

Volume 5, Issue 2



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March / April 2023

Update on Proposed Hillside Senior Housing Development

On February 27th, the Village Board of Trustees approved the Village's Planning and Zoning Board's recommendation for the construction of 42 units of housing to be marketed to people 55 years old and over. The Planning and Zoning Board recommendation was formulated after two public hearings where pros and cons of the proposed project were presented. The proposed site will be on the grounds of an unoccupied church located at 5207 Ridge Avenue.

The firm overseeing the project is Turnstone Development. Turnstone is an award-winning developer of senior housing and multifamily housing from Crystal Lake to Barrington to Summit and beyond. Turnstone has developed over 1,680 **affordable** housing units. Their most recent senior development is called Wisdom Village in neighboring Northlake. The Northlake units were rented immediately and now have a waiting list. You can visit Wisdom Village at 33 S. Wolf Road or their second senior housing development at 56 E. North Avenue in Northlake to check out the facilities.

This proposed senior housing center will NOT be Section 8 housing. It is NOT an assisted living or extended care facility, there will be no medical staff on the site. It is for people 55 and older who want to live an independent lifestyle.

The rent will be very affordable when compared to other areas that offer 55-and-over housing. The rents will range up to \$1300 a month depending on the unit.



The building will be four stories in height, which will be a few feet shorter than the spire on the vacant church that presently occupies the area. There will be a total of 42 units, 36 of which will be 675 square foot single bedroom units; and 6 two-bedroom units which will be 900 square feet each. There will be 67 parking spaces available. At least 10% of the units will be designed as fully accessible or adaptable, and 2% of the units will be designated for visual or auditory impaired residents. Small pets will be allowed.

Building amenities will include a community room with a kitchen, an outdoor terrace, a tenant lounge area with internet access, secured entry, onsite property management/maintenance, and outdoor bicycle storage. Common area laundry will be available on each floor. The site will feature a sidewalk network connected to the Village infrastructure to facilitate pedestrian connectivity with the surrounding neighborhood such as the Illinois Prairie Path, Libraries, and Hillside Municipal Complex.

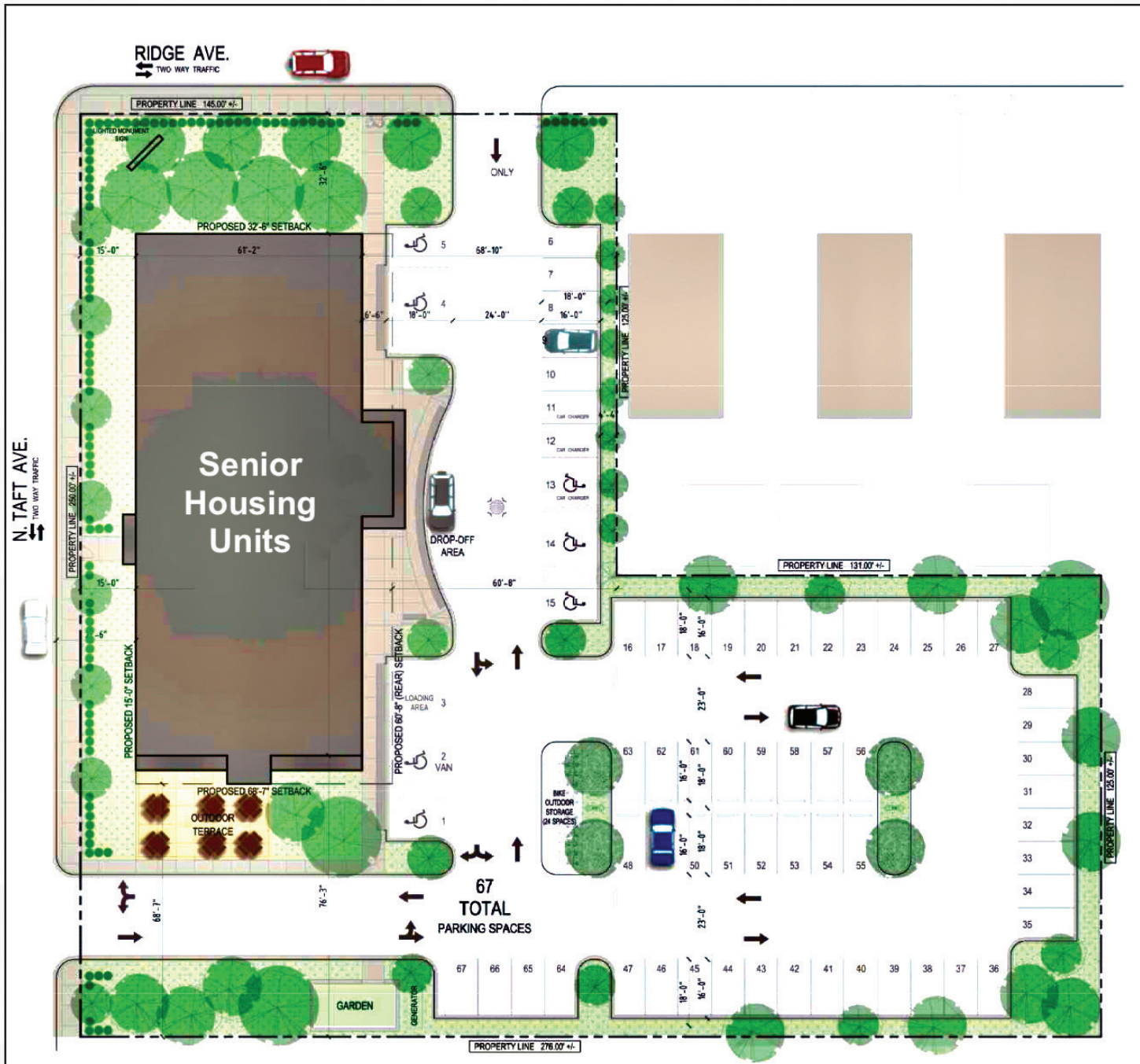
The day-to-day management of the units and approval of tenants will be run by the private firm that manages the two Northlake senior housing facilities. The Village will

own the land but not manage the housing. The building will have a 50-year lease at the end of which, the Village of Hillside will take ownership of the building as a \$14,000,000 asset. **The developer will bear all demolition costs.**

The first 16 units will be prioritized for Hillside residents. After the initial 16 Hillside units are approved then the remaining 26 will be filled from a waiting list which can also include Hillside residents. The vetting process of tenants will be strictly enforced and will include ability to pay, physical health, number of people in household, and other various qualifications.

There is a proposal from some that the senior housing should be located on Village owned property at the corner of Wolf Road and Harrison Street. The problem with this area is that the Village was given this property free by the former Hillside Mall owners because it is too expensive to build on. There is a layer of fill supported by a layer of shifting peat before you hit solid ground thirty-four (34) feet deep. One would have to sink very expensive pylons to make the construction of any building feasible. No senior housing developer would consider this spot because it would be difficult to get Illinois Housing Development Authority approval.

Even though the Village Board approved this senior housing development, it is not a done deal. The next step in the construction of this over-55 housing unit is dependent upon the Illinois Housing Development Authority's approval of the application submitted by Turnstone Development. The application is seeking approval from the Board for credits to fund this project. There are many standards that need to be met before this plan can be approved, such as handicap accessibility, location, construction materials, and many more. Building this senior housing without these approved credits is not feasible for Turnstone or any other senior housing development company. The approval process can take up to one year.



Strong Hillside Real Estate Market in 2022

The Chicago Association of Realtors and Midwest Real Estate Data recently issued their 2022 year-end report on the housing market in the Chicago area. Although the housing market was booming at the start of 2022 by year's end, the market was flat due to higher mortgage rates and inflation.

In the face of these dire economic conditions, **Hillside was the only town in Proviso Township to post a percentage increase in the number of homes sold between 2021 and 2022.** The report also stated that **the median sale price of a Hillside home in 2022 increased by 6.4%.**

Mayor Tamburino commented, *"While Illinois lost population in the latest 2020 census, Hillside gained population. This latest real estate report only confirms that Hillside is a community that families want to call home. Our residents deserve the credit for these encouraging numbers. We are a community that embraces our diversity, maintains our homes' appearances, and provide our youth with a strong sense of right and wrong."*



Information for April 4th Election Day

Early Voting begins next Monday, March 20, 2023 and ends April 3rd. The nearest Early Voting locations to Hillside are:

Village of Bellwood, 3200 Washington Boulevard, Bellwood

Village of Melrose Park, 1000 N. 25th Avenue, Melrose Park

Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Hillside Polling Places for April 4th Election:

Precinct 3 Community Center 1 N. Lind Ave.

Precinct 93 Community Center 1 N. Lind Ave.

Precinct 30 Hillside Village Hall 425 Hillside Ave.

Precinct 60 Hillside Village Hall 425 Hillside Ave.

Precinct 39 Memorial Park District 700 Speechley Blvd.

Precinct 49 Progressive Life-Giving Word Cathedral 4500 Frontage Rd.

For additional information, call the Hillside Village Clerk's Office at 708-202-4325 during regular business hours.



Remove Your Accumulated Junk and Trash During Hillside's Annual Spring Cleanup Week....

May 15th through the 19th



Time to do “**SPRING CLEANING**” and clean out that crawl space, basement, garage, and attic. Residents are encouraged to remove unwanted trash, furniture, appliances, etc. that have accumulated over the years. Please place these items out on your **REGULAR TRASH COLLECTION DAY OF CLEANUP WEEK**. This opportunity comes only once a year.

Acceptable items... Appliances: (stoves, refrigerators, etc.), Bulk Items: (bicycles, toys, etc.), Carpets: (must be in rolls no more than 5 feet in length and 2 feet in diameter), Fixtures: (toilets, sinks, etc.), Furniture, Paint: (must be hardened in cans with lids OFF), Landscaping Timbers: (must be no longer than 3 feet in length).

Non-Acceptable items... Car Batteries, Explosives, Tires, any type of Fluid (gas, oil, etc.), Ammunition, Radioactive Material, Riding Lawnmowers/Snow Blowers, Hazardous or Medical Waste, Large Automobile Parts, Boats, Snowmobiles, Bricks, Concrete Blocks, Cement or Asphalt Pavement Material, Construction, and Demolition Debris.

Disposal of Televisions... The Village of Hillside will **NOT** pick up TV's. For residents only, we have a recycling bin in our lobby where you can properly dispose of certain electronics, including TV's under 30 inches.

Meet Leslie Rios...

Hillside's New Community Outreach Coordinator

Hillside is very pleased to welcome Leslie Rios to the Village of Hillside as their Community Outreach Coordinator. The duties of the Community Outreach Coordinator include brainstorming potential methods for engagement with the local community as well as working closely with community partners to plan and execute special projects. Project management, event coordination, social media management, and attending community events are also all a part of the role.

Leslie received her B.A. in Public Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Here she served as a community outreach coordinator for the College of Urban Planning & Public Affairs. She has been a Hillside resident for many years and is a firm believer in connecting residents to the vibrancy of the Village of Hillside. Leslie commented, *"I am very eager to connect with folks, build a bridge, and figure out the needs of the community."*

If you have any question or concerns regarding community engagement and Village services please contact Leslie at (708) 202-4389.





Mark Your Calendar for the Following Hillside 2023 Events

The following events are tentatively planned for 2023. Read the Hillside Herald for more info as the date of these events approach.

**** *All events and/or times subject to change.*

APRIL

Breakfast with Mr. E. Bunny/Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 8th, Hillside Commons at 9:30 A.M.

MAY

Game Truck Fun for Our Youth - Friday, May 12 Location and Time TBD

Spring Clean Up Week - May 15th thru May 19th

Project UFO, Spring Clean Up - Saturday, May 20th, Hillside Commons at 10:00 A.M.

JUNE

Crosstown Exotic Animal and Bug Show - Friday, June 23, Hillside Village Hall at 7:00 P.M.

JULY

Summer Nights in Hillside - Concerts/Classic Car Cruise

Nights/Food Court/Market Place - Tuesday, July 18th and 25th, Hillside Commons. The Market Place, Food Court, and Cruise Nights start at 5:00 P.M.; Concerts at 5:30 P.M. and 7:30 P.M.

AUGUST

Summer Nights in Hillside - Concerts/Classic Car Cruise

Nights/ Food Court/Market Place - Tuesday, August 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd. Hillside Commons. The Market Place, Food Court, and Cruise Nights start at 5:00 P.M.; Concerts at 5:30 P.M. and 7:30 P.M.

Back to School Event - Date, Time, and Location TBD

SEPTEMBER

20th Annual Cemetery Tour - Saturday, September 30th. Starts at Village Hall at 9:00 A.M. Limited Seating, Reservations Only.

OCTOBER

Hillside-Berkeley AutumnFest on the Prairie Path - Saturday, October 7th and Sunday, October 8th. Taft and Electric Avenues 11 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. both days

Halloween Event/Bonfire - Tuesday, October 31st at the Hillside Commons at 6:30 P.M.

NOVEMBER

Veterans Dinner - Wednesday, November 1st at the Sheet Metal Workers' Union Hall Local #73 at 5:30 P.M. Invitation Only

21st Annual Veterans Day Parade - Saturday, November 4th. Parade Starts at the Hillside Village Hall at 1:00 P.M.

DECEMBER

Santa's Arrival & Tree Lighting - Thursday, December 7th at the Hillside Village Hall, and Courtyard at 6:30 P.M.

Seniors and Homebound Register Today for the Hillside Police Department's *Are You Ok?* Program

The *Are You Ok* Program contacts an elderly person or a homebound individual on a daily basis to confirm their well-being and gives them a feeling of security.

The *Are You Ok?* telephone reassurance system eases the concern of friends and family who may find it difficult to maintain consistent, reliable contact. Our senior citizen population wants the independence of living alone in their homes along with the security of being monitored. The *Are You Ok?* program assists in providing that independence and brings a sense of comfort into every eligible home.

Each day, at a pre-arranged time, the *Are You Ok?* program automatically makes computerized monitoring calls. If the *Are You Ok?* subscriber doesn't answer after a preset number of call attempts, an alert is given visually on the computer's monitor and audibly on the computer's speakers. A printout containing emergency information on the subscriber, including doctor name and phone number, contact name and phone number, next of kin and brief medical history is generated. A Hillside police officer is then dispatched to the home to conduct a well-being check. **To register for this program, call the Hillside Police Department today at (708) 449-6133.**



Beat Those Stuck At Home Blues

Use the Village of Hillside's 50/50 Taxicab Program

Go shopping, see the doctor, visit friends, and you can travel to more destinations using *the Village of Hillside's 50/50 taxicab reimbursement program*. Unlike other government bus or taxi programs that limit your travel to within the Village limits, Hillside's program allows you to travel anywhere in Chicago and the suburbs. To participate in the 50/50 Taxicab Program, here is all you need to do:

Be a Hillside resident, 60 years and over or be 16 years or over with a disability.

Enroll in the program at the Hillside Village Hall, 425 N. Hillside Avenue. Please bring proof of age such as a driver's license, state I.D. card, birth certificate, etc.

Once enrolled, the Village will issue you a permanent taxicab I.D. card to purchase your 50/50 taxicab coupons. Coupons can only be purchased at the Village Hall during regular business hours.

Coupons are sold in \$10.00 booklets – you pay \$5.00, and the Village of Hillside pays the remaining \$5.00. American Taxi (847-255-9614) and Blue Cab (708-583-6900) are the only taxicab companies that accept the 50/50 coupons.

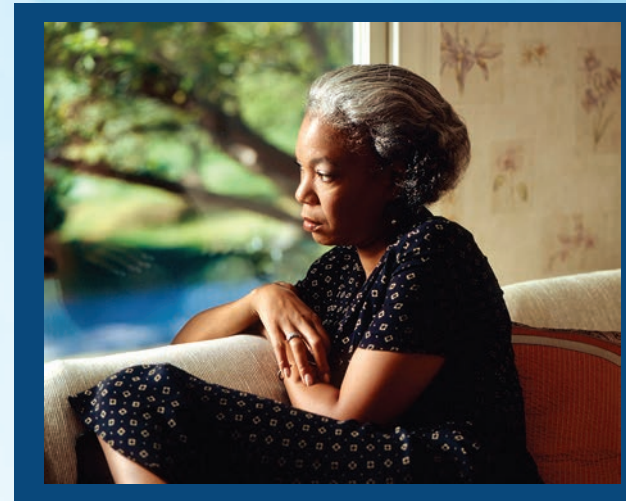
Coupons can pay for the entire fare, including the tip; or you can use the coupons for the fare and tip the driver in cash – the choice is yours.

The coupon allows you to bring up to three friends of any age on your trip at no additional cost.

For more information about this innovative and exciting Taxicab Program, please call 708-449-6450

Helpful 50/50 Taxi Program Hints:

- **Call** at least one hour before you need to be picked up; preferably one day in advance.
- **Advise** the cab company if you will be requiring special assistance.
- **Mention** that you have Village of Hillside 50/50 Senior Citizen Ride coupons.
- **Report** lost or stolen coupons to the Village of Hillside immediately at 708-449-6450.



Serving Those That Served Us...

Hillside's Free Veteran Taxi Program



The Village of Hillside is proud of their Veterans, and to show their appreciation and support, The Village offers a free cab service to all Veterans to travel anywhere in Chicago and the suburbs. Veterans can be accompanied by up to three family members or friends.

Please bring your VA Enrollee ID card or DD214 along with your driver's license or state ID to the Village Hall during regular business hours to sign up and receive your new ID card. Even if you have an ID card for our current cab program, you will need to obtain a new Veterans ID card. Details will be provided upon your registration.

"Egg-stra" "Egg-stra"

The Village of Hillside's Youth Commission invites you to their

"Egg-Citing Event"

Saturday,
April 8th
9:30 AM

Hillside Commons
Hillside &
Washington
Avenues

Hop on over for
a morning of FUN!
Remember... bring your own
basket or bag for your eggs.



Breakfast with
Mr. E. Bunny
at 9:30 A.M.
Donuts while
they last.



Get your running shoes
ready for an "Egg-citing
Egg Hunt" for ages
3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-10
"Basket Egg Grab or Run"
for ages 2 and under.
(ALL ages will start
together at 10:00 AM.)

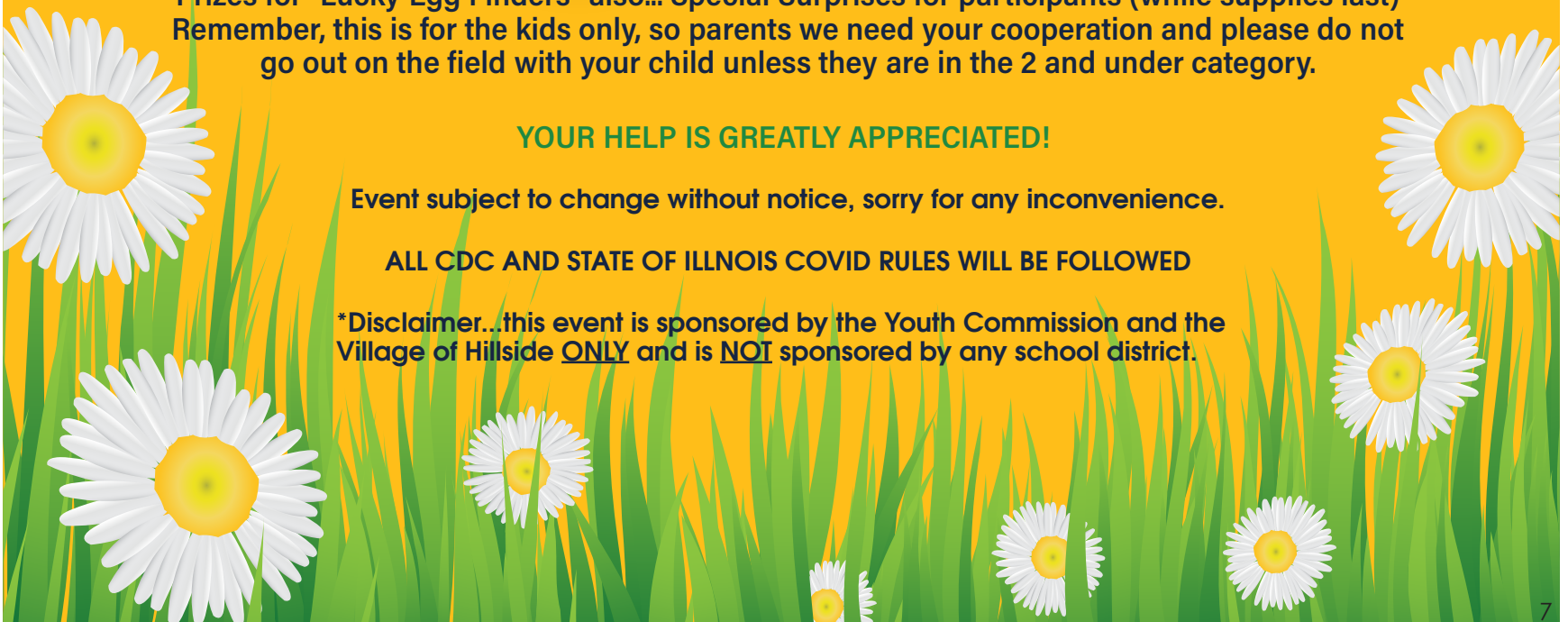
Prizes for "Lucky Egg Finders" also... Special Surprises for participants (while supplies last)
Remember, this is for the kids only, so parents we need your cooperation and please do not
go out on the field with your child unless they are in the 2 and under category.

YOUR HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Event subject to change without notice, sorry for any inconvenience.

ALL CDC AND STATE OF ILLNOIS COVID RULES WILL BE FOLLOWED

*Disclaimer...this event is sponsored by the Youth Commission and the
Village of Hillside ONLY and is NOT sponsored by any school district.



Seniors and Disabled Residents... Have the Village of Hillside Mow Your Lawn

Mayor Tamburino, the Village Clerk and the Village Board are offering an exciting grass cutting program for our qualifying seniors and disabled residents.

For \$10 you receive the following services:

- Grass cutting
- Line trimming areas only not accessible by mower
- Blowing of any loose clippings from driveway, sidewalks and patios
- Hauling away the grass clippings

The program **DOES NOT** include:

- Edging
- Spring/Fall clean up
- Leaf removal
- Fertilization and weed control/aeration/power raking
- Weeding

The following requirements must be met to be eligible for the grass cutting program:

1. A person must be 65 years or older, retired and live in a single residence home.
2. No able-bodied or employed persons under 65 can reside in the household.
3. For those applying due to a disability, you must include documentation provided by the physician treating your condition.

To enroll in this program, please call 708-202-3434 and we will mail you an application form along with information as to where to mail or drop off your filled-out form. Along with your application, you **MUST** show proof of age by including a copy of either your driver's license, state I.D. or birth certificate.

The Village of Hillside will schedule your lawn cutting service. Each month, the Village of Hillside will send out grass cutting service invoices. During the month of June, a senior citizen had their grass cut three times at \$10 per cut, thus they will receive an invoice for \$30. For additional information, call the Public Works Department at 708-202-3434.



"I CAN'T CUT THE GRASS UNTIL I FIND THE LAWNMOWER AND I CAN'T FIND THE LAWNMOWER UNTIL I CUT THE GRASS!"

Sidewalk Needs to Be Replaced? Our 50/50 Sidewalk Program Can Help

The Village offers the public sidewalk program to all residents that want to replace damaged sidewalk squares under the 50/50 program. If this is something you are interested in, please call Public Works at 708-202-3434 to schedule an appointment to assess the sidewalk condition. We will leave a contract for the recommended replacement with the total cost to you.

Please sign the contract, and payment would be required prior to scheduling with our contractor. This work takes place two (2) times per year; late Spring to early Summer and late Summer to Fall. Feel free to call 708-202-3434 with any questions you may have.

Did Your Waste Management Trash, Recycle or Yard Waste Container Take a Beating This Winter?



Call (708) 202-3434 to request a new container and one will be delivered to your home

Keep Your Precious Ones Safe With Village of Hillside's Free Child Safety Seat Installation Program.

Illinois law requires parents and caregivers to secure children in rear-facing safety seats until they are 2 years old, unless they weigh more than 40 pounds or are more than 40 inches.

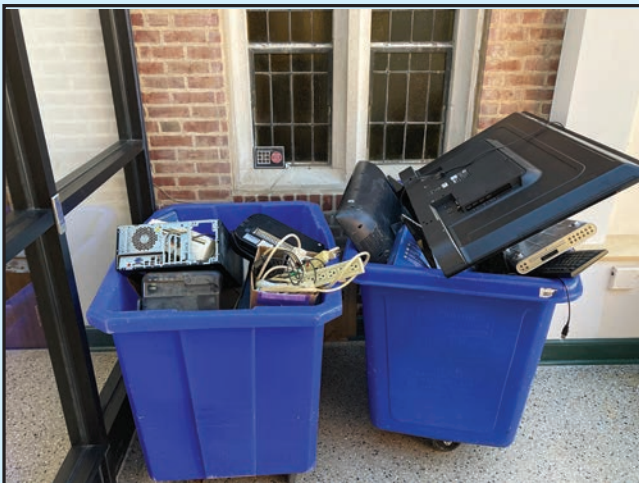
The Hillside Fire Department can help you install your child safety seat properly. It is a free service available to Hillside residents. Please call the fire department non-emergency phone number at 708-547-8684 to set up a time to have your child safety seat installed.



Tips to Follow if You Install the Safety Seat

- Never install a rear-facing safety seat in front of an active airbag.
- Follow recline indicator for rear-facing installation.
- Child's head may need at least one inch or more below the top of the safety seat when rear-facing.
- Use the harness straps/slots at or below shoulder level when rear-facing.
- Harness straps must be snug on the child; the harness clip should be at armpit level.
- When a child outgrows a rear-facing safety seat, he or she may transition to a forward-facing seat with a harness system.

Dispose of Your Old Electronic Devices Today!



The Village of Hillside offers a unique electronic recycling program for Hillside residents only. You can dispose of your old 32" or smaller tube televisions, 60" flat screen TV's or smaller, and other electronics such as VCRs, receivers, telephones, etc. **This recycling program is NOT for small appliances such as toasters, blenders, etc.** The Village of Hillside and Waste Management will not pick-up TVs at curbside. The recycling bins, as seen in the adjoining picture, are located inside the front entrance of the Hillside Village Hall.



IF YOU LOVE THEM... LICENSE THEM

Pet owners don't forget to register your pets. The Village of Hillside has free registration for your dogs and cats. Register your pet(s) in order to **receive your free pet tags**. We only ask that you bring in an up-to-date rabies vaccination report. In case your pet ever gets lost, the Village tag on your pet's collar will help our police department reunite them with you, the pet owner.

Hillside Firefighter Katie Boeke and Her Dog Fable Come to the Rescue!

In early January, Hillside Firefighter/Paramedic Katie Boeke and her dog Fable were dispatched to Glenview to help locate a missing Autistic person. They were part of a response team that included two K9 search teams, two drones, and two support personnel units.

Two deployed K9 teams initiated a track from the person's last seen point after being missing approximately 4 hours. A drone from Glenview Fire Department flew the targeted area to search for the missing person. Shortly after deploying the K9 rescue teams, the subject was safely located.

Only 10 days into the new year the Village was requested to make a difference with Hillside's recently formed trained and accredited *Search and Rescue* team of Katie Boeke and her dog Fable. Great job Katie and Fable!



When Seconds Count... Hillside's **Smart911** Program Could Be a Lifesaver



Over 80% of calls made to 911 come from mobile phones. When you dial 911 from a mobile phone, the 911 call takers have very little information to help you – only your phone number and a very general sense of your location. This is a serious problem in an emergency when seconds count, particularly if you or your loved ones have medical conditions or are unable to safely speak. The easy solution to this problem is registering for **Smart911**.

What is **Smart911**?

Smart911 is a free service used by public safety agencies across the country to enhance communication and response for their community. It can be used by 911 agencies to quickly send first responders to the location of an emergency with more information; by emergency management personnel to better plan for and respond to disasters; and by municipalities to send notification to their citizens.

The 911 service of **Smart911** allows you to create a Safety Profile for your household. This will proactively provide details on your family and home that 911 may need in order to send help in the event of an emergency no matter where you are in the United States.

How does **Smart911** work?

When you sign up for **Smart911**, you can create a secure Safety Profile that will display on the call taker's screen whenever you dial 911 in the event of an emergency. You can add as much or as little to your profile as you want, the choice is yours, but it is recommended you add important details responders need to know during an emergency situation. This may include medical conditions and medications, address details, and photos of yourself, children, or any elderly relative prone to wandering.

How does **Smart911** help?

Better informed first responders are better equipped to help you. With **Smart911**, paramedics are aware of critical medical information like Alzheimer's or allergies. Police have children's photos in case of an Amber Alert and Firefighters know household details – ensuring that everyone is rescued during an evacuation – even pets.

How do I register?

The registration process is quick and easy. Start by visiting the Hillside Village Website www.hillside-il.org and then click on the tab Village Services. In the drop-down menu under Public Safety click on the **Smart911** tab and scroll to the bottom where it says Signup for **Smart911**. After completing the steps, you will have a chance to add optional information or edit the information you have provided. You must complete every step. The service will not work until you have added and confirmed a phone number. For additional information, call the non-emergency fire department phone number at (708) 547-8684.

Be Notified About Tornadoes, Road Closures, Gas Leaks and Other Emergencies... Register Today for Hillside's CodeRED Program



Along with emergency and critical messages like tornado sightings, gas leaks, etc., the **CodeRED** notification system can also enhance our community engagement via the release of important but non-emergency information ranging from road closures and trash collection schedule changes, to snowplow schedules and other services.

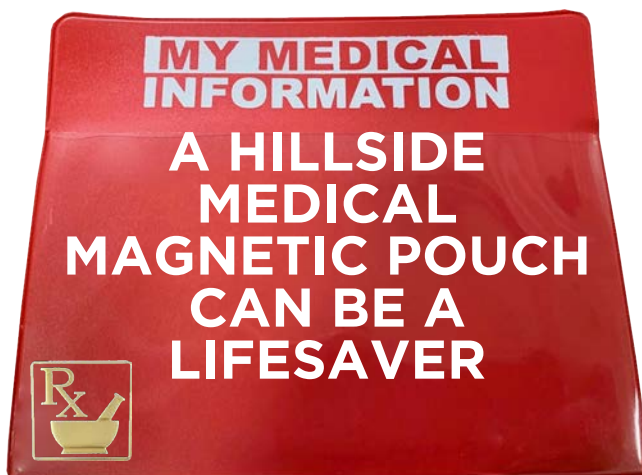
Hillside chose **CodeRED** for its innovative features, user-friendly platform, and information security. Their company-owned redundant data centers help ensure your data is safe, and that we will be able to send messages to thousands of individuals within minutes. We're excited to have the ability to communicate with our residents through text, phone, email and social media, from in the field or at our offices, providing the information they need-to-know to make better informed decisions.

Registration for this notification service is customized, allowing residents to choose which alerts they'd like to sign up for and how they would prefer to receive them. Residents can choose several different methods: landline, cell phone, email, text message, TTY, or even a combination. These alerts can be specific to streets, neighborhoods, or regions so that residents in affected areas are sure to receive this valuable information.

Residents and visitors alike can keep track of alerts in Hillside or while traveling with the **CodeRED** Mobile App, which notifies smartphone holders of real-time alerts in the area.

The mobile technology for **CodeRED** is extremely advanced, providing us enhanced flexibility to issue general and/or emergency messages. We can launch alerts from anywhere at any time, and residents potentially impacted by weather and other time sensitive events will receive them directly to their smartphones. This all happens within seconds, which can make a huge difference in saving lives.

If you have not already signed up, please visit the Village website at www.hillside-il.org to register. Once you are on the Village website home page: 1) click the tab at the top called **COMMUNITY**; 2) then on the popup menu under **RESIDENT RESOURCES** (3rd column), click on **CodeRED** NOTIFICATION SYSTEM; (3) then follow the instructions to immediately start receiving these informative, life-saving alerts. For more information, call our police department non-emergency phone at (708) 449-6133.



Magnetic medical pouches enable Emergency Responders to quickly locate vital information regarding medical history, medications and a contact person. It is a program designed for people with special medical concerns. Pouches are available at the Village Hall and Fire Department and once your medical information is filled out attach the pouch to the refrigerator. Don't leave your health to chance, get your Magnetic Medical Pouch today!

Hillside Public Works Report

STREET SWEEPING

Hillside street sweeping resumes in March. Sweep dates for March and April will be during the week of March 13th-March 17th, March 20th-March 24th, April 3rd-April 7th, and April 17th-April 21st. Please refrain from parking your car on the street during this time so we can effectively clean our streets. Thank you!

ARE YOU READY FOR SPRING CLEANING?

This will take place on your garbage pickup day the week of May 15th-19th. See page 4 in this newspaper for details.



YARD WASTE

Yard waste pick-up is expected to begin the first week of April and will be picked up on your garbage day. Yard waste (leaves, plant debris, grass clippings, twigs, or small branches, etc.) must be placed in your green yard waste cart, and/or for additional yard waste, brown yard waste bags. Be sure to have your carts placed on the parkway or driveway apron the evening before your scheduled pick-up day.

BRANCH PICK-UP

Hillside branch pick-up will be picked up **once a month** by the Village of Hillside Public Works Department. **Place your branches on the parkway the Sunday before pick-up week begins.** Our Department documents each street, with the time and date it was completed, so they will not return until the following month once they have completed a street. The scheduled pick-up weeks are below.

GUIDELINES for Branch Pick-up

- **Place branches on the parkway the Sunday before pick-up week begins.**
- Entire trees will not be removed. Make arrangements with a hauling service to remove debris when cutting down a tree.
- Branch piles not to exceed 8' long by 5' high by 5' wide.
- Logs 5' or more in diameter must be cut into lengths of 2' or less, stacked and will be picked up separately.
- Bush roots must be removed and will be picked up separately.
- **DO NOT mix yard waste with branches.**

BRANCH PICK-UP DATES APRIL 3-6

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS

When contemplating a home project, call the Building/Inspection Services to inquire about the permitting process. This is the homeowner's responsibility, and contractors must obtain insurance and licensing to perform the work. **Permit applications can be applied for electronically on our website: www.hillside-il.org/village-services/pages/permits-applications-forms** Any questions, please call 708-449-6450.

SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE

All residents must follow proper discharge of your storm water sump pump. Water must be directed so the grass areas existing in your front or back yard may readily absorb the runoff without creating a flooding/icing condition to adjacent properties or public ways. Improper discharge will create a public nuisance as said in Section 21.305 (Nuisance) of the Municipal Code of Ordinances.

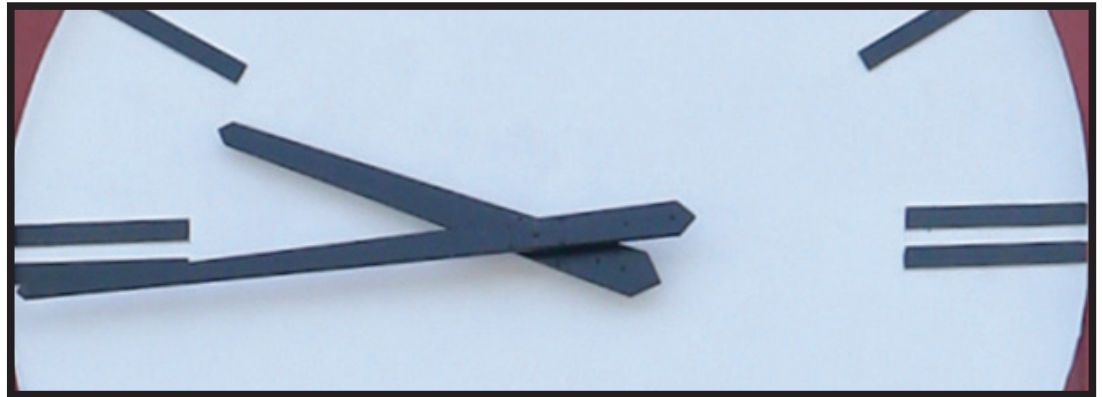
FLOOD SAFETY

The following commonsense guidelines can protect you from the dangers of flooding:

- Do not drive through a flooded area or drive around barriers.
- Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive. Six inches of water can knock you off your feet
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. If your house is about to be flooded, turn off the power at the service box. Electrical current can travel through water. Electrocutation is the second leading cause of death during floods.
- Be alert to gas leaks. If you smell gas, report it to your gas company. Do not use candles, lanterns, or open flames if you smell gas or are unsure if your gas has been shut off.
- Keep children away from flood waters, ditches, and storm drains.
- Clean everything that has been wet. Flood water is contaminated with sewage and other chemicals, which pose severe health threats.
- Look out for animals, especially snakes. Small animals that have been flooded out of their home may seek shelter in yours.
- Do not use gas engines, such as generators, or charcoal fires indoors during power outages. Carbon monoxide exhaust can pose serious health hazards.



PLAY **WHAT** AND **WHERE** IN HILLSIDE AND WIN A



Be like our previous contest winner, Robert Cudny, and win a \$50 Target gift card by correctly identifying this month's Hillside's *Where and What* image and where it is located. All correct entries will be entered in a random drawing where one winner will **win a \$50 Target gift card**.

Rules

- Your entry must be emailed to: hillsideherald50@gmail.com or enter at www.Hillside-il.org/contest
- Entries must be submitted no later than April 5, 2023.
- On your entry, list your name and address. Only Hillside residents can win.
- **NO Village of Hillside elected officials, employees, commission members, or their immediate family households** are allowed to submit entries.



Taking a Break from Winter... Sign Up for Hillside's Vacation Check Program

Keep Your Home Safe by registering for the Hillside Police Department's **VACATION CHECK PROGRAM** which entails an officer stopping by your home twice a day to make sure everything is secure. Call 708-449-6133 or stop by the Police Department at 425 Hillside Avenue to register.

Have Fun While Helping Your Community... Become a Hillside Emergency Management Agency Volunteer



In this issue is a list of upcoming Village sponsored events, like our fabulous Summer Nights in Hillside concert series. These programs need the assistance of the men and women who volunteer to be part of Hillside's Emergency Management Agency team.

In addition to ensuring our community events run smoothly, this agency also provides emergency response to natural and man-made disasters in the Village. And when needed, these volunteers become part of the state or federal response during statewide and federal disasters.

Membership is open to individuals who can devote their free time to assist with emergencies and Village events. Equipment and training will be provided along with uniforms and personal protective equipment that help you perform your duties. Ongoing classes will keep you efficient and current in response techniques.

You must be 18 years of age or older to be a member. A short membership application can be picked up and completed at the Village Hall or at home. Once you return the application, the EMA Director will contact you. Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 7:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. at the Hillside Emergency Operations Center at 4151 May Street. You are welcome to attend a meeting as a guest. EMA is an equal opportunity organization.

Looking to Plant a Tree for Free... Maybe Hillside Can Help

Residents interested in a tree for their parkway can call the Hillside Public Works Department at 708-202-3434 and schedule an appointment.

A Public Works team member will meet you at your residence to see if your tree request qualifies.



Need to Dispose of Unwanted Drugs or Out-of-Date Medications? The Village of Hillside Can Help!



The Village of Hillside has a 24-hour prescription drop-off container in the lobby of the Police Department where residents can dispose of unwanted medications. Prescription drugs left unattended in homes can be just as dangerous as illicit drugs.

Code Compliance

Hillside's Code Enforcement officials are responsible for proactively enforcing Village ordinances regarding the health and safety of Hillside's residents. Our code enforcement team works with residents on a daily basis to resolve code violations that impact the quality of life in Hillside.

Hillside's Code Enforcement

Improving Our
Quality of Life



Functions Of Code Enforcement

- Receiving citizen calls, letters, and in-person reports of code violations.
- Proactively patrolling Village streets and alleys to ensure code regulations are followed regarding health, safety, and aesthetics.
- Investigating and working with private property owners to gain compliance when violations are found or reported.

Top Code Violations To Be Avoided

1. **Watering:** The frequency of outside watering is restricted, depending upon the time of year, the time of day and the drought stage in effect.
2. **Weeds and grass:** Weeds and grass of more than 8 inches in height is unlawful. Property owners and/or occupants are responsible for keeping their lawns mowed to the edge of the roadway and to the middle of the alley.
3. **Junk and unsightly:** It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any junk, debris, and any and all other objectionable or unsightly matter to accumulate upon a parcel of land.
4. **Junked vehicle:** A vehicle that is wrecked or inoperable, or a vehicle that has expired registration and inspection certificates and has remained inoperable for more than 30 days is unlawful.
5. **Illegal dumping:** Some unlawful examples include: Unauthorized use of a dumpster. Discarding trash and debris on another's property. Dumping left on any public or private property.
6. **Garbage containers:** Every resident shall use approved containers provided by the Village to hold the garbage and trash normally accumulating on the premises. Every resident shall keep all garbage and trash containers used securely closed in such a manner as to prevent the scattering of the contents thereof and to render said contents inaccessible to insects, rodents, and other animals.
7. **Low limbs:** It is a violation to allow brush, shrubs, or trees to impede into alleyways, public rights-of-way, or streets.
8. **Standing water:** It is unlawful for any person to allow stagnant water to collect that may allow the breeding of insects.
9. **Signs:** In Residential areas.
 - a. Real estate signs.
 - I. No more than one real estate sign shall be erected on any premises, except one additional "Open House" sign may be used on the day of the "Open House."
 - II. No real estate sign shall exceed six square feet in area. The top surface at the sign shall not exceed four feet in height from the existing grade at the point of installation.
 - III. No signs shall contain the word "sold" or "leased."
 - IV. No sign shall be an illuminated sign.
 - V. No sign shall be on the property for more than three days after the sale has been completed.
 - b. Political signs.
 - I. No more than two candidate signs shall be erected on any premises.
 - II. No sign shall exceed six square feet in area. The top surface at the sign shall not exceed four feet in height from the existing grade at the point of installation.
 - III. No sign shall be an illuminated sign.
 - IV. No sign shall remain on the property for more than three days after the election.
 - c. Contractor signs.
 - I. For a contractor actually doing work on a residential home and only while the work is in progress.
 - II. No more than one sign shall be erected on any premises.
 - III. No sign shall exceed six square feet in area. The top surface shall not exceed four feet in height from the existing grade at the point of installation.
 - IV. No sign shall be an illuminated sign.
 - V. No sign shall be on the property for more than three days from the completion of the work.

HILLSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT 2023 CPR TRAINING SCHEDULE

Class	Cost
Friends and Family CPR	\$40
Heartsaver CPR	\$70
BLS Heartcare Provider	\$70
Stop the Bleed	FREE in-person or online

**UPCOMING
2023
DATES**

March 25th
April 15th
May 27th
June 17th



**Life Safety &
CPR Training**

All classes will be held on each date (Saturday) from 8:00 am -1:00 pm in the Village of Hillside boardroom, located at 425 Hillside Avenue. All classes are limited to eight (8) students, and dates are subject to change or cancellation due to COVID 19 restrictions. All CDC COVID safety precautions will be followed to ensure a safe learning environment.

Please fill out the **CPR Class Registration Online Form found at: www.hillside-il.org under Villages Services**. A representative will contact you and confirm the availability of your preferred class date and complete the registration process. Submitting this form is not a guarantee of availability. Call the firehouse at (708) 547-8684 for more information.



All Hillside residents and businesses receive a 50% discount on class fees with proof of residency. Groups who enroll with five or more people (maximum of 8) and any individual enrolled in a high school or college course that requires CPR certification will receive a discounted rate.

Hillside Fire Department to Conduct Fire and Fall Safety Seminar for Seniors

The Hillside Fire Department is excited to present the **Remembering When Program** at the Hillside Community Center during Senior's Social Group meetings on March 10th and 24th and again on October 13th and 27th. The meetings are from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. The Hillside Community Center is located at the corner of Harrison Street and Lind Avenues.



This program is intended for adults aged 65 and older who are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires compared to the population at large. By age 75, that risk increases to three times that of the general population and to four times by age 85.

The **Remembering When Program** was developed by NFPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and will be presented by **Hillside Firefighter/Paramedic Mark Tomzik**. Mark's presentations intend to help

older adults live safely at home for as long as possible by reinforcing 16 key safety messages that include eight fire prevention and eight fall prevention strategies. We hope to see you there!

Hillside's 21st Breakfast Celebration Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 16th, the Hillside Community Relations Commission and the Village of Hillside hosted their 21st Annual Breakfast honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73 Union Hall in Hillside. It was a sellout crowd with over 300 people attending and enjoying a buffet of eggs, potatoes, sausage, bacon, fruit, bakery goods along with assorted juices, coffee, and tea.

The Hillside Community Relations Commission hosts this breakfast annually in recognition of the Village's strong public policy against discrimination, bigotry, and bias in any form. The purpose of the Commission is to encourage mutual respect, cooperation and understanding between all people and to promote the lawful preservation of human rights of all citizens and to provide all individuals with equal rights.

Master of Ceremony was Commission Chairperson Anthony Padgett. Music was provided by DJ B-Low. Colors were posted by the Broadview/Hillside American Legion Post #626 with the invocation by Bishop Thomas Clark and Benediction by Reverend Richard Gills. Hillside's very own State Representative Chris Welch, the first African American Speaker of the House, offered up his observations about the importance in keeping Dr. King's legacy alive.

The Keynote speaker was Andrew L. Brown, President of Rhema Harvest Group which is a service-disabled group. Brown is the author of *Overcome Adversity Your Dreams Matter*, which has achieved a global presence in 2021.

The Essay winners were 8th grade student Leilani Ortega and 7th grade student Keegan Williams both from Hillside School, who read their essays and received certificates for their outstanding work. Entertainment included the Freedom Baptist Church Youth Performing Arts Ministry. Mayor Tamburino, Village Clerk Gould, The Board of Trustees, Chairperson Anthony Padgett and The Hillside Community Relations Commission along with Special Events Coordinator Evelyn Belmonte, would like to offer gratitude to everyone who participated in the wonderful event.



Community Relations Commission Chairman. Anthony Padgett, Speaker of the Illinois House Emanuel "Chris" Welch and Hillside Mayor Joseph Tamburino at the MLK Breakfast



MLK Breakfast Keynote Speaker Andrew Brown with Broadview Mayor Katrina Thompson



Dancers from Freedom Baptist Church Youth Performing Arts participated in celebrating Dr. King's Legacy



MLK essay contest winner Keegan Williams from Hillside School



MLK essay contest winner Leilani Ortega from Hillside School



Another sold out MLK event enjoyed by all





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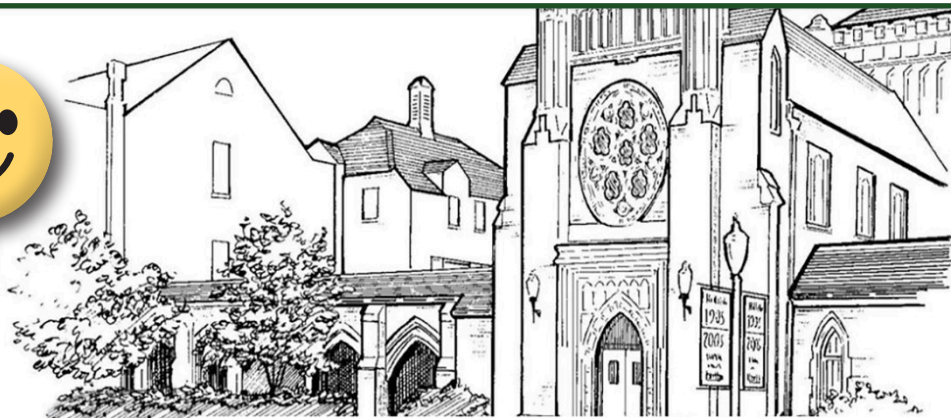
OR THE NEW WAY TO COMMUNICATE BY VISITING THE VILLAGE WEBSITE AT:
hillside-il.org and clicking on the *Here for Hillside* icon
that appears in lower right corner of home page.

Here for Hillside can be accessed in English or Spanish

With *Here for Hillside*, residents can quickly and easily get answers to their questions, find information on various village services, submit service requests, leave a message for staff, or sign up for text message alerts.

SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS

Want the latest news directly from the Village of Hillside? Sign up for text message updates to stay connected with us on the topics that are most important to you. *Message and data rates may apply.



Stay Connected... Stay Informed... Like Village of Hillside Page on Facebook

Following the Village of Hillside on Facebook is one of the best ways to stay connected with the Village. We post frequent announcements and can answer questions you may have.

To stay informed on Village of Hillside happenings, go to the following two Facebook links and then hit the **LIKE** button that appears on the site. You will then be notified of Hillside events and information when they are posted to the Facebook site.

Village of Hillside: www.facebook.com/hillsideil

Hillside Fire Department: www.facebook.com/hillsidefiredepartment

Hillside Library Information

Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday – Saturday 9 am to 5 pm; Sunday Closed

All activities are free!!! Closed: April 28

FOR ALL AGES

B-I-N-G-O Fun - St. Patrick's Day theme party on Wednesday, March 15, 4:30 p.m. and Flower Power on Friday April 7, 10:00 a.m.

Earth Week - April 17 – 22. Pick up claws, gloves, and bags to help clean up Hillside. Students can earn service hours.

Family and Friends Yoga - April 24, 6:00 p.m. Bring your family, friends or just yourself.

YOUTH

Magna Tiles® Day - March 18, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Enjoy this family event celebrating our Illinois Libraries Association Photo of the Year award! Play with the new sets we received through a generous donation from the Magna Tiles®.



Grown-Up and Me: Cloud Dough Activity - Wednesday March 29, at 6:30 p.m.

Bookworm Bunch Story Time - Thursdays, March 9 through April 13 at 3:45 p.m. Ideal for ages 2-4. Caregiver must be present.

Lego® Club - March 22, April 5 and 19 at 5:00 p.m. Ideal for ages 5-11 years old.

Fairy Tale Night - April 12 at 6:00 p.m. Dress as your favorite character for crafts and games.

YOUNG ADULT

Smash Bros Tournament - Play on our Nintendo Switch! Snacks included! Check age groups per date. March 20 at 2:00 p.m. for Ages 14-17; March 28 at 2:00 p.m. for Ages 10-13; Friday, April 7 at 2:00 p.m. for Grades 6-12.

Murder Mystery Game Night - March 21 at 2:00 p.m. and April 26 at 6:00 p.m. Put your sleuthing cap on!

Prom Attire Donation and Pick-Up Event - April 8, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Come by to pick out your perfect prom look! New and gently used donations are now being accepted.

ADULT

NEW! Spanish Conversation Hour - March 16 and April 20, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Are you learning Spanish and want to practice your skills? Join us as we practice speaking Spanish.

NEW! Monday Movie Matinee - April 10, 2:00 p.m. Each month we'll enjoy a classic film with a theme like Hollywood couples, film noir, musicals, comedies, etc. Light snacks and drinks. Easter Parade (Judy Garland & Fred Astaire).

Tech Help - March 27 and April 24, 1:00 p.m. Get one-on-one help with computer basics or your electronic devices.



Blood Drive - April 17, 1:30 – 6:00 p.m. Sign up at https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/5604684. Or scan the QR code seen on this page.

Adult Book Discussion - April 5, 2:00 p.m. *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict.

Mixed Stitchers - Every Thursday, 6:00 p.m.

Mid-Day Yoga - Every Friday, 12:30 p.m.

Community Open House: Saturday, April 22, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Come see what's new, what's ahead, and everything the library has to offer. We'll preview images of our new logo, website, and building! Walk-ins are welcome; registration is encouraged.

How do you get the latest Hillside Public Library news? Take our one question survey.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N9MF9NB>

Circulation Raffles and Giveaways March: Two family game night baskets. April: "You're One in a Minion" Twinkie.

National Library Week - April 23-29 We'll be raffling 2 Hillside Public Library bags with a t-shirt and a book.

EVENTOS EN ESPAÑOL

Hora de Cuentos: martes, 14 de marzo and 11 de abril
4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Área de Niños: ¡Únase a nosotros para la hora de cuentos en español! Se recomienda registrarse. El cuidador debe estar presente. Este evento es para niños edades 3-6 años, pero todos son bienvenidos.

Feel Secure With the Hillside Fire Department Knox Box Program

A Knox Box is a secure container used for storing keys for home or business access. This box allows firefighters and paramedics to quickly enter locked buildings without causing damage to the building's exterior.

Most important, the box helps first responders expedite emergency care for residents who need it most. In case of an emergency, the Fire Department can access the box with a master key only they have. The Medco lock and keys prevent unauthorized duplication.

Emergency information concerning the Knox Box will be made available through the department's dispatch system, which firefighters/paramedics will have access to while responding to the call.

HOW TO OBTAIN A BOX:

The Hillside Fire Department will loan a limited number of Knox Home Boxes to eligible residents. Businesses can purchase the Knox Box. To obtain one of them, contact the department and we will assist you with setting up a time to fill out an application and any other necessary paperwork.

For a Knox Box, Contact the Hillside Fire Department at:

523 N. Wolf Road

Hillside, IL 60162

Phone: 708-547-8684

Fax: 708-544-6405

Website: www.hillside-il.org

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE KNOX BOX PROGRAM ONE MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) The Knox Box must be used on a home or business with a Hillside address.
- 2) For residents, there needs to be an existing medical or physical condition which makes it difficult for them to open a locked door in an emergency.

Once the application has been filled out, the department will determine if the applicant meets the requirements. If approved, the department will contact the applicant and set up an appointment to place the key in the Knox Box and attach the box to the house or business.



Home Knox Box



Business Knox Box

Hillside Dispatch Center Changes Its Name

The Hillside Dispatch Center is changing its name to *Proviso Central* due to the consolidation of dispatch services with Westchester and Berkeley. This will help clear up any confusion that the consolidated center can cause with dispatching for multiple agencies.

Besides providing emergency medical dispatching and answering 9-1-1 and non-emergency calls, we also dispatch calls for the following agencies: Hillside Fire, Hillside Police, Westchester Fire, Westchester Police, and Berkeley Fire. Hillside has the best group of dispatchers around who give their all to the residents and public safety personnel! None of our phone numbers have changed and we are still located within the Hillside Village Hall at 425 N. Hillside Avenue.



Never Too Early To Plan A Block Party



The Village of Hillside encourages residents to plan Block Parties. It is a perfect way to get to know your neighbors and create a sense of community. To receive approval for a Block Party, a written request should be submitted at least 30 days prior to the event to the Village Clerk. In the request please include:

- Date of the Party
- Block address on which it is to be held
- Party Block Coordinator(s) for the event information
- Name, address, and reachable phone number

**Submit your written request to the Clerk's office located in the Village Hall:
425 N Hillside Avenue, Hillside, IL 60162 - Phone: 708-449-6450**

Hillside's Top Rated Fire/Paramedic Department Earns Praise from Loyola Hospital's Emergency Room Supervisors

Fire Chief Carling
Presenting Commendations
to Hillside Firefighter/
Paramedics Pudlo,
Lowman, and Michalski for
Their Heroic Efforts



A Peek Inside a
Hillside Ambulance



A View of
Some of
Hillside's
Ambulance
Life Saving
Equipment



Loyola
University
Medical
Center

December 8th, 2022

Chief Ken Carling
Hillside Fire Department
523 North Wolf Road
Hillside, IL 60162

Chief Carling,

The Loyola EMS Office would like to formally recognize the excellent pre-hospital care provided by Joseph Michalski, Connor Lowman, and Katarzyna Pudlo on November 24th, 2022 (Run Number 22-2663).

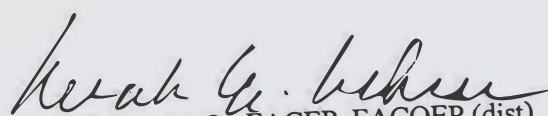
The call involved a 22-year-old male who crashed his car into your fire station after being shot in the head, the neck, and the arm. After ensuring that the scene was safe, the crew promptly came to the patient's aid. He was unconscious and barely breathing at the time of their arrival, and due to his jaw being clenched shut, he could not be intubated.

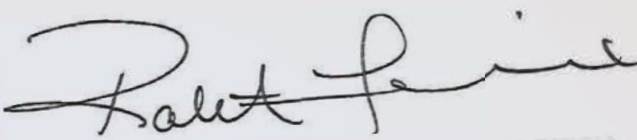
The crew did not hesitate in performing a surgical cricothyrotomy, and were successful in securing the patient's airway and assisting his breathing. The crew then rapidly discovered that the patient had developed bilateral tension pneumothoraces, for which they successfully intervened with bilateral pleural needle decompressions. The crew performed these procedures, controlled the patient's bleeding, implemented spinal motion restriction, established vascular access, obtained vital signs, and initiated transport a mere six minutes after their arrival at his side.

In the emergency department, the patient was ultimately discovered to have sustained three gunshot wounds to the head, one in the neck, one in the chest, and one in the right arm. Unfortunately, his injuries were simply not survivable, and he died the following day, however the impeccable care provided by Mr. Michalski, Mr. Lowman, and Ms. Pudlo gave him the greatest possible chance.

The Loyola EMS Office commends these individuals for their delivery of exemplary care.

Respectfully,


Mark Cichon, D.O., FACEP, FACOEP (dist)
Professor and Chair
Department of Emergency Medicine
Medical Director of EMS and Aeromedical Services
Loyola University Chicago-Stritch School of Medicine


Robert Franciere, DNP, RN, CEN, TNS, PHRN
Manager
EMS System Coordinator
Emergency Medical Services
Loyola University Health System



State Representative Chris Welch Says...
“Avoid the Lines at The Secretary of State’s office, go online for the following services.”

Renew your vehicle sticker from home.

You can easily renew your vehicle registration online from the comfort of your own home. There is no need to wait for Driver Services facilities to reopen to the public.

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JESSE WHITE
 SECRETARY OF STATE

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Upcoming Food Distribution Dates

APRIL 8th
at 11:00 a.m.

Non-perishable donations can be dropped off at the church on Fridays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. - Noon.



2329 S. Wolf Road Hillside, IL
www.immanuel-hillside.org

Join the Village of Hillside Over 60 Club... And Enjoy a More Fun-Filled Life

Hillside Director of Senior Programming Janice O'Connor is very excited about the upcoming year. Already in 2023, The Hillside Senior Club has held a Valentine Party, and a Bingo Game Day. At the March 10th meeting the group will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a corned beef and cabbage luncheon. March birthdays will be serenaded, and cake will be served. On March 15th, a trip to Drury Lane Theater to see "A Corus Line" is planned.



Get Informed on Senior Services like Free Snow Plowing



Be Aware of Area Health Fairs

Membership is FREE to any Hillside resident 60 years and older who would like to join the club. Hillside Seniors can enroll in the group by calling Janice O'Connor directly at 708-544-8599 or visit the Village Hall to sign up. You can also join by cutting out the form below and mailing it to the address on the form or bring it to the front desk at the Hillside Village Hall.



Learn about Fun Events

Meetings are scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 12:30 to 2:30 P.M. These meetings will be held at the Hillside Community Center at the corner of Lind Avenue and Harrison Street.

VILLAGE OF HILLSIDE
Senior Citizen 60 and Over Registration Form
 Please return as soon as possible to:
Village of Hillside
Attention: Janice O'Connor
425 Hillside Avenue, Hillside, Illinois 60162
Questions? Please call 708-544-8599

Name: _____ Name: _____
 Name: _____ Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Hillside Fire Department Will Install Free Smoke Detectors



Hillside's Firefighters using a grant through the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance will install smoke detectors for Hillside residents free of charge. The #1 rated department is committed, devoted, and remains proactive in educating Hillside residents on the importance of having working smoke detectors.

Their providing public education and fire prevention tips throughout the community is the key in keeping Hillside residents, businesses, and visitors in the Village of Hillside "Fire Safe".

To have a smoke detector installed, Hillside residents can call the firehouse (708-547-8684) and request a FREE install of smoke detector(s) or a battery change.

Municipal Calendar of Events



- March 13th Board of a Whole Meeting – 7:30 P.M.
- March 22nd Community Awareness Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
- March 23rd Community Relations Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
- March 27th Village Board Meeting – 7:30 P.M.
- April 10th Village Board of a Whole Meeting – 7:30 P.M.
- April 24th Village Board Meeting - 7:30 P.M.
- April 26th Community Awareness Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
- April 27th Community Relations Meeting – 7:00 P.M.

*** All meetings are held in the Village Hall Board Room



VILLAGE OF HILLSIDE
425 HILLSIDE AVENUE
HILLSIDE, ILLINOIS 60162

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Final Thoughts from Mayor Joseph T. Tamburino

Dear Neighbors,

I would like to discuss the importance of the upcoming April 4th election for village offices, school boards, library boards, and park district commissioners. These local offices comprise approximately around 90 percent of your annual real estate tax bill. With so many property tax dollars at stake, it amazes me that 84 percent of voters in the Cook County suburbs never bothered to vote in the 2021 election cycle.

I understand local elections do not offer the pizzazz of a Presidential election, but the elections for village, school, and park district offices directly affect your day-to-day life and the value of your homes. Your local governments decide what your community's priorities are and how it will be run.

Your village government is responsible for the fire and police. The village board approves contracts for repairs to sewers, streets, curbs, sidewalks, landscaping, and all other capital projects that keep the community safe and clean. They oversee the delivery of water and the collection of trash. They approve zoning requests, issue business licenses, and enact ordinances that businesses and residents alike must follow.

The school board is the link between the classroom and the community. They decide how and what students are learning by setting policies, creating curriculums, and building budgets for the school district. Voting for school board members affects funding for programs like the arts and sports, the school calendar, and the time school begins and ends. They hire or fire school principals and set guidelines for teachers.

Local governments lead the way when the federal or state governments don't. Many landmark federal policies originated at the local level, such as women's suffrage, minimum wage, environmental protection, and marriage equality.

Some people ask, "Why vote, when nothing ever changes?" I refute that thinking by providing the following example:

Until enactment of the 19th Amendment that gave female citizens the right to vote, women had no power over public policy. No political power at the ballot box resulted in state laws prohibiting women from owning and inheriting property, signing contracts, applying for credit, serving on juries, and running for elective office. Jobs for women were limited to the low-paying and menial.

However, with their new voting power, women were able to get laws passed that allowed them the right to inherit and own property. It also gave them access to better jobs, enlistment within the military, individual credit, better female health care, favorable divorce laws, and much more.

By voting in local elections and holding your officials accountable, you can help create the changes you want to see in your community and our country.

Over 1 million servicemen and servicewomen have died, thousands of civil rights advocates were beaten, and many suffragettes were jailed while fighting for the right to vote. For their sacrifices, and more importantly, for your family's future, regardless of your choice of candidate, please vote on April 4th. To quote suffragette Susan B. Anthony, "Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it."

Sincerely,

Mayor Joseph Tamburino

To read this newspaper in Spanish, please visit www.hillside-il.org or scan the QR code

Para leer este periódico en español, visite www.hillside-il.org o escanee el código QR

