



Level Up at Your Library this Summer!



Summer Reading Kick-Off Extravaganza

Saturday, May 31 11am-1pm

Join us as we celebrate the beginning of summer reading! We'll have games, music, snacks & activities for the whole family as well as a special guest mascot!

Sign up for Summer Reading and get a bag (while supplies last)

*Everyone is invited—
all are welcome!*



Summer Reading Challenge is back! June 1st to July 31st



*We challenge you to read
everyday this Summer!*

Sign up begins May 31st. You can sign up at the Youth or Adult Services Desk.

Read Every Day!

Earn one raffle ticket for every day that you read for different prizes (on display in the hallway). Kids & Teens who read 30 days are also invited to a Pizza Party! Last day to turn in logs is Aug 5th.



Bonus for Kids & Teens!

Kids & Teens can earn extra raffle tickets or small prizes with scratch-off tickets. Earn one by attending programs & the first time you turn in your reading log.



Featured Highlights

Learn About How We Provide Library Services

Learn more on page 3

Can You Survive the Oregon Trail?

Learn more on page 4

Try out a Stringed Instrument with SYSO

Learn more on page 5

Calling All Kid Chefs for Our Kids Cookbook Club!

Learn more on page 6

From Farm to Table with the South Suburban Farmers Bureau

Learn more on page 7

Scary Stories to Watch After the Library Closes

Learn more on page 8

Make Your Own Instant Mixes for Cheap!

Learn more on page 9

Make with Music!

Learn more on page 10

Silent Book Club at Starbucks

Learn more on page 11

Summer Blood Drive

Learn more on page 11

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE? Everyone! Our Summer Reading Program is open to all ages, you don't need a library card, and you don't have to live in Richton Park (*Grandkids visiting? Have them sign up!*)

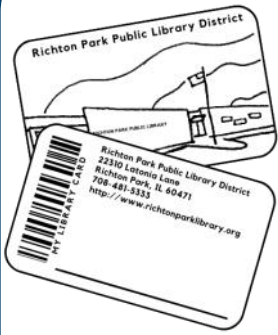
Library Happenings

Library Card Reminders

Don't forget to stop in and upgrade if you haven't already.

- ✓ Update to a digital signature and we'll upgrade your card so that it never expires! (*Account may still be removed if inactive for several years*)
- ✓ If you've recently turned 18, make sure you upgrade to an adult card!

(Youth cards will expire automatically 3 months after the birthday month)



Take a Seat at Local Events!



Have a library card? Need a seat? We've got you covered! We have a small collection of folding lawn chairs we'll have available for checkout at local events! Check our online calendar to see where we'll be next!

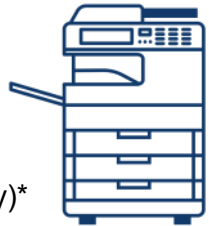
SHOW OFF YOUR COLLECTION!

We're always looking for fresh new local collections to display in our Display Case. Download an application on our website

Library Services

Did you know that your library offers more than just books? Here's some of the popular services we provide:

- Copy, Print, & Fax Services*
- Scan to Email & Scan to PDF
- Study Rooms
- Self Check-Out Station
- Notary Public Services (by appt. only)*



** services with an asterisk do have small costs involved, please see our website for current costs.*

Mark Your Calendars! Today is a Day to Celebrate!



Join us as we celebrate National Days with a small giveaway at checkout!

June 12 - Peanut Butter
Cookie Day

June 17 - Cherry Tart Day

July 3 - Chocolate Wafer Day

July 11 - Blueberry Muffin Day

August 4 - Chocolate Cookie Day

August 28 - Cherry Turnover Day

Friends of the Richton Park Library



Let's Be Friends! We meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm to help promote, support, and enhance the use of the Library by sponsoring programs, providing necessary materials & services, and furnishing community cultural enrichment.

Upcoming Meetings: June 10, July 8, & August 12 @ 7pm
(You don't need to be a member to attend! Visit us and learn what we're all about!)

Friends Officers: D. Wilkerson, President; D. Washington, Vice President; C. Butler, Treasurer; & L. Johnson, Secretary

SAVE THE DATE: Our Annual **Sips for Scholars** fundraiser is on Saturday, August 23! See back page for more information.

Perks of Being a Friend

- ✓ You get to talk about all the great things happening at the library!
- ✓ Sneak peeks into upcoming programming
- ✓ Help plan fundraising events that make an impact
- ✓ Join a community of people who are passionate about the library

How to Join

Fill out an application and return it to the library with your annual dues. Scan the QR code to learn more and download an application. Printed out applications are also available at the library!



More detailed information about our programs can be found at our website: www.richtonparklibrary.org

Providing Library Services to the Community

You may have heard about budget cuts at the federal level and wondered how that might impact our library. While the Richton Park Public Library does not directly receive federal funding, Library patrons and staff rely on core services funded by Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Here's how IMLS impacts Illinois:
Information provided by Secretary of State/State Librarian, Alexi Giannoulias

“The Illinois State Library received \$5.7 million from IMLS's Grants to States Program in the fiscal year 2025 (of the \$180 million that the program provides). Of that \$5.7 million, \$4.3 million is allocated towards **Interlibrary Loan services** through Illinois Heartland and Reaching Across Illinois Library Systems (RAILS) under the System Area & Per Capita Grant Program, and a subscription to OCLC's WorldCat Discovery/FirstSearch services.”



Our library is locally funded by the community through property taxes supplemented by grants, savings interest, and donations. About 4.9% of your property taxes goes to ensure that your local library does great things. Here is just a snapshot of some of the things we did in fiscal year 2023-2024:

We provided
955 programs
that were
attended by...



332
new Library
Cards were
issued



Patrons
entered our
building
48,128
times



44,295
items

were checked out



Databases were
accessed
730 times



Study rooms
were reserved

1,432
times



Patrons used our
computers
7,106
times

Hotspots were used
55 times
providing free internet
to our community



We attended
56
Outreach
Events

Continue Reading on ways you can support your library the bottom of the next page

Programs with an asterisk * require registration. Register online, in-person, or over the phone.

Fun for Everyone



Photo from Reptile Rodeo

Drop-In Holiday T-Shirts

Everyone: Bring a T-Shirt (or tote bag) and select a heat transfer design to add to it!

Wednesday, June 18 - Juneteenth

Thursday, July 3 - 4th of July

All Day in Youth Services



Family Game Night

Everyone: Bring the family and join us for a night of board games! Bring snacks and play along!

Friday, June 20
6-7:30pm

Oregon Trail Escape Room

Gr. 3-Adult: The journey west was an arduous one. This morning, a member of your wagon team was bitten by a snake! Can you help before it's too late? Find The clues, solve the locks, and help your team prevail through the Oregon Trail!

June 30 through July 12

(M-F) 10:30am-7pm

(S) 10:30-1:15pm



Beat the Heat with our Monday Movie Matinee

Everyone: Get out of the heat & join us for a movie on our big screen! Bring your snacks or lunch and enjoy a movie on the big screen!

Mondays in June & July

Movies start at 11am

June 2



June 9



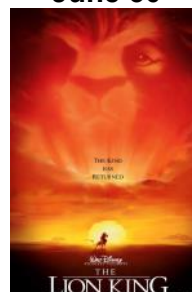
June 16



June 23



June 30



July 7



July 14



July 21



July 28



How Can You Support The Library?



Join the Friends.

Thanks to donations from the Friends of the Library we have brought in animal shows, and revamped our Toddler Play Area.



Get a Library Card.

Library card registrations help us connect with community members and show what the Library offers. Tell everyone!



Use the Library's Online Resources from Home.

Cardholders can access online services & databases for free.



Check Out An Item.

Checkout numbers show the impact of the Library and support funding.



Visit Us.

We keep track of how many people walk through the doors, use computers & study rooms, and attend free programs. Add to the count!



Follow us on Social Media.

Like, comment, and share posts to spread awareness and boost reach.

More detailed information about our programs can be found at our website: www.richtonparklibrary.org

Early Literacy & PreK Programs

Storytime Unwind

PreK-Gr. 2: Join us for stories, songs, and movement!

*Tuesdays: June 10 through July 29
7-7:30pm*



Kids Happy Hour

PreK & Caregiver: Drop in for crafts, playdoh, toys & more!

*Fridays, June 6 through July 25
No Class July 4
10:30am-12pm*



Play Doh Playtime

PreK-Gr. 2: Drop-in and play with play doh & accessories!

*Saturdays: June 7 through July 26
11am-1:30pm*

Brown Bag Storytime



PreK-Gr. 2: Bring your brown bag lunch & snack during storytime! We will be outdoors, weather permitting!

*Wednesday, June 18
11am-12pm*

Father's Day Cards

With Midwest Express Clinic

PreK-Gr. 2: Join Midwest Express Clinic at the library as we color and create Father's Day Cards!

*Saturday, June 14
11am-12pm*



PreK Water Day

PreK & Caregiver: Join us for water fun! Water table, splash pad and more. Bring a towel! This event will be held outdoors. In the event of rain, we will do an indoor activity.

*Thursdays: July 3 & July 31
11am-12pm*



Photo from T-Rex Tea Party

Drop-in Activities

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Birth - PreK: Pick up a reading log in Youth Services and challenge yourself to read 1,000 books to your child before Kindergarten. Children receive small prizes for every 100 books read.



100 Books Before High School

Gr. 4-8: Pick up a reading log in Youth Services and challenge yourself to read 100 books before High School! If you reach your goal you'll get a prize!

Kids Scavenger Hunt

K-Gr.8: Can you find all 10 numbered shapes in Youth Services? Each month we'll have a new challenge and if you find them all you can get a small prize!



Take & Make Kits

Kids & Teens: Pick up a Take & Make kit from Youth Services! There's a new craft every 2 weeks! *While supplies last.*

Guess How Many

Everyone: Each month, guess how many items are in the jar and win! *New jar every month!*



**Please observe age ranges for programs.
Programs are intended for children entering the listed grade level in the Fall.**

Programs with an asterisk * require registration. Register online, in-person, or over the phone.

Youth Services



Photo from
Fun Club:
Easter Crafts

Weekly Programs (K-Gr. 8)



Homeschool Hangout

Gr. 5-12: Drop-in for games, crafts, and more!

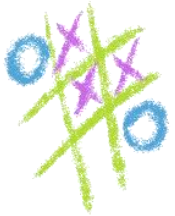
*Mondays, June through August
1-3pm*

* Fun Club

K-Gr. 8: Come join us as we do a different craft or activity every week!

Jun 5: Come & Play Day
Jun 12: Super Mario Bros Day
Jun 26: Lilo & Stitch Day
Jul 3: 4th of July Crafts
Jul 10: Giant Games
Jul 17: Summer Painting
Jul 24: Bowling
Jul 31: Let's Play Day

*Thursdays: June 5 through July 31
4-5pm*



Friday Fun

K-Gr. 8: Join us for outdoor fun this summer! If there's weather, we'll have a fun alternative activity inside.

Jun 6: Chalk & Painting
Jun 13: Outdoor Games
Jun 20: Bowling
Jun 27: Water Day
Jul 11: Obstacle Course
Jul 18: Sidewalk Chalk
Jul 25: Races & Games
Aug 1: Water Balloons

*Fridays: June 6 through August 1
4-5pm*



Kid Concoctions

K-Gr. 8: Drop-in and make an art project with us!

*Wednesdays: July 9 through July 30
2-4pm*

Youth Programs (K-Gr. 8)

* Plant the Seed

K-Gr. 3 & Caregiver: Are you interested in making music? Would you like to play in an orchestra? Join the Suburban Youth Symphony Orchestra for a string instrument parade, instrument petting zoo, & more! *Caregiver must be present for this program.*

*Friday, June 27
11am-12pm*



How to Train Your Dragon Watch Party

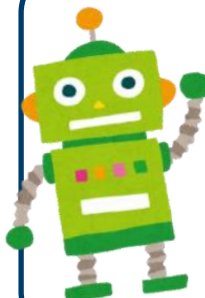
K-Gr. 8: Are you ready for the live-action movie? Join us as we watch the first animated film to get ready!

*Wednesday, June 11
4-6pm*

Big Board Game Bonanza

K-Gr. 12: Drop in to play big board games, including Jenga, Sorry, Uno and more! Kids under the age of 9 must be accompanied by a caregiver.

*Wednesday, June 4
3-4pm*



* STEM in Motion

With Project SYNCERE

K - Gr. 8: Design, build, and create structures, robots, and more with life-sized tinker sets, LEGO kits, robotics, electronics, and more!

*Friday, June 6
11am-12:30pm*

More detailed information about our programs can be found at our website: www.richtonparklibrary.org



* Taco Time: From Farm to Table

With the Cook County Farm Bureau

Gr. 1-5: Learn how one of your favorite foods and its ingredients travel from the field to the table!

*Friday, June 13
11am-12pm*



Photo from Build a Snowman Escape Room

* LEGO Club

Gr. 1-6: Do you love building with LEGOs? Join us for LEGO Club! Build a creation based on our monthly theme & we will display it for the month.

*Mondays: June 30 & July 28
4-5:30pm*



* Seashell Paperweight Craft

Gr. 3-8: Make a cute summery paperweight with plaster of paris.

*Tuesday, July 1
1-2pm*



* Recess!!

Gr. 2-6: Join us for fun recess games like hop scotch and duck duck goose!

*Wednesday, June 11
1-2pm*



Friendship Bracelet Making

Gr. 3-8: Design and create your own stylish bracelet!

*Wednesday, July 16
11am-12pm*

Plant a Fireflower

Gr. 3-12: Drop-in and plant a marigold to take home!

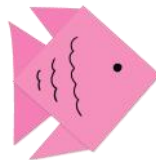
*Tuesday, June 3
1-2pm*



* Origami

Gr. 3-8: Learn how to make some basic origami shapes!

*Wed June 18 & Tues July 15
12-1pm*



Sticker Making

Gr. 3-8: Design and print your own stickers using label paper!

*Wednesday, July 2
1-2pm*



Drop-in Video Games

Gr. 3-12: Hang out and play with our Nintendo Switch in Study Room 4!

*Thursdays: June 5 through July 31
No Meeting June 19*

11am-1pm

Check-in at the Youth Desk

Upcycled Dollhouses

Gr. 3-8: Make your own dollhouse out of cardboard!

*Tuesday, June 24
1-2pm*



* Kids Cookbook Club

Gr. 2-8: Make a recipe from *The Big Fun Kids Cookbook* (on display in Youth Services) and bring it to our Cookbook Club! We'll be eating outside picnic style. Registration & bringing a dish is required.

*Monday, July 7
6-7pm*



Please observe age ranges for programs. Programs are intended for children entering the listed grade level in the Fall.

Programs with an asterisk * require registration. Register online, in-person, or over the phone.

Youth Services



Photo from Teen Game Night

* Teen After Hours Movie



Gr. 9-12: Join us to watch Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark. Popcorn will be provided, but you can bring other snacks, too!
Friday, June 27
7pm-9pm

Note: Library services will not be available after 8pm.

Tween & Teen Programs (Gr. 6-12)

* Vision Boards

Gr. 6-12: Make a vision board with us! We will supply all materials.
Tuesday, June 17
1-2pm



* Summer Scribes

Gr. 7-12: Love to write? Don't know where to begin? Learn how to begin your writing journey or just enjoy the writing process. Be prepared to show your masterpiece!
Wednesday, June 18
2-3pm



* Teen Healthy Eating

Gr. 6-12: Join UIUC Extension as they present some fun ways to stay fit and eat healthy snacks this summer!
Saturday, June 28
11am-12pm



Teen Programs (Gr. 9-12)

* Teen Chopped: Summer BBQ Edition

Gr. 9-12: Get creative in our "kitchen" and see what you can make with the ingredients provided.
Tues. June 10 & Wed. July 9
3-4pm



Teen Outdoor Fun

Gr. 9-12: Take a screen break and join us for some fun outdoor games at the library!
Wednesdays: June 25 & July 23
2-3pm



Teen Volunteer Program



Gr. 7-12: Join our Teen Volunteer team! We are now accepting applications for the summer. *Applications available at the Youth Services Desk*



Summer Highlights:

You and your family will enjoy going to Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Museum of Science and Industry, Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art, Morton Arboretum, Chicago Stars FC games, and more!

Details about the offers & offer availability are accessible on our website or visit us to learn more!

Please observe age ranges for programs. Programs are intended for children entering the listed grade level in the Fall.

More detailed information about our programs can be found at our website: www.richtonparklibrary.org

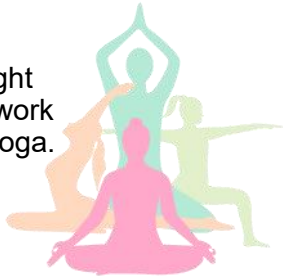
Health & Wellness

++ Seated Yoga

Sponsored by AgeOptions

Seniors: Join us for a weekly light exercise where we stretch and work on building strength with chair yoga. Wear comfortable clothing.

Mondays & Wednesdays
2-3pm



*Photo from
Friday Fun Day
for Seniors!*

++ Tai-Chi Qong

Sponsored by AgeOptions

Adults: Begin your journey in the study of tai chi. Improve your strength and balance while learning to use your breath to move through your body. Forge a strong mind-and-body connection with this beginning class.

Fridays: June 6 through July 25
No Class July 4

2-3pm



++ Bingocize

Sponsored by AgeOptions

Seniors: Come play Bingo while you get some exercise! Wear comfortable clothing.

Tuesdays & Thursdays:
Jun 3 through Aug 14
No Class Jun 17 & 19
12-1pm



* Understanding Caregiver Stress and Self-Care Strategies

A Pathlights Program

Sponsored by Kerlin Walsh Law

Adults & Seniors: Learn how to identify caregiver stress and strategies to give yourself some self-care.

Tuesday, June 10
2-3pm



* Understanding and Accessing Services Supporting Older Adults

A Pathlights Program

Adults & Seniors: Join Pathlights for an informative overview of the comprehensive and coordinated services in place to assist older adults, soon to be older adults, and caregivers.

Tuesday, July 15
2-3pm



Looking for Senior Resources?

Check out information from AgeOptions & supporting organizations located in the meeting room hallway.



Learn more about AgeOptions and the services they provide by visiting them online at www.ageoptions.org

Programs marked with ++ require an exercise waiver to be signed at the first attended class.
Programs with an asterisk * require registration. Register online, in-person, or over the phone.

Adult Services



Photo from Been Country

Movies & Games

Classic Movie Matinee

Sponsored by AgeOptions

Seniors: Join us as we watch a classic movie together. Feel free to bring your own lunch. Water, coffee, or tea will be provided.

Thursdays: June 12, July 10, & Aug 14
1:30-3:30pm



Friday Fun Day for Seniors

Sponsored by AgeOptions

Seniors: Let's play cards or try new board games! Hang out with us and enjoy spending time together!

Fridays in August
2-3pm



Adult After Hours Movie Night



Adults: Bring snacks & join us after hours for a special Adult Only (18 & up) screening of "One of Them Days" (Rated R). Please arrive at 7:45pm, library doors will lock for the night at 8pm. Library services not available after 8pm.

Tuesday, July 1
7:45pm
Movie starts at 8pm.

Crafts & Hobbies



Coffee & Crochet

Adults: Grab your hooks and come work on your latest project at the library with the Library Director! Light refreshments will be available. (Knitters & Fiber Artists welcome too!).

Mondays: June 2, July 7, & Aug 4
10:30am-12pm

Maker Mondays: Quick Stitches

Adults: Drop-in and sew up a quick project on the sewing machine & customize it with some iron-ons. The project should take about 30 minutes to complete.

June 9: Keychain Chapstick Holder

June 23: Travel Tissue Holder

July 14: Mug Rug or Coaster

July 28: Hanging Wall Banner

Mondays: June 9 & 23, July 14 & 28
5-7pm



Sleepytime Crochet

Adults: Join us for evening tea & stitches! Light refreshments will be available. (Knitters & Fiber Artists welcome too!).

Tuesdays: June 26, July 17, Aug 21
6:30-7:30pm



* Craft Night

Adults: So many craft kits, so little time! Come choose a craft kit and make something special. Do you like birdhouses? What about coasters? So many crafts to choose from. And if you can't complete it at the library, it's all prepackaged to take home!

Thursdays: June 12 & July 10
6-7:30pm



Did You Know? Keep your Library Card handy with the **SWAN Libraries +** App's Virtual Card!
Available on Apple App Store & Google Play Store

Book Clubs

Evening Book Club

Adults: Join us each month as we discuss what we're reading and talk about books we've read. Ask for this month's title at the Adult Desk!

*Thursdays: June 5, July 3, & Aug 7
6:30-7:30pm*



* Level Up Reading Club



Adults: BYO Book and join us for a silent book club at Starbucks (4871 Sauk Trail). Let's sit together and read quietly!

*Thursday, July 24
6pm*

Finance & Real Estate

* Understanding and Building Credit

Adults: Brandon Mells from Chase Bank will help you learn how to build and improve your credit score.

*Wednesday, June 26
6-7:30pm*



* It's Manifestation Time: Homebuying Workshop

Adults: Join realtor Phyllis Ridgell-Cowan as she takes you through the home buying process.

*Saturday, June 28
11am-12pm*



* Habitat for Humanity

Adults: Learn about this great affordable housing program and get your questions answered.

*Thursday, July 17
6:30-7:30pm*



* Improving Credit and Managing Debt

Adults: Brandon Mells from Chase Bank will help you learn how to improve your personal finances and minimize debt.

*Wednesday, July 23
6-7:30pm*



Photo from Visionary You!

Computers & Technology

Check Out Illinois!

Adults: Learn how your library card can save you money at Museums & Cultural Destinations throughout Illinois! We will be looking at the Museum Adventure Pass & Explore More Illinois Pass Programs.

*Monday, June 16
6-7pm*



Drop-In Device Help

Adults: Have a quick question about your device and need a little help? Drop on by and we will see if we can assist.

*Mondays: June 23, July 28, & Aug 25
3-4pm*



Read on the Go!

Adults & Teens: Learn how to access our digital collections on your mobile device! We'll look at getting started with Libby, Inkie.org, & ComicsPlus.

*Monday, July 14 3-4pm
Monday, July 21 6-7pm*



* Blood Drive with Vitalant

Adults: Schedule an appointment to give blood at our Blood Drive! You can register online at Vitalant.org (Group Code ORD0063F) or call them at (877) 258-4825.

*Saturday, June 7
10am-2pm*



Programs with an asterisk * require registration. Register online, in-person, or over the phone.

**ECRWSS
Residential Postage Patron
Richton Park, IL 60471**



Friendly Reminder: All information in this newsletter is available on our website including:
Program times, registration information, new releases, book reviews & much more.
Check it out today: www.richtonparklibrary.org

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kisha Houston	President
Warrette Coleman	Vice-President
MarcyJo Chachakis	Treasurer
Djimon Smith	Secretary
Thomas Morgan	
Erika Zachery	
Vacancy	

Library Director: Laura Van Cleve
Newsletter Editor: Ashley Baltazar

**Board meetings are held in the
Library at 7:30pm on the
3rd Wednesday of each month.**

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Friday 10:00am - 8:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 2:00pm
Closed on Sunday

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Juneteenth (Thurs. 6/19)
4th of July (Fri. 7/4)
Labor Day (Mon. 9/1)

FOLLOW US ONLINE



The Richton Park Public Library District is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any individual who plans to attend any program at the library and who requires special accommodations, or anyone who has questions regarding accessibility to the library is requested to phone the library at 708-481-5333 at least five working days prior to the scheduled event.

Sips for Scholars

An Annual Beer & Wine Tasting Scholarship Fundraising Event

Saturday, August 23 5-8pm



Enjoy a sparkling night of wine, beer,
music, and more with the Friends of
the Richton Park Library.



Tickets go on sale this summer!

*Must be 21 years old to
purchase tickets & attend.*

Get all the latest Library E-News!

Subscribe to the library's monthly e-newsletter and
receive an email at the beginning of the month
with program highlights, library news, and more:

www.richtonparklibrary.org



Thank You to our Summer Reading Sponsors!

Beggar's Pizza, Chicago Dogs, Chicago Hounds, The Forge
Lemont Quarries, Friends of the Richton Park Public Library,
Griffin Museum of Science and Industry, Haunted Trails,
Kids Bowl Free, Kohls Children's Museum, Law Offices of
Lisa G. Glenn LLC, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Oriental Trading,
Pete's Market, Raging Waves Waterpark, Raising Cane's,
Sloomoo Institute, Texas Roadhouse, Tinley Park Skating,
Tropical Smoothie Café, and Windy City Thunderbolts