



# Schillergram

## SCHILLER PARK UPDATES



## Mayor's Update

Dear Residents,

The first ninety days in office have been exciting. I've met our state representatives, congressmen, business owners, dignitaries and fellow mayors. However, the best part of the job is meeting the residents and talking with them either one on one or in a group. They continually remind me why I ran for office and who I'm

working for. I even worked behind the counter selling vehicle stickers on a Saturday which allowed me another opportunity to say hello.

We held our first town hall meeting and had over two hundred people in attendance. Various subjects were discussed and it allowed the opportunity for many to let off steam on a subject or at least voice their opinion. The next meeting will be planned for some time in November. If you were not able to attend, we asked attendees to fill out a survey for their opinions on several ideas and issues. They are still available in Village Hall and also on line.

There are so many things to talk about however, with limited space; I'd like to briefly talk about a few.

If you filled out the form to have your taxes appealed, you should have received a notice stating that the assessor's office received your appeal and will get back to you on their decision. With over five hundred appeals brought in, it will take time for a response, so be patient.

How many of you remember the "Keep America Beautiful" commercials? (Check them out on YouTube.com if you don't.) Well, Schiller Park would like to initiate a new program called **CCUP – Citizens Cleaning UP!** We are asking for volunteers to start a cleanup program for Schiller Park mainly to keep our town looking spotless. Although our public works department is diligently trying to keep our neighborhoods clean, it is an endless job and we could use the public's help. We're asking for residents to get involved and "sponsor" a street, park, or other area in town to call their own and take it upon them to keep it clean. Participants will receive a t-shirt showing your proud involvement and we'll have quarterly get-togethers, spring clean-ups and other events to help keep Schiller Park clean. It's a fun way for families, school groups, boy/girl scouts, church groups, etc. to do something together to keep not only their town but the environment clean. High School students take note, volunteering looks great on a resume when applying for a scholarship. It doesn't take a lot of time, only some pride in your community. If interested in joining the program, please contact Beth at 847-678-1218 or email her at [bsans57@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bsans57@sbcglobal.net).

**Projects** – I wanted to address something that I found frustrating to residents. Some will call, email or attend a village board meeting to let us know about an issue that needs attention. Although at times it may appear that an easy solution is at hand, sometimes it's not that simple. For instance, some parents were concerned about the lack of a pedestrian crossing at Forester and Lawrence Avenue. Again, although it may seem simple enough to just paint in a cross walk there; there are certain engineering issues that have to be addressed and IDOT to deal with. My point is, even if you don't

hear or see something happening immediately, it doesn't mean we have forgotten about the problem. In an effort to keep the residents informed about what's happening, I've asked our department heads to put together brief paragraphs of things they are working on that will be published in our newsletters, which by the way will be coming out more frequently to help keep you up to date.

**Village Board Meetings** – Starting on September 5<sup>th</sup>, Village Board meetings will begin at 7 pm and will be a combination of both the usual agenda meetings and actual board meetings. They will be the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month year round. This will eliminate the need for four meetings during a month and will allow the public to actually hear the discussion on the issues brought to the Board. (Agenda meetings in the past allowed residents to hear discussion, however, they were sparsely attended.) It will also allow two opportunities for the public to address the Board; once in the beginning of the meetings and another towards the end. This way if a resident would like to speak, they do not have to sit through the entire meeting to be heard. It also allows residents an opportunity to voice their opinion on agenda items that would be discussed by the Board. Meetings might be longer, but in the interest of open government and efficiency, the meetings look to be very productive.

So many subjects – so little space! Other items of interest – Centennial events and committee – New Senior Programs and Events – More involved Health Board – Vendor Fair – Job Fair – Domestic Violence Seminar – Snow Brigade in winter – Information Seminars - If any of the subjects spark your interest, please feel free to contact my office or email me. I'm happy to discuss ideas or suggestions from our residents.

And finally, Money Magazine's Best Places to Live 2013 came out in their September issue. As I've said in the past, my goal is to make Schiller Park one of the best places to live in the USA!

Looking at their criteria for consideration, although we have some areas we need to work on, Schiller Park can do this, but it's going to take everyone to get involved and to take pride in their community. Let's work together with a vision for the future!

Enjoy what's left of summer!

**Mayor Barbara**

[mayor@villageofschillerpark.com](mailto:mayor@villageofschillerpark.com)

*P.S. A sincere thank you to all the residents who took the time to submit a suggestion for the name for the village newsletter. After careful consideration and internal voting, we decided on Schillergram. We hope you like it. And as mentioned, our "updates" will be coming out more frequently and believe it or not, it will be at a significant cost savings for the village.*

### MAYOR

BARBARA J. PILTAUER

### CLERK

CLAUDIA L. IRSUTO

### TRUSTEES

LAWRENCE FRITZ

ANTHONY CLEMENTI

RICHARD W. DESECKI

CATHERINE GORZYNSKI

RODNEY TOLE

MOSES DIAZ

### VILLAGE OF SCHILLER PARK

9526 West Irving Park Road  
Schiller Park, IL 60176  
(847) 678-2550

### Hours :

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (Mon.-Fri.)

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sat.)

[www.villageofschillerpark.com](http://www.villageofschillerpark.com)

# Police Chief's Corner

As your Chief of Police, I recognize that community policing is an effective strategy for the reduction of crime. It is an approach that encourages police officers to form partnerships with residents of the community, to think creatively to identify and solve problems together.



Through this unique partnership utilizing innovative approaches police and residents can reduce crime to improve quality of life in their community. Thus, residents are urged to take a proactive role in community policing by communicating their tips, observations and concerns to police.

Lastly I would like to invite all residents to attend our Domestic Violence Summit being held at the Community Center on Tuesday, October 15th, 2013 at 7:00 PM. This informational meeting will include community leaders including Mayor Piltaver, members of the Village Board, and Village staff. The featured guest speaker will be Jan Russell, the Violence Against Women Policy Project Director of the Cook County Sheriff's Office, who has more than 30 years of experience dealing with domestic violence and is widely regarded as an expert in the field. Please plan to attend this informative meeting and learn about how to help your friends and relatives who may be dealing with this terrible problem in their lives.

## New Officer in Training

Officer Tom Reif who was sworn-in last March, recently graduated from the Cook County Sheriff's Police Academy and is now well into the field training program. Tom has prior experience as a correctional officer with downstate Ford County and also as community service officer with the Schaumburg Police Department. Tom should be released from field training and cleared for solo patrol in a matter of a few weeks.

## **D.A.R.E.** Program Update

I am happy to announce once again that the DARE program will be taught to all 5th grade students in both the public and private school systems in Schiller Park. The DARE program has been revamped to now include sections on bullying, communicating effectively, and helping the students learn to Define, Assess, Respond, and Evaluate the choices they make throughout their day.

As part of the Safe School Initiative please be aware that seatbelts must be worn at all times for all passengers in every vehicle. Cell phone usage, including texting, while driving in school zones is also prohibited. Cell phones must have a hands-free device to be used.

Detective Thomas Henn

# Around Town

## Community Development News

Community Development Director - John Zalud

### New Airport Parking Garage Under Construction

The new Pre-Flight Airport Parking Garage is now under construction in the West Gateway Development Area near Mannheim Road and Irving Park Road with an opening scheduled for 2014. Mayor Piltaver was on hand for the groundbreaking ceremony which occurred in July. This new business will bring jobs and major tax revenue to the Village.

### New Indian Restaurant Planned for Old Brown's Chicken Site

Mantra by Indian Garden, a new Indian food restaurant, is planned for the old Brown's Chicken site that was most recently the home of Leo's Pizzeria Restaurant. This gourmet restaurant will be coming soon, and the Village hopes residents will give the new place a try once it opens.

### New Dental Office Opening Soon

Align Dentistry, a general dental office, will be opening soon at 9456 Irving Park Road.

### Other Developments Underway

A number of other developments are being worked on which could bring additional businesses and the related jobs and tax revenue to town. Stay tuned to this column in future newsletters for announcements of these important developments.

## A NOTE FROM

## PUBLIC WORKS/WATER DEPT.

### Garbage

Ever wonder where your old couch, television or other various items disappear to when you throw them to the curb? When something is not picked up by the garbage company, the Public Works' magicians come and make it disappear. In an effort to keep Schiller Park debris free and looking clean, we do our best to pick it up as quickly as possible. However, keep in mind that items should only be placed at the curb on garbage collection day. Watch for a brochure to be mailed out from Groot explaining all the rules and regulations of Schiller Park refuse pickup. And don't forget, when placing your garbage cans at the curb, wheels face the house.

### Water Main Breaks

With colder weather coming up, water main breaks are more frequent. Water department personnel come to the rescue in all kinds of weather and all times of day or night. The Village tries to contact people when a break occurs and if water is going to be turned off. If you do not have a contact number on file with the Village, please be sure to register for our Reverse 911 calls so you can receive those warnings or updates.

### Fall Leaves

Reminder about leaf cleanup. Soon the leaves will be falling. The Village has a couple of important tips to pass along about taking care of your fallen leaves. DO NOT place leaves in the street. Leaves left in the street can hamper street sweeping and also clog the Village's storm sewers and end up causing flooding of streets. Leaves should be placed in a biodegradable paper bag or put in a 35 gallon or less sized garbage can that is used for landscape waste only. These cans should be marked with "landscape waste" stickers that can be obtained at Village Hall for free. Landscape pick-up ends November 29th.

Members of your Public Works/Water Department are here to serve you. Should you have any problem, simply call (847) 671-8554. Questions about the yard waste program and/or the branch pickup program should be directed to Village Hall at (847) 678-2550.

### We're here to serve!

Public Works Director – John Piltaver

Around Town Community Development Director – John Zalud (847) 671-8555  
Employees – Mario J., Ken T., Anthony T., Pete S., Bob B., Joe B., and John W.

**Schiller Park Blood Drive**  
**Blood Donation Milestone**  
**Gladys Martinez - 18 Gallons!**  
**Congratulations Gladys!**

## Healthy Updates from Your Healthy Board

### Flu Shots

Flu season is quickly approaching! Stay healthy this winter by getting your flu shot. A flu shot can help you avoid serious complications. Look for additional information coming soon regarding flu shot administration in Schiller Park.

### Senior Wellness Outreach Program

The Village of Schiller Park would like to initiate a Senior Wellness Check Program. Through this program, Schiller Park residents age 65 and older or people with disabilities will be part of a network that checks on each other's health and well-being. The program is in its infancy, but anyone interested and wishing to hear more about this wonderful program should contact Sandra at (847) 671-8502 for more information.

### Senior Snow Removal Program

Are you having trouble removing snow in the winter? The Village of Schiller Park will be helping residents dig out! To enroll, a resident must be age 65 or older and physically unable to remove snow. The program is also available to residents who are disabled. All residents interested in joining this program should again contact Sandra at (847) 671-8502 for more information.

## Electric Aggregation Update

The Village of Schiller Park is entering its 2nd year of a 2 year agreement with First Energy to provide electric power to residents and small businesses in town. The rate that the Village locked into last year is 4.85 cents per kilowatt for residential customers. The current ComEd Rate is 5.5 cents per kilowatt which results in a current savings of 0.65 cents per kilowatt.

During the first half of 2014, the Village plans on rebidding the First Energy Contract. If during the bidding process a lower rate than ComEd's is not identified then residents will be automatically moved back to ComEd's rate. Also please note that the contract with First Energy states that residents can never pay more than the ComEd rate. Since the beginning of the electrical aggregation it has been estimated that residents and small business saved \$434,000 in the first eight (8) months of the plan, or about \$132 per average household.

## Schiller Park Fire Department Open House



The Schiller Park Fire Department will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, October 12, 2013 from 12:00 Noon until 2:00 P.M. at the Irving Park Firehouse at 9526 W. Irving Park Road. Fire Department Personnel will be serving hot dogs and lemonade. This will mark the end to the Department's celebration of Fire Prevention Week. On tap also will be some fun

"hands-on" activities for the kids. Please come out and enjoy this free family friendly activity and meet the men and women who help keep Schiller Park safe.

## Free Shredding Event



The Village of Schiller Park is offering a free shredding event for Village residents only on Saturday September 21, 2013 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. If you are interested please bring the private documents you want shredded to the Public Works Department Street Garage (located behind the Village Hall at 9526 W. Irving Park Rd.) and they will be shredded on site for you.

## IDOT Proposes 5th Turning Lane for Irving Park Road near Judd

An informational meeting was held with area residents at the Community Center on August 8th to discuss IDOT plans to revamp Judd and Irving intersection. The primary improvement would be a proposed 5th Lane for turning vehicles between Judd Avenue and Emerson Avenue with other secondary drainage and sidewalk improvements also being considered. Details on the proposed plans that were presented at the meeting can be found by visiting the Village website or by going to the Village Hall.



## T-Ball Volunteers Sought

Batter up! The Village is looking for volunteers and children from the ages 4 thru 15 interested in joining our new baseball league that will begin play in the spring of 2014. We are looking to form T-ball and a multi-level baseball league, which will be open to both boys and girls. We will need coaches, managers, and umpires, and of course baseball players. Please contact Patrick Tutak for more information or to volunteer at (847) 338-3384. If you want to sign up your child or children, you may also call Patrick to be put on the list of players.



## HALLOWEEN HOWL

7:00 PM - 8:30 P.M.  
Thursday, October 31st  
Recreation Center • 9638 Irving Park Road

Grab your goodie bag and head on over to the Recreation Center for a "spooktacular" night of fun activities, games and goodies. The Village sponsors this great indoor event offered as a safe activity regardless of the weather. Don't forget to wear your costume and bring a bag for your goodies. This event takes place immediately after the end of Village recognized trick-or-treat hours of 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Thank you to the many kind businesses in the community that donate to this special event and the volunteers who make sure everyone is having fun. The Halloween Howl is intended for children ages toddler - 10 years old. For additional information contact the Recreation Department at (847) 671-8580.



The Mayor and the Village Board are proud to have sponsored another season of Movies in the Park this summer. The program has already shown three (3) movies throughout the summer. The final movie for 2013 is scheduled for Saturday, September 14th.

9/14/13  
**Wreck It Ralph**

Rated PG  
Dusk at Kennedy Park

Don't forget to bring a blanket or lawn chair for seating. The Village hopes many residents continue to come out and enjoy these free events.



## Calendar of Events

### Village Board Meetings

Thursdays, September 5th and 19th and  
October 3rd and 17th  
Village Hall 2nd Floor Boardroom  
7:00 PM

### September 11th Remembrance Ceremony

Village Hall  
Wednesday, September 11th, 2013  
8:45 AM

### Community Wide Garage Sale

Saturday, September 14th  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

### Movie in the Park

Wreck It Ralph  
Dusk at Kennedy Park  
Saturday, September 14th, 2013

### Free Shredding Event

Behind Village Hall  
Saturday, September 21, 2013  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

### The Schiller Park Fire Department

#### Open House

Irving Park Firehouse  
Saturday, October 12, 2013  
12:00 Noon until 2:00 PM

#### Blood Drive

Community Center  
Tuesday, October 15th, 2013  
2:30 PM - 8:30 PM

#### Domestic Violence Summit

Community Center  
Tuesday, October 15th, 2013  
7:00 PM

#### Halloween Howl

Recreation Center  
Thursday, October 31st  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

*The Village welcomes your comments  
and suggestions.*

Please email your comments to [mayor@villageofschillerpark.com](mailto:mayor@villageofschillerpark.com)  
or send them via regular mail to Schillergram Comments,  
Village of Schiller Park, 9526 W. Irving Park Road,  
Schiller Park, IL 60176.

*If you would like a response to your comments  
please include your return address and phone number.  
All information will be kept confidential.*

#### Schillergram

A Periodic Publication distributed to the residents and businesses of Schiller Park.  
Produced by The Village of Schiller Park.  
Brian Bursiek, Assistant to the Village Manager, Editor

## Com Ed to Install Smart Meters in Schiller Park

ComEd crews plan to be in Schiller Park starting during the week of October 13 to install over 4,000 smart meters at local homes and businesses. This phase of installation is expected to end on November 30.

Smart meters are digital electric meters that collect usage information and securely send it to ComEd wirelessly. This helps eliminate estimated bills. Because a smart meter provides customers with access to more information on their electricity use, customers will be able to make changes that can save them money on monthly electric bills. Smart meters are important building blocks of the smart grid that can help ComEd know when an outage occurs and when power is restored, resulting in cost savings that will be passed on to you.

ComEd plans to install approximately 4 million smart meters in all homes and businesses across its service territory. The installation of these meters is expected to be complete by 2021. Homes and businesses scheduled for smart meter installations will receive information from ComEd explaining how the installation process will work and how customers can use smart meters to manage their energy use. For more information, visit [ComEd.com/SmartMeter](http://ComEd.com/SmartMeter).

## Airport Runway Informational Meeting Held

An informational meeting relating to O'Hare runway changes was held at the Community Center at 4501 25th Avenue on August 14th. Representatives of the City of Chicago Department of Aviation and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) were on hand to explain the new runway changes and answer questions for residents. Further details about the information presented at this meeting can be found by visiting the Village website or by going to the Village Hall.

The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) maintains a toll-free noise hotline, 1-800-435-9569, an Internet website, and an online service at [www.fly-chicago.com](http://www.fly-chicago.com) for citizens to express their concern about particular aircraft events or aircraft noise levels in general. Tallies of noise complaints appear in the monthly Airport Noise Management System report found at [http://www.oharenoise.org/noise\\_complaints.htm](http://www.oharenoise.org/noise_complaints.htm)

## Reminder

**Community Wide Garage Sale Saturday • September 14th**

**The Village's annual Community Wide Garage Sale event is 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 14th. A list of participating residences can be downloaded by visiting the Village website or by picking up the list at the Village Hall after September 6th.**

If you do not have room for a garage sale at your home and would like to participate in the Community Wide Garage Sale please contact Sandra Rosario at (847) 678-2550. The Village will make 10' by 10' spaces available in the Community Center parking lot at 4501 25th Avenue at \$10.00 per space for those interested. There are a limited number of spaces available so please act quickly to secure your spot.

*Please no Dealers and Schiller Park Residents only*

## Ash Tree Removals Planned

This coming winter residents can expect to see dozens of diseased and dying ash trees removed from the Village as part of the emerald ash borer tree removal program. The emerald ash borer, a small beetle that devours ash trees, has destroyed, or is in the process of destroying, virtually all of the ash trees in Schiller Park. After a competitive bidding process the Village Board recently approved a contract for a company to remove over 150 dead or dying Village owned trees over the next two years.

The diseased and dying trees represent a hazard, are unattractive and all of them will eventually need to be removed. Utilizing the services of an expert arborist the Village has created a removal plan to remove all the diseased and dying ash trees over the next three (3) years. The Village Board will also be looking at expending funds, as soon as next year, to plant new trees at or near many of the same locations where the dead ash trees are going to be removed. This will be in order to keep Schiller Park looking good with beautiful trees for future generations.

