



Mayor Joseph Tamburino's End Of The Year Report



Dear Neighbors,

The year 2022 was a year that saw America return to some sort of normalcy. Children were back in the classrooms, employees started returning to their workplaces, people began to attend sporting events, restaurants returned to regular hours, and face mask requirements were loosened. Here in Hillside, the Village Hall experienced no closures or having employees work remotely from home. So let us recap Hillside's busy 2022.

VILLAGE SPONSORED EVENTS

I have always said very few villages host as many events for their residents as Hillside. In 2022 we were once again able to host many events that were canceled in the previous year due to Covid.



Thousands flock to Hillside Commons for Summer Nights in Hillside Concerts

The biggest event is our *Summer Nights in Hillside* concert series. This year we put on five concerts that drew between 4,000 and 7,000 attendees for each event. Our musical events have generated so much buzz that the local ABC and NBC TV stations did stories on the concerts. Our Classic Car show that accompanies the concerts regularly draws nearly 300 cars. In fact, several area cruise night shows had to change their Tuesday events because we were drawing so many cars away from them. In addition to the music and cars, the concert series had 16 food booths and 38 market vendors selling a variety of items.

In May, we hosted our 20th Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast that was sold out as usual. The Village sponsored numerous 2022 events for Hillside residents young and old alike. We had an *Easter Egg Hunt*, *Movie in the Park*, *Game Truck Fun Day*, *Halloween Costume/Bonfire Night*, *a Visit with Santa*, *Tree Lighting Ceremony*, *Holiday Parade of Lights*, *a Family Bowling Extravaganza*, *Project UFO Village-Wide Cleanup Day*, *a Reptile Show*, *Back to School Luncheon*, *Annual Cemetery Tour*, *the Fly Fox Zoo*, *Toys for Tots Drive* with Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73, and what is fast becoming a community favorite... *Autumnfest* on the Prairie Path. We also hosted a seminar on how to appeal your real estate property taxes.



Having Yuletide Fun at Hillside Senior Club Holiday Party

This year we hired Janice O'Connor to serve as our first ever Senior Coordinator. Her main duty is to organize events for Hillside's over 60 crowd. Thus far we have had a free breakfast buffet with guest speaker, Hillside's very own State Representative Emanuel "Chris" Welch. In November, we hosted a Thanksgiving luncheon for our seniors who were wowed by a magician who did tricks at their tables. In December, we treated our seniors to a festive holiday luncheon. The Seniors will continue to meet



Here for Hillside makes it easy to connect with the Village of Hillside for non-emergency services.

TEXT "HELLO" TO (833) 726-0162



ASK A QUESTION

Getting your questions answered has never been easier. Ask a question anytime and Here for Hillside will search the village's website and immediately respond to you with an answer.

SUBMIT A SERVICE REQUEST

Have a problem to report? Here for Hillside helps you send requests quickly and easily. Just let us know what the issue is and the location. We'll make sure the right department gets it resolved.



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.

Hillside Unveils Application That Puts the Wheels of Government at Your Fingertips



The Village of Hillside has launched its new customer service tool, **Here for Hillside**. The AI-powered assistant is accessible via text message 24/7. It was launched in partnership with Citibot, the leading provider of interactive chat solutions for local government. **The Village is the first municipality in the state to launch this new technology.**

With **Here for Hillside**, residents can quickly and easily get answers to their questions, find information on village services, submit service requests, leave a message for staff, or sign up for text message notifications. The platform was developed with the latest AI-driven chatbot technology, allowing the Village to automate and scale its customer service efforts to help with the day-to-day needs of both staff and residents.



To start a conversation via text message, residents can text "Hello" to **(833) 726-0162**. **Here for Hillside** immediately responds with a short greeting explaining the way residents can use the service and a link to sign up for text message notifications.

If at any time during the interaction a Hillside resident needs assistance or help from Village staff, they can leave a message with **Here for Hillside** and the appropriate staff member will follow up with them.

The Village of Hillside is always looking to enhance effective and efficient communication with residents and businesses. With **Here for Hillside**, users will be able to access Village information quickly, easily, and effectively.



About Citibot:

Citibot is a leading provider of AI-powered chatbot solutions for citizens and their governments to use for efficient and effective communication and civic change. Using smart text messaging and web chat technology, Citibot helps residents get answers to questions, report issues, send messages directly to staff, and receive real-time alerts.

Based in Charleston, SC, Citibot LLC was formed in 2016 with a mission of making cities and counties accessible for all. Bratton Riley, Citibot's co-founder and CEO, was inspired by the evolution of the conversational chatbot and its ability to help governments be more accessible and accountable to every resident.

"People's expectations of high-quality customer service are ever-increasing," said Riley. "Municipalities like the Village of Hillside are leading the way by delivering powerful solutions to maximize efficiency and enhance access to information and vital services."

For more information visit <http://citibot.io>.

21st Annual Breakfast Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This Year's Theme Is
Dare to Dream
"For Success, Equality and Freedom"

Monday
January 16, 2023
8:30 A.M.

Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73 Hall
4550 Roosevelt Road, Hillside

\$15 per person – Only Cash or Checks
(made out to Village of Hillside)

Tickets are available for purchase at
the Village Hall, 425 Hillside Avenue
until Monday, January 9, 2023.

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.
Tickets must be picked up in advance.
Reserved seating is for tables of 10 only.

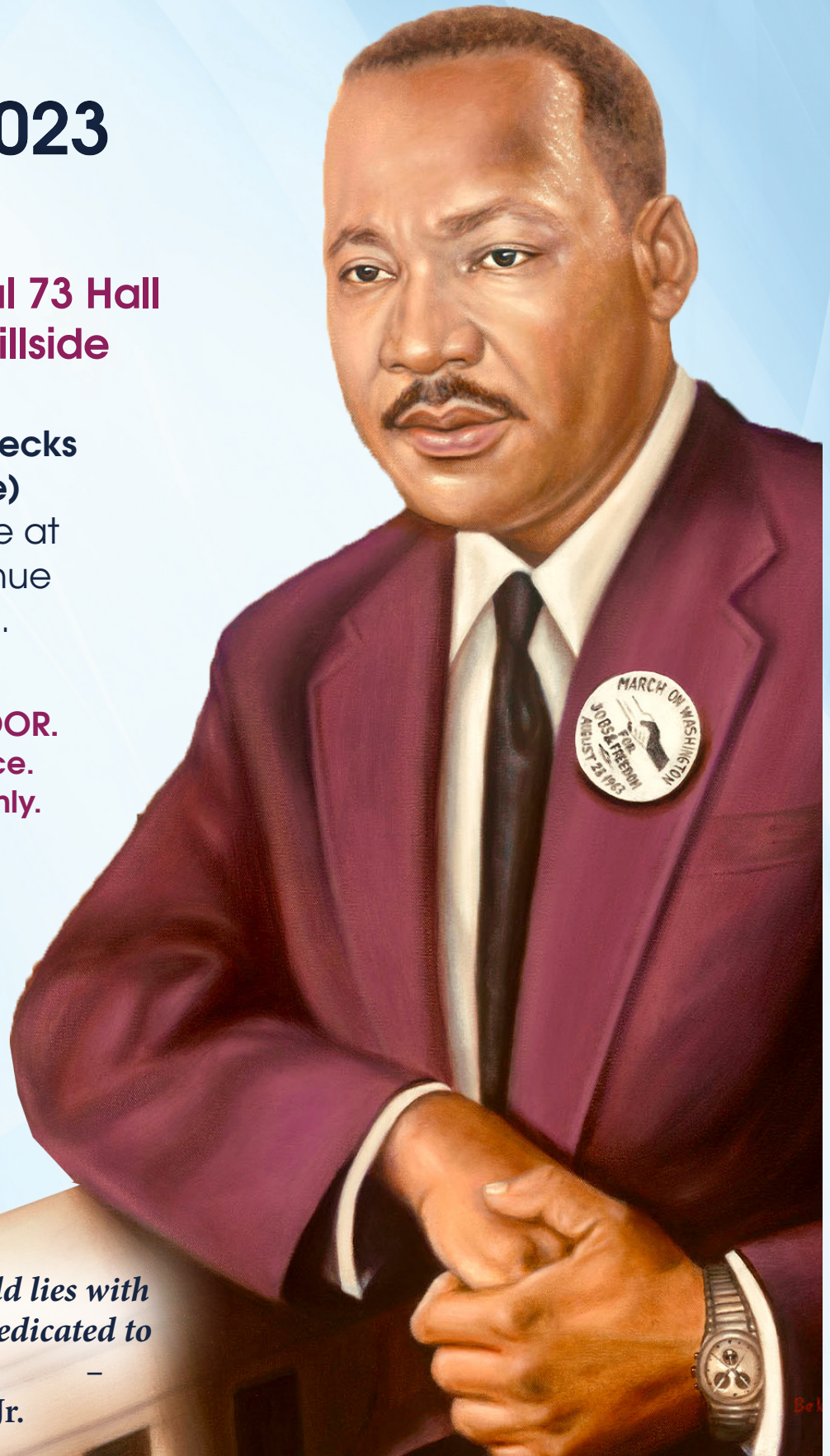
For more information
call 708-202-4343 or visit
our website
www.hillside-il.org
and like us on Facebook!

CDC and State of Illinois Covid-19 guidelines in
place at the time of this event will be followed.

(This is NOT a school sponsored event)

*"The hope of a secure and livable world lies with
disciplined nonconformists who are dedicated to
justice, peace, and brotherhood."*

–
–Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



twice a month starting in 2023. If Hillside seniors 60 and over want to participate in these fun activities, please call Janice at (708) 544-8599.

Hillside prides itself on honoring its veterans. This year we held Memorial Day Services, a Veteran Appreciation Dinner, and conducted our 21st Veterans Day Parade.

Lastly, to support our local restaurants who financially suffered due to Covid, we held Restaurant Week during mid-July. We promoted Restaurant Week in the *Hillside Herald* and had individual banners for every restaurant posted on utility poles around town.

ADMINISTRATION

Even though Covid infections were waning, the Village of Hillside continued partnering with Jewel/Osco and Hillside School District 93 in hosting Covid/Flu/Shingle/Pneumonia vaccine clinics. As of this writing 73% of Hillside residents have completed the Covid vaccine series of shots.

The Village secured a cutting-edge BS&A software system that will be used throughout the Village Hall for financial, utility billing, and community management along with a better resident interface. This is a huge undertaking that will change every single process and workflow internally within the Village and Public Works. In the long run it will expedite work productivity at a cost savings.

After 6 months of department and Village employees' input, the Village's website was updated to better reflect today's need for pertinent and better information. The website is now more user friendly and has many Village forms you can fill out on on-line rather than coming to the Village Hall for these forms. Give it a look at: www.hillside-il.org.



Redesigned Village Website That Is More User Friendly

In May, we approved the *Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's* Prairie Path-Taft Avenue Corridor Plan. The plan proposes better lighting along the Prairie Path; more native plants and gardens along the Prairie Path; a coffee shop on Taft Avenue that can serve trail users and residents; better sidewalks, nicer signs, awnings, benches, and trees along Taft Avenue and the Prairie Path; and better bike connections to the Metra station.

Check out page 2 in this issue to learn about the rolling out of our exciting new "Here for Hillside" community engagement program. We are the first municipality in Illinois to use this software and already neighboring Proviso communities are talking about getting the same program. "Here for Hillside" gives residents and businesses 24-hour access using their cell phones to ask questions, file complaints, request a village service, and much more.

We hired a community outreach coordinator, Leslie Rios. She is bi-lingual and will be able to work with our growing Hispanic community. She will be posting Hillside events and news updates on our social media platforms including the Village's website and Facebook Page.

We were once again awarded the "Government Finance Officers Association Award". This award is given for Excellence in Government Finance that recognizes innovative programs and contributions to the practice of government finance that exemplify outstanding financial management. **We have received the 8th most GFOA awards in Illinois and only 187 municipalities in the state have received even one of the prestigious awards.**

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The big news in this Department was the retirement of Police Chief Joe Lukaszek after serving in that position for 17 years. On July 11th, a special Village Board Meeting was held to appoint Sergeant Daniel Murphy, a 25-year Department veteran, as the new Chief. The Village Board also appointed Sergeant Laith Ibrahim as Deputy Chief, who has been with the Department for 25 years. The Deputy Chief position had not been filled since 2005.

In 2022, the Department hired three new Officers, two of which were trained and on the street by the end of the year. We now have more police officers patrolling our streets than ever before. The Department also restructured the department command staff to streamline communication and save money.

Another very important Department development in 2022 was the issuance of body worn cameras to every police officer on duty. We purchased these cameras two years ahead of the state mandated schedule. Body-Worn Cameras (BWC) will coordinate with the cameras installed in the police cars.



New Police Chief Murphy and New Deputy Police Chief Ibrahim at Swearing in Ceremony in July

As soon as an officer activates the mars lights, the camera in the squad car automatically turns on and starts recording. As a result, we have two different cameras with different angles recording a situation. Recordings are automatically uploaded to a secure server located off-site from the agency and must be saved for a minimum of 90 days or longer depending on the content.

While on cameras, the Department has “Flock Camera Readers” installed in high traffic areas. The Flock readers give officers the ability to search for vehicles based on full and partial license plate numbers, make and model, and to flag vehicles for investigative purposes. The cameras provide police officers with real-time notification on their laptops or cell phones when vehicles are tagged as stolen or wanted as they enter or exit Hillside. Their use is intended to solve crimes.



Hillside Police Officer Wearing Body-Worn Camera

All the old tasers were upgraded to Taser7’s, which has better technology and is a more reliable instrument. AED (defibrillators) are now placed in all police department vehicles and all officers are now certified in Heartsaver/CPR. Speaking of police vehicles, you may have noticed this year we started transitioning to Ford Explorers from Chevy Tahoes. A cost analysis showed they cost less to purchase and maintain.

In 2022, the Department created Hillside’s first ever Traffic Bureau to focus on traffic safety, compliance, and truck enforcement.

Chief Murphy was busy attending workshops to learn the latest in law enforcement techniques and programs. He attended a New Chiefs of Police Orientation hosted by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board’s Executive Institute. Detective Sergeant Pereda and the Chief then attended the Police Executive Role in the 21st Century by the Illinois Law

Enforcement Training and Standards Board’s Executive Institute. Finally, Chief Murphy and Deputy Chief Ibrahim participated in a Pretrial Fairness Act working group comprised of community stakeholders on how to properly implement the controversial SAFE-T Act that started in January of 2023.

Our officers participated in the 2022 Dunkin Cop on a Rooftop Fundraiser raising over \$6000 for Special Olympics. The Department hosted the 50th Anniversary Memorial Service for fallen Hillside Police Patrolmen Anthony Raymond that included members of the Raymond family. Officer Raymond is the last Hillside Officer killed in the line of duty.

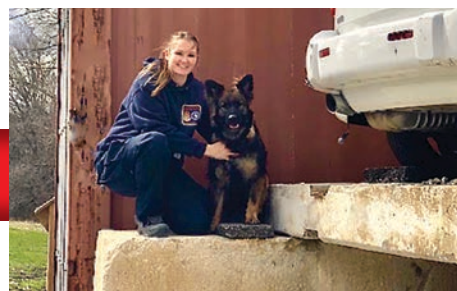
FIRE DEPARTMENT

The following improvements in 2022 ensure that Hillside’s Fire Department will continue to be rated in the top 1% of Fire Departments in the country.

1. Hired two new Firefighter/Paramedics in 2022
2. Revamped Hillside’s Fire Prevention and Public Education Division
3. Awarded a FEMA AFG Regional grant (Bellwood, Berkeley FD) for \$641,588 for the purchase of new portable and base station radios, and automatic CPR chest compression devices.
4. Designed and spec’d out a new ambulance to replace the aging 2014 ambulance. Expected delivery 2024-2025.
5. Installed a digital shared fire alarm status screen/board with dispatch.
6. Firefighter/Paramedic Katie Boeke became a member of the K9 Search and Rescue Strike Team as well as the MABAS Illinois Task Force One Urban (IL-TF 1) Search and Rescue Team.
7. Received a grant to purchase a medical lift chair that assists Firefighter/Paramedics in safely moving a patient down the stairs.
8. Obtained a grant from the Operation Helping Heroes program to purchase a new cordless 9” saw.
9. Purchased a new turnout gear extractor (to replace our old 30-year machine) for cleaning Firefighter’s turnout gear.
10. Hillside Ambulance 400 attended the CFD/MABAS mass casualty exercise at O’Hare Airport.
11. Training continues with Firefighters/Paramedics attending State Fire Marshal seminar. They also participated in Vehicle Extrication, Fire Investigator, Fire Inspector, Fire Apparatus Engineer, Basic Operations Firefighter, Advanced Technician Firefighter, Haz Mat, and Active Shooter classes and seminars.
12. Chief Carling and Captain Wyckoff earned Chief Fire Officer certification from the State Fire Marshal



Fire Department Hosts Multiple Fire Safety Education Talks for Children



Firefighter/Paramedic Katie Boeke with Hillside's First Search Dog

Our top-rated Fire Department continued its excellent work in interacting with the community.

1. The Department conducted eight CPR classes.
2. Fire Department personnel attended various Village and non-Village events including Village “Egg-Citing Easter event, Summer Nights concerts series, Autumnfest, Halloween, Tree Lighting, Back-to-School event, Anthony Raymond Memorial Service, Chris Welch back-to-School event at PWHS, Senator Kimberly Lightford 13th annual Back-to-School event at Brookfield Zoo, Autism & Development Disabilities Walk-A-Thon at PWHS, First Responder Career Expo at Triton College, Youth Commission Family Bowling Event, and many more.
3. Hosted 2022 HFD open house at the Fire Station that was attended by scores of Hillside residents.
4. During National Fire Prevention Week (10/9-15) Hillside Fire Officers made visits to Hillside School, Immanuel Lutheran School, and Menta Academy. The Department also hosted visits to the fire station by local daycare centers. The Department educated roughly 1000 children on fire safety.
5. They implemented the HFD “Little Free Library” book exchange at the fire station.
6. Coordinated the Village’s Help Heroes of Ukraine. They sought donations and deliver those donations to this organization to help the Ukrainian people suffering through the war.
7. The Department received the "Humanitarian Award" at the Answers Inc. Autism Gala, for their work with the Autism Awareness t-shirt fundraiser.
8. Continued many of the existing Fire Prevention Public Education programs including: MyID, Home Key Box, Free Car Seat Installs, Home Safety Inspections, Block Party Appearances, Fire Extinguisher Classes, and School Fire Safety talks.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works performs many tasks such as cleaning garbage and debris around the Village, removing dead animals, filling potholes, maintaining signage, trimming trees, and removing Village trees as needed. They are also reporting and repairing streetlights, maintaining vehicles in addition to countless other requests and needs, such as repairing water main breaks.



Public Works coordinated with Department of Transportation on Wolf Road Construction Project

Our Public Works Department, which is the best in the area, had a productive 2022. They are typically behind the scenes keeping things looking their best and running smoothly as they take pride in their work. For example, the success of *Summer Nights in Hillside* Concerts is partially due to the countless hours they put in. Public Works does all the set-up from electrical to preparing the grounds for the vendors and concert attendees. The grounds are always immaculate for concert goers and kept that way as Public Works constantly patrols the area collecting trash while musicians are playing on stage.

Last January, February and March were very cold and snowy. Our Public Works team worked around the clock performing snow removal and salting to ensure Hillside’s streets were safe and drivable. They accumulated the most overtime hours we

have experienced (347 hours) in many years to keep up with the relentless weather conditions



Public Works Known for Being the Best in the Area for Keeping Streets Clear of Snow

In June of 2022, when Hillside was hit with a tremendous summer storm, our Public Works staff worked countless hours to clean up the streets. When they could they even assisted residents in removing large limbs blocking doors and driveways.

While they attended to this damaging storm, they were keeping up with cutting grass, working with contractors performing hydrant repairs, working on road repairs, meeting with Com Ed on lighting issues, rodding/jetting sanitary and sewer lines, maintaining Village properties to name just some of their many obligations.

In December, they installed decorative planters for the holiday in the Butterfield business district and at the corner of Taft and Electric. These planters will have blooming plants in them come this Spring. In October, Public Works purchased a much-needed Vactor Truck that is used for cleaning catch basins, culverts, storm drains, and handling large-scale clean-up operations like sewer or septic systems.



EMA Handles Crowd Control at Hillside Events

They also worked with the Illinois Department of Transportation and Cook County on the Wolf Road resurfacing project that lasted most of the summer.

Hillside’s Emergency Management Agency

This Agency, consisting of volunteers, is invaluable in helping our Village sponsored events be a huge success like the Summer Concert Series, Halloween Night, and Tree Lighting Ceremony.

They continued to initiate new procedures and provided updated training to ensure a more cohesive team approach when they are on an assignment. They have 15 volunteers in the EMA unit with

WINTER FOOD DISTRIBUTION DATES

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 14 & FEBRUARY 11
AT 11:00 AM**

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



**Immanuel Lutheran Church Food Pantry
2317 S. Wolf Rd. Hillside, IL
708-562-5590**

WWW.IMMANUEL-HILLSIDE.ORG

Start the New Year Right Register Your Pets with the Village of Hillside



Pet owners, don't forget to register your pets. The Village of Hillside has free registration for your dogs and cats. We recommend that you register your pet at the beginning of the year 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.

Help Our Fire Department Protect Your Home

Snow can prove especially challenging when trying to fight fires, because in many cases, it makes the fire hydrants hard to access.

the hydrant so firefighters have easy access. Please make a path from the hydrant to the street so it can be accessible quickly. Remember, every second counts!

If there's a fire hydrant near your home that is covered with snow, please do your part to keep it visible this winter by clearing at least a three-foot radius around

Ice around the fire hydrant??? Could be a leak; contact the Public Works Department immediately at 708-202-3434.



DON'T GET STUCK... OBSERVE HILLSIDE'S WINTER PARKING REGULATIONS

Parking is not permitted on any public street or alley within the Village when snow accumulation reaches three inches (3") or more, and until snow removal operations are completed.

PLEASE DO NOT SHOVEL OR BLOW SNOW INTO OR ACROSS ANY PUBLIC STREET OR SIDEWALK (CODE OF ORDINANCE'S SEC. 74-9).

Icy patches and frozen blocks of ice form and create hazardous conditions for pedestrians and vehicles. Please keep the snow on your own property and parkway.





VOTE 2022

ELECTION RESULTS

for
Village of Hillside



On November 8th, approximately 46% of registered Hillside voters participated in the 2022 General Election. Hillside voters continued their strong preference for Democratic Party candidates. In each Hillside precinct, every Democrat defeated their Republican opponent with 74% or more of the votes cast in that particular race. Hillside voters overwhelmingly approved *The Worker's Right Amendment* to be added into the Illinois Constitution. This amendment expands collective bargaining rights, among other pro worker issues. into the Illinois Constitution. The next election will be on April 4th when village, township, school district, and park district candidates will be up for election.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

Precinct 3 Community Center
 Precinct 93 Community Center
 Precinct 30 Hillside Village Hall
 Precinct 60 Hillside Village Hall
 Precinct 39 Memorial Park District
 Precinct 49 Progressive Life-Giving Word Cathedral

	Tammy Duckworth (D)	Cathy Salvi (R)
	369	74
	262	77
	337	81
	260	49
	471	83
	231	42
TOTAL	1,930	406

GOVERNOR ILLINOIS

Precinct 3 Community Center
 Precinct 93 Community Center
 Precinct 30 Hillside Village Hall
 Precinct 60 Hillside Village Hall
 Precinct 39 Memorial Park District
 Precinct 49 Progressive Life-Giving Word Cathedral

	JB Pritzker (D)	Darren Bailey (R)
	359	81
	260	77
	331	80
	254	52
	468	87
	224	39
TOTAL	1,896	416

BOARD PRESIDENT COOK COUNTY

Precinct 3 Community Center
 Precinct 93 Community Center
 Precinct 30 Hillside Village Hall
 Precinct 60 Hillside Village Hall
 Precinct 39 Memorial Park District
 Precinct 49 Progressive Life-Giving Word Cathedral

	Toni Preckwinkle (D)	Bob Fioretti (R)
	342	82
	248	88
	321	85
	241	58
	450	97
	218	43
TOTAL	1,820	453



The Village of Hillside
Youth Commission's

Boliche
EN FAMILIA
ESPECTÁCULO

Registración empieza a las 11 A.M.

El Costo es de \$5 por persona
(incluye renta de zapatos)

Hillside Bowl

4545 Harrison Street • Hillside

Sábado, 25 de Febrero • Mediodía hasta las 2 PM

(Espacio limitado: Se atiende por orden de llegada)

Este evento está patrocinado SOLAMENTE por Village of Hillside y NO está patrocinado por ningún distrito escolar.
Se seguirán las ordenes locales de CDC y el estado de Illinois sobre el COVID-19 vigentes en ese momento. Para más información llame al 708-202-4343.



The Village of Hillside
Youth Commission's

FAMILY
Bowling
EXTRAVAGANZA

Registration opens at 11 AM
Cost \$5 per person (includes shoe rental)

Hillside Bowl
4545 Harrison Street • Hillside

Saturday, February 25th • Noon until 2 PM

(Limited space available-first come first serve)

This event is sponsored by the Village of Hillside ONLY and is NOT sponsored by any school district.
CDC and State of Illinois Covid-19 guidelines in place at the time will be followed. For more information call 708-202-4343.

Hillside Public Works Report



SNOWPLOW SAFETY

Stay safe around snowplows by keeping your distance. A snowplow driver's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they may not see you. Watch for sudden stopping or turning. Plows are wide and can cross center lines. Do not tailgate and do not pass. Snowplows tend to go under the speed limit. Be patient and allow plenty of time to slow down. **Take it slow and be safe this Winter!**

SNOW REMOVAL

Parking is not permitted on any public street within the Village when snow accumulation reaches three inches (3") or more until snow removal operations are completed.

Please do not shovel or blow snow **into or across** any public street or sidewalk. (Code of Ordinance Section 9.108.1). Icy patches and frozen blocks of ice can form which are a danger to pedestrians and vehicles. The Village does not clear neighborhood sidewalks. Please be a snow angel and shovel your sidewalk so school children and pedestrians can walk with greater ease and safety. Also, if able, please clear snow from around fire hydrants and storm sewers. **Please keep the snow on your own property and parkway.**

SENIOR SNOW PLOWING

If you are part of the Senior Snow Removal, please be sure your addresses are clearly displayed or lit up. This is helpful when it becomes dark and the driver is trying to identify an address. This is also recommended in the case of an emergency. The minutes it takes to find the address could make a difference.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLE CARTS

Garbage, recycle, and yard waste carts, by Ordinance (Article 1, Sec. 70-33), must be put out on the parkway and **NOT IN THE STREET**. The Public Works Department is unable to maintain our streets (snow plowing) with these obstacles on the street.

To ensure pick-up on your scheduled day, the Village highly recommends placing your garbage out on the parkway any time after 4:00 p.m. the day before your scheduled pick-up day to ensure pick-up the following morning.

Holidays delaying the garbage pick-up by one day are: New Years, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

STREETLIGHTS

Please call us to report the outage of a streetlight so we can keep our Village lit up!

January & February

Call the Public Works and Building
Services Department at 708-202-3434
if you have any questions.



WATER BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS

Auto-Pay - Paying automatically with our payment service makes it convenient and worry free paying your monthly water bill to the Village of Hillside. How does it work? Your monthly payment is automatically taken from the account you authorize the bank to use, and the money is directly credited to your water account at the Village. You will continue to receive a paper statement for your records. If you are interested, call our Water Billing Clerk at (708) 202-3462, or stop in for a form to sign up.

Hillside Website - pay online @ www.hillside-il.org. Choose Water Payments using Green Pay, which is another option to pay your bill, especially if you prefer to stay home in the cold snowy weather.

Drop Box - A 24 hour drop box is located in the south parking lot by the Village Hall at 425 N. Hillside Avenue.

Late Payments - Payments must be received in our office by the due date to avoid a 5% penalty charge. Failure to receive a bill or payment by the due date does not excuse the late charge. Payments must be received, not postmarked, by the Due Date to avoid the penalty charge.



Robert Cudny Wins \$50 Target Gift Card by Correctly Guessing the Hillside Bowling Sign on Harrison Street



◀ Village Trustee David Delgado on the right presenting Robert Cudny his Target Gift Card

As predicted, this month's *Where and What* photo was an easy one with dozens of people correctly guessing that the "L" was found in the Hillside Bowl sign. The names were put in a hat with Robert Cudny, who lives on Madison in Hillside, being named the winner. We are sure the Target gift card helped with his Christmas shopping. Look for *Where and What* games in future editions of the Hillside Herald.

Voter Registration at the Village Hall Is Open Until March 7th for the April 4th election



March 7th is the last day to register to vote in person at the Village Hall for the April 4th election. March 19th is the last day to register to vote online at: www.cookcountyclerk.com.

To register you must meet the following criteria:

- ▶ You must be a United States Citizen.
- ▶ You must be 18 on or before the date of the next election, which is June 28, 2022.
- ▶ You must live in your election precinct at least 30 days prior to Election Day.
- ▶ You must not be serving a sentence of confinement in any penal institution as a result of a conviction.
- ▶ Not registered to vote anywhere else.

To register at the Village Hall, please bring two forms of identification, i.e. driver's license, utility bill, etc. One must show your current address. New residents with a current voter registration card from elsewhere may transfer their registration by mail or re-register at the Hillside Village Hall.

Hillside's Fun Continued

After Hillside's popular Summer Nights in Hillside concert series ended the

Cemetery Tour

Saturday, October 1st, Mayor Joseph Tamburino served as a guide for Hillside's 19th Annual "sold out" Cemetery Tour. The tour started at the Village Hall with a Continental Breakfast. Participants then boarded the trolley for an amazing historical tour of Hillside's cemeteries. Mayor Tamburino pointed out cemetery landmarks and final resting places of the famous and infamous. Everyone returned to the Village Hall for a delicious box lunch and "goody bag". Since reservations are limited, please watch for next year's tour date on Hillside's website.



AUTUMNFEST a Big Hit

On the sunny weekend of October 8th and 9th, Hillside partnered with the Village of Berkeley for "Autumnfest on the Prairie Path". There were over 60 craft booths, many food vendors, musical acts, street entertainers, rides, and even wild animals for all to enjoy. This was the second year for "Autumnfest", but the overwhelming public response indicates this will definitely become an annual event.

2022 Fire Department Open House

On Saturday, October 15th, the Fire Department welcomed a large crowd of residents to the station on Wolf Road. People were able to view the "Pink Heals" Fire Truck and interact with "Those Funny Little People". There were raffles, free hot dogs/chips, and an educational Safety Trailer. Rides were provided in Hillside's old 1975 fire truck. There were demonstrations in the proper use of fire extinguishers and auto extrication methods using the "Jaws of Life".



With Fall & Winter Events

By Evelyn Belmonte
Hillside Special Events Coordinator

Village continued the good times as seen in the following pictorial.



Back to School with Fun and Free Gifts

The Community Relations Commission held their 2nd Annual Back to School Bash on August 27th. Kids of all ages joined in on the fun with time on the "Game Truck", dancing to music, enjoying a lunch, compliments of Home Run Pizza, playing games, receiving free gifts and important back to school information from different organizations. A "selfie station" was on hand so kids could capture those fun picture-perfect memories.

"NEW" Hillside Senior Social Events For Residents 60 and Over



On October 14th, a free buffet breakfast was provided for Hillside's senior citizens 60 and over to introduce them to the newly formed Social Club and Coordinator Janice O'Connor. This event was held at the Best Western Hotel and special guest, Hillside's very own **State Representative Emanuel "Chris" Welch** talked about the important services his office provides for Senior Citizens.

Seniors who signed up were then invited to a free Thanksgiving luncheon on November 14th that was held at the Sheet Metal Workers' Union Hall. A delicious lunch of turkey and all the "fixings" were served. A roving magician got to meet our seniors as he performed his card tricks at their tables. On December 16th, seniors met again for a fun free lunch at the Alpine Haus that put everyone in the spirit of the season. The Seniors will continue to meet twice a month starting in 2023. Special outings will be planned for this energetic group. If Hillside seniors 60 and over want to participate in the 2023 activities, please call (708) 203-4343!

Hillside's Fall &

Hillside's Halloween Tradition Continues

This past Halloween, the Village of Hillside continued their tradition of hosting a Halloween night Bonfire and Costume Contest for all ages. Prizes were given to "winners" in each age group, and everyone received a special "treat bag". The night also included the popular horse drawn wagon. This was another free fun event hosted by the Youth Commission.



Veterans Day Parade and Veterans Dinner

No village honors its Veterans for their service like Hillside. On an overcast damp November 5th, the Village of Hillside hosted its 20th Annual Veterans Day Parade. But the gloomy weather did not dampen the spirit of the marchers representing JROTC units, youth organizations, Shriner groups, schools, bands, American Legion, and VFW Post members. This year's Grand Marshall was U.S. Marine Corp and Vietnam Veteran, Village Trustee David Delgado. At the tail end of the parade dozens of fire trucks and police vehicles from neighboring towns with sirens blasting and mars lights flashing participated. A few days prior to the parade, the Village held their annual dinner at the Sheet Metal Union Hall for our Hillside Military Veterans. This was our way to thank them personally for their service.



Winter Events (Continued)

Tree Lighting and Visit with Santa

December 1st, the Village of Hillside kicked off the holiday season with its Annual Tree Lighting event in the Courtyard of the Village Hall. The festive tree was lit by Santa Claus himself who arrived in style on a Hillside Fire Truck. Santa then sat in the Village Hall Boardroom where he listened to children as they told him what they wanted to find under their tree on December 25th. The Hillside Youth Commission handed out special gifts to the children and free pictures were taken of each family. Hot cocoa was provided by the Shriners, and treats were provided by the Hillside Library and Memorial Park District. Carolers serenaded the attendees with beautiful seasonal songs, and "Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer" welcomed all the smiling faces.



Holiday Parade of Lights

On Wednesday, December 21st, we held our 3rd Annual Holiday Parade. Lights and sirens from our Hillside Police and Fire Departments led the parade throughout the Village streets with special Guest "Santa Claus". Santa was joined by Mayor Tamburino, the Village Trustees, and members of all the departments. Everyone enjoyed seeing Santa in their neighborhood.



Thank You!

At this time, we would like to take a moment to thank all our Sponsors who help make these events possible! We hope you enjoyed the 2022 activities, and we look forward to a FANTASTIC 2023!

A Message from Village Trustee John Kramer... **Air Force Veteran & Broadview-Hillside American Legion Member**

I hope your holidays were joyous and that you got to spend them with family and friends.

Many years ago, when I was in the Air Force, I was serving a tour in Korea during the holidays. We did celebrate the holidays and enjoyed the meals and festivities over there, but most of us were separated from our families. On Christmas day, I remember a sudden sadness came over me. I pictured my oldest son, who was just a few months old, opening his gifts with all my family gathered around to see what I could only imagine. He was probably too young to realize his father wasn't there, but it was little comfort. I also missed his first birthday and seeing him walk for the first time. Many of our service people have similar experiences.



I ask all of you to take a moment to remember all our men and women serving their country in faraway places, especially those who are separated from their families. To help ease the pain of year-round separation, please consider donating to one of the following Department of Defense approved not for profit organizations that send care packages to military personnel stationed overseas:



- Adopt a Platoon Soldier Support Effort at: www.adoptaplatoon.org
- Any Soldier Inc. at: www.anysoldier.com
- For the Troops at: www.forthetroops.org
- Forgotten Soldiers Outreach, Inc. at: www.forgottensoldiers.org
- Hugs Project at: www.thehugsproject.com
- Operation Gratitude at: www.operationgratitude.com

God bless America and stay safe.



COME RIDE WITH US!
Hillside Police Department
RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM
Details and application at
www.hillside-il.org/ride-along-request-form

The Hillside Police Department offers a ride-along program to all residents and businesses in Hillside. The ride-along program allows residents to sit alongside a police officer for up to a 4-hour period on any shift desired. This is an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment for transparency to our community. It is also a chance to get to know your police officers while learning modern policing today, and what obstacles exist. This is an excellent way to learn about, not only the Hillside Police procedures, but the Criminal Justice System that exists both in Cook County and the State of Illinois. Residents 18 years of age and up, as well as our younger residents 16 and 17 with parental permission, can participate. If you are interested, please fill out the request form found at: <https://www.hillside-il.org/ride-along-request-form>

Hillside Library Information

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

Closures: January 2nd, 16th, and February 20th.

Please be aware that library hours, events, and procedures can change, so check our social media accounts or call the library for more up to the minute information. Unless otherwise noted, all library programs and activities are free of charge.

FOR ALL AGES

Beginning January 1, sign up for our virtual **Winter Reading Program** at www.hillsidepubliclibrary.org. We'll have great prizes for children and adults of all ages! The program runs from January 1-31.

Pokémon Bingo - Snack and Play:

January 3, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. and February 23, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Registration is encouraged. Come see if you can grab a prize! Drop-ins welcome.

Valentine Drop-In Day: February 10-13, All Day – Come make homemade valentines for your friends and family! We'll have all the supplies you need to show your love!

YOUTH

Radiant Readers Storytime Returns: Tuesdays, January 10 through February 14 at 10:00 a.m. Join our fun-filled story time! Ideal for ages 2-4, but all are welcome! **A caregiver must be present.**

Lego Club: January 11, 25 and February 8, 22, 4:00-5:00 p.m. Come and create, build, and imagine! Ideal for ages 5-11 years. Registration is encouraged, but drop-ins are welcome.

Two of a Kind Reading Club: January 7, 1:00-2:00 p.m. Read a book with your adult and come to this reading club to share your thoughts! Ages 8-12 years must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required.

ADULT

Adult Book Discussion: January 4 and February 1, 2:00 p.m. If you have a passion for reading, or just want to make new friends check out our book discussion group. In January, we'll be discussing *The Santa Suit* by Mary Kay Andrews. The February 1 selection will be *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett.

Blood Drive: January 11, 1:30-6:00 p.m. We'll be holding a community-wide Blood Drive in honor of the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. Day and National Blood Donor Month. Call or stop in the library for details on how you can participate in this act of service.

Yes to Your Story: A Conversation with Kwame Alexander: February 8 at 7:00 p.m. Join us for an evening of inspiration with best-selling and award-winning children's and young adult author and poet, Kwame Alexander. You can view it at home on your own device. The link to register will be on our website at www.hillsidepubliclibrary.org.

February 20, 1:00 pm – We'll have staff available to assist with basic one-on-one **Tech Help** with your electronic devices. We will be giving tutorials on how to use our **FREE** Scan-EZ machine where you can email, fax, and scan at no charge! This program is open to all ages but designed to assist our mature patrons.



Hillside Public Library | 405 N. Hillside Ave. | 708-449-7510
Email: contact@hillsidepubliclibrary.org | www.hillsidepubliclibrary.org

Municipal Calendar of Events



VILLAGE OF HILLSIDE
425 HILLSIDE AVENUE
HILLSIDE, ILLINOIS 60162

Presorted
Standard
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Melrose Park, IL 60160
Permit No. 300



- January 9th Board of a Whole Meeting - 7:30 P.M.
- January 23rd Village Board Meeting - 7:30 P.M.
- January 25th Community Awareness Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
- February 13th Village Board of a Whole Meeting – 7:30 P.M.
- February 22nd Community Awareness Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
- February 27th Village Board Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

*** All Board and Community Awareness meetings are held in the Village Hall Board Room – 425 Hillside Avenue

ECRWSS
Local Postal Customer
Hillside, IL 60162

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some of their volunteers going on to be police officers and firefighters for our Village and surrounding areas.

EMA continued their work with local food pantries to help pass out food and necessary supplies to our community. They continue to perform traffic control for different events such as parades, funerals, and accidents.

They are currently seeking volunteers. If you want to make a difference for our community sign up to be an EMA volunteer by picking up a membership application at the Hillside Village Hall. Fill out this short form and someone from EMA will call you. They meet the first and third Wednesday of every month from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. Meetings are held at our Emergency Operations Center located at 4151 May Street in Hillside.



EMA Volunteer Readyng Lights for Summer Concert

Dispatch Center

The Dispatch Center expanded and took over dispatching duties for the Berkeley Fire Department. This has allowed for quicker more efficient response times. The Village was awarded a \$139,186.90 grant as a reimbursement for funds already spent on consolidation of the two departments into one Dispatch Center.



In 2022 the Dispatch Center Switched to a More Efficient Radio Network System

In 2022, the Dispatch Center was connected to STARCOM radio network which is a digital system through Cook County allowing for Hillside Police Department to switch from the unsecure analog network to a more reliable encrypted network. This allowed for the Police Department and the Village to cut all the expensive copper phone line costs from their budget.

The year 2023 starts with the fervent hope that Covid 19 becomes a thing of the past as we set in motion our plans to renovate the Village Hall into a municipal complex with meeting rooms, a kitchen, a gym, a modern library, and a first responders training facility. Here is to you and yours for a healthy, prosperous, and fun 2023. I hope you can attend one, or all, of our wonderful Village events.

Sincerely,

Mayor Joseph Tamburino

Mayor
Joseph T. Tamburino
Clerk
Linda L. Gould

Village Trustees
David V. Delgado
Claudell Johnson
John N. Kramer
Frank J. Lomeli, Sr.
Marvin A. Watson
Herman L. Walter, Jr.

Administrator
Joseph Pisano
Assistant Administrator
Joseph Beckwith
Treasurer
Sandy Lozano

Police Department
425 Hillside Avenue
Chief Daniel Murphy

Fire Department
523 Wolf Road
Chief Kenneth Carling

Public Works
425 Hillside Avenue
Director David Peters

Village Hall Main Number
708-449-6450
www.hillside-il.org
Emergency
Police & Fire: 9-1-1
Non-Emergency
Police: 708-449-6133
Fire: 708-547-8684

Public Works
708-202-3434
Water Billing
708-202-3462
EMA 708-449-6410

Director: Anthony Faragia
Mayor's Office of Special Events:
708-202-4343
Coordinator
Evelyn Belmonte

Village Hours
M-F 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Sat. 9:00 A.M. to Noon
Closed on Sunday