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A Village on the Move

CRESTWOOD ADVISER

Mayor Receives 2014 Excellence in Government Award



Left to right: Andrea Ramirez-Justin, Vice President of Old Plank Trail Community Bank; Mayor Lou Presta; Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, President of Moraine Valley Community College; and Albert Lewis, Jr., Dean of Corporate, Community and Continuing Education.

Mayor Lou Presta was recently recognized by Moraine Valley Community College for his devotion to the Village of Crestwood. Mayor Presta received the Excellence in Government Award, one of the College's eight awards presented at the 19th Annual Business Champion Awards Dinner banquet on November 6th. About 100 people gathered to celebrate the hard work and success of a variety of exceptional community organizations and leaders at the Moraine Business and Conference Center. Mayor Presta was recognized for his dedication to transparency and building pride in the community through projects such as publicizing transcripts of every meeting held by elected officials, commissioning an outside firm to build the Village's first website, and hosting events like Battle in the Burbs.

Crestwood Recreation Commission - OSLAD Grant

Last month we mentioned the OSLAD Grant. The Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Program is a state-financed grant program through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources that provides funding assistance to local government agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space. Projects vary from small neighborhood parks or tot lots to large community parks and nature areas. The grant program is very competitive — there are many more requests from communities in Illinois than there are available funds. More information about the OSLAD Grant Program is available at <http://dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newoslad1.htm>. The Village of Crestwood will be applying for the OSLAD Grant in the spring of 2015. The Recreation Commission will spend the next several months putting together a long-range, multi-year comprehensive plan about the future of outdoor recreational facilities and activities in Crestwood. A big part of our objective is to include resident participation in helping to decide what should be included in that comprehensive plan. We encourage everyone to participate in the process.

On the back page is the first survey dealing specifically with the OSLAD Grant. The survey is also available on the village website and on SurveyMonkey.com. The survey is broken down into two sections: **(Continued on page 19)**

Town Hall Meeting: Crestwood ZIP Code

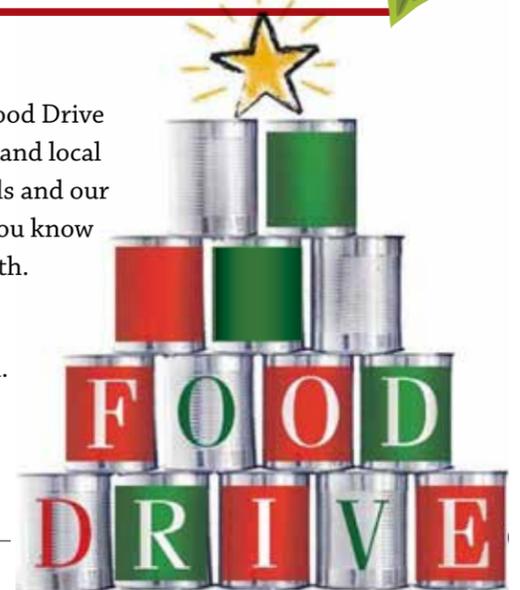
The meeting will be held on December 1st, 2014 at Nathan Hale Primary School, 5324 West 135th Street in Crestwood. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

Village of Crestwood Holiday Food Drive

The Village of Crestwood Holiday Food Drive is underway and will continue through December 19th. Our Village Food Drive aims to help residents in crisis in the Village. It has been successful for many years now. Donations from residents and local businesses have provided a delicious Christmas dinner for many who otherwise would not have one. Village officials and our Public Works Department deliver the food to families that have signed up for this drive the week of Christmas. If you know of a family in need, please contact the **Clerk's office at 371-4800**. We will be accepting names until December 15th.

Donations can be dropped off at the Clerk's office at the Village Hall located at 13840 S. Cicero Ave. Residents can donate non-perishable food items such as rice, peanut butter, jelly, soup, canned fruit or vegetables, juice and pasta. Please be aware of expiration dates on food.

We hope area residents and businesses will again help us to provide as many needy families as possible with a holiday meal. Your help is greatly appreciated!



Christmas Decorating Contest



Get in the holiday spirit! The lights are starting to be hung. Put your creativity to work and have some FUN! The Crestwood Recreation Board will be hosting its annual Christmas decorating contest, looking at houses December 14th - 20th. Residents can submit their home addresses to the Village until December 20th and we will make sure to give submitted addresses an extra look. Winners will be announced in the January issue of the *Crestwood Adviser*, and we will try to post the addresses on the Village website before Christmas. The winners will also receive award signs for their front yards. The cash prizes are: 1st Place Prize, \$300; 2nd Place Prize, \$200; and 3rd Place Prize, \$100.

There are many beautifully decorated homes in Crestwood, so choosing the top three is a difficult task. Take a drive through our village to see the decorated homes. Feel free to call the **Village Hall at (708) 371-4800** with your nominated homes. We hope this activity adds to your enjoyment of the holiday season.



Village Hall

13840 Cicero Avenue
Phone. 708.371.4800

Be sure to visit the Village website at:
www.Villageofcrestwoodil.gov

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The Crestwood Adviser is dedicated to presenting as much as it can about the Village of Crestwood so that the community can have the information it needs to strengthen and enrich the community of Crestwood.

Our goal is to report the news as fully, fairly and as accurately as possible. Your comments and suggestions are encouraged, by phone or in writing, whether or not you wish such letters to be published.

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info@crestwoodadviser.com

For advertising:
ads@crestwoodadviser.com



Village Meeting Schedule

Village Board Meetings - 8:00pm-10:00pm

Crestwood Civic Center | 14025 Kostner Ave | December 4th and 18th

Committee of the Whole - 7:00pm-9:00pm

Village Hall | 13840 S. Cicero Ave | November 2nd and 16th

Planning Commission – Zoning Board 8:00pm-10:00pm

Village Hall | 13840 S. Cicero Ave | December 8th and 22nd

Recreation Commission - 6:30pm-8:30pm

Village Hall | 13840 S. Cicero Ave | December 2nd and 16th

A Letter from the Mayor

Dear Crestwood Residents,

I am writing to ask you for your participation in a matter affecting everyone who lives and works in Crestwood. As you may know, for a number of years our village has corresponded with officials at the U.S. Postal Service in an attempt to secure a ZIP code exclusively for the Village of Crestwood. Sharing a ZIP code with other municipalities can place a burden on both residents and businesses. In the case of Crestwood, we feel that the current ZIP code we share may be resulting in inaccurate insurance premium rates for homes and autos. With our own ZIP code, we feel that these rates could be significantly lowered.

In addition, we also know that Midlothian, with whom we share our current ZIP code, imposes taxes upon utility bills, while Crestwood does not. Because utilities prepare bills based upon ZIP code data, utility companies have assessed our residents these taxes.

Besides such specific financial burdens, Crestwood residents also lose the benefit of proper assessment of property values and benefits derived from ZIP code-based census data used by companies and organizations to assign rates and risk. Many businesses use ZIP code data to develop marketing plans that may offer greater discounts and rewards to residents based upon data developed within a ZIP code and these same businesses collect ZIP code data that helps them make decisions about products they offer and expansions that may create jobs and opportunities for everyone in our village.

Since 2011, Trustee Theresa Flynn and I have been working with Congressman Rush to persuade the Post Office to assign Crestwood its own ZIP code. We have had several meetings with postal officials including a teleconference with the Postmaster General in Washington, D.C. As a result, the Post Office has agreed to consider our request and will send representatives to our village to meet with citizens in a **Town Hall Meeting to be held on December 1st, 2014 at Nathan Hale Primary School, 5324 West 135th Street, in Crestwood.** This meeting will begin at **7:00 pm** and Congressman Rush and your Village-elected officials will all be there to answer any questions you may have. It is important that citizens come to this meeting to express their desire-directly to postal officials and to see our village receive its own ZIP code.

Please join me for this important meeting that could significantly change, for the better, the lives of every citizen in Crestwood.

Sincerely,



Notice on Snow Removal

In preparation for the coming months, we would like to emphasize the fact that each resident needs to contain snow on their own property and not relocate it onto our village streets. This applies to all residential, commercial and industrial buildings. As a matter of fact, Crestwood's village code not only prohibits this, but will assess a fine if you are cited for this violation. Judging by the telephone calls that we receive each year, pushing and blowing snow on a recently cleaned street erases the work done by our public works department and is inconsiderate to your neighbors. Crestwood has over 26 miles of streets to plow and the workers cannot keep coming back because of some careless individuals. Consider this a second warning to those who don't comply and receive a ticket from our police department. Winter weather can be most difficult and we don't need to compound the problem. Make sure your vehicles are off of the street after a one-inch snowfall and, of course, do not blow or plow snow onto our thoroughfares.



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from Mayor Presta, the Board of Trustees, and Village Staff!

“May your walls know joy, may every room hold laughter, and every window open to great possibility.” - Mary Anne Radmacher

Village of Crestwood Toy Drive

The Village of Crestwood will once again begin to collect new toys to help out The Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation. In the past years, the Village has been successful in collecting new toys to deliver to many children through this organization’s generosity. Our toy drive will start December 1st, and end December 22nd. There will be a bin located inside the Village Hall where the toys can be dropped off. We encourage our residents and businesses to participate in any way they can. Your involvement is greatly appreciated. **ONLY NEW TOYS ARE ACCEPTED. NO STUFFED ANIMALS OF ANY KIND, PLEASE.**

The Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing comfort and distraction from painful procedures to children and teens that have been diagnosed with cancer, by providing gifts from a treasure chest. The Foundation supports more than 8,600 children each month who are diagnosed with cancer and treated at one of 45 hospitals nationwide. The Foundation depends on contributions of money, toys and gifts through private and corporate

Business License Renewals Due January 1st

Crestwood is the home of more than 450 businesses. One of the most important reasons to have a business license is to allow our police and fire departments to do their jobs properly in the event an emergency might occur at your business. Also, having your license on file with the Village ensures you a recommendation when potential purchasers of your goods and services inquire at the Village Hall if that particular type of business is located here. The Village will be able to recommend potential customers to you through our website, our paper or by word of mouth; we do field a lot of calls for businesses in our town. Each year all of the businesses are mailed renewal paperwork. This year we have simplified the renewal process by providing the businesses with current information on file and ask that you update the form with any changes to your business that have occurred within the past year. If for some reason yours was lost in the mail or misplaced, please call us for a duplicate copy or go online at www.villageofcrestwoodil.gov. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact **Rita at 708-371-4800 ext. 2004** or **Colleen at 708-371-4800 ext. 2005**.

2015 Vehicle Sticker Application Update

Crestwood vehicle stickers go on sale December 1st and must be displayed on your vehicle no later than February 28th, 2015. All vehicles registered in Crestwood are required to display a sticker; “display” being the key word because even though you may have purchased your vehicle sticker, if it is not on the windshield, you are subject to a fine. The village sticker fees have remained the same for the past 43 years. The Board and the Mayor have found it necessary to raise the fees to cover the costs of our village sticker. Senior citizens, individuals 65 years of age or older, must now pay \$5.00 for a vehicle sticker for 2015. For all other individuals driving passenger cars, the fee has increased to \$10.00. These tags help our police department spot cars that are not from Crestwood. Now they may just be visiting, but on the other hand, if they are up to no good, it helps keep our communities safe to check them out and proceed accordingly. Yes there is plenty of time, but you don’t want to procrastinate to the last minute or, worse yet, forget it and pay a ticket and a penalty for late fees.

**“Sweets for the Love of our Sweets”
Pancakes & Pictures with Santa**

 **Sunday, December 14, 2014**
8:00 am – 12:00 pm
The Biela Center
4545 Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood, IL

Proceeds going to
The Bikers Against Child Abuse
(N.W. Indiana Chapter) 

**Plus a Holiday Bake Sale, Children’s Crafts,
Face Painting and Split the Pot**

Breakfast
\$8.00 Adults
\$5.00 (2-11)
Breakfast includes
Pancakes, Sausage,
Milk & Coffee

5x7 Picture with Santa
\$10.00 Donation

Photographs provided by
AlishiaDanielle Photography
www.alishiadaniellephotography.com



A special thank you to Crestwood Mayor Lou Presta and the Village Trustees for donating the use of the Biela Center.

Breakfast sausage donated by Marquette Bank. Utensils and milk donated by Pop’s Beef in Palos Heights.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
Donna Gaetz at vikesgirl45@yahoo.com

Mayor Presta and McGinty Development Host Lunch for Seniors

Mayor Presta and Patrick and Sean McGinty greeted seniors at a free senior lunch at the Biela Center this November. A hearty boxed chicken lunch prepared by Crestwood’s Barraco’s filled the bellies of all who participated. While folks enjoyed the meal, the Mayor discussed with residents and visitors the welcoming environment, security and safety that comes with senior living in McGinty condos located on the Midlothian Turnpike. Both McGintys spoke regarding the quality construction and ease of layout for senior living and invited a look-see and a chance to speak with them regarding pricing and availability. The McGinty name carries the reputation of quality construction in generations of Irish builders and craftsmen. Many of the current residents of the condos turned out to share their support. Mayor Presta encourages those seeking simpler senior living quarters nestled in a community that provides excellent emergency response, fabulous dining, vast shopping experiences and medical care minutes off the Turnpike. The condos include central air conditioning, an intercom security system, prefinished custom oak cabinets, easy care no-wax flooring, gas range and dishwasher, insulated metal clad entry door with deadbolt, a glass lined automatic 40-gallon hot water heater, forced-air gas furnace and air conditioner, insulated glass aluminum-clad windows, and concrete patio/balcony. For more information, please call **McGinty Development at (708) 388-1188**.

Late penalties will be applied March 1st. Transfer from one like vehicle to another is \$5.00.

Recreational Vehicle (RV Plates) \$ 10.00 Late fee - \$10.00	TRUCKS
Motorcycle, Moped & Scooter \$ 5.00 Late fee - \$5.00	“B” Plate \$ 15.00 Late fee - \$ 10.00
School Bus Class A \$ 20.00 Late fee - \$ 10.00	“D-F” Plate \$ 20.00 Late fee - \$10.00
School Bus Class B \$ 30.00 Late fee - \$ 10.00	All other Plate classifications \$ 30.00 Late fee - \$10.00
	Passenger Cars \$ 10.00 Late fee - \$10.00
	Senior Citizens 65 & Older \$5.00 Late fee - \$5.00



2nd Annual “Tip A Cop” A Community Success

Crestwood police took a turn serving Crestwood in an unusual way on October 23rd, waiting on tables alongside Barraco’s Pizza servers in return for donations to Special Olympics Illinois. Donations and tips added up to more than \$2,000, and Barraco’s made a generous donation of \$567.

Amid the hustle and bustle of that Thursday evening, Special Olympics Illinois global messenger athletes Nick Lorenz and Carie Canser were all smiles. They both have enjoyed taking leadership roles in Special Olympics Illinois, through which they have become more self-assured.

Carie Canser, from Tinley Park, has been a Special Olympics ambassador for about 14 years and a part of Special Olympics for 20 years. “I like being a global messenger because it helps me communicate with other people and gives me confidence I didn’t have before,” she remarked. “When I started Special Olympics, I was always shy. Special Olympics helped me make some friends and build my confidence. Then one day I got asked to be a global messenger and they asked me to write and present my own speeches, which has helped me talk to other people.” Canser said she didn’t have the coordination to participate in sports, but she started out with volleyball, made friends, and then began trying other sports like basketball. “[I’ve done] so many sports it’s hard to keep track,” she added. “I just enjoy having opportunities to compete and enjoy tournaments with my friends.”

Nick Lorenz also starred at the event with his well-known effervescent personality. Lorenz said, “I love Special Olympics. I like the opening ceremonies at [the summer games at] Bloomington...I like doing half court shots,” he said. Though he said he loves to win, he also said, “I like seeing others win too.” He plays bocce, bowling, basketball, swimming, track, baseball and volleyball. Kris Owak, his adaptive physical education teacher at Elim Christian School, said, “He can serve like there’s no tomorrow.” Nick has been involved with Special Olympics for 11 years and became an ambassador in March.

Crestwood’s Detective Steven Gomboz was especially touched by the community’s outpouring of support. “It brings tears to my eyes to see everyone who comes together and participates,” he remarked. Gomboz’s son,



Crestwood Police waited tables to benefit Special Olympics Illinois

Nicholas, has participated in Special Olympics for more than 10 years. Nicholas, 20, plays basketball and track for Special Olympics and always comes out to support the Crestwood police at their “Polar Plunge” fundraiser for the organization.

Brianna Baylis, a Barraco’s server, and Crestwood police officer Nicole Passaglia teamed up for the night to serve the customers. Baylis said, “It’s been busy but a lot of fun. I really enjoy it.” Passaglia said this year was her first time doing the event. “My partner walks really fast so I have to try to keep up with her!”

Restaurant owner Vince Barraco said Crestwood’s Sergeant Chris Soderlund presented the idea to him last year. “It sounded like a great benefit,” Barraco said. “We wanted to expand out and get in touch more with customers...It looks like [this year] is another great success!”

“The cops were very easy to work with....so we definitely wanted to do it again,” he said. “Hopefully it’ll be even bigger next year!” Barraco’s covered all advertising costs for the event and made a donation of \$567, going even further beyond the generous act of opening their doors to the fundraiser.

As of November 12th, Crestwood’s police department is currently the third highest fundraiser among the Illinois law enforcement departments and agencies with a total of \$70,467.14 raised this year for Special Olympics Illinois.

Be Safe This Holiday, Keep the Wreaths Red

In its commitment to fire safety awareness, Crestwood’s fire department will conduct its annual “Keep the Wreath Red” campaign again this holiday season. “Keep the Wreath Red” emphasizes fire safety hazards that are especially present during the holidays. From the day after Thanksgiving until New Year’s Day, a wreath will be placed on Crestwood’s fire station. The wreath will be lit with red bulbs. If there is a fire related to the holidays, a white bulb will replace one of the red bulbs. Our goal is to keep all the bulbs red.

There are many things you can do to help keep the season safe.

TREE SAFETY

In 2007-2011, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 230 home structure fires that began with Christmas trees. Although these fires are uncommon, when they do occur, they are likely to be serious. On average, one of every 40 reported home structure Christmas tree fires resulted in a death, compared to one death per 142 total reported home structure fires. A major cause of Christmas tree structure fires is electrical failures or malfunctions, followed by a heat source being too close to the tree, and candles. The risk of fire is higher with natural trees than artificial trees. Trees that are kept moist are unlikely to catch fire unintentionally.

Tips for keeping trees safely include: choosing an artificial tree that the manufacturer has identified as fire retardant or a natural tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched; placing the tree at least three feet away from any heat source including lights and radiators; making sure the tree does not block an exit; and adding water daily to the tree stand. Get rid of the tree when it begins dropping needles, as dried-out trees are a fire danger. Find out more about recycling your Christmas tree at www.chicagorecycling.org/christmas.htm and www.pickyourownchristmastree.org/IllinoisTreeRecyclingDisposal.php.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both. Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini string sets and less than 50 bulbs for screw-

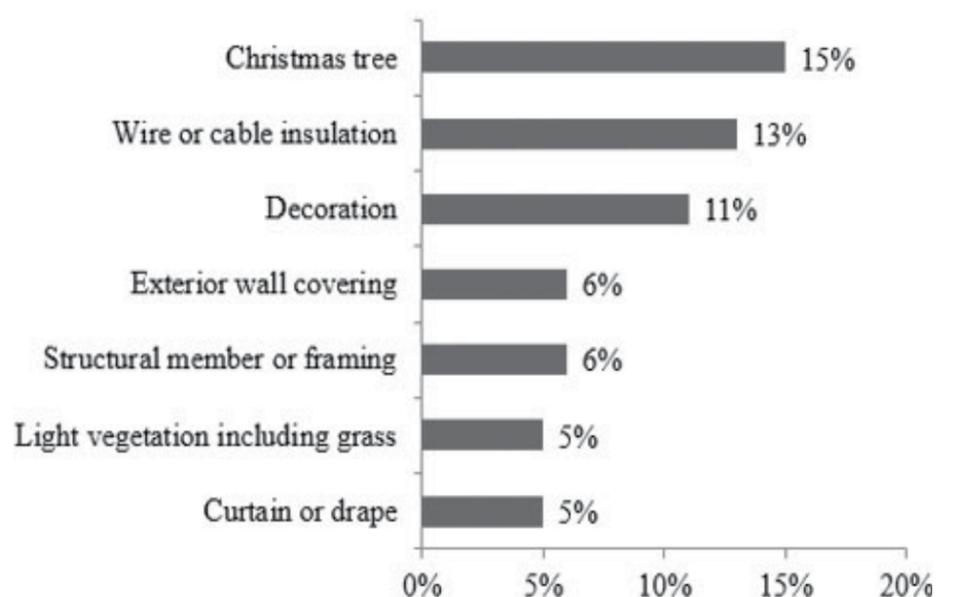
in bulbs. Read the manufacturer’s instructions for the number of LED strands to connect. Check electrical cords for cracks before using them. Never use lit candles to decorate the tree, and keep candles out of the reach of children. Always turn off all holiday lights before going to sleep or leaving your home. Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

IN GENERAL

When using a fireplace, make sure there is a fire screen in place, don’t close the damper until the fire is completely out, and burn only seasoned firewood. After any entertaining, check waste baskets and furniture for smoldering cigarettes. Make sure your home has at least one working smoke detector per floor and that everyone knows how to exit in case of an emergency, and make sure that all exits are kept clear.

For assistance with fire safety information, call **(708) 371-4805**. The National Fire Protection Association, www.nfpa.org, also provides a lot of useful information.

Leading Items First Ignited in Holiday Light Home Structure Fires



We Watch, We Call!

Mayor Presta and the Board of Trustees have heard the requests of many to report crimes in our Village. Working with our Police Department, a compiled snapshot of a month's reporting will be shown here in the Adviser. We look forward to capturing a more detailed overview for our website in the near future. Our intent is to inform the public in order to protect and be vigilant in calling upon our Police. The Mayor urges all to stay tuned-in to your neighbors' well-being and property. Call our police, report suspicious activity, be aware. (911 or Dispatch non-Emergency 708-385-5131).

Armed Robbery/Burglary

10-07-2014: A white male suspect wearing a gray hoodie displayed a knife and demanded a wallet from a couple in the 5500 block of 130th Street.

10-09-2014: Unknown suspects entered two apartments and took multiple pieces of jewelry in the 5700 block of 129th Street.

10-20-2014: Unknown suspects displayed a weapon on a pizza delivery driver and took \$211.00 in the 4900 block of 134th Place.

10-24-2014: A male suspect wearing a mask pulled out a knife and demanded money from a victim in the 5400 block of 129th Place. The victim started to scream for help and the suspect fled on foot.

10-24-2014: Unknown suspects entered a garage and took multiple items including a black leather women's biker vest from the 132nd block of Village Lane.

Stolen Vehicles

10-23-2014: Unknown suspects stole a 2005 red Ford truck from the 132nd block of Forest View Drive.

Warrant Service

10-01-2014: A male was arrested in the 131st block of Village Lane and arrested on a warrant from the Cook County Sheriff's police.

Deceptive Practice

10-08-2014: A resident reported that someone used his identity to file for unemployment benefits.

Thefts

10-03-2014: Unknown suspects stole 16 truck tires from the 139th block of Keeler.

10-05-2014: Unknown suspects broke the window on a vehicle and removed a DeWalt drill/driver combo pack from within the van.

10-09-2014: Unknown suspects entered a vehicle in the 139th block of Kostner and removed several tools.

10-11-2014: Unknown suspects entered an unlocked vehicle in the 131st block of East Playfield Drive and removed approximately \$4,000 dollars that was in the center compartment.

10-12-2014: Unknown suspects removed a catalytic converter from a 2004 Pontiac in the 5700 block of Park Place.

10-12-2014: Unknown suspects removed a catalytic converter from a 2004 Chevy Cavalier from the 127th block of Carriage Lane.

10-14-2014: Unknown subjects removed the lock from a work truck and took multiple tools from the 5700 block of 129th Street.

10-14-2014: Unknown suspects took the catalytic converter from a 2004 Pontiac Sunfire from the 127th block of Cal Sag Road.

10-14-2014: Unknown suspects damaged the lock and entered a van in the 5700 block of 128th Street and took numerous tools.

10-23-2014: Unknown suspects removed the catalytic converters from a 2000 Chevy Cavalier and a 2004 Pontiac Grand Am from the 141st block of Pulaski.

10-23-2014: Two white male suspects were observed on video surveillance removing an aluminum bench from the front of Becvar and Son Funeral Home.

10-23-2014: A suspect riding a bike was observed on surveillance video removing a purse from an unlocked vehicle at Kolmar School.

10-24-2014: Unknown suspects entered a vehicle and took a bottle containing approximately \$60.00 in coins.

10-24-2014: Unknown suspects entered a vehicle and took spare change in the 128th block of Terrace Lane.

10-24-2014: Unknown suspects removed the catalytic converters from three vehicles that were parked in the 141st block of Pulaski.

10-24-2014: Unknown suspects entered a vehicle in the 5400 block of 131st Street and removed a checkbook.

10-24-2014: Unknown suspects entered an unlocked vehicle in the 5300 block of Park Lane and took multiple items.

10-29-2014: Unknown suspects entered a vehicle and took multiple items in the 5000 block of Circle Drive.

Retail Thefts

10-02-2014: A male and a female were arrested at Kohl's for attempting to steal multiple items of clothing.

10-02-2014: A female was arrested at Ultra Foods for attempting to steal \$175.00 worth of merchandise.

10-04-2014: A male was arrested at Walmart for stealing \$198.00 in merchandise. Due to his extensive criminal history background, he was charged with felony retail theft.

10-11-2014: Two females were arrested at Kohl's. One for stealing \$700.82 in merchandise and the other for stealing \$580.00 worth of merchandise. Due to the value amount, they were both charged with felony retail theft.

10-18-2014: Two females were arrested at Walmart for attempting to steal multiple items of merchandise.

10-23-2014: A female was arrested at Kohl's for attempting to steal \$148.00 worth of clothing.

10-25-2014: A male was arrested at Menard's for attempting to steal \$149.00 worth of merchandise.

10-26-2014: A female was arrested at Menard's for attempting to steal \$125.00 worth of merchandise.

19 people were issued local ordinance citations for retail theft in October.

No License/Suspended Driver Arrest

10-01-2014: After being involved in a minor accident, a male was arrested for not having a valid driver's license.

10-02-2014: A male was arrested in the 4700 block of Cal Sag Road and issued citations for improper lane usage, driving under the influence of alcohol, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and resisting arrest.

10-04-2014: A male was arrested in the 140th block of Cicero and issued citations for speeding and driving without a valid license.

10-04-2014: A female was arrested and issued citations for improper lane usage and driving without a license in the 132nd block of Cicero.

10-09-2014: A female was arrested in the 135th block of Cicero and issued citations for expired registration, driving with a suspended license and operating an uninsured vehicle.

10-18-2014: A female was arrested in the 143rd block of Cicero and issued citations for improper lane usage and driving under the influence of alcohol.

10-31-2014: A female was arrested in the 134th block of Cicero and issued citations for suspended registration, driving on a suspended license and operating an uninsured vehicle.

Criminal Damage to Property

10-05-2014: Unknown suspects cut a propane gas line on a camper in the 130th block of East Playfield Drive.

10-07-2014: Unknown suspects damaged a window screen in the 136th block of Lamon.

10-18-2014: Unknown subjects damaged a window on a residence in the 5400 block of 137th Place.

10-18-2014: Unknown suspects removed all the flowers from a flowerbed in the 4900 block of 142nd Street.

10-18-2014: Unknown suspects damaged a vehicle in the 139th block of Cicero.

Crestwood's Captain Kevin McAuliffe Retires from Chicago Fire Department



Congratulations to Crestwood's Fire Captain Kevin McAuliffe on a well-earned retirement from serving 25 years as a paramedic for the Chicago Fire Department. McAuliffe, who has also served on the Crestwood Fire Department for the past 20 years, has enjoyed working in a variety of locations in Chicago. He served at stations located at 54th and Wabash, 53rd and Ashland, Armitage and Laramie, and Congress and Wells. Though he is retiring November 30th from the Chicago Fire Department at the age of 55, he hopes to continue with fire prevention efforts in Crestwood.



Kevin McAuliffe with his granddaughter Ava



5331 W. 135th Street
Crestwood, IL 60445
(708) 371-4810



YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE WINTER 2015 SEASON



VOLUNTEER COACHES ARE NEEDED

For more information, please call
Joe Sadowski, Director of Recreation
at (708) 371-4810

Boys and Girls Youth Basketball League (4 Years Old thru 2nd Grade)

Everybody plays, everybody wins in the Crestwood Recreation Basketball League. Smaller balls and lower goal height will be used to give the players an opportunity to make more shots and build self confidence. No score is kept for the younger division so there is no pressure to win, just to have fun. Players will learn passing, shooting, dribbling and game play through **3 practices** and **5 games** on Saturdays.

Teams are divided:

4 yrs - Kindergarten (boys and girls)

1st and 2nd Grade (boys and girls)

Days: Saturdays
(Between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm)

Dates: January 24—March 14

Fees: \$63 Residents / \$68 Non-Residents
(Includes a team shirt & a medal/trophy)

Code: 320013-A.....4 yrs - Kindergarten
320013-B.....1st and 2nd Grade

(Registration deadline—Sat, Dec 13)

Boys and Girls Youth Basketball League (3rd and 4th Grade)

Everybody plays, everybody wins in the Crestwood Recreation Basketball League. The 3rd and 4th grade division will play on regulation height rims and use a junior size ball. Score is kept on our electric scoreboard. Players will learn passing, shooting, dribbling and game play through **8 practices** and **5 games** on Saturdays. Four (4) practices will be scheduled during the week by the coach once games begin.

Days: Saturdays
(Between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm)

Dates: January 24—March 14

Fees: \$73 Residents / \$78 Non-Residents
(Includes a team shirt & a trophy)

Code: 320013-C....3rd and 4th Grade
(Registration deadline—Sat, Dec 13)

Register Now!

Registration Deadline
Saturday, December 13, 2014

**CRESTWOOD RECREATION AND
WELLNESS CENTER**

5331 W. 135th St, Crestwood, IL

708-371-4810

www.CrestwoodFitness.com

Searching for a Gift Idea?

It's that time of year again and you may be in a quandary attempting to find a proper present for someone. If it's clothes, it must be the right size; then it's the color and also what about the style? Children outgrow things almost as fast as they get them and you don't want to get them something that is no longer considered to be "in." When you finally arrive at an idea, you stop short by the thought that what you picked out is what you gave them last year.

What kind of a gift can we get for older adults who seemingly have everything that they need, and yet you still want to remember them? We have a way to get you off of the gift merry-go-round and can suggest something for people of all ages. Take a moment and think about what doctors say concerning regular exercise being the key to good health. Now can you think of a better gift to give someone which will not only benefit their health, but also be utilized throughout the year?

We are talking about a gift membership to the Crestwood Recreation and Wellness Center either for a family or an individual. It's one-stop shopping for

you and gives the recipient a number of activities to do. They can swim in the pool or take water aerobics. The fitness room is filled with the latest state-of-the-art equipment to tone every muscle in your body. Maybe you would rather walk or run the track or join a basketball or volleyball program. If you belong to the center now, you know what we are talking about, but if this is your first visit, check it out. It is a very clean, friendly environment with plenty of parking and really offers something for every age group and people of all sizes and shapes.

The slogan for the Crestwood Recreation and Wellness Center is, "To look good and feel better, join our wellness center." This idea also comes with an extra dividend for you - there's nothing to exchange because something doesn't fit when it is the wrong size or it has to go back because it's a duplicate present.

If you have any questions regarding gift memberships, you can contact the wellness center at **708-371-4810**. Better yet, stop there in person and examine all the amenities that they have to offer including a healthy one-size-fits-all gift.



Party Yourself Into Shape!
 The Latin-inspired, easy-to-follow, calorie burning, dance fitness party. Feel the music and let loose.

Classes are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



Try a Zumba Class –FREE!
A Latin inspired, Easy-to-follow, Calorie burning FREE Class!

**Monday, December 29th
 From 6:30 to 7:15 PM**



BOOT CAMP



Crestwood Rec & Wellness Center
 5331 W. 135th Street
 Crestwood, IL 60445
708-371-4810

Are you looking to take your workout to the next level?
 Try the No Limit Boot Camp. Get lean and increase your energy.

Classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Membership to the CRWC not required to attend Zumba® Fitness classes!

All classes taught by Lynn Kata, licensed Zumba Instructor and ACE certified Group Fitness & Health Coach

Classes are offered every Monday (low-impact class) Wednesday & Friday from 6:30 - 7:30 PM for an \$8.00 drop-in rate per class or purchase a punch card!

For more information, call us at **708-371-4810**, log on to www.CrestwoodFitness.com or www.facebook.com/CRWC1

More info @ www.facebook.com/lynnkatazumba

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Crestwood Rec Center's Lynn Kata Gets Cast As 'Chicago Fire' Extra

Lynn Kata, a Zumba instructor at the Crestwood Recreation and Wellness Center, brought her skills to the tv show *Chicago Fire*, which airs on NBC to millions of viewers. She and her daughter, Carolyn Kata, a former Zumba instructor, took a turn at learning the fitness-dance program from actor Joe Minoso, who plays Joe Cruz in the show. About 30 Zumba instructors participated in the "class," which took much longer than an average Zumba session — at about six hours — for a short scene in Episode 7, which aired on Tuesday, November 11th. The filming took place at the Mexican Art Museum in Pilsen on October 8th. "They were very nice people," Lynn said. "It's something you don't do every day." She guessed she may have been deemed a good fit for the scene because the photo she submitted for the casting call was of her leading a Zumba class at a Crestwood Fire Department blood drive. To learn more about Lynn Kata's Zumba, visit www.facebook.com/lynnkatazumba. Want to try to get on the show yourself? Visit www.facebook.com/ChicagoFireExtras.



About 30 of Chicago's Zumba instructors were included in episode 7 of *Chicago Fire*. In the bottom row at the very right are Carolyn Kata, left, and Lynn Kata, right.

A.P. Growth Continues at Shepard



Shepard High School teacher Julie Boone works with students as they analyze statistical economic data about the Chesapeake region for their Advanced Placement U.S. History assignment. Last year, 85% of Boone's students passed the A.P. exam to qualify for college credit.

Shepard High School history teacher Julie Boone must have felt a degree of confidence in her students. That's the only explanation for her introduction to the lesson. "This is going to challenge you," said Boone, who then laid out the day's work.

Working in teams, students would need to assess economic data for the Chesapeake region between 1640 and 1770. They would need to identify the reasons for the general prosperity of Maryland and Virginia during that era. The assignment, an embodiment of the critical thinking emphasis of modern education, emulated the kind of question students will find on the Advanced Placement U.S. History exam in May. Students do not know, but they're preparing with a teacher who understands the demands of the test. Last spring, 85 percent of Boone's students passed their exams to qualify for college credit. That success reflects a trend at Shepard in which students have increased the number of passed A.P. exams for six straight years.

For Boone's students, a year's worth of assignments, like this one, provide an edge when it comes time to take the A.P. exam in May. "How is it that we're going to tackle this challenge without referencing some textbook and have some answer that a historian has provided?" she

continued. "You'll have to think for yourself." Boone explained that they would need to evaluate economic change over time. "That brings us to the second tool, which is use of evidence. You have the evidence here and it's your job to make sense of it," she said.

Boone did not just toss the students into the deep end alone. Step by step, she led analysis of one of the data sets. "What is the change over time for this particular data set?" she asked and, as students answered, provided feedback. Further, as the teams worked, Boone visited each table to help them focus on the assignment's goals.

Boone's care and rapport with her students reflect what's happened with the entire Shepard faculty. Teachers have sold students on the idea of accepting the challenge of A.P. The number of A.P. tests taken by Shepard students has more than doubled in the last six years. Despite the vast increase in tests taken, the pass rate has remained about the same. That's unusual; increasing the number of exams taken by such a wide margin typically results in a significant drop in the pass rate.

Collage and Career Fair Draws Hundreds of Families

The College and Career Fair held on October 29th, sponsored by District 218, attracted hundreds of students and parents. With more than 100 college admissions representatives attending, the fair provided a great first step in finding the right school. The fair also featured representatives from vocational and technical schools, labor unions, and the military. Many professionals, including police officers, nurses, architects and others also participated to answer questions about their work.



U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Arlondo Sutton (left) and Sergeant Gerald Pittman talk with students at the District 218 College and Career Fair.



Amanda Hiltunen, Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions at DePaul University, talks with students and parents at the District 218 College and Career Fair.

Leo Club Cooks for Families at Ronald McDonald House

Leo Club students from Shepard High School volunteered in early November to prepare a full meal for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn.

Ronald McDonald House provides reduced cost lodging for families of sick children. Faculty sponsors Jennifer Klein and Erin Quinlan accompanied the Leo Club students. Leo Club, an organization that performs a variety of service activities, is the high school affiliate of Lions Club International.



Shepard High School students Stefanie Neylon (left) and Alison Kozicki prepare a meal for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House at Advocate Christ Medical Center.

Shepard High School Advertising Opportunity

Shepard High School is featuring a few local businesses on full color, static, back-lit advertising billboards surrounding the state-of-the-art NBA style score table inside the Shepard High School gymnasium. Three spots remain, and only one company per industry (such as medical offices, banks, or auto dealerships) will be able to participate. The sponsorships provide a long-term revenue stream for Shepard's athletic department as well as an opportunity for you to showcase your business in front of all their fans at gymnasium athletic events, including basketball, volleyball, and wrestling. Public address (PA) announcements can also be made for your business during breaks in sporting events, such as timeouts. Sponsorships are for a full three years. Please contact Matthew VanDemark of Side Effects, Inc. at (937) 704-9696, ext. 274 or toll-free at 866-890-8764, ext. 279 for more information. You may also email him at matthew@sideeffectsinc.com or visit sideeffectsinc.com. Spots are reserved on a first come, first served basis.

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ComEd Offers Bill Payment Help to Veterans and Active Military Personnel



As we celebrate Veterans Day, ComEd reminds customers, including veterans and active military personnel, of its financial assistance and bill payment programs available to customers who have fallen behind on payments and need help with their electric bills. More than \$1 million of the \$10 million in assistance ComEd dedicated this year is still available for distribution.

In addition, ComEd has funds dedicated exclusively for veterans and active military personnel. ComEd's CHAMP (ComEd Helps Activated/Veteran Military Personnel) program provides bill-payment assistance to deployed members of the military and veterans who reside within ComEd's Northern Illinois service area and demonstrate a need. CHAMP offers a package of benefits, including bill payment assistance of up to \$1,000 while funds are available, deferred payment plans, extended payment due dates, cancellation of late charges, deposit reduction/or refund and budget payment plans.

"We realize some customers, including veterans, fall on hard times and need assistance with paying their monthly electric bills," said Val Jensen, senior vice president of Customer Operations at ComEd. "As part of our customer commitment, we offer financial assistance and flexible payment plans to customers in need due to a number of reasons, including military deployment, job loss, illness, disability, and seniors on fixed incomes."

Additional financial programs offered through ComEd's CARE program include:

Residential Special Hardship Program – This initiative is intended to supplement established state-sponsored programs such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Eligible ComEd residential customers experiencing a hardship, and who are not Percentage of Income Payment Plan participants, can receive a grant of up to \$1,500 toward their electric bills. Grant amounts may vary.

Non-Profit Assistance Programs – ComEd extended this program to include all non-profit organizations, including faith-based organizations. This program provides a variable grant once every two years up to \$2,000 for 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that are experiencing a hardship.

ComEd works with state-sponsored local administering agencies to help customers receive funding from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Percentage of Income Payment Plan to assist customers in paying their electric bills.

Last year through its financial assistance programs, ComEd helped more than 28,000 customers who might have otherwise faced disconnection due to financial hardship. The utility is urging customers who are having trouble paying their electric bills to contact the utility as early as possible by calling **1-888-806-CARE (2273)** or visiting ComEd.Com/CARE for information on financial assistance or bill-payment assistance programs. To apply for the Residential Special Hardship grant or the state-sponsored assistance programs, customers should visit a local LIHEAP Agency. For more information, visit ComEd.com.

Crestwood's Alyssa Thompson Earns Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree salute



Crestwood residents Tim and Marion Thompson are proud to announce the graduation of their daughter, Alyssa Thompson, from Maryville University in St. Louis. Alyssa has earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree and will graduate with honors from the six-and-a-half-year program. She also has been on the Dean's List and played softball at Maryville University and Marist High School. Marion said Alyssa has always wanted to be a physical therapist to help people, and after graduation, she will embark on her dream career by joining ATI Physical Therapy in Oak Lawn. Congratulations, Alyssa!

WARM WISHES

holiday season

from all of us at



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INGALLS CARE CENTER IN CRESTWOOD: SO MUCH MORE THAN A DOCTOR'S OFFICE



Primary care on your schedule! The new Ingalls Care Center in Crestwood offers convenient, quality care from a comprehensive primary care team of physicians and advanced practice nurses. And check with your insurance plan—our services are often less expensive than care from a drugstore clinic.



Visit today and receive a digital thermometer just for stopping in!

The Ingalls Care Center in Crestwood features:

- ▶ Quick Care featuring walk-in or same-day appointments and extended hours, including weekends
- ▶ Primary Health providers that see adults and children, two years and older
- ▶ Lab, X-ray and Physical Therapy on-site
- ▶ Ingalls Occupational Health Program

Schedule appointments online at Ingalls.org/InQuicker. Walk-ins welcome.

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Quick Care

Hours:

Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.,
Saturday and Sunday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location:

4742 Cal Sag Rd. in Crestwood (Cicero & Cal Sag)

708.915.ASAP (2727)

GET UP & GET OUT!!!

Chicagoland has no shortage of holiday season festivities. Here are a few you might not know about!

Christmas Tree Lighting

Thursday, December 4th, 6:30 pm

Chicago Gaelic Park, at 6119 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest, will host its annual Christmas Tree Lighting, complete with Christmas carols, ornament making, and games, along with soup and hot chocolate. For more information, visit chicagogaelicpark.org or call (708) 687-9323.

Local Author Lydia Ponczak's Book Signing

Thursday, December 4th, 7 pm

Oak Forest author and TV personality Lydia T. Ponczak talks about writing her second mystery, *Reenee on the Run*, at Acorn Library, located at 156th & Central in Oak Forest. Her gritty, stand-alone sequel to *Who's After Samantha?* bounces back and forth from the Radio City Rockettes in New York to the present day in the Chicago southwest suburbs. She will have her books available to personalize for you. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Registration is appreciated, but not required. You may register by calling Acorn Library at (708) 687-3700.

Holiday Magic at Brookfield Zoo

December 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 26-31 from 4 pm - 9 pm

Chicagoland's largest lights festival surrounds you in the cheer of over 1,000,000 twinkling LED lights, ice carvings, light shows, and Santa and Mrs. Claus. You're sure to feel the magic of the holidays! Many indoor exhibits will be open for viewing favorite animals, plus there will be Singing to the Animals and special Zoo Chats. In addition, the zoo restaurants and food stands will be open with full menus and holiday treats, and gift shops will have hundreds of unique items for those hard-to-shop-for loved ones. Enjoy a full schedule of nightly music and live entertainment inside the pavilions. Also on the schedule are an amazing magic show, costumed characters, a model railroad display, and the 38-foot tall Talking Tree.

Winter Breakout Adventure

Monday, December 22nd and December 29th, 12 pm-4 pm

Don't let the chilly winter bring you down — embrace your time off from school and head outdoors! Youth and families are invited for a day of winter adventure and fun at Camp Sullivan in Oak Forest. Activities will include shelter building, GPS hikes, animal pelt stations, and winter-themed games. Come for the whole day or just an hour. Please call 708-771-1010 for more details.

Christkindlmarket in Oakbrook Center

Shoppers who have come to know and love the traditional Christkindlmarket in Chicago can now complete their holiday shopping at the new suburban location at Oakbrook Center. Visit this classic German-American holiday market near the Village Green and enjoy hot beverages, German food and gift shopping featuring handcrafted ornaments, jewelry, clothing and European chocolates. The market will be open on Thursday-Sunday from November 28th through December 21st, and open every day from December 22nd through December 24th. For more information or specific hours, please visit www.christkindlmarket.com/Oakbrook/ or call (312) 494-2175.

Luminaria Operates Its 32nd Year

The Luminaria program provides funding for both the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church Food Pantry and the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry at St. Christopher Catholic Church. Both are located on 147th Street in Midlothian.

The Luminaria Candle Kits may be obtained in the St. Christopher parking lot after all the masses on December 13th, 14th, 20th and 21st. Each kit comes with seven candles, seven bags, and sand. The kits are \$5 each. An order of \$25 or more can be delivered locally without charge.

For further information, kindly call (708) 704-3125 or (708) 388-8190. Please support this Luminaria project and light the path of hope and love in the hearts of those people in need this Christmas season! Thank you!

Visit
Santa
at the
CRWC
CRESTWOOD RECREATION
& WELLNESS CENTER



Saturday, December 13
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
FREE Admission for All Ages

- Visit Santa and Mrs. Claus. Bring a camera for pictures!
- Coloring contest for ages 12 years and younger!
- Free juice and cookies and guessing games with prizes!
- Purchase goodies at our concession stand! Hot dogs, nachos & more!

Receive an additional raffle ticket when you bring a non-perishable food item or a new, unwrapped toy which will be donated to a local charity. Thank you!

Co-Sponsored with:
The Village of Crestwood
and the
Crestwood Fire Department

Crestwood Rec & Wellness Center
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Mitten Clips

These mittens won't warm chilled hands, but they will generate good cheer when clipped to gift tags. For more details, visit www.marthastewart.com/272465/mitten-clips.



MATERIALS: Cardboard, Felt, Clear-drying white craft glue, Hole punch or decorative shears, Wooden clothespin, Magnet

INSTRUCTIONS: Cut a mitten shape from cardboard, and trace it onto a piece of felt. Cut along the lines, and glue the felt to the cardboard with clear-drying white craft glue. Adorn the felt side of the mitten with bits of felt in complementary colors — dots made with a hole punch, a monogram, felt trim edged with decorative shears, or a Christmas tree cut out with a decorative craft punch. Glue a standard wooden clothespin to cardboard, then glue a magnet to the back of the clothespin. After the gifts have been opened, use your mittens to display greeting cards on the refrigerator.

Snowball Cookies

"These cookies are not too sweet and are quick and easy to make. They look nice on your holiday table. My grandmother got this recipe from her neighbor and asked that I make them for her each Christmas. The rest is history!" — Junebug, on Food.com.

Ingredients: 1/2 cup butter, 2 tablespoons sugar, 1 teaspoon vanilla, 3/4 cup chopped pecans, 1 cup flour, 1/4 teaspoon salt (or less), powdered sugar, reserved. Yield: 36 cookies.

Directions: Cream butter until light. Add all ingredients, except the powdered sugar. Mix well. Shape into 1" balls and place on a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Cookies should be light in color. Do not brown! Cool and roll in powdered sugar.




The Longford Pub and Sports Bar

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Live music every Friday Night
Featuring Irish, Country and Popular Music. Always local musicians.

Our goal is to provide a friendly welcoming atmosphere. Serving an excellent pint of Guinness (amongst other things) by an attentive staff.

Tuesday and Thursday
\$10 Domestic Buckets

For more daily specials check our Facebook page!!!

The Longford Pub | 13815 S. Cicero | 925-9484
OPEN 7am Monday-Friday | 11am Saturday-Sunday



Merry Christmas & a Blessed New Year to all our senior friends.
Thanks for your help during the year. - The Biela Center Center
Staffs, Carol, Bernadine, and Claudia



Biela Center Celebrates 21st Annual Halloween Luncheon

Roughly 135 seniors gathered together to celebrate Halloween with a luncheon on Tuesday, October 28th, at the Biela Center. About 16 people dressed in full-out costumes ranging from country western folk to witches to furry creatures, and a myriad of people wore their best Halloween-themed apparel. The party featured an assortment of appetizers, lunch, raffle prizes such as taffy apples, Halloween platters, and wine, along with the great crowd-pleaser of bingo games.

Rita Ulrich, dressed to the nines in a fabulous flapper costume, also stood out. Her garb consisted of a shawl she had from a trip overseas, materials from her rag bag at home, and a headband and wig from a costume shop. Rita, an Oak Forest resident, has attended about six Halloween parties at the Biela Center, but this was the first time she dressed up. She had worn the outfit to a Roaring 20s party Orland Township Senior Services had hosted on September 25th. "I thought, 'Hey, [my costume's] just sitting there, why not wear it?' Figured it'd give someone a laugh. We can all use a laugh," she remarked. Regarding the Biela Center party, she said, "The food is phenomenal, and Carol, Bernie, and the others make it so fun."



About 16 seniors dressed in fun costumes for the Biela Center Halloween luncheon.



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**COLLECTION DATES:
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13604 S. Cicero Ave, Crestwood, IL 60445 ~ (708) 597-2700

Village & Biela Center Happenings

Unless otherwise indicated, all listed events are at the Biela Center, 4545 Midlothian Turnpike.

For more Information
708-371-4860 Ext. 6001

December 2014 - January 2015

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 <p>11:15 a.m. Fitness 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>2 12:00 p.m. Lunch 1:00 p.m. Bingo 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>3 11:15 a.m. Fitness 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>4 12:00 p.m. Cards 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>5 11:15 a.m. Fitness 12:00 p.m. Lunch 1:00 p.m. Bingo 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>
<p>8 11:15 a.m. Fitness 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>9 12:00 p.m. Lunch 1:00 p.m. Bingo 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>10 "Christmas Memory" - 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. Fitness 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>11 12:00 p.m. Cards 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>12 11:15 a.m. Fitness 12:00 p.m. Lunch 1:00 p.m. Bingo 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>
<p>15 11:15 a.m. Fitness 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>16 Christmas Lunch - 11 AM 1:00 p.m. Bingo 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>17 11:15 a.m. Fitness 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>18 12:00 p.m. Cards 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>19 11:15 a.m. Fitness 12:00 p.m. Lunch 1:00 p.m. Bingo 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>
<p>22 11:15 a.m. Fitness 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>23 12:00 p.m. Dessert 1:00 p.m. Bingo 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>24 Closed Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25 Closed Merry Christmas</p>	<p>26 NO Fitness NO Lunch NO Bingo NO Movie</p>
<p>29 11:15 a.m. Fitness 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>30 12:00 p.m. Dessert 1:00 p.m. Bingo 1:00 p.m. Movie</p>	<p>31 Closed At Noon</p>	<p>1 Closed Happy New Year</p>	<p>2 NO Fitness NO Lunch NO Bingo NO Movie</p>



Carol Jurka and Bernie Alfano offer seniors raffle prizes.

Biela Center Celebrates Thanksgiving with An Even Bigger Feast

For this year's Thanksgiving luncheon feast, the Biela Center hosted about 150 seniors, about 30 more than the typical year, Carol Jurka said. "We've never had this many people. It just keeps growing," she said. Still, everyone got a raffle prize and there were even several left over. Raffle prizes ranged from porcelain Thanksgiving-themed figurines to stuffed animals and crossword puzzles. But the first set of things to go, said Biela Center staff member Bernie Alfano, were small bottles of wine donated by Becvar & Son Funeral Home of Crestwood, who also donated pocket, secular and religious calendars and gift cards to Country House Restaurant. Another hit at the feast were cookies that Biela Center volunteers Fran Carlson and Mary Lunn had baked. A Reeses' peanut butter cup, mint, some frosting and a cookie base were melded into a pilgrim's hat, making for a very festive treat.

Look What's Cooking!!!

Lunch and bingo or a movie for over 50

Tuesday, December 2	Hot Dogs
Friday, December 5	Chicken Salad
Tuesday, December 9	Beef Sandwich
Friday, December 12	Turkey Burgers
Tuesday, December 16	Christmas Lunch (\$10)
Friday, December 19	Tuna Noodle Casserole
Tuesday, December 23	Dessert & Bingo
Friday, December 26	No Lunch, Bingo, or Fitness
Tuesday, December 30	Dessert & Bingo
Friday, January 2	No Lunch, Bingo, or Fitness

Enjoy a delicious lunch (\$4.00) at the Biela Center at noon. Bingo and a movie start at 1 p.m.. Please help us by making reservations. Reservations for Tuesday lunch must be made by 4 p.m. Friday and reservations for Friday lunch must be made by 4 p.m. Wednesday.

Movies of the month to be shown at the Biela Center

Thank you to the Crestwood Library for donating these movies for our seniors to watch.

December 1-5	"White Christmas"
December 8-12	"Surviving Christmas"
December 15-19	"Unlikely Angel"
December 22-23	"Elf"
December 22-23	"Christmas Comes to Willow Creek"

Movies are shown Monday through Friday at 1 p.m.

Never A Dull Moment at the Biela Center

By now you know the Biela Center is located at 4545 Midlothian Turnpike, but do you know what goes on a daily basis? Senior citizens, you never have to be bored again.

Take a look at the many activities that wait for you here:

- *Choose a senior fitness group that works best for you-one, two, or three times a week.
- *Keep your driving privileges, and your freedom, by attending one of our frequent Rules of the Road classes held throughout the year.
- *Every week we offer free movies for your enjoyment in a relaxed atmosphere.
- *Lunch and bingo are offered Tuesdays and Fridays all year at the Biela Center.
- *Free blood pressure and hearing screenings are offered every month.
- *Join us for some of our group trips to casinos, plays, theaters, and other interesting venues.

Chicago South Elks Lodge 1596

The Elks, in cooperation with the Biela Center, continue to collect pop-tabs for Ronald McDonald House as well as eyeglasses, greeting cards, used cell phones and chargers for other charities.

For more information, contact the Elks at 708-597-7465 or the Biela Center at 708-371-4860.

Sorry....No refunds can be made

We've often experienced last-minute cancellations for our various day trips. We have to make it clear that when reservations are confirmed, refunds will not be issued.

Therefore, no refunds can be given for any trip unless we have a waiting list or if you can find a replacement for your reserved space. When you register for a trip, you have two weeks to decide before payment.

Please arrive 15 minutes before scheduled departure time for a trip. We do publish the scheduled departure time for our trips. Your cooperation will be appreciated. Many passengers are very sensitive to strong perfumes and aftershaves. We ask that you think of others if you use them.

Senior Fitness Offered at the Biela Center

The Biela Center offers a great fitness class one, two, or three times a week, and you can work at your own pace. Feel better and sleep better.

Diana Esparza, our instructor, will guide you through your special needs. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11:15 a.m.

The cost is \$30 for 24 classes, \$20 for 16 classes, \$10 for eight classes or a \$2 daily fee.

CASINO TRIPS

When making casino reservations, please have your card number or address and date of birth. Remember, you must have a valid picture ID at the casino....Winning more than \$1,199 requires showing your social security card.....!

Horseshoe Casino

Spend a pleasant winter's day at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Indiana. If you DO NOT have a player's card we need your name (as shown on your license or I.D.) address, date of birth and an E-Mail address. Without this information you will NOT receive the trip benefits.

When: Wednesday, January 14th
 Depart: 9:00 a.m.
 Cost: \$27 (includes transportation & buffet)



Grand Victoria Casino

Join us for a day or gambling in Elgin at the Grand Victoria Casino.

When: Thursday, February 12th
 Depart: 9:00 a.m. ;return 4:00 p.m.
 Cost: \$27 (includes buffet)

Call 371-4860 Ext. 6001 for reservations.

"Christmas Luncheon"

When: Tuesday, December 16th
 Time: Appetizers at 11:00 a.m.
 Lunch at noon
 Bingo & Raffles at 1:00 p.m.
 Cost: \$10.00
 Bingo for those attending lunch. Make reservations by December 9th. Call 371-4860



"A Christmas Memory"

A Christmas Memory chronicles a young boy's friendship with his eccentric relatives, including his cousin and best friend-Sook. The misfits are inseparable. It's a festive tale whose songs celebrate the simple pleasures of country life, friendship and the joy of giving during the Christmas season.

When: Wednesday, December 10th
 Time: Depart 11:00am
 Cost: \$72 (includes transportation lunch & show
 Choice of baked chicken or pork chop)
 Cost: The Theatre at the Center (Munster, Indiana)

"WEST SIDE STORY" - Drury Lane

The Jets and Sharks are at their best. Tony falls in love with a beautiful Shark girl, Maria. West Side Story is a modern day musical version of Romeo and Juliet. This trip is sure to fill up fast!!!!

When: Wednesday, February 25th
 Time: Depart 10:00am
 Cost: \$84 (includes lunch & show)



"Rules of the Road Here on March 9th"

Secretary of State, Jesse White, in cooperation with local organizations, will offer a Rules of the Road review course at the Biela Center free of charge.

The two-hour session helps prepare drivers for the Illinois driver license exam. Topics include written, vision, and road tests.

When: Monday, March 9th, 2015
 Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Save your spot by calling the Biela Center at 708-371-4860.

"On Golden Pond"

The love story of Ethel and Norman who are returning to their summer home for the 48th year. They are visited by their divorced daughter and her fiancée who off to Europe, leaving his teenage son behind for the summer. This was a HUGE Broadway hit!!!

When: Wednesday, March 28th
 Where: Theatre at the Center -Munster, Indiana
 Time: Depart 11:00 a.m.
 Cost: \$74 (includes transportation, lunch and show-choice of baked cod or beef stroganoff)

Save your spot by calling the Biela Center at 708-371-4860.

Attention Seniors!!!

The Crestwood Seniors Club is looking for members. They meet on the First and Third Wednesday of the month at 12:30 p.m.

The club does an array of activities at their meetings. Coffee and sweet rolls are available to be enjoyed as the members visit with each other; planned activities are enjoyed on holidays. For the holidays, the club becomes community involved. The members make favors and bring in presents for nursing home residents...

Consider joining a fun Group. Please call the membership chairperson, Sophie Horvath at 385-7760.

Also, the Biela Seniors Club is looking for members. They meet at the Biela Center on the second and fourth Monday at 12:30 pm. Call the Biela Center for more information.



"I once wanted to become an atheist, but I gave up - they have no holidays." — Henry Youngman

- REMINDER -
Don't be disappointed when trips are cancelled. Please sign-up as soon as possible. We have deadlines for booking the trips.
 - The Biela Center

NO BLOOD PRESSURE OR HEARING SCREENING IN DECEMBER - WILL RESUME JANUARY 28TH

How Can YOU Prevent Stormwater Pollution?

1. Remember: Only rain belongs in the drain!

Don't dump anything down storm drains. Clear away leaves and debris.

2. Wash your car over your lawn or gravel.

The ground neutralizes the soap and grime from your car rather than sending it directly to our creeks and streams. Use biodegradable or non-toxic soap that is phosphate-free, or take your car to a commercial car wash where wastewater is either recycled or treated.

3. Keep your car well-maintained.

Fix fluid leaks promptly and clean up any spills. If you perform your own automotive maintenance, automotive repair shops will accept five gallons of used motor oil per resident per day.

4. Consider disconnecting your downspouts.

Plant a rain garden to absorb stormwater runoff. Use a rain barrel to collect runoff from your roof and gutters and use on your lawn and garden.

5. Use lawn or garden chemicals sparingly.

Choose organic alternatives when possible, and check the weather forecast to avoid applying before a storm.

6. Mow your lawn less often.

Keep your lawn at least three inches in height to minimize weed growth, reduce the need for watering, and decrease the likelihood of pests. Leave clippings on the lawn to block weeds and retain moisture. Sweep your sidewalks and driveway rather than hosing them down.

7. Plant native, low maintenance plants and grasses.

Plants with longer root systems can reduce the amount of chemicals and water needed. Seed your lawn with Buffalo Grass (*Bouteloua dactyloides*) or Northern Dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*). For native plant listings, try <http://www.wildflower.org/plants> or <http://plants.usda.gov/java>.

8. Minimize runoff by not over-watering your lawn and garden.

Keep sprinklers on a timer to avoid pooling water.

9. Clean up pet waste.

Bag up pet waste immediately and dispose of it in the trash to prevent harmful bacteria from washing into local waterways.

10. Be sure to minimize the amount of ice melt used.

Do not over-apply salt. Choose environmentally-friendly alternatives.

11. Consider minimizing impervious surfaces around your home.

Use bricks, gravel, cobbles, natural stone, or permeable pavers instead of asphalt or concrete.

12. Make sure storm drain outfalls are not running in dry weather.

A storm sewer system is designed to carry stormwater. If it hasn't rained in 72 hours, it should not be flowing. Please call Public Works if it does.

13. Do not drain your pool, spa, or fountain to a storm drain.

Allow chlorine to dissipate for several days. Test water to ensure the residual chlorine is zero before slowly draining to a landscaped area, or into a sanitary sewer. Contact your local municipality for more information.

14. Keep your septic system well maintained to prevent leaks.

A leaking septic system can leach harmful bacteria into storm sewer systems and local waterways. Keep your system well maintained to prevent costly repairs as well.

15. **Walk, bike, or share a ride when possible.** Particulates from exhaust can contaminate our rain and end up in our streams and lakes.

16. Properly maintain your neighborhood stormwater pond.

It is designed to capture and treat stormwater runoff.

17. Install a rain barrel or cistern to capture roof runoff.

This helps prevent stormwater from reaching waterways and reduces the potential for pollution.



What is stormwater?

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It flows from rooftops, over paved areas, bare soil, and sloped lawns. As it flows, stormwater runoff collects and transports animal waste, litter, salt, pesticides, fertilizers, oil & grease, soil and other potential pollutants.

Water that goes down a sink or other inside drain flows to either a wastewater treatment plant or to a septic system for treatment. Storm sewer flows are not treated — water that flows down driveways, streets, and outside areas into a storm sewer or ditch flows directly to nearby creeks, fish and wildlife habitats, downstream recreational areas, and drinking water supplies.

It's important to remember that any type of surface water runoff, not just rainfall, can run into the storm sewer and collect in the stormwater management system. We need to be careful with what we put into the storm sewers as traces of all this material can end up in the stormwater system and our local waterways.

Carbon Monoxide Safety Tips

Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide. Here are some tips from the National Fire Protection Association. For more information, visit www.nfpa.org.

Carbon monoxide (CO) alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.

If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department. If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call 911 for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive.

If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow. During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up. A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings. Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO, so only use them outside.

Crestwood Fire Department 2014 CPR Classes



Village Hall
13840 S. Cicero Ave
6:00-10:00 pm

December 3rd

Healthcare Provider

Cost:

Healthcare Provider	Resident	Non-resident	Heartsaver	Resident	Non-resident
	\$35.00	\$45.00		\$25.00	\$35.00

All students must be registered with Village hall prior to day of class. Classes may be cancelled due to low enrollment.

Bill Nyhanna-CPR Coordinator **708-371-4805** bill@nyhanna.net

Thinking About Selling Your Crestwood Home or Condominium?

Top Ten Reasons Why You Should Call

CLIFF RAGO

To Sell Your Home.

- #10) I AM A LIFETIME CRESTWOOD RESIDENT
- #9) A FULL TIME REALTOR FOR OVER 24 YEARS
- #8) I KNOW CRESTWOOD LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND
- #7) RE/MAX IS THE WORLD LEADER IN REAL ESTATE
- #6) CLIFF IS THE CRESTWOOD LEADER IN REAL ESTATE
- #5) 100'S & 100'S OF CRESTWOOD PROPERTIES SOLD
- #4) HONORABLE AND TRUSTWORTHY
- #3) TREATS CLIENTS LIKE FAMILY
- #2) I LOVE BEING A REALTOR

AND THE #1 REASON TO HIRE ME AS YOUR REALTOR IS; THE MORE I SELL YOUR CRESTWOOD PROPERTY FOR, THE MORE MINE IS WORTH!

CALL CLIFF AT 708-267-0758 FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION MARKET APPRAISAL
CLIFF RAGO THE CRESTWOOD EXPERT!
RE/MAX SYNERGY 708-267-0758

NO ONE IN THE WORLD SELLS MORE HOMES THAN RE/MAX AND NO ONE SELLS MORE CRESTWOOD HOMES, THAN CLIFF.

CRESTWOOD FEATURED HOME OF THE MONTH



BRAND NEW CONSTRUCTION FIRST FLOOR CONDOMINIUM IN A SENIOR 55 YR AND OLDER COMPLEX. LOCATED IN CRESTPOINT THIS 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH UNIT HAS A FORMAL DINING RM PLUS A EAT IN KITCHEN AND A GARAGE. BRAND NEW AND ONLY \$114,900 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VIEW THIS FINE UNIT CALL CLIFF AT 708-267-0758

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS HOME OR OTHER CRESTWOOD PROPERTIES FOR SALE NOW, CALL CLIFF AT 708-267-0758



A Little Bit of Germany



When: Saturday, January 24th, 2015 from 4 pm-8 pm

Where: Alan B. Shepard High School Cafeteria

Alan B. Shepard High School – Enter through **Door 12** in the back
13049 S. Ridgeland Avenue
Palos Heights, IL 60463

Cost: \$10 for Adults - \$5 for children 12 and under

Includes Bratwurst, Sauerkraut, German Potato Salad, Bread and Butter, Coffee, Water or Cider. Dinner will be served from 4 pm-7 pm. Soda and Root Beer will be available for purchase.

The German band “Paloma” will be back to entertain us at the event.

BAKED GOODS! RAFFLE PRIZES! PRETZELS!

All proceeds will go to fund the trips we take with the German exchange students during their stay with us in April 2015. Please help support our exchange program!

For tickets and information, please contact Mrs. Jennifer Fischer at
jennifer.fischer@chsd218.org (708) 371-1111 X 3073

XXX

WORTH TOWNSHIP SENIOR BUS TRIP

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH - LUNCH AND SHOW PACKAGE

Tickets, Bus and Lunch: \$59.00 Per Person

Schedule:

- 10:00 Bus leaves Worth Township (11601 S. Pulaski)
- 11:00 Arrive at White Fence Farm
- 11:30 **Lunch:** Four-Piece Chicken Dinner which includes Cole Slaw, Homemade Corn Fritters, Cottage Cheese, Kidney Bean Salad, Homemade Chicken Gravy, Pickled Beets, Baked Potato, Vanilla Ice Cream, and choice of one beverage only.
- 1:00 **Show:** Denny Diamond & The Jewels – Holiday Show
- 3:00 Bus Leaves White Fence Farm
- 4:00 Arrive at Worth Township

To reserve your seat, call Maureen at (708) 371-2900 x15. Space is limited so reserve your place early.

Dealing with Live Wires

On November 18th, our Public Works, Fire/Police & EMS had the opportunity to participate in the Live Wire Demo/Training held in Orland Park, offered through the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. By holding a safety meeting, employers can arm their employees with critical information that could save their lives and the lives of their co-workers, friends or family members. The dynamic presentation includes NFPA 70E training, OSHA regulations, a live lockout/tagout program and specific instructions on OSHA’s minimum approach distance. Through this 2.5-hour presentation, fire departments and emergency response teams learn to react quickly and safely to emergencies involving electricity. This comprehensive demonstration includes policies and procedures for utility disconnects.

Our employees work storm damage in one way or another or are asked to respond to accidents. Our crews end up working around live wires, whether trimming trees or excavating holes. Either in our daily routines or as first responders, it would be beneficial for our people to know what to expect and how to respond should an electrical accident take place. Having this knowledge could help us keep residents from panicking should these electrical hazards occur.

We have crews out all over town. If by chance our people would see live lines on fences, a kid trying to get his Mylar balloon out of a tree or other possibly dangerous circumstances, we are confident knowing they have been properly trained to handle those types of situations. At any given time, this vital information could save the lives of our own children,

grandchildren, neighbors or just while out driving around on a Saturday.



Crestwood Public Works and Fire/Police participated in the Live Wire Demo / Training held November 18th in Orland Park.

Crestwood Resident Makes A Difference for Washington, Illinois Family



Crestwood resident Steve Garcia came to the aid of the Myers family after the Washington, IL, tornadoes. Left to right: Tom, Luke, Susanne.

It’s been a little over a year since an EF4 tornado struck the town of Washington, Illinois and surrounding communities, resulting in more than \$935 million in damage. People across the state stepped up to help, including a local man from Crestwood.

Crestwood resident Steve Garcia was working in his yard a couple hours after the tornado hit on November 17th, 2013, when he discovered a piece of paper that turned out to be the auto insurance policy card of Washington residents Tom and Susanne Myers. With the name and address on it, he said, “My jaw dropped ... It was spelled out pretty good for me.” He decided to both return the paper that had flown more than 130 miles and also hold a fundraiser at the New Horizon Restaurant in Oak Forest. His family, neighbors and coworkers were able to raise \$1,500 in a “sponsorship” for the Myers family, whose home had been leveled in the tornado. The 75 people involved signed their names and wrote messages for the family as well, and Garcia mailed it and the insurance card to the Myers’ temporary address in nearby Germantown Hills, Illinois.

Garcia posted a photo of the insurance card on Facebook and a friend of Susanne’s found it. Garcia and the Myers were able to contact each other through Facebook and have corresponded ever since. “It just shows the kind of man he is...we’re proud to call him a new friend,” Susanne remarked, saying that it was “very emotional” and “so comforting” for them to see that it wasn’t just them figuring out how to move forward and survive but that there were a lot of compassionate people willing to help. “Hopefully it’s a friendship we can have for the rest of our lives,” she said. They plan to meet in person for the first time in the near future.

“I think this experience has challenged us to be more compassionate towards others ... it’s something Steve already knew. He already knew to be compassionate and not judge, not do the ‘out of sight, out of mind,’” Susanne said. “We all [those affected by the tornado] appreciated everything Chicagoland had done ... we’re so thankful and so proud Chicago would wrap its arms around us and help us.” The Myers and Garcia were interviewed by ABC 7, and the video clip is available online at abc7chicago.com/news/illinois-marks-anniversary-of-deadly-tornadoes/398716.

MYCHAL J. TOSCAS

BROKER

Century 21
AFFILIATED

Life-long Crestwood Resident

15812 S. Wolf Road
Orland Park, IL 60462

708.431.3111
Fax 708.361.9618



E-Mail mtoscas@c21affiliated.com

December Events at Crestwood Public Library

Youth Programming

Evening with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Santa and Mrs. Claus return to the library for their annual visit on Tuesday Dec 16, 2014 from 5:30-7:00pm. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for visits and pictures. Children can also make an ornament to take home and write a letter to Santa Claus. Bring your camera for those holiday pictures!

Christmas Book Buddies

Children ages 3-6 can enjoy time with a Shepard High School student reading Holiday books and making a small holiday craft. December Book Buddies will meet Wednesday, December 10 from 6-7pm.

S.T.E.M. - Science Club

Children grades 1-4, will learn about magnets and magnetism. Space limited to 15 people per class. Thurs. Dec. 18, 2014 \$2.00/child 4:00pm

After School Club

Kids grades K-2 join us in December for winter stories, games and crafts. Cookies and juice will be served Dec. session: Thurs., Dec. 11, 3:30-4:30pm limit of 15

Polar Express- Pajama Time

Children ages 4-9, come to the library in their P.J.'s and take a ride on the Polar Express. Hear the story, make a craft to take home and have some cookies and hot chocolate! Tues., Dec. 23, 5:30-7:00pm Space limited to 15

Rainbow Bracelet Making

Kids bring your rainbow loom to the library to learn all sorts of bracelet styles to make and share. Don't have a loom? Learn to make a bracelet without one or borrow ours. Grade 2 and up Saturday, December 13 at 2:00

Tween Time

Tweens grades 3-8 can come make all sorts of recycled ornaments to decorate your tree. Tuesday, December 9 from 4-5pm Limit of 12

Brown Bag Movie Mondays

Bring your lunch and watch a movie on our big screen! Ages 4 & up. Mon. Dec 22 & 29. Movie begins at 12:30. Popcorn provided!

New Year's Party

Come ring in the new year early at our own Kids New Year Party for all children grades K-4. Games, crafts and snacks will served. Tues., Dec. 30 5:30-7:00pm Registration required. Space limited to 16.

Story Time and Tiny Tots

Registration for our new session of story time and tiny tots begins Dec. 29, 2014 Story time for ages 3-8 will meet Thursday at 12:00pm \$5.00 per child Tiny Tots for ages 12-36 months with adult, will meet Friday at 10:30am. Space is limited. Registration needed. Session dates will be Jan. 15- Feb. 27, 2015.

Registration Required for all programs. Call 708-371-4090 for more info.

December Adult Programs at Crestwood Public Library

Holiday Card Making Class!

Stampin' Up's Debbie Spano can show you how to make the perfect holiday cards for the season right here at the library! \$4.00 per person. For ages 15 and up. Please register for this event. Monday, December 8, 2014 at 6:00pm

Health Insurance Q & A

Have questions about the Affordable Care Act? Need some guidance with Medicare? Join us for a short question and answer session from healthcare expert Gary Tarnopol. Please Register in advance. Monday, December 1 at 6:00pm or Wednesday, December 10 at 12:00pm

Adult Computer Class

Need some one-on-one practice with your computer skills? Sign up for a 45 minute session with one of our librarians on select Fridays during the month! Please call for available times and topics.

Book Discussion Group

Do you like to talk about the books you read? Then join our monthly book discussion group. This group reads a variety of fiction and nonfiction books and meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00.

e-magazines are here!

e-magazines are now available on our website through Zinio

Need a gift for the person who has everything?

Why not buy them a book on our library mural book shelf? What a great way to support our library too! Books on our Library Mural are available for purchase starting at \$25.00. All proceeds go to support the library general fund.

Remember to visit our website: www.crestwoodlibrary.org or call 708-371-4090 for all program details

Holiday Pet Supply Collection for Animal Welfare Animal Shelter



All cat and dog supplies, especially dry food, canned cat food, kitten food, cat litter, as well as dog & cat toys and treats are needed.

Bring all donations to the library from **November 28- December 20, 2014**

Stop in for a complete list of items needed

Book Buddies



Shepard High School students have volunteered in Book Buddies at the Crestwood Public Library for the past three years, reading books to and making small crafts with young children. Students in Shepard's U.S. Air Force JROTC program who volunteered in October, left to right: Jesyl Garcia, Sara Flanagan, Andrew Kuntz, Hannah Sandoval, Maurice Steele, Atoria Huddleston, Justis Lesley

Plan to Attend Sertoma Centre's 3rd Annual Holiday Bazaar!



Sertoma's Holiday Bazaar will be held on Friday, December 5th, from 9 am to 2 pm at 4343 W. 123rd Street in Alsip. This is a great way to start your holiday shopping. Friends, neighboring schools, churches and area organizations are welcome to stop in to shop! Many of Sertoma Centre's departments and programs have been working hard with their clients to provide lovely gift items for shoppers this year. There are a record number of Sertoma Centre vendors and a few outside vendors all making sure there is a great selection of items such as homemade crafts, Christmas ornaments, and holiday decor.

If you are looking for gift ideas that won't break the bank, the Holiday Bazaar has just what you need. There will be craft items that range from \$1 to \$10. Free gift wrapping is included. Grab some lunch at the North Pole Café or enjoy a sweet treat and some hot chocolate at the Mrs. Claus Bake Shoppe. The proceeds from each of Sertoma Centre's vendor booths will go directly to the programs that participated, so come out and support people with disabilities. Invite your family and friends to Sertoma Centre for a one-of-a-kind shopping experience. Please contact head elf, Laura Gardner, at **708-730-6211** or lgardner@sertomacentre.org for more information or visit the website.

Article Suggestions

Crestwood Adviser welcomes suggestions for articles - stories about residents, local events, random acts of kindness, and more! Please let us know what you think should be covered in your Village newspaper by emailing us at info@crestwoodadviser.com, calling Fanning Communications at **(708) 293-1430**, or bringing a hard copy submission to the Village Hall at 13840 S. Cicero Avenue.



If you have seen the slogan once, you’ve seen it a hundred times in the Crestwood Mall column in the *Adviser*. It is used to conclude the column, but this month, we use it to begin an article.

When you are out traveling, you can’t but help notice the alarming number of vacant businesses throughout the South Suburbs. Businesses are the backbone of every community and we need to do everything we can to retain our current businesses while encouraging new commercial and industrial growth. Even when we are not in good economic times, many businesses survive because they have a very successful holiday season. The need is magnified during an economic recession. We need to purchase as many goods and services as we can so that our businesses can remain solvent. Empty buildings generate neither jobs nor sales tax.

Crestwood businesses have long supported everything from our youth programs to our service departments, and it’s only right that we patronize them now. If you lived in Crestwood in the 50s and 60s, you will remember that the taxes were high, including a very high 5 percent utility tax, and you paid for all services. There was no senior center or recreation and wellness center, nor was there free garbage pickup or free services that are now offered. Most roads were gravel with deep ditches for drainage on each side. We might add that Crestwood had only 33 businesses in those days, so it was going nowhere and getting there fast.

Today we have well over 500 businesses in town and they have been the cornerstone for progress in our community. Looking back, it’s hard to imagine where we would be today if it were not for the planning and development of our commercial and industrial base. We all know that shopping in Crestwood can save on sales taxes, travel time and fuel expense. The big picture, however, is to patronize our businesses so they can remain solvent and bolster the job market.

“Smart Crestwood Shoppers Shop Crestwood” is a slogan that only works if you practice it. Let’s show our appreciation to the business community for their part in the growth of our village and do whatever it takes to help them through this current economic crisis, especially during this Holiday Season.

Looking for Quality Outdoor Maintenance?

Roy Erickson Outdoor Maintenance has been in business for 34 years and is located at 4430 W. 137th Place. He is ready to handle all of your outdoor maintenance needs. This being the month of December, snow removal in parking lots and driveways will be #1 on the agenda whether you own a business or own your own home. Roy has the necessary heavy-duty equipment to handle large parking lots or to plow and salt roads and parking spaces in privately owned condominium and townhouse complexes. Whether you consult the Old Farmer’s Almanac or listen to our weather forecasters, there is no way to know what type of winter is in store for us. One thing is for sure, however. It’s nice to have the peace of mind to have a contract in place that automatically takes care of your snow plowing.

The other thing that you can be sure about in the winter months — if you own a fireplace, you need to maintain an ample supply of firewood. Roy sells quality firewood to meet your needs. This is also the time of year that you should be thinking ahead to next spring and what you need to do at your business or home to maintain its outdoor appearance. If it’s time to repave or you need to sealcoat or stripe your parking lot, then you’ll want to book it now so when the weather is right, you are ready to go. Don’t procrastinate and wait until spring to address these issues because you might find yourself on the bottom of a long waiting list. If you are planning on sprucing up your landscaping or completely redoing it, Roy will be able to assist you. This company not only maintains existing landscaping but will design and install an attractive new look for your property.

Office hours for Roy Erickson Outdoor Maintenance are Monday through Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm. Their telephone number is **708-597-3088**. As you would expect, this long term business is fully licensed, bonded and insured and we believe another example of why we say “Smart Crestwood Shoppers Shop Crestwood.”

Crestwood O’Reilly’s Holds Grand Opening

After a few years of planning, O’Reilly’s Auto Parts celebrated the grand opening of its Crestwood location on October 25th, hosting about 400 people at its ribbon-cutting ceremony at 14230 S. Cicero Ave. The celebration also included a car show. Its success at its Oak Forest store convinced the chain of more than 4,000 locations nationwide to open a new store nearby.

David Aguilar, the Crestwood location’s general manager, has previously managed O’Reilly’s stores in Berwyn, Cicero and Chicago for the past eight years. He received his automotive technician degree from Lincoln Technical Institute in Melrose Park and began working at O’Reilly’s because it is a great, family-oriented company.

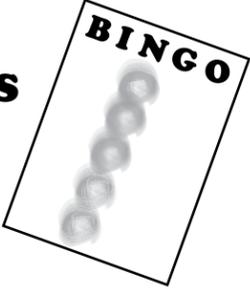
Aguilar says O’Reilly’s low price guarantee, hours, and outsourcing parts make it stand out. “We’re the only company that outsources parts. We can get you the parts you need,” he said. “We never say no.” O’Reilly’s offers free installation on batteries as well. Aguilar also said O’Reilly’s just held a cookout for the Midcrest Panthers and plans to make a monetary donation to Crestwood’s Christmas food drive and even host a monthly car show next summer, with awards for residents’ submissions for the best-looking car. “We are for the community,” he stated.

O’Reilly’s is open from 7:30 am to 10 pm on Monday through Saturday and 9 am to 8 pm on Sundays. Services include wiper installation, engine light check, and light bulb replacement. The store works with both individual customers and area car mechanics. Call the store at **708-629-7101** or visit **www.oreillyauto.com** for more details!

THE ELKS

BINGO THURSDAY NIGHTS

Early Bird at 6:30 p.m.
Regular Bingo at 7:00 p.m.
Doors Open at 4:00 p.m.



Progressive Jackpot Changes Weekly
goes up \$100/week till it's hit!

Over \$6,001

Chicago South Elks Club #1596
4428 Midlothian Turnpike
Crestwood, IL 60445
(708) 597-7465

Video gaming available 7 days a week





Crestwood's O'Reilly's Auto Parts held its grand opening on October 25th.



Dan Witt of Palos Hills with his 1934 Ford



Trustee Theresa Flynn with Ron Santoro and his 1981 Corvette

Fun & Entertainment *Sudoku and Crossword Answers appear in next issue

FREE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING FOR CRESTWOOD RESIDENTS!

CRESTWOOD RESIDENTS are invited to place free advertisements in the Crestwood Adviser. Free classified ads are offered to Village of Crestwood residents only and are limited to 20 words or less and can include information related to the following items:

- Garage Sales
- Lost and Found
- Large Appliances
- Automobiles
- Motorcycles
- Boats and Trailers

NON-RESIDENTS AND AREA BUSINESSES can place classified advertisements for goods and services for just \$5.00 for twenty words under the following categories:

- Garage Sales
- Appliance and Electronics Sales
- Transportation (Cars, Boats, Motorcycles)
- Homes for Sale or Rent
- Apartments for Sale or Rent
- Employment Openings
- Jobs Wanted

To place your classified ad call 708-293-1430

CLASSIFIEDS

CONDO FOR SALE

2 bedroom, 1 Bath, 2nd Floor w/balcony & pool. Plenty of closet space. No Pets, No smoking. Quiet building. Reduced Price - \$55,000. Call Cindy at (773) 203-0089.

FOR SALE

American Girl Doll. "Julie" and "Thumbelina" Doll Special Edition. New in Box. Julie \$70.00, Thumbelina \$60.00. Call Marilyn at (708) 371-0619

FOR SALE

1994 Dutchman vacation trailer needs repairs. Best offer. For more detail call Ann or Joe at (708) 597-0731.

FOR SALE

48 inch outdoor melted wire christmas rain deer - lights up. Good condition. \$15, retail at \$40 For more detail call Frank at (708) 371-6650.

ITEMS FOR SALE

Toledo scale, Shopsmith lathe. Knaack pick-up truck. H.D. tool box. Baby crib. Safety cones. Wood entry door. Scaffolding marble vanity top/sink. For more detail call (708) 371-2755.

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1 - 9, without repeating any.

	3			2	1		4	5
2		4		5	8			
	5						8	2
	4	2			5			
5		6	8	9	3			2
			2			5	6	
9	2	5					7	
				5	2	9		
	6		7	3	9	2	5	

November

Sudoku Solution

4	9	6	8	1	5	3	2	7
3	5	2	9	7	6	1	8	4
8	7	1	2	3	4	6	9	5
5	3	8	7	6	2	4	1	9
2	6	7	4	9	1	5	3	8
1	4	9	5	8	3	2	7	6
6	8	4	3	2	7	9	5	1
9	2	5	1	4	8	7	6	3
7	1	3	6	5	9	8	4	2

November

Crossword Solution

P	R	I	S	M		C	O	V	E		C	A	B	
R	E	N	T	A	L	P	R	I	G		A	L	E	
E	X	C	U	S	E	S	I	L	O		N	F	L	
			D	O	T	S		E	N	S	N	A	R	L
	A	G	I	N		T	U	N	A		E	P	E	E
E	U	R	O		W	O	N	T		F	E	E	D	S
S	R	I		T	R	I	O		O	L	D			
C	A	M	B	R	I	C		G	H	O	S	T	L	Y
			O	U	T		W	H	I	G		I	I	
A	B	A	T	E		C	I	A	O		S	N	A	P
T	A	L	C		S	I	G	N		D	O	E	R	
A	S	P	H	A	L	T		A	J	A	R			
X	I	I		N	E	R	D		A	C	R	O	S	S
I	N	N		N	E	O	N		P	H	O	B	I	A
A	G	E		E	T	N	A			A	W	I	N	G

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13				14					15			
16				17					18			
19	20			21				22				
23	24	25		26		27			28			
29		30				31		32				
33				34		35						
36				37					38	39	40	41
42									43			
44	45				46		47	48				
49	50					51			52			
53				54	55	56		57	58			
59				60		61			62	63	64	65
66				67					68			
69				70					71			

ACROSS

- 1 Take off your hat
- 5 Recesses
- 10 Use up
- 13 Antelope
- 14 Condemn
- 15 Foster
- 16 Get stuck
- 17 Once more
- 18 Meditation
- 19 Fall back
- 21 Communist hunting senator
- 23 Adam's wife
- 26 Drink slowly
- 28 Mongrels
- 29 Dinner named singer
- 32 Foolish
- 33 Fit together
- 34 Fibers
- 36 Pretentious
- 37 Pope's governing organization
- 38 Absent without leave
- 42 Roman Catholic Church

- heads
- 43 Soft drink
- 44 Set down
- 46 Where prisoners with death sentence are (2 wds.)
- 49 Climb
- 51 Compass point
- 52 European sea eagle
- 53 Cabbage like veggie
- 57 Note of debt
- 59 Healing plant
- 60 Legion
- 62 Walk back and forth
- 66 Rent
- 67 Learner
- 68 Chances of winning
- 69 Bard's before
- 70 Jobs
- 71 Snoot

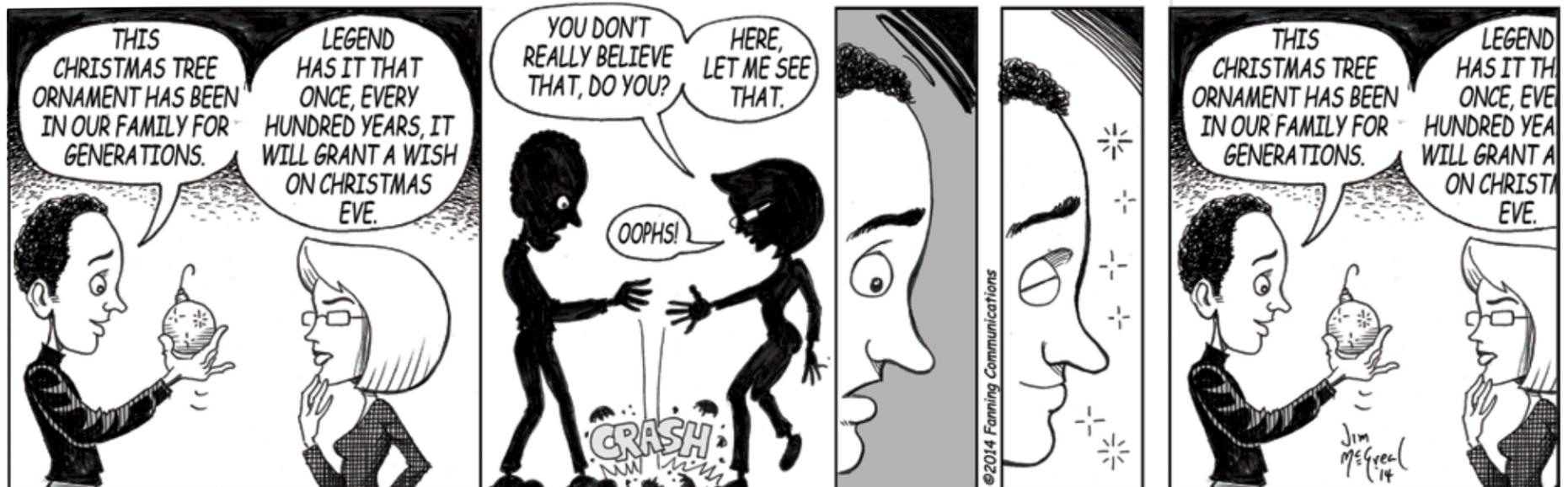
DOWN

- 1 Dam

- 1 Dam
- 2 French "yes"
- 3 Former president of U.S.
- 4 Butane
- 5 Slow
- 6 Wooden leg
- 7 Sham
- 8 Little Mermaid's love
- 9 In ___ (together)
- 10 Blemished
- 11 Nothing
- 12 Petitions to God
- 15 Pancake need
- 20 American sign language
- 22 Famous cookies
- 23 Austin novel
- 24 Slue
- 25 Wind direction
- 27 Remit (2 wds.)
- 30 Scriptural your
- 31 How you got along
- 32 Cell stuff
- 35 Arises
- 37 Swindle
- 38 Fire remains
- 39 Had on, as clothing
- 40 Aroma
- 41 What needs to be mowed
- 42 Wharf
- 44 City in Pakistan
- 45 Ethan that led the Green Mountain Boys
- 47 Side notes
- 48 Dual
- 49 Glide
- 50 Brown
- 54 Deeds
- 55 Very dry wine
- 56 Small particle
- 58 Onto
- 61 Net
- 63 Hoopla
- 64 Disks
- 65 Compass point

Crestwood's very own ongoing strip,...

94 South by Jim McGreal



Happy Holidays from all of us at Fanning Communications!

Crestwood Rec Commission

Section 1: "NEW THINGS AND ACTIVITIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE"
Section 2: "EXISTING THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED"

We would like to have the surveys completed and returned by Dec. 30th to give us time to analyze the results. Then, in February, we can post some of the results and a follow-up survey, if necessary. We plan to have an open meeting in March for more input. We are hoping to have final plans, Board-approved and ready to submit to the IDNR, by the end of May.

If you have any additional comments or questions, you can e-mail the Crestwood Recreation Commission at reccom@villageofcrestwoodil.gov and we will reply within a few days. The official Village website will be updated and we are working on a Facebook page.

We need your help with this grant. If you have kids or grandkids, they will be using our parks and our activities. Maybe you and your family or friends just want a nice place to hang out, read a book, or take a walk. The possibilities are almost endless. Please take the time to give us your input. We'd love to have you share your vision for our village parks.



Thank You,
Crestwood Recreation
Committee

Worth Township Job Opportunities

Part-Time Teacher

Part-time certified teacher needed to help after school in Worth Township's "Homework Haven." Position will be one to three days a week, after school. Teacher will offer direct help and lead a team of volunteer high school students offering homework help to drop-in grade school students. Applicant must be a certified teacher. Middle school or HS certification preferred. Must be comfortable with leading teens in their role of helping younger children with their homework. To apply, please visit www.worhtownship.com and click on "Employment Opportunity," then "Application for Employment."

Update to Application Process for Tollway Positions

The Illinois Tollway has begun using an online application system to assist prospective and current employees in the job application process. This system will allow users to create an individual account, create and maintain a profile of education, experience and certifications, identify job interest categories, search for open positions, and submit job applications. It will automatically notify users of recently posted jobs based on the job interest categories chosen.

For the employee to be notified of open positions and submit job applications, this system requires the user to have an email account. This could either be a personal account (i.e. gmail, yahoo) or getipass.com account. To apply for a posted position or to create a "Job Interest Card," applicants should visit the Tollway's website, www.illinoistollway.com. Completed applications may be mailed to the Illinois Tollway Headquarters' Human Resources at 2700 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515, or dropped off in person at the Downers Grove headquarters between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. All applications must be received within the dates indicated on the job posting. If you have any questions, please contact Human Resources at (630) 241-6800 ext. 2333.



Mary's Movie Review: Big Hero 6 | PG, 108 minutes



This one-part comedy, one-part superhero action-adventure flick throws in a lot of positive messaging, which completes this outstanding accomplishment by directors Don Hall and Chris Williams. The animated film's plot is a typical good-versus-evil story, but there's more to it than that. In the story, set in a fictional, futuristic blend of San Francisco and Tokyo, a kid named Hiro is an avid roboticist who has been encouraged by his brother, Tadashi, to put his talent into use by helping other people. Tadashi attends a robotics university along with a colorful cast of characters, including two integral female characters. Tadashi's creation, Baymax, a plus-sized inflatable robot, produces even more laughs than you can imagine. Hiro and the team form the Big Hero 6 team when tragedy strikes and a villain surfaces. The ending matches the rest of the film's uplifting and inspiring nature. The only downside is that the plot is a little choppy, making it a little hard in which to fully engage. But, with praise of nerdiness, three strong female characters, a car chase (always a welcome addition to an action-adventure film), and an excellent mix of comedy and excitement, this movie is a must-see.

Section 1: New Things & Activities You Could

Please select as many as you would like from the following list:

- Basketball Courts
- Bike Trails/Walking Trails
- Dog Park
- Fishing Pond/Retention Pond Beautification & Utilization
- Fitness Circuit - Outdoor
- Grass Fields Open for Lacrosse, Field Hockey, Misc. Activities
- Ice Skating - Winter
- New Playground/Park East of Cicero
- Roller Hockey Rink
- Sand Volleyball
- Skateboard Park
- Splash Park
- Tot Lots for Neighborhoods
- Other

Section 2: EXISTING THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED

Park	Caesar Park	Playfield Park	Soccer Fields	Walker Park
BR/Concession				
Bleachers/Seating				
Fencing				
Landscaping				
Parking				
Picnic Areas/Benches				
Playground Equipment				
Playing Fields/Backstops				
Winter Ice Skating				
Other Things				
Other Things				

Please complete and return to Village Hall by Dec. 30, 2014

The Brazen Head

Over \$200,000.00 dollars won last month!!*

Video Gaming, Poker Machines, Penny, Quarter Slots & Video Poker.

SLOT MACHINES

*Based on Illinois gaming data in 2014 at this location.

Sunday - Thursday 11am-2am • Friday - Saturday 11am-3am

13602 S. Cicero Crestwood • 708-388-8862

www.brazenheadbar.com

SPORTS



Graffeo Signs with St. Xavier University

Breanna Graffeo, a senior at Shepard High School, recently signed a national letter of intent to play softball at St. Xavier University. Breanna will join her sister, Franchesca, who also plays softball for the Cougars.

“Breanna is looking forward to getting back on the field with her best friend and older sister Franchesca,” said Shepard varsity softball coach Kelsey Clifford. “Franchesca plays third base at SXU and they have grown up playing next to each other.”

Breanna Graffeo earned all-conference and all-area honors in 2013 and 2014. Last season, she hit .495 with 16 doubles and 28 RBIs for the Astros.

Shepard High School senior Breanna Graffeo signs a national letter of intent to play softball at St. Xavier University. Front row: Breanna Graffeo with her parents, Bill and Laura. Back row: Shepard coaches Ashley Levicke (left) and Kelsey Clifford (right).

Registration for 2015 Season



Girls 7-18
All December during regular hours
at the Crestwood
Recreation/Wellness Center
5331 W. 135th Street
(New girls bring copy of birth certificates)
Your league age is your age on Jan. 1, 2015
Teams are 8u, 10u, 12u, 14u and 18u

Resident & Non-Residents – Same Fee

Fee for the Season: \$175
 Due at Registration: \$125
 (\$25 late fee added after Feb. 15th)
 Price for two Fastpitch children-\$275; \$325 for three
 There will also be fundraisers during the season.

For December:

- \$25 off for those paid in full by Dec. 31st
- For families registered for Crestwood Fastpitch, Crestwood T-Ball or Crestwood Baseball by Dec. 21st, 2014, their names will go into a raffle for a holiday ham to be given away Dec. 22nd. One ham for each group and only one ham per family. Winners will be notified; hams not picked up by 6 pm on Dec. 23rd will be given a new home.
- Check us out on Facebook at Crestwood Fastpitch Association (more information call **597-1940** or **Bmadr@aol.com**)
- There will be general indoor practices starting in January. Regular outdoor team practices start in March, weather permitting.
- Season runs mid-April to mid-June.
- Our teams normally have between 11 and 15 girls on each team. We try to keep former teammates together as they move up in age, and we try to keep friends together, but no guarantees.
- Our goals are teaching girls to play the game and showing them how much fun it is to play.

Astro Wrestling Club Open to New Members



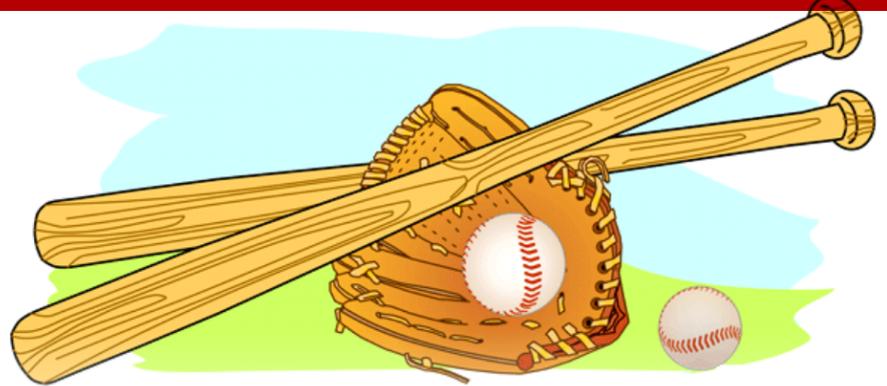
Astro Wrestling Club encourages new members, both experienced wrestlers and beginners, to join their club. Though practices have already started in early November, kids can join at any time, as the season goes through February. Astro Wrestling Club is open to boys and girls ages 5 to 14. Practices are Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 6 pm to 8 pm at Alan B. Shepard High School, located at 13049 S. Ridgeland Ave. in Palos Heights. Wrestling meets are always on Sundays. The cost is \$50 per child. New members need to present their birth certificates. For more information, please contact **Ali Muhammad at ali@apropertyinc.com** or **(708) 267-8014**.

Play Ball! Crestwood T-Ball and Crestwood Baseball Information



Mayor Lou Presta wants every child who lives in Crestwood to have the opportunity to play T-Ball and Baseball this upcoming summer.

To help make this happen, the Mayor is offering T-Ball and Baseball for **FREE** to every Crestwood youngster for the 2015 season!



Register now at the Crestwood Rec & Wellness Center.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2015 SEASON CONTACT THE:
Crestwood Rec & Wellness Center
 5331 W. 135th Street
 Crestwood, IL 60445
www.crestwoodbaseball.com
708-371-4800, ext. 2014

Every family that registers for Crestwood T-Ball, Crestwood Baseball and/or Crestwood Fastpitch by Dec 21, 2014 will have their name entered into a raffle for a chance to win a Holiday Ham. One family from each of the 3 sports teams will be chosen. Winners will be notified on Dec 22nd! Limit: 1 ham per family! Hams not picked up by 6:00 PM on Dec 23rd will be donated to a needy Crestwood Family.

Crestwood T-Ball
Ages: Boys and Girls:
 5 years through 7 years old
Cost: **FREE** for Crestwood Residents
 \$25.00 for Non-Residents
Season: Season runs late-April until mid-June.

Volunteer coaches are needed for both Crestwood T-Ball and Crestwood Baseball—2015 season.

Crestwood Baseball
Ages: 7-8 years
 9-10 years
 11-12 years
 13-14 years
Divisions: Pinto (Coach Pitch)
 Mustang
 Bronco
 Pony
Cost: **FREE** for Crestwood Residents
 \$150.00 for Non-Residents
Season: Season runs mid-April until mid-July.