



# “Now You Know”! Online Newsmagazine

Volume 2/2014 (October 2014)

## “Now You Know”!

A Monthly Online Newsmagazine  
Serving The Citizens of  
The Village of Hazel Crest

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## "Now You Know"! - Editorial

### *Domestic Violence - Never Justified*

Every so often something hits the front pages, tops the news, and resonates with everyone. **Domestic violence** is in some ways, the worst crime of all because it is so **random** and **personal**. And it occurs more often than we might think.

Since **1981 October** has been designated as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** by the **National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)**. The goal was and is to connect battered women's advocates across the nation, who are working to end violence against women and children. See their website at [www.ncadv.org](http://www.ncadv.org) for activities across the nation and the state of Illinois.

An important part of that awareness is **The Day of Unity**, celebrated the **first Monday of October**. The plan is that events in communities and regions across the 50 states will result in a powerful statement celebrating the strength of battered women and their children.

**Domestic violence** cuts across racial, ethnic, economic and educational boundaries. And it is so common. We all know of someone who has been or is a victim. Even if we don't admit it to ourselves, we know, or at least suspect.

Even before the first blow is landed, the victim usually knows that it's coming. Unknowingly they have often been psychologically prepared. Ask yourself, are you periodically cursed out, called out of your name, or yelled at? Does your mate make a big deal out of everyday occurrences? Are they overly jealous? Are you regularly isolated from friends and family? Do you have to explain away bruises, welts, knots and scars?

If so, you are a victim. Get help before you are laid out for good. The good news is that there is plenty of help for **victims** and **abusers** in the state of **Illinois**.

Go to the website of **Illinois Atty. Gen. Lisa Madigan** and you will learn that **Domestic Violence is a crime**. *“Any person who hits, chokes, kicks, threatens, harasses, or interferes with the personal liberty of another family or household member has broken the **Illinois domestic violence law**.”*

Go to [www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov) to learn more about your rights if you have been abused.

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There you will learn how to seek an **Order of Protection** and what to do if that order is violated.

This website also directs you to other resources including the **Illinois Domestic Violence Help Line**. Call 1 (877) 863-6338 and find out about programs and other resources that can help you, wherever you live in Illinois.

Of all of the ills caused by domestic violence, none is perhaps as painful as the effect that it has on children and their future development. Studies have shown that many children who were victims of, and who witnessed abuse, grow into becoming abusers themselves. And the pain goes on for another generation until something is done.

**NCADV** reports that *“Not all children are affected by domestic violence in the same way. Children may become fearful, inhibited, aggressive, antisocial, withdrawn, anxious, depressed, angry, confused.*

*Some suffer from disturbed sleep, problems with eating, difficulties at school and challenges in making friends.”*

It is further reported that children often caught in the middle between their parents, find it difficult to talk to either. *“Adolescents may act out or exhibit risk-taking behaviors such as drug and alcohol use, running away, sexual promiscuity and criminal behavior. Young men may try to protect their mothers, or in some cases, become abusive to their mothers themselves.”*

During this month, take control of your household. Celebrate **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, by ending the abuse taking place under your roof. There is much help available. Give yourself the gift that keeps on giving. Life. Let's all start living healthier lifestyles. You owe it to yourself. You owe it to your family, especially your children.



### *President's Point of View*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the positive feedback that I received for the first issue of "**Now You Know**"! It is a good beginning, and we plan to get even better.

Please keep in mind that I want to hear from you, the residents and stakeholders of the village of **Hazel Crest**. This is a continuing opportunity to have your voice heard.

Although our students have already been back in school for about a month; I want to encourage them to do their best during this school year and beyond. The world is becoming more complicated, and we want to ensure that they are developing the **21<sup>st</sup> century skills** that they will need to be competitive.

Please see our informative listing of high paying **Jobs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**, part of a special feature "**Welcome to the Future.**"

I would also like to acknowledge the **Jackie Robinson West Little League U.S.A. Champions**. These young men made all of us proud, not only by winning, but also for the collective character that they displayed, and how they carried themselves at all times.

Watching them under the glare of the local and national spotlights reminded me of the heights that our children can reach, when we surround them with parental and community resources. The parents, coaches and everyone associated with the team should be proud. This was indeed a total team effort. Hopefully, it will provide a blueprint for our young people going forward.

On another note, I must acknowledge and weigh in on the domestic violence crisis, highlighted by the **NFL**. Recent events notwithstanding, **October** is **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. First, let

me say that domestic violence is a national and probably international issue. It is only because of the high profile of our professional athletes that it has become front page news.

Let me first say, in my view, there is never an excuse to resort to physical violence in interpersonal relationships. But, we must be realistic, some people do, not just once, but again and again. When that occurs those involved and their loved ones must realize that both the abuser and the victim need outside help.

A recent article in the *Chicago Tribune* revealed that approximately **1,200 women die**, and another **2 million** are **injured** every year. And a recent study by the **U.S. Justice Department** said that about **75 women an hour** are abused in this country. Such statistics would seem to indicate that domestic violence has indeed reached epidemic proportions. And there is evidence that women are not the only victims. For obvious reasons in this macho society, men tend to be somewhat reluctant to report abuse, whether it is **physical, verbal** or **emotional**.

So while men and sometimes women subject each other to various forms of domestic abuse; our children are affected as well. It is reported that people who are abused often become abusers. So the cycle continues. In our first ever **Editorial**, "**Now You Know**"! will examine some other aspects of this toxic subject.

I would also like to acknowledge **October** as **National Breast Cancer Awareness Month**, and particularly **October 17** as **National Mammography Day**. As a **Prostate Cancer survivor**, I want to always be out front in encouraging everyone, and especially the residents of **Hazel Crest**, to be vigilant about health issues. Look for additional health care information in this month's **News Briefs**.

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## Hazel Crest President Alsberry Hosts 2<sup>nd</sup> District Congresswoman Robin Kelly at Issues Forum

On Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup> Congresswoman Kelly delivered several messages to her constituents gathered at the South Loop Hotel in Chicago.

She announced her intent to **run for re-election** and emphasized the importance of people coming out to vote. Without a strong showing it will be that much more difficult for **President Obama** to pass his agenda in the last two years of his eight-year administration.

As it is, **Cong. Kelly** reported Republicans treat the President with **"total disrespect."** She further noted that many long-time officials and members of the media say they have never seen this level of disrespect for a sitting president of the United States.

In another matter the **Congresswoman** explained that as a Democratic member of the **House of Representatives** she has to pay \$200,000 in dues yearly. This is in addition to raising the necessary funds to run for re-election.

### *Protect Your Interests - Get Out And Vote*



As election day in Illinois inches closer, I would like to remind all to be sure to go out and vote on **Tuesday, November 4, 2014**. While **South Suburban** communities over the years have voted at record levels, we can't let up now. **Nationally**, we must elect public officials who show respect for our **President**, our **Veterans**, and who **support middle class Americans**.

At the **state level** we must support those who will work with business to bring **economic development**; who support the idea of a **living wage**, and who work to bring **jobs** to our communities. At the **county level**, we need someone who will continue to be an advocate for **housing, business development, County Health Services, County Police Services**, and who **supports youth and senior citizen programs** that stabilize our communities.

The public servants whom I support on this coming **November 4<sup>th</sup>** have assisted the **Village of Hazel Crest** and other **South Suburban** communities over the years, and especially this past year since I have been **Village President**. They have helped secure **grants** for our **roads, infrastructure**, and **summer jobs** for our **youth** and funding for our **senior citizens programs**.

Further, they have assisted in providing funds to build **new schools and recreational facilities**. At the **federal level** they have fought to provide **affordable health care** to all; and supported an **increase** of the **minimum wage**. They are also working with **business** to ensure that our **Veterans** are employed and receiving, not only necessary **physical health care**, but also the **mental health services** they may require.

The following are my political endorsements for this Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>:

United States Senator - Dick Durbin  
Illinois Governor - Pat Quinn  
United States Congresswoman - Robin Kelly  
Illinois Lt. Governor - Paul Vallas  
Illinois Attorney General - Lisa Madigan  
Candidate for State Treasurer - Mike Frerichs  
State Representative Al Riley - 38<sup>th</sup> District  
State Representative Will Davis - 30<sup>th</sup> District  
Cook County Board President - Toni Preckwinkle  
Cook County Commissioner - Deborah Sims - 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Candidate for Metropolitan Water Reclamation District - Tim Bradford

### Welcome To The Future



Right now we should be about the business of preparing our youth to compete in an ever-changing, ever-complex world. A world where racial identification should have less to do with getting and keeping a job, than education and professional skill set. A world where you might be competing with a robot for that last position, if you don't properly prepare.

Is this the world that **Dr. King** yearned for, where people are judged on "*the content of their character*" instead of skin color or race? Probably not, but a different world indeed.

In a recent **Chicago Tribune** article entitled, "*The world discards its surplus citizens,*" **Urban Affairs Reporter John McCarron** wrote, "*The fundamental problem is modernity itself, an emerging realization that the future doesn't really need us. Not most of us. Not to produce anything the world requires in return for a living wage. Much of mankind is, in effect, becoming surplus.*"

Take a moment and exhale. This is not a racial argument. It is a commonsense observation. Going forward, if you do not possess a unique skill that is needed in the global economy, don't expect to get hired just because you show up and present yourself.

If you take a look around the world, starting with the United States, much of the turmoil revolves around a realization that resources are limited. And many jobs once requiring intense human labor have been replaced by machinery and technology.

**McCarron** goes on to say, "*With precious few exceptions all the goods and services required by our new high tech world already are, or soon will be, produced by a critical few. The rest of us - the idled many - are being relegated to the role of spectators, expected only to consume and pay taxes.*"

So what does all of this mean to your college student, or the junior or senior hoping to get into the college of their choice? It means that you and they must pay special attention. Pay attention to your student's major. Pay attention to the choices that may have already been made in your household.

Don't spend money and time preparing for a job that may not exist by the time graduation comes around. And don't depend on school personnel or recruiters to educate you. Start reviewing the articles and statistics that are regularly produced by the **U.S. Dept. of Labor Statistics** and other sources. This information educates you in real time about what to expect.

Also, if your student is lucky enough to get a good paying job upon graduation; tell them to keep their resumes' updated. In today's market they are likely to change jobs several times before they retire. They should plan on being downsized (fired) at least once. Also, make sure they begin saving money for retirement at an early age.

Also, start thinking about the options offered by entrepreneurship.

**McCarron** closes with this observation; "*We could try as a nation to make some adjustments in the way the global economy is unfolding. For now, better study some Mandarin, learn how to code and, above all, avoid getting surplussed.*"

**"Now You Know"!**

## ***Labor Market Trend - Employers Want More Credentials***

Many jobs that historically have not required a college education, are now being reserved for those with degrees. In some cases it has not been determined whether those jobs actually require higher education and training; or whether some employers are simply trying to eliminate some applicants because of the high demand.

For example, a recent study by **Boston Labor Analytics firm Burning Glass Technologies** revealed, *“Fewer than 20 percent of currently employed executive secretaries and executive assistants have degrees, but 65 percent of current postings for such jobs now require a degree.”*

On the other hand, some occupations like **registered nurses** and **drafters** currently require higher skilled and educated workers, making the demand for higher level credentials more understandable.

This labor market trend also affects those with **college degrees**, as employer expectations have increased across the board.

**Prepare yourself.** Keep your information current. Try to stay a few steps ahead of the game. At the same time as the **middle class** struggles to maintain their standard of living; it is becoming evermore difficult to attain **middle class** status.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Trend - Senior Citizens Still Paying College Loans!**

The recent recession, even in its so-called aftermath, is still affecting people in many ways. The number of **seniors, aged 65-74** who are still paying off college debt, is on the increase. As if that’s not shocking enough, some are burdened with multiple loans, including those taken out to help their children.

And research shows that much of the debt held by these seniors, is in default, meaning they are often at the mercy of aggressive collectors.

How are some of them reducing this debt? Through

garnishees of their **Social Security** benefits. And you thought all you had to worry about was your health during your golden years.

*“There are of course some Social Security recipients who have a lot of money,” says Sandy Baum, a senior fellow with the Urban Institute, “but most of them don’t.”*

Is there a financial planner in the house?



## **Highest Paying Jobs in the United States - U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics**

### **No Degree Required (Usually)**

- 1. Power Plant Operators**
- 2. Line Repairers & Installers**
- 3. Rail Transportation Workers**
- 4. Telecommunication Equipment Installers/Repairers**
- 5. Police Officers (varies with location)**
- 6. Postal Service Workers**
- 7. Brick Masons/Stonemasons**
- 8. Electricians**
- 9. Firefighters**
- 10. Food Service Managers**

### **2-Year Degree Required**

- 1. Dental Hygienists**
- 2. Funeral Directors**
- 3. Registered Nurses**
- 4. Engineering Technicians**
- 5. Court Reporters**
- 6. Radiological Engineers**
- 7. Respiratory Therapists**
- 8. Science Technicians**
- 9. Heavy Equipment Mechanics**

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## **10. Automotive Body Repairers**

### **4-Year Degree Required**

- 1. Airline Pilots**
- 2. General Managers**
- 3. Marketing, PR, AD Managers**
- 4. Engineers**
- 5. Actuaries**
- 6. Physician's Assistant**
- 7. Surveyors/Mapping Scientists**
- 8. Securities/Financial Sales**
- 9. Computer Systems Analysts**
- 10. High School Teachers**

### **Graduate or Professional Degree Required**

- 1. Physicians**
- 2. Dentists**
- 3. Professors**
- 4. Lawyers**
- 5. Optometrists**
- 6. Judges**
- 7. Physicists/Astronomers**
- 8. Financial Managers**
- 9. Chiropractors**
- 10. Chemists**

Periodically "*Now You Know*"! will offer features about specific careers and what they involve, as well as profiles of professionals in these various career categories.

*"Now You Know"!*

## *Hazel Crest Clergy Commission - Working For The Village*

Submitted by: Chair Carolyn Carter



On **May 13** of this year nine **Clergy Commissioners**, were sworn in as **Hazel Crest's** first-ever **Clergy Commission**. This is part of **Village President Vernard L. Alsberry, Jr.'s** pledge to activate and energize all village commissions, to spearhead some of the many projects that will move Hazel Crest forward.

**Chair Carter** says, *“The Clergy Commission is about committing to the unity of our community, its diversity, needs and challenges as we come together for collective, positive change.*

*“We are non-denominational, diverse and interfaith-based. We meet once a month to discuss and plan community events; to listen to the needs of the community; and to pray for the community.”*

The Clergy Commission's first event was “The Unity in The Community Breakfast,” held on **Saturday, August 30** at the **Village's Senior Room**. Nearly **100 attendees** enjoyed a full breakfast and elegant music by **Brytish Thomas** for a \$5.00 donation.

**Carter** said, *“Commissioners asked attendees to write out their prayer requests and concerns and put them in a prayer box, that the clergy will pray over daily.”*

**State Sen. Mike Hastings, State Rep. Al Riley, Markham Mayor David Webb**, and our own, **President Vernard L. Alsberry, Jr.** attended. We thank **Sen. Hastings** for sponsoring the food, and **State Reps. Will Davis** and **Riley** for donations.

In addition to **Chair and Evangelist Carolyn Carter**, the **Clergy Commission's** members include: **Bishop Willodean Benjamin, Elaine Bulanda, Pastor Linny Hartzell, Evangelist Carol Long, Pastor Dale Lawson, Pastor Derrick Pagan, Elder Juanita Roberts** and **Pastor Dave White**.

Contact the **Hazel Crest Clergy Commission** at [hcclergy@gmail.com](mailto:hcclergy@gmail.com).



## **October 17 is National Mammography Day**

Women are encouraged to use this day as a reminder to make **an appointment to get a mammogram**. The breast x-ray is considered the best early prevention tool. The **American Cancer Society** recommends annual exams starting at **40 years** and going forward.

The earlier breast cancer is detected the greater the chance of successful treatment. There are more than 10,000 mammography facilities in the U.S. that are accredited by the American College of Radiology. It is recommended that all women practice monthly self-examination and receive regular doctor-performed clinical breast exams, in addition to the annual mammogram.

Mammograms are currently the only exam approved by the **U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**, to screen for breast cancer for women with no symptoms.

### **Additional Resources**

\* **American College of Radiology** -

<http://www.acr.org/> or 1(800) 227-5463

\* **American Cancer Society** - [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

## **IVI-IPO South Chapter Gets Set for “Come Together” Gala**

**Save the Date** for the **IVI-IPO South Chapter Unity Event**, set for **Monday, October 20**, from **6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** at the historic **Parkway Ballroom - 4455 S. King Dr.** Tickets are **\$50** for this must attend event. Comedian **Ron Baker, Jr.** and **Singer/Songwriter “La Wuandia”** will headline.

The **IVI-IPO South Chapter** represents the following **Chicago Aldermanic Wards: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 & 20.**

**IVI-IPO** was founded in **1944**. Their mission is to achieve social justice through good government by increasing voter participation and knowledge, by providing a framework for candidate evaluation, and by electing responsive government officials.

It is a **not-for-profit, multi-partisan, independent** political organization. Their endorsements reach hundreds of thousands of voters throughout the greater Chicagoland area. The organization is active in the areas of **campaign finance** and **ethics reform**.

**IVI-IPO** has historically been known for a commitment to **good government**. Contact **Marion Batey** at **(773) 664-1785** or [rremarion@yahoo.com](mailto:rremarion@yahoo.com) for tickets and information on the **October 20<sup>th</sup> affair** and the **activities of the organization**.

## “Now You Know” Call To Action



**“Now You Know”!** needs you. The **Village of Hazel Crest** is home to a number of organizations and entities that contribute to our well-being and development. We want to regularly report on

your **meeting dates, activities, goals, objectives and outcomes.**

This **Call To Action** includes, but is not limited to **Homeowners’ Associations and Committees and Commissions.** We want to represent any recognized entities that are working on behalf of **Hazel Crest.**

**We will make every effort to publish “Now You Know”!** the first week of every month. **Deadline for submission is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month, by midnight.** So, if you would like to contribute copy for the **October 2014** issue, send no later than **Friday, September 12, midnight.**

**Meeting the deadline is especially important for time-sensitive information. Please keep articles between 250-1,000 words, as space will be limited. Depending on the size of the font, about 4 double-spaced pages equal 1,000 words.**

We recognize that sometimes it will not be possible to meet the deadline. In that case, both the importance and timeliness of the submitted information will be considered. In many instances late information can be rolled over to the next issue. Sometimes not. So we urge you to make every effort **to meet the copy deadline.**

See Editorial Guidelines in this issue.

Please submit only the highest quality pictures with captions, explaining the significance.

**Editor’s Note - Obscenities, defamatory, unsigned and excessively self-serving articles will not be printed. “Now You Know”! is a publication dedicated to the progressive activities of the Village of Hazel Crest. Group copy writing instruction will be offered to those wishing to sharpen their informational messages.**

**Please submit articles, and inquiries to: Walter M. Perkins at: [wp@informationpluspro.com](mailto:wp@informationpluspro.com). We are working on a process which will enable pictures to be uploaded to a common drive, and will provide that information.**

## Writers & Editorial Guidelines

1. Keep to the 250 – 1,000 word limit. Get copy in on time.
2. Check copy for grammar and spelling before submitting.
3. Know what you want to say and say it.
4. Write as concisely as possible.
5. Substitute small words for large ones whenever possible.
6. Use words and phrases that your audience is likely to understand.
7. Don't be unnecessarily redundant. Don't use different words to convey the same thoughts.
8. Don't use jargon that only those who do similar work understand.
9. Write as if you were having a conversation with your audience.
10. Don't talk down to your audience.
11. Be accurate as to names, titles, degrees and addresses (where relevant).
12. Write with passion, not anger.
13. Make sure your information is accurate.
14. Don't curse, defame, disparage, or violate anyone's privacy.
15. Don't write anything that you will regret, if it is published.
16. Separate your personal opinions from what is factual.
17. Be specific about your information sources.
18. Humor doesn't always work. Satire doesn't always work.
19. If someone tells you something confidential, maintain their trust.
20. Remember that you are writing to either inform, educate or inspire people to do or not do something.
21. Use pictures that help support the story.
22. Include captions with pictures to help tell the who, when, where, what, why and why story is important.

That's it for now. We'll see how it goes

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