

THE CRESTWOOD ADVISER

A Village on the Move

JANUARY 2026 • #586



VEHICLE STICKERS NOW ON SALE!



Vehicle sticker invoices went in the mail the last week of November, 2025.

If you have a **new car that is not previously registered** please bring in the registration when applying for a new sticker.

If you are a **new resident or never had a vehicle sticker** please bring in your Crestwood driver's license and your car registrations.

ALL RESIDENTS that house a car in Crestwood are required to have a vehicle sticker on their car.

The deadline for vehicle stickers to be on your car is February 27, 2026. After that date there will be late fee applied to your purchase.

HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST 2025 WINNERS

1ST PLACE

The Caputo Family
12955 E Playfield Drive

2ND PLACE

The Coleman Family
5212 W 137th Place

3RD PLACE TIE

The Gorney Family
4951 W 135th Pl.

The Roman Family
4830 W 138th Ct.

The Bafia Family
4945 W 135th Pl.

CRESTWOOD VILLAGE HALL

13800 South Cicero Avenue | Phone: 708.371.4800

Be sure to visit the Village website at:

www.crestwood.illinois.gov

MAYOR	Kenneth Klein <i>KKlein@crestwood.illinois.gov</i>
CLERK	Catherine M. Johnson <i>CJohnson@crestwood.illinois.gov</i>
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ADVERTISING

For Editorial and Advertising Inquiries, please contact **Amy Roe** at 708 371-4800, ext 2009 or crestwoodadviser@crestwood.illinois.gov

The Crestwood Adviser is dedicated to presenting an abundance of information about the Village of Crestwood so that the community can have the information it needs to strengthen and enrich the Village of Crestwood. Our goal is to report the news as fully, fairly and as accurately as we can. Your comments and suggestions are encouraged, by phone or in writing, whether or not you wish such letters to be published. Under no circumstances will the Crestwood Adviser be liable for any misspellings, misprints, or damage caused by a Subscriber's reliance on information obtained. It is the responsibility of each Subscriber to evaluate the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of any information, opinion, advice or other content available through the Crestwood Adviser. Please seek the advice of professionals, regarding the evaluation of any specific information, opinion, advice or other content.

Electronic feedback can be sent to:
crestwoodadviser@crestwood.illinois.gov

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Hilary Rhodes Design • hilaryrhodesdesign.com

Village Meeting Schedule

Village Board Meetings - 7:00pm
Crestwood Civic Center | 13820 S. Cicero Ave
January 8 and January 22

Committee of the Whole - 7:00pm
Village Hall | 13800 S. Cicero Ave
January 6 and January 20

Planning Commission – Zoning Board - 8:00pm
Crestwood Civic Center | 13820 S. Cicero Ave
January 12 and January 26

Important Numbers

Village Hall

13800 S. Cicero Ave.
(708) 371-4800 | Fax: (708) 371-4849
Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri.: 9am - 4pm
Tues.: 9am - 8pm

Police Department

13830 S. Cicero Ave.
Main: (708) 371-4800 x 5007 | Fax: (708) 371-8307
Nonemergency: (708) 385-5131
Emergency: 911

Fire Department

13840 S. Cicero Ave.
708-465-1300 | Fax: (708) 385-2836

Recreation & Wellness Facility

5331 W. 135th St.
(708) 659-4800
Mon.-Thu.: 5am - 10pm, Friday 5am - 8pm
Sat.-Sun.: 7am - 5pm

Library

4955 135th St.
(708) 371-4090
Mon.-Thu.: 9am - 8pm, Friday: 9am - 5pm
Saturday: 9am - 4pm, Sunday: Closed

Worth Township (Residents north of 135th)

(708) 371-2900

Bremen Township (Residents south of 135th)

(708) 333-1591

Republic Services

Call Village Hall first at (708) 371-4800, before Republic Services at (708) 385-8252.

IDOT

(847) 705-4222

Cook County Highway Dept.

(708) 448-8006 or (847) 705-4228

Village of Crestwood Parking

Crestwood Village ordinance prohibits parking on any village street between 2:00am and 6:00am. The reason for this ordinance is so police will be alerted to abandoned vehicles or suspicious vehicles that require investigation. This ordinance also ensures that all streets throughout the Village will be open to fire and rescue equipment in the event of an overnight emergency. This is especially necessary in areas where narrow streets can block large fire trucks. We will continue to enforce this ordinance. Thank you for your cooperation with this ordinance. The initial fine for this violation is \$75.00. This is a Village-wide ordinance. PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOUR LATE NIGHT AND OVERNIGHT GUESTS ARE MADE AWARE OF THIS AS WELL!

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Crestwood Residents and Business Owners,

As we reflect on this holiday season, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the incredible spirit of generosity, togetherness, and community that continues to define the Village of Crestwood.

This year's Biela Center Senior Thanksgiving Basket Program was a tremendous success thanks to Cindy Haase and her team. Thanks to the kindness and compassion of our community, many of our senior residents were able to enjoy a warm and abundant Thanksgiving meal. These baskets were more than food—they were a reminder that our seniors are valued, remembered, and cared for.

I would also like to recognize the outstanding work of Rocco Mossuto, Kelsey Kolecki and all their ELF's, whose dedication and vision brought the CRWC Christmas Market to life. With over 75 vendors, the market showcased local talent, small businesses, and the true holiday spirit. The event was made even more special as more than 400 children

visited with Santa Claus, and each child received a gift from the Mayor's office—creating memories that will last a lifetime. Menards and their Store Manager Anthony Alvarez also played a huge part in giving back to our community and neighboring towns around us.

The generosity shown at Village Hall was truly overwhelming. We received an abundance of donations for our Christmas Basket Program, which helped brighten the holidays for over 30 Crestwood residents. Along with our dedicated Public Works Department, I had the privilege of personally delivering these incredible boxes of joy to families in need—an experience that was both humbling and heartwarming.

To our residents, businesses, volunteers, donors, and village employees: thank you for making Crestwood such a special place. Your kindness and community spirit are what make moments like these possible.

On behalf of the Village of Crestwood, I wish you all a

happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year. May 2026 bring peace, joy, and many blessings to you, your families, and your friends.

With sincere gratitude and warm wishes,

Ken Klein

Ken Klein
Mayor, Village of Crestwood




IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

SURPLUS REFUND APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

AVAILABLE TO ALL HOMEOWNERS & BUSINESSES.

THINGS TO KNOW

1. Applications need to be picked up in person (THIS IS THE FIRST STEP)
2. To qualify you need to supply us with the following:
 - You must have lived in the home and be the owner as of 1/1/24.
 - You need to make a copy of your 2024, 2nd installment tax bill.
 - You need to bring in a proof of payment of your tax bill, either a copy of the Chase bank receipt or a copy of the cook county treasurer proof of payment at cookcountytreasurer.com.
 - You need a copy of the owners driver's license
 - You need a copy of the last paid water bill, unless in a condo.
 - You need to write the 2025 vehicle sticker numbers on the form.

The Deadline to file is January 30, 2026, with no exceptions.

Checks will be handed out on February 22, 2026 at the Art Fair.

THINKING ABOUT MAKING A MOVE IN 2026? THEN EXPERIENCE THE CLIFF RAGO DIFFERENCE!

With over 35 years of experience and selling over 500 Crestwood homes and condominiums, I can help you get the highest price from the sale of your property. Nobody knows the Crestwood market better!

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REMEMBER, THE MORE I SELL YOUR CRESTWOOD PROPERTY FOR, THE MORE MINE ARE WORTH!

CRESTWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT



We Watch, We Call!

Mayor Ken Klein and the Board of Trustees have heard the requests of many to report crimes in our Village. Working with our Police Department, a compiled snapshot of a month's reporting will be shown here in the Adviser. Our intent is to inform the public in order to protect and be vigilant in calling upon our Police. The Mayor urges all to stay tuned in to your neighbors' well-being and property. Call our police, report suspicious activity, be aware. (911 or Dispatch non-Emergency 708-385-5131).

11-12-2025: Kohl's Loss Prevention reported that 3 male black suspects wearing ski masks and hoodies entered the store and gathered \$3100.00 worth of merchandise. The suspects then left the store loading the merchandise into a gray Audi that had previously been reported stolen. The suspects then fled the scene.

11-26-2025: Target Loss prevention reported that 2 male black suspects entered the store and took possession of several electronic items, valued at \$521.00 before fleeing the scene.

Theft

11-02-2025: Unknown suspects stole a package from a residence in the 5300 block of 137th Place.

11-04-2025: Unknown suspects broke the window on a vehicle that was parked in the Planet Fitness parking lot and took a black purse that contained several bank cards. The credit cards were then later used in Alsip and Blue Island.

11-19-2025: A victim reported that while shopping at Walmart, she had left her purse unattended in the shopping cart and that unknown suspects were able to steal her wallet from the purse.

11-21-2025: Unknown suspects broke the window on a Jeep Grand Cherokee that was parked in the Planet Fitness Parking Lot and took a wallet from underneath the seat that contained cash and credit cards. The credit cards were later used in Blue Island.

11-26-2025: A woman reported that she parked her vehicle in the Burlington Coat Factory parking lot while shopping and when she returned the vehicle was missing. The victim was able to track her son's I-Pad that had been left in the vehicle and it showed the I-Pad was at the Shell gas station in Alsip. The victim went to the Shell gas station and found the I-Pad along with the license plates to her vehicle in the garbage can. The victim also advised that there was a Glock 43 handgun in the center console. The vehicle was later found abandoned in Calumet City, however, the gun was not recovered.

Criminal Damage to Property

11-11-2025: Unknown suspects cut the exhaust on a 2014 Chevy Impala in an attempt to steal the catalytic converter in the 140th block of Kilpatrick.

11-24-2025: Unknown suspects punctured two tires on a 2023 Ford pick up truck that was parked in the parking lot of Fat Tommy's.

Traffic Arrest

11-01-2025: A male was arrested after being involved in a traffic accident in the 138th block of Cicero and was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol concentration level of .197. (Twice the legal limit)

11-02-2025: A female was arrested in the 141st block of Pulaski after being involved in a traffic accident and was charged with failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident and driving with a suspended license.

11-03-2025: A male was arrested in the 140th block of Cicero and charged with operating an uninsured motor vehicle, driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol concentration level of .313. (Nearly 4 times the legal limit)

11-11-2025: A female was arrested and charged with inoperable tail lights, driving on a suspended license and operating an uninsured vehicle in the 141st block of Cicero.

Burglary

11-14-2025: Three unknown suspects wearing black hoodies entered a business in the 139th of Kildare and took approximately \$30,000 worth of tools.

11-17-2025: Officers were dispatched to Cash Land Slots, located in the 131st block of Rivercrest. Upon officers arriving, they discovered the front door glass of the business was shattered. Upon the manager's arrival, it was discovered that the cash register was damaged but does not appear that anything had been taken.

11-17-2025: Officers were dispatched to Penny's Place, located in the 4800 block of Cal-Sag Road in reference to suspicious subjects. Upon arriving at Penny's Place, officers blocked the exit when they observed a gray Jeep Cherokee parked up to the building and two suspects were exiting the business. The suspects then fled in the Jeep, driving over the curb and fleeing at a high rate of speed. Once the manager arrived, the surveillance video was reviewed, which showed 2 suspects enter the business through the shattered front door. The suspects then were able to forcefully open the ATM and fled with the 4 cash boxes that it contained. The suspects were then observed fleeing into the Jeep.

11-18-2025: Officers were dispatched to Cash Land Slots, located in the 131st block of Cicero. Upon arriving, officers discovered the front door glass to be shattered. Officers entered the business and discovered several gaming machines and the ATM were damaged. At the time of the report, it was unknown what had been taken.

11-19-2025: Officers on patrol discovered 3 vehicles (a dark colored Jeep Cherokee, a white Jeep Cherokee, and a Dodge Challenger) parked outside of Lulu's Gaming, located in the 5400 block of 127th street. Before officers could approach, several suspects were observed running from the business, entering the vehicle and fleeing at a high rate of speed, on Cal-Sag Road. Officers check the business and discovered the front door glass to be shattered. Officers entered the business and discovered damage to a gaming machine as well as the cash register. At the time of the report, it is unknown what was taken.



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Register now for spring semester classes at Moraine Valley



Moraine Valley Community College is offering a wide range of courses for the spring 2026 semester. Along with in-person classes, additional formats including online and hybrid, which is a combination of online and face-to-face instruction, are available. Classes start Jan. 12 and later.

Moraine Valley offers more than 140 degree and certificate programs. Students interested in transferring to four-year colleges or universities can earn associate degrees in Arts, Fine Arts, General Studies, Engineering Science, Applied Science or Science. Students also can choose from several career certificate programs, including Allied Health and Nursing, Business and Computer Sciences, Industrial Technology and Public Service. The college offers noncredit programs and courses as well.

Students can enroll in classes at the college's two extension sites – the Education Center at Blue Island (12940 S. Western Ave.), where they can complete the Nursing Program in the health care

classrooms and labs onsite, and the Southwest Education Center in Tinley Park (17900 S. 94th Ave.), which recently expanded to offer the BNA Program.

Tuition and fees at Moraine Valley cost \$492 per three-credit-hour course compared to more than \$1,629 per class at other colleges or universities, saving students thousands of dollars each year. Students also can take online classes and pay the in-district tuition rate regardless of where they live.

A complete list of credit and noncredit classes can be found in the spring 2026 class schedule online at morainevalley.edu. Registration is ongoing. In-district tuition is \$140 per credit hour plus fees and books. New students must complete an admission application at morainevalley.edu/apply and can register in-person in the Registration Office, located in the Student Services Center (Building S), 9000 W. College Parkway in Palos Hills; by phone at (708) 974-2110 (TTY 711); via email to registration@morainevalley.edu; or online.

OBITUARY

Ronald J. Wasag, longtime Crestwood resident and Village Trustee, passed away peacefully at his home on December 7, 2025.

Ronald was born in Chicago on March 7, 1934, to Joseph and Angelina Wasag. They originally lived near Midway Airport at Archer and Luna, but Joseph, who was a farmhand in Homer Township as a teen, still loved farming, so they bought 10 acres at 13801 Cicero in Crestwood in 1940.

Ron lived in Crestwood from 1940 until his death, a total of 85 years. He attended high school in Blue Island in what is now Eisenhower. In 1956-1958, Ron served in the United States Army, spending most of his time in San Antonio at Brooks Army Medical Center and Fort Sam Houston, where his future wife, Irene, was a secretary. In the Army he learned communications, teletype, etc, and when he got out, he went along a similar path in the printing industry.

Ron and Irene were married in 1960 in Devine, Texas, and then moved into a home in the brand-new Playfield Subdivision, where they stayed for 65 years. Irene passed away in February of this year at the age of 87.

Ron was elected as Village Trustee in 1969 and served many terms until 2013, with a total of 44 years of service. He loved the Village and especially loved going to the Windy City Thunderbolt games.

Ron retired from the printing industry in 1994 and enjoyed 31 years of retirement. During that time, they would occasionally travel back to Texas to visit Irene's family, but most of the time was spent hanging out in town, going to ballgames or maybe even fishing in the Forest Preserves with his grandkids.

He was an avid sports fan, especially the White Sox and the Blackhawks. His favorite team in any sport, though, was the old NFL Chicago Cardinals. Even to this season, we would watch the (now) Arizona Cardinals play.

Finally, if you ever saw Ron in the later years, you would see him puffing on a Titan Phillies cigar and drinking a small glass of red wine, even up until the day before he died. That was his regimen, and he was never seriously ill. He lived a good, long life, on his terms. Though we, his family, will miss him, we are grateful that he was with us for so long. He leaves behind three children, eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.



L to R: Trustee Louis Presta, Victor Hirsch, William Wagner, Mayor Chester Stranczek, Village Clerk Nancy Benedetto, Trustee Robert Stranczek and Ronald Wasag. Not pictured is Trustee James Fowler.

NEW YEARS RIDDLES



As the clock strikes midnight on New Year's Eve, laughter and joy fill the air. Friends gather, glasses clink, and amidst the celebration, a delightful tradition emerges: riddles. These playful puzzles not only entertain but also spark conversation and camaraderie. Here are some fun New Year's riddles to challenge your friends and family while welcoming in another year.

1. What is something that comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?
2. I am always hungry; I must always be fed. The finger I touch will soon turn red. What am I?
3. What can you catch but not throw?
4. If you drop me I'm sure to crack, but if you smile at me I'll smile back! What am I?
5. The more you take away from me, the larger I become! What am I?

answers on page 13

A VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS

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FEATURED ARTIST JANUARY

JOHN O. ORELLANA

John O. Orellana, a current Glenwood resident and known to friends as "Johnny O," is a Chicago-born artist whose passion for drawing began in grade school on the South Side. His artistic talent was first recognized at Thornwood High School by his art teacher, Miss Margaret Skinner, leading to several early awards, including honors from the Museum of Science and Industry and Scholastic Art Awards.



After high school, Orellana earned a fine arts scholarship to attend Western Illinois University where he studied art for two years. Later, he pursued Graphic Arts at Thornton Community College (now South Suburban College), graduating with an Associate Degree in Applied Science. He went on to work in printing—mastering paste-up, design, camera work, film assembly, and plate making. He went back to college, this time to Triton College, to complete a second associate degree in Scanning Technology.

echoing the praise he once received in high school. During high school, he focused primarily on pen and ink and graphite drawings. Currently, he enjoys working in oil and watercolor.

Now, returning full-circle to his first passion, Orellana is committed to creating 100 pieces of art—motivated by his daughter Marcy, supported by his wife Louisa and son Theo, and inspired by the teachers and friends who continue to push him forward.

Though his career shifted over the years, Orellana's love for art resurfaced through his daughter, Marcy, who often encouraged him to create designs for her school and college projects. Her support eventually brought him back to a love of painting. At the Vogt Visual Arts Center, mentors Carol Chirafisi and Carmelo Schifano, recognized the unique quality of his work,

Orellana also has had a keen interest in raising angel fish and guppies, which began about ten years ago. At this time, he raises guppies, grows them in tank gallons and seventy-five gallon tanks, and then sells to a pet store in northwestern Indiana. Both hobbies—creating art and raising guppies—have kept him quite busy during his retirement years.



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Clear a **path** from hydrant to street

Village of Crestwood Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Purpose and Intent

The purpose of this Article is to protect and enhance the water quality of the Village of Crestwood by reducing pollutants that enter the municipal storm water system. Stormwater pollution threatens local creeks, rivers, wetlands, and downstream drinking water supplies. Because storm water runoff is not treated before it enters waterways, preventing pollution at its source is essential to protecting public health, aquatic life, and the environment.

What Is Stormwater?

Stormwater is water resulting from rainfall or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. Instead, it flows over rooftops, streets, driveways, parking lots, bare soil, and sloped lawns. As it moves, storm water runoff can collect and carry pollutants such as animal waste, litter, road salt, fertilizers, pesticides, oil and grease, soil, and other harmful substances.

Rain and snowmelt wash these pollutants from streets, construction sites, and landscaped areas into storm sewers, roadside ditches, and drainage ways. These systems discharge directly into streams and rivers without treatment. This process is known as storm water pollution.

Why Stormwater Pollution Is a Problem

Polluted storm water degrades lakes, rivers, wetlands, and other waterways. Excess nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen can cause algae overgrowth, which reduces oxygen levels and harms fish and aquatic organisms. Toxic substances from motor vehicles and improper use of chemicals can contaminate water and kill wildlife. Bacteria from animal waste and failing septic systems can make waterways unsafe for swimming, wading, and fishing. Sediment from erosion clouds water and damages fish and plant habitats.

Storm sewer systems are separate from sanitary sewer systems. Water that goes down sinks, toilets, or indoor drains is treated at a wastewater treatment plant or septic system. Water that enters storm drains from streets, driveways, or yards receives no treatment and flows directly into local waterways.

Common Sources of Stormwater Pollution

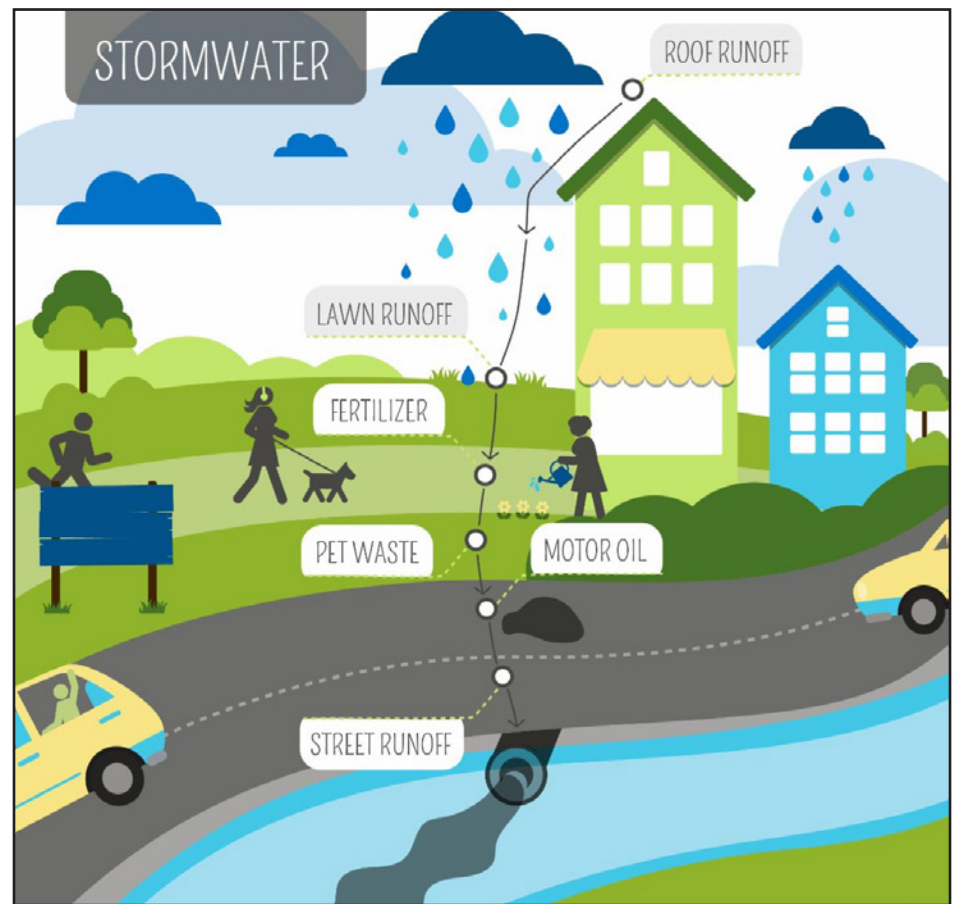
Common pollutants found in storm sewers and creeks include, but are not limited to:

- Animal waste
- Litter and debris
- Motor oil and automotive fluids
- Yard waste and grass clippings
- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Soapy car wash water
- Sediment from erosion and construction activities
- Any surface runoff—not just rainfall—can enter the storm water system. *For example, washing a car on a driveway allows soap, dirt, and grime to flow directly into storm drains and nearby waterways.*

How Residents Can Prevent Stormwater Pollution

Residents, businesses, and property owners all play an important role in protecting Crestwood’s waterways. The following practices are encouraged throughout the Village:

- 1. Remember: Only rain belongs in the drain.**
Never dump anything into storm drains. Keep them clear of leaves and debris.
- 2. Wash vehicles over grass or gravel.**
This allows soil to filter pollutants. Use biodegradable, phosphate-free soaps, or use a commercial car wash where water is treated or recycled.
- 3. Maintain vehicles properly.**
Repair fluid leaks promptly and clean up spills. Automotive repair facilities accept up to five (5) gallons of used motor oil per resident per day.



- 4. Disconnect downspouts when feasible.**
Direct runoff to lawns, rain gardens, or rain barrels to reduce storm water entering the system.
- 5. Use lawn and garden chemicals sparingly.**
Choose organic alternatives when possible and avoid applying chemicals before rainfall.
- 6. Mow lawns less frequently and at higher heights.**
Keep grass at least three (3) inches tall. Leave clippings on lawns and sweep sidewalks and driveways instead of hosing them off.
- 7. Plant native and low-maintenance vegetation.**
Native plants such as Buffalo Grass and Northern Drop seed require less water and chemicals and help reduce runoff.
- 8. Avoid over-watering lawns and gardens.**
Use timers and adjust sprinklers to prevent pooling and runoff.
- 9. Pick up pet waste.**
Bag pet waste and dispose of it in the trash to prevent harmful bacteria from entering waterways.
- 10. Use ice melt responsibly.**
Do not over-apply salt. Use environmentally friendly alternatives when possible.
- 11. Reduce impervious surfaces.**
Consider permeable pavers, gravel, brick, or natural stone instead of traditional asphalt or concrete.
- 12. Report dry-weather flows.**
If storm drain outfalls are flowing when it has not rained in at least 72 hours, contact the Village of Crestwood Public Works Department.
- 13. Properly drain pools, spas, and fountains.**
Do not discharge water to storm drains. Allow chlorine to dissipate and ensure chlorine levels are zero before draining to landscaped areas or approved sanitary sewer connections.
- 14. Maintain septic systems.**
Proper maintenance prevents leaks that can contaminate storm water systems and waterways.
- 15. Reduce vehicle use when possible.**
Walking, biking, or carpooling reduces air pollution that can later be deposited into waterways through rainfall.
- 16. Protect storm water ponds.**
Neighborhood storm water ponds are designed to capture and treat runoff. Do not dump debris or yard waste into them.
- 17. Install rain barrels or cisterns.**
Capturing roof runoff reduces storm water volume and provides reusable water for lawns and gardens.

Section 6. Community Responsibility

Protecting water quality is a shared responsibility. By following the practices outlined in this Article, residents and businesses help preserve Crestwood’s natural resources, protect public health, and comply with state and federal storm water regulations.



SHOP and DINE in Crestwood

Each month we will feature local stores and restaurants. If you have a favorite business you would like to promote, let us know! • Village of Crestwood (708) 371-4800, ext. 2010



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STOP BY AND CHECK THEM OUT!

New Businesses in the Village

Help us welcome them to Crestwood!

Fat Tommy's Grill & Sports Bar

4901 Cal Sag Rd • (708) 808-6669
FatTommys.com

Fat Tommy's Grill & Sports Bar is proud to announce its grand opening in Crestwood, Illinois, bringing a bold new destination for food lovers and sports fans to the Chicagoland area. With wall-to-wall big screens, crave-worthy food, and a full lineup of energetic events, Fat Tommy's is poised to become the best place to watch any sporting event in Chicagoland.



Built around a simple but powerful promise – Burgers, Beers & Big Screens – Fat Tommy's delivers an elevated sports-bar experience featuring incredible burgers, wings, appetizers, and entrees paired with refreshing drinks and an electric game-day atmosphere. Whether you're cheering on your favorite team or just looking for a great night out, Fat Tommy's brings the action to every table.

Beyond the food and sports, Fat Tommy's Grill & Sports Bar offers a packed calendar of theme nights and live entertainment, including bingo, karaoke, trivia, and the soon-to-be-legendary FAT IDOL Singing Competition, designed to turn ordinary nights into unforgettable experiences. One of the most common questions guests ask is: Why the name Fat Tommy's Grill? The answer lies in a deep Chicago legacy.

Fat Tommy's proudly carries on the name and spirit of Tommy Psaltakis' late father, a legendary Chicago restaurateur who owned and operated Tommy's Grill on Darnen Avenue for 35 years. Known for great food, warm hospitality, and impeccable service, Tommy's Grill became a neighborhood institution.

Fat Tommy's Grill & Sports Bar honors that legacy by delivering the same commitment to quality, consistency, and guest experience -with a modern, high-energy twist. "The best way to honor a legend," says the team behind Fat Tommy's, "is to carry on his name and deliver delicious food and impeccable service -every single day."

That is exactly what Fat Tommy's Grill & Sports Bar is built to do. Guests are invited to come experience the difference a legacy makes -whether dining in, catching the big game, enjoying live entertainment, or ordering online.

Lindy's Gas Station and Convenient Store

13956 South Cicero Ave

Lindy's Gas Station and Convenient Store at 13956 South Cicero Ave (corner of Cicero Ave and Midlothian Turnpike) will be opening soon and is looking for applicants to join their team. Scan QR Code to access the application form. Watch for the Grand opening sometime in January, 2026!

NOW HIRING!



BIELA SENIOR CENTER

What is the Biela Senior Center?

4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE, CRESTWOOD, IL • 708-371-4800 EXT. 6000

The Biela Senior Center offers adults, over the age of 50, many opportunities that promote independence with a wide variety of activities.

Some of the events that take place are Senior Club, fitness and yoga classes, day trips, Bingo, lunches, Knit Wits, line dance and

“There are no strangers here, only friends you haven’t yet met.”

William Butler Yeats

much more! Groups also meet to play pinochle, Mexican Train and Bunco. We have a pool table, a library where you can find a quiet place to read or do a puzzle, and a computer lab.

Call to make a lunch reservation, or stop by at any time for a tour of

our building and see what we are all

about. If you live in the Village of Crestwood, and do not drive, call and schedule bus pick up with our Dial-A-Ride program. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to call Cindy at 708-371-4800 Ext. 6001. We look forward to meeting you!



JANUARY FEATURE
Anything with Cheese!

Biela Center Cookbook Club

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28 • 12:30 – 2:00 PM

BIELA SENIOR CENTER

4545 Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood, IL

We will meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Bring a copy of your favorite recipe along with a prepared sample to share. We will discuss the recipes and compile them for the year to make into a cookbook. Your recipe may even be featured in a Biela lunch! Dishes will rotate monthly.

Please call Cindy at 708-371-4800 ext. 6000 to register.

Pinochle at Biela!

MONDAYS • 10:00AM - 1:00PM

Do you like to play pinochle? Join us at the Biela Center for Mixed Men/Women Pinochle

BIELA SENIOR CENTER
4545 Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood



Pool, Library and Air Hockey Table!

BOTH ROOMS OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Did you know the Biela has a pool table and air hockey game? Gather your friends and drop in to play!

Come read a book or do a puzzle in the comfort of the Biela’s library. You may also borrow a book to take home.



Biela Senior Center Calendar of Events | JANUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 CLOSED Happy New Year!	2 CLOSED	3
4	5 Color & Conversation 10-11 am Pinochle 10am-12 pm Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Scrabble 12 pm-2 pm Mon. Movie Matinee 1-3:30	6 Chair Yoga 9:30-10:30 am Lunch/Bingo 12-3 pm TOPS 6-7:30 pm	7 Bingo & Breakfast 9:30-10:45 a Art Club 10 am-12 pm Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Senior Club 12:30-3:30 pm TOPS 5-6:30 pm	8 Chair Yoga 9:30-10:30 am Knitwits 10 am-12 pm Mexican Train 11:30-2 pm Line Dance 12:30-2 pm	9 Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Lunch/Bingo 12:15-3:15 pm Game Night 6-8 pm	10
11	12 Color & Conversation 10-11 am Pinochle 10am-12 pm Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Scrabble 12 pm-2 pm Mon. Movie Matinee 1-3:30	13 Chair Yoga 9:30-10:30 am Lunch/Bingo 12-3 pm TOPS 6-7:30 pm	14 Bingo & Breakfast 9:30-10:45 a Art Club 10 am-12 pm Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm TOPS 5-6:30 pm	15 Chair Yoga 9:30-10:30 am Knitwits 10 am-12 pm Mexican Train 11:30-2 pm Line Dance 12:30-2 pm Bunco 1-4 pm	16 Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Lunch/Bingo 12:15-3:15 pm	17
18	19 CLOSED Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 Chair Yoga 9:30-10:30 am Lunch/Bingo 12-3 pm TOPS 6-7:30 pm	21 Bingo & Breakfast 9:30-10:45 a Art Club 10 am-12 pm Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Senior Club 12:30-3:30 pm TOPS 5-6:30 pm	22 Garfield Conservatory Chair Yoga 9:30-10:30 am Knitwits 10 am-12 pm Mexican Train 11:30-2 pm Line Dance 12:30-2 pm	23 Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Lunch/Bingo 12:15-3:15 pm	24
25	26 Color & Conversation 10-11 am Pinochle 10am-12 pm Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Scrabble 12 pm-2 pm Mon. Movie Matinee 1-3:30	27 Chair Yoga 9:30-10:30 am Lunch/Bingo 12-3 pm TOPS 6-7:30 pm	28 Bingo & Breakfast 9:30-10:45 a Art Club 10 am-12 pm Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Cookbook Club 12:30-2 pm TOPS 5-6:30 pm	29 Chair Yoga 9:30-10:30 am Knitwits 10 am-12 pm Mexican Train 11:30-2 pm Line Dance 12:30-2 pm	30 Chair Fitness 11 am-12 pm Lunch/Bingo 12:15-3:15 pm	31

BIELA SENIOR CENTER

Crestwood Senior Club

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7 • 12:15-3:30PM
Regular Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21 • 12:15-3:30PM
Regular Meeting. Bone & Joint speaker

BIELA SENIOR CENTER
4545 Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood, IL

All are welcome to come JOIN US in an afternoon out to our Senior Club Meeting. We meet two times a month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month @ 12:15- 3:30pm. We offer sweet rolls, coffee, split the pot, raffles, bingo, and on occasion have lunches to celebrate special events!!
Doors open at 12:15pm.



Seniors Pump it Up!

with Certified Instructor,
Diana Esparza

**MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS
& FRIDAYS**

11:15AM - 12:00PM
\$2/class

Get your body moving with an exercise class designed just for you!

BIELA SENIOR CENTER
4545 Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood, IL
708-371-4800 ext. 6000



Chair Yoga

Good for your body, mind, and soul

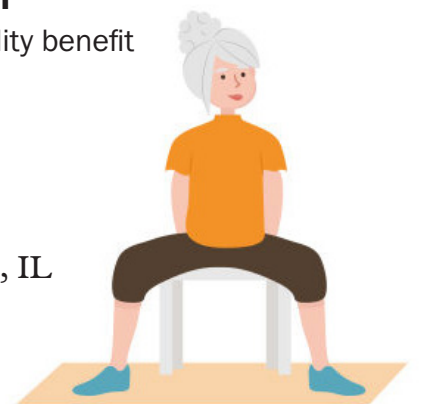
Stress relief • Strength training • Flexibility benefit

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

9:30 - 10:30AM
\$2/class

BIELA SENIOR CENTER
4545 Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood, IL
708-371-4800 ext. 6000

*If you have any questions, please call
Cindy at 708-371-4800 ext. 6000*




**SHED POUNDS,
GAIN FRIENDS**
First visit is FREE!

Join us for affordable, effective weight-loss support!

Biela Center
4545 Midlothian Turnpike
Crestwood, IL

Tuesday 6:30-7:30pm
For more information
Adrienne 708-2281701

Real People. Real Weight-Loss.® www.tops.org



Boot Scootin' Boogie!

THURSDAY LINE DANCING LESSONS

TIME: 12:30 PM TO 2PM

Location: Biela Center
4545 Midlothian Turnpike Crestwood IL

Cost: \$5 per class
Enter through the back door entrance

Men, Women, Guests of ALL AGES are welcome
Please enter through the back entrance.

IMPORTANT BIELA POLICY INFORMATION

PAYMENT POLICY

Full payment is due upon reservation. We will no longer be accepting reservations without full payment.

*If you have any questions please call
Cindy at 708-371-4800 option #6*

NO REFUND POLICY

If you are unable to attend a trip that you have paid for, you will have the option to try and find someone to take your place. **Unless there is a waiting list you will not need to find a replacement, and you will be issued a refund**
No refunds will be given otherwise.

CREDIT CARD POLICY

As of February 17, 2023 there will be a fee of 3.25% when using a credit card.

All other items being paid using a credit card, debit card or e-check will incur a 3.25% processing fee (minimum of \$1.95), assessed by Invoice Cloud, the Village of Crestwood's electronic payment processing vendor.



This is in place because we have to pay the facility's fees prior to our trip. Which means they are paid well in advance and your seat has already been paid.

1 FREE TRIAL CLASS

AVAILABLE TO ALL NEW STUDENTS

**ALL BIELA CENTER
FITNESS CLASSES**

BIELA SENIOR CENTER



Garfield Park Conservatory

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

DEPART FROM THE BIELA CENTER: 9:00AM

RETURN APPROX. 3:00PM

4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE, CRESTWOOD

Cost: \$55

Includes: transportation and admission
Lunch will be on your own at Ricobene's
Full payment is due upon reservation.

Chicago's Garfield Park Conservatory is one of the largest and most stunning botanical conservatories in the nation. Often referred to as "landscape art under glass," the Conservatory showcases thousands of plant species from around the world throughout eight indoor display gardens. Year-round, visitors can enjoy the lush flora and tropical temperatures indoors.

Call the Biela Center at 708-371-4800 ex. 6000 with any questions.



On Your Feet

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

DEPART FROM THE BIELA CENTER: 10:30AM

4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE, CRESTWOOD

Cost: \$130

Cost includes transportation, lunch, gratuity and performance (vegetarian selection, if needed, MUST be made with reservation)
Full payment is due upon reservation by January 21st.

Choose from the following for your lunch entrée:

_____ Roasted Salmon _____ Three 2 oz. Petite Filets

The rhythm is gonna get you! Filled with the exhilarating music of the Miami Sound Machine, this celebration of Gloria Estefan's greatest hits will have you dancing in the aisles.

Call the Biela Center at 708-371-4800 ext. 6000 with any questions.

Scrabble at Biela!

MONDAYS • 12:00 - 2:00PM

BIELA SENIOR CENTER

4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE

Have fun while improving your memory, spelling and vocabulary!



Bunco...let's roll!

1st and 3rd Thursday of every month, 1PM - 4PM

Are you looking for more ways to have fun, win some prizes, and love to play Bunco? Admission will be \$5.00 every time in order to win select prizes. We hope to see you there!



Join us at the Biela Center! 4545 Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood
Please Contact Cindy with any questions @ 708-371-4800 ext. 6000



Biela Center Lunch Menu

Lunches are \$5.00. Tuesdays we serve from 12:00-1:00 pm and Friday's from 12:15-1:15 pm. All lunches are served with a side and dessert. Bingo will be played following lunch. **Reservations must be made one week in advance.** For cancellation call: 708-371-4800 ext. 6000

If you want your lunch to go, please mark it on the menu sheet ahead of time. If the lunch has already been plated, there will be a \$1 charge for a to-go container.

While we know there are emergencies, should you not cancel prior to the date and/or do not attend 3 or more dates for the month, this will result in you having to pay in advance for future lunches.

Please check the lunches you would like to attend:

- Tuesday, January 6 Beef Sandwich
- Friday, January 9 Oven Fried Chicken Leg
- Tuesday, January 13 Baked Potato Bar
- Friday, January 16 Bowtie Pasta w/ Sausage & Peppers
- Tuesday, January 20 Chicken Kiev
- Friday, January 23 Cream of Cheddar Broccoli Soup
- Tuesday, January 27 Pork Stir Fry
- Friday, January 30 Stuffed Pepper Slices

We reopen on Monday, January 5th. Please have a warm, safe and wonderful holiday break!

Extra Dessert, Pop and Water is \$1.00 each, please pay before receiving your lunch.

Name _____



Looking for a gift idea for a relative or neighbor? Try a Biela Lunch Certificate!

It doesn't need to be just for Christmas - Stop by the Biela and purchase a lunch certificate!!

GIFT CERTIFICATE

THIS GIFT CERTIFICATE IS GOOD FOR ONE FREE \$5.00 LUNCH AT THE BIELA CENTER.

TO: SPECIAL PERSON _____

FROM: YOUR NAME _____

ISSUED BY: BIELA STAFF MEMBER _____

BIELA SENIOR CENTER

Monday Movie Matinee

MONDAYS: 1:00 – 3:30 PM
4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE,
CRESTWOOD

Come join us in the comfort of our living room! Free popcorn!



Sock Monkey Museum

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26
DEPART FROM THE BIELA CENTER: 9:30AM
RETURN APPROX. 4:30PM
4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE, CRESTWOOD

Cost: \$100
 Includes: transportation, museum admission, sock monkey souvenir, lunch, and gratuity
Full payment is due upon reservation by February 12

Please choose one of the following for your lunch entrée:
 ___ 2 pc. broasted chicken ___ pulled pork sandwich
 ___ chicken salad sandwich
All lunches include French fries, soft drink/coffee and a scoop of ice cream.

The museum houses the world’s largest handmade Sock Monkey collection with over 2,000 vintage monkeys under one roof. You will be able to watch a “sockumentary” on their history in addition to stuffing your very own monkey to take home! The museum will be followed by lunch at the historic Village Tavern. Established in 1847, it is the oldest restaurant in continuous operation in Illinois.

Call the Biela Center at 708-371-4800 ex. 6000 with any questions.



Puzzle Competition

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9
1:00 - 3:00 PM
4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE, CRESTWOOD

Do you love to do puzzles? The Biela Center is hosting a Puzzle Competition - Join us to see who is the fastest!

We will provide each team of two with a 300 piece jigsaw puzzle. You may also choose to compete solo if you would rather participate alone. The winning team will receive a prize. Please arrive by 12:45 p.m. so you may begin on time. Should no one finish in the allotted time, remaining pieces will be tallied.

Complimentary snacks and drinks will be provided. *To reserve your spot, please stop in or call the Biela at 708-371-4800 ex. 6000*



Game Night at Biela!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9TH
6:00PM – 8:00PM

Do you like to play board games? Come on over! Join us for a FREE night of fun! Come with a friend, or make one here. Bring your favorite game or cards (or borrow the ones we have here). Snacks will be provided.

Bingo and Breakfast at the Biela Center

WEDNESDAYS: 9:30 – 10:45 AM
4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE, CRESTWOOD
 Cost: \$5

Join us for a fun morning with a continental breakfast while playing bingo. Prizes will be awarded for each game.



Color and Conversation

MONDAYS • 10 – 11AM

Do you remember the joy of grabbing a box of crayons and filling the pages of a coloring book as a child? Well guess what? Coloring isn’t just for kids anymore! Come escape from everyday life, release your inner child, and lower your stress level. *All supplies will be provided!*



Long Grove Confectionery, Toscana's and Opera in Focus

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
DEPART FROM THE BIELA CENTER: 8:30AM
RETURN APPROX. 4:30PM
4545 MIDLOTHIAN TURNPIKE, CRESTWOOD
 Cost: \$100

Includes: transportation, museum admission, sock monkey souvenir, lunch, and gratuity
Full payment is due upon reservation by February 27



Please choose one of the following for your lunch entrée:

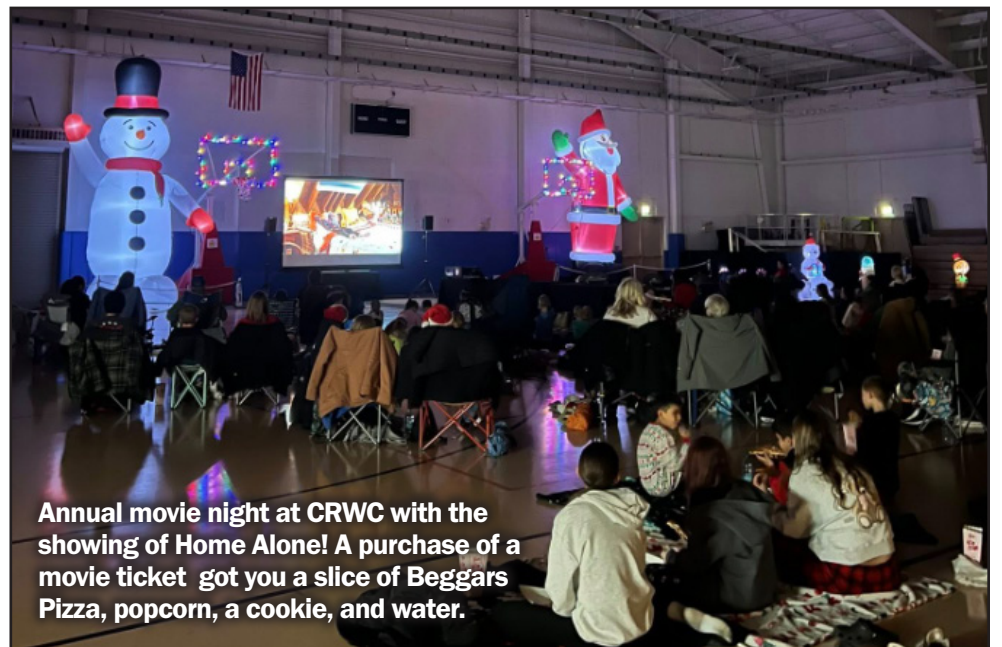
- ___ Cheese Lasagna in a marinara sauce
- ___ Lightly breaded chicken parmigiana with penne
- ___ Grilled pork chop in a vesuvio sauce served with potatoes
- ___ Almond crusted barramundi in a creamy lemon sauce served with rice and vegetables

All lunches include bread, Italian house salad, soft drink/coffee and vanilla gelato

Long Grove Confectionery in Buffalo Grove, known for their quality products is a leader in the candy industry. The tour includes a video presentation, a guided tour along production walkway and end with the opportunity to shop in the factory outlet. Each guest will also receive a FREE chocolate treat! We will then lunch at Toscana’s Italian Restaurant in Arlington Heights before travelling to Rolling Meadows to finish our day enjoying a puppet show at Opera in Focus. There will be a backstage tour following the production.

Call the Biela Center at 708-371-4800 ex. 6000 with any questions.

Christmas Celebrations at the CRWC



RED LIGHT CAMERA SAFETY: Protecting Lives at Crestwood Intersections

The Village of Crestwood is committed to keeping our streets safe for residents, businesses, and visitors. One of the most effective tools the Village has used to improve traffic safety is the installation of red light safety cameras at high-traffic intersections.

WHY RED LIGHT CAMERAS MATTER

Red light violations are one of the leading causes of serious and fatal intersection crashes. When drivers run red lights, they put everyone at risk—motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and first responders. Red light cameras are designed to encourage safer driving habits by holding drivers accountable and reminding everyone to slow down, stop, and obey traffic signals.

PROVEN SAFETY RESULTS IN CRESTWOOD

When red light cameras were previously in operation in the Village of Crestwood, they delivered measurable safety benefits:

- Traffic accidents decreased by 65% at intersections with red light cameras in place.
- After traffic light construction and the removal of cameras, accidents increased by 78% at those same locations.

These numbers clearly show that red light cameras played a significant role in reducing crashes and improving overall intersection safety.

WHY THE VILLAGE BOARD IS REINSTALLING CAMERAS

Based on this data and the Village's responsibility to protect public safety, the Village Board has approved the installation of red light cameras once again. The goal is not to generate revenue, but to reduce dangerous driving behaviors, prevent crashes, and save lives.

Reinstalling red light cameras will:

- Improve driver awareness and compliance with traffic signals
- Reduce serious and costly accidents

- Enhance safety for pedestrians and nearby neighborhoods
- Support law enforcement efforts by focusing on prevention rather than response

A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Traffic safety is a shared responsibility between the Village and everyone who uses our roads. Red light cameras are one part of a broader safety strategy that includes proper signal timing,

roadway improvements, and public education. The most important factor remains safe driving—stopping at red lights, slowing down at intersections, and staying alert.

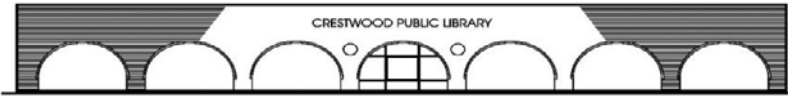
The Village of Crestwood appreciates the community's cooperation and support as we take proven steps to make our streets safer. Together, we can reduce accidents, protect lives, and ensure safer travel for all.

NEW YEARS RIDDLES - ANSWERS

1. The letter M.
2. Fire. As we think about new beginnings this year, fire symbolizes both destruction and renewal—a perfect metaphor for change.
3. A cold. With winter's chill upon us during this season of reflection and resolution-making, it's amusing how easily we forget to take care of ourselves!
4. A mirror. Mirrors remind us of self-reflection as we step into the New Year—what better way to ponder personal growth than through these clever words?
5. A hole. It invites thought about what it means to let go—sometimes removing things from our lives creates space for greater opportunities ahead!

CRESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

CRESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY



4955 W. 135th Street, Crestwood
P: 708-371-4090 F: 708-371-4127

ADULTS

Tech Help Tuesdays
Tuesdays in January, 1 - 2 PM
Registration required for appointments. Stop by the library for assistance with basic tech questions like downloading apps or using your device. Please note, we are unable to help with malfunctioning equipment.



Illinois Treasurer's I-Cash Program

Wednesday, January 7th, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Tuesday, January 27th, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

No registration needed.

Drop-in appointments only.

A representative from the Illinois State Treasurer's office will be at the library to assist you in checking if the State is holding any money owed to you through its ICASH program.

Debunking the Myths of Offshore Wind

Saturday, Jan 10th, 10:30 AM

Registration encouraged. Join us for an educational program with guest speaker John Bednarski that cuts through misinformation and debunks the biggest myths surrounding offshore wind.

Social Needs Screening with AgeOptions

Wednesday, January 14th, 11:30 - 2:00 PM

Registration required. Join us for a brief presentation on the role of AgeOptions and its Community Health Workers (CHWs) in supporting older adults through outreach and health-related social needs screenings. Attendees will learn how CHWs connect community members to valuable local resources and programs, with on-site screenings available immediately after the presentation.

Beautiful Home Organizing

Thursday, Jan 15th, 6:00 PM
Registration required. Join us for an engaging session where a home-organization expert shares simple, practical strategies to declutter and streamline your living space.

The library will be closed on **Wednesday, December 31st** and **Thursday, January 1st, 2026**. The book drop will be open for returns. Happy New Year!

Needles & Yarn

Monday, Jan 26th, 6:30 PM

Bring your knitting, crocheting, or sewing projects to the library!

Stampin' Up Card Class

Monday, January 12th, 6 PM

Registration required. \$5 per person. Stop by the library and learn how to make one-of-a-kind greeting and holiday cards with Dee Tollaksen!

Mystery Thriller Book Club

Thursday, Jan 29th, 6:00 PM

Join our Book Club to explore *Home Before Dark* by Riley Sager, a chilling mystery set in a family's haunted house.

Beautiful Home Organizing

Thursday, Jan 15th, 6:00 PM
Registration required. Join us for an engaging session where a home-organization expert shares simple, practical strategies to declutter and streamline your living space.

Cooking with Chef Violeta

Saturday, Jan 31st, 1:30 PM
Registration required. Join us for a special cooking presentation with Chef Violeta from Violet Velvet Cooking Classes, who will teach how to prepare masa from scratch, soften corn husks, make a green salsa, and to fill and wrap tamales.

Illinois Libraries Present: Bringing History to Life with Jonathan Eig

Tuesday, January 13th, 7:00 PM

Online registration available via library website. Jonathan Eig, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *King: A Life*, offers a deeply researched and intimate portrait of Martin Luther King Jr., drawing on newly declassified FBI files to illuminate the civil rights leader's complex inner life and transformative impact on American history. Eig—an acclaimed journalist who began his career at 16—will discuss his work in conversation with Mark Bazer, host of *The Interview Show* and frequent Chicago Humanities moderator.



YOUTH & FAMILIES



Winter Reading Program: Are You "Yeti" To Read?

January 2 - February 7
Kids ages 1-12. Registration Required. Join us this winter for a fun winter read! Beginning January 2nd, come to the library to register and pick up a reading log. Complete your log by February 7 to receive a fun prize.

Preschool Storytime

Fridays, January 16th, 23rd, & 30th, 12:00 PM

Registration required. Space is limited. A new session of storytime begins this month! Children ages 3-5 years, can come hear stories, move to music, and make a craft during this 45-minute program all on their own!

Family Bingo

Tuesday, Jan 27th, 6:00 PM

Registration required. Space is limited. Join us for a fun-filled hour of the classic BINGO with a twist, when an adult wins, the child wins the prize! Families, come and enjoy an evening of good fun and great prizes.

Toddler Time

Fridays, January 16th, 23rd, & 30th, 10:30 AM

Registration required. Space is limited. Children ages 1-3 years, with an adult, can come hear stories and songs, and make a simple craft during this 30-minute program.

Kids Kitchen

Tuesday, Jan 20th, 4:00pm

Children ages 10 and up. Registration Required Kids will learn to make simple recipes that they can make on their own during this one hour class. All supplies will be provided.

Kids Art Studio:

Perler Bead Snowflakes
Monday, Jan 12th, 4:00 PM

Children ages 6 and up. Registration required. Join us each month as we create a different art project. This month we will make perler beaded snowflakes. All supplies will be provided.



Waddle We Learn About Penguins

Wednesday, Jan 14th, 5:00 PM

Children ages 4-6 years. Registration required. Join Ms. Jamie to make a penguin craft, play some fun penguin games, and learn all about these sweet little birds.

YOUR USUAL FAVORITES

Read to the Dogs

Tuesday, Jan 13th, 5:00 PM

Children in grades K-5. Reg required.



LEGO Club

Thursday, Jan 8th & Feb 5th, 4:00 PM

Children ages 6-12 years. Registration required.



Toddler STEAM

Thursday, Jan 15th, 10:30 AM

Children ages 2-4 years with an adult. Registration required.

Messy Mondays

Mondays, Jan 5th & 19th, 10:30 AM

Children ages 2-4 years with an adult. Registration required.



Take Home Science Kit

Available Thursday, Jan 8th

International Snack Club

Thursday, Jan 22nd, 4:00 PM

Children ages 10 years and up. Registration required. This month we'll explore snacks from Germany!



Monday Take & Make

Available every Monday while supplies last. Suitable for 3 and up.

Board Games & Brownies

Tuesday, Jan 6th, 5:30 PM

All Ages. No registration needed. Drop-in program. Join us for an evening of board games & brownies! Families are welcome!



5331 W. 135th Street, Crestwood, IL
708-659-4800 crestwoodparkdistrict@gmail.com
crestwoodfitness.com

@crestwood_recreation Crestwood Recreation and Wellness Center
 @CRWC2025

CRWC Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 5 am - 10 pm
Friday 5 am - 8 pm
Sat. and Sun. 7 am - 5 pm

NOTE: Pool closes 1 hour before we close during the week and always at 3pm on the weekend!

New Years Hours:

New Years Eve 5 am - 12 pm
New Years Day Closed

Upcoming Events

FINE ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR
CRESTWOOD RECREATION AND WELLNESS CENTER

Join us for our Fine Arts & Crafts Fair! We hope to gather local artists & crafters to provide an opportunity for people to enjoy the day and shop around. Music will be throughout the event, along with wine and cheese samplings from SIP.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND 10am-2pm

- Original work
- Wine & Cheese
- Music
- Art & Crafts
- Seller Table \$40

Fine Arts and Crafts Fair 2026

Sunday, February 22nd, 10am-2pm

Join us for a fun day celebrating local creativity at the Crestwood Recreation and Wellness Center's Fine Arts & Crafts Fair! Browse unique, handmade items from talented local artists and crafters while enjoying live music throughout the event, plus wine and cheese samplings.

Christmas Weekend at the CRWC

[SEE PICTURES ON PAGE 13!](#)

We had a successful Christmas Weekend at the Crestwood Recreation and Wellness Center! The weekend started off on Friday, December 12th for our annual movie night with the showing of Home Alone! A purchase of a movie ticket got you a slice of Beggars Pizza, popcorn, a cookie, and water. We continued the Christmas weekend on Saturday, December 13th for our Christmas Market with Santa. There was picture opportunities with Santa and Mrs. Claus, cookie decorating, reindeer food making and holiday shopping from over 50+ vendors

THANK YOU to our 2025 Christmas Sponsors

Thank you to all our 2025 Christmas Sponsors who helped us with our Christmas Events! 2025 Sponsors include: In the Game Hollywood Park, Chick-Fil-A, Cast ISR, All Day Comfort, Blackwood Outdoors, Canes, and Buck's Farmstand.



Have you seen our new CRWC Winter Playbook?

Check out all the events and programs we have going on in the coming months and register today!

Workout Classes

(not included in membership)

Zumba with Kristen Castillo

Tuesday & Thursdays • 7pm - 8pm

Zumba incorporates a variety of Latin inspired dance moves and music to promote a healthy heart, a dose of aerobic activity, and a fun way to build and tone muscle, improve cardio, and promote a healthy lifestyle.

Guided Yoga with Jessica Garces

Mondays, 7- 8pm

Wednesdays, 7pm-8pm

This weekly slow flow yoga class is a well-rounded practice that will help reduce stress by calming the mind and body, increase flexibility, and restore balance. All levels are welcome!

Youth Activities

Youth Swim Lessons

January 6th-Feb 14th, 6 week session

Sign ups take place in person and are now open!

Spring Youth Baseball 2026

Registration is open for the 2026 Spring Baseball Season. There are divisions from 6yrs old-14 yrs old. There will be home games played at Playfield Park in Crestwood and away games played 15 min of Crestwood. To kick off the season, there will be an opening day parade around Crestwood. Indoor baseball camps will begin in January for all athletes who are signed up.

Spring T-Ball

T-Ball registration is open for the Spring 2026 season! Skill camps will begin indoors at the end of January for all registered athletes. Games will be held on Wednesdays and Saturdays and volunteer coaches are needed for every team! In person registration is required for all registrations.



THE CRWC IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE PARTNERSHIP WITH CRESTWOOD FOOTBALL TO BRING YOU THE CRESTWOOD LIONS TACKLE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

PRESEASON:

MINI CAMPS IN MAY ONCE A WEEK - DATES/TIMES TBA

SEASON:

MID AUG - EARLY NOV

FEES:

Early Reg: Nov 28th 2025 - Jan 14th 2026
\$300

\$150 Equipment Deposit (returned at end)

Price Increase: Jan 15th 2026 - May 1st 2026
\$325

\$150 Equipment Deposit (returned at end)

LEAGUE:

RIVER VALLEY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

AGES:

6-14

FAQ SESSIONS:

NOV 28TH : 4PM-6PM

NOV 29TH : 12PM - 3PM

JAN 14TH : 4PM - 7PM

✓ BIRTH CERTIFICATE

✓ HEIGHT / WEIGHT

More information:

Rocco Mossuto
mossuto@crestwood.illinois.gov
708-466-0552 (text)

Crestwood Lions Tackle Football

The CRWC is excited to announce the partnership with Crestwood Football to bring you the Crestwood Lions Tackle Football League. The Crestwood Lions will be a part of the River Valley Football League and the season will run from Mid Aug-Early Nov. Mini Camps for players will begin in May- once a week. Early Registration begins on Nov 28th and will run through Jan 14th 2026 with the price increasing on Jan 15th 2026 - May 1st 2026. FAQ sessions regarding the league will take place Dec 20th and Jan 14th at the CRWC.

Crestwood Lions Cheerleading

Come show your spirit and cheer on the sidelines for our Crestwood Lions Football Teams this season! The season will run from May 2026 - Nov 2026 and will be for ages 6-14yrs old. Cheerleaders will cheer on the sidelines of both home and away games of the Lion's teams. Registration begins on November 28th 2025 and the fee includes shoes, poms, and uniforms.

Southside NFL Flag Girls and Boys Leagues

The NFL Flag is coming to Crestwood, IL for Girls-only and Boys-only leagues beginning in May and July, respectively. Full details will be released soon including dates, times, registration info, and more soon!