

SSRTA NEWS

February 2023

Our Next Luncheon on March 15th.

Flossmoor Station at TBA

Luncheon Dates for Spring 2023

All SSRTA Luncheons are the Third Wednesday of the month.

- March 15th
- April 19th
- May 17th
- June 21st

Luncheon Dates for Fall 2023

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- September 20th
- October 18th
- November 15th
- December 13th

Birthdays for February 2023

- CAROLYN NEMANICH – FEBRUARY 2
- JAN VINSON – FEBRUARY 2
- JACQUELINE MCCARTER – FEBRUARY 3
- ANDREA PURCHASE – FEBRUARY 7
- MEMMORIE DELSENER – FEBRUARY 12
- SUE HANSON – FEBRUARY 13
- JUDY LOHR-SAFCIK – FEBRUARY 15
- JODY CONRAD – FEBRUARY 19
- MARY MCCARTER – FEBRUARY 22
- CAROL KEASLER – FEBRUARY 28

President's Notes ...

Hello, SSRTA Friends,

It is time for me to share some more items with you in a brief newsletter.

- A) The Executive Council will meet on Wednesday, March 1 to discuss our upcoming spring meeting days. We will gather at noon at Flossmoor Station to go over reports and choose upcoming programs.
- B) Our March meeting will feature a speaker from U of I Extension Services who will provide information on getting your lawn and garden ready for spring. The meeting will be held at Flossmoor Station on March 15. Cost for the lunch will be \$20.00.
- C) Here is a tip from the IRS about your refund.

IRS TaxTip 2023 - 13 from February 2, 2023

The Benefits of having a tax fund direct deposited.

Receiving a tax refund is happy news to any taxpayer; getting it quickly is even better. Direct deposit is the safest and most convenient way to receive a tax refund. The IRS encourages taxpayers to file when they are

Photos for the SSRTA Website and FB

If you took any pictures at the Luncheons in 2022 and would like to share, please email them to Tony for posting to the SSRTA website and the SSRTA FB page. Thanks!!

Members Note!

This is OUR SSRTA Newsletter - it belongs to all the members of the South Suburban Retired Teachers Association. If there is something you wish to add to make our retirement more fun, more enjoyable or more engaging, please send a note describing your idea to Larry Schwarberg - SSRTA President - at his email address (found on the last page of this Newsletter).

Any Suggestions you may have concerning anything we do - or don't do - in SSRTA, please share them with us.

ready and choose [direct deposit](#) to receive any refund they may be owed.

Benefits of choosing IRS Direct Deposit

- **It's fast.** The fastest way for taxpayers to get their refund is to [file electronically](#) and choose direct deposit. Visit [IRS.gov](#) for details about [IRS Free File](#), [Free File Fillable Forms](#), [free tax return preparation](#) and more.

Taxpayers who file a paper return can also choose direct deposit, but it will take longer to process the return and get a refund.

- **It's secure.** Since refunds are electronically deposited, there's no risk of having a paper check stolen or lost in the mail.

- **It's easy.** Taxpayers can simply follow the instructions when selecting direct deposit as a refund method and enter their account information as directed. They must enter the correct account and routing numbers when they file.

- **It provides options.** Taxpayers can [split a refund](#) into several financial accounts. These include checking, savings, health, education and certain retirement accounts. They should use IRS [Form 8888, Allocation of Refund, Including Savings Bond Purchases](#) to deposit a refund in up to three accounts. This form cannot be used to designate part of a refund to pay tax preparers.

Taxpayers should deposit refunds into U.S. bank accounts in their own name, their spouse's name or both. They should avoid making a deposit into accounts owned by others. Some banks require both spouses' names on the account to deposit a tax refund from a joint return. Taxpayers should check with their bank for direct deposit rules.

Mobile apps may be an option

Some mobile apps and prepaid debit cards allow for direct deposit of tax refunds. They must have routing and account numbers associated with them that can be entered on a tax return. Taxpayers should check with the mobile app provider or financial institution to confirm

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Members Note Two

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which numbers to use.

Taxpayers must have their routing and account numbers for direct deposit available when they are ready to file. The IRS can't accept this information after a return is filed.

There is a limit of three direct deposit refunds made into a single financial account or prepaid debit card.

More information:

[Publication 17, Your Federal Income Tax \(for Individuals\)](#)

(Excerpt from the daily email **IRS TaxTips** - email Tony if you can't find it.)

D) Legislative Update: January 27, 2023

The Illinois Senate was in Springfield this week on Tuesday January 24-26.

MORE RETIREMENTS/NEW MEMBERS

•Illinois House Republican Leader **Jim Durkin** announced his retirement from the General Assembly just before the convening on the 103rd General Assembly. Shortly after the Nov. 8 election, Durkin announced he would not seek another term as House GOP leader, and his decision to resign his seat had been expected. Durkin's successor representing the 82nd House district will be selected by local Republican township officials and the suburban Cook County district is expected to be a "tier one" race in 2024.

•State Sen **Patricia Van Pelt**, a Democrat from Chicago's West Side, is going to step down from the state Senate at the end of the month.

•**Tom Bennett**, an Illinois House Republican, has been chosen for the Senate seat vacated by **Jason Barickman**. Bennett is the uncle of the late Sen. Scott Bennett who died last month. Bennett's appointment to the Senate opens Bennett's 106th House District seat. Local party leaders have one month to select a replacement for Bennett in the 106th House District.

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Senate Democrats recently published their leadership team for the 103rd General Assembly which includes:

- Senator Kimberly Lightford - Majority Leader
- Senator Bill Cunningham - President Pro Tempore
- Senator Mattie Hunter - Assistant Majority Leader
- Senator Linda Holmes - Assistant Majority Leader
- Senator David Koehler - Assistant Majority Leader
- Senator Laura Murphy - Assistant Majority Leader
- Senator Omar Aquino - Majority Caucus Chair
- Senator Julie Morrison - Majority Caucus Whip
- Senator Napoleon Harris III - Majority Caucus Whip
- Senator Cristina Castro - Majority Caucus Whip
- Senator Elgie Sims Jr. - Majority Caucus Appropriations Leader

Board of Education Provides More Than 10,000 Grants to Future Educators

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is providing more than 10,000 grants to students who aspire to be future educators to allow them to get a head-start on teacher preparation while helping schools address teacher shortages across the state. There are currently 10,805 students involved in the board's Education Career Pathway Program, which ISBE reports contributes to a 41 percent increase in enrollment in teacher training programs from 2017 to 2021. Schools are still reporting 2,139 unfilled teacher positions as of 2021.

Respectfully,
Larry Schwarberg
SSRTA President

Published by Tony Marturano - SSRTA Vice-President
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