

Application to Participate in Hillside's DICE Celebration

Celebrate Diversity With Us!

How can YOU share in the festivities? We invite you to showcase your unique talents, hobbies, or collections at our multicultural event. Whether it's a special skill, a cherished hobby, or a captivating collection, we want to see what makes you, YOU!

Do you have traditional clothing, dolls, toys, crafts, musical instruments, or any other items that reflect your heritage or country of origin? Bring them along and let's create a dynamic cultural experience!

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____



Participation Details

Check One or All of the Items Below in Which You Wish to Participate:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Display | <input type="checkbox"/> Multicultural Fashion Show |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibition | _____ |
| | _____ |
| | _____ |



Details/Requirements:

Applications must be completed and submitted no later than Friday, May 31, 2024. You can fill out the form on this page and mail it or deliver it to:

**The Village of Hillside
425 Hillside Avenue
Hillside, Illinois 60162**

or

Download an online application available at www.hillside-il.org/hillside-celebrates-dice

Entry is not guaranteed, decisions will be based on a completed application that exemplify the traditional/ethnic arts, quality craftsmanship, and ethnicity. For more information call: (708) 449-6450 or visit www.hillside-il.org/hillside-celebrates-dice

“EGG-STRA” “EGG-STRA”

The Village of Hillside’s Youth Commission
invites you to their

“Egg-Citing Event”

**Saturday, March 30th
9:30 AM**

**Hillside Commons
Hillside & Washington Avenues**



Breakfast with
Mr. E. Bunny
at 9:30 A.M.
Donuts while they last.

Hop on over for a morning of FUN!
Remember... bring your own basket or bag for your eggs.

Get your running shoes ready for an
“Egg-citing Egg Hunt” for ages 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-10
“Basket Egg Grab or Run” for ages 2 and under.
(ALL ages will start together at 10:00 AM.)

Prizes for “Lucky Egg Finders” also... Special Surprises for
participants (while supplies last). Remember, this is for the kids only,
so parents we need your cooperation. Please do not go out on the
field with your child unless they are in the 2 and under category.

YOUR HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Event subject to change without notice, sorry for any inconvenience.

*Disclaimer...this event is sponsored by the Youth Commission and the
Village of Hillside ONLY and is NOI sponsored by any school district.

Join the Newest Emergency Management Team Members, John Lillquist and Paul Umnenna, in Helping Make Hillside a Great Place to Live!

There are many Hillside events, like the Summer Nights in Hillside concerts, that need the volunteer services of Hillside's Emergency Management Team.

In addition to ensuring our community events run smoothly, this agency also provides emergency response to natural and man-made disasters in the Village. And when needed, these volunteers become part of the state or federal response during statewide and federal disasters.



Village Clerk Linda Gould swears in John Lillquist and Paul Umnenna to serve as EMA volunteers.

Membership is open to individuals who can devote their free time to assist with emergencies and Village events. Equipment and training will be provided along with uniforms and personal protective equipment that help you perform your duties. Ongoing classes will keep you efficient and current in response techniques.

You must be 18 years of age or older to be a member. A short membership application can be picked up and completed at the Village Hall or at home. Once you return the application, the EMA Director will contact you. Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. at the Hillside Emergency Operations Center at 4151 May Street. You are welcome to attend a meeting as a guest. EMA is an equal opportunity organization

Join Your Neighbors Who are Putting Village Government at Their Fingertips

With *Here for Hillside*, residents can quickly and easily get answers to their questions, find information on various Village services, submit service requests, leave a message for staff, or sign up for text message alerts.

Want the latest news directly from the Village of Hillside? Sign up for text message updates to stay connected with us on the topics that are most important to you. *Message and data rates may apply.



Here for Hillside can be accessed in English or Spanish by

**TEXTING "HELLO" TO
(833) 726-0162 OR SCAN QR CODE**



**OR BY VISITING THE VILLAGE WEBSITE AT:
hillside-il.org and clicking on the Here for Hillside icon
that appears in the lower right corner of home page**



Exciting News! Introducing Our Weekly Hillside Email Newsletter – Sign Up Now!

The Village of Hillside is thrilled to announce the launch of our Weekly Newsletter, your go-to source for the latest updates, exclusive content, and community highlights.

Joining is easy! Scan the QR code on the right or visit <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/UDO8RNX> to subscribe and ensure you don't miss out on Hillside current events.

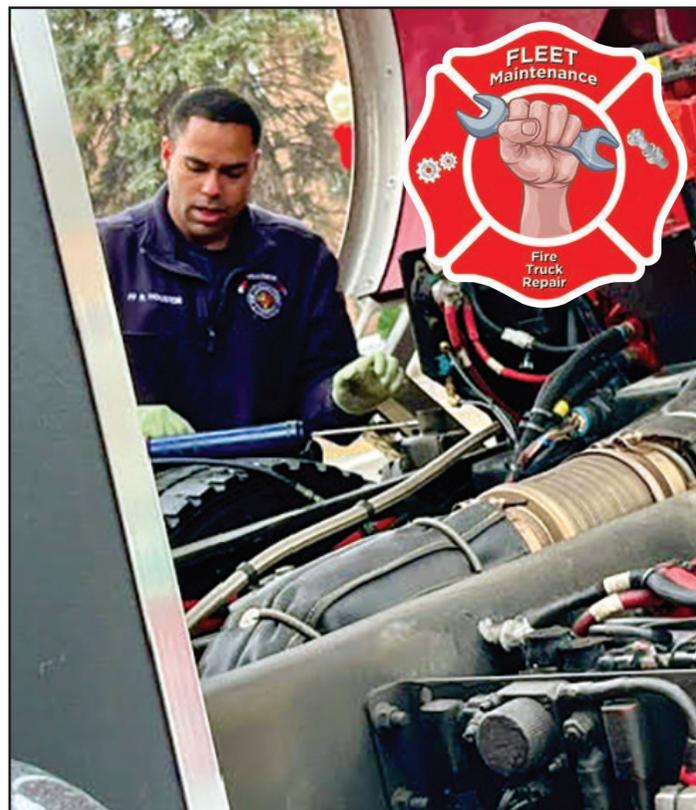


Fire Department Spotlight... Russell Houston

Firefighter/Paramedic Russell Houston has been overseeing the Fire Department's apparatus fleet since 2018. Russell, who has a background in automotive/diesel repair, is responsible for the care, maintenance, and repairs of all fire apparatus in the fire department's fleet. The fleet consists of two fire engines, one aerial ladder truck, two ALS ambulances, pick-up truck, fire prevention SUV, and one fire chief's car.

Russell was trained as a Construction Equipment Mechanic after enlisting in the U.S Army. He spent 4 years in the military working on everything from Humvee's to Bulldozers. Russell works with nearby Emergency Vehicle Technician (EVT) shops and is also responsible for the annual testing that is mandated by NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) for the ground ladders, aerial ladder, and water pumps that are carried on the fire apparatus. Because of Russell's extensive automotive knowledge, he plays an integral role in the designing and specifications phase of any new apparatus purchased. When breakdowns occur unannounced, Russell is on-call 24/7 to ensure our vehicles get back in service quickly.

Thank you, Russell, for ensuring that our fleet of emergency vehicles are staying on the roads safely, and available to respond to any emergency call.



Russell Houston maintaining the Fire Department's equipment



Village Clerk Linda Gould swearing in new Youth Commissioner Donna Watson

Hillside School Volunteer Donna Watson Appointed to Hillside Youth Commission

Donna Watson was sworn in as a Hillside Youth Commissioner at the January Village Board meeting. She has lived in Hillside over 30 years where she and husband Marvin raised their children. She is a retired pharmacist and has been involved in community activities, most notably as a volunteer at Hillside School. Donna recently welcomed the arrival of her second grandchild.

The Youth Commission is one of nine Hillside commissions manned by unpaid volunteers who provide important input on decisions on which the Village Board votes.

Donna stated, "My three sons grew up in Hillside and enjoyed the many school, athletic, and recreational opportunities our Village afforded them. It is now my time, as a Hillside Youth Commissioner, to pay these opportunities forward to the next generation."

Remove Your Accumulated Junk and Trash During Hillside's Annual Spring Cleanup Week... May 13th through the 17th



Time to do “**SPRING CLEANING**” and clean out that crawl space, basement, garage, and attic. Residents are encouraged to remove unwanted trash, furniture, appliances, etc. that have accumulated over the years. Please place these items out on your **REGULAR TRASH COLLECTION DAY OF CLEANUP WEEK**. This opportunity comes only once a year.

Acceptable items... Appliances: (stoves, refrigerators, etc.), Bulk Items: (bicycles, toys, etc.), Carpets: (must be in rolls no more than 5 feet in length and 2 feet in diameter), Fixtures: (toilets, sinks, etc.), Furniture, Paint: (must be hardened in cans with lids OFF), Landscaping Timbers: (must be no longer than 3 feet in length).

Non-Acceptable items... Car Batteries, Explosives, Tires, any type of Fluid (gas, oil, etc.), Ammunition, Radioactive Material, Riding Lawn Mowers, Snow Blowers, Hazardous or Medical Waste, Large Automobile Parts, Boats, Snowmobiles, Bricks, Concrete Blocks, Cement or Asphalt Pavement Material, Construction, and Demolition Debris.

Disposal of Televisions... The Village of Hillside will **NOT** pick up TV's. For residents only, we have a recycling bin in our lobby where you can properly dispose of certain electronics, including TV's under 30 inches.

Looking to Plant a Tree for Free... Maybe Hillside Can Help

Residents interested in a tree for their parkway can call the Hillside Public Works Department at 708-202-3434 and schedule an appointment.

A Public Works team member will meet you at your residence to see if your tree request qualifies.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Upcoming Food Distribution Dates

March 9th & April 13th at 11:00 a.m.



Non-perishable donations can be dropped off in the church lobby on Fridays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. - Noon.



2317 S. Wolf Rd. Hillside, IL
www.immanuel-hillside.org

Public Works and Inspection Services Report Hello to Spring!

STREET SWEEPING

Hillside street sweeping resumes in March. Sweep dates for March and April will be during the week of March 4th-March 8th, March 11th-March 15th, March 18th- March 22nd, April 1st-April 5th and April 15th-April 19th. Please refrain from parking your car on the street during this time so we can effectively clean our streets.

Thank you!



YARD WASTE

Yard Waste Pick-up is expected to begin the first week of April and will be picked up on your garbage day. Yard waste (leaves, plant debris, grass clippings, twigs or small branches, etc.) must be placed in your green yard waste cart, and/or for additional yard waste, brown yard waste bags. Be sure to have your carts placed on the parkway or driveway apron the evening before your scheduled pick-up day.

BRANCH PICK-UP

Hillside branch pick-up will begin the **week of March 4th** and be picked up once a month by the Village of Hillside Public Works Department. **Place your branches on the parkway the Sunday before pick-up week begins.** Our department documents each street, with the time and date it was completed, so they will not return until the following month once they have completed a street. The scheduled pick-up weeks are below.

GUIDELINES for Branch Pick-up

- **Place branches on the parkway the Sunday before pick-up week begins.**
- Entire trees will not be removed; make arrangements with a hauling service to remove debris when cutting down a tree.
- Branch piles not to exceed 8' long by 5' high by 5' wide.
- Logs 5' or more in diameter must be cut into lengths of 2' or less, stacked and will be picked up separately.
- Bush roots must be removed and will be picked up separately.
- **DO NOT mix yard waste with branches.**

BRANCH PICK-UP DATES

March 4-8	July 8-12
April 1-5	Aug 5-9
May 6-10	September 9-13
June 3-7	October 7-11

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS

When contemplating a home project, call the Building/Inspection Services to inquire about the permitting process. This is the homeowner's responsibility and contractors must obtain insurance and licensing to perform the work. Permit applications can be applied for electronically on our website @ <https://www.hillside-il.org/village-services/pages/permits-applications-forms>. Any questions, please call 708-449-6450.

SENIOR SNOW PLOWING

If you are part of the Senior Snow Removal, please be sure your address is clearly displayed or lit up. This is especially helpful when it becomes dark and the driver is trying to identify an address. This is also recommended in the case of an emergency. The minutes it takes to find the address could make all the difference.

FLOOD SAFETY

The following common sense guidelines can protect you from the dangers of flooding:

- Do not drive through a flooded area or drive around barriers.
- Do not walk through flowing water.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.

If your house is about to be flooded, turn off the power at the service box. Electrical current can travel through water. Electrocution is the second leading cause of death during floods.

- Be alert to gas leaks. If you smell gas, report it to your gas company. Do not use candles, lanterns or open flames if you smell gas or are unsure if your gas has been shut off.
- Clean everything that has been wet. Flood water is contaminated with sewage and other chemicals, which pose severe health threats.
- Do not use gas engines, such as generators, or charcoal fires indoors during power outages. Carbon monoxide exhaust can pose serious health hazards

Seniors and Disabled Residents... Have the Village of Hillside Mow Your Lawn

Mayor Tamburino, the Village Clerk and the Village Board are offering an exciting grass cutting program for our qualifying seniors and disabled residents.

For \$10 you receive the following services:

- Grass cutting
- Line trimming areas only not accessible by mower
- Blowing of any loose clippings from driveway, sidewalks and patios
- Hauling away the grass clippings

The program **DOES NOT** include:

- Edging
- Spring/Fall clean up
- Leaf removal
- Fertilization and weed control/aeration/power raking
- Weeding

The following requirements must be met to be eligible for the grass cutting program:

1. A person must be 65 years or older, retired and live in a single residence home.
2. No able-bodied or employed persons under 65 can reside in the household.
3. For those applying due to a disability, you must include documentation provided by the physician treating your condition.

If you are new to this program, please come to The Village Hall to enroll. In addition to the enrollment form we require proof of age by including a copy of either your driver's license, state I.D. or birth certificate.

For existing participants, the new enrollment form will be mailed to you sometime around mid-March and can be dropped off or mailed to The Village Hall. No ID required.

The Village of Hillside will schedule your lawn cutting service. Each month, the Village of Hillside will send out grass cutting service invoices. During the month of June, a senior citizen had their grass cut three times at \$10 per cut, thus they will receive an invoice for \$30.

For additional information or if you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department at 708-202-3434.



"I CAN'T CUT THE GRASS UNTIL I FIND THE LAWNMOWER AND I CAN'T FIND THE LAWNMOWER UNTIL I CUT THE GRASS!"

Sidewalk Needs to Be Replaced? Our 50/50 Sidewalk Program Can Help

The Village offers the public sidewalk program to all residents that want to replace damaged sidewalk squares under the 50/50 program. If this is something you are interested in, please call Public Works at 708-202-3434 to schedule an appointment to assess the sidewalk condition. We will leave a contract for the recommended replacement showing your share of the cost.

Please sign the contract, and payment would be required prior to scheduling with our contractor. This work takes place two (2) times per year; late Spring to early Summer and late Summer to Fall. Feel free to call 708-202-3434 with any questions you may have.

Did Your Flood Brothers Trash, Recycle or Yard Waste Container Take a Beating This Winter?



Call (708) 202-3434 to request a new container and one will be delivered to your home.

Hillside Fire Department Prepares for the Future of Electric Vehicles

For more than 100 years, highway vehicles have been powered by internal combustion engines that burn gasoline or diesel fuel. In the last 20 years, however, vehicles running on alternative fuels have become popular. The most widely used alternative vehicle fuel is electricity.

Today, *battery electric vehicles* (BEVs) are becoming the dominant alternative energy vehicles. BEVs have a fully electric powertrain—that is, they do not have an internal combustion engine but are powered solely by an electric motor fueled by rechargeable batteries. High-voltage lithium-ion batteries are the standard power source for BEVs.

In 2022, 10.5 million electric cars were sold in the U.S. Only one out of 70 cars sold in 2017 were electric. Today, one in every 7 cars sold is an electric vehicle. It is predicted that over 145 million electric vehicles, including cars, buses, vans, and heavy trucks, will be on our roads by the end of 2030.

When it comes to handling electric vehicle fires, our Firefighter/Paramedics face a unique set of challenges. Electric vehicle (EV) fires are rare but pose a technical and safety challenge for fire departments, as they burn at much higher temperatures and require more water to fight than conventional car fires.

Electric vehicles are powered by high-voltage batteries made up of many cells packed together. These cells are housed in a watertight, fire-resistant box. When one of these cells goes haywire, it can produce a significant amount of gas and heat—around 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit. The assembly consists of multiple battery cells interconnected, and in the event of a fire, the cumulative heat generated by the battery assembly can be significantly higher than that of a single cell failure, with current research suggesting a range of between approximately 2,300 to 5,000 degrees Fahrenheit.



Fires in electric vehicles powered by high-voltage lithium-ion batteries pose the risk of electric shock to emergency responders from exposure to the high-voltage components of a damaged lithium-ion battery. A further risk is that damaged cells in the battery can experience uncontrolled increases in temperature and pressure (thermal runaway), which can lead to hazards such as battery reignition/fire. The risks of electric shock and battery reignition/fire arise from the “stranded” energy that remains in a damaged battery.

The Hillside Fire Department recognizes the change in times, and the need to adapt to the new car technology challenges. The HFD recently purchased two devices that will help combat the many challenges which we are faced with when dealing with EV emergency incidents.

1. The Bridgehill Fire Blanket. This blanket enables Firefighters to contain the flames, smoke, and toxic fumes in EV vehicle fires in minutes. Traditional firefighting methods are less effective in extinguishing lithium battery fires. The electrolyte in lithium batteries is flammable, and water can make the situation worse by causing the release of hydrogen gas. Specialized fire-suppression methods and materials are often needed to control these fires including the Bridgehill fire blanket, one of the only solutions that can effectively handle the complexities of lithium battery fires. The blanket can be reused on up to 30 different EV vehicle fires.
2. Emergency Plug. This plug can be inserted in any charging port on any EV at any crash scene to immobilize the vehicle. This device essentially “tricks” the vehicle into thinking it is in park, rather than cutting the power to the vehicle completely. The Emergency Plug quickly and simply helps prevent unwanted movement of an EV during emergency operations by locking the vehicle down, making it so that our Firefighter/Paramedics can work safely on any type of Full and Hybrid Electric Vehicles.

Moreover, the rapid evolution of electric vehicle technology requires us to stay ahead of the curve. Our commitment to public safety demands that we embrace change, stay informed, and foster a culture of continuous learning. By doing so, we will empower our personnel to confidently navigate incidents involving electric vehicles, ensuring the safety of both our Firefighter/Paramedics and the community.

Voter Information for March 19th Illinois Presidential Primary

Mail Ballot Applications

Mail Ballot Applications are now available for the March 19th Primary Election at the front counter of the Village Hall. To receive your mail ballot, you must complete, sign, and submit this application to Cook County elections by Thursday, March 14th, 2024. Applications are also available online at: www.cookcountyclerk.com/earlyvoting.

Early Voting

Early Voting begins March 4th and ends March 18th

The nearest Early Voting Locations:

Village of Bellwood, 3200 Washington Boulevard, Bellwood

Village of Melrose Park, 1000 N. 25th Avenue, Melrose Park

Early Voting Hours At Both Facilities Are:

March 4 - March 18

Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Hillside Polling Places for March 19th Election

Precincts 3 and 69 Community Center 1 N. Lind Ave.

Precincts 30 and 60 Hillside Village Hall 425 Hillside Ave.

Precinct 39 Memorial Park District 700 Speechley Blvd.

Precinct 49 Progressive Life-Giving Word Cathedral 4500 Frontage Rd.

If you have any questions on any of the above information, please call Village Clerk Linda Gould at 708-202-4325 during regular business hours.

VOTING IS A PRIVILEGE - DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!



Friday Meetings 12:30-2:30 PM

Hillside Senior Social Club

MARCH 8th & 22nd

APRIL 12th & 26th

(Dates & times subject to change)

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER | 1 N. LIND AVE., HILLSIDE, IL 60162

CONTACT THE COORDINATOR OF SENIOR SERVICES JAN O'CONNOR (708) 544-8599



Hillside's 22nd Breakfast Celebration Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 15th, the Hillside Community Relations Commission, and the Village of Hillside hosted their 22nd Annual Breakfast honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73 Union Hall in Hillside. It was a sellout crowd with 350 people attending and enjoying a buffet of eggs, potatoes, sausage, bacon, fruit, bakery goods along with assorted juices and coffee.

The Hillside Community Relations Commission hosts this breakfast annually in recognition of the Village's strong public policy against discrimination, bigotry, and bias in any form. The purpose of the Commission is to encourage mutual respect, cooperation and understanding between all people, and to promote the lawful preservation of equal human rights to all citizens.

Master of Ceremony was Commission Chairperson Anthony Padgett and Commission Member Jayda James. Music was provided by DJ B-Low. Colors were posted by the Proviso West High School NJROTC with the invocation and benediction given by the Honorable Rev. Jennifer S. Nolen.

The Keynote speaker was Debra Vines, Founder and CEO of The Answer, Inc. Debra has a son with Autism and she is a nationally recognized leader in serving and supporting families challenged by Autism and Developmental Disorders.

The three essay winners attend Hillside School and are 1st grade student, Mya Torres, 2nd grade student, Christany Sotelo and 7th grade student, Jevan Ispere. They read their essays and received certificates for their outstanding work. Entertainment was provided by soloist, Rosemary Phillips. Mayor Tamburino, Village Clerk Gould, The Board of Trustees, Chairperson Anthony Padgett and The Hillside Community Relations Commission along with Special Events Coordinator Evelyn Belmonte, would like to offer gratitude to everyone who participated in the wonderful event.



Speaker of the Illinois House Emanuel "Chris" Welch poses with the Proviso West High School NJROTC who presented the colors at the breakfast



Mayor Tamburino welcoming the event's guest speaker Debra Vines, Founder and CEO of The Answer, Inc.



Cold weather did not stop the Dr. King breakfast from being sold out



Chair Anthony Padgett seen here with 2nd Grade Dr. King Essay winner, Christany Sotelo



Anthony Padgett with 7th Grade Dr. King Essay winner, Jevan Ispere



Hillside Community Relations Chair Anthony Padgett with 1st Grade Dr. King Essay winner, Mya Torres



What It Costs To Properly Outfit A Hillside Firefighter



Helmet
\$350

Protective Hood
\$135

Turnout Coat
\$1,700

Flashlight
\$125

Radio
\$6,000

Structural Firefighting
Gloves \$90

Rescue and Utility
Gloves \$50

Turnout Pants
\$1,500

Structural Firefighting
Boots \$500

SCBA/Self Contained
Breathing Apparatus \$6,000

Thermal Imaging
Camera \$3,000

Total \$19,450

Where's the Beef? Hillside Police Found It!

Hillside Makes National News with Recovered Vehicle

On December 13, 2023, the Slim Jim promotional vehicle, a Nissan Z car nicknamed *Fast Meat*, was reported stolen in Los Angeles. The car was in LA for a video shoot. Slim Jim is a long thin tube of meat wrapped in plastic and is sold in stores across the country.

The Slim Jim vehicle has built a cult following online. Slim Jim took to X, formerly Twitter, to encourage fans of the brand to keep an eye out for the missing meat mobile.

The tricked-out car is used to promote World Wrestling Federation matches, especially those involving WWE wrestler LA Knight, who also appears in their ads. The car made an appearance at the WWE Survivor Series tournament in Rosemont this past November.



Recovered stolen Slim Jim car found in the Hillside Holiday Inn Express parking lot.

The stolen Slim Jim car story was reported in newspapers, magazines, TV news programs, and radio shows across America. Even the prestigious financial news outlet, Bloomberg, did a feature story on the car's disappearance.

On December 22nd, the Slim Jim vehicle was found on a transport truck outside a Holiday Inn Express in Hillside. Its custom wrap was damaged, but the car was found mostly operational. *"We were incredibly surprised,"* Slim Jim spokesperson Amy Morgan said. *"I think we had all assumed we would never see it again."*

Hillside Police came to the hotel after receiving a ping from Sirius XM around 1 p.m. The car had been loaded onto a transport trailer. Some cars equipped with Sirius XM radio have a tracking feature, which can be used by law enforcement to recover stolen vehicles. *"I suppose the fact that it's a fancy-looking car probably contributes to the appeal of it,"* Hillside spokesperson Andrew Mack said.

Hillside police found the vehicle on a transport trailer and towed it to a secure parking lot. The car was found with its custom graphics and decal wrappings partially removed but operational.

The *Fast Meat* car is equipped with a custom Slim Jim dispenser in the glove box and custom Slim Jim holders on the dashboard and seat belts.

Slim Jim declined to press charges against the operator of the transport trailer. No arrests have been made as the investigation continues in Los Angeles County, where the car was stolen.

Hillside Police Chief Dan Murphy stated, "Thanks to our alert police officers, we were able to bring to a successful close a crime that was a national news story." The Hillside Herald has no beef with the Chief's statement (sorry for the pun). Well done Hillside Police Department!

Q's Voted 'Best Pizza' At Westchester Pizza Palooza

The following is an excerpt from an article that is reprinted with permission of The Village Free Press

By Michael Romain | michael@wearejohnwilk.com

The roughly 200 people who attended the inaugural Pizza Palooza hosted by the Westchester Chamber of Commerce at the Westchester Recreation Center, 10835 Wakefield Ave. on October 27, have spoken.

They saw, they tasted and they decided. Q's Restaurant & Pizzeria, 4841 Butterfield Rd. in Hillside, was voted the "Best Pizza" among six restaurants competing for the honor, along with two niche prizes for "Best Crust" and "Best Sauce."

So, what makes Q's pizza so good? It might be the popular thin crust. For others, it's the old-school neon sign that's become somewhat iconic on Butterfield.

One blogger wrote of the sign: "I can pretty much tell upon sight if a place is good or not... The lighted sign was the first sign that Q's was serious."

The old-school Italian tavern has been an institution in Hillside for more than 60 years, so it may have had the edge over its competitors. Or not.

Sam Failla came to Pizza Palooza from Downers Grove, so he may not have had a dog in the fight.

"This was great," he said of Friday's event. "The pizza was good, the entertainment was even better. It was a blast."

Who got his vote for "Best Pizza"? Q's.

The competition, though, was stiff. Q's may have won the overall prize, but two other restaurants took top honors in the niche categories.

The Original Chickies Beef & Banquet, 4152 Roosevelt Rd. in Hillside, earned the top prize in the "Best Crust" category while Paul's Pizza & Hotdogs, 3044 S. Wolf Rd. in Westchester, earned bragging rights for "Best Sauce."



Q's Pizza employees stand near their popular cheese pizza during the Westchester Chamber of Commerce's inaugural Pizza Palooza on Oct. 27 at the Westchester Recreation Center.

John Watson, the Westchester Chamber's vice-president-elect and the event's primary organizer, said the goal of the event was to introduce the local community to food vendors.

"They come out and get samples of pizza and the vendors are happy because they're making new customers," Watson said. "Our job at the Chamber is to connect businesses to people and that's what we're doing."

Other restaurants that participated included Duncan & Dada's BBQ Company, 10159 W. Cermak Rd. in Westchester; Ledo's Pizza, 5525 South La Grange Rd. in Countryside; and Al's Pizzeria, 9253 W. Cermak Rd in North Riverside.

Watson said restaurants that were Chamber members were invited to participate first before they expanded their recruitment to include restaurants within a certain radius of the village. He said people are already talking about having similar events centered on different popular foods like chicken wings and Italian beef.

Get Together With the Neighbors and Plan a Block Party



The Village of Hillside encourages residents to plan Block Parties. It is a perfect way to get to know your neighbors and create a sense of community. To receive approval for a Block Party, a written request should be submitted at least 30 days prior to the event to the Village Clerk. In the request please include:

- Date of the Party
- Block address on which it is to be held
- Party Block Coordinator(s) for the event information
- Name, address, and reachable phone number

**Submit your written request to the Clerk's office located in the Village Hall:
425 N Hillside Avenue, Hillside, IL 60162 - Phone: 708-449-6450**

New State Laws For 2024 That Could Impact Hillside Residents

More than 300 new state laws took effect on January 1. Here's a look at some of the laws that kicked in with the new year.

Gun Registry

Illinois residents who owned now-prohibited high-powered guns are required to have the firearms registered with the Illinois State Police by New Year's Day of 2024 or they may be charged with a misdemeanor for a first offense and felonies for subsequent violations.

Minimum Wage Increase

The minimum wage for workers 18 and older goes up by \$1, to \$14 per hour. Teens who work less than 650 hours in a calendar year will go up to \$13 an hour while the minimum wage for tipped workers will increase to \$9 an hour.

Paid Leave

Starting January 1, anyone who works in Illinois will be entitled to earn up to 40 hours of paid leave during a 12-month period, time they can take off work for any reason, regardless of whether they are full-time, part-time, or seasonal employees. The measure will provide paid leave to an estimated 1.5 million workers who now receive no paid time off.

Vaping Banned in Public Places

The new bill expands the state's laws that prohibit smoking in public spaces by including the use of vapes in public places and within 15 feet of building entrances.

Banning Book Bans

Public libraries in Illinois could be cut off from state funding if they're found to have removed books and other materials from their shelves for "partisan or doctrinal" reasons. The law requires libraries to follow the guidelines of the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights. Libraries could also develop a written policy to "prohibit the practice of banning specific books or resources," according to the law.

Fighting Online Harassment

Two new laws make perpetrators of online harassment subject to legal action by their victims.

First, anyone in Illinois who engages in doxxing — sharing personal identifiable information about another person for the purpose of harming or harassing that person — could be found civilly liable.

Second, there is now additional protection for victims of "deepfake porn." Starting in 2024, people who are falsely depicted in sexually explicit images or videos will be able to sue the creator of that material.

Zooming While Driving

It is now illegal for Illinois drivers to participate in videoconferencing or check their social media pages while behind the wheel.

Anti-carjacking Initiative

Automakers will be required to establish a 24-hour vehicle theft hotline to help law enforcement locate vehicles stolen in carjackings.

Addressing Student Trauma

The plan calls for the Illinois State Board of Education to develop a publicly reported "Children's Adversity Index" at the community or school district level that will "measure community childhood trauma exposure across the population of children 3 through 18 years."

The index, which must be created by May 31, 2025, will draw on data covering issues including the prevalence of homelessness, contacts with the child welfare system, community violence, and other factors.

Beginning in October, the state school report card will include data on the number of counselors, social workers, nurses and psychologists in each school and district and the student ratio for each category.

In addition to collecting new data, the law also requires training for teachers on "trauma-informed practices" prior to the start of each school year beginning this fall and codifies definitions of trauma and other related terms.

The War on Fentanyl Use

Measures taking effect in 2024 are aimed at addressing the opioid epidemic, which led to 3,261 overdose deaths in Illinois in 2022. One new law allows pharmacies and other retailers to sell fentanyl test strips over the counter. Proponents say availability of test strips is an important harm-reduction strategy because they allow users and others to detect whether the potentially deadly opioid is present in other drugs.

Another measure requires high schools to begin teaching about the dangers of fentanyl in every state-required health course beginning during the 2024-25 school year.

Hillside Library Information

March-April 2024 Events and Programs

Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday – Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday Closed

Closures: April 26 (Staff In-Service Day)

YOUTH

Lego Club: March 6 and 20; April 11 and 24 at 5:00 p.m.

Kids Kitchen: Come make some fun, no-bake recipes!
April 17 at 5:00 p.m.

Bookworm Bunch: Perfect for littles ages 2-4 years old.
March 14 and April 18 at 2:00 p.m.

Giant Donut Craft: March 14 at 5:00 p.m.

TWEENS AND TEENS

College Knowledge Jeopardy: April 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Teen Game Night:

March 8 and April 12 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Enjoy this after-hours activity!

Prom Attire Giveaway: Prom attired donations accepted at Hillside Public Library until April 1. Come shop for a free outfit for your prom at the Maywood Public Library on April 6 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Teen Kitchen: March 27 at 5:00 p.m.

Game Night: March 21 and April 25 at 5:00 p.m.

Mario Movie: March 9 at 1:30 p.m.

Pokemon BINGO: March 26 at 2:00 p.m.

ADULT

Monday Movie Matinee: Movies take place on the 2nd Monday of each month. Snacks and beverages at 2:00 p.m. and the movie starts at 2:15 p.m.

March 11: *So Proudly We Hail* starring Claudette Colbert and Veronica Lake

April 8: *Fear Strikes Out* starring Anthony Perkins and Karl Malden

Zumba: Limit: 15. March 6 and April 17 at 9:00 a.m.

Narcan Training: A one hour hands-on class on using Narcan.
March 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Sound Bath Meditation: April 17 at 12:00 p.m.

Chair Yoga: March 13 at 12:00 p.m.

ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Adult Book Discussion: Meets the first Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Snacks and beverages.

March 6: *West of Sunset* by Stewart O'Nan

April 3: *Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers* by Jesse Q. Sutanto

Mixed Stitchers: Every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

Mid-Day Chair and Floor Yoga: Every Friday at 12:30 p.m.

Illinois Libraries Present: Virtual events brought to you in partnership with Illinois Libraries Present.

Register at www.hillsidepubliclibrary.org.

Wednesday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m. – *Ruth Carter:*

Interweaving Tradition and Imagination Through Costume Design

Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m. – *Dr. Temple Grandin: The Hidden Gifts of Visual Thinkers*

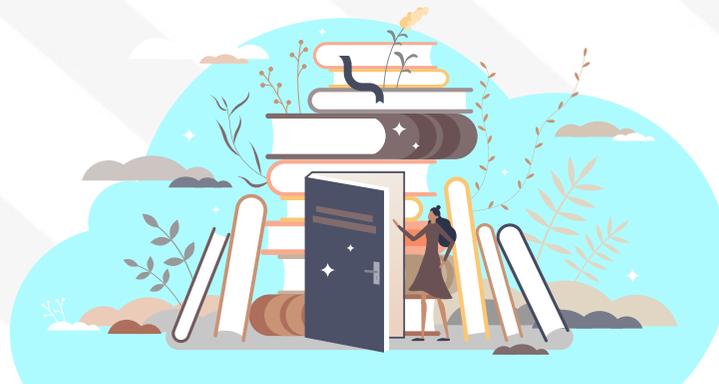
Senior Tech Help: Call the library to make an appointment.

ALL AGES/COMMUNITY/FAMILY

Mario Movie: March 9 at 1:30 pm

Guess the Oscars® Contest: Pick up a 2024 Academy Award ballot at the desk, make your selections, and return it to the library by 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 9. 1st place winner receives a \$25 Classic Cinemas gift card. \$15 for 2nd place, and \$10 for 3rd place. In the event of multiple entries with the same number of correct guesses, a winner will be selected randomly.

Food Drive: Food donations are always accepted.



Hillside Public Library | 405 N. Hillside Ave. | 708-449-7510
Email: contact@hillsidepubliclibrary.org | www.hillsidepubliclibrary.org

Prepare for Their Safe Travel... Use Hillside's Free Child Safety Seat Installation Service

Illinois law requires parents and caregivers to secure children in rear-facing safety seats until they are 2 years old, unless they weigh more than 40 pounds or are more than 40 inches.

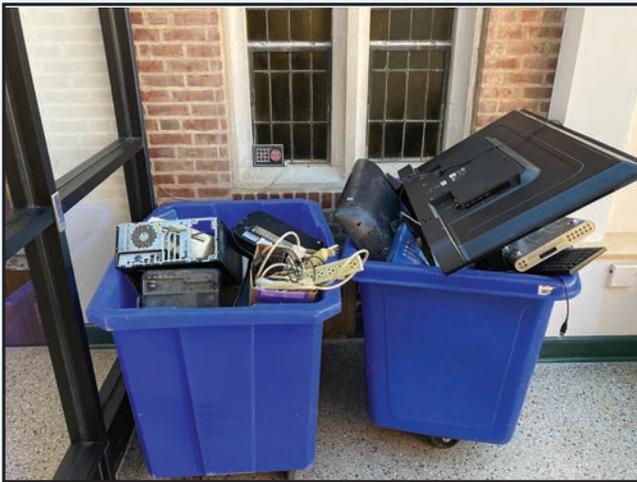
The Hillside Fire Department can help you install your child safety seat properly. It is a free service available to Hillside residents. Please call the fire department non-emergency phone number at 708-547-8684 to set up a time to have your child safety seat installed.



Tips to Follow if You Install the Safety Seat

- Never install a rear-facing safety seat in front of an active airbag.
- Follow recline indicator for rear-facing installation.
- Child's head may need at least one inch or more below the top of the safety seat when rear-facing.
- Use the harness straps/slots at or below shoulder level when rear-facing.
- Harness straps must be snug on the child; the harness clip should be at armpit level.
- When a child outgrows a rear-facing safety seat, he or she may transition to a forward-facing seat with a harness system.

Dispose of Your Old Electronic Devices Today!



The Village of Hillside offers a unique electronic recycling program for Hillside residents only. You can dispose of your old 32" or smaller tube televisions, 60" flat screen TV's or smaller, and other electronics such as VCRs, receivers, telephones, etc. This recycling program is NOT for small appliances such as toasters, blenders, etc. The Village of Hillside and Flood Brothers will not pick-up TVs at curbside. The recycling bins, as seen in the adjoining picture, are located inside the front entrance of the Hillside Village Hall.

*If you love them...
license them.*

Pet owners, don't forget to register your pets. The Village of Hillside has free registration for your dogs and cats. Register your pet(s) in order to **receive your free pet tags**. We only ask that you bring in an up-to-date rabies vaccination report. In case your pet ever gets lost, the Village tag on your pet's collar will help our police department reunite them with you, the pet owner.



A Message from Village Trustee John Kramer...

Air Force Veteran & Broadview-Hillside American Legion Member

In the upcoming Hillside Herald issues, I will list programs that benefit Veterans and existing military personnel and their families.

Let me start by stating that as a Veteran, I often shop at the military BX at ShopMyExchange.com, not just for military items but for almost anything a department store sells.

Did you know that honorably discharged Veterans of all United States Armed Forces, including the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard as well as the Air Force Reserve, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve, and National Guard may be eligible?

What is the Exchange's benefit?

Shopping with the Exchange online gives you access to exclusive military pricing and offers, tax-free shopping and more. This is a lifelong benefit that is extended to all who discharge honorably from service.

How do I know if I am eligible?

Go to www.aafes.com. You may be asked to submit discharge paperwork for review to verify your eligibility. This can be for several reasons, but most likely, the record they have for you is missing a type of discharge (commonly called "Character of Service" or "Character of Separation"). You will be provided a link to VetVerify.org, a shared service of the four military exchanges, to upload your documentation. This process can take up to three days to complete. You will be notified by the VetVerify customer service team when your documentation has been reviewed.



Illinois



HEALTH CARE

Illinois Warrior Assistance Program

This program provides confidential assistance for Illinois Veterans as they transition back to their everyday lives after serving our country. The helpline is available 24 hours a day at 1-866-554-4927. Help is available for Veterans with symptoms associated with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and to provide Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) screenings.

Veterans' Care Program

Provides affordable, comprehensive health care to Illinois' uninsured Veterans. Call the agency at 1-877-483-8779 to apply for the program.

AUTOMOBILES

Disabled Veteran License Plates and Parking

Disabled Veteran license plates may be issued at no cost for the first set of plates to any U.S. Armed Forces Veteran if (1) the Veteran holds proof of a service-connected disability from the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs (2) a licensed physician has certified that because of the service connected disability the Veteran qualifies for the issuance of a disabled placard or plate.

Special License Plates

Upon establishing proof of eligibility to entitlement, special registration plates are available without fee. Military Retirees and Armed Forces Reserves and National Guard soldiers are eligible for registration plates for vehicles of the first or second division upon establishing proof of eligibility and payment of a registration fee. A universal Veteran's license plate is also available. A decal applicable to the Veteran's service record may be affixed to the license plate and must be purchased from the State Headquarters of the American Legion, P.O. Box 2910, Bloomington, Illinois, 61701.

CAMPING, FISHING & HUNTING

Camping & Admission Fees

Eligible Veterans, all former Prisoners of War, and immediate family when accompanied by the Veteran, are exempt from

camping and admission fees at parks under the control of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The Veteran must be an Illinois resident. Apply at your nearest Veteran service office.

Hunting and Fishing Privileges

Free fishing and hunting licenses are issued for disabled Veterans who are receiving 10 percent or greater service-connected compensation, or total disability pension benefits. The Veteran may obtain this license from the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) by providing disability documentation that is no more than one year old. To acquire a permit, contact your local service office.

HOUSING

Veterans' Homebuyer Assistance

The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) offers affordable mortgage loans to first-time homebuyers and Veterans in Illinois. To apply, homebuyers must contact one of IHDA's participating lenders to assist with the application process. Visit www.ihda.org/homeowner/findlender.aspx or call 312-836-5200 for more information.

Returning Veterans' Homestead Exemption

The Returning Veterans' Homestead Exemption provides qualifying Veterans a one-time \$5,000 reduction to their homes' equalized assessed value (EAV). Qualifying Veterans who return from active duty in an armed conflict involving the U.S. armed forces can file an application upon their return home to receive this exemption. To apply for this exemption, please contact or visit your local County Assessor's Office.

Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption

The Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption provides a reduction in a property's EAV to a qualifying property owned by a Veteran with a service-connected disability. A \$2,500 homestead exemption is available to a Veteran with a service-connected disability of at least 50% but less than 70%; a \$5,000 homestead exemption is available to a Veteran with a service-connected disability of at least 70%. Qualifying Veterans must file an annual application by their counties' deadlines to continue to receive this exemption. To apply for this exemption, please contact or visit your local County Assessor's Office.

Specially Adapted Housing

Assistance is provided for service-connected disabled Veterans for the purpose of acquiring and remodeling suitable dwelling units with special fixtures or moveable facilities made necessary by the Veteran's permanent and total service-connected disabilities.

Illinois Veterans' Homes

Illinois Veterans with one day or more of service during any wartime period recognized by the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs as a period of war may qualify. Veterans must have entered military service from the State of Illinois or been a resident for one year prior to applying to an Illinois Veterans' Home. Applicants must pass background checks through the Illinois Department of corrections and the Illinois State Police.

Illinois Veterans Homes are located in Quincy, Anna, LaSalle and Manteno with a future Home to be located in Cook County.

A spouse, or surviving spouse, may also qualify for admittance to the Quincy Veterans' Home.

Prince Home

Located in Manteno, Illinois, is a residential therapeutic program for homeless Veterans. The program provides services, treatment and support enabling the Veterans to regain their independence.

Look in future Hillside Herald for more Veteran Programs

For Information on these programs
CONTACT - Illinois Department
of Veterans' Affairs
1-800-437-9824
www.illinois.gov/veterans



Municipal Calendar of Events



- March 11th Board of a Whole Meeting – 7:30 P.M.
- March 25th Village Board Meeting – 7:30 P.M.
- March 27th Community Awareness Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
- March 28th Community Relations Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
- April 8th Village Board of a Whole Meeting – 7:30 P.M.
- April 22nd Village Board Meeting - 7:30 P.M.
- April 24th Community Awareness Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
- April 25th Community Relations Meeting – 7:00 P.M.

*** All meetings are held in the Village Hall Board Room



VILLAGE OF HILLSIDE
425 HILLSIDE AVENUE
HILLSIDE, ILLINOIS 60162

Presorted
Standard
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Melrose Park, IL 60160
Permit No. 300

ECRWSS
Local Postal Customer
Hillside, IL 60162

Mayor
Joseph T. Tamburino
Clerk
Linda L. Gould

Village Trustees
David V. Delgado
Claudell Johnson
John N. Kramer
Frank J. Lomeli, Sr.
Marvin A. Watson
Herman L. Walter, Jr.

Administrator
Joseph Pisano
Assistant Administrator
Joseph Beckwith
Treasurer
Sandy Lozano

Police Department
425 Hillside Avenue
Chief Daniel Murphy

Fire Department
523 Wolf Road
Chief Kenneth Carling

Public Works
425 Hillside Avenue
Director Paul Smith

Village Hall Main Number
708-449-6450
www.hillside-il.org

Emergency
Police & Fire: 9-1-1
Non-Emergency
Police: 708-449-6133
Fire: 708-547-8684

Public Works
708-202-3434
Water Billing
708-202-3462
EMA 708-449-6410

Director: Scott Lundgren
Mayor's Office
of Special Events:
708-202-4343
Coordinator
Evelyn Belmonte

Village Hours
M-F 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Sat. 9:00 A.M. to Noon
Closed on Sunday

Final Thoughts from Mayor Joseph T. Tamburino

Dear Neighbors,

I want to thank Public Works Director Paul Smith and our outstanding Hillside Public Works employees for their round the clock work in subzero weather conditions in making our streets passable. I am proud to say we have one of the better snow removal teams in the suburban area.

I want to give an update on the proposed 55 and over senior housing project on Taft Avenue. Turnstone, the project developer, is in the process of finalizing their construction plans and are in their due diligence to perform value engineering for the project. They have submitted all required filings with the Illinois Housing Development Authority.

The developer has stated they will apply for a tax exemption or a reduced tax bill, which needs to be reviewed by state agencies for approval. However, the developer has testified that they would pay Hillside, in lieu of property taxes, the Village's portion of the tax bill as long as money is available.

According to a commissioned report of the Chicago Metropolitan Area Planning Agency, this 55 and over development will spur potential development and revitalize the area. I will continue to give updates as the project progresses.

On page 5 of this issue is a story stating that the Village is in the process of launching a weekly email newsletter which will keep you up to date on events, programs, and vital news in the area.

This is one more step in keeping residents informed about their community. Over the past few years our Village Police, Fire, and Government have each launched a Facebook page. We have redesigned the Village website and have switched from a 4-page bulletin to a 20-page bi-monthly Hillside Herald newsletter.

We have developed a first of its kind app in Illinois called *Here for Hillside*, which allows residents 24-hour access to village government services and requests. We are now on X, formerly known as Twitter. We initiated a Smart911 program which allows you to create a safety profile for your household. This program will provide vital details on your family and home that 9-1-1 may need in order to send help in the event of an emergency. We launched the CodeRED community alert system. This program not only issues emergency and critical messages, but also non-emergency information ranging from road closures and trash collection schedule changes to snowplow schedules and other Hillside services.

To learn more or to register for any of the above programs, visit the Hillside Village website at: www.hillside-il.org. Making your Village government more accessible for Hillside residents is and will continue to be the goal of my administration.

Finally, consider participating in our first ever Hillside's DICE celebration. See page 2 for an application to be part of the fun. Let's create an environment where everyone is valued, celebrated, and welcomed with open arms!

Sincerely,

Mayor Joseph Tamburino

To read this newspaper in Spanish, please visit www.hillside-il.org or scan the QR code

Para leer este periódico en español, visite www.hillside-il.org o escanee el código QR

