



UPDATE

Community Shred Day Comes To Bellwood

MESSAGE From Mayor André F. Harvey

Sunday, May 12 is upon us again and with it comes time for us all to wish a Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, godmothers and mother figures whose sleepless nights, labor, sacrifice and unconditional love has paved the way. We thank you for all you do and for all you have done to keep families safe and together.

As the warmer spring weather is here, we encourage you to enjoy outdoor activities and fire up the barbecue grill and plant flowers, among other options – all while exercising safety in and around your home and in public. Be sure to pay careful attention to the youth in your group and those playing near you. Safety has always been a top priority in Bellwood, and even more so when people spend more time outdoors.

Congratulations to our students who worked hard and smart this school year and to those students who will graduate and move on to the next level of education in their lives.

Finally, in about three months, we will host our family friendly Annual Taste of Bellwood on Aug. 9-11. If you would like to be a vendor or volunteer at the biggest and best event for families in all of Proviso Township, contact Cynthia Eubanks or Taushonia White-Taylor (see the flyer on page 4).



Courtesy of Rep. Emanuel “Chris” Welch, thousands of residents from across the 7th District, including Bellwood residents, turned out for the Community Shred Day event on April 20 in the village.

Speaker Welch appreciates the great turnout and looks forward to again providing this important service to residents.



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

Thomas White Retires



June 1985 is when Thomas “Tommy” White started working in Bellwood at what was then known as the Street Department (now known as the Public Works Department).

Fast forward to 2024, and retirement calls after a career of working as a truck driver who filled various roles including as a tree trimmer until the village hired an arborist.

During the winter months, White worked as a heavy equipment driver salting the streets so first responders had clear access to respond to emergencies, and employees and residents also had a clear path. He multitasked as a fill-in receptionist, set up for special events, and even performed emergency janitorial services. Twice a day and after work for the past 30 years he took care of the stray dogs in the village dog pound.

In a word, the Public Works Department will miss “everything” about White as he plans to move to a warmer climate, spend more time with his grandchildren and travel.

Meet New Bellwood Firefighter James Harty III

New Bellwood firefighter James Hart III Harty grew up in the village and attended Jefferson Elementary and McArthur Middle school.

He served in the U.S. Army as an electronics specialist, and after returning from the military, Harty attended Triton College and earned an associate degree in fire science. He joined the department in January 2001 and serves on the Division XX hazardous materials team and mentors younger firefighters. Harty is married with three children; his son recently graduated from space force basic training.



Local Students Get Lesson in Village Operations



Twenty students from World Deliverance Christian Center and the Bellwood School District 88 Youth Spring Break Photography Camp met with Bellwood department heads on April 2 to

learn about the departments and their roles in the daily operations of local government.

The objective was to take photos as they learned the responsibilities and how the departments operate. The students had lunch with Mayor André F. Harvey and learned more about his important leadership role. They also learned about the historical sites, landmarks, and places of interest in Bellwood and near west Proviso Township.

Bellwood Residents ... Mark Your Calendar!

Village of BELLWOOD
Your Family Is Our Future

BELLWOOD COMMUNITY POLICE

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING

THURSDAY
MAY 16, 7 P.M.

TOPIC:

- **Social Security and Medicare Update**
By Doug Nguyen, Regional Communications Director
- **Social Security Career Opportunities**
By Cornelius Hodges, District Manager

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

Village of BELLWOOD
Your Family Is Our Future

Scan and Sign up Now

For the e-newsletter when it goes digital later this year. You will also receive text messages from the village in case of an emergency.

If you have questions or need more information, contact Debora Jenkins, (708) 547-3500. Ext. 1514.

Solstice Hosts Sign-Up, Nicor Highlights Energy Efficiency



Bellwood is partnering with Solstice Community Solar to help residents lower their electricity bills without installing solar panels on their homes. As highlighted at a recent community meeting, through community solar, residents receive reductions on their energy bills by subscribing to a portion of a local shared solar farm; no panels, no cancellation fees and no upfront costs.

It connects residents and community organizations to nearby shared solar farms, creates financing innovations that expand access to underserved Americans (the EnergyScore), and provides frictionless subscriber management software for community solar projects.

During the same meeting, representatives from Nicor highlighted the company's program that promotes energy efficiency. The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program provides customers with offerings to help save money and energy. From free energy-saving products and home assessments to rebates for qualifying improvements, the Nicor Gas team helps you reduce your energy use and stay comfortable at home.

The Nicor Gas Community Connection Center connects customers with energy-saving offerings and provides information about valuable resources, including bill payment support and basic needs assistance. Visit nicorgas.com/cc to get started.



Eggs-citing Easter Egg Hunt in Memorial Park

The Memorial Park District's annual Easter Egg Hunt again proved to be a great opportunity on March 30 for the parks to come to life and for families in an event that started with a quick body stretch. Then, children of all ages were "eggs-cited" to run and collect more than 4,000 eggs filled with candy and toys.



Bellwood residents ...
Join us to put it
on the map/put
a pin in it!



C4 Asset Mapping Meeting

Thursday, May 30

Bellwood Village Hall, Community Room, 6- 7:30 p.m.

- Community asset mapping provides a critical element of community sustainability planning through the engagement of people in the shaping of their community.
- Identifying community assets helps residents understand which resources support a sustainable economy and environment or promote social equity in the community.
- The workshop will be facilitated by the Chicago Wilderness Alliance Climate Committee and will build on the brainstorming activities associated with the C4 Bellwood project. Participants will identify community assets and potential barriers to community resilience.



Free Permits Available in June and July

From June 1-30, free permits will be available for house roofs and fences **ONLY** for residential homes in the village.

Permits are required for most work that a homeowner, property owner, renter, lessee, contractor, developer or rehabber proposes to perform in Bellwood. Any repair, replacement, remodeling, additions and new construction all require permits before the work starts.



COMMUNITY CLEAN & GREEN DAY

Saturday, June 22, 2024 • 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Sign-in: 8:30 a.m. in front of the Bellwood Village Hall
(Assignments for designated areas in Bellwood)



Let's beautify our town!

To volunteer, contact Tonita LeShore at tleshore@vil.bellwood.il.us or at (708) 547-3500 Ext. 1512.



THURGOOD MARSHALL ELEMENTARY RECYCLING PROGRAM LAUNCH

Thurgood Marshall Elementary launched our recycling program in the lunchroom and kitchen on March 12, 2024, and what a difference we are making!

Thurgood students are now sorting liquids, recycling drink containers, and putting unopened items from the school lunch on a share table. We are keeping valuable resources out of landfills and getting closer to zero waste.

All students learned the How and Why of reducing waste by watching an educational video. Student zero waste ambassadors are assisting their peers as they learn the routine to make sure everything goes where it belongs.

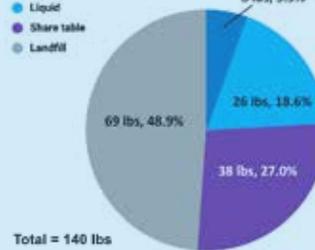
Thank you to all parents, students, and staff for your efforts and support!



OUR IMPACT

Lunchroom & Kitchen Waste Audit

- Recycling
- Liquid
- Share table
- Landfill



Thurgood Marshall is diverting approximately 50% of lunchtime waste from the landfill every day!



LIHEAP Offers Heating Assistance

CEDA's LIHEAP programs offer heating and electricity assistance through the DVP and PIPP Programs to income-eligible households. DVP issues a one-time benefit applied directly to your utility accounts.

Assistance is available to help households with heating (natural gas, oil or propane) and/or electric bills. Cash payments are available to eligible households that do not have heating and electric bills because their energy costs are included in the rent.

PIPP enrolls you in a budget bill program that provides a monthly benefit toward your bill and offers the opportunity for past due balance forgiveness. All income eligible Cook County households are eligible to apply for LIHEAP. Applications will be taken on a first come first serve basis through Aug. 15 or until funds are exhausted. Contact a Partner Intake Site to apply for LIHEAP-DVP. Select Find a Location to find a Partner Intake Site or contact the Call Center at (800) 571- 2332.

MAY CALENDAR

- | | | | |
|------|--|-----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2024-25 Vehicle Stickers & Animal Tags Must be Displayed | 12 | Mother's Day |
| | 2024-25 Business License Late Fee Applied | 13 | Committee of the Whole, 3:30 p.m. |
| 5 | Cinco de Mayo | 15 | Village Board Meeting, 6 p.m. |
| 6-10 | Cleanup Week | 16 | Neighborhood Watch Meeting, 7 p.m. |
| 11 | Mother's Day Gospel Breakfast | 17 | Secretary of State Mobile Unit |
| | | 18 | CPR Class |
| | | 27* | Memorial Day |

*Village Hall will be closed.



PLEASE RECYCLE!

MAYOR ANDRÉ F. HARVEY PROUDLY PRESENTS THE ANNUAL

Taste of Bellwood 2024

SAVE THE DATES!

AUGUST 9, 10 & 11

JOIN US AGAIN FOR SOME FUN

FAMILY FRIENDLY & FAMILY AFFORDABLE

TASTY FOOD | FREE ADMISSION

FREE ENTERTAINMENT

VILLAGE HALL, 3200 WASHINGTON BLVD.

ALL AGES • FOOD VENDORS • CARNIVAL RIDES • INFORMATION BOOTHS
FREE PARKING • CAR & BIKE SHOW • FIREWORKS

ALL FOOD ITEMS COST \$5 OR LESS!

