



UPDATE

MESSAGE From Mayor André F. Harvey

On behalf of my entire administration, my family and I, I trust that the holiday season was an enjoyable time spent with family, friends and neighbors. We all look forward to closing out each year in a spirit of togetherness and best wishes as we transition to another year full of hope and opportunity.

In that spirit, I also wish all of our residents, business owners and visitors a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Each member of my administration looks forward to 2024 and our continued initiatives to grow and stimulate Bellwood's economy and vitality by supporting our residents and businesses. We achieved great progress last year and are eager to build on those successes this year and beyond. As we move forward together, my open-door policy remains in place to enable me to connect with our community, which is the theme of our official 2024 Bellwood calendar.

Finally, mark your calendar for the Annual Senior Mardi Gras Dance on Feb. 10. Tickets are on sale and I encourage you to purchase them early as they sell out each year.

Let's look forward, for the best of Bellwood is yet to come.

Ribbon Cut To Open Bellwood Senior Apartments



Bellwood Mayor André F. Harvey proudly led the way in the ribbon cutting for the 80-unit Bellwood Senior Apartments on Dec. 13 as he was joined by various village representatives, elected officials and project stakeholders, including Evergreen Real Estate Group.



IMPORTANT BELLWOOD NUMBERS

- Village Hall (708) 547-3520
- 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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(Ribbon Cut To Open Bellwood Senior Apartments continued)

The impressive \$31.5 million project, which replaces the former Walgreens that had been vacant for nearly five years, offers independent living options for low-income seniors. The four-story development offers 76 one-bedroom and four two-bedroom apartments for seniors 62 or older with incomes at or below 60% of the Area Median Income. The building was expected to be 40% leased in December and is expected to reach full occupancy in the next few months.

Mayor Harvey said, “Our seniors are the backbone of our community, and I have made them a major priority of my administration. Providing them with a beautiful home in which to live their golden years is vital. It is truly amazing how far we have come in slightly over three years with the opening of the magnificent Bellwood Senior Apartments. The dream team we assembled to make this possible all deserve a major thank you for turning my idea into reality amidst a worldwide pandemic. This amazing transformative building would not be possible without their collective work and tireless energy.”

Situated at Washington Boulevard and 25th Avenue, the building faces both streets with a covered front entrance along Washington Boulevard and four floors of floor-to-ceiling glass curtain wall that also encloses the resident community activity spaces.

“This is a big deal for our community and for our seniors who have helped build Bellwood into the wonderful place we love today,” said Illinois House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch. “Giving our seniors a beautiful, safe and affordable place to call home will allow them to focus more on activities they enjoy, like spending time with family and loved ones.”

Food Giveaway Brightens Residents’ Holiday

Bellwood Mayor André F. Harvey, village officials and staff, and volunteers helped to brighten the holiday season by distributing turkeys to more than 250 seniors and families in the village’s annual Christmas Food Giveaway on Dec. 15 and 16.



Bellwood Celebrates Christmas in Proviso

Illinois House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch worked to make the holiday season brighter for families in need, including those in Bellwood, by bringing together community members and elected officials to present gifts to children at the annual Christmas in Proviso celebration.



“I am so happy to participate in our third annual Christmas in Proviso. It gives me great joy to be able to come together with our other municipalities, as well as our state and local representatives, to bring joy and happiness to some of the less fortunate families we serve,” said Bellwood Mayor André F. Harvey. “This is the season of giving and it makes me so elated to spread so much peace, joy and love to so many families.”

The event welcomed more than 350 people from the community, which included preselected, need-based families who received all gifts on their Christmas list paid for by Speaker Welch. All families at the event enjoyed free hot breakfast, refreshments, and a chance to win prizes from Speaker Welch’s raffle, which included 40 flatscreen TVs, 10 laptops and more prizes.

“Christmas is a time of celebration, and it’s also a time to give back,” said Speaker Welch. “I have joined my colleagues to hold this event for three years now because it is a privilege to be able to give families in my community a merrier Christmas. As a father especially, watching all these kids open their Christmas presents is a highlight of the holiday season for me, and I look forward to it every year.”

Families who attended also received free gifts donated by Speaker Welch, Amazon and Black Men United, including bicycles, sports equipment, shoes, furniture and clothing. Guest also received a turkey or ham and a produce box with fruits and vegetables.



PROUDLY PRESENTS
ANNUAL SENIOR

Mardi
GRAS
Dance

PLACE

Double Tree by Hilton Chicago-Oakbrook, 1909
Spring Rd., Oak Brook, IL 60523

DATE

Saturday, February 10, 2024

TIME: 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

D.J. • ENTERTAINMENT
• CASH BAR

Dinner served promptly at 6:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$40.00 each AND GO ON
SALE DEC 4 - JAN 26

For ticket information call
(708) 547-3500 ext. 1100

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY JANUARY 26, 2024

DOORS **DO NOT** OPEN UNTIL 5:30 PM! NO TICKETS
SOLD AT THE DOOR! NO RESERVED SEATING!
PURCHASE TICKETS AT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE
RM 200 - VILLAGE HALL

ADULTS ONLY!



Christmas in the Wards Comes To Proviso

The Christmas in the Wards initiative and Amazon Fresh partnered with elected officials, schools and community groups on Dec. 19 to bring the spirit of the holiday season to 25 hard-working families, deserving students and youth. The effort also focused on dedicating resources to serve and build communities.

More than two dozen families from Bellwood along with families from Broadview, Maywood and North Riverside filled shopping baskets with Christmas trimmings and essentials during a shopping trip in Proviso at the Amazon Fresh store in North Riverside. The always-anticipated Christmas event is carried out through collaborating with local schools and community-based organizations to select children from need-based families in Proviso who would otherwise go without food.



Christmas Parade & Festival of Lights A Hit



An impressive turnout of Bellwood residents and other guests were treated to an eye-popping spectacle at the village's 1st Christmas Parade & Festival of Lights on Nov. 25 as local businesses and the Bellwood Police and Fire departments and support from neighboring communities were instrumental in the event.

The event, which kicked off at 25th Avenue and traveled down Washington Boulevard, also featured 25 local vendors who sold a wide range of merchandise for Christmas. Free train rides were available as well as complimentary hot chocolate and refreshments.



JANUARY CALENDAR

1*	New Year's Day Kwanzaa Ends	20	CPR Class (Pre-registration required with Fire Department)
8	Committee of the Whole, 3:30 p.m.	31	2024-25 Vehicle Stickers and Animal Tags on Sale 2024-25 Business Licenses on Sale
15*	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day		
17	Village Board Meeting, 6 p.m.		*Village Hall will be closed.

