



UPDATE

MESSAGE From Mayor André F. Harvey

August is here and so is the Taste of Bellwood to the delight of our residents young and old as well as for our neighbors and friends to enjoy three fun-filled days in the village. I look forward to meeting and greeting you on Aug. 9, 10 and 11 as we enjoy affordable food, fun, family, live music, dancing, Kids Corner, inflatables and a Car, Bike & Truck Show that can't be missed.

This month also means we are closing in on time for our youth to return to school whether it is elementary school, high school, college and graduate school. As our students prepare, I trust they had an enjoyable and productive summer and are ready to begin another successful and safe school year.

The past few months also marked the village's Summer Youth Work and Internship programs that provided our youth with much-needed skills, knowledge and experience that will serve them well in school and beyond. We trust that our summer and internship programs made a lasting impression on our youth.

Looking ahead, I proudly invite you to the upcoming Veteran Estate Planning event on Aug. 24 at the Village Hall. For more information, refer to the flyer in this issue of the Bellwood Update.

Finally, all Bellwood homeowners should ensure you have filed for all of the exemptions you are entitled to in order to receive savings on your property tax statement. If you need to file for an exemption or need more information, contact the Proviso Township Tax Assessor at (708) 449-1304 or the Cook County Assessor's office at (312) 443-7550.

Bellwood Gateway: First Workforce Housing Project Breaks Ground



Bellwood Mayor André F. Harvey led community leaders, developers and residents at the recent groundbreaking ceremony for a transformative new workforce housing project in Bellwood that signals the start of a first-of-its-kind project in Illinois.



Called Bellwood Gateway, the project marks the first-ever workforce housing development to utilize workforce housing bonds in the state and promises to meet the growing demand for workforce housing in West Suburban Cook County

Located at 2711 St. Charles Road, the \$42.5 million residential-retail development is a collaborative project between Bellwood, construction manager and developer F.H. Paschen, the State of Illinois and Mesirow Public Finance. Scheduled for completion in spring 2026, the project was made possible by financing secured through a combination of private investment, a state of Illinois grant – secured by Ill. Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch – and the innovative use of workforce housing bonds.

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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

(Bellwood Gateway: First Workforce Housing Project Breaks Ground continued)

When completed, the pair of buildings will offer a combined 71 apartment units and 6,000 square feet of first-floor commercial space, with parking behind each building.

“Every great village has a great downtown, and I am so honored to break ground on a longtime dream come true for myself and more importantly for the residents,” said Bellwood Mayor Andre F. Harvey. “The Bellwood Gateway Project is a gateway to Bellwood’s future. This wouldn’t be possible without this amazing team, including Speaker Welch who shares our vision. I am blessed with a great village board of trustees and staff. Peter Tsiolis and Aric Swaney who head up economic development for the village never say ‘no’ but rather always say, ‘Let’s go.’ A special thanks to everyone at F.H.

Paschen, Mesirow Financial and DesignBridge that played pivotal roles.”

Speaker Welch said: “Growing up in the ‘Woods’ – Bellwood and Maywood – made me the man I am today; it will always be home. I’m so proud that this first phase of the Bellwood Gateway Project will help dozens of families call this vibrant, diverse community their home, too.”

“This project is an example of a mayor and village that aren’t myopic or limited in their vision,” said Peter Tsiolis. “It is a testament to Mayor Harvey’s leadership and ability to bring together this stellar team to create the Bellwood of the future.”



Bellwood Residents ...
Mark Your Calendar!

 Village of **BELLWOOD**
Your Family Is Our Future

 **BELLWOOD COMMUNITY POLICE**
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING

THURSDAY
AUGUST 15, 7 P.M.

TOPIC:

- **Your Property Tax Bill and the Role of the Taxing Bodies, Levies, Triangular Assessment and Policy Solutions**

Presented by Cook County Assessor’s Office

The Anonymous Tip hotline is (708) 547-3500 Ext. 1031.

For more information, call Police Commander, William Goodrum at (708) 547-3500 Ext. 1330.

 COOK COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Great opportunity to meet, greet and show support for Bellwood's police officers! Comments, feedback and suggestions are welcome. Hope to see you there!

www.vil.bellwood.il.us

Students Gain Experience in Summer Youth Work Program



Thirty-five students are currently working in the Village’s Summer Youth Work Program under the supervision of Debora Jenkins, assistant in the Human Resource Office. The summer workers’ responsibilities included painting curbs, picking up debris and helping the local schools and community-based organizations with moving boxes and furniture and cleaning up the premises.

Mayor André F. Harvey spoke with the students on their career interests and the importance of working hard and staying in school. Gay Chase, retired administrative judge, conducted the orientation, which discussed the program’s code of conduct, how the working world works, having good work habits, and their summer reading list.

Recap of Electric Vehicle Informational Meeting



The first-ever Electric Vehicle Informational Listening Session on June 13 at

the Bellwood Village Hall provided educational information to residents about electric vehicle adoption and the ComEd Beneficial Electrification (BE) Plan focused on transportation. Attendees learned about the new laws, regulations, incentives and rebates around EV adoption.

Hosted by Bellwood and Urban Efficiency Group LLC, speakers included Bellwood Mayor André F. Harvey, Assistant Director of Economic Development Aric Swaney and Sarah Edwards, Cook County environment and sustainability program manager, all of whom talked about the EV adoption status and projects being developed in Bellwood. The meeting also featured Walker-Miller Energy Services, a minority-owned firm based in Detroit, to address incentives and rebates in the ComEd BE Plan to assist residents, public and private sector entities, and commercial and industrial stakeholders in adopting electric vehicle technology.

Bellwood stakeholders are select-rate customers, meaning that stakeholders receive the maximum allowed incentives and rebates due to being identified as an Environmental Justice/Restore, Reinvest and Renew, census track designated environmental justice community.

Contact Wynton Jones, director of Sustainability, Urban Efficiency Group, at (844) 857-0267 or Tonita S. LeShore, chair of the Bellwood Sustainability Team, at (708) 202-0312 to get more information and connect with the team about the process of converting to an electric vehicle. The opportunities are first come, first served, so reach out if you recently installed charging stations, if you're planning to install charging stations, or if you're in the midst of installing the charging stations.

Students Learn and Earn in Summer Internship Program



Bellwood's Summer Internship Program kicked off again this year with 10 interns working in the Finance, Police and Public Works departments where they learned how the departments operate and the role each employee plays.

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MAYOR ANDRÉ F. HARVEY PROUDLY PRESENTS THE ANNUAL

2024 Taste of Bellwood

Village of BELLWOOD
Your Family Is Our Future

INTRODUCING... **KIDS CORNER**

Are you a youth age 8-17 interested in becoming a vendor?
Contact Debora Jenkins at (708) 547-3500 Ext. 1514

FEATURING

- Face Painting
- Balloon Arts
- Kids Crafts
- Physicals & Immunizations
- Carnival Games
- Prizes
- Family Fun
- Youth Entrepreneur Booths

Visit us on Saturday, August 10 from 12 noon - 3:30 p.m.
Next to the Bellwood Fire Department

Top Flight Defense Inc. Presents

VETERAN ESTATE PLANNING

Simple Wills
Veteran Assistance

When
August 24, 2024
12pm to 4pm

Location
3200 Washington Blvd,
Bellwood, IL 60104

In partnership with the Village of Bellwood

MAYOR ANDRE HARVEY

(Students Learn and Earn in Summer Internship Program continued)



Students participate in hands-on duties to gain perspective of a work environment and benefit from a mentor's or supervisor's experience and advice. The goal is for them to gain confidence, develop and refine skills, and gain valuable work experience as they explore a career path and transition into a job. The 2024 interns are Taylor Cobb, Olivia Ehrhardt, Jahazz Roberts, Javion Hooks, Taylor Butler, Kamron Brown, Kellen Nalls, Deavion Jones, Deon Jones Jr. and Isaiah Wilson.

C4 Asset Mapping Meeting Maps Next Steps



The village held a public Asset Mapping workshop on May 30 as part of the Cook County county-wide resilience planning effort and grant. Nestled within the C4 System of Sustainability, Bellwood, Urban Efficiency Group and the

Chicago Wilderness Alliance partnered to explain what an asset is and how it relates to planning for resilient communities as the climate continues to change.

The evening began with a short presentation to help participants understand what assets are and how they can help with resilience planning. Attendees brainstormed on local assets that range from businesses to key community members and services and placed them on organized notes for review. Chicago Wilderness Alliance is assessing the data and will create a report for Bellwood to accompany the Cook County planning effort.



Let's ride with community pride at the 5th Annual tour de Proviso, Bellwood

Saturday, October 5, 2024

Calling all Bellwood Residents: Whether you're an amateur rider or bike enthusiast, let's pack the streets of Bellwood on October 5, 2024 as we ride the tour de Proviso Bellwood.

Take out your bike, put your helmet on and ride!

Bellwood Village Hall, 3200 Washington Blvd.

7:30 a.m. Check in

8:00 a.m. Advance riders kick off (20 miles)

8:30 a.m. Family friendly kick off (5 miles)

9:30 a.m. Community Expo

To become a vendor, contact
**Cynthia Eubanks at
(708) 547-3500 ext 1100 or
ceubanks@vil.bellwood.il.us**



To register and volunteer, scan the QR code.



AUGUST CALENDAR

9-11	Taste of Bellwood	15	Neighborhood Watch Meeting, 7 p.m.
12	Committee of the Whole, 3:30 p.m.	21	Village Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
15	Neighborhood Watch Meeting, 7 p.m.	24	Veteran Estate Planning, 12 p.m.



PLEASE RECYCLE!

