

Volunteer with DuPage Senior Citizens Council for International Volunteer Day on Dec. 5

The DuPage Senior Citizens Council (DSCC) is offering volunteer opportunities for International Volunteer Day.

Established in 1985 on Dec. 5, International Volunteer Day aims to recognize those who volunteer and encourage others to join in volunteering their time as well.

This year, to celebrate International Volunteer Day, DSCC is looking for volunteers to deliver shelf-stable meals on Tuesday, Dec. 5 and Friday, Dec. 8. Volunteers will help deliver shelf-stable meals to seniors in both DuPage and Kane counties.

Volunteers will pick up the shelf-stable meals from the main office located at 1990 Springer Drive, Lombard, where they will then receive a list of seniors and delivery instructions. Volunteers may stay in their vehicles while meals are being loaded. For the month of December, pickup dates and times

are as follows:

- Tuesday, Dec. 5, from 9-11 a.m.
- Friday, Dec. 8, from 9-11 a.m.
- Friday, Dec. 8, from 4:30 -5:30 p.m.

To sign up to volunteer, visit www.dupageseniorcouncil.org/volunteering/ and fill out the Volunteer Interest Form. The volunteer department will be in contact to schedule a day to pick up and deliver meals.

If there are any questions call 630-620-0804.

The DuPage Senior Citizens Council is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3), volunteer-driven organization, dedicated to helping seniors live with dignity. The DuPage Senior Citizens Council provides a variety of services for seniors, including Meals on Wheels, Senior Dining, Health and Wellness Education, Well-Being Checks, Pet Food & Assistance, Yard Clean-Ups, Social Connection Services, and Intergenerational Activities.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Donation to 'Beads of Courage'

In mid-November, George Rodgers, president of the DuPage Woodworkers organization, presented 34 hand-made wooden boxes to Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital. The boxes are given to children facing multiple doctors' visits and procedures; at each contact with the hospital, the child gets a bead to represent the courage they show in facing their health challenge. "We've been donating Beads of Courage boxes to hospitals for about five years," Rodgers stated. "Our members donate the wood and the craftsmanship gladly, hoping to brighten the day of a child who is in the hospital for a long time or has repeated visits. Some of these boxes are real works of art, made of woods like maple and walnut, but also more exotic woods like waterfall bubinga, koa, zebra wood and purpleheart." The DuPage Woodworkers is open to anyone interested in woodworking. It has more than 200 members and meets monthly at St. James the Apostle Church in Glen Ellyn. Its programs include education on the various facets of woodworking, the Beads of Courage boxes, and a toys donation program at the holidays. This year the organization produced more than 2,500 toys for disadvantaged kids in the Chicago area.



DuPage Care Center third in Newsweek ranking of top nursing homes in Illinois

Newsweek Magazine's annual ranking of America's top nursing homes for 2024 puts the DuPage Care Center (DPCC), the county-run public nursing home, among the best nursing homes in the state.

The Care Center ranked third among 750 nursing homes chosen by the magazine, based on key criteria that made the Care Center's quality of care stand out among more than 12,000 public and private facilities analyzed.

Newsweek partnered with Statista, a global data research firm to create the third annual ranking of America's Best Nursing Homes. Rankings are based on five data sources, including performance data, peer recommendations, management of the COVID-19 situation and accreditations from The Joint Commission and Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. Resident satisfaction data for nursing homes, based on National Survey of Homes from The Joint Commission and Google Scores, was added to the scoring model.

"We are gratified to see Newsweek acknowledge what we have known for a long time," said Greg Schwarze, chairman of the DuPage County Human Services Committee. "Our DuPage County Care Center is an indus-

try leader, providing comprehensive, compassionate care to our residents. Every day, we hear from Care Center residents and family members who believe the personalized care, social, recreational, and therapeutic services they receive at DPCC are second to none, including private facilities. We often call the Care Center our hidden jewel. But we are thrilled that our jewel is now being celebrated by a national publication."

"I am not surprised that we are very high on the list," said Mike Deliberto, president of the Care Center Resident Council. "The Care Center offers a great deal for residents to do, even when we had to buckle down for COVID. The Care Center always focuses on how to continue to improve. I am very proud to serve as President of the Resident Council here at the Care Center."

In July, the county kicked off a \$31.5 million renovation project at the Care Center which will renovate resident rooms, the main entrance and lobby, common areas and nursing stations. The project was partially funded by federal grants under the American Rescue Plan Act. The renovation is scheduled to be completed

See CENTER, Page 8

Village announces controlled burns areas

The Village of Lombard's Public Works Department, in conjunction with Bedrock Earthscapes, LLC of Wheaton, will be performing controlled burns this fall to help promote healthy native vegetation at the following locations:

- Echo Pond, at the southeast corner of Wilson Avenue and Main Street across the street from Glenbard East High School;
- Grace/Central Basin, northeast corner of the intersection of Grace Street and Central Avenue;
- Parker/Kaplan Basin, west of

Kramer Avenue, north of Kaplan Court, and east of Parker Drive;

- Surges Center (Public Works Maintenance Facility), in the Garfield Street cul-de-sac, north of North Avenue (Route 64).

Controlled burns rely heavily on weather and site conditions. A one-day notice will be given before the burn, which will be shared on the village's website, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts. Additionally, residents can sign up to receive email notices and updates at villageoflombard.org/notifyme.

An open burn permit has been obtained from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The burn plan has also been reviewed and approved by the Lombard Fire Department. Bedrock Earthscapes Inc. and Village employees are trained in controlled burn tactics and are equipped with fire-fighting tools and safety equipment.

For more information, visit www.villageoflombard.org/controlled-burns or contact Public Works at 630-620-5740, or at publicworks@villageoflombard.org.

The Lombardian is published weekly by Rock Valley Publishing.
Periodical postage paid at Lombard, IL 60148 • USPS #025631
Postmaster: Send address changes to the Lombardian,
240 N. West Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126



ROCK VALLEY PUBLISHING, LLC

Publishers of the Lombardian

Pete Cruger
publisher

Betty Jesensky
office manager

Jane Charmelo
community editor

Kate McCarty
sales

Chris Fox
sports editor

Mike Sandrolini
associate publisher

PHONE: 630-627-7010 • FAX: 630-834-0900

Office: 240 N. West Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

email: lombardian@rvpublishing.com • website: www.lombardian.info