



WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

# NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023



WILL COUNTY  
**EXECUTIVE**  
JENNIFER BERTINO-TARRANT



## Need Help?

Will County 2-1-1 can put you in touch with organizations ready to help you.

It's Easy and Free!

TEXT 898211

Please do not text and drive.



Emergency Shelter



Health Resources



Rent or Utility Assistance



Food Pantries



Elderly Care



Employment Assistance

As we approach the Presidents' Day weekend, I would like to invite families from throughout Will County to a Kids' Fair on Monday, February 20 from 9 AM until Noon at Troy Middle School. This is a free event for parents, grandparents, and caretakers to bring their young children to for fun activities, educational programming, and engaging events.

I'm happy to be hosting this event once again to provide an activity for families on a day off from school. Over 50 vendors have signed up, who will be offering games, crafts, educational activities, and storytelling. We also will have free haircuts offered by Champions Beauty Barber and both mini manicures and braiding by Professional's Choice Hair Design Academy.

While a fun event for kids, this is also an opportunity for families to connect with important local services and community organizations. I hope that attendees will take the opportunity to speak with the vendors about their services, including the representatives from local government agencies and non-profit organizations.

Ensuring that Will County residents are aware of available services has been a personal priority of mine since taking office. If you are in ever need of learning about community resources, please don't hesitate to contact my office or utilize the County-funded 211 service managed by the United Way.

Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant | Will County Executive

WILL COUNTY EXECUTIVE JENNIFER BERTINO-TARRANT'S

# KIDS' FAIR

PRESIDENTS DAY

MONDAY  
**FEB. 20**  
9A.M. - NOON

JOIN US AT

Troy Middle School  
5800 W. Theodore St.,  
Plainfield, IL

FREE ADMISSION

Will County Executive Bertino-Tarrant invites residents from throughout the county to attend a **Kid's Fair on Presidents' Day (Feb. 20th)**.

The event will spotlight services within the community and offer both fun and educational activities for families. Local entertainment, including singing, dancing, and martial arts will be featured.

We hope to see you there!

Questions? E-mail the County Executive's Office at [countyexec@willcountyillinois.com](mailto:countyexec@willcountyillinois.com)

## "Nice & Tidy"

### Departmental Clean-Up Saves County Millions of Dollars

County Executive Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant is spotlighting efficiencies and cost-savings at the Will County Records Management Department. Departmental staff and leadership received an Executive Proclamation thanking them for their efforts to address a backlog of physical records and modernizing the records retention process.

The Records Management Department serves as the primary repository of physical and electronic records for Will County offices and departments. Due to an excess of physical records, County officials have previously expressed interest in relocating the department to a new building.

Following her appointment in 2021, Director Jennifer Scharf initiated a large-scale clean-up and reorganization to address the backlog. The efforts of departmental leadership and staff saved the County millions of dollars that would have been spent on a new location. They also developed new systems to modernize the electronic records system and operations of the County Printshop.

**Thank you to the Records Management team!**

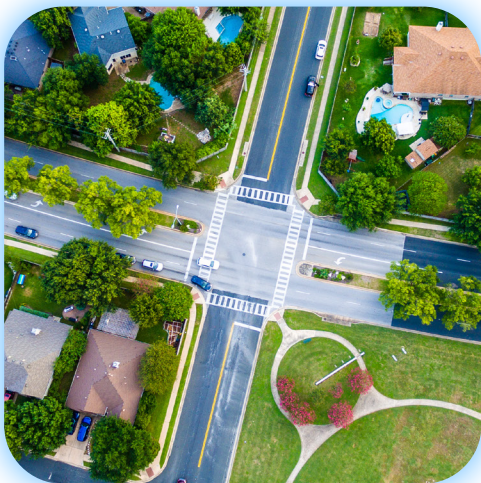


## Will County to Develop Traffic Safety Action Plan

As part of a regional effort to improve traffic safety, Will County will begin the process of developing its first comprehensive county action plan for roadway safety on County roads. The plan will enhance and support ongoing local efforts to make roads safer for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists with an ultimate goal of zero fatalities.

This effort will be funded by the federal "Safe Streets and Roads for All" grant program pursued in collaboration between the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and the six counties in northeastern Illinois. \$3.9 million was awarded by the federal government as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support a comprehensive approach to regional traffic safety.

Traffic deaths have sharply increased nationwide. Between 2019 and 2021, roadway fatalities have increased 18% nationally and 42% in northeastern Illinois. Will County's traffic safety action plan will utilize the latest research and best practices in traffic safety to make local roadways safer.



## Will County Recognized for Agricultural Leadership

Will County government has been recognized as an "Ally in Agriculture" by the Will County Farm Bureau for continued support of the local agriculture industry.

Agriculture serves as one of the top economic engines of Will County, with over 800 farms throughout the county and nearly 14,000 jobs supported by local agriculture.

**Thank you to the Farm Bureau for your continued partnership!**

