



UPDATE

MESSAGE From Mayor André F. Harvey

First, I want to thank all our wonderful seniors who enjoyed themselves at our annual Senior Mardi Gras Dance at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel. It was my pleasure to greet and socialize with each of you as together we enjoyed the ambience, attire, food and entertainment. The night was a success because of the great contributions from our wonderful volunteers.

I also want to give my thanks to our youth, parents and educators who came together for the Black History Month celebration titled "Knowing Our Past, Shaping Our Future" on Feb. 17 at Roosevelt Middle School. It is always a joy to see our future in action by way of the musical, dance and spoken word performances presented by our students.

As we look forward to spring, remember that early voting for the primary election on March 19 is open at the Village Hall from March 4-18 (see page 3). Please exercise your right to vote. Your vote is your voice.

Spring, which officially begins on March 19, is the perfect time to deep clean the interior and exterior of your home. Give your home a deep spring cleaning of your windows, garden, garage, patio and other areas in and around your home

Finally, I invite you to join us at the Solstice informational and registration event on March 22 at the Village Hall where you will be assigned a portion of a local shared solar farm. As your portion of the solar farm produces energy for your community, you will receive reductions on your electricity bills.

Highlights From Annual Senior Mardi Gras Dance



Well-dressed Bellwood seniors came out in force at the village's annual Senior Mardi Gras Dance at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Chicago-Oakbrook.

The evening featured entertainment from comedian Jeremiah Fraizer and live music by Theo "Mr. Excitement" Huff and the Platinum Band. DJ Irv closed out the night with the seniors showing their skills on the dance floor. The seniors won wonderful gifts in a raffle drawing, including toaster ovens, air fryers, travel personal blenders, specialty gift baskets, smart TVs and gift cards.



IMPORTANT BELLWOOD NUMBERS

Village Hall
(708) 547-3528

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

Pan-African Flag Raising Starts Black History Month Commemorations



Bellwood joined Broadview and Maywood in hosting a special event in partnership with the Grassroots Community Collaboration (GCC) on the first day of Black History Month to enhance the significance and educational impact of the annual month-long commemoration in community.

Through grassroots initiatives, the goal is to foster a deeper appreciation for the cultural celebration among residents through partnerships with municipal offices, industry stakeholders, and educational institutions, and an array of activities and events to encourage participation.

On Feb. 1, GCC launched the start of its programming in Bellwood with the raising of the Pan-African flag. Village officials from Broadview and Maywood also gathered on Feb. 1 at the same time in their community to raise the flag over their respective village hall. All three ceremonies recognized the first African American to hold leadership positions in their towns.



Black History Month Celebration Unites Village and Schools

Bellwood Mayor André F. Harvey and village trustees and staff proudly joined Bellwood School District 88 on Feb. 17 to celebrate Black History Month with a high-energy event attended by nearly 500 guests that was filled with song, dance and spoken word by students and citizens.



The celebration at Roosevelt Middle School was titled "Knowing Our Past, Shaping Our Future" and featured great performances by students from Lincoln Primary, McKinley Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Grant Schools and Marshal Elementary, among others.

"This month is a time for reflection, for celebration, and for action," said Dr. Victoria Stockton, District 88 superintendent. "It's a time to acknowledge the trials and triumphs of Black Americans whose stories are integral to the American narrative. It's also a moment to reaffirm our commitment to creating a community and a world where diversity is celebrated, and equity is the cornerstone of our collective journey forward."

As the first African American elected as the lead executive in Bellwood, Mayor Harvey follows in the footsteps of Pierre Calista Landry, who was the first African American to become mayor of a town in American history.



Mark Your Calendar: Early Voting Dates at Bellwood Village Hall

Early voting for the March 19 election will be held in the Bellwood Village Hall as follows:

Monday – Friday

March 4-8, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
March 11-15, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Monday

March 18, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday

March 9, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
March 16, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday

March 10, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
March 17, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



Bellwood Residents ...
Mark Your Calendar!



BELLWOOD COMMUNITY POLICE
**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH MEETING**
MARCH 21, 7 P.M.

TOPIC:

- Common Scams & Fraud and How to Avoid Them

Presenter: Sonya Tompkins, Illinois Attorney General Chambers, Outreach Liaison

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

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

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

Bellwood and Solstice Partner to Bring Electricity Bill Savings to Residents



Community Engagement Meeting

March 22, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Bellwood Village Hall, Community Room

Limited availability of openings.

For assistance, contact Solstice at (866) 826-1997 and reference referral code: BELLWOOD

Bellwood is partnering with Solstice Community Solar to help residents lower their electricity bills without installing solar panels on their homes.

For more information, visit the Bellwood-Solstice website at solstice.us/bellwood



SCAN ME

2024 Summer Youth Work Program

Applications will be distributed **ONLY** on:

Date: Friday, April 14, 2023

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Place: Village Hall Community Room – Room 211

To apply you must meet the following requirements:

- You must be a **BELLWOOD** resident
- You must be 14 – 16 years of age

To be considered you must return the **completed** application along with the following items:

- A **copy** of your Birth Certificate
- A **copy** of your signed Social Security Card
- A **current** Water Bill with your parent's/legal guardian's name on the bill

A work permit must be submitted with the application and can be obtained from Proviso West on the following dates and times:

- April 15 & 16, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
 - April 17, 12 – 2 p.m.
- April 18, 22 & 23, 9 a.m. – 12 pm
- April 24 & 25, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

All applications and supporting documents must be returned no later than April 28 at 5 pm.

NO EXCEPTIONS.



Mayor André F. Harvey invites you to



SENIORS' Mother's Day BREAKFAST

Saturday, May 11, 2024 • 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union 73 • 4550 Roosevelt Road, Hillside, IL



Featuring live entertainment • Tickets: \$15
 Seating is first-come, first-served. Tickets can be purchased in the Mayor's office from March 18 - April 30
 Questions? Contact Cynthia Erbanks at (708) 547-3500 Ext. 1100 or ceurbanks@vil.bellwood.il.us

Adults Only



We Need Volunteers!



Volunteers are needed to support the village when Bellwood hosts a community tree planting project in partnership with Openlands in the 3800 - 4000 block of Jackson Street.

The event is set for Saturday, May 4 @ 9 a.m. at Lincoln Elementary School, 3420 Jackson St.

If you want to volunteer, contact Tonita LeShore at tleshore@vil.bellwood.il.us or call Debora Jenkins at (708) 547-3500 Ext. 1514.

Reach out today!



Volunteers Needed For Illinois Prairie Path Cleanup Day

In honor of Earth Day, the Illinois Prairie Path corporation, in cooperation with the Friends of the Great Western Trail and other partner organizations including Bellwood, needs volunteers to support its annual cleanup on April 27 at 9 a.m.

Cleaning litter from all miles of the Illinois Prairie Path and Great Western Trails is a huge task that cannot be done without hundreds of volunteers. Bellwood residents are encouraged to turn out for a fun and productive event. The goal is for the trails to look their best for 2024 to benefit all path users.

Want to volunteer? Contact Tonita S. LeShore at tleshore@vil.bellwood.il.us or call (708) 202-0312.

MARCH CALENDAR

10	Daylight Savings Time Begins	20	Village Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
11	Committee of the Whole, 3:30 p.m.	21	Neighborhood Watch Meeting, 7 p.m.
16	CPR Class (Pre-registration required)	24	Palm Sunday
17	St. Patrick's Day	29*	Good Friday
19	Consolidated Election Spring Begins		<i>*Village Hall will be closed.</i>



PLEASE RECYCLE!

