

The Windy City ThunderBolts baseball organization is honored to be selected as host of the 2023 Frontier League All-Star Game and related events. It will have been over 20 years since the last time this prestigious event has come to beautiful Ozinga Field and the Chicago Southland.

This event is not just a baseball game. The three-day celebration, scheduled for July 10th through 12th, will bring hundreds of visitors to our area and thousands will be watching across the country live in HD. It is our intention to showcase what the Chicago Southland represents. While the on-field action will be at Crestwood's Ozinga Field, the various hospitality events, activities, and ceremonies will be spread out throughout the SouthSide. This special celebration would not have been possible without help from the Village of Crestwood and Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau.

The ThunderBolts are the "SouthSide's Official Minor League Baseball Team" and are proud of the area we call home.

We look forward to having you be a part of this special event next summer!



The Chicago Southland - Our Home

The ThunderBolts are honored to call the suburb of Crestwood and the Chicago Southland home since 1999. We are proud of our SouthSide heritage and the people that make our area so special. Major suburbs like Oak Forest, Oak Lawn, Orland Park, Palos, Tinley Park, as well as the Chicago neighborhoods of Beverly and Mount Greenwood are represented well at every ThunderBolts game.

Our reach includes just under three million people and thousands of people visit Ozinga Field from the Chicago area and our neighboring states each year.



The Oak Lawn Children's Museum is visited by over 20,000 guests annually. The museum features exhibits like 'Earth and Space' and 'The Moo Cafe.'

Orland Park is the largest and most populated suburb in the Chicago Southland.

It also is home to the expansive Centennial Park featuring dozens of multi-sport athletic fields, bean bags, dog park, fishing, horseshoes, ice rink, boating, skate park, sledding hill and a world class Aquatic Center.



Midlothian Country Club, located 5 minutes from Ozinga Field, features a golf course that is over 100 years old.

The private club has hosted multiple amateur and professional championships including the 1914 US Open won by Golf Hall of Famer Walter Hagen.



Crestwood's Walker Park was dedicated in 1980 with a donated "Honest John" nuclear-capable surface-to-surface rocket deployed during the Cold War.

Bachelor's Grove Cemetery, located 5 minutes down the street from Ozinga Field, is known worldwide as one of the most haunted locations in the world.

The subject of multiple paranormal tv shows, the small plot dates to the 1840's. The grove has had well over 100 documented paranormal experiences.



The Chicago neighborhoods of Beverly and Mount Greenwood are represented well at Ozinga Field. Built in 1887, the historic Beverly Givins Castle is the only castle in Chicago proper.



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Our beautiful home, Ozinga Field, fits perfectly into its SouthSide setting. The Crestwood facility, opened in 1999, is located less than 30 minutes from downtown Chicago.

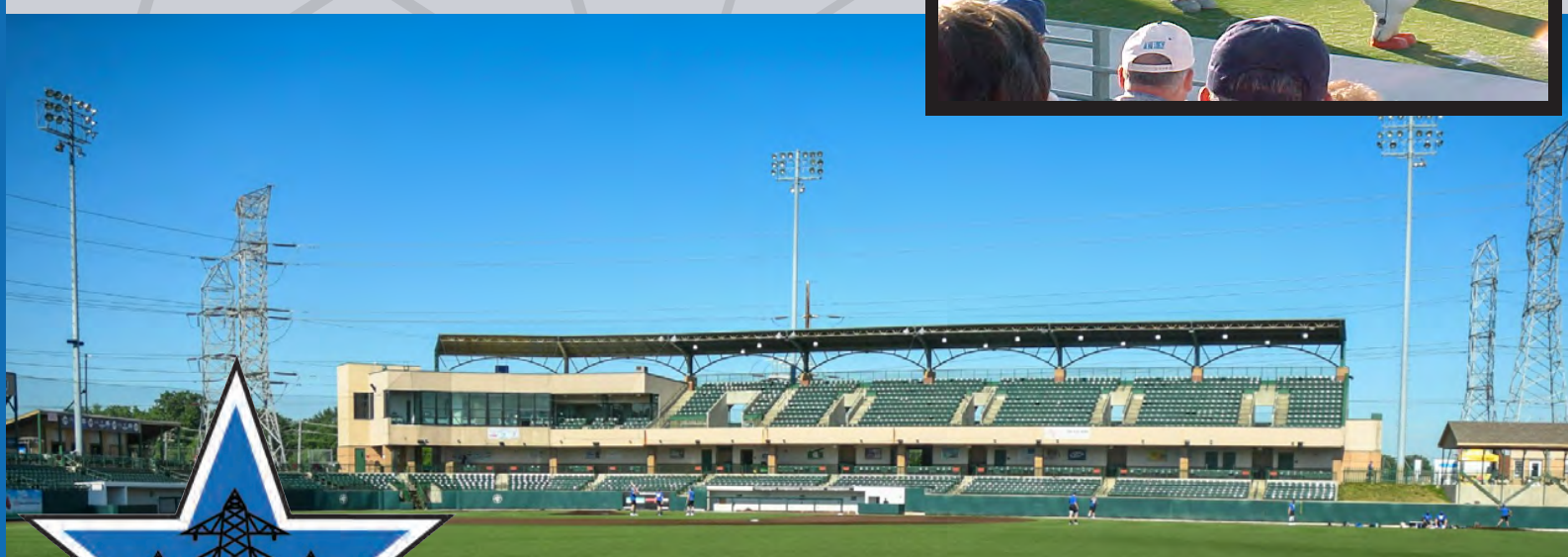
It is the busiest ballpark in Illinois hosting over 400 events, February through November each year. The stadium is unique for its intimacy, while still holding championship sized crowds.



The Cook County Cheetahs hosted the 2001 Frontier League All-Star Game, currently the only other time the event was held in Crestwood.

The game featured an overflow crowd of over 2,800 that saw a 4-1 East victory.

The ThunderBolts are excited to bring this event back to the region over two decades later.



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The Frontier League

The ThunderBolts have been proud members of the Frontier League since 1999. Only one other current franchise has been in the league as long as the Bolts.

The goal of the league was to bring professional baseball to places that affiliated baseball wouldn't go. Ironically the league is now a part of Major League Baseball as an official Partner League. What started in 1993 as eight teams playing in municipal parks has become an international circuit that features 16 teams in seven states and two Canadian provinces. The Frontier League is North America's oldest continually operating Partner League of Major League Baseball.

Each year, millions of fans watch Frontier League baseball in some of the best ballparks in the country. Millions more have watched on our league wide streaming platform. Thousands of players have had their contracts purchased by Major League clubs and the Frontier League has had more players signed to contracts with MLB organizations than any other Partner League in the country.

The ThunderBolts are honored to showcase the league's best in July of 2023.



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Windy City ThunderBolts Baseball

Baseball's best from around the country and abroad play for the Windy City ThunderBolts and the Frontier League. The club has won three league championships since moving to the Chicago Southland and are proud of our action-packed style of baseball.

The road to "The Show" goes through Crestwood. Since entering the region as the Cook County Cheetahs a quarter of a century ago, our organization has been a platform for players that dream to move on to Major League Baseball organizations. No other Partner League organization has moved more players to MLB systems, and the ThunderBolts have produced many big leaguers from their alumni including former Chicago Cubs and White Sox.



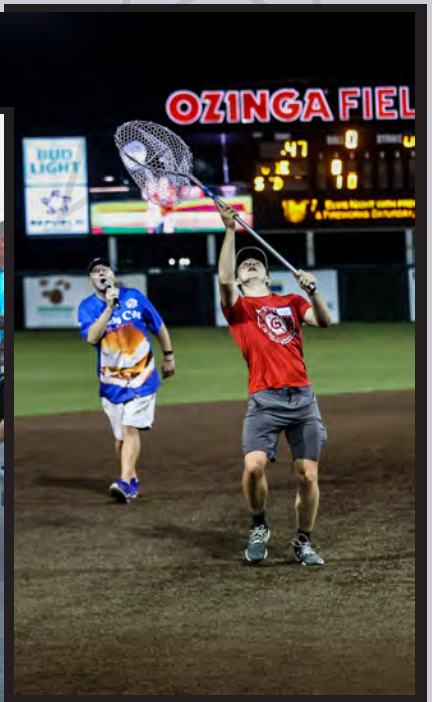
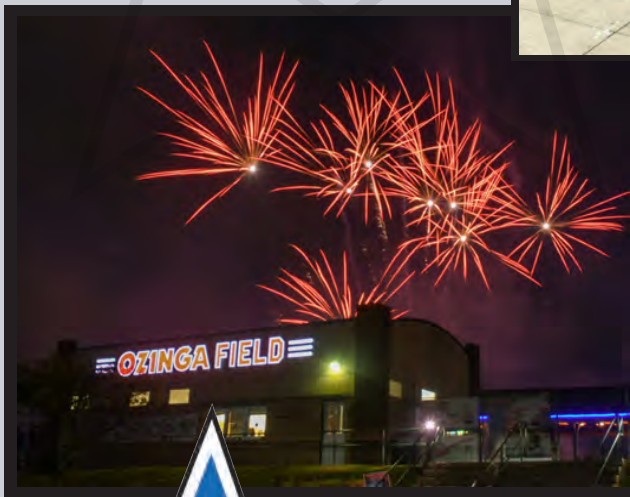
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SouthSide Fun... All The Time

From our famous fireworks to our incredible theme nights and promotions, the ThunderBolts organization provides affordable, family-oriented fun and entertainment to the region we proudly represent.

Every night at the park is unique. Family ticket deals, military honors and wrestling Thursdays are just a few of the weekly specials our fans enjoy. Our popular themed firework nights include live entertainment on Elvis & Beatles Night and character nights with princesses, superheroes and more for the kids!

Whether it is a family outing, a couples date night or a gathering of co-workers, Ozinga Field is the place to be on a summer night!



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All-Star Week at Ozinga Field

Skills Competition & Home Run Derby - Tuesday, July 11th - 6:30 pm

A unique exhibition of specific skills will be on display as we raise money for various charities on the South Side.

- Four teams will compete in five events
- Each team will be represented by a local charity organization
- Skills Competition events include Bunt Placement, Spray Hitting, Catcher and Outfielder Throwing Accuracy
- Final event is the popular Home Run Derby
- Charities receive additional raised funds depending on how their representative team performs in the competition
- Postevent autographs and play catch on the field

Frontier League All-Star Game - Wednesday, July 12th - 6:30 pm

Dozens of scouts and thousands of fans will be watching the Frontier League's best battle it out on the field! The "ZOOperstars!" will return to Crestwood for the first time in 20 years and the night concludes with an amazing fireworks spectacular.

- Gates open early at 4 pm for batting practice viewing and player meet & greets
- Both the East and West teams are represented by a local charity organization
- During the game, fans can enjoy face painters, balloon artists and the nationally recognized mascot inflatable show "ZOOperstars!"
- Charities are competing on the field as well, as their representative team raises more funds depending on the game result
- The night closes with a massive fireworks spectacular



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**We look forward to you being
part of this special event!**

