored plan is considered creditable, how can an extension of the exact same plan under COBRA not be?

The moment COBRA beneficiaries leave their jobs, they have eight months to sign up for Medicare Part B — and 63 days for Part D — under the terms of their special enrollment period. If they don't, then they may be locked out of Medicare when their COBRA coverage ends.

That can create quite the headache. Former COBRA beneficiaries have to secure alternate coverage to tide them over while they wait for Medicare's open enrollment period at the end of the year.

Then there are the penalties associated with late enrollment. Those who sign up late for Part B pay a 10 percent penalty for each full 12-month period they could've been enrolled. On average, these penalties add more than \$8,000 to a beneficiary's lifetime Part B premiums.

Seniors who fall into the COBRA trap are doing the same thing as their peers with employer-sponsored coverage. They're just being penalized thousands of dollars for it.

Fortunately, there's an easy fix. Last year, Congress passed the bipartisan BENES Act, which streamlines Medicare's enrollment process. But left on the cutting room floor was a provision that would have required the government to notify seniors before their 65th birthday of the enrollment rules and how Medicare interacts with other insurance coverage.

Congress could bring back this provision in a new bill. Even better, it could eliminate the COBRA trap altogether — by defining COBRA as creditable coverage for Medicare.

MWRD feted

The hard-working staff at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago has again earned national recognition for their work meeting all obstacles to treat the re-

gion's wastewater.

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies saluted the MWRD with six Platinum Peak Performance Awards for at least five consecutive years of meeting stringent permit guidelines at six MWRD water reclamation plants, including the Calumet WRP, which earned platinum honors for meeting full compliance for 29 consecutive years.

Other awards went to Lemont Water Reclamation Plant, Lemont, 24 years; James C. Kirie Water Rec-

lamation Plant, Des Plaines, 16 years; O'Brien Water Reclamation Plant, Skokie, 15 years; Hanover Park Water Reclamation Plant, Hanover Park, 13 years; and John E. Egan Water Reclamation Plant, Schaumburg, 7 years.

lamation Plant, Des Plaines, 16 years; O'Brien Water Reclamation Plant, Skokie, 15 years; Hanover Park Water Reclamation Plant, Hanover Park, 13 years; and John E. Egan Water Reclamation Plant, Schaumburg, 7 years.

Disclaimer: Village View Publications, Inc. is not responsible, and takes no responsibility for any unlawful action of our advertisers. Nor does it take any responsibility for unlawful harm to advertisers potential customers.

Asphalt

C & C Asphalt Paving Inc.
 Family Owned & Operated
 Business Since 1982
 Complete Residential & Commercial Service
 Your Complete Paving Contractor
 (708) 425-0410
 MEMBER BBB BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

Attorney at Law



TIME TO SPRING INTO ACTION!

Update Those Estate Planning Documents From 10 Or 20 Years Ago!

FREE Consultation for Seniors, Veterans & Disabled Clients in Office, Home or by Zoom

Call Attorney **Michael J. Maslanka (312) 641-2424**
 Attorney Over 36 Years
 A graduate of Brother Rice High School and St. Xavier University
 Professional Insured

Congrats, NIU spring grads

Over 2,400 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in June. Included among the graduates were the following from the South Suburbs:

Alsip
 • Britney Johnson, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Physical Therapy

Basement/Waterproofing

RELIABLE WATERPROOFING
 Foundation Cracks Repaired
 Sump Pumps Installed
 FREE Lifetime Guarantee
 Transformable to New Homeowner
708-479-8300

Bedding

Factory Discount Clearance Center
 Mattress \$88, Chest \$128
 Futon \$148, Recliner \$248,
 Bunk Beds, Day Beds \$178
 5 Pc Dint. Set \$188, Stools \$35
 2 Pc Sofa & Love Seat \$498
 Bedroom Sets \$399
 Adjustable Bed w/Mattress \$895
 EZ Fast Credit up to \$5,000
 Free Layaway
3844 W. 147th Street, Midlothian, IL
708-371-3737
 factorybeddingfurniture.com
 Like us on Facebook

Blue Island
 • Jasmine Diaz, Bachelor of Science, Communicative Disorders
 • Ambria Tatum, Bachelor of Science, Rehabilitation and Disability Services

Burbank
 • Edward Raff Jr, Master of Accounting Science, Accountancy
 • Anthony Shanklin, Master of Accounting Science, Accountancy
 • Valeria Valencia, Bachelor of Science, Human Development & Family Sciences: Family & Individual Development

Evergreen Park
 • Kiari Cooper, Bachelor of Science, Public Health - Gen Public Health
 • Destiny Ehteshami, Bachelor of Science, Health Sciences: General
 • Justin Johnson, Bachelor of Science in Educ, Middle Level Teaching and Learning

Justice
 • Dijaunna Brown, Bachelor of Arts, Communication - Organizational - Corporate
 • Izabella Gieron, Bachelor of Music, Music - Education
 • Izabella Gieron, Bachelor of Music, Music - Performance
 • Raheel Sultan, Master of Science, ISYE-Engineering Management

Midlothian
 • Margaret Bigelbach, Bachelor of Science, Operations & Information

Construction

TR Construction
 Fences Decks Siding
 Soffit & Fascia Gutters
 Windows Kitchen Bathrooms
 Licensed & Bonded Insured
 Call Tim
708-243-0198
 #07327109-19

Heating/Cooling

GREL Heating & Cooling
 grelheatingcooling.com
 Paul Guzy
708.228.7197
 Free Estimates 24 Hours
 pggrel02@gmail.com
 Licensed - Bonded - Insured

Management
 • Mackenzie Callahan, Bachelor of Science, Marketing
 • Madalynn Derro, Bachelor of Science, Industrial & Systems Engineering
 • Wayne Huffman III, Bachelor of Science, Engineering Technology-Manufacturing Engineering Technology
 • Skylar Riney, Bachelor of Science, Public Health - Health Administration

Oak Forest
 • CJ Lange, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Theatre Arts - Acting
 • Haley Tipping, Bachelor of Science, Rehabilitation and Disability Services
 • Kelly Vidovic, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
 • Haley Wilcox, Specialist in School Psychology, School Psychology

Oak Lawn
 • Julia Buchanan, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
 • Emily Cosgrove, Bachelor of Arts, Communication - Media Studies
 • Kristen DiPietro, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education with Preschool Special Educa-

Motorcycles Wanted

MOTORCYCLES WANTED
 All Make & Models
 Cash Paid - Reasonable
 Will Pick Up
630-660-0571

Painting

Chris Johnson Painting
 Insured
 Affordable Rates
 Free Estimates
773-709-2434

RUSTOLEUM
 STOPS RUST
Railings + Iron Painting
 We supply labor and materials
 Free Estimates
 Call or Text Jim **773-615-9795**

tion Approval
 • Konnor Parrish, Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering
 • Rachel Pierzynski, Bachelor of Science, Nursing
 • Julieann Schwarz, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education with Preschool Special Education Approval

Oak Lawn
 Jake Larson, Bachelor of Science, Health Sciences - Pre-Physical Therapy

Orland Hills
 • Arbi Molla, Bachelor of Science, Finance

Orland Park
 • Robert Apter, Bachelor of Science, Finance

Orland Park
 • Hanan El-Ahmad, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
 • John Kalcsits, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science - Politics and Governance
 • Nicole Lahey, Master of Arts, Communicative Disorders - Speech-Language Pathology
 • Danielle Lencioni, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Physical Therapy
 • Charles Maniatis Sr, Bachelor of Science, Management - Human Resource Management
 • Anthony Melchiori, Bachelor of General Studies, General Emphasis
 • Lea Powers, Bachelor of Science, Health Sciences: General
 • David Surowka, Bach-

Sewing

Custom Sewing by Joan
 All types of sewing
 Beat the cleaners' prices
708-256-0951

Truck Repair

A-AUTO & TRUCK
(708) 385-2210
 11818 S. Cicero Ave, Alsip, IL 60803
 We Do Inspections & Repairs on All Autos and Trucks!
 I.D.O.T. Testing Lane Facility
 Diesel Emission Truck Testing, All Testing Lane Facility for all Trucks, Uber & Lift, Rebuilt Cars, & Tow Trucks

elor of Science, Medical Laboratory Sciences
 • Malak Zayed, Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering

Palos Heights
 • Allison Morg, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Art Studio and Design - Art Studio

Palos Hills
 • Alyssa Guillermo, Bachelor of Science, Nursing
 • Dia Velasquez-Pescetto, Master of Arts in Teaching, Elementary Education

Tinley Park
 • Michael DeHaan, Bachelor of Science, Marketing

• David Fischer, Bachelor of Science, Engineering Technology-Industrial Management & Technology
 • Haley Galvin, Bachelor of Science, Journalism
 • Brenden Kaslewicz, Bachelor of Science, Marketing
 • Daniel Kazmierczak, Bachelor of Science, Marketing
 • Kyla Kelly, Bachelor of Science, Nursing
 • Stephani Kirby, Bachelor of Science, Nursing
 • Akhila Oommen, Bachelor of Science, Operations & Information Management
 • Ellie Renz, Master of Science in Education, Special Education - Advanced Special Education Practices
 • Sarah Rogers, Bachelor of Science, Hospitality and Tourism Management

Help Wanted

Help Wanted Roofers & Labors
 By the hour or by the job
773-503-8904

Help Wanted HANDYMAN
 \$15+ per hour
 Experience Preferred
708-289-8419

HELP WANTED
 Now Hiring Technician and Servicemen
708-439-4447

HELP WANTED
 Alvernia Manor Senior Living
 Dining Room Aid
 Activity Aid
 Part Time Cook
 House Keeper
 CNA'S all Shifts
 Registered Nurse
630-257-7721

Wanted

CLASSICS WANTED
 Restored or Unrestored Cars & Vintage Motorcycles
 Domestic / Import Cars: Mercedes, Porsche, Corvette, Ferrari's, Jaguars, Muscle Cars, Mustang & Mopars
 \$\$ Top \$\$ all makes, Etc. Collector James
630-201-8122

• Natalie Slobodnik, Bachelor of Science, Nutrition, Dietetics, and Wellness
 • Sabrina Sparacino, Master of Arts, Communicative Disorders - Speech-Language Pathology
 • Tyler Trull, Bachelor of Science, Communication - Media Studies
 • Jeffrey Keightley, Bachelor of Science, Marketing

Worth
 • Ariyana Thomas, Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology

SUMMER SPECIAL

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



New Giant Load Washer
FREE Soap, Bleach & Fabric Softener

Drop Off Laundry
We will Wash/Dry/Fold
your clothes for only **\$1.25**
lb.
(Debit/Credit)

**Fill your Soap Opera Drop-Off
Laundry Bag & we'll Wash-Dry-
Fold your clothes for \$10 OFF
the Current Laundry Bag Price**

**FREE
Wi-Fi
Access
3-32"
HDTV's**

Soap Opera

Laundromat

**9624 S. Roberts Road Hickory Hills, IL
708-599-5970 • 888-251-1860**

SoapOperaLaundromats.com

facebook.com/SoapOperaLaundromats

**Open
24 hrs.
7 days
a week***

*With our Laundry Loyalty access card

**\$1.99 Double Load
Washes**

Wednesdays

