



Village of
BELLWOOD
Your Family Is Our Future

MARCH 2017

Update



Message From Mayor Frank A. Pasquale

Since I announced my plans to retire and not run for re-election this spring, I have been humbled by the number of Bellwood residents who have called, wrote letters and e-mails, and visited my office to congratulate me for my 16 years of service. Those same people also have expressed their gratitude and well wishes to Village Clerk Lena Moreland on her upcoming retirement as well after serving the village for 35 years as an employee, the last 16 of which she served as clerk. We thank each and every one of you for your kindness and expressions of support.

I want to offer my own congratulations to our students who have worked hard in school and will gain rewards for their top grades

through the village's Gift Cards For A's program. Keep up the great work and stay focused on school and your future. Speaking of our schools, I appreciate the support of the schools that participated in our moving Annual Black History Program on Feb. 26 at the Eisenhower Community Center.

Thank you is in order for our young at heart seniors who attended the Annual Senior Valentine Ball on Feb. 4. Don't miss the wrap-up story in this issue of the *Update*.

Finally, as we all get ready for the warmer weather spring will bring this month, remember to always look out for our youth when driving, especially as they begin to play outdoors even more in the coming months.

Senior Valentine Ball Another Huge Success

More than 200 special guests enjoyed themselves at one of the most popular social events of the year in Bellwood: the Annual Senior Valentine Ball on February 4.

(Continued on next page)



IMPORTANT BELLWOOD CONTACTS

- Village Hall (708) 547-3500
- Police/Fire/Ambulance Emergency 911
- Police (non emergency) (708) 547-3528
- Police Anonymous Hotline (708) 544-5961
- Fire (non emergency) (708) 547-3525
- Water Bill (Billing Questions)
(708) 547-3520
- Building Department (708) 547-3545
- Public Works Department
(708) 547-3540
- Community Service (708) 649-3060
- Human Resources (708) 547-3500
- TDD (hearing impaired)
(708) 547-0011

Bellwood's seniors, dressed to the nines, enjoyed a delicious three-course dinner followed by live music from Ernie Shelby (aka "Lady Sax") and DJ John Woodhouse, who kept the dance floor rocking with great music until 10 p.m.

Mayor Frank A. Pasquale opened the event and introduced former Bellwood Trustee Dr. Phylistine Murphy, who welcomed guests, and thanked the individuals and businesses that donated impressive raffle prizes, including the grand prize: a 32" flat screen TV.



Important Details About Gift Cards For A's Program



Bellwood students and their parents and guardians should remember the following important details about the village's Gift Cards For A's Program:

- Bellwood has partnered with Target stores to provide encouragement to students in 3rd – 8th grades who earn A's for academic excellence on their report card in the **second and fourth grading periods ONLY**. For each **A** the student earned in **English, math, reading science and social studies classes ONLY**, they will receive a \$5 Target gift card.
- Bellwood students who attend a school in District 87 or 88 or a school outside of the village and who earn A's on their report card are eligible. The gift cards are presented when the student and a parent or guardian present a qualifying report card.
- Gift cards for the second semester marking period will **ONLY** be distributed on **Tuesday, March 21 and Thursday, March 23 from 3-5 p.m.** in the Village Hall Board Room. Report cards can only be presented once per grading period. **Proof of residency is required.**



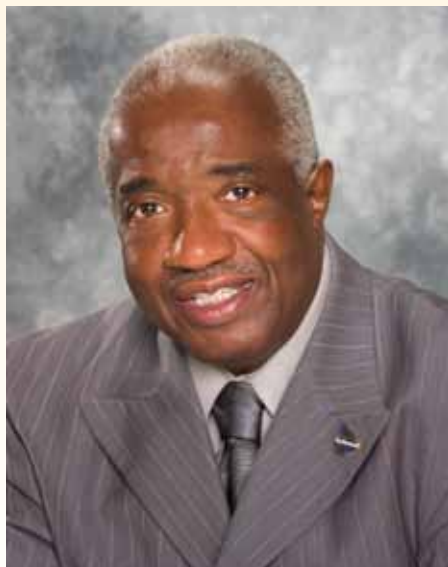
Early Voting in Bellwood

Early voting in Bellwood for the April 4 Consolidated Election will be open from Monday, March 20 – Monday, April 3 at the Village Hall. Hours are Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Monday, April 3 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mark your calendar and don't forget to vote in the election for Bellwood mayor, clerk and three village trustee positions.



Meet Bellwood Trustee Ronald Nightengale

Along with mayor of Bellwood, the Board of Trustees act as the village's corporate authorities and exercise municipal powers that have not been specifically delegated to another office or board. Bellwood's six trustees form the legislative body. They are elected from the village at large to four-year terms. Beginning in February, each of the current six trustees will be featured in the Update.



Trustee Ronald Nightengale

Returning foreclosed homes to the market, attracting new, diverse businesses to town and keeping the village safe and clean are among the priorities – and accomplishments – of Village Trustee Ron Nightengale.

First elected in 2005, Nightengale also continues to emphasize quality education, jobs for youth and improved interaction between residents and the police. Born in Chicago, he chairs the village's Ad Hoc and Finance committees, and is an original member of the West Cook County Housing Collaborative. He was actively involved in the village's long-term strategic planning process and previously served on the Community Development Committee.

Nightengale moved to Bellwood in 1977 and in that time has worked to "help make sure Bellwood was the community it was when I moved here in terms of good schools and quality transportation."

Ron has made a name for himself by talking to Bellwood youth about positive alternatives and staying in school. He is committed to working with police and residents to help keep the village safe. "By comparison, Bellwood doesn't experience a high level of crime," Nightengale said, "and we want to support our police in becoming even more proactive, being visible and deterring crime. We all have a role to play."

Learn More About Reverse Mortgages



Bellwood residents, including seniors, are invited to learn more about reverse mortgage loans at a presentation on March 23 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Bellwood Village Hall.

Among other important topics, homeowners who may be considering taking out a reverse mortgage loan will get:

- A detailed explanation of the mechanics of a reverse mortgage loan
- A review of the 2015 Illinois Reverse Mortgage Act that went into effect January 1, 2016
- A comparison of pros and cons of reverse mortgages versus the advantages and disadvantages of various financial alternatives
- A summary of consumer protections and resources available to consumers

Bellwood School Named Best in Illinois for Development of Mobile App



Students at Roosevelt Middle School in Bellwood were named a Best in State winner in Verizon's fifth annual Innovative Learning App Challenge. The students' winning app idea was selected from more than 1,800 submissions nationwide. The school will receive \$5,000

from the Verizon Foundation and a tablet for each team member.

Students at Roosevelt developed an "Incenti-Bucks" mobile app concept that reinforces students' positive behaviors and rewards them via a paperless cash system that dramatically reduces the school's paper waste. Roosevelt is now eligible to win one of eight Best In Nation Awards selected by a panel of education and industry experts, and the Fan Favorite Award, determined by public voting, to earn an additional \$15,000 and the opportunity to work with MIT Media Lab experts to bring their app idea to life.

Job Openings at Brookfield Zoo



Chicago Zoological Society
Inspiring Conservation Leadership

Applicants can access the Career Center at czs.org/careers to create a profile, search open positions and apply for jobs at Brookfield Zoo. Go online to the Career Page and click on Job Openings to see the positions currently available, set up a Search Agent or refer a friend. Paper applications or resumes are not accepted (except as a reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities, if needed).

Current open positions:

Admissions Associate

Starting pay \$11.50 per hour: Welcome Brookfield Zoo guests, sell tickets and operate admissions booths throughout the Zoo.

Food Service Associate

Starting pay \$11.75 per hour: Prepare food, serve as cashiers, bus tables, clean up and operate mobile food carts, among other duties.

Merchandise Associate

Starting pay \$11.50 per hour: Sell souvenirs and gift items, serve as cashiers, staff souvenir carts and restock sales areas, among other duties.

Catered Events Staff

(Picnics and catering), starting pay \$11.50 - \$12.25 per hour depending on the position: Work special events from corporate picnics to evening events onsite at the Zoo. Crew members set up before and clean up after each event, maintain picnic areas and prepare and grill food. There are openings for experienced banquet servers, banquet setup staff, bartenders, prep cooks, line cooks, picnic attendants and dishwashers. Late nights (as late as 2 a.m.) and weekends a must.

We Want To Hear From You

The monthly Bellwood *Update* newsletter and village website (www.vil.bellwood.il.us) deliver important – and sometimes fun – information to and about the village's residents and business owners ... and we always want to hear from you! Send us stories about your family's accomplishments at work, in the community and in school to Bellwood Human Resources Director Tonita S. LeShore at tleshore@vil.bellwood.il.us for consideration for the newsletter. Don't forget to attach a high-quality picture, if appropriate, that we can also consider.

Bellwood Neighborhood Watch Scholarship Fund

In Association with Memorial Park District

2nd Annual

WALKATHON



SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2017

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

The Center at Stevenson Park

3105 Washington Blvd

Bellwood, IL 60104

*****Registration is only \$10*****

Prizes given to participants who raise \$500 or more in pledges!!!!

To register and for more information please email us at:

BNWSFC@gmail.com

You can also visit our FaceBook Page

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| 1 | Registration Begins for Memorial Park District Picnic Rentals | 16 | Neighborhood Watch Meeting, 7 p.m. |
| 12 | Daylight Savings Time Begins | 17 | St. Patrick's Day |
| 13 | Committee of the Whole, 3:30 p.m. | | Memorial Park District Community Night Free Throw Contes |
| 15 | Village Board Meeting, 6 p.m. | 20 | Spring Begins |
| | Bellwood Board of Fire and Police Commission | | |

