Believe In Blue Island
From Alderman Tom Hawley

Hello Everyone,

Some nice weather to take advantage of for a couple of days! Enjoy. If you haven't finished your taxes, the deadline is coming up on Tuesday at midnight!

A reminder: In celebration of the arrival of spring, the City will be working their way through the City doing bulk pickup. The will be in the 1st Ward the week of April 14th, 2nd Ward the week of April 21st, 3rd Ward the week of April 28th, 4th Ward the week of May 5th, 5th Ward the week of May 12th, 6th Ward the week of May 19th and the 7th Ward the week of May 27th. Place all of your larger items you want picked up in the parkway near the curb. The City will be by to pick it up during the scheduled week.

We stopped by the Eagles and had breakfast with the Easter Bunny. He was ready for kids, even those who didn't seem too sure of the big furry thing with long ears! The pancakes were great! Also stopped by the Spud Luncheon at Christ Memorial. As always, delicious! I heard Guns and Hoses was a success. The Hoses won.

This weekend, we have the last Fish Fry at St. Benedict's, Food and Brew at Korbakes, *Shrek, the Musical* is playing at Eisenhower High School, and from the clips I saw from dress rehearsal, it looks great--especially the costuming! We're going tomorrow night. Maple Tree Inn has Cajun Dance Music tonight, the Rummage Sale at Grace is tomorrow as is Local Artists and Craftsmen Day at CARR's, there's a Flashlight Easter Egg hunt for kids by the Park District, Ham and Bacon Shoot at the Eagles, and the Southwest Symphony Orchestra Gala Dinner and Silent Auction.

Next week, there are great things going on at the Library and the Create Your Own Centerpiece at The Meadows. Next week is Holy Week. There are special Ecumenical Services and I will attending a Taize Prayer service at Ascension Catholic Church in Oak Park at 3 pm. If you want more information, email me. It's a wonderful, prayerful style of prayer and the Good Friday service is very powerful.

The Blue Island Firefighters Club is having a Flower Sale to help raise money for the maintenance and care of "Old Bess." Attached is an order form. All orders must be prepaid and are due by April 28th. You can drop off the form at Station #1 on Vermont St. or at CARR home-garden-holiday.

Garden season is in full gear at Blue Islands 2 Community Gardens: the California Gardens Community Garden (CG2) at 141st and Francisco, and the Memorial Park Community Garden (MPCG), right behind the pool at the Parks District. Both gardens are accepting new gardeners and volunteers for the year, registration is going on now. We ask for those who wish to rent plots for $15 from Residents, and $20 from anyone who lives outside of Blue Island. This gives you water access, tools and education if you need it. Contact wwalters@cityofblueisland.org for info on membership at either garden. Check out info on a seed starting workshop tomorrow and an event at the Rock Island Public House on April 16th.

Lots of thanks to the Cub Scouts and Their Parents this past Sunday! In an hour and half trash was picked up, roses / butterfly bush were pruned back and some of the winter annual were removed. They were guided by troop leaders Cliff Black, Joe Ruiz and UFB members Perry Recker, Laura Mast and Val Kehoe. Thanks to everyone for their help!

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The organizers of the Ike Hike are looking for sponsors. If you are interested, there are three different levels: Gold ($500), Silver ($250) and Bronze ($125). There are different benefits for each level. Please email Alicia Ramirez at Alicia.Ramirez@chsd218.org for the forms.

The Consolidated High School District 218 Education Foundation is having a raffle for a chance to win four 1-day hopper passes to any Walt Disney Theme Park in Florida. The passes are valid for two years. There are only 1,000 raffle tickets being sold. Tickets are $5 each. To purchase tickets, please contact Paula Aggelopoulos at their Administration Center at 708.424.2000 x 2903 or stop by the Administrative Center at 10701 S Kilpatrick in Oak Lawn.

Want to help open one of the other two bridges that are closed in Blue Island? Blue Island resident, Kevin Yates, has started a write-in campaign to try to push to get them open. If you want the information about who to send them to and a sample letter, shoot me an email and I can send you a sample.

Please remember to send me any and all events you know that are happening in town or involve people from town. I'm always happy to include them.

St. Benedict's Lenten Fish Fry
Get your Friday Fish lunches and dinners every Friday during Lent (March 7th through April 11th). They serve fried or baked fish, french fries, cole slaw, cookies and a drink. Beer is available for purchase and ice cream is also available for a treat (small fee). Carry-outs are available as well. Lunch runs from 11 am to 1:30 pm and dinner goes from 4 pm to 7:30 pm.
When: Fridays during Lent, through April 11th, 11 am to 1:30 pm, 4 pm to 7:30 pm
Where: St. Benedict Church, 2339 York St.

Blue Island Eagle's Fish Fry
April 2nd: Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church, 2506 Grove St
Stop by the Blue Island Eagle's every Friday during Lent (February 14th through April 18th from 4 pm to 8 pm. Each fish basket is 3/4 of a pound of great fish. Stop on out and enjoy some great food!
When: Fridays, through April 18th, 4 pm to 8 pm
Where: Blue Island Eagles, 2427 Grove St.

Food and Brew
Come on over to Korbakes Liquors and check out some great microbrews made right here in Chicago by Revolution Brewing and sample delicious food from the Windy City Patty Wagon. All outside in this wonderful weather in Korbakes parking lot.
When: Friday, April 11th, 5 pm to 7 pm
Where: Korbakes Liquors, 12747 S Western

Cajun Dance Music at the Tree
Head on over to the Maple Tree Inn for live music provided by the Cajun Band, Le Travaillant (Cajun French for 'the working man'). They will be playing dance music from the French-speaking part of Louisiana. Sure to be great!
When: Friday, April 11th, 6 pm to 9 pm
Where: Maple Tree Inn, 13301 Olde Western Ave

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Ecumenical Lenten Services
Join the churches of Blue Island on Wednesdays during the Lenten season for Ecumenical Services. The Services start at 7:30 pm and all are welcome to attend. The schedule is as follows:
Maundy Thursday, April 17th: Christ Memorial, 2440 York St
Good Friday, April 18th: Mission Covenant, 2501 Collins St

Pour it Forward
Drink exotic beer brewed by monks in Belgium and help raise money for the Cal-Sag Trail! The first 40 people to arrive at the party get a free round of La Trappe Ale! Come on out, meet some friends and make some new ones and help raise funds to make the Cal-Sag Trail a reality here in Blue Island. It's getting so close!
When: Friday, April 18th, 6 pm to 9 pm
Where: Rock Island Public House, 13328 Olde Western Ave

Luau Party
Come and celebrate National Library Week with a special performance by Aloha Chicago Hula Dancers! Stop by the Blue Island Public Library on Saturday, April 19th between 1 pm and 3 pm. The performance starts at 1:30. There will be light snacks and refreshments served. Check it out, at the Blue Island Public Library!
When: Saturday, April 19th, 1 pm to 3 pm
Where: Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St

Record Store Day
Come on out to the Rock Island Public House and watch These Old Men They Play Records! Yup, they're back to spin the best vinyl for your enjoyment. Get $1 off each drink when you show your receipt from your record store purchase!
When: Saturday, April 19th, 8 pm to 3 am
Where: Rock Island Public House, 13328 Olde Western Ave

Save Money, learn how at the Library
Clair Boone: mom, homemaker, blogger, newspaper columnist, frequent TV guest and founder of "Mummy Deals" shares savvy shopping tips to help you save lots of money! This is a ticketed event. Pick up your free ticket at the main desk.
When: Tuesday, April 22nd, 7 pm
Where: Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St

District 130 seeks donation for Music Department
Cook County School District 130 invites the community to support the Instrumental and Vocal Music Departments through their annual scholarship campaign to send 7th graders to the one week camp at Eastern Illinois University. The cost of providing a full scholarship is $480 per student, but any amount will help! All donations need to be received by Tuesday, April 22nd. Each sponsor will be listed in the Spring Band and Choral programs. For more information, call 708.385.6800 x 7011 or email aferrin@district130.org.
When: Donations made by April 22nd
Where: District 130

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Autism Speaks fundraiser
Robbie and Mark Deiters are hosting a fundraiser for Autism Speaks at the Rock Island Public House. They are walking along Chicago's Lakefront to help fund research into the causes, prevention, treatments and cure as well as raise public awareness of its effects on individuals, families and society and bring hope to all who deal with the hardships of the disorder. Currently, 1 in 68 children, 1 in 48 boys are diagnosed with Autism. In 2012, $137 billion was spent on Autism related expenses. They want to do their part so they are having this fundraiser. They will be raffling off a set of Blackhawks bean bag boxes with bags, $5 per ticket or 5 for $20. There will be other prize baskets raffled off that evening (winner need not be present) along with a special keg of craft beer with proceeds going to Stu's Crew! If you'd like to make a donation to Autism Speaks in honor of Stu's Crew please Follow This Link to visit their personal page.
When: Friday, April 25th, 7 pm on
Where: Rock Island Public House, 13328 Olde Western Ave

Laughter on the 23rd Floor by Stray Dog
Laughter on the 23rd Floor, by Neil Simon, is a wonderfully funny show in two acts that relates some of Neil Simon's experiences as a writer on Sid Ceasar's live television show, YOUR SHOW OF SHOWS. "Laughter..." is set in the writers room of the Max Prince show in 1953. You will laugh till you cry as you watch a TRUE ensemble cast starring (in order of appearance): Nick Cuba; Rocco Ayala; Tony Carsella; Sam Tocci; Mike Doody; Kristel Flynn; Brenda Bass; Ken Schaefer; Ame Amanda Barclay; and Robert (Charlie) Pasters. Directed by Amanda Barclay. To reserve tickets, call box office at **708-841-7396** to make your reservation. All seating is general admission and is limited to 120 seats per show. Call today to make your reservation...walk-ups may be limited...some new faces on our stage, as well as some returning favorites will hopefully fill our theater! ****NOT APPROPRIATE FOR ALL AUDIENCES, DUE TO ADULT LANGUAGE****
When: Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 25, 26, 27 and May 2, 3 and 4. Friday and Saturday shows at 8 pm, Sundays at 2 pm
Where: Veterans' Memorial Middle School, 12320 S Greenwood

Ike Hike 5K an 1 Mile Walk
Register now for the Ike Hike! This event is benefitting Blue Cap and will take place on Saturday, April 26th at 8:30 am beginning at Eisenhower High School. Check out their website at www.ikehike.com. Everyone who registers by April 16th will be guaranteed a shirt. Students 18 and under are $10 ($20 on race day), Adults are $20 ($30 on race day) for the 5k and walkers are $10. Awards are given to the top three male and female finishers in each category.
When: Saturday, April 26th, 8:30 am
Where: start at Eisenhower High School, 12700 Sacramento Ave

Spring Tea
Celebrate the arrival of Spring with tea and friends at the historic Albee House. The Blue Island Historical Society is sponsoring this lovely, seasonal event. Call 708.371.8546 to reserve tickets.
When: Saturday, April 26th, 12 noon to 2 pm
Where: Blue Island Historical Society Albee House, 13018 S Maple Ave

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Spaghetti Dinner
Head on over to Mission Covenant Church for their Annual Spaghetti Dinner! The spaghetti is always delicious and there are always tons of people and lots of spaghetti to be eaten. Tickets are $8, children under 12, $4 and may be purchased by any member of the church or at the door. Carryouts are also available.
When: Saturday, April 26th, 4 pm to 7 pm
Where: Mission Covenant Church, 2501 Collins St (at Greenwood)

Arts Extravaganza
Come on out and support the arts at District 218's Annual Arts Extravaganza! We've been to a number of them and the only problem with the night is it's hard to decide what you want to go to see! There are numerous things happening at the same time and represent different performing and visual arts from Eisenhower, Richards and Shepard High Schools. There's events by the Speech Teams, Dance Teams, Bands, Orchestra (only DDE has one), Choirs and Theater. It's a really wonderful evening. Very entertaining and you are supporting these talented kids! Tickets are $5 for students, $10 for adults and may be purchased at the door. The Eisenhower programs do Blue Island proud! Come on out and support them!
When: Saturday, April 26th, 6 pm to 9 pm
Where: Shepard High School, 13049 S Ridgeland Ave, Palos Heights

Eat and Earn
The District 130 Band will be holding a McDonald's Night fundraiser on Monday, April 28 at the McDonald's located at 11920 S. Western Avenue in Blue Island. From 5 to 8 pm, 20 percent of the profits will be donated to the band. Treat your family to dinner and support the District 130 Band! For additional information, please contact Michael Bielecki at 708-385-6630 or email mbielecki@district130.org.
When: Monday, April 28th, 5 pm to 8 pm
Where: McDonald's, 119th and Western

Pancake Breakfast
Boy Scout Troop 788 is having their annual pancake breakfast, bake sale and raffle to raise funds so they can attend summer camp. Tickets are $6, children under 6 are free and include pancakes, beverage and sausage. Tickets available at the door. Before you start your day, stop by and have breakfast, it's the most important meal of the day!
When: Saturday, May 3rd, 7 am to 12 noon
Where: Christ Memorial Church, 2440 York St

An Evening with the Stars
Deputy Police Chief Mike Cornell, is letting everyone know about this fundraiser for the Animal Welfare League. He has gotten a number of dogs from here and they are great to work with. They run on private funds and fundraisers like this. They do not receive any federal money. So join them on Saturday, May 3rd, for An Evening with the Stars at the Sabre Room. Limited VIP tickets are $50, regular tickets are $40. Cash Bar, limited menu available, 50/50 Raffles and Adoptable Animals will be on hand. There will be live music by 4 different entertainers who will amaze you with how much they look and sound like some HUGE stars! All proceeds benefit the thousands of homeless, abandoned and abused animals the Animal Welfare League cares for each year. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 708.636.8586 x 268 or stop by Animal Welfare at 10350 Southwest Highway in Chicago Ridge.
When: Saturday, May 3rd, doors open at 6:30 pm, show starts at 7 pm
Where: The Sabre Room, 8900 W 95th St, Hickory Hills

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Annual Membership Meeting
Chairman Mike Kaliski will give a report on the last year's activities of the Blue Island Historical Society. Joe Gatrell will also be there to present his latest book, *The Way Things Were Don: A Political History of Blue Island, Volume 1*. New members are always welcome! There will be an election for the three board member positions that will be open. The nominating committee is excepting nominations for these board member positions. Please contact, Betty Nagel @ 708-371-8546.
When: Saturday, May 4th, 1 pm
Where: Blue Island Historical Society Albee House, 13018 S Maple Ave

Flower Sale
Come on out to Grace United Methodist Church for their Annual Flower Sale. Beautify your yard and help the church at the same time! Hanging baskets, flats, vegetables, geraniums, begonias and many unusual flowers and plants are provided by Ted's Greenhouse. They always have a great variety of things to choose from.
When: Saturday, May 10th, 8 am to 3 pm
Where: Grace United Methodist Chruch, 12739 Maple Ave

From Ireland to Distant Planets
The Southwest Symphony's final concert of their gala 50th season is Saturday, May 10th at 7:30 pm. What a great way to celebrate Mother's Day! The concert will feature audience favorite Cross Keys Irish Dancers in the first half of the concert. The second half of the concert will feature Gustav Holst's *The Planets*. It will be performed with a spectacular multi-media presentation and feature the Oak Lawn Park District Voices of the Valley under the direction of Stacy Cunningham. It should be a great concert! Nancy DiNovo is in the Violin section and I am in the Bass section. Tickets are $20 for adults, $15 for seniors, $5 for students and children under 12 are free! Group ticket pricing is available. If you are interested in going, let me know. I have a group started already and you can get tickets for $12 each. Let me know and I will include you in the group!
When: Saturday, May 10th, 7:30 pm
Where: Trinity Christian College, Ozinga Chapel, 6601 W College Dr, Palos Heights

District 130 East Band Day Fundraiser with the Chicago Fire
Join the District 130 East Band for an afternoon of music and soccer at the match between the Chicago Fire and LA Galaxy on Sunday, June 1 at 3 pm at Toyota Park, located at 7000 S. Harlem Ave. in Bridgeview. Pre-match entertainment will be provided by the District 130 East Band and all proceeds will benefit Blue Island school bands. Great Corner Kick seats are available at a reduced price of $20 and parking passes can be purchased at a discount of only $12. To purchase tickets, please come to Veterans Memorial Middle School, located at 12320 S. Greenwood in Blue Island, by Tuesday, May 6. Only cash payments will be accepted. Tickets are based on availability. For additional information or questions, please contact Michael Bielecki, District 130 East Band Director, at 708-385-6630, ext. 7317 or emailmbielecki@district130.org or Will Culbertson with the Chicago Fire at 708-496-6679 or wculbertson@chicago-fire.com.
When: Sunday, June 1st, 3 pm
Where: Toyota Park, 7000 S Harlem Ave, Bridgeview

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Mayor's and Blue Island Independent Party's Golf Outing
Save the date! The Blue Island Independent Party is making plans for their second golf outing. It will be Friday, June 13th with a shotgun start at 10 am at the Meadows Golf Course in Blue Island. They are looking for donations from companies to be used as raffle prizes or door prizes. Hole sponsorships are $100 per hole. Other sponsorships are also available. Or get together a foursome for golf. For more information, call 708.824.9171.
When: Friday, June 13th, 10 am shotgun start, Dinner at 6 pm
Where: The Meadows Golf Course, 2802 W 123rd St.

Windy City Thunderbolts Game
The Blue Island Little League is selling tickets for a league baseball outing. Please help us raise funds by purchasing tickets for this game. This year we are having it on a Saturday, which is Fireworks Night. The tickets are only $10 and make great gifts. If you are interested, please contact Rosie at 708.396.0708 or 708.439.9103.
When: Saturday, June 28th, 6:05 pm
Where: Standard Bank Stadium, 14011 S Kenton Ave, Crestwood

Ongoing Events

For Seniors
Are you a Senior or do you know a Senior in Blue Island and beyond? They can join Senior Circle at MetroSouth Medical Center. Their mission is to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle for seniors 50 and better by providing programs that encourage continued learning, wellness, health and volunteering, coupled with a host of social activities. For only $15 per year, members get the following benefits: In-hospital perks: complimentary upgrade to a private room based on availability, free meal per day for spouse or caregiver of a hospitalized member, monthly Breakfast Club (health presentations with complimentary breakfast), Bingo, 4 Winds Casino Trip, Day Trips, overnight trips, health fairs, free screenings, and a copy of the newsletters and magazines by Senior Circle. There are also national discounts on drugs, vision care, hearing care and even car rentals! Check it out! For more information or to join, call Gloria at 708.489.7927.

Check out these links about Eisenhower's Peer Buddy Program
Part A
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Di3adOTxvjQ

Part B
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wv0VjNemjHU

Thirsty Thursdays
Have you ever been in a bar, saw their drink specials and wondered why your drink is never on special? Thirsty Thursdays are for you! Draft Beers, 12 oz. glass: $1.00, 16 oz. glass: $1.25, all bottled domestic beer: $2.00, imported & specialty beer: $2.50, Shots, Wine & Mixed Drinks: $1.00 off regular price. Practice bowling is available as well for $1.50 per game 6 pm to close.
When: Thursday evenings
Where: Blue Island Eagles, 2427 Grove St

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Blue Island Eagles Twisted Tuesday Progressive Raffle
The Blue Island Fraternal Order of Eagles #1332 invites the community to help "raise the roof" with a series of special fundraising raffle events happening every Tuesday. Events are open to the public. Tickets are $5 and you must be present at 9 pm for a chance to win the progressive pot. The pot started at $100 and is up to $2,450. A ticket will be drawn and that person will select a number from the progressive pot board. If the winning square is not selected, $50 will be added to the pot for the following week. New tickets are sold every week. Proceeds will help their efforts to repair their roof. You do not need to be a member to attend.
When: Tuesday nights, drawing at 9 pm
Where: Blue Island Eagles, 2427 Grove St

Fitness Programs at Salvation Army
Check out the Salvation Army's new fitness programs going on now at the Salvation Army Center. Groove till you lose with Zumba, Step up to a better health with Tai Chi and Whip yourself into shape with Boot Camp. Membership and non-membership fees may apply. Come sign up today! For more information, visit their webpage atwww.salvationarmyblueisland.org or contact them at 708.332.0100.
Where: Salvation Army, 2900 W. 127th St.

Salvation Army programs
Check out the Salvation Army for ongoing programs. They have Senior Lunch-in, Food Pantry, Fitness and Gym, After School Programs, Character Building Classes for youth, Music Lessons, Counseling, Computer Classes and rentals. For more information, visit them at www.salvationarmyblueisland.orgor call them at 708.332.0100.

Know someone looking to buy a house in Blue Island?
Do you know some good people looking to purchase and fix up the vacant homes in town. If so, there's some assistance available for them! Sofia Aguilera sent me this link with some information: http://www.ihda.org/homeowner/gettingLoan.htm#IllinoisBuildingBlocks so if you know someone who wants to buy a currently vacant property and live in Blue Island, pass this on!

History on the Hill
Check out this link to watch a wonderful interview with Harry Robertson, a life-long resident of Blue Island. It's a series called History on the Hill and can be found on YouTube here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AlHMfdHb44&feature=youtu.be and look for it on Channel 4!

Honor Flight Chicago
Pat Weseloh is volunteering for Honor Flight Chicago. If you're not familiar with this group, they raise money or collect donated frequent flyer miles to fly WWII Veterans to Washington, DC to see the WWII Memorial there. We are losing 120 of these heroes a day and they are working to get as many of them to the Memorial as possible before they die. If you know anyone who would be eligible to take this Honor Flight, please contact Pat at 708.388.3732. She can help get the process started. If you would like to donate online, visit www.honorflightchicago.org or you may mail a check payable to Honor Flight Chicago to 938 West Montana St., Chicago, IL 60614.

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Blue Island Public Works accepting e-waste items!
Melissa Fuller from the City of Blue Island Public Works Department has sent this updated information about e-waste recycling.

Blue Island Public Works is proud to announce that we have partnered up with the Vet Tech Project for E-waste recycling! E-waste is considered as ANYTHING that has a cord attached. From computers and radios to hair dryers and old chargers! We now also accept old household batteries, DVDs, & CDs. All E-waste can either be dropped off at the Public Works Facility at 3153 Wireton Rd, or call Melissa for a special pick up. There is no charge for collection, and all items go to a GREAT cause. The Vet Tech Project provides technology education to American Military Veterans seeking to develop job skills in this field. The project recycles the unwanted E-waste by rehabbing them for charity. For more info or questions on any other recycling, please call Melissa at Public Works 708-597-8604, Monday through Friday, 7am to 3:30pm.

Do you have other things to recycle, old paint or other items? Melissa's MOST FAVORITE recycling website in the world is www.Earth911.com. When you go there, click on the "find a recycling center" tab then you can enter any type of material you want to recycle, type in your zip code and it will give you a list of the nearest places to accept them. How cool is that??

If you are looking for a place to bring all of your paper, find the District 130 paper dumpsters. They are all over!

Take a healthy heart and circulation exam
MetroSouth Medical Center is offering a special exam (a $250 value) for only $45. It includes an EKG-monitored exercise test, blood cholesterol, triglycerides and blood sugar level, blood pressure, body mass index, cardiac risk factor analysis, and an ankle brachial index test. Call 708-597-2000 ext. 5615 to reserve.
Where: MetroSouth Medical Center-Main Lobby, 12935 S. Gregory St., Blue Island

Other News

Spend it in Blue Island!
We just would like to ask people to remember to keep Blue Island small merchants, stores, vendors, restaurants and contractors in mind. If you are planning on doing home repairs, look for a Blue Island contractor. Having a party, look for food from a Blue Island business. Want to buy a special gift for yourself, consider a local store. Go out to eat in Blue Island. Go to your favorite store or restaurant or take a chance and visit a new one! Go bar hopping or dancing into the evening afterwards--they serve soft drinks, too and many even serve some pretty good food! Make a donation to your favorite Blue Island charity. Money spent in town comes back in sales tax revenue, etc. Keep your money in Blue Island as much as possible!

About the Fraternal Order of Eagles
The Fraternal Order of Eagles, an international non-profit organization unites fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice, and equality, to make human life more desirable by lessening its ills, and by promoting peace, prosperity, gladness and hope. Founded in 1898, the Eagles fund research in areas such as diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease and cancer, and raise money for neglected and abused children and the aged, as well as work for social and civic change. The Blue Island Eagles has maintained a

presence in the community since 1906 and currently hosts more than 200 combined Aerie and Auxiliary members. Stop out for a fun night of bowling, join us for a sports game on our multi big screen TV's in our bar. Bring the family for our Friday Night Fish Fry. Upcoming events Pancake Breakfast with the Easter Bunny Sunday, April 6th from 8am to 1pm. Fun fundraiser with dinner for our Ham and Bacon Shoot April 12th at 6pm. Need to rent a hall for a special event we have that too. For more information contact the Blue Island Eagles at 708-388-9739.

Seniors Ride Free!
If you are a Senior in town, the Calumet Township Senior Center has a free ride program! They will pick you up at your door and take you anywhere in Blue Island, Calumet Park and Riverdale. Even if you live in the Worth Township side of town, they will pick you up. They need 24 hours of advance notice. A great and easy way to get around town! Call 708.388.6606 to arrange a ride.

Properly dispose of old paint and stain
Diane Jacobson discovered that Naperville runs a state funded program to recycle many things such as polyurethane, oil paints, pool chemicals, car oils, transmission fluids, garden chemicals such as Round-Up and even unused prescription medicines and unused vitamins. Their program is on Saturdays and Sundays from 9 until 2; they have all of the information to tell you their location, what they will and won't accept, etc. on their website. People can check it out by googling City of Naperville Household Hazardous Waste. They will ask for a driver's license to prove that you live in Cook County. I was able to clean my garage of all of the things that I didn't want to put in the landfills; I am trying to find greener alternatives such as vinegar for killing weeds between bricks, in asphalt cracks, etc. You could get a group together to go out there and make a fun day of it. They unload your car. They do not take Latex Paint. Calumet Paint recommends putting kitty litter in the can to absorb the paint and then just toss it into your regular garbage can. The Naperville site is one of only two in the state that accept these items on a regular basis. Occasionally, towns will offer it once or twice a year, but you never know when that will be. Thanks for the tip, Diane!

Check out these three features on the String program at Eisenhower:
Feature on orchestra growth, includes rehearsal
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0G_iR1f37vI

Rehearsal (different piece)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ALWxcZ1qWM

Interviews
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uK5gmGF0a5E

Bungalow Chef with Blue Island BBQ experts
http://youtu.be/WD3l76LdScQ

Leo Club Food Drive
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=je1D3XbBhxc

Father's Forum at Eisenhower
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=waJXjgn85fw

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Eisenhower Sophomore Football Team takes Conference Title
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSGK6675_aw

Check out District 218's latest Newsletter
Go to this link: http://en.calameo.com/read/00140548620c415e33e66 and check out District 218's newsletter. You will see many aspects of student life showcased there including student achievements, speech team/JV Conference champs, Freshman girls basketball - 13 -1 season, Speech team-Friends and Family Night, Voter registration drive, Orchestra profile and Honor Roll. Take a look!

Trace your family roots
Hey genealogy buffs, have you ever thought of searching Cemetery records for clues and hints of your families past? The First Lutheran Cemetery of Alsip, (First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Blue Island) has been servicing the community for over 125 years. They have a service that will search via family name for just $35.00 an hour! With the relationship of Blue Island and many of the founding families, this could be a great starting point for researching your family tree! Home address, funeral information, marriage, birth dates, date of death and next of kin information are often discovered in these searches. Just contact the First Lutheran Cemetery office, at 708-388-3377, stop by the office, at 4135 W.127th St. or you can find them on Facebook.

The Blue Island Historical Society
Please consider a donation the Historical Society. They really do a wonderful job preserving the history of Blue Island. Any amount will be helpful. If you are not a member, please consider joining. You can join for life for a whole family very reasonably.

Blue Island Public Library
There's lots going on at the Library--for adults, kids and anyone in between! Check it out--at the Blue Island Public Library! Library hours are: Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 9 pm; Friday and Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm; Sunday 1 pm to 5 pm September through May. For information about the Tech Annex, Email Darin Thompson at dthompson@blueislandlibrary.org for more information.

Are you up to date with BITV?
There's a lot online put up by BITV, Channel 4. Below are links for tons of interesting shows and events. There's something for everyone….history, food, health care, parades and more! Check them out!

Snow Route public service announcement
English http://youtu.be/xpH1TeutGbI
Spanish http://youtu.be/KpacQfLYqmQ

Shop Local
http://youtu.be/4Uq8gGIn7_U
http://youtu.be/Iv8H0fcQ8eQ

Chamber of Commerce Christmas Party
http://youtu.be/Q9U8hzpcyKk

Blue Island Light Parade 2013

Believe In Blue Island
From Alderman Tom Hawley

http://youtu.be/doCxd0BNNU8

Blue Island Veteran's Day Parade 2013
http://youtu.be/GiczicznCipE

Water Front Planning
http://youtu.be/LaTyLAVI5PI

Mayor Vargas Interview
http://youtu.be/q2JXUzXUhLM

Southwest Symphony 2013 Christmas Concert
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tG4U8EjtOl0&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

Carr Gardens Business Spot Light
http://youtu.be/hmxKxFdX7ng

Chamber Bash 2013
http://youtu.be/fJ1sGYsVDcg

Tuscan Grill Business Spot Light
http://youtu.be/mjcLf5NpX_o

MetroSouth Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for New Family Birth Place
http://youtu.be/sSQIpc0Ugjo

Cavalcade of Pride 2013
http://youtu.be/ytffsiFhsy8

Final Cruise Night
http://youtu.be/RCmcgrMR4YE

Movie in the Park
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9G_uwdI0Tgw&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

Cruise Night, August 26th, 2013
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iqK0rtYXppY&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

Bridge Painting
http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=5DTJVD6HsMs&desktop_uri=%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D5DTJVD6HsMs

Cruise Night, August 19, 2013
http://youtu.be/mSrlM9lUQio

Governor Quinn in Blue Island
http://youtu.be/ygZY6Q_g2zY

Believe In Blue Island
From Alderman Tom Hawley

Bungalow Chef Tours Olde Western Ave.
http://youtu.be/fVsvEgeEohA

Blue Island Public Library Update with Greg & Dan
http://youtu.be/6aOKChdzEZM

National Night Out 2013
http://youtu.be/No-iP6ZA-Ms

Bungalow Chef and B.I. Community Garden(Beets)
http://youtu.be/bx1dpzmBlC8

Bungalow Chef with Mayor Vargas
http://youtu.be/eaGrZsi5btM

Cruise Night, July 1, 2013
http://youtu.be/cpKun5fb1TM

Yard Sale on the Hill 2013
http://youtu.be/QN2RrGskrZA

California Gardens Community Garden (cg2)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvtSSJmmcmE&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

Tom & Tom Episode 1
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rA4tEYtMYJc&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

Tom & Tom Episode 2
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8Is2r3n0-0&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

Tom & Tom Episode 3
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Qp59ul9br8&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

Tom & Tom Episode 4
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1LPOyELGFk&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

History on the Hill with Harry Robertson Part #1
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AlHMfdHb44&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

History on the Hill with Harry Roberston Part #2
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ezdr9dlzW7w&feature=share&list=UUcw20rsC4uLoXlx-MrmuI_A

--Tom Hawley
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708.612.5463

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I am trying to build an email list of people who are interested in Blue Island events and happenings both in town as well as things involving Blue Islanders out of town. If you have something you would like me to include in my emails, please email me atbelieveinblueisland@gmail.com If you would like to be removed from my email list, please reply to me and ask to be removed. I will not flood your mailbox with emails—I try to keep it to 1 per week. Feel free to forward this on to whomever you would like. If you would like to

Believe In Blue Island
From Alderman Tom Hawley

join my email list, please send an email to: believeinblueisland@gmail.com and I will add you to my list!
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