



The 2022 Forest Park COMMUNITY GUIDE

WELCOMING VISITORS TO FOREST PARK AND PROVIDING ANSWERS TO RESIDENTS AND LOCAL BUSINESSES. WELCOME TO FOREST PARK.



Not Feeling Well?

Don't delay your care.

RUSH has successfully maintained the safety of our patients and staff at all of our locations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We are ready for you.

In addition to same-day primary care appointments for adults and children with non-emergency health issues, Rush Oak Park Physicians Group is now offering on-demand and scheduled video visits. This allows you and your family to receive the same high-quality care from our providers in the comfort of your own home.

Visit rush.edu/primary-care-oak-park or call (888) 352-RUSH (7874) to schedule an in-person or video visit.



Excellence is just the beginning.



Denise Warren, Oak Park River Forest Branch Manager (left)
Susie Goldschmidt, Oak Park River Forest Market President (right)

Committed to Oak Park and River Forest

Byline is privileged to be a part of the Oak Park River Forest community for more than 20 years, providing sponsorship donations and volunteer hours to organizations in Oak Park and River Forest. Our team looks forward to continuing our commitment to customers and businesses in the Oak Park and River Forest community.

To learn more about our commitment to Oak Park and River Forest, visit bylinebank.com/oprf



Contents



Publisher
Dan Haley

Business Manager
Joyce Minich

Contributing Editor
Andy Viano

Contributing Writers
Tom Holmes, John Rice,
& Jill Wagner

Staff Photographer
Alex Rogals

Design & Production Manager
Andrew Mead

Editorial Design Manager
Javier Govea

Designer
Susan McKelvey

Display Advertising Sales
Lourdes Nicholls,
Marc Stopeck

Inside Sales
Mary Ellen Nelligan

Circulation Manager
Jill Wagner



HOW TO REACH US
141 S. Oak Park Avenue,
Oak Park, IL 60302
PHONE: 708-366-0600
FAX: 708-524-0447
ForestParkReview.com

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708.697.5900
oakpark.bairdwarner.com
1037 Chicago Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302

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COMPANIES
IN THE WORLD[®] 



**FOREST PARK
CHAMBER**
COMMERCE & DEVELOPMENT

The Forest Park Chamber of Commerce...

- Is a voice for business with Village government
- Provides one-on-one member support
- Connects members with other business owners
- Provides visibility for member businesses
- Promotes member business
- Refers Chamber members first
- Connects members with the right resources
- Keeps members up-to-date on important news & all things local
- Is an information resource for Forest Park
- Hosts the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Hosts Wine Walk & Shop
- Hosts the Casket Races
- Hosts the Holiday Walk
- Provided support & information during COVID
- Is an All School Picnic sponsor
- Sponsors the Holiday decorations on Madison
- Keeps the public informed about local & member events
- **A Wise Investment**

www.exploreforestpark.com

**...Is a diverse & collaborative membership
working together to make Forest Park the
best place for all people & all businesses to thrive**

Message from the Chamber

We are pleased to present the 2022 Forest Park Community Guide. Published annually by the Forest Park Review in partnership with the Forest Park Chamber of Commerce. This guide contains a wealth of information on just about everything you need to know about Forest Park.



LAURIE KOKENES
DIRECTOR

Located just ten miles west of downtown Chicago, Forest Park is a vibrant, active, diverse community with an urban vibe, small-town charm and rich history. The cooperative spirit and civic pride shared between residents, business owners and local government gives Forest

Park a genuine, time-honored sense of community.

Madison Street's urban mix of independently owned shops, eateries and service businesses offer something for everyone. You'll see neighbors greeting one another on the street and friendly shopkeepers who pride themselves on personalized customer service, making your visit to Forest Park a delightful experience. From boutiques and antiques, an escape room that's a top favorite, cooking classes, tea shop, a bowling alley with a nostalgic feel and the largest ice sculpting operation in the Midwest, you'll find just about anything you need in Forest Park. Local eateries throughout town offer a variety of dining options. From a chophouse with the best French onion soup, authentic Creole and Mexican, and classic American and Italian, to an old-fashioned diner, a 'slice of Venice' with old-world charm, there is something to satisfy every taste bud.

Unique events, recreational opportunities and a generous choice of housing options make Forest Park a great place to live, work, shop, dine and play. The Aquatic Center is top notch,

and the park district along with the local library and community center, have programs, classes and events for young and old alike. Community events like the 'best in the west' St. Patrick's Day Parade, the Holiday Walk with live window displays, Rib Fest and Wine Walk & Shop provide fun for all ages.

An abundance of history will interest even the most serious history buff. The Haymarket Martyr's Monument, 'Radical's Row,' Michael Todd's grave and Showmen's Rest mark just a few of the historically significant gravesites in Forest Park's many cemeteries. Bloomer Girls baseball, the 16" Softball Hall of Fame, a number of famous movie shoots like Harry & Tonto, The Package and The Babe add to Forest Park's intriguing history.

Accessibility and multiple transportation options make Forest Park the perfect destination for a day, a weekend or a lifetime.

The Forest Park Chamber of Commerce & Development is a diverse and collaborative membership working together to make Forest Park the best place for all people and all businesses to thrive.

FOREST PARK THEATRE

SAVE THE DATE!

Forest Park Theatre
presents William
Shakespeare's
CYMBELINE
August 2022.

Support Theatre
in Forest Park. Scan the
QR code then enter:
forestparkarts@gmail.com
and in the message field
type: Forest Park Theatre.
Thank you!



FOREST PARK
THEATRE



AD DESIGN
LEONARD BRANDING
AND DESIGN

PHOTO
PARK DISTRICT OF
FOREST PARK

ACTOR
JOSEPH
JOHNSON

New Residents



Submitted photo

Driver's License

To receive a driver's license or ID card, you must provide a minimum of three acceptable forms of identification to prove name, date of birth, Illinois residency, Social Security number, and a signature comparison. One of these forms should be a certified birth certificate. The nearest Secretary of State driver licensing facility is located in Melrose Crossing, at the corner of Mannheim Road and North Avenue. Call 312-793-1010 for more information.

Important Forest Park Phone Numbers

Forest Park Police and Fire departments: emergency:
911

Fire non-emergency:
708-366-1234

Police non-emergency:
708-366-2425

Forest Park Elementary School District 91:
708-366-5700

Forest Park Public Library:
708-366-7171

Howard Mohr Community Center:
708-771-7737

Proviso Township High School District 209:
708-338-5900

Proviso East High School:
708-344-7000

Proviso Math and Science Academy:
708-338-4100

Village of Forest Park:
708-366-2323

Park District of Forest Park and Forest Park Aquatic Center:
708-366-7500
or 708-488-0664 for the pool during the summer

School Registration

Students should be registered at the public schools prior to the first day of class, preferably during the dates assigned each year for each of the neighborhood schools. Proof of residency – including tax bills, mortgage statements

or leases, as well as a driver's license, insurance papers or utility bills – is required. All new registrants must provide birth certificates. For complete information, call the District 91 administrative office at 708-366-5700.

Library Cards

Forest Park Public Library cards are available at no charge to residents with proof of address. Call 708-366-7171.

Newspapers

Forest Park Review (weekly)
141 S. Oak Park Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60302
708-366-0600
forestparkreview.com

Parking Permits

On-street parking is prohibited in the village of Forest Park from 2 a.m. to 5 a.m. Resident only permits are available for parking in municipal lots. There are several lots throughout the village and spots are first-come, first-served. Permits may be obtained

through village hall. For more information call 708-366-2323. Residents with overnight guests must call in plates to 708-366-7272 to avoid being ticketed.

Forest Park Post Office

417 Desplaines Ave.
708-366-5790

State and Local Phone Numbers

Attorney General Consumer Protection Bureau
800-386-5438 (Toll Free, Fraud Protection in Chicago)

Better Business Bureau
312-832-0500

Chicago Bulk Mail Center
708-583-4362

Cook County Clerk's Office
708-865-6010
312-603-7790

Cook County Department of Public Health
708-836-8600

Cook County Sheriff's Police
708-865-4700

Cook County Clerk's Office: Bureau of Vital Records

(Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates)

312-603-7790

Illinois 2-1-1

Free and confidential way to find out about important health and human services programs in your community. Call 2-1-1 for information about health care, help paying rent and utility bills, transportation services, job training, mental health and counseling.

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Child Abuse Hotline:

800-252-2873

Illinois Department of Employment Security:

800-244-5631

Illinois Department of Day Labor Hotline:

877-314-7052

Illinois Department of Human Services:

800-843-6154

Illinois Department of Revenue:

800-732-8866

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

847-294-4000

Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood:

708-216-9000

MacNeal Memorial Hospital Berwyn:

708-783-9100

Medical Fraud and Abuse:

800-252-8903

Rush Oak Park Hospital:

708-383-9300

Poison Control Center:

800-222-1222

Proviso Township Assessor's Office:

708-449-4300

Sarah's Inn (domestic abuse):

708-386-4225

Senior Citizens Consumer Complaints:

800-243-5377

Renters' Rights Hotline:

773-292-4988

312-742-7368

U.S. Post Office:

800-275-8777

U.S. Post Office Inspection Service:

877-876-2455

West Suburban Health Care Oak Park:

708-383-6200

Utilities

The following utility companies serve Forest Park:
ComEd: (800) 334-7661
Comcast: (800) 934-6489
Nicor: (888) 642-6748

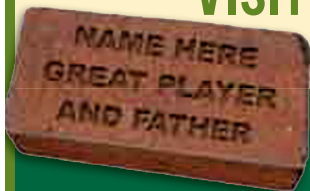
Vehicle Stickers

Vehicle stickers are required on all cars and must be purchased and displayed by April 1 each year. Stickers can be purchased online at <http://www.forestpark.net/> or in person at Village Hall. Drivers must present their title or state identification. There is a discount for senior citizens. The fee for a passenger car is \$35 or \$10 for seniors. A late fee is imposed after April 1.

Voter Registration

Residents may register to vote at Village Hall, 517 Desplaines Ave., during regular business hours or at ova.elections.il.gov/

VISIT THE 16" SOFTBALL HALL OF FAME!



ENGRAVING INFORMATION

- Your brick can have either three or six lines, with 13 characters per line (including spaces and punctuation).
- Please print clearly.
- Only one letter or form of punctuation per box.
- Space one block between words.
- Any letters placed outside the allotted spaces will be deleted.
- Messages on bricks will be centered in capital letters.
- To order additional bricks, print information on a separate piece of paper, or duplicate this form.

A duplicate copy of the brick will be shipped to you. The Chicago 16" Softball Hall of Fame reserves the right to refuse to engrave any messages or material that it determines to be inappropriate, such as telephone numbers, political messages and suggestive wording. If you need additional information, contact Art Lurie at 847-831-9500 or email: playballart@aol.com

MAIL ORDERS

Chicago 16 Inch Softball HOF
7501 Harrison St. Forest Park, IL 60130

www.16inchsoftballhof.com

- Special tours: 16softballhof@gmail.com
- Learn more at 16inchsoftballhof.com

Check Out the History,
Legends and Stories



BUY A BRICK! BE PART OF SOFTBALL HISTORY IN FOREST PARK

4" x 8" x 2" BRICK

Please reserve my personalized brick(s)
Number _____ @ \$250 each **Total \$** _____

8" x 8" x 2" BRICK

Please reserve my personalized brick(s)
Number _____ @ \$500 each **Total \$** _____

Enclosed is a check or money order payable to The Chicago 16" Softball Hall of Fame.
Please bill my credit card: VISA Mastercard

Card # _____ Exp. ____/____/____
Signature _____

4" x 8" x 2" BRICK GRAPHIC

8" x 8" x 2" BRICK GRAPHIC



PURCHASER'S INFORMATION

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Date _____
Daytime Phone _____
Email _____

Inductee Park is located at Harrison and Des Plaines in Forest Park.



Promoting Housing Opportunity

The Oak Park Regional Housing Center is a HUD approved agency that has been operating as a nonprofit Housing Center in the community since 1972. We maintain our mission of promoting and sustaining diversity and integration in Oak Park and the Greater West Side. We provide assistance for renters, homeowners, property owners, and industry professionals through our programs: the Live in Oak Park and the West Cook Homeownership Center.

Our Services and Initiatives:

- Provide renters in Oak Park and beyond with apartment listings that match their needs
- Guide renters through their apartment search with our Rental Counselors
- Provide homebuyer and homeowner education and individual counseling
- Provide credit and debt management
- Keep the community updated on fair housing rulings
- Provide homeowner and rental financial assistance to eligible individuals
- Protect and uphold fair housing laws and initiatives
- Promote diversity, integration, equity, and inclusion throughout the communities we serve
- All services are free!

708-848-7150
oprhc.org
info@oprhc.org



1041 South Blvd,
Oak Park, IL
60302



FOREST PARK BANK

HERITAGE AND EXPERIENCE FOR 75 YEARS

MAKING THE JOURNEY WITH YOU

When you serve a community, you stand with people.
That's what we've been doing for 75 years. At Forest Park Bank, we believe that serving the community means giving the best customer service, providing the latest in banking products, and most of all, helping our customers reach their full potential. Whether opening a small business, buying a home, or planning for the future, we've been making the journey with our customers since 1943.



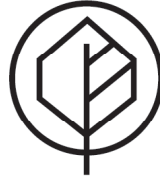
[FORESTPARKBANK.COM](https://forestparkbank.com)



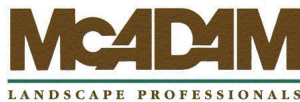


FOREST PARK CHAMBER COMMERCE & DEVELOPMENT

Sustaining Members



FOREST PARK BANK



– BUSINESS LEVEL CHAMBER MEMBERS –

ABC Automotive Electronics – Accents by Fred – Blink Fitness – Blue Cab – Burke Beverage
Centuries & Sleuths – Elements Massage – Energy Tees – Everett Wealth Solutions
Famous Liquors – Fatduck Tavern & Grill – First Student Bus Co. – Fiore Pizzeria & Bakery
Forest Park Eye Care, Dr. Anthony J. Garreffa – FoundryFP – Jimmy's Place
Kagan & Gaines Music Co. Inc. – Kingsview Asset Management – Kribi Coffee Air Roasters
Let's Play Work – Little Teeth Big Smiles Children's Dentistry
Macdaddy Salon – Mark P. Hanson Agency/State Farm – Mexican Republic Kitchen & Cantina
Nadeau's Ice Sculptures – O'Sullivan's Public House – Perfect Fit Fashion
Republic Services - Schauer Hardware – Small Batch Barbecue – Spotless Car Wash
Table & Lain – The Brown Cow Ice Cream Parlor
The Gillian Baker Team, Realtors/Berkshire Hathaway Home Services – The Oak Park Handyhuman

– THANK YOU TO OUR SUSTAINING MEMBERS –

Chamber members

Accountants/Tax Services

Dan Bjornson CPA
7518 Madison St., Suite A
708-488-1800
www.danbjornsoncpa.com

Animal Shelter

Animal Care League
1011 Garfield
Oak Park
708-848-8155
www.animalcareleague.org

Appliances/TVs

Grand Appliance
7440 Madison St.
708-771-4763
www.grandapplianceandtv.com

Arts Alliance

Forest Park Arts Alliance
www.forestparkartsalliance.org

Attorney

Attorney Kristen Marie Lyons
Law Offices of Kristen M. Kozlowski
773-610-4175
attorneykristen@gmail.com

Automotive Electronics

ABC Automotive & Electronics
7213 W. Roosevelt Rd.
708-488-9600
www.abcautoelectronics.com

Auto Repair/Body Shop/Towing

Nob's Towing
35 S. Harlem Ave.
708-488-8300

Our Planet Automotive
7222 Madison St. (rear)
708-383-0053
www.ourplanetautomotive.com

Auto Sales/Service

Currie Motors
8401 W. Roosevelt Rd.
708-771-2600
www.curriechevy.com

Hawk Chrysler Dodge Jeep
7911 Roosevelt Rd.
708-366-1001
www.hawkcjdj.com

Volvo Oak Park
1140 Garfield St.
888-450-8164
www.volvo oakpark.com

Bakery

Forest Park Bakery
7332 Madison St.
708-366-3669
www.forestparkbakery.com

Banks

Byline Bank
1001 Lake St.
Oak Park
708-930-1663
www.bylinebank.com

Forest Park Bank
7348 Madison St.
7331 W. Roosevelt Rd.
708-222-2800
www.forestparkbank.com

Book Publisher

The Cadence Group
708-689-0908
www.thecadencegrp.com

Bookstore

Centuries & Sleuths Bookstore
7419 Madison St.
708-771-7243
www.centuriesandsleuths.com

Royal Christian Bookstore
7610 Roosevelt Rd.
708-697-5333

Boutiques/Shoes/Accessories

Jayne Boutique
7500 Madison St.
708-488-2190
www.shopjayne.com

Perfect Fit Fashion
7516 Madison St.
708-657-4224
www.perfectfitfashion4u.com

Team Blonde Boutique Eco Spa & Salon
7442 Madison St.
708-771-5590
www.teamblonde.com

Bowling Alley

Circle Lanes
7244 Circle Ave.
708-366-2810
www.circlebowlinglanes.com

Bus Company

First Student Bus Company
1207 Greenwood Ave.
Maywood
708-345-5505

Business Development/Consulting

What Now Advisors
773-507-5999
www.whatnowadvisors.com

Car Wash

Crystal Car Wash
901 S. Harlem Ave.
708-879-1349
www.crystalcarwashforestpark.com

Spotless Car Wash
7802 Madison St.
7343 Roosevelt Rd.
708-771-2945
www.spotlessautowash.com

Cemeteries

Waldheim Jewish Cemetery
1400 Des Plaines Ave.
708-366-4541
www.waldheimcemetery.com

Chocolates/French Cremes

La Maison de Bonbon
7353 Madison St.
708-366-0777
www.lamaisondebonbon.com

Churches

Living Word Christian Center
7600 Roosevelt Rd.
708-697-5000
www.livingwd.org

Cleaning Services/Restoration

Mary's Cleaning Pros
708-383-2770

Coffee Shop/Air Roasted

Kribi Coffee Air Roasters
7324 Madison St.
708-689-8896
www.kribicoffee.com

Chamber members

Community/Senior Center

Howard Mohr
Community Center
7640 Jackson Blvd.
708-771-7737
www.forestpark.net

Contractors/Craftsmen

Forest Park Stucco, Inc.
708-366-3686
www.forestparkstucco.com

McShane Hibbits
513 Elgin Ave.
708-771-0864
mcshanehibbits@gmail.com

Cooking Classes

Table & Lain
7322 Madison St.
630-363-0814
www.tablelain.com

Cookies/Sweet Treats/Ice Cream

The Brown Cow
Ice Cream Parlor
7347 Madison St.
708-366-7970
www.browncowicecream.com

Twisted Cookie
7401 Madison St.
708-689-8029
www.twistedcookie.com

Counseling Services

Fire Escape Counseling Services
Rev. Dr. Charles E. Cairo,
CAC, CCJS
7645 Jackson Blvd.
312-719-6936
www.fireescapecounseling.com

Dance Instruction/Studios

Maiden Street School of Irish Dance
773-354-4837
www.maidenstreetdancers.com

Pineapple Dance Studio
7518 Madison St. 2nd Floor
708-299-2608
www.dancestudio.fitness

Dentists/Orthodontists

Little Teeth Big Smiles
Children's Dentistry
Dr. Jerry Udelson, DDS
1125 S. Harlem Ave.
708-386-5437
www.kidsdentistforestpark.com

Disability Services/Independent Living

Progress Center
for Independent Living
7521 Madison St.
708-209-1500
www.progresscil.org

Disposal Services

Flood Brothers Disposal
17W609 14th St.
Oakbrook Terrace
773-626-5800
www.floodbrothersdisposal.com
Lakeshore Recycling Services
5500 Pearl St.
Rosemont
708-344-5000
www.lsrecycles.com
Republic Services
5050 W. Lake St.
Melrose Park
708-345-7050
www.republicservices.com

Distributors/Manufacturers/Industrial

Burke Beverage
4900 S. Vernon
McCook
708-688-2000
www.burkebev.com

Chicago Suburban Lumber
7459 Franklin St.
708-771-8181
www.chicagosuburbanlumber.com

Farmington Foods
7419 Franklin St.
708-771-3600
www.farmingtonfoods.com

Weinstein Wholesale Meats
7501 Industrial Dr.
866-226-5196
www.weinsteinmeats.com

DJ/Karaoke/Sound & Lighting

Astro Coleman Entertainment
773-828-0170
hiastro@yahoo.com

Escape Room

Escape Factor
7228 Madison St.
708-943-7227
www.escapefactorchicago.com

Event Space

FoundryFP
7503 Madison St.
708-205-5035
www.foundryfp.com

Financial Planners

Bentron Financial Group
6601 W. North Ave., Ste. 2
Oak Park
708-386-3100
www.bentron.com

Edward Jones - Ben Caruso,
AAMS
Financial Advisor
7213 Madison St.
708-488-0575
www.edwardjones.com/us-en/financial-advisor/ben-caruso

Everett Wealth Solutions
407 Marengo Ave.
708-771-7777
www.everettwealthsolutions.com

Kingsview Asset
Management - Joel Foster
111 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago
630-442-1790
www.kingsviewam.com

Waddell & Reed
Eric Van Ness
1111 W. 22nd St.
Oak Brook
630-861-5042
www.evanness.wrfa.com

Fitness/Gym

Blink Fitness North Riverside
7509 Cermak Road
Riverside
708-443-1001
www.blinkfitness.com

Ferrara Pan Fitness Factory
1525 Circle Ave.
708-689-0538
www.ferrarapanfitness.com

Fit4Mom River Forest Oak Park
209-493-8171
www.oakpark.fit4mom.com

Funeral Homes

Zimmerman-Harnett Funeral Home
7319 Madison St.
708-366-2200
www.zimmermanharnett.com

Chamber members

Garden Center

Empowering Gardens

7730 Madison St.
708-689-8332
www.empoweringgardensinc.com

McAdam Landscape Professionals

2001 Des Plaines Ave.
708-771-2299
www.mcadamlandscape.com

Government/ Municipality

Village of Forest Park

517 Des Plaines Ave.
708-366-2323
www.forestpark.net

Graphic Design/ Interior Design

Yearbook Studios

408 Thomas Ave.
708-366-1920
www.yearbookstudios.com

Grocers

Living Fresh Market

7520 Roosevelt Rd.
708-209-1226
www.livingfreshmarket.com

Hair Salon/Nails/Spa Services

Fantastic Sam's

7235 Madison St.
708-771-4650
www.fantasticsams.com

J and J Nails & Spa

406 Thomas Ave.
708-820-2808
www.jandj-nailspa.com

Macdaddy

7506 Madison St.
708-771-0400
www.macdaddyforestpark.com

Team Blonde Boutique Eco Spa & Salon

7442 Madison St.
708-771-5590
www.teamblonde.com

Handyman Services

The Oak Park Handyhuman, Inc.

708-303-8615
www.theoakparkhandyhumaninc.com

Hardware

Schauer's Hardware

7449 Madison St.
708-366-1100
www.schauershardware.com

Healthcare/Pediatrics

Power of Play (POP) Pediatrics

7421 Madison St.
708-435-4130
www.pop-pediatric.com

Heating Oil/Fuel

Mohr Oil Company

7340 W. Harrison St.
708-366-2900
www.mohroil.com

Historical Society

Historical Society of Forest Park

P.O. Box 311
www.forestparkhistory.org

Hospitals

Riveredge Hospital

8311 Roosevelt Rd.
708-771-7000
www.riveredgehospital.com



in Dependent

**The right care can help seniors enjoy life
in the comfort of a familiar environment,
and provide reassurance to loved ones.**

- Companionship & Light Housekeeping
- Assist with Personal Care & Hygiene
- Meal Planning & Preparation
- Transitional Care After Hospitalization
- Daily Health Reminders
- Assist with Errands & Transportation
- Ambulation & Dressing Assistance
- Safety Supervision & Assistance

The Right Care, Right at Home®

Right at Home Oak Park Chicago

708.445.6000

www.rahoakparkchicago.net



Chamber members

Ice Cream Parlor

The Brown Cow

Ice Cream Parlor
7347 Madison St.
708-366-7970
www.browncowicecream.com

Ice Sculptures/Dry Ice

Nadeau's Ice Sculptures

7623 W. Roosevelt Rd.
708-366-3333
www.nadeauice.com

Insurance

Forest Insurance

7310 Madison St.
Forest Park
708-383-9000
www.forestinsured.com

Mark P. Hanson-State Farm Insurance

7421 Madison St.
708-366-0001
www.markphanson.com

Interior Design/Graphic Design

Yearbook Studios

408 Thomas Ave.
708-366-1920
www.yearbookstudios.com

Jewelry/Gifts

Accents By Fred

7519 Madison
708-366-9850
www.accentsbyfred.com

Kid's Play Space/Co-working

Let's Play Work

25 Elgin Ave. Unit B
708-303-8447
www.letsplaywork.com

Kitchen & Bath Tile

Corna Kitchen Bath & Tile

2134 N. Harlem Ave.
Elmwood Park
708-453-0036
www.cornakitchenbathandtile.com

Landscaping/Garden Center

McAdam Landscape Professionals

2001 Des Plaines Ave.
708-771-2299
www.mcadamlandscape.com

Labor Union

Forest Park Firefighters Local 2753

P.O. Box 561
708-366-1234

Liquor Stores

Famous Liquors

7714 Madison St.
708-366-2500
www.famousliquors.com

Lounges/Taverns

Duffy's Tavern Forest Park

7513 Madison St.
708-366-3887
www.facebook.com/duffystavern-fopo

McGaffer's

7737 W. Roosevelt Rd.
708-435-4132
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Members of the Forest Park Historical Society celebrate at their annual Speakeasy event.

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Typeface used in a business name artistically sets the mood and tone simply through the font styles. Whether shouting in all capitals, gentle flowing edges in cursive letters, bold contrasting colors, clean lines, distressed tones, sophisticated ornamental curves or subtle shadows, a business personality is expressed. Just like the people who live here, every letter has a charming voice in the small town of Forest Park. See if you can decode the Forest Park business using a single letter from their typographical style in the message.

S Ma LL

T O W N

C D A R M

* Answer Key on page 29



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Engage Christian Church

Name: Dawayne Choice

Title: Pastor at Engage Christian Church

Years on job: As a pastor, I've been working in the church since 2000. I started as a youth pastor in Indiana but I was born on the West Side, in the Austin area, and my wife and I moved here to start Engage Christian Church.

How did Engage get started?

There's an organization called Ignite Church Planting and they were looking to do a work here in the area, particularly on the West Side, and initially we were really trying to launch the church in Oak Park or the Austin area. We were having a hard time landing in those areas and we were living in Forest Park since we moved here in 2016 and were trying to get involved as much as we could. Eventually, we ended up becoming a big part of what was happening at Forest Park Middle School and Engage launched in April 2017. We just celebrated five years (on April 2).

What are some of the things that make Engage unique? One of the things that makes Engage special is how it loves people no matter who they are, no matter the background, no matter their experiences. Our slogan here, and really, we try to live it out, is here is where you belong. Engage is a place where people belong, and we want that to be felt in every way. That's one unique thing about Engage, and the whole purpose of launching our church was to be an encouragement to whatever community we're in. Our church is about serving our community. We are always trying to figure out unique ways in which we can serve our community. We're not trying to do our own thing, we want to do whatever we can to add value to our community, even if that's connecting with

other organizations or stakeholders that are already doing something. We're not about us, we're about our community.

What are some of the ways Engage is involved in the community?

Prior to the pandemic, every year we tried to do a back-to-school something for our students. We do it here on the block, we bring in big bounce houses, we were giving out supplies but when we found out the schools provided supplies, we provided things parents may need some help on – underwear, socks, those types of things. But when the pandemic hit it was hard to do a back-to-school event. What we did instead, we found 10 families in our community that we can serve throughout the pandemic. Every other month we were giving them household supplies and then whatever grocery store they shop at; we provided a gift card for them to shop. Every year for Christmas we adopt at least 10 families that we can bless. We give the kids everything on their wish list and we even try to bless the parents because we know the parents are sacrificing their Christmas. We call it Christmas mission 419. Then we do a movie night on the block to try and let our community know God loves them and we love them.

How have you enjoyed being a Forest Park resident?

It was the best thing that could have happened to us. Forest Park has been the best place for us to move to. We came out of Indiana – Marion is a very, very small town and Forest Park had that small town feel. What do they say? It has that small town feel and access to everything. And we love that. We love being in Forest



Dawayne & Saylease Choice

Park. We think it was the best thing that could have happened.

What do you appreciate about Forest Park? Since being here we've really loved our neighbors. The people have been friendly, they've been embracing. They are very open. We just had a good experience from our neighbors, and I enjoy working with the young people. I was a person who had mentors in my life and I wouldn't be where I am now without them, and the opportunity to serve the families and the young people and show young people that they have someone who cares about them, particularly at the middle school. I just loved the partnership that I gathered with them. We enjoy the little things that Forest Park does to try to build community and the connections that we've made and the relationships that we've built since being here.

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Feeling the "spirit" of Halloween the Forest Park Chamber Annual Casket Race draws the ghoulishly creative and frightfully competitive to a popular event. Costumed racers representing local business, organizations and neighbors prepared their costumes and caskets for the

ninth annual race in 2021. Never Ketchup, Proviso Math and Science Academy science teachers, Ghostbusters, Addams Family, and Forest Park Police department were just some of the devilishly delightful competitors.

- Jill Wagner

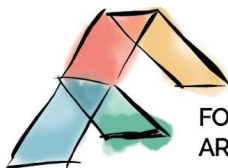
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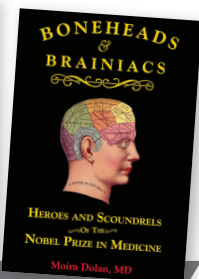
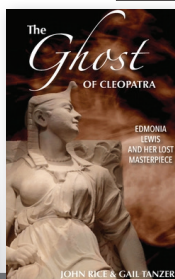
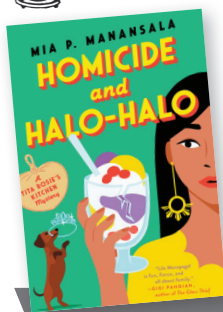
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Riveredge Hospital

Community Profile

Name: Allison M. Davenport
Title at Riveredge: Chief Executive Officer

Years on job: I have been the CEO since Sept 2021 but had been with Riveredge since 2017

What motivated you to work in the mental health field? The opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people living with a mental illness and be a fierce advocate for patients in need of quality, compassionate mental healthcare.

What are your job responsibilities? To lead our team of talented healthcare heroes in the management of all clinical and organizational operations.

What services does Riveredge provide? At Riveredge we provide mental health services across a full continuum of care. We offer inpatient and outpatient behavioral healthcare to children, adolescents, young adults and adults.

What makes Riveredge unique in its field? At the heart of what we do is our team of caring and truly dedicated staff who are committed to the patients we serve. At Riveredge we provide clinically distinct care including robust and creative

programming. Additionally, we offer the only specialized inpatient unit in Illinois for adults with an intellectual or developmental disability.

What makes the community of Forest Park unique? The Forest Park community has a heart and soul which is evident the moment you walk down Madison Street! The way organizations from various industries work together for the continued development of the community is inspiring.

What are some of your favorite things to do/places to visit in Forest Park? I have always enjoyed the community events in Forest Park, especially the Casket Race and St. Patrick's Day Parade. I'm excited to participate in Juneteenth festivities this year as well.



Allison M. Davenport

Anything else we should know about Riveredge?

We feel an incredible sense of pride in our commitment to serve the Forest Park community. As the community continues to grow and thrive, we remain dedicated to delivering clinically excellent behavioral healthcare.





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Pastor: Timothy Hein

Living Word Christian Center

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Services:

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livingwd.org

Pastor: Dr. Bill Winston

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church of Christ

500 Hannah Ave.

708-689-8312

mtmoriahchurchil.org

Pastor: Maurice L. Streeter



Jeanne Calabrese, of River Forest, shares paste tomato seeds with Jon Tong, of Berwyn, during a seed swap at St. John Lutheran Church in Forest Park, sponsored by the Forest Park Community Garden.

DAVID PIERINI/Staff Photographer

St. Bernardine Catholic Church

7246 W. Harrison St.

708-366-0839

stbern.com

Pastor: Fr. Stanislaw Kuca

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

305 Circle Ave.

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stjohnforestpark.org

Pastor: Leonard Payton

St. Paul Thai Church

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Pastor: David Mercurio

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2. St. Paul's Thai Lutheran
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6. St. Bernardine Catholic Church

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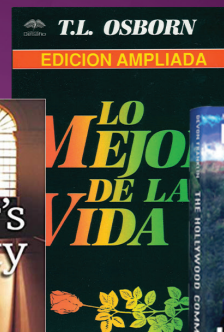
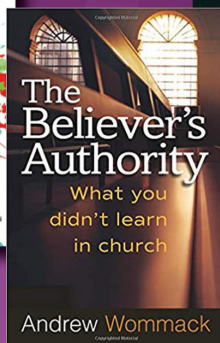
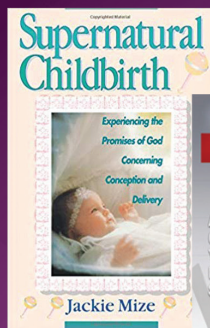
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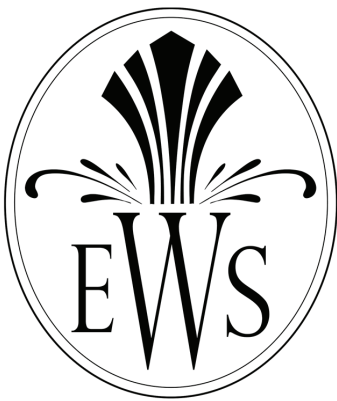
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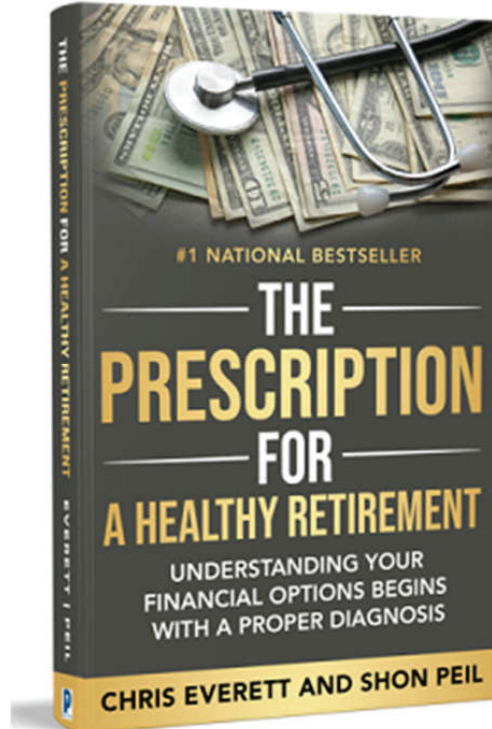
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COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CARE offers pathways to diagnostic screenings, clinical trials, a wide range of therapies and support services. [Call 708-763-2700](tel:708-763-2700).

HEART AND VASCULAR CARE includes 3D imaging, minimally invasive surgical options and expertise offered through our Chest Pain Center and Primary Stroke Center. [Call 888-888-2872](tel:888-888-2872).

SENIOR CARE embraces adults ages 60+ with free educational, social and wellness programs. [Call 888-888-2872](tel:888-888-2872).



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Attendees purchase greeting cards from one of the garages last summer, during the annual Garage Galleries throughout Forest Park.

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Plants growing in a backyard and from a tree stump during the annual garden walk in Forest Park.

ALEX ROGALS/Staff Photographer

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Community Info



Photo by Allen Bourgeois

Community Info

Howard Mohr Community Center

7640 Jackson Blvd.
708-771-7737
Office Hours: 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays
Director: Karen Dylewski
The Howard R. Mohr Community Center, named in honor of the late state senator and Forest Park mayor, serves as a hub of both entertainment and social services. From supervising children before and after school to sponsoring weekly senior citizen trips to checking up on the elderly, disabled and shut-ins, the community center meets many needs.

Children's Clubhouse

Clubhouse is a before and after school daycare program for children who attend Forest Park public schools, grades K-6. Offered weekdays from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the school year. Call for fee information.

Food Pantry

The Community Education Food Pantry is available to residents in need of emergency food due to temporary unemployment or other financial need. Donations of canned or boxed, non-perishable food items are accepted year-round. Each Thanksgiving, food baskets are delivered to Forest Park families who are in need. Food and gift baskets are also distributed at Christmas.

Pace Bus Passes

Pace bus passes are available to adults at the rate of 10 for \$9.50. In addition, reduced fare rates for the passes are available to seniors and students.

Rules of the Road Review Class

Offered periodically, the purpose of the course is to help citizens pass the Illinois drivers license renewal examination. Call for dates and times.

Senior Activities and Trips

The center offers a number of activities and services for seniors including Wed. trips to a variety of venues (theater, sports, games of chance, special exhibits.) Informational and personal safety seminars are also

scheduled throughout the year.

Senior and Disabled

Dial-a-Ride

Bus transportation is offered Mon.-Fri. 8:30am - 2:00pm for seniors and people with disabilities. The bus is equipped with a wheelchair lift. The cost is \$1.00 each way. Service includes trips to doctors, shopping, etc. within Forest Park and two miles outside the village borders. Call at least 24 hours in advance for an appointment.

Senior Bingo and Lunch

Ten games of bingo and lunch are offered to senior citizens for a small fee monthly, the 4th Thursday of the month. Call the center for dates, reservations, and to arrange transportation.



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Community Info

Senior Citizens Club

Meets Tues. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Community Center. Offers social activities for seniors, including arts and crafts, card and board games, visiting with old friends and making new ones. Business meetings are held the first Tues. of the month, Sept.-June. The club welcomes members from surrounding communities. Transportation is available to Forest Park residents by appointment.

Senior Income Tax Preparation

The American Association of Retired Persons will be at the center on Monday & Tuesday mornings to assist senior citizens with income tax preparation Feb.-April. This free service is by appointment only. Transportation is available by appointment.

Senior Movie

A first-run movie is presented at the center once a month, usually the second Thurs. Popcorn is provided. There is no charge. Call for date and time.

Senior Newsletter

Comes out the first Tues. of even-numbered months announcing weekly trips and events. Copies are available at the center, village hall and the library.

Senior Shopping Trips

Mon. Living Fresh & Tony's Finer Foods, Wed. River Forest Jewel, Thurs. Ed's Way & Broadview Aldi, Fri. Walmart. Call the center for schedules or to make an appointment.

Senior Taxicab Discount

Senior citizen taxicab coupon books can be purchased at the center at the cost of \$7.50 for \$10 worth of coupons. The coupons are used in lieu of cash when paying cab fare and never expire.

State of Illinois Mobile Drivers Service

Offered periodically at the center, this service issues state IDs, renews driver licenses needing eye and/or written tests only, for individuals who are within a year of expiration. Also changes information such as new addresses. Issues license plate renewal stickers (must have renewal form.) Road testing is not available. Current fees apply. The program is open to anyone younger than 75. Those older than 75 must go to a secretary of state facility.

Summer Clubhouse

The Community Center offers nine weeks of summer daycare for children entering grades K-6. Creative projects, free play, weekly field trips (additional cost), swimming, structured games, indoor and outdoor sports. This program provides summer adventures that promote a healthy mind, body and spirit. Call for dates and fee information.



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It's said that tacos are best eaten on Tuesdays, but with all the Mexican restaurants peppered throughout Forest Park hungry locals could realistically celebrate tacos seven days a week! Embarking on a taco tour proved to be as colorful as it was flavorful—we savored nachos, salads, and tacos with a multitude of memorable fillings! Get ready for a fun fiesta in Forest Park.



**MELISSA
ELSMO**
Food Writer

Discover a Fiesta

Macho's Grill, 7300 Roosevelt Rd., focuses on fare from Guerrero, Mexico, but a dish with origins in Jalisco has found its way onto the menu. A quesadilla-taco hybrid, quesabirrias, feature braised beef folded into a tortilla with molten cheese. The cozy dish is served with a cup of consommé for dipping. The unassuming restaurant has a loyal following—folks are flocking to Machos' for nachos, quesabirrias, or Cecina estilo Guerrero and you should, too!

Mexican Republic Kitchen and Cantina, 7404 Madison St., serves a menu focused on traditionally known Mexican fare like tacos, enchiladas, and burritos as well as authentic entrees like carnitas and chile rellenos. While these dishes are popular with people who know Mexican food, Mexican Republic puts their own spin on tradition. No matter what you order be sure to make the most of their generous patio – it is even more comfortable with a premium margarita in hand!



Macho's Grill



Cactus Grill



**Mexican Republic
Kitchen and Cantina**

Nadia Mondragon, owner of **Cactus Grill, 315 S. Harlem Ave.,** has been serving up homestyle Mexican fare in a festive environment since 2018. Their menu, catering to breakfast, lunch and dinner lovers alike, is chock full of tamales, enchiladas, chilaquiles, burritos and menudo. Employees are quick to recommend the fish tacos. For less than \$9 you get two pieces of crispy fish on corn tortillas garnished with house made pico de gallo and spicy chipotle sauce. Served with rice and beans this meal is sure to fill you up.

Tacabron, 7330 Harrison St., is nestled in a quiet section of Forest Park just south of the Ike. Though the restaurant is a little off the beaten path, taco lovers have made Tacabron a regular mealtime destination. Vegetarians will clamor for the zucchini and yellow squash taco salad while their novel goat tacos should appeal to adventurous meat eaters. Traditional chicken, al pastor and shrimp options

are also among the many fillings available at this fresh and modern taqueria.

Since opening in 2019, family owned **Chirrion, 7510 Madison St**, has been serving up memorable steaks in their diminutive dining room. Frank Garcia, co-owner of the well-appointed eatery known for serving gourmet tacos, is ready to make you feel like Chirrion is your second home. Be sure to check out the Carne Asada a la Tampiqueña. The robust and warming plate is brimming



Chirrion

Mole featuring six enchiladas and six unique moles or specials like tilapia tacos with crispy chicharron. No matter what—don't skip the flan!

David Hammond, food writer for Forest Park Review and Wednesday Journal, made his first-ever outing to a **Taco Bell** this year. He made his way to the brand-new location at **161 S. Harlem Ave.** in Forest Park to try the "popular Mexican-ish and undeniably American tacos." He settled on the Doritos Cheesy Gordita Crunch and

of flavor in Forest Park

with chargrilled premium outer skirt steak prepared to your desired doneness and served with a cheese enchilada, rice, beans, guacamole, lettuce, tomato, and grilled scallions.

NRebozo, 7403 Madison, may be a Forest Park newcomer, but chef and owner, Francisco Lopez, known to all as Chef Paco, has been a mainstay on the Oak Park culinary scene for 30 years. The passionate chef moved his staff, art collection and repertory of 26 moles to the center of Forest Park at the beginning of April. You'll delight in his personality as much as his elevated Mexican cuisine. Pay special attention to his Agua de Ranchero. The cocktail made with lime juice, agave honey, tequila and Topo Chico is a delightful accompaniment to his perennially popular Fiesta



Tacabron



Taco Bell

the Doritos Locos Taco and declared "they are prime examples of American-Mexican food, like fajitas, but that is certainly no reason to avoid them." He said he had to "try them at least once."



NRebozo

Explore more flavor at ForestParkReview.com



Food & Drink



Chris Brown, left, and Mark Nathan, of 3SP BBQ, serve rib samplings on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021, during the annual Rib Fest at The Grove in Forest Park.

ALEX ROGALS/Staff Photographer

Food & drink

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708-689-0864
angeloolearys.com

Beacon Pub

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708-366-7066

Panda Cafe

7600 Madison St.
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Brown Cow Ice Cream Parlor

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708-488-0480

Cactus Grill

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708-689-8595
cactusgrill.business.site

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Charlie's Restaurant

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708-771-1969
charliesrestaurantfp.wixsite.com

Chef Gaetano's Artisan Foods

7636 Madison St.
708-366-4010
chefgaetanos.com

Chirrión Mexican Grill

7510 Madison St.
708-689-8123
chirrión.com

Circle Inn of Forest Park

7300 Circle Ave.
708-771-2123

Circle Lanes

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708-366-2810
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7432 Madison St.
708-366-2823
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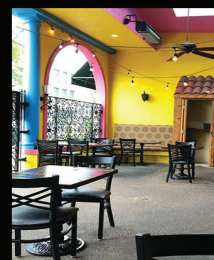
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Lathrop House Cafe

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Louie's Grill

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708-689-0850
mexicanrepublickitchen.com/

Mr. Beef and Pizza

123 N Harlem Ave
708-689-0640
mrbeefandpizza.com

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708-366-4445

Nola Louisiana Kitchen (Inside Angelo O'Leary's)

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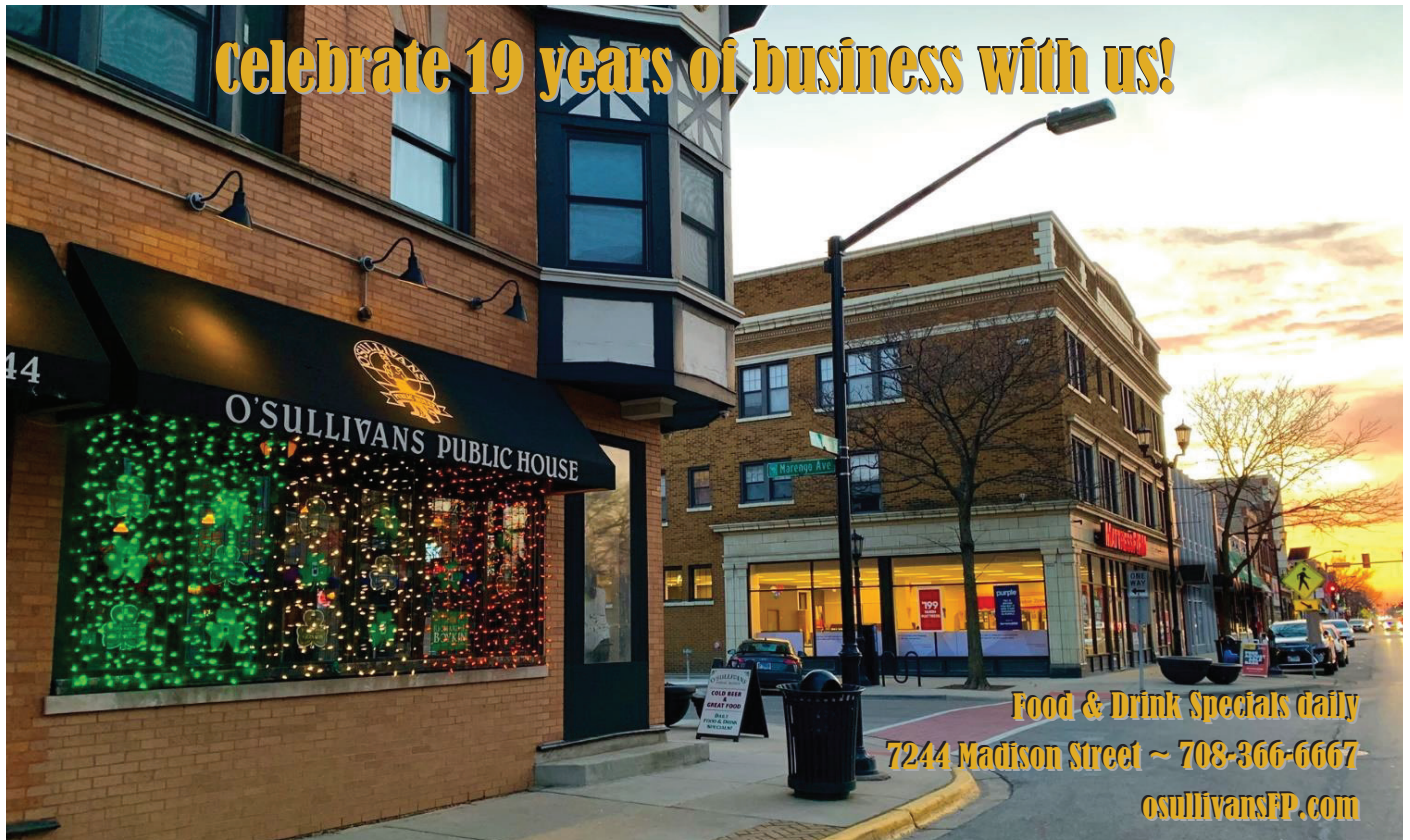
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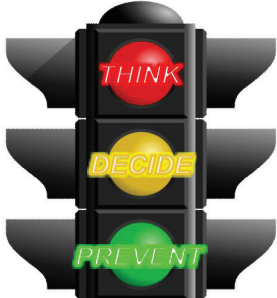

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Chris Chin, left, is sworn in by Mayor Rory Hoskins as the new Deputy Police Chief during a swearing in ceremony.

ALEX ROGALS/Staff Photographer

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Chicago, IL 60651
773-750-0866
Springfield Office:
239-E Stratton Office

Building
Springfield, IL 62706
217-782-5962

State Senator 4th District

Kimberly A. Lightford (D)

www.ilga.gov/senate
Senate Majority Leader
4415 Harrison St., Suite 550
Hillside, IL 60162
708-632-4500
Springfield Office:
329A Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706
217-782-8505

Village of Forest Park

Village Hall

517 Des Plaines Ave.
708-366-2323
forestpark.net
Hours:

Monday–Friday 8:00AM to
5:00PM

Closed Weekends

Village Council

The village is incorporated under the commission form of government with the mayor and commissioners elected every four years. Forest Park has five commissioners, four of which are elected at large. The fifth commissioner is the mayor who has the dual role of both mayor and commissioner.

■ **Mayor Rory E. Hoskins**
and the Commissioner for
the Department of Public
Affairs.

■ **Department of Accounts
and Finance**

■ **Commissioner Maria
Maxham**

■ **Department of Public
Health and Safety**

- **Commissioner Joseph Byrnes**
- **Department of Streets and Public Improvements**
- **Commissioner Ryan Nero**
- **Department of Public Property**
- **Commissioner Jessica Voogd**

The village council meets at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Mon. each month in the council chambers on the lower level of village hall. A portion of each meeting is reserved for citizens' comments.

Administrators, Department Heads

- **Village administrator:**
Timothy E. Gillian
- **Village clerk:** Vanessa Moritz
- **Police chief:** Tom Aftanas



What State Representative Emanuel “Chris” Welch can do for you!

Our office can assist you in navigating a wide variety of state services including, but not limited to:

Processing professional license applications with the Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation

Referrals for job assistance programs

Referrals on college scholarships and financial aid information

Assisting veterans with state programs and resources

Helping qualified applicants receive care through the Department of Human Services

Helping qualified applicants access unemployment benefits

Mortgage relief assistance from the Attorney General and the Illinois Housing Development Authority

Rep. Welch frequently offers state seminars and programs to create awareness of resources and opportunities for constituents, including:

- Job Resource Fairs
- Electronics Recycling and Shred Days
- Property Tax Appeal Seminars
- Senior Technology Fairs
- Internship Programs for Students
- Citizen Advisory Committees
- Mobile Office Hours
- Town Hall Meetings

Emanuel Chris Welch
Speaker of the House
State Representative
7th District



Constituent Service Office • 10055 Roosevelt Road • Westchester, IL 60154
708-450-1000 • emanuelchriswelch.com

For more information, please contact Rep. Welch's full-time constituent service office at 708-450-1000 or email repwelch@emanuelchriswelch.com

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Mayor Rory Hoskins



Commissioner Ryan Nero



Commissioner Maria Maxham



Commissioner Joe Byrnes



Commissioner Jessica Voogd

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Celebrating Seniors Week Marks 12th Year of Non-Profit Outreach



Honoring, educating & serving older adults in Oak Park, River Forest & Forest Park

- Raising awareness of older adults' value and impact—while also raising money for some who find themselves in a financial pinch.
- That's at the heart of the mission for the Celebrating Seniors Coalition. We have a series of educational and entertainment programming planned for May 12-19, throughout Oak Park, River Forest and Forest Park—and hope that you can join us!
- Founded in 2010 and with its first Celebrating Seniors Week in 2011, the organization is fueled by a dedicated core team of volunteers who support the group's efforts to dispel outdated and inaccurate myths about what it is to be a senior in our society.
- That sturdy foundation has formed the basis for robust partnerships with government bodies from the three villages, as well as Dominican University, Concordia University Chicago, social service agencies, businesses, and individuals.
- Celebrating Seniors has helped dozens of people to meet the basic needs of daily living such as a new refrigerator, help with repair work around their home, or the addition of a necessary piece of furniture.
- In addition, we have honored over 650 older adults who have made, and continue to make, significant contributions to the community. That tradition continues in 2022, and we look forward to many more years of Celebrating Seniors in our communities!

To learn more of our history, how to volunteer, how to nominate someone for the next "Seniors Over 60" class, or to contribute financially to help a senior in need, please visit www.CelebratingSeniors.net.

www.celebratingseniors.net

**410 S. Oak Park Ave. | Oak Park IL 60302
708-383-8060 | info@celebratingseniors.net**

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Park District of Forest Park

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Membership Information

Membership	Monthly	Monthly	Yearly	Yearly
Residency	Resident	Non-Res	Resident	Non-Res
Individual	\$21	\$30	\$164	\$240
Couple	\$34	\$50	\$294	\$430
Student	\$18	\$28	\$145	\$208
Senior	\$10	\$18	\$100	\$145

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Adam Cumbee

Name: Adam Cumbee
Title at Park District of Forest Park: Marketing and Communications Manager

Years on job: Just over two years. Started in January 2020.

What motivated you to join the team at the Park District of Forest Park?

I was at a different park district and when this position opened up, a few coworkers knew some people over here and urged me to apply. About five minutes into my interview with the whole staff, I knew this was where I wanted to work.

What are your job responsibilities?

I handle all of our marketing and communication efforts. I run our social media pages, design the monthly leaflet, write copy for a majority of our park communications including letters, signage, and more, and photograph programs and events.

What are some of the park district's major events?

Our biggest event is the 16-inch No Glove Nationals softball tournament. This will

be our 54th year, and we take immense pride in being able to put on this event. Our Fourth of July event is also a day full of fun and music culminating in a spectacular fireworks show. Pool opening day, in its own right, is also a pretty big deal for us because it helps signify the beginning of our summer season which is a crazy fun time of year not only for residents but also for staff!

What makes the community of Forest Park unique?

The village tagline kind of says it all. Big city access, small-town charm. Forest Park is the best of both worlds. You're nice and close to the city – for a more relaxed experience you have some great city vibes going down Madison Street – and if you take a stroll through the friendly, quiet neighborhoods you generally wouldn't know that you're just a hop-and-a-skip away from one of the densest, most populous cities in the country.

Why did you decide to make Forest Park your home?

We were looking for houses before I started working here, but we weren't having much

luck finding what we were looking for where we were looking. After a few weeks of working here, I had spent a lot of time with our staff, and we had a few special events that allowed me to get to know the people that would now be my neighbors. The vibe just felt right. It's a noun town – there are a lot of great people, places, and things to do, and once we expanded our search into Forest Park, we quickly found the place that we happily call home!

Anything else we should know about the park district?

If you ever have any questions, please never hesitate to reach out. You can call us at 708-366-7500, and our front desk staff will be more than happy to help you out. You can also reach out to us on social media, just shoot us a message and we will try to get back to you as quickly as we have an answer. I'll usually be the person on the other end, so feel free to drop by and say hello!

Parks



A skateboarder performs a trick on the new equipment, at the Forest Park Skatepark on Harrison Street.

ALEX ROGALS/Staff Photographer

An advertisement for McAdam Landscape Professionals. The background is a photograph of a well-manicured outdoor space featuring a large stone pillar, a wooden pergola with string lights, and wicker patio furniture. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

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Parks

Kids having a blast at the Park District of Forest Park community pool.

ALEX ROGALS/Staff Photographer

Parks

Park District of Forest Park

Administrative Office
7501 W. Harrison St.
708-366-7500

pdofp.org

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday: Closed

The park district offers a variety of recreational programs throughout the year for all ages at The Park and in conjunction with local schools. Each resident receives a Seasonal brochure and the Forest Park Review with a list of activities, classes and special events. Early registration is recommended to prevent cancellations. The Park includes 17 acres with six lighted tennis courts, three baseball/softball fields,

a multipurpose synthetic turf soccer/football/lacrosse field, an in-line skating rink, bocce ball courts, two batting cages, a skate park, a playground, a pavilion and a distance-marked walking path.

Board of Commissioners

- Roy J. Sansone, President
- Cathleen McDermott, Vice President

Commissioners:

- John Doss
- Kristen Lyons
- Roy Sansone
- Park Staff
- Jackie Iovinelli, FOIA Officer & Executive Director
- Jeff Murphy, Business Manager
- Ryan Russ, (Interim) Superintendent of the

Parks

- Rachell Entler, Recreation Supervisor
- Andrew Doss, Faculty & Athletic Supervisor
- Danette Krajewski, Recreation Supervisor
- Adam Cumbee, Communications & Marketing Manager

Forest Park Aquatic Center

708-366-7500

Features two flume slides, two drop slides, two diving boards, an interactive play structure, lap lanes, a zero-depth shallow end and a spray ground. It is surrounded by landscaped sun decks, has a nearby concession stand and sand play area.

Pool Passes on Sale

Don't get stuck waiting in long lines to get in the pool. Get your pass early. Individual and family passes available.

Skate Park

708-366-7500 (Park District)
The skate park is unsupervised, though the park district recommends the use of helmets, elbow pads and knee pads. No smoking, eating or drinking is allowed, and skaters cannot bring their own ramps or other skating obstacles. Bicycles are not allowed.
Hours: Open until dusk, weather permitting.



Steve Rummel, left, and his son Owen Rummel, hang the Juneteenth flag on Monday, June 7, 2021, during a Juneteenth celebration at Village Hall.

ALEX ROGALS/Staff Photographer

Parks

West Suburban Special Recreation Association

The Park District of Forest Park, through the West Suburban Special Recreation Association (WSSRA), offers more than 60 programs for local residents with disabilities. All ages and all ability levels are served in these therapeutic recreational activities. Many programs are similar to traditional park district classes, such as the association's swim lessons, fitness classes and day camp. At these programs, a recreation specialist will adjust how skills are taught, how much personal assistance will be given and if any equipment accommodation is needed.

Behavior management plans and other tools are used. Some programs require one-on-one staffing for a participant to be successful. Others are designed so that the competition is at a fair level, as in Special Olympics. For detailed information about WSSRA programs and equipment accommodations, call 847-455-2100 or stop by the park district to pick up a brochure.

Our Community Needs *Community* Journalism

It's not just about crime reports and board meetings. We also need inspiring, funny, heartwarming and, at times, heartbreaking stories about our friends, neighbors and children. Perhaps now, more than ever.

Let's build community!

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Growing Community Media NFP is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization

Schools



The annual D209 Back to School Bash was held at Proviso West, August 20, 2022.

FILE

Schools

DISTRICT 91

Forest Park Elementary Schools

424 Des Plaines Ave.
708-366-5700

Fpsd91.org

Elizabeth Alvarez,
Superintendent

For information about PTA/
PTO organizations, please
contact individual schools.

Betsy Ross Elementary School

1315 Marengo Ave.
708-366-7498

betsyross.forestparkschools.org

Grades K-2

Tinisa Huff, principal

Field-Stevenson Elementary School

925 Beloit Ave.
708-366-5703

fieldstevenson.forestparkschools.org

org

Grades 3-5

Susan Bogdan, principal

Forest Park Middle School

925 Beloit Ave.
708-366-5742

fpmf.forestparkschools.org

Grades 6-8

Tiffany Brunson, principal

Garfield Elementary School

543 Hannah Ave.
708-366-6945

garfield.forestparkschools.org

Grades PreK-2

Mary J. Stauder, principal

Grant-White Elementary School

147 Circle Ave.
708-366-5704

grantwhite.forestparkschools.org

Grades 3-5

Roger Beauford, principal

DISTRICT 209

Proviso Township High Schools

8601 W. Roosevelt Rd.
708-338-5900

www.pths209.org

Dr. James L. Henderson,
superintendent

Proviso East High School

807 S. 1st Ave.
Maywood, IL 60153
708-344-7000

pths209.org/east

Dr. Brian Colbert, assistant
principal

Proviso Mathematics & Science Academy

8601 W. Roosevelt Rd.
708-338-4100

pths209.org/pmsa

Shaylon Walker, principal
Admission to PMSA is by
application only. Contact the
PMSA office for more infor-
mation.



Great People Make All the Difference!

Forest Park Public School District 91



Vision

Forest Park Public School District 91 will be acknowledged by all as a safe, nurturing and diverse learning community that establishes the highest standards for innovation and continuous improvement to achieve excellence and global citizenship for each individual child.

Learn more about the Forest Park Public Schools at
forestparkschools.org.

Mission

In partnership with home and community, is to educate each individual child in a safe and nurturing environment. We will foster respect and self-worth, teach skills relevant to contemporary life, and promote academic and creative expression. We will encourage an appreciation of the rich cultural diversity of our community, and instill a sense of wonder for the future to enable our students to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens of the world.

Equity Imperative

Recognizing that systemic bias has plagued our educational system, we commit to nurturing dialogue around all issues of inequity, including culture, race, faith, socioeconomic status, gender identity, sexual orientation, and different ability, as they pertain to classroom practices, school and district structures, and policies and procedures. We support actions removing barriers to opportunities that allow children to reach their full potential.

Schools

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Giving Tree

7510 W. Randolph St.
708-209-1555
givingtreeschools.com
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Montessori Language Academy

314 Circle Ave.
708-771-5030
mla.school
Yoko Avramov, Director

Offers year-round bilingual Japanese and English classes for children age 3-6; as well as an after school program for elementary-aged children; 4-6 p.m. Children learn speaking, reading, writing and math skills in both Japanese and English through hands-on activities and projects, music and art as well as Japanese culture.

ties and projects, music and art as well as Japanese culture.

Oak Park Montessori

16 Lathrop Ave
708-435-4309
oakparkmontessori.com

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Schools

Name: Elizabeth Alvarez, Ph.D.

Title: Superintendent

Years on job: 10 months

What motivated you to work in education?

When I was young I had an elementary teacher who did not believe in me. She challenged me to teach science in 7th grade for a week. It was this challenge and experience that brought out my love not only for teaching, but also science. However, when the week was over she told me not to be a teacher. I wrote a chapter about it in the book, *Stem Century: It Takes a Village to Raise a 21st Century Graduate* by Soul Excellence Publishing. Later on my high school teachers encouraged me and relit my spirit for my studies. I believe wholeheartedly in the power of educators. Their belief in me acknowledged how children when inspired and challenged can do just about anything.

What are your job responsibilities?

I am responsible for the wellbeing of the entire district. This means that when my staff, families and children are at their best and feel a sense of belonging we are capable of magical things that will allow us to thrive and see growth in not only us as a unit but individually. As for the defined duties of my role as superintendent, I am the Chief Executive Officer of the entire school system. I am responsible for the management of the

schools, the administration of all school board policies, and am directly accountable to the school board as they represent the parents and community of Forest Park.

Why did you decide to join the team at D91?

I noticed the diversity among the students and families within the district and it gave me nostalgia. D91 reminds me of my school community when I was a principal. I was excited for the opportunity to lead a district that was similar but on a larger scale. I visited Forest Park several times and became endeared by the small town, big city vibes. I saw myself being part of the community. Sense of belonging is a core value of mine and D91 was a place I saw this coming to fruition.

What are some of the things that make District 91 unique?

We have a social worker in all our schools. They are huge in any district's success. It was a pleasant surprise to see this and know we were doing this prior to the pandemic. Social emotional learning is a leadership skill that social workers have the capacity in providing to not only our children but staff. This makes D91 very unique.

What makes the community of Forest Park unique?

There is a small town, big city vibe about the Forest Park community. I realize the motto here is

"big city access with small town charm" but there is something to say about that, Forest Parkers understand the hustle and bustle of a big city as they move around yet, know each other enough to slow down and provide the cheerful hello or catch you later. The stories I hear about how they became transplants to Forest Park and why they stayed because of the small town, big city vibe warms my heart.

What are some of your favorite things to do/ places to go in Forest Park?

I'm a huge tea drinker. So I enjoy Kribi as I order Earl Grey with lavender or the London Fog. Mmmmm. They also have the best avocado toast I have ever eaten. I have gone several times to the new Smoothish shop to get the Matcha Mango smoothie. Louie's Grill and Caffé de Luca have provided me with some delicious meals. I particularly love the staff in both places. They greet me with a welcome smile and some have gotten to know my usuals. Team Blonde has been my spot to get my caramel and I have purchased earrings there too. Jayne has also been a favorite. Finally, the Park District of Forest Park and Forest Park Public Library have been great places to go in order to reflect or walk. I'm actually a member at the gym but can't say I have been good about going to workout.



Elizabeth Alvarez

The Forest Park Public Library has been recording my quarterly read alouds. It is always good to go there as we read our community book.

Anything else we should know about the school district?

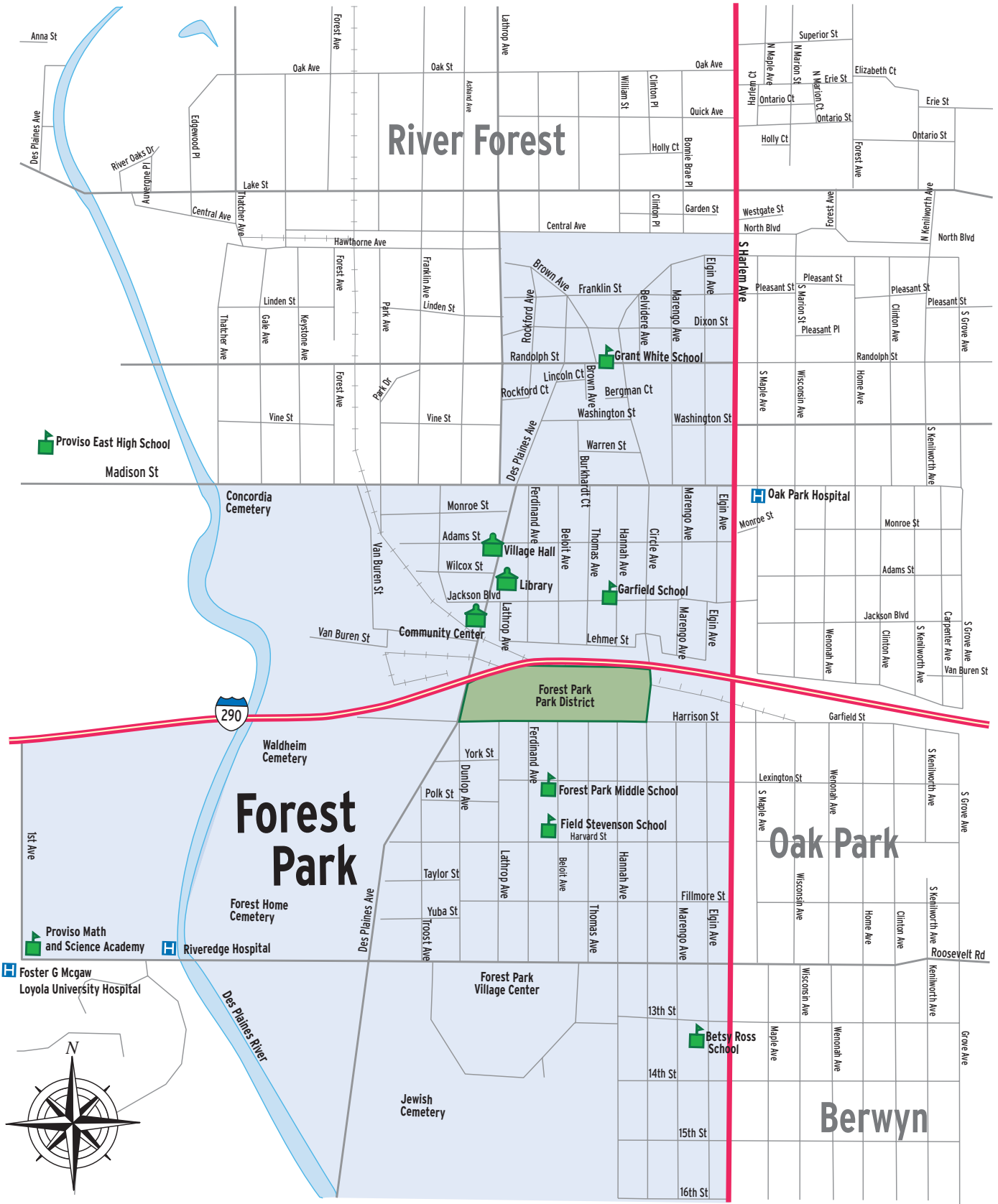
Our educators are committed to their work. They have been courageous throughout the pandemic and diligent with the mitigations and protocols put in place as we assist all our children. I also have never seen harder working custodians than I have here. Our schools are clean and well taken care of by our custodians and maintenance. Our bus drivers are also a group that should be acknowledged here because through the snow, sleet, rain and sunshine they are up early and ready to pick up our children no matter the weather as they prepare our buses for another school day or week.

Steeple Chase



Traveling through Forest Park, six steeples keep watch, and many of them have roots back to days of the Village of Harlem. See how many you can identify. *(Answers on page 29)*

- St. John's Church, founded in 1862, has the largest steeple, dedicated in 1914, is the most recognizable with a spire, lantern, belfry and tower.
- St Paul's Thai Lutheran Church on Dixon has foundational roots back to 1879, and the steeple built in the 1890s.
- Once known as the First German Baptist Church of Chicago the Forest Park Baptist church showcases architect H. G. Fiddelke which can be seen prominently on Harlem Ave.
- Mt. Moriah Baptist Church of Christ fills the landmark building formerly known as St. Peter's at Adams and Hannah.
- Chicagoland Christian Center serves the community in the former Pioneer Chapel which was erected in 1900 at the corner of Beloit and Lexington.
- St. Bernardine Catholic Church which was established in 1911 and the present church was dedicated in 1940 can be seen from the Eisenhower Expressway.



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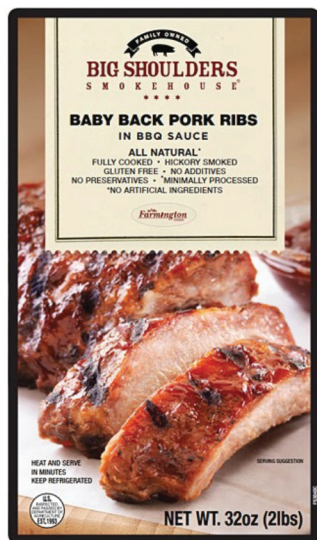




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