



UPDATE

MESSAGE From Mayor André F. Harvey

As this year that has been full of accomplishments, togetherness and continued resilience winds to a close, allow me to wish each of you happy holidays and happy New Year. I am proud of how our residents, business owners and village employees continue to band together in the spirit of unity and in the face of the challenges bought on by the pandemic to keep the village's best interest among our collective priorities.

You will see in this last *Update* of the year that we are working hard and smart to grow the village with new businesses, jobs and opportunities while keeping the needs of our residents front and center. Moving Bellwood forward and keeping our village safe means always improving the way we provide services, being responsive and remaining aggressive in our approach to service and ideas.

I am sure you join me in keeping our families' interests as a top priority while we work together and with people and industries interested in moving to or expanding in Bellwood. Economic development is a key driver of our growth and prosperity, and my entire administration is focused on bringing even more housing options to Bellwood, facilitating new economic development projects, and helping to create new jobs that will make for a robust Bellwood in 2022 and beyond.

Again, happy holidays and happy New Year to each person and family in Bellwood. Let's keep the momentum going into the new year.

Bellwood Sees Record Economic Development in 2021



Duke Realty

The amount of activity around town makes clear that economic development in Bellwood has been on the rise for years now. This year, several of the major projects that have been in the works broke ground and will be completed in 2022.

The next 12 months will see an ongoing stream of projects that will benefit residents, create new jobs, enhance the village's appearance and continue to elevate Bellwood's status in the inner-circle western suburbs.

"Economic development is vital for the success of any village and we are blessed to see the kind of growth the village is experiencing," said Mayor Andre F. Harvey. "We have attracted new companies that are currently investing more than \$100 million in development and will create hundreds of new jobs." He emphasized the projects will

IMPORTANT BELLWOOD NUMBERS

- Village Hall
(708) 547-3500
- Police/Fire/Ambulance
Emergency
911
- Police (non emergency)
(708) 547-3528
- Police Anonymous Hotline
(708) 547-3500
Ext 1301
- 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

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(Bellwood Sees Record Economic Development in 2021 continued)

increase sales tax and commercial real estate taxes and will enable the village to continue not raising Bellwood's tax levy. For example:

- U-Haul at 850 25th Ave. recently fully opened its mechanical facility and retail location that now illuminates that section of 25th Avenue at night.
- QuikTrip purchased a five-acre site on 25th and Harrison. Work is underway to remediate, demolish and redevelop the site into QuikTrip's first retail location in northern Illinois.
- Cement Masons' Union Local 502 is undergoing another campus expansion to include a new medical building for union members. The new building will be the third on the site.
- Construction has begun on a 300,000 square foot, state-of-the-art warehouse facility on the 20-acre site just north of the 25th Avenue bridge. Duke Realty purchased the site at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic. "The multimillion-dollar project started on speculation that they would be able to secure a tenant despite the incredible uncertainty that plagued the planet at the time of purchase," said Bellwood Economic Development Director Peter Tsiolis.

The massive building is the first village development of such size and scope in more than seven decades, and is expected to be completed by February 2022. The building has been leased by Pures Food Specialties, a rapidly expanding food manufacturing company that plans to create many well-paying jobs and be active in community activities.

- The Cosmopolitan Room on Mannheim Road will offer breakfast, brunch, lunch and dinner and music. The anticipated opening is spring 2022.
- Bellwood has been working with a developer to redevelop the former Walgreens' site at Washington Boulevard and 25th Avenue.
- The village continues working toward its goal to transform St. Charles Road into Bellwood's New Downtown. The village owns numerous properties between 25th and 29th avenues on St. Charles Road and has met with several developers about impressive mixed-use projects.



Mama Rose Butcher Market Opens in Bellwood



Mama Rose, a black female-owned family business that sells meat and poultry, held a grand opening on Nov. 22 at 1043 25th Ave. Named in honor of the owners' 96-year-old grandmother Rosebell Thomas, a 45-year Bellwood resident, owners Regina Greene, Andrea Moore and Latasha Clines wanted to bring back the traditional market of selling chicken, beef, pork, turkey, also known as old-fashioned boiling meats.

Surviving Warriors Host Candlelight Vigil and Balloon Release



On Oct. 1, Surviving Warriors, in partnership with Bellwood and Memorial Park District, held its 3rd Annual Candlelight Vigil and Balloon Release to honor individuals who have lost their battle while fighting breast cancer and to uplift those who are currently fighting and those who already claim victory.

Surviving Warriors is a breast cancer support group founded by five courageous women who have battled the disease and are surviving life after breast cancer. The group's mission is to be a safe place for men and women undergoing breast cancer treatment and those who have already won their battle. Members are cancer survivors Toni Williams, Diane Williams, Marie Taylor, Maylaya Sapp, Bellwood Trustee Jophelia Boston and supporter Pamela Cobbs.

Support meetings are held every first Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Stevenson Park Fitness Center, 3105 Washington Blvd. in Bellwood. For more information, email: survivingwarriors.bcs@gmail.com or call Toni Williams at (224) 513-9265.

Mayor's Pastor's Breakfast Focuses on Community and Unity

Ten local pastors gathered in the Village Hall Community Room on Nov. 16 at a Pastor's Breakfast hosted by Mayor André F. Harvey and attended by the village's trustees as each pastor highlighted the ministerial work and programs they offer to parishioners and the communities. Mayor Harvey shared that the village's success and growth has been possible because of the collaboration between village staff, citizens, community-based organizations, and the church.



Mayor Elected Board President Of Woodlake Specialty Hospital



At its first board meeting on Nov. 3, Woodlake Specialty Hospital elected Bellwood Mayor André F. Harvey as president of the board. The board also elected Dr. Martha Kushner as vice president and Broadview Mayor Katrina Thompson as secretary.

Formerly known as Westlake Hospital, Woodlake Specialty Hospital, 1225 W. Lake Street in Melrose Park, is scheduled to reopen its Occupational Health Services during the first quarter of 2022. The first inpatient unit is scheduled to open in the second quarter of 2022. Woodlake will offer 80 acute mental illness beds, 60 long-term care beds, 44 long-term acute care beds, three intensive care unit beds, and three medical surgical beds to support the long-term acute care unit, and 40 comprehensive physical rehabilitation beds.

Woodlake CEO Shannon Jones said she was excited about the investment in the community and based on talks with other community leaders, she looks forward to a period of growth and change for the area.

Village Employees Dress Up For A "Hallow Scream" Time



For the past four years, residents who visited the Village Hall on Halloween have been greeted by employees dressed in unique, fun and sometime frightening costumes – and this year was no different. Selena Martinez, who organizes the yearly dress up activity, was encouraged at how well village residents reacted to staff in their costumes. Mayor André F. Harvey dressed as Buzz Lightyear as the theme focused on the characters from the movie "Toy Story."



Scary Good Time At Memorial Park District

Memorial Park District thanks the families that participated in the "spooktacular" Halloween drive-through event, including Mayor André F. Harvey, village trustees and first responders as they passed out more than 500 candy and toy-filled bags. The socially distanced setup allowed children and families to trick or treat in the Stevenson Park parking lot. Memorial Park Director Mark Flores offers thanks to all participants and supporters.



Mayor Hosts Breakfast For Bellwood's Seniors

Residents at Prairie View Senior Apartment and Senior Suites of Bellwood enjoyed Breakfast With The Mayor on Oct. 30 and Nov. 5, respectively to discuss their concerns and ideas. Both events included presentations by Police Chief Jimenez Allen, Fire Chief Doug Dombek and Finance Director Willie Norfleet who explained their departments' role and how they assist residents. The mayor shared updates on capital improvement projects and available village resources.



FREE COVID-19

TESTING

AND

VACCINATIONS



WHAT: Bellwood, in partnership with Free COVID Care, is offering free COVID-19 testing and vaccinations

WHEN: Every Tuesday – Testing from 6:45 - 11 a.m. and Vaccines from 9 - 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Testing – Drive-thru Village Parking Lot
Vaccinations – Board Room, 2nd Floor, Room 209

FOR WHO: Bellwood residents and employees of businesses in the village

HOW: Call Cynthia Eubanks, (708) 547-3500 ext. 1100 and ceubanks@vil.bellwood.il.us

New Date For Christmas Food Giveaway

The date for the village's 2021 Christmas Food Giveaway hosted by Mayor André F. Harvey has changed and the event is now scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 18.

Bellwood residents who did not get an opportunity to register earlier can register on Dec. 10, 13 and 14 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Village Hall in the Human Resources department.

Food is limited to one per household. Phone-in registration is not allowed.

World Deliverance Christian Center
Bishop Thomas Clark IV, Pastor *And* Village Of Bellwood
Mayor André F. Harvey

Present
Drive-Thru Carols & Cocoa
Saturday, December 18, 2021
10 AM - 12 PM
Bellwood Village Hall, 3200 Washington Blvd.
Free hats, gloves, socks and toys
While supplies last

LETTERS FROM SANTA

Christmas might look a little different this year but it won't stop Santa from sending your child a personalized letter.

Send us your child's name and address prior to December 18th and he or she will receive a special letter all the way from the North Pole.

Info should be submitted by email to mempark@msn.com

Santa Claus

DECEMBER CALENDAR

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Snow Route Restrictive Parking Enforcement Begins 8 Free Tree Lighting Festival, Eisenhower Community Center, 6-8 p.m. 13 Committee of the Whole, 3:30 p.m. 15 Village Board Meeting, 6 p.m. 18 Christmas Food Giveaway | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 Winter Begins 24 Christmas Eve (Village Hall Closes at 12 noon) 25* Christmas Day 26 Kwanzaa Begins <p><small>*Village Hall will be closed.</small></p> |
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