



Noticiero Bilingüe

# LAWNDALE NEWS

Sunday, July 27, 2025

WEST SIDE TIMES



V. 85 No. 29

P.O. BOX 50599, CICERO, IL 60804 • 708-656-6400

ESTABLISHED 1940

## Kids Above All Back-to-School Drive Readies Students in Need for Success

Summer may be in full swing, but the new school year is right around the corner. For many students, this is an exciting time, but for young people impacted by trauma, it can be a difficult, anxiety-provoking experience. To ensure these young people have the supplies they need to reach their full potential, Kids Above All is kicking off their annual Back-To-School Backpack Drive. Here's how you can help: now through Wednesday, August 20, Kids Above All is collecting backpacks and supplies for the 1,500 school-aged children in their programs. These donations will help ensure the youth are ready to learn in the fall. Individuals, businesses, faith-based organizations, and community organizations

are invited to participate. An Amazon Wishlist has also been created, allowing you to shop and ship items directly to Kids Above All for your convenience. Gift cards are always welcome. To schedule a drop-off, volunteer, or for more information, please contact Zulma Colon at (773) 794-7991 or via email at [zcolon@kidsaboveall.org](mailto:zcolon@kidsaboveall.org). For more details about the drive, visit KAA's website. Donations can be dropped off at Kids Above All's Better Life Distribution Center in Des Plaines, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, through August 20; reservations are required. If shopping via Amazon, items will be shipped directly to KAA.

**Photo Credit: Kids Above All**



## La Campaña de Regreso a Clases de Kids Above All Prepara a los Estudiantes para el Éxito

El verano puede estar en todo su apogeo, pero el nuevo año escolar está a la vuelta de la esquina.

Para muchos estudiantes, este es un momento entusiasta, pero para los jóvenes impactados por el trauma

puede ser una experiencia difícil y llena de tensión. Para asegurarse que estos jóvenes tienen los útiles

que necesitan para alcanzar su potencial completo, Kids Above All está lanzando su Campaña Anual

de Mochilas de Regreso a Clases. He aquí como puede usted ayudar: de ahora hasta el miércoles

20 de agosto, Kids Above All está recogiendo mochilas y útiles para los 1,500

*Pase a la página 2*



# Esperanza Health Centers Celebra el Primer Aniversario de Panorama PACE

**Caption de Ashmar Mandou**

Tras un exitoso año de proveer servicios a la comunidad de la tercera edad, Esperanza Health Centers celebró su primer aniversario de Panorama PACE, su Programa Atención Integral para Personas Mayores. “Panorama PACE se ha convertido ya en la piedra angular para el cuidado de las personas mayores en el sector sudoeste”, dijo Ryan Gadia, CFO y CEO interino de Esperanza Health Centers. “En solo un año, hemos visto la verdadera

diferencia que este programa puede hacer en la vida de los adultos mayores y sus familias. “Esta celebración es a la vez un agradecimiento a nuestros seguidores y un compromiso con la misión que tenemos por delante”. La celebración, llevada a cabo en Brighton Park South Center, reunió a afiliados, donadores y funcionarios electos, para reflejar el impacto de Panorama durante el año pasado y estudiar el trabajo que aún necesita hacerse. “Sabemos que envejecer en casa es lo que la mayoría de la gente quiere”, dijo Jennifer Weiss,

Vicepresidente de PACE. “Panorama hace eso posible. Y este aniversario es un momento para honrar lo que hemos logrado – e invitar a otros a que se nos unan en lo que sigue”. Desde su lanzamiento en julio del 2024, Panorama PACE ha brindado un cuidado integral a los adultos mayores elegibles para atención a nivel de hogar de ancianos, pero que desean permanecer en sus casas. Los servicios ofrecidos en el centro Panorama PACE incluyen cuidado primario, terapia física y ocupacional, transporte, servicios sociales, alimen-



tos y actividades – todo bajo un mismo techo.

**Crédito Fotográfico: Esperanza Health Centers**

## La Campaña de Regreso a Clases de Kids Above All...

*Viene de la página 1*

## La Concejal Jeanette B. Taylor y el Equipo del Distrito 20 Anuncian la Gran Inauguración y la Celebración de Regreso a Clases

La Concejal Jeanette B. Taylor y el Equipo del Distrito 20 se complacen en anunciar la gran apertura de su nuevo espacio de oficina, con una Celebración Especial de Regreso a Clases. El evento tendrá lugar el 30 de julio del 2025, de 1 p.m. a 6 p.m., en el 5401 S. Wentworth Ave., Chicago, IL 60619. La celebración ofrecerá comida, diversión y útiles escolares gratis para la comunidad. Este evento es una gran oportunidad para que los residentes conozcan al Equipo del Distrito 20 y se informen mejor sobre los servicios que ofrecen. “Estamos entusiasmados de abrir nuestra nueva oficina y celebrar con nuestra comunidad”, dijo la Concejal Taylor. “Para nosotros este evento es una forma de retribuir y de asegurarnos que nuestros estudiantes están preparados para el próximo año escolar.



niños en edad escolar en sus programas. Estas donaciones garantizarán que los jóvenes están listos para aprender en el otoño. Se invita a participar a personas, comercios, organizaciones religiosas y organizaciones comunitarias. Se ha creado Una Lista de Deseos de Amazon, permitiéndole comprar y enviar los artículos directamente a Kids Above All para su conveniencia. Las tarjetas de regalo son siempre bienvenidas. Para programar una entrega, un

voluntariado o para más información, comuníquese con Zulma Colón al (773) 794-7991 o vía correo electrónico a [zcolon@kidsaboveall.org](mailto:zcolon@kidsaboveall.org). Para más detalles sobre la campaña, visite la red de KAA. Las donaciones las puede dejar en Kids Above All's Better Life Distribution Center en Des Plaines, de 10 a.m. a 5 p.m. de lunes a viernes, hasta el 20 de agosto; se requiere reservación. Si compra vía Amazon, los artículos serán enviados directamente a KAA.

**Faith**

**Service**

**Leadership**

# 2025 - 2026

# Welcome Scholarship

**Families pay no more than \$2,000 in tuition (\$200/month)**

Valid for new students who are not already enrolled in a Catholic school within the Archdiocese of Chicago (Pre-K through 7th Grade)

Scholarships are renewable for two academic years!

## Apply Now!

SCAN ME!

Or call:  
**(773) 522-0143**

**St. Agnes of Bohemia School**

Big Shoulders Fund.



# Cradles to Crayons-Chicago to Host Backpack-A-Thon

Each year, Cradles to Crayons-Chicago's (C2C) Backpack-A-Thon brings together corporate partners to pack thousands of backpacks for local kids. But growing community interest has inspired something new,

the first-ever Community Backpack-A-Thon that is open to the public. The fundraising event will be held at the North Center Giving Factory on August 9 and supports C2C's *Ready for Learning* initiative, which aims to distribute

## Maratón de Mochilas de Cradles to Crayons-Chicago



Cada año, el Maratón de Mochilas de Cradles to Crayons-Chicago (C2C) reúne a socios corporativos para empacar miles de mochilas para los niños de la localidad. Pero la creciente comunidad interesada ha inspirado algo nuevo, por primera vez el Maratón Comunitario de Mochilas está abierto al público. El evento de recaudación tendrá lugar en North Center Giving Factory el 9 de agosto y apoya la iniciativa Listos para Aprender de C2C, que espera distribuir 100,000 mochilas para el año escolar 2025-26. El precio de los boletos ayuda a cubrir el costo de las nuevas mochilas y útiles escolares – un boleto infantil (\$15) cubre el costo de una mochila llena y un boleto de adulto

(\$30) cubre dos mochilas llenas. C2C está dedicada a romper las barreras escondidas para la educación y de empoderar a los niños a sentirse seguros, valorados y listos para aprender. Maratón de Mochilas Comunitario de Cradles to Crayons-Chicago

- Donde: Cradles to Crayons Giving Factory, 2500 W. Bradley Pl, Chicago, IL 60618
- Cuando: Sábado, 9 de agosto, de 10 a.m. a 12 p.m.
- Boletos: El Cupo es limitado! Haga su reservación aquí: <https://cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/event/community-backpack-a-thon-2025/>
- Inf.Adicional: en [cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/](https://cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/)

**Crédito Fotográfico: Cradles to Crayons**

100,000 backpacks for the 2025–26 school year. Ticket prices help cover the cost of brand-new backpacks and school supplies – one child's ticket (\$15) covers the cost of one filled backpack and one adult ticket (\$30) covers two filled backpacks. C2C is dedicated to breaking down hidden barriers to education and empowering children to feel safe, valued and ready to learn.

### Cradles to Crayons-Chicago Community Backpack-A-Thon

- Where: Cradles to Crayons Giving Factory, 2500 W Bradley Pl, Chicago, IL 60618
- When: Saturday, August 9 from 10am – 12pm
- Tickets: Space is limited! Reserve your spot here: [https://www.cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/event/community-](https://www.cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/event/community-backpack-a-thon-2025/)



backpack-a-thon-2025/ more at [cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/](https://cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/) Photo Credit: Cradles to Crayons

Pick up a copy of the Lawndale News... And put your hand on the pulse of Chicago's Hispanic Market

### TOWN OF CICERO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

#### LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Town of Cicero Zoning Board of Appeals (the "ZBA") will convene a public hearing on **Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 1:00 P.M.** in the Council Chambers, at the Town of Cicero, 4949 West Cermak Road, Cicero, Cook County, Illinois

Said Public Hearing is convened for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony with regards to a proposal initiated by the owners of the property located at **2921 South 49th Avenue, Cicero IL 60804**, is requesting a **Map Amendment** from an IO District to a BC-A District and a Special Use Permit to operate an outpatient service office for substance abuse. Also requesting a **Parking Variance** from the 12 required parking spaces to the existing 9 and reduction in size.

PIN: 16-28-419-044-0000

Legal Description:

THE NORTH 48 FEET OF LOT 12 IN BLOCK 14 IN HAWTHORNE'S SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTHEAST ¼ OF SECTION 28., TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH RANGE 13 AND THE NORTH ½ OF THE NORTHEAST ¼ PF SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

The ZBA will entertain the submission of documents, testimony and public comment regarding said Proposal. All persons who are interested are invited to attend the public hearing to listen and be heard. The Proposal and all related documents are on file at Town Hall, Legal/Zoning Department, located at 4949 West Cermak Road, 2nd Floor, Cicero, Illinois.

This Public Hearing may be continued to a further time, date and place without further notice being given except as may be provided in the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Chairman

### TOWN OF CICERO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

#### LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Town of Cicero Zoning Board of Appeals (the "ZBA") will convene a public hearing on **Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 1:00 P.M.** in the Council Chambers, at the Town of Cicero, 4949 West Cermak Road, Cicero, Cook County, Illinois

Said Public Hearing is convened for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony with regards to a proposal initiated by the owners of the property located at **5025 West 25th Street, Cicero IL 60804**, is requesting a **Variance** to continue to work, complete and keep the painted mural on the above mentioned exterior wall in a **BC-T** Zoning District (Business Corridor-Transitional Orientated).

PIN: 16-28-224-015-0000, 16-28-224-042-0000 and 16-28-224-044-0000

Legal Description:

THE WEST ½ OF LOT 10 AND ALL OF LOTS 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 AND 19 IN THE SUBDIVISION BY THEODORE F. RICE OF BLOCKS 16 AND 16 TOGETHER WITH VACATED ALLEYS AND STREETS IN MORTON PARK SUBDIVISION IN THE NORTHEAST ¼ OF SECTION 28., TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH RANGE 13 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

The ZBA will entertain the submission of documents, testimony and public comment regarding said Proposal. All persons who are interested are invited to attend the public hearing to listen and be heard. The Proposal and all related documents are on file at Town Hall, Legal/Zoning Department, located at 4949 West Cermak Road, 2nd Floor, Cicero, Illinois.

This Public Hearing may be continued to a further time, date and place without further notice being given except as may be provided in the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Chairman

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)  
6804 WINDSOR AVENUE - REDEVELOPMENT

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS: Sealed proposals will be received at the Office of the City Clerk, until the time and date specified below for:

6804 WINDSOR AVENUE - REDEVELOPMENT

RFP packets are available at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 6700 W. 26th Street, Berwyn, IL 60402 and at the City of Berwyn website: [www.berwyn-il.gov](http://www.berwyn-il.gov)

**ADDRESS PROPOSALS TO:** Attention of the City Clerk's Office, Berwyn City Hall, 6700 W. 26th Street, Berwyn, IL 60402, on or before 09:30 a.m., on October 2, 2025. Proposals shall be sealed and clearly marked on the front **"6804 WINDSOR AVENUE - Redevelopment - Request for Proposal." FAXED PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

**PROPOSALS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN:** 09:30 a.m., on October 2, 2025. Responders shall submit seven (7) copies of their proposal. Proposals will be opened and read aloud at 10:00 a.m. on October 2, 2025, in the 2nd Floor Conference Room on the second floor of the Berwyn City Hall, located at 6700 W. 26th Street, Berwyn, Illinois 60402.

The City of Berwyn is not responsible for delays occasioned by the U.S. Postal Service, the internal mail delivery system of the City of Berwyn, or any other means of delivery employed by the proposer. Similarly, the City of Berwyn is not responsible for, and will not open, any bid responses which are received later than the date and time stated.

**QUESTIONS:** All questions and clarifications regarding this Request for Proposal must be submitted no later than 11 a.m., September 12, 2025, by e-mailing the following City Representative:

David Hulseberg,  
Executive Director/CEO Berwyn Development Corporation  
[Davidh@berwyn.net](mailto:Davidh@berwyn.net)  
(708) 749- 6580

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SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

The City of Berwyn invites proposals to revitalize the ground-floor retail space and upper levels at 6804 Windsor Avenue, emphasizing both economic activation and respect for the property's 1930s Art Deco architecture. Proposals should thoughtfully balance historic preservation with an innovative, transit-oriented design. Priority will be given to projects that integrate cultural, public, or community-focused components. Berwyn's prime location, just eight miles west of Chicago's Loop, is one of its greatest advantages. The city offers a wealth of attributes that attract businesses, investors, and developers. More than 33% of residents earn over \$75,000 annually, and with a population density of nearly 15,000 residents per square mile, Berwyn is the most densely populated township in Illinois. The city's strong population of over 57,000, with a median age of 33, has contributed to an increasing number of businesses catering to young urban professionals. At its core, Berwyn thrives on its diverse and vibrant community, positioning itself as an integral part of Chicago's metropolitan landscape. Beyond its proximity to downtown Chicago, Berwyn benefits from easy access to major highways, including I-290 and I-55. Its primary commercial corridors - Roosevelt Road, Cermak Road, and Ogden Avenue - provide direct routes into the city, fostering a strong economic connection. Neighboring communities include Oak Park, Forest Park, and Riverside. Additionally, Berwyn is strategically situated along the BNSF/Metra line, with three stations serving the city's Depot District. These stops collectively accommodate more than 55,000 daily passengers, further enhancing the city's accessibility.

SECTION II: SUBJECT PROPERTY

The property sits at the southwest corner of Windsor Avenue and Oak Park Avenue, consisting of four parcels spanning approximately 11,400 square feet. The property is improved with a five-story, 47,100 square foot commercial building that is owned by the City and is currently vacant. The Art Deco structure was built in the 1930's and was originally occupied by the Berwyn State Bank. Situated in the heart of the downtown Depot District, it is directly across the street from the Berwyn Metra train station, offering an 18-minute commute to/from downtown Chicago.

SECTION III: CURRENT ZONING

The property is zoned C-3 Depot Mixed-Use District, promoting projects that foster pedestrian-friendly environments and encourage diverse development. Ideal ground floor uses include retail, restaurants, and personal services, while upper floors can accommodate apartments, offices and hotel uses. The city will prioritize proposals that retain at least 1,000 square feet of retail space on the northeast corner of the building. The City will entertain live/work space on the first floor which does require zoning relief. Proposals should also clearly specify the type of residential uses, such as senior, market rate, and/or affordable housing. Other creative, innovative, or out-of-the-box ideas are welcomed. Proposals that include creative public uses such as rooftop dining, cultural spaces, or other community-oriented amenities, will receive additional consideration as part of the evaluation process. The Comprehensive Plan notes that the city should promote high density, mixed-use, and walkable transit-oriented development within the Berwyn Metra station area. The property's proximity to the Metra station provides a great opportunity to address this goal.

SECTION IV: GENERAL REDEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Selected developers and redevelopment groups will negotiate directly with the City of Berwyn and the BDC, coordinating development efforts as needed.

SECTION V: FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES

The redevelopment of the subject site presents an opportunity to generate substantial property and sales tax revenue while fostering long-term investment in the area. While recovering the City's investment is an important goal, the final evaluation of proposals will consider all selection criteria outlined in the "Submission Requirements and Respondent Selection" section.

SECTION VI: LAND USE APPROVAL AND BUILDING PERMITS:

The City enforces zoning and land use regulations consistent with other Chicago suburbs. Developers must adhere to standard land use and building permitting processes, ensuring compliance with city codes unless variances are granted by municipal guidelines. Planned development approval may be required for projects seeking code exemptions. Details on zoning and land use regulations are available on the BDC website: BDC Zoning and Land Use Regulations. The City has completed an Environmental Phase I study on the property and an asbestos survey report which is available on both the City and BDC websites. The City strongly recommends that developers review these reports and provide proposed remediation plans and due diligence timelines. While remediation is not currently mandated, developers should independently assess environmental and structural conditions as part of their feasibility analysis. Developers should raise any questions or concerns regarding the RFP during the submission process. If any ambiguities or discrepancies are found in the RFP, they must be reported immediately to David Hulseberg for clarification or modification. Developers bear full responsibility for securing necessary variances, zoning amendments, special use permits, or other approvals. The City of Berwyn has various appointed boards and commissions that independently oversee zoning and development approvals. A City Council endorsement does not guarantee approval from these entities which are only recommending bodies. Final decision does reside with the City Council.

SECTION VII: APPLICABLE CODES

All submitted proposals and subsequent development activities must comply with relevant federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations, including the City of Berwyn's Zoning and Sign Ordinances (BERWYN, ILLINOIS CODE OF ORDINANCES). The City is favorable to providing some zoning relief for parking requirements associated with the selected use.

SECTION VIII: PRE-BID MEETING

To provide clarification and address questions from prospective developers and redevelopment groups, the City of Berwyn and the Berwyn Development Corporation will host an informational meeting on August 19, 2025 at 10AM at 6804 Windsor Avenue, Berwyn, IL. The City will also provide an optional guided tour of the building to examine its historic fabric and current condition. Developers must RSVP for the meeting and/or tour to [davidh@berwyn.net](mailto:davidh@berwyn.net). Attendance at the meeting is not required to submit qualifications; however, the session is expected to include valuable discussions where City of Berwyn and BDC staff will answer key questions related to the proposal process.

SECTION IX: SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONDENT SELECTION

Proposals must include the following components and the BDC reserves the right to request clarification or additional information during the review process. Any material misrepresentation will result in disqualification. Proposals should be presented in a standard 8 ½" x 11" format to facilitate review and reproduction (11" x 17" graphics folded into the proposal are acceptable) and shall include the following:

- Transmittal Letter and Executive Summary: A narrative overview of all key aspects of the submittal.
- Description of Development Team: A summary of experience, roles, and key personnel, including resumes. Identify any specialized consultants or architects with historic preservation expertise who will contribute to the project.
- Financial Information of the Lead Developer: Documentation demonstrating financial capacity to complete the project, which may be submitted confidentially.
- Examples of completed historic preservation or adaptive reuse projects: Include supporting images, reference contacts, and team role descriptions.
- Development Proposal:
  - oProject Program: Includes gross and rentable building square footage, specifications, site and building plans.
  - oProject Schedule: Details on construction phases, occupancy, and stabilization milestones.
  - oRevenue Assumptions: Supporting documentation for revenue projections, such as rent and tax comparables.
  - oMarketing/Leasing Plan: Information on targeted tenants and tenant engagement history.
  - oManagement Plan: Developer's long-term ownership and management expectations.
  - oCommunity Impact Statement: Summary of how the proposal meets the goals for walkability, commercial activation, and housing variety as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Budget and Financing Data:
  - oDevelopment Budget: Detailed cost assumptions and supporting data sources.
  - oProject Pro Forma: Financial modeling outlining absorption, income, expenses, and reversion assumptions.
  - oAnticipated Sources of Funds: Breakdown of the capital stack, including debt and equity financing.
- Purchase Price and City Assistance:
  - oPurchase Price: Proposed payment for land and development rights, including terms and conditions.
  - oCity Assistance: Any requested financial support with justification for feasibility.

- Proposals must be sealed and clearly marked with the RFP title and due date: REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: 6804 WINDSOR AVENUE
- Seven (7) copies of the proposal must be delivered by 9:30AM, October 2, 2025: City Clerk's Office, 6700 26th Street, Berwyn, IL 60402.

**NOTE: The City of Berwyn reserves the right to reject proposals that the City of Berwyn considers incomplete due to the omission of the required information.**

SECTION X: SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following:

Criterion	Description
Vision Alignment	Fit with the City's Depot District goals
Historic Preservation	Strategy & demonstrated experience
Financial Readiness	Capability and secured financing
Design Excellence	Quality and innovation
Economic Impact	Fiscal benefits and revitalization potential
Feasibility	Realistic schedule and implementation strategy
Purchase Offer	Price and public support requested
Community Features	Rooftop amenities, galleries, or maker spaces
Criterion Description	Sustainability LEED/WELL standards integration
Housing Affordability	Percentage of affordable or workforce housing included
The City may also review other relevant information, such as references and financial history.	

SECTION XI: EVALUATION TEAM

The review and evaluation of proposals will be conducted by an evaluation team comprised of members from the Berwyn Development Corporation (BDC) staff, City of Berwyn staff, and the BDC board. The team will assess the submissions and recommend the most suitable proposal(s) to the Berwyn City Council for final consideration.

The City of Berwyn and the BDC retain the right to:

- Accept or reject any or all proposals or addendums.
- Negotiate proposal terms as needed.
- Waive technicalities within submitted proposals.
- Select portions of one or multiple proposals if deemed beneficial.

If negotiations with the initially selected developer or redevelopment group do not reach a successful conclusion, the City of Berwyn and the BDC may proceed with contract discussions with an alternative party without issuing a new request for proposals or providing additional public notice.

SECTION XII: HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

Given the buildings historic and architectural significance, developers should provide the following information as part of their submittal:

- Include a Historic Treatment Plan detailing which architectural features will be preserved, restored, or modified (if available).
- Specify the Treatment of Historic Properties, where feasible.
- Identify a qualified preservation architect or historic consultant as part of the project team.
- Highlight previous experience with historic rehabilitation or adaptive reuse projects.

The City suggests that developers review the following projects that have been completed within the region that reflect the approach that the City envisions for this project:

- The Lawrence House — Uptown, Chicago: Historic conversion into residential units with commercial integration, enhancing neighborhood vitality (<https://livethelawrencehouse.com/>)
- The Teller House — Uptown, Chicago: Adaptive reuse of a former bank into apartments and retail spaces, increasing walkability and economic activity. (<https://livethetellerhouse.com/>)
- Oak Park's Arts District: Mixed-use redevelopment emphasizing the arts and pedestrian traffic.
- Evanston's Central Street Corridor: Transit-oriented transformation with community impact.



# Triton College Student and Instructor Dive into Ocean Research with STEMSEAS



For Triton College student Trinity Barrueta, spending 12 days at sea conducting oceanic research with the STEMSEAS program was “the most exciting thing I’ve ever done.” Barrueta was one of just 15 undergraduate students selected nationwide for the expedition. Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), STEMSEAS (STEM Student Experiences Aboard Ships) provides ocean excursions for students to conduct real-

world research and foster a sense of belonging in STEM fields—science, technology, engineering and math. Dr. Sheldon Turner, chair of Triton College’s Science Department, was one of three faculty members aboard the expedition. According to Dr. Turner, more than 300 students applied for the experience. “Students were selected not only based on GPA, but their interest in science and commitment to scientific research.” Leaving San

Diego on June 1 and landing in Dutch Harbor, Alaska on June 12, students used the ship’s onboard science labs to conduct geoscience and oceanography research. Working in teams, the students conducted projects with planktoscopes, fluorometers, multi-beams, virtual machines, and other technologies. STEMSEAS is also supported by a partnership with the University National Oceanographic Laboratory Systems (UNOLS). **Photo Credit: Triton College**

# Illinois Unemployment Falls as Payroll Jobs Set Another Record

The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) announced last week that nonfarm payrolls reached a record high in June, increasing over the month up +9,400 to 6,175,200. June’s record payroll job total surpassed the previous high set in March, marking another milestone in Illinois’ record-setting year for total payroll employment. The May monthly change in payrolls was revised slightly from the preliminary report, from +100 to -200. The industry sectors with over-the-month jobs increases included Government (+10,600) and Private Education and Health Services (+6,200). The

	Jun-25	May-25	Jun-24	Over the Month	Over the Year	3-month Moving Avg	Change from Previous 3-month Moving Avg
All Nonfarm	6,175,200	6,165,800	6,140,200	9,400	35,000	6,169,000	2,300
Manufacturing	7,300	7,300	7,200	0	100	7,300	0
Construction	236,300	236,700	235,700	-400	600	236,500	-100
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	571,800	571,100	578,300	-1,300	4,500	572,800	-1,100
Information	1,219,300	1,218,700	1,223,100	-400	3,800	1,220,700	-200
Financial Activities	92,000	92,500	90,400	-500	1,600	92,400	-100
Professional and Business Services	397,400	397,500	395,200	-100	2,200	397,200	1,000
Private Education and Health Services	917,400	918,500	915,500	-1,100	8,100	917,600	-300
Leisure and Hospitality	1,015,500	1,009,800	990,600	6,700	22,900	1,010,700	3,400
Other Services	604,800	608,300	600,900	-3,500	3,900	606,900	-900
Government	249,000	249,100	248,600	-100	800	249,100	-300
Government	854,400	853,800	842,700	10,600	21,700	857,800	3,100

sectors with the largest monthly payroll jobs decreased included: Leisure and Hospitality (-3,500), Manufacturing (-1,300), and Professional and Business Services (-1,100). Compared to a year ago, total nonfarm payroll jobs increased by +35,000 jobs. The industry groups with the largest jobs increases included: Private Education and

Health Services (+22,900), Government (+21,700), and Leisure and Hospitality (+3,900). The industry groups with jobs decreases included: Professional and Business Services (-8,100), Manufacturing (-6,500), and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (-3,800). In June, total nonfarm payrolls were up +0.6 percent over the year in Illinois and up +1.1 percent in the nation.

# El Gobernador Pritzker Firma la SB1563, que Protege a Propietarios de Inmuebles de Ocupantes Ilegales

El Gobernador JB Pritzker convirtió en ley la SB1563, aclarando que los procedimientos de desalojo civil no restringen a las fuerzas del orden público la aplicación de las leyes de intrusión, lo que proporciona una claridad fundamental para los propietarios y las agencias del orden público que manejan ocupaciones no autorizadas en todo el estado. Actualmente, la ley de Illinois no distingue entre inquilinos que se quedan más tiempo del permitido y ocupantes ilegales, si el ocupante ilegal afirma ser inquilino o propietario. Una persona

que ocupe una propiedad sin derecho legal a hacerlo no puede ser desalojada por las fuerzas del orden hasta que concluya el proceso judicial de desalojo, lo que permite a los ocupantes ilegales permanecer en la propiedad durante los largos procesos judiciales. Además de aclarar la capacidad de las fuerzas del orden para aplicar las leyes de allanamiento, el proyecto de ley establece una distinción clara entre inquilinos legales y ocupantes ilegales, garantizando que los propietarios ya no se vean obligados a pasar por largos procesos judiciales para desalojar a



ocupantes no autorizados. También da a las fuerzas del orden directrices claras que establecen que, cuando el propietario de una propiedad pueda demostrar su propiedad válida y la intrusión sea evidente, los agentes tendrán la autoridad para expulsar a los intrusos. La ley entrará en vigor el 1º de enero de 2026.

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# Billie Jean

Chicago Shakespeare Theater (CST) presents the world premiere play *Billie Jean*, about sports icon and equality champion Billie Jean King. Playwright Lauren Gunderson, one of the most-produced playwrights in the US, and director Marc Bruni (Broadway's *The Great Gatsby* and *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*), team up to stage this empowering new look at a legend who shattered glass ceilings on and off the court. Following her path to becoming a sports icon, from her record-breaking victories to her relentless fight for equal pay and equal rights, *Billie Jean* explores the cost of public battles and private struggles—bringing us closer than ever before to a woman whose battle for identity and equality



inspired and continues to inspire generations. The production runs through August 10, 2025, in The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Chilina Kennedy stars as Billie Jean King, leading a cast that also includes Julia Antonelli, Dan Amboyer, Elena Hurst, Courtney Rikki Green, Wynn Harmon, Carolyn Holding, Jürgen Hooper, Callie Rachelle Johnson, Lenne Klingaman, Nancy Lemenager, and Murphy Taylor Smith. For dates, tickets, and general information, visit [www.chicagoshakes.com](http://www.chicagoshakes.com)

**Photo Credit: Chicago Shakespeare Theater**

# Billie Jean

El Chicago Shakespeare Theater (CST) presenta el estreno mundial de la obra *Billie Jean*, sobre el ícono deportivo y defensora de la igualdad Billie Jean King. La dramaturga Lauren Gunderson, una de las dramaturgas más producidas en Estados Unidos, y el director Marc Bruni (de las obras de Broadway *El gran Gatsby* y *Beautiful: El musical de Carole King*), se unen para presentar esta nueva y empoderadora mirada a una leyenda que rompió barreras dentro y fuera de la cancha. Siguiendo su camino hasta convertirse en un ícono deportivo, desde sus victorias récord hasta su incansable lucha por la igualdad salarial y de derechos, *Billie Jean* explora el costo de las batallas públicas y las luchas privadas, acer-



cándonos más que nunca a una mujer cuya batalla por la identidad y la igualdad inspiró y continúa inspirando a generaciones. La producción se presentará hasta el 10 de agosto de 2025 en The Yard del Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Chilina Kennedy interpreta a Billie Jean King, encabezando un elenco que también incluye a Julia Antonelli, Dan Amboyer, Elena Hurst, Courtney Rikki Green, Wynn Harmon, Carolyn Holding, Jürgen Hooper, Callie Rachelle Johnson, Lenne Klingaman, Nancy Lemenager y Murphy Taylor Smith. Para fechas, entradas e información general, visite [www.chicagoshakes.com](http://www.chicagoshakes.com).

**Crédito de la foto: Chicago Shakespeare Theater**

## Chicago White Sox Charities Announces Savannah Bananas Ticket Sweepstakes



Chicago White Sox Charities (CWSC) announced a special sweepstakes offering fans the chance to win four tickets to the Savannah

Bananas game at Rate Field on Friday, August 15. A final opportunity for fans to secure tickets to enjoy the exhibition barnstorming baseball team known for

its unique, playful and fan-first “Banana Ball” format, the Savannah Bananas ticket sweepstakes is open to fans now at [whitesox.com/gobananas](http://whitesox.com/gobananas). Entries

are just \$10, with all proceeds benefiting CWSC and its ongoing mission to make Chicago a better place to live, work and play. The sweepstakes is open now through Wednesday, August 6 at 4 p.m. CT, with a winner to be selected later that week. The Savannah Bananas have captured the hearts of fans around the globe with their innovative and captivating approach to America’s favorite pastime. The Bananas headlining tour is scheduled to include 18 Major League Baseball ballparks, including this two-day stop at Rate Field, home to the Chicago White Sox. Additional information about the Savannah Bananas can be found at [thesavannahbananas.com](http://thesavannahbananas.com).

## City Council Confirms Michael Belsky as City of Chicago Comptroller



Mayor Brandon Johnson announced the City Council’s confirmation

of Michael Belsky as the City of Chicago’s new Comptroller, following

a unanimous vote by City Council. In this role, Belsky will be

responsible for ensuring the integrity, accuracy, and compliance of the City’s financial operations. As Comptroller, Belsky will oversee critical functions including accounting, payroll, audit readiness, and financial reporting. As Comptroller, Belsky will oversee critical functions including accounting, payroll, audit readiness, and financial reporting. Belsky has served as Acting Comptroller since May 2025 and brings a wealth of knowledge with over 35 years of experience spanning state, county and local governments, as well as the private sector. He previously served as the inaugural Executive Director of the Center for Municipal Finance at the University of Chicago’s Harris School of Public Policy, where he led research and advised on the fiscal sustainability of cities and states on a national level. Belsky holds a Bachelor’s degree in Urban Studies from Lake Forest College and a Master’s in Public Policy from the University of Chicago.



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## BMO Launches Spanish-Language Mortgage Application to Expand Access to Homeownership for Latino Families and Individuals



BMO has launched its first Spanish-language mortgage application, available digitally or in branch, to meet clients where they are and expand homeownership access to Latino families and individuals.

BMO is committed to delivering exceptional client experiences and to understanding each client's individual needs and ambitions to help them achieve their financial goals. The new application empowers families and individuals across the diverse Latino community to manage the mortgage process in their preferred language – from first-time homebuyers to multigenerational Latino households, who

often navigate complex financial decisions together. According to the latest *BMO Real Financial Progress Index*, nearly 7 in 10 Latinos report that owning a home is one of their most important lifetime financial goals. In 2024, Latino/Hispanic homeownership reached a record high in the U.S., with 9.8 million households and a net gain of 238,000 new homeowners, according to data from the National Association

of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP). Start your journey today: Home buyers can start their application online or connect with a Spanish-speaking mortgage specialist to explore their homeownership options.

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For additional information, visit [www.bmo.com](http://www.bmo.com)

**Photo Credit: BMO**

## Healthcare Workers, Disability Rights Advocates Protest Drastic, Deadly Medicaid Cuts Outside Trump Tower

Healthcare workers with SEIU Healthcare Illinois and disability rights advocates with Access Living rallied Tuesday outside Trump Tower to condemn Medicaid cuts and call on state lawmakers to step up and protect Illinoisans' access to lifesaving healthcare. As part of the action, peaceful protesters blocked traffic in front of Trump Tower, chanting "Hands off Medicaid, hands off SNAP" and held signs reading 'No Breaks for Billionaires'. As part of their demand, workers and advocates are urging Illinois legislators to find solutions to help offset cuts, including taxing the ultra-wealthy and making them pay their fair share. As President Trump's reconciliation bill becomes



law, Illinois is expected to lose \$50 billion in federal Medicaid funding, jeopardizing coverage and care for 3.4 million people across the state. As part of the demonstration, participants staged a mass "hula hooping" action to show how the burdensome new Medicaid reporting requirements will make

recipients jump through burdensome, unnecessary hoops to access basic care. The new work reporting requirements are set to make access even more difficult, leading to an anticipated 4.8 million adults losing coverage.

**Photo Credit: SEIU Healthcare Illinois**

## 'Honoring Our History, Investing in Our Future:' ILCC of Chicago Launches 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fundraising Campaign



Twenty-five years ago, after testing the waters in expanding its programming from exclusively film to include music, visual arts and dance events, Pepe Vargas, the founder and executive producer of the Chicago Latino Film Festival, and the Board of Directors decided to change the name of what was then known as Chicago Latino Cinema to the International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago (ILCC). To commemorate its silver jubilee and lay the groundwork for its future, the ILCC is launching a fundraising campaign

under the slogan *Honoring Our History, Investing in Our Future*. The ILCC has set a campaign goal of \$250,000 (\$10,000 for each of the 25 years it's celebrating); the campaign ends December 21st. The campaign's headline event will be a dinner celebration at CineCity Studios, 2429 West 14th St. on Friday, November 14, featuring a solo performance from Grammy® and Latin Grammy® Award winning artist Alex Cuba and the very best in Latino cuisine. Doors open at 6 p.m. The funds raised during the campaign will, among

other goals, help the ILCC increase its free citywide programming (which currently stands at 25%) as well as create new multi-disciplinary programming and fund the infrastructure that will make these programs possible. For more information on the ILCC's 25th anniversary fundraising campaign, tickets for the dinner gala, and individual contributions, visit the ILCC's official fundraising page.

**Photo Credit: International Latino Cultural Center**



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