

**Believe in Blue Island**  
**Tom Hawley, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Alderman**

Hi Everyone,

Thanks to all who made a contribution to the Blue Island FOP's participation in the Polar Plunge in Manteno last weekend. Numerous people participated and took the plunge. It looked cold, but it looked like people were having fun from the Facebook posts. Thanks, also, to everyone who participated in this great fundraiser for the Special Olympics.

A class at Paul Revere is trying to win \$10,000 for the school. It's a video contest to a remix of the song Safety Dance. The idea is to help students learn about personal safety. They need everyone's vote! Voting goes until March 16th and you can vote once each day from the same computer. It takes about 2 seconds. 2 minutes if you watch the video. Visit this site: <http://kidsmartz.votigo.com/contests/showentry/1832956> to vote. Thank you for your support!

Blue Island's own Dan Reilly, III has been interviewed by the Illinois Veterans History Project. The video can be seen at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=rUIQudhTL10](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rUIQudhTL10). Dan served in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II. His military service spanned from 1942 to 1945. The project is collecting these histories from these veterans, it's a great program. There are a large number of people they have collected over time. Check it out!

Do you pick up the Forum at one of the many locations around town? Maybe you have a subscription and it is mailed to you monthly. Do you like to read the news about what's going on in town? Maybe you like the City Council wrap ups or to find out whose birthday is coming up. A subscription to the paper is \$36 per year. They are funded through advertising and donations. The economy has taken its toll and costs continue to rise. There is a small staff that works on the paper and they are paid peanuts. Delivery to every home in town was discontinued a number of years ago in an effort to save costs. It was expensive and printing the paper is even more. A donation to The Forum would help them a lot! If you are able, please consider a donation. No amount is too small (or too big!). Thanks!

Justin Antos and his Honors Performance Band students got the cover of the local news section in the Daily Southtown.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/daily-southtown/lifestyles/ct-stn-cover-st-0308-20150304-story.html>

The Daily Southtown features NHS and their book drive/Seuss Day project for D130 students and interviews Jen Healy and Jermaine Durning and students Ilse Esparza and Jazmin Martinez.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/daily-southtown/lifestyles/ct-sta-revere-seuss-day-st-0309-20150308-story.html>

The Community Development Committee of the City of Blue Island will be hosting a special meeting to further discuss the Business Development District. Jason Berry and the Aldermen will be available to answer questions from the business owners, public and anyone else interested in what this is, how it will work, and what this could mean to the business district area. The meeting will take place on Thursday, March 19th at 7 pm in City Council Chambers. For more information, check out: <http://www.blueisland.org/business/bdd/> and if you have any questions, feel free to email me or come to the meeting.

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This weekend, there's the Lenten Fish Fries at St. Benedict's and the Eagles, Stray Dog Theatre's production of *Jewel Thieves* is opening and running the next two weekends, the Eagles Meat Raffle. Also, Tuesday is St. Patrick's Day! There is a lot of corned beef being served at The Meadows and Calumet Township.

Looking for Lenten Specials for lunch or dinner? Stop by D'Masti's and check out their Lenten Specials. And remember, their Potato Salad is Lenten friendly as well! They have dinners available for carry-out that include fries, cole slaw, roll and butter. They are offering Breaded Shrimp, Perch Filets, Catfish, Fried Clams, Breaded Cod Fillet Sandwich, Breaded Catfish, Perch, Shrimp or Clam Po-Boys and their Caprese Sandwich is also an option.

The Blue Island Park District is currently accepting registration for their Girls Softball League for girls ages 7 to 14. Indoor practice begins at Veterans Middle School mid-March and the season runs through early July. All outdoor practices and home games are played at Centennial Park. Registration is \$85 and includes a uniform and you may register until May 1st. So register soon, anytime the Park Offices are open at Memorial Park. For more information, email Beth Kazmierczak at [bkazmierczak@blueislandparks.org](mailto:bkazmierczak@blueislandparks.org) or call [708.388.6421](tel:708.388.6421).

Colleen Walsh sent me information for Kohl's Cares Scholarship Program. They are accepting nominations for kids aged 6 to 18 who have made a difference in your community. Store Winners will receive a \$50 Kohl's Gift Card, Regional Winners will receive a \$1,000 scholarship for higher education and National Winners will each receive a \$10,000 scholarship! You must be 21 and over to nominate and the deadline is TOMORROW, March 13th. So, check it out! To nominate, visit: <http://www.kohlscorporation.com/CommunityRelations/scholarship/>

Also, registration for Ike Hike – proceeds again will benefit Blue Cap – has opened. Any chance you would consider printing the attached or at least sharing the registration link where you can? It takes place on Saturday, April 25th at 8:30 a.m. Register at: <http://www.ikehike.com/>. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Alicia Ramirez at [Alicia.ramirez@chsd218.org](mailto:Alicia.ramirez@chsd218.org) or by calling 708.597.6300 x 4540.

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.

### **Lenten Fish Fry Fridays**

St. Benedict Catholic Church will be having their annual Lenten Fish Fry every Friday. The Fry starts on Friday, February 20th and runs through Friday, March 27th. Lunch hours run from 11 am to 1:30 pm and dinner hours run from 4 pm to 7:30 pm. Dine in and carry out are available. It's affordable and a good way to get out of the house in the winter. And the food is delicious! Check it out.

When: Fridays, February 20th through March 27th

Lunch: 11 am to 1:30 pm, Dinner: 4 pm to 7:30 pm

Where: St. Benedict Catholic Church, 2339 York St

### **Fish Fry at the Blue Island Eagles**

They're back for another delicious Fish Fry season at the Blue Island Eagles. Starting Friday, February 13th through Friday, April 3rd (Good Friday), they will be serving dinner from 4 pm to 8 pm at the Eagles Hall. They have a great variety of food to choose from and the food is reasonably priced and quite tasty! So stop out and join them for a fabulous dinner!

When: Fridays, February 13th through April 3rd, 4 pm to 8 pm

Where: Eagle Hall, 2427 Grove St.

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### **Jewel Thieves, Stray Dog Theatre**

Blue Island's own Theatre Troupe proudly announces their Spring Production! ***Jewel Thieves*** is a preposterous comedy in two acts by Norman Belm. When the legendary Mandarin necklace disappears out of former film star Gloria Desmond's safe, it becomes apparent that the Countess visiting her, the new butler and the mysterious stranger with car trouble may NOT be who they CLAIM to be. A wonderful play for those who love the slick, sophisticated comedy mystery films of the 1930's! Tickets are on sale now by calling [708.841.7396](tel:708.841.7396) and are \$12 for adults, \$10 for Seniors. Blue Island's own Tony Carsella is director and in the show! They are great productions. Come on out and support local theater right here in Blue Island!

When: Friday and Saturday, March 13, 14, 20 and 21 at 8 pm, Sunday, March 15 and 22nd at 2 pm

Where: Veteran's Memorial Middle School, 12320 S Greenwood Ave

### **Ham and Meat Raffle at the Eagles**

The doors open at 6 pm on Saturday, March 14th for the Blue Island Eagles annual Ham and Meat Raffles. It's a great way to support the Eagles charity work and get ready for your Easter Dinner!

When: Saturday, March 14th, doors open at 6 pm

Where: The Blue Island Eagle Hall, 2427 Grove St

### **St. Patrick's Day at the Meadows Golf Club**

Corned beef and potatoes will be served at the Meadows Golf Course on St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday, March 17th. They start serving at 11 am and serve through the day. For a corned beef sandwich on rye or bread of your choice, with sauerkraut and Swiss cheese, chips and a pickle, it's \$5.75. For a full meal of corned beef, potatoes, cabbage or sauerkraut and rye bread, it is \$7. Of course they will have many liquid items to help celebrate as well! Stop by!

When: Tuesday, March 17th, begins at 11 am

Where: The Meadows Golf Club, 2802 W 123rd St

### **St. Patrick's Day Luncheon**

The Calumet Township Community Center has regular Tuesday lunches. But on Tuesday, March 17th, they will be having a special one for St. Patrick's Day. Get your corned beef sandwich, chips and drink. The luncheon begins at 11:45 am.

When: Tuesday, March 17th, 11:45 am

Where: Calumet Township Community Center, 12633 S Ashland Ave

### **Lincoln-Davis Civil War Round Table**

The Lincoln-Davis Civil War Round Table meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month and sponsors a presentation related to the Civil War. Tuesday, March 17th is the next one at 7 pm at the Country House Restaurant, 5400 W. 127th St in Alsip. Dinner can be purchased (beginning at 5:45 pm) prior to the lecture for \$10; admission to the lecture alone is \$5. Dessert will be served following the lecture. For more information, contact Wayne Wolf at [708.203.7201](tel:708.203.7201).

When: Tuesday, March 17th, 6 pm dinner, 7 pm presentation

Where: Country House Restaurant, 5400 W 127th St, Alsip

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### **St. Walter School Open House**

Are you looking for a Catholic School for your child to attend? St. Walter is having open houses for you to check them out. There is one Thursday, March 26 from 6:30 pm to 8 pm, Sunday, April 19 from 12 noon to 2 pm. They are also have a special open house and shadow hours on Thursday, April 30 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

Parents/Guardians and Children are welcome. You must register for April 30 by calling by April 13th 773.445.8850. Check them out and see what they have to offer!

When: Thursday, March 26th, 6:30 pm to 8 pm

Where: St. Walters School, 11722 S Oakley, Chicago

### **Home Buyers Seminar**

A.J. Smith Federal Savings Bank is having their 14th Annual Home Buyers Seminar. Learn how to buy a home and get tips from experts in the industry. The American dream is within your reach! Check it out. To reserve a seat, call [708.237.8128](tel:708.237.8128) or email [jwalko@ajsmithbank.com](mailto:jwalko@ajsmithbank.com). Continental breakfast will be served.

When: Saturday, March 21st

Where: A.J. Smith Federal Savings Bank, 14757 S Cicero Ave

### **Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**

Join the Easter Bunny for a Pancake Breakfast at the Blue Island Eagles Hall on Sunday, March 22nd from 8 am to 12 noon. You'll be served fluffy pancakes, sausage, milk, orange juice and coffee. Children 3 to 10 are \$4 and everyone 11 and up are \$6, children aged 2 and under are free. They will have their fun cake walk, pictures with the Easter Bunny and a coloring contest. Tickets are on sale from any Auxiliary Member or from one of the bartenders or at the door.

When: Sunday, March 22nd, 8 am to 12 noon

Where: Blue Island Eagles Hall, 2427 Grove St

### **Fashion in Blue Island, the first 100 years**

Retired Saks Fifth Avenue Fashion Director, Nena Ivon, will be back in Blue Island for the Blue Island Arts Alliance to talk about Blue Island fashion, the first 100 years. This is her fourth presentation for the BIAA and it's always an informative and interesting presentation. The event will be at the home of Tom Hawley and Tom Mantel. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the door. For those interested, there will be a tour of the home (historic Heimbach House) following the presentation. Refreshments will be served. All proceeds go to the Blue Island Arts Alliance who are busy planning another exciting year of Arts Events in Blue Island. The BIAA is giving a scholarship to a deserving Band student in the District 130 Band at their Spring Concert, thanks to money raised at this and other events throughout the year. The BIAA is a 501(c)3 organization. Thank you for your support.

When: Sunday, March 22nd, 3 pm

Where: Historic Heimbach House

### **Yoga and Beer**

This has become a popular event! Stop by the Rock Island Public House Sunday, March 22nd for one hour of yoga and a pint of beer. Beginners are encouraged to come. Bring your own mat. The cost is \$15 and it includes your first beer afterwards! It starts at 2 pm.

When: Sunday, March 22nd, 2 pm

Where: Rock Island Public House, 13328 Olde Western Ave

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### **Garfield Park Conservatory trip**

The Calumet Township offices is having a trip to the Garfield Park Conservatory on Wednesday, March 25th. The Garfield Park Conservatory is one of the nation's largest and finest historic nature conservatories. The trip costs \$6 and covers only your transportation. There are no dining options. You may bring your own lunch. To reserve your space or for more information, call the Township office at 708.388.6606.

When: Wednesday, March 25th, 9 am to 11:30 am

Where: Leaves from Calumet Township Community Center, 12633 S Ashland, Calumet Park

### **Bunco at the Eagles**

Eagles Auxiliary will be hosting three fund raising Bunco Bashes on Sundays, March 29th and again April 26th. Doors open at noon and we there will be vendors with items for sale. The cost is \$20.00 and that includes a light lunch. There will be a cash bar and raffles. Come out and join us. Sorry no outside food or drinks allowed.

When: Sunday, March 29th, 12 noon

Where: Blue Island Eagles, 2427 Grove St.

### **Cooking Demonstration**

The American Heart Association is having a cooking demonstration and taste testing on Friday, March 27th from 10:30 am to 11:30 am at MetroSouth Medical Center. The demonstration will be followed by a complimentary lunch. Space is limited to 40, so please RSVP at [708.489.7929](tel:708.489.7929). This is sponsored by MetroSouth Medical Center and the Blue Island Community Health Coalition.

When: Friday, March 27th, 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Where: MetroSouth Medical Center, 12935 S Gregory St, Mezz. B & C (rear of Cafe Metro)

### **Southwest Symphony Concert**

The next Southwest Symphony concert is Saturday, March 28th. It's a big program as we Herald Spring. Celebrate Spring with song and Pictures (*Pictures at an Exhibition* by Mussorgsky/Ravel that is). Also on the program, Pa-pa-pa from Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, O Mio babbino caro from *Gianni Schicchi* by Puccini, Lipen Schweigen from Lehar's *The Merry Widow*, If Ever I Would Leave You from Lerner and Loewe's *Camelot*, Mozart's La ci darem la mono from *Don Giovanni*, *Spring Song* by Sibelius and Dvorak's *Te Deum*. The concert features the SSO, the Trinity Christian College Concert Choir, Kathryn Kamp, soprano and Robert Heitzinger, baritone. Tickets range from FREE for children under 12 to \$20 for Adults. If you are interested, I can get group rates. Email me and let me know to add you to the list. Nancy DiNovo and I play in the Symphony.

When: Saturday, March 28th, 7:30 pm

Where: Trinity Christian College, 6601 W College drive, Palos Heights

### **Grand Victoria Casino Trip**

Head on out to the Grand Victoria Casino in Elgin on Tuesday, March 31st. Calumet Township is arranging for the Starlight Express Coach Bus for this event. There are only 40 spaces available, so if you are interested in going, call and reserve your space soon! 708.388.6606. The cost is \$25 and includes transportation and \$5 slot play.

When: Tuesday, March 31st, 8:30 am to 3 pm

Where: Coach leaves from Calumet Township Community Center, 12633 S Ashland, Calumet Park

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### **First Tuesday Series at the Library - Help the Monarchs!**

The Library and the Friends of the Forest Preserves is presenting a series of First Tuesday presentations about nature and the outdoors. The next one is on Amphibians and the Climate. The Calumet region is home to stunning array of amphibians, like the leopard frog and tiger salamander. DePaul University Biology Professor, Joseph Milanovich, explores what can be lost as weather patterns shift. For more information, contact Dan Carroll at [708.388.1078 x 30](tel:708.388.1078) or [dcarroll@blueislandlibrary.org](mailto:dcarroll@blueislandlibrary.org).

When: Tuesday, April 7th, 7 pm

Where: Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St

### **Library Friends salute long time patrons**

The Friends of the Library welcome long-time Library patrons (aged 55+) to an Appreciation Reception on Sunday, April 12th. It will include coffee and light snacks. Pre-registration is required. For more information and to register, contact Colleen Waltman at 708.388.1078 x 14 or email [cwaltman@blueislandlibrary.org](mailto:cwaltman@blueislandlibrary.org).

When: Sunday, April 12th, 1 pm

Where: Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St.

### **Holocaust Memorial Week Presentation**

Arnie Bernstein, award winning Chicago writer and historian's latest work answers the question, "Can It Happen Here?" Mr. Bernstein explores the pro-Nazi movement that swept the US in the 1930s. Copies of his book will be available for sale. This is a free event, but tickets are required. They are available at the Library's Main Desk, while they last.

When: Tuesday, April 14th, 7 pm

Where: Christ Memorial United Church, 2440 York St.

### **Ike Hike**

The Annual Ike Hike benefitting Blue Cap will take place on Saturday, April 25th. This 5k and 1 Mile Walk is a USATF-certified course and begins on Sacramento Ave by the back entrance to the Eisenhower parking lot. Participants will proceed through beautiful, tree-lined streets of Blue Island before returning to Eisenhower behind the softball field and finishing on the Eisenhower track. Entry fees are \$10 to \$20 before April 23rd and \$20 to \$30 on race day. You can get a t-shirt for your participation. Register online at [Ikehike.com](http://Ikehike.com).

When: Saturday, April 25th, 8:30 am

Where: Eisenhower High School, 12700 S Sacramento Ave

### **Walk, Run or Roll**

The South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) is having their 2015 Walk, Run or Roll 1/2 Mile Race for Individuals with Special Needs on Sunday, May 3rd. The event begins at 7:45 am and takes place in Palos Heights with the start at their City Hall at Rt. 83 and 76th Ave. To register or more information, visit [www.swsra.com](http://www.swsra.com).

When: Sunday, May 3rd, 7:45 am

Where: Palos Heights City Hall, Route 83 and 76th Ave.

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## Ongoing Events

### Code Red

Please make sure you are registered with CodeRed. With this service, the City will be able to notify residents in case of emergency or for general information. This will help get information out to all residents quickly and efficiently. You may sign up your home phone, cell phone or even other people's phone numbers to receive the messages. If you have a parent or child who lives in Blue Island and you live out of town, you can put your number on their address and if something happens, you will also be notified. Notification can come in the form of a message or text. You can add any number of phone numbers, email addresses and choose if you want to receive general notifications in addition to emergency notifications. It's really a great system and will allow the City to choose areas as small as a side of a street. This past winter would have been useful with water mains breaking and even as recently as the bad weather that came through last weekend. They used the 911 database as an initial database, but if you want to add an email address or a cell number to your address, go here: <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BFD966543882> and fill in the additional information. Thank you. Please encourage your neighbors and friends to also register. It's quick and easy to do.

If anyone is interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch Program, please email me and I will be happy to help get one going. Deputy Chief Cornell is willing to get as many of these started as people want, so contact me or your alderman or the Police Department if you are interested in starting one.

### Blue Ribbons

Laura Rozga was recently over at her sister's house in Worth and noticed blue ribbons and lights long the streets and on the residents homes. She told her it was in support of the police who lately have been getting a bad rap. She believes that it started in Mt. Greenwood but was not sure. She is going to get her own ribbon to show her support our police department as well as all the others and invites everyone to do the same.

### Oak Street Health

Check out what's happening at Oak Street Health! Every week, they have activities for Seniors. On Mondays at 10 am, they have Arts & Crafts; Tuesdays at 10:30, Hatha Chair Yoga; Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9:30, computer classes; Wednesdays at 1 pm, Crochet Circle; Thursdays at 2 pm, BINGO; and Fridays at 3 pm is Movie Night! So, if you are a senior or know one that is looking for something to do, check out one of these activities! This Tuesday, February 24th, they have a ComEd presentation to learn about the electric smart meter and next Friday, February 27th, the Center for Disability and Elder Law is having an informational session. You will learn if you are eligible and be able to receive legal assistance and schedule an appointment. They are located at 3046 W 127th St, right across from Eisenhower High School. You can visit [oakstreethhealth.com](http://oakstreethhealth.com) for more information.

### Blue Island Public Library...now mobile!

The Blue Island Public Library is now offering access to library materials to homebound readers. If you know someone who is unable to visit the Library because of illness, injury or a disability, please contact Reference Services Department for details by calling Sofia Aguilera at [708.385.1078 x 20](tel:708.385.1078).

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### **Overnight Parking Ordinance**

The Blue Island City Council passed an Ordinance restricting overnight parking on City streets. The Ordinance states that you cannot park your vehicle on any public street in Blue Island unless you possess a valid Blue Island city sticker between 2 am and 6 am. The only exceptions are: emergency vehicles, licensed caregivers and handicap persons. Any person that needs to park on the street or if you are having overnight guests who will be parking on the street, can call the Police Department at 385-1313 and let the dispatcher know the color, make, model and license plate as well as where the car will be parked so they do not receive a ticket. Cars parked within one block of Western Ave between 119th and 135th must have a sticker if parked there between 2:30 am and 5 am, Monday through Friday and 3:30 am and 5 am Saturday and Sunday mornings to accommodate the business' employees and customers. You may get Temporary Overnight Parking for a total of 7 overnight passes within a calendar month. If you want a full copy of the Ordinance, please email me and I can get you a copy.

### **Register your Property**

Because County Recorders are not authorized by law to validate legal claims made in recorded documents, scammers are filing forged deed transfers to steal property. Once recorded, these documents mean you no longer own your home, even if you have paid it off. The Cook County Recorder of Deeds has developed a way for you to register your property so that any time a document is recorded against your property, you will get an alert so you may be able to take quick, legal action. Directions on how to do this is in the attached pdf. You can do it online at [CookRecorder.com](http://CookRecorder.com) or over the phone at [800.728.3858](tel:800.728.3858). You will need your PIN from your Real Estate Tax bill. Please let your friends and neighbors know about this and if you have an elderly relative or friend, please do this for them.

### **TOPS**

Real people lose weight with TOPS.

- Weight loss success
- Caring support for each other
- Non-profit low coat program

Meetings are every Wednesday from 6 pm - 7 pm at First Lutheran Church located at 13165 Ann Street. For more information, call Peggy at [708-389-0921](tel:708-389-0921).

### **Rent a Packard**

Have a wedding or a big event you want to show up to in style? Dan Colyer rents out his Packard Touring Sedan. It's a great car with plenty of room for the bride and groom! The car rents for \$200 per hour with a 3 hour minimum. Check it out on the web at: [antique-classiclimos.com](http://antique-classiclimos.com). For more information, call Dan Colyer at [708.207.3646](tel:708.207.3646).

### **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](tel:708.489.7927).

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### **Blue Island Eagles**

They are having their Queen of Hearts 50/50 Progressive Raffle every Tuesday at 9 pm. The pot is growing fast! Tickets are on sale all week long. If you're the lucky winner, you pick a card and you win the prize under that card. Pick the Queen of Hearts and you win the pot! Good Luck!

There's open bowling Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from noon until close. Only \$1.00 per games. Thursday nights, they rock the house with JJ's Roadhouse DJ's starting at 6 pm. They have the music you want to hear. They even have everything with them for karaoke if you want to sing along! Come on out for the fun!

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! All bottled domestic beer: \$2.00, imported & specialty beer: \$2.50, Shots, Wine & Mixed Drinks: \$1.00 off regular price.

### **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!

### **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](tel:708.388.3732). She can help get the process started. If you would like to donate online, visit [www.honorflightchicago.org](http://www.honorflightchicago.org) or you may mail a check payable to Honor Flight Chicago to 938 West Montana St., Chicago, IL 60614.

At the end of their day of camaraderie and reminiscence, they come home to the sound of: "MAIL CALL!" They would like to insure that each veteran gets a packet of mail and they could use your help! They would love people of all ages to write their Honor Flight veterans to thank them for their service. This is a great activity for organizations and clubs, churches, libraries, retirement communities, schools and anyone who wants to play a part in honoring a veteran. Mail Call letters may be sent to:

Honor Flight Chicago  
6688 Joliet Rd  
Indian Head Park, IL 60525

### **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](tel:708-597-2000) ext. 5615 to reserve.

Where: MetroSouth Medical Center-Main Lobby, 12935 S. Gregory St., Blue Island

### **Other Information**

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### **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!

### **District 218 Eisenhower Newsletter**

The latest District 218 Digital Newsletter is out. It talks about the Speech Team, Student Council holiday party, the Cardinal Dance Team, the Key Club benefit and Principal for a Day. There are videos and pictures. A nice edition!

English version

<http://en.calameo.com/read/00140548671a82c9938ac>

Spanish version

<http://en.calameo.com/read/0014054863fc3adb7d5a9>

And check out this link about Eisenhower graduate Brandon Williams who plays for the Carolina Panthers. He's a second year player, a tight end, who mostly plays on special teams.

<http://www.panthers.com/team/roster/brandon-williams/eb9e9619-d2f6-47a9-a468-e9c9492d7ad5/>

Comcast Sportsnet Chicago profiled Eisenhower and Northwestern University graduate, Torri Stuckey, and his volunteer work in District 218. The feature includes footage of the small group discussions he manages at Eisenhower, interviews with DDE students, senior Quentin Kelly and freshman Jennifer Tejada, and he discusses his book "Impoverished State of Mind" and his motivation for volunteering. Check it out here: [http://www.csnchicago.com/video\\_content\\_type/stuckey-inspiring-change-chicago-community](http://www.csnchicago.com/video_content_type/stuckey-inspiring-change-chicago-community)

### **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. 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](tel: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](tel:708.388.6606) to arrange a ride.

### **Trace your family roots**

**Believe in Blue Island**  
**Tom Hawley, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Alderman**

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](tel: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. For information about the Tech Annex, Email Darin Thompson at [dthompson@blueislandlibrary.org](mailto:dthompson@blueislandlibrary.org) for more information.

--Tom Hawley

[believeinblueisland@gmail.com](mailto:believeinblueisland@gmail.com)  
[708.612.5463](tel: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 at [believeinblueisland@gmail.com](mailto:believeinblueisland@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 join my email list, please send an email to: [believeinblueisland@gmail.com](mailto:believeinblueisland@gmail.com) and I will add you to my list!

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