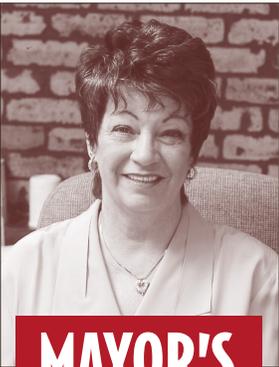


Communicator

MARCH
2009

A PUBLICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SCHILLER PARK



MAYOR'S UPDATE

NEW GRANT PROGRAM TO HELP RESIDENTS FIGHT AGAINST FLOODING

Because the Village experienced an unprecedented number of heavy rain storms in the past six months that have led to several flooding incidents, I want to tell you about what has been done and some of the new things the Village is doing to combat flooding.

Recent flooding incidents started in late September 2008, when the entire metropolitan area was hit with 7 inches of rain in one day. This tremendous rainfall caused many streets to flood and sewers to back up. In this instance, the Village made thousands of sandbags with help from many dedicated volunteers. The Des Plaines River reached near record flood levels in a matter of hours. Additional incidents have occurred more recently, when heavy rains, combined with melting snow and the frozen ground, created short-term flooding of roads and homes in the Village.

The Village continues to conduct maintenance by regularly cleaning catch basins and addressing problems when they occur. The Village has also been examining storm and sewer lines to clean or repair damaged lines throughout the Village. This year, the Village Board has already approved the televising and cleaning of all storm and sanitary sewer lines on Rose Street, Wesley Terrace, Grace Street and River Road between Lawrence Avenue and Irving Park Road. The Village also adopted a strict storm water management ordinance that requires new development to provide for even more storage of rain water on their property, regulations that did not exist when most

buildings in the Village were built. In addition, the Village has completed several phases of the Crystal Creek project and is now awaiting approval by the State for construction to begin on the next phase.

The Village also started working on a grant program to help residents with flood prevention. Funds for this new program will be available in the next fiscal year – May 1, 2009. The Village will offer single-family home owners grant money to reduce their risk of flooding by helping to pay for flood prevention equipment on their sewer line connection. The grant will pay 50% of the cost, up to \$1,000.00, for the installation of a flood control valve on the sewer line that leads to a home. The installment of a flood control valve prevents sewer water from flowing backward into a basement during heavy storms. While this work must be done by a licensed professional, permit fees will be waived by the Village. The program also includes reimbursing any property owner who had this work done in the last five years, so long as the current owner lived in the property at the time of the work. Applications will be available at Village Hall in the next few weeks.

I understand the importance and seriousness of this issue and will continue to seek further improvements in our flood control capacity to alleviate this issue in the future.

Yours for a better Schiller Park,



Anna Montana, Mayor

MAJOR 25TH AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS - SPRING 2009

Beginning in mid-March 2009 a contractor will begin work on a substantial improvement project on 25th Avenue. The project should be completed by mid-May. The improvements to 25th Avenue (covering its entire length within the Village) will include concrete pavement patching, sidewalk, curb and apron repair, as well as major sections of new sidewalk on 25th Avenue. Among the areas

getting new sidewalk are by the cemetery, by Totem Lumber/Fire Station #2, and by the 7-11 Plaza near Ruby Street. 80% of the cost of this major project, total cost of \$750,000, is being paid for by the Federal Government through a transportation improvement program.

During the project there will be temporary lane closures and other traffic control measures to

allow the work to be completed quickly and safely. Please be patient during the project and drive cautiously to limit the possibility of accidents and to protect the construction workers. Construction hours should be roughly 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday. Please direct any questions or comments to the Village at (847) 678-2550.

NEW HANDRAILS EXPECTED FOR IRVING PARK VIADUCT THIS SUMMER!

The Village is happy to announce that the tagging handrails at the Irving Park Road viaduct are all going to be replaced this coming summer with new improved handrails as part of the Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") program. In recent years the Village has used its CDBG funds to help pay for the repaving of Jill, Suzy, and Sally Lane as well as the connecting alley. This year the Village's CDBG funding application for the new handrails was so favorably received by the county that the Village received increased funding for the project.

The handrail replacement will involve all of the handrails that are part of the Irving Park viaduct including those on both the northside and the southside of Irving Park Road, those on the westside and eastside of the bridge as well as those located underneath the bridge. The new handrails will be of an improved modern design that is sturdier and safer for pedestrians using the walkways. The Village is excited to announce this project and as stated above hopes to complete it this coming summer. Please contact the Village at (847) 678-2550 if you have any questions or concerns about this project.

STREETSCAPE PROJECTS BEAUTIFY VILLAGE

As many of you probably noticed last year the Village completed major "streetscape" improvement projects on both Irving Park Road and Lawrence Avenue. These projects substantially improved the appearance of the parkways on both streets by adding trees, decorative stone, and brick pavers.

The improvements on Irving Park Road included a new decorative brick border at the beautiful senior housing building as well as new trees in decorative grates from the Village Hall to Old River Road. These projects were part of the ongoing effort to beautify the Village by adding landscaping, planting new trees, and revitalizing existing landscape areas.

Among the projects completed in recent years as part of this ongoing effort to beautify the Village are the new entry sign area at 25th Avenue and Rose Street, revitalized landscaping at four Village entry signs, new plantings and a sprinkling system at the Michigan-Forster Loop landscape area, expanded and improved landscaping at Clocktower Park and the Metra Station, and numerous new parkway trees at locations throughout the Village. An ongoing and strong commitment to beautification projects is needed to ensure the Village continues to improve its appearance while keeping existing areas looking fresh.

NEW VILLAGE WEBSITE IN THE WORKS

The Village is happy to report that a new Village website is being created and should go "live" in the next few months. The new site will include a great deal more information and be more useful to residents and businesses. The development of the new Village website is proceeding well, staff and designers are working hard to input content into the site including new map features, frequently asked questions, document archive, online calendar, and more. The address of the site will remain www.villageofschillerpark.com. The Village will notify all Village residents when the site is finished and hope that its enhanced features will enable you to answer your questions and be a convenient source for all kinds of information 24 hours a day - 7 days a week.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter egg hunt is on Saturday, April 11 at the Kennedy School field. The Toddlers to Age 5 group begins at 11:00 AM while ages 6 to 10 will begin at 11:20 AM. The Easter Bunny will be making an appearance at this Village sponsored event. Don't forget to bring your basket to hold all of your goodies. For more information call the Recreation Department at (847) 671-8580.



SCHILLER PARK, FRANKLIN PARK, & NORTHLAKE

RELAY FOR LIFE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The American Cancer Society will hold its local "Relay for Life" on the evening of July 31st at East Leyden High School. The Event provides an opportunity to contribute to the fight against cancer.

To learn more about how you can help in this effort, you may go to the following website – www.relayforlifefranklinpark.com. You can join a team, organize a team of your own, or make a donation to a team that already exists. You may also volunteer to join the many dedicated volunteers that already contribute to making this event a success. You may contact the local Schiller Park Chairman, Larry Fritz at (847) 678-6177 or Jose Macias at the ACS West Cook Office at (708) 484-8542 for additional information.

Most everyone has been affected in some way by this dreaded disease. Now is your chance to help make a difference in finding a cure, while having a good time working with friends and neighbors, to bring HOPE to those afflicted. We are also looking for cancer survivors and their care givers that are interested in participating in this year's event.

WATER PARK WINS AWARD!

The Village is proud to announce that the Anna Montana Water Park and Memorial Pool has won the Outstanding Facility and Parks Award in Division III for Aquatic Facilities. The Illinois Park and Recreation Association recognized the Schiller Park aquatic facility as an outstanding achievement in recreation facility design and development. This facility received the highest total points among those entries in its division and category from across the State of Illinois.

The Village transformed a 37 year old facility facing mounting maintenance problems, significant leaks, and lacking facilities meeting current ADA and safety standards into a modern award winning family aquatic park. Opening to the public on July 1st, 2007, the Anna Montana Water Park and Memorial Pool offers residents a water park experience without the high cost of a trip out of town. The facility provides a better leisure experience for residents utilizing modern design trends and current industry standards. Meeting the ADA guidelines was a priority to ensure all residents



could take advantage of this wonderful new facility. Amenities include a spray play area for the toddlers, zero edge entry, drop slides, flume slide, diving board, lap lanes, basketball feature, and a very cool vortex. Senior residents enjoy swimming free during the adult hour, while the daily attendance for open swim sessions

has more than doubled from previous years. With a reasonably priced menu, the full service concession stand offers swimmers lots of good choices including pretzels, mini-pizzas, hotdogs, and cool fountain drinks. The water park also provides summer jobs for more than

50 young people from the community.

The Village is currently accepting applications for summer positions including; certified lifeguard, attendant, cashier and concession. Pick up your application today by visiting the Recreation Center located at 9638 Irving Park Road. For more information contact the Recreation Department at (847) 671-8580.

PARKWAY & STREET RESTORATION BEGINS IN SPRING

The Village has suffered through another tough winter and as usual there were a number of water main breaks that required digging in parkways and streets. The holes resulting from these breaks have to be left until the warmer weather of spring comes to be properly repaired and restored. The Village begins working on these sites every spring and seeks to restore these sites to their original condition. The Village maintains a list of locations where work is needed but welcomes comments and suggestions from the community about areas that need work. Please contact Joe Meyers the Director of Public Works at (847) 671-8554 if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions regarding water main break parkway and street restoration work.

50/50 TREE PROGRAM AVAILABLE

The Village wants to notify all residents and businesses that the Village's 50/50 Tree Program is available for signup again this year. The program offers residents and businesses the opportunity to have a new tree(s) planted in the parkway in front of their home for only 50% of the total cost, with the Village picking up the other 50%. There are a variety of different types of trees available. The planting of certain species of new trees will take place in the spring while others will be planted this fall. If you are interested in the program please contact Audrey at the Village Hall at (847) 678-2550 before April 30th, 2009.

VILLAGE UPDATES SEVERAL PARKS

Following the successful installation of the EVOS play equipment at Kennedy Park, the Village has completed the second and final phase of the plan for updating the old play equipment. Schiller Park was the first community in Illinois to install this new style of play equipment and has since hosted an event for professionals in the field to experience the EVOS system.

Last summer even more innovative play equipment was added to the Kennedy Park playground including spring toys, climbing apparatus, track ride, orbiter and pod steppers connecting several pieces of equipment for continuous play. The new structures are very active and compliment the physical fitness theme of the play area.

Dooley Park also received additional play equipment finishing the plan of replacing aging wood structures with modern play apparatus. The park now has play structures for kids age 2-5 and age 6-12. Also, an orbiter and new swings were added along with a new safety surface.

At Fairview Park, the Village replaced an aging swing structure with a new modern swing set that

meets all current safety standards. Recreation Department Staff is also planning the installation of new safety surfacing in this park.

With the removal and replacement of the aforementioned play equipment, the Village has successfully updated all of the parks in the Village over the last few years. The Village's parks offer a wide variety of leisure opportunities including sand volleyball, outdoor basketball, walking, baseball/softball, bocce ball, water spray toys and many different styles of play equipment. The



Village is proud of the Recreation Department's achievements in providing safe, fun and challenging outdoor leisure opportunities for residents of all ages. The Village acknowledges the importance of physical activity and encourages all residents to utilize the parks and facilities offered by the Recreation Department.

For additional information about parks and other recreation facilities or to report vandalism and other problems please contact the Recreation Department at (847) 671-8580 or email John Bealer (Director) at jbealer@villageofschillerpark.com.

NEDSRA PARENT THANKS VILLAGE BOARD

Through a partnership between the Village and NEDSRA (Special Recreation Association), Schiller Park residents with mental or physical disabilities have access to recreational programs and activities right in their own backyard. On February 24th, Village resident Debbie Galezia, on behalf of her 7-year old daughter Gabriella, joined NEDSRA senior program manager Jeena Greenwalt at the Schiller Park Board meeting and gave a presentation about recreational opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Gabriella, who has Down Syndrome, is a big fan of NEDSRA programs, having recently participated in an extended after-school camp offered at Kennedy School. Previously Gabriella enjoyed the Schiller Park Day Camp and swam at the water park with the assistance of a NEDSRA counselor.

Registration is now open for a three-day summer camp to be held this August at the Schiller Park Recreation Center. This popular camp for children aged 3-6 years with mental disabilities or autism will be in its 3rd year.

Currently, NEDSRA offers a weekly after-school program at Lincoln School for children in special education classes, where the kids participate in a variety of recreational activities such as art therapy and pet therapy.

In addition to children's programs, NEDSRA offers activities for adults with disabilities, such as a St. Patrick's Day Celebration that was held at the Bluthardt Recreation Center on March 4th. The guests, all adults age 18 & older, are members of the NEDSRA social club known as "Day Trippers" which meets weekly to work on their independence and enhance life skills. For more information about NEDSRA programs call (630) 620-4500 or visit www.nedsra.org.



AUTOMATIC WATER BILL PAY PLAN NOW AVAILABLE

The Village is pleased to announce that Village water customers will now have the option to setup Automatic Bill Pay of their water bill. The program will ensure that your bill is automatically deducted from your account on the due date so you will not have to mail the bill or come by the Village Hall to pay in person. It will also mean there is no possibility of any lost or late payments

You will still receive your bill in the mail roughly two weeks before it is deducted from your account, so you can review it and contact us with any questions. If there is an error in your bill, the Village will not deduct any amount until it is properly corrected. In order to signup for automatic bill payment you will need to fill out application (copies are available at Village Hall and on the Village Website) and provide us with a voided check or copy of a check from the account you want debited (please do not send a

deposit ticket - in many cases it will not include the information the Village needs).

It will take approximately 4 weeks after you submit your paperwork for the automatic bill payment to begin. Your water bill will indicate whether it will be automatically deducted (i.e. that you are signed up for the automatic bill pay plan), if not you will still need to pay your water bill normally.

Your primary responsibility will be to ensure that there are sufficient funds in your account to cover the bill on the due date - if you do not have sufficient funds penalty and late charges may apply. If at any time you decide you do not want to participate in the automatic bill payment plan please notify the Village 5 days before your next payment is due. If you have any questions please contact the Village at (847) 678-2550

AROUND TOWN - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Despite the difficult economic times, Schiller Park continues to have a strong and vibrant business community. The following are some examples of local businesses investing in Schiller Park. The Village is very pleased to pass along this good news.

ENJOY LIFE FOODS - RECOGNITION AND GROWTH

Scott Mandell, CEO, President, and Co-Founder of Enjoy Life Foods at 3810 River Road, was named to the prestigious Crain's Chicago Business "40 Under 40" list. The annual list recognizes 40 outstanding business leaders in Chicagoland under the age of forty.

Enjoy Life Natural Brands, LLC was founded in 2001 to make great-tasting allergy-friendly foods that most everyone can eat freely. An estimated 12 million Americans have food allergies (wheat, dairy, peanuts, tree nuts, egg, etc.).

In September 2008, Enjoy Life Foods was named to the Inc. 500 list of the fastest growing privately held businesses in the U.S. for the second consecutive year.

"Enjoy Life" moved its operations to Schiller Park in 2005. The Village congratulates Mr. Mandell for receiving this honor and wishes him and his company continued success in the coming years. Visit www.enjoylifefoods.com and www.perkysnaturalfoods.com for store locations and product information.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE TAXPAYER ASSISTANCE REGIONAL CENTER COMES TO SCHILLER PARK

The Internal Revenue Service has consolidated Schaumburg and Morton Grove offices into the fourth floor of 5100 North River Road. This 35,000 square-foot facility employs around 150 people and serves the general public.

Go to www.irs.gov and type "Schiller Park" in the search window for more information.

POPCORN PALACE OPENS SCHILLER PARK "GOURMET POPCORN" FACILITY

At Popcorn Palace you'll find every flavor of gourmet popcorn you can imagine. It is every gourmet popcorn lover's dream come true. They have 27 gourmet popcorn flavors to choose from including rich caramel, smooth chocolate covered caramel, and tangy cheese.

Their gourmet popcorn is hot-air popped full and fluffy at precision-controlled temperatures by true "pop experts". Popcorn is mixed with luscious whole nuts, cookie chunks or other gourmet-quality ingredients. Great flavored popcorn gifts are perfect for business and corporate gift giving.

Popcorn Palace offers a fresh new idea in fundraising programs and business marketing. For more information, visit www.popcornpalace.com or call (800) 873-2686.

WILSON SPORTING GOODS TECHNOLOGY CENTER INNOVATES IN SCHILLER PARK

Wilson Sporting Goods, international manufacturer of sporting goods headquartered in Chicago, recently consolidated all research and development at their new Schiller Park Tech Center. Wilson here designs and tests new materials and products for golf, racquet sports (tennis, squash, etc.), and team sports (baseball, soccer, football, etc). Although not open to the general public, Wilson granted a guided tour to the Franklin Park/Schiller Park Chamber of Commerce in February. For more information see www.wilson.com.

SUN BELLE MOVES TO SCHILLER PARK - FRESH FRUIT YEAR-ROUND!

Sun Belle Products recently opened their new refrigerated distribution facility in Schiller Park. Sun Belle imports produce for year-round consumption - top quality blueberries, blackberries and more. Schiller Park's proximity to O'Hare, I-294, and Chicago were key factors in their decision to locate in the Village. Their facility on Rose Street was a Village of Schiller Park redevelopment-targeted property. Look for Sun Belle at your local grocery store! For more information see www.sun-belle.com.

2009 COMMUNITY GUIDE AVAILABLE

The Franklin Park / Schiller Park Community Guide was recently published for 2009. An indispensable guide to businesses and services, the FREE guide is available at Village Hall, the Community Center, and the Library.

SCHILLER PARK HAMPTON INN RENOVATION

The Schiller Park Hampton Inn on Mannheim Road is getting a 'make-over'. The Hampton Inn will feature a new enclosed pool and salt-water whirlpool for guests' relaxation. Rooms have been updated and 'wired' for

maximum business connectivity. The lobby will be completely updated for the Hampton Inn to remain an O'Hare Airport Hotel destination of choice. This is a good example of a business-reinvesting in our community.

CRICKET COMMUNICATIONS CHICAGO EXPANSION EFFORT TARGETS SCHILLER PARK

Cricket Communications is opening 30 stores in Chicagoland this spring, including one in Schiller Commons at Irving Park Road and River Road. Cricket specializes in low-cost cell phone service with no credit check and no contract. For more information, visit the Schiller Park Cricket store or www.mycricket.com

MANOR TOOL & MANUFACTURING COMPANY CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN SCHILLER PARK

Manor Tool & Manufacturing Company is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in May. The company has been successful as a premier metal stamping facility. Since its inception in 1959, Manor has grown from 3 employees in its Soo-Line Road facility to 58 employees at its current facility on River Road. Manor continues to maintain strong ties with the community of Schiller Park. For more information see www.manortool.com. Congratulations Manor Tool!

THE U.S. CENSUS IS HIRING!

In preparation for the 2010 census, the federal government is taking applications for field positions. Many part-time positions are available in and around Schiller Park, starting at

\$17.00 per hour. The Census Bureau encourages bi-lingual speakers to apply and offers flexible hours, paid training and the chance to work within your own community.

Local testing will be conducted March 25th at the Franklin Park Library. Applicants will need to bring either their passports or two other forms of ID such as a drivers license and original social security card/birth certificate. Veterans should bring a copy of their DD214.

Further information can be found on <http://www.census.gov/2010censusjobs/index.php> or call 847-600-9020.

PARK 'N' JET REBUILD

This summer's construction will include a full rebuild of the Park-n-Jet on Mannheim Road. This long-time Schiller Park business is investing for the future. They will demolish the current building and rebuild a facility including offices, vehicle detailing, customer service counters, and a comfortable waiting room. For more information and reservations please go to www.parknjetchicago.com.

WEST GATEWAY UPDATE - PARDON OUR DUST

Spring 2009 will see construction ground-breaking for the new Shell / Subway / Dunkin Donuts / Turtle Wax Car Wash "super station" at Mannheim Road and United Parkway. Current plans call for construction of a restaurant later in the summer.

SCHILLER PARK / FRANKLIN PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS 2009 CALENDAR

MARCH 25

State of Manufacturing

Highlights manufacturing trends in Franklin Park and Schiller Park - an annual event.

APRIL 22

Fire Safety at the Schiller Park Fire Station

This event showcases our public safety resources and helps business owners and residents stay safe.

MAY 27

Meet the Reps

This is a once-a-year opportunity to meet our state senator and

representative. They update us on happenings in Springfield and take questions from their constituents.

JUNE 24

Meet the Mayors

Hosted this year by Schiller Park, the Mayors of Franklin Park and Schiller Park update their constituents in this annual breakfast.

JULY 22

Golf Outing

Think Summer! One of the summer's great events, individual golfers, corporate sponsorships, and foursomes are all welcome.

The Chamber of Commerce promotes local commerce by responding to the needs of businesses and the general public. Full Event Information can be found at www.chamberbybore.org.

THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE

SCHILLER PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY JUNE OULAND

As I begin this column I am having an attack of nostalgia. I think back to 1964 when Schiller Park celebrated its 50th year as a village. At that time I was writing a neighborhood column for the now defunct Montclare Leyden Herald. I was asked to put together a booklet on the town's history, probably on the strength of my connection to the newspaper. It was a very exciting summer for the entire Village and by the close I had accumulated a very fat folder of historic memorabilia - which I tucked away in my file cabinet.

When the mid-70's rolled around everyone was gearing up for the Bicentennial and again I was approached about writing a book on the history of the Village. I had the help of "diggers" who found old photos and letters. I interviewed people and "Plowshares to Jet Fields" was published. Now I had a very large box stuffed with information - which I stored away on a top shelf.

In 1988 people were beginning to plan for Schiller Park's 75th birthday. The very large box was pulled down. Eleanor Schulmeister and I wrote the material for yet another book, aided by volunteers, George Sieracki Sr., Morrie Granum, Loraine Bronoski, Ellen Mann, LaVerne Stevens, and Maryanne Naedelin. It was a year of surprises, a lot of laughter and getting acquainted with residents, old and young. Cathleen Tymoszenko whose office was adjacent to the meeting room at the Community Center joined us for some of our talks, loved the stories, and eventually became our Village liaison.

"Reflections" became the third book. And now I had a very large storage box filled to overflowing with historic treasures. George was our spokesman. The Village Board agreed that we needed to preserve this material. We were given a room in the Library rent free. In March 1990 we officially became the Schiller Park Historical Society.

Many of the original volunteers are now gone - George, Eleanor, Morrie, and others who joined us along the way - Max Wydra, Ruby Bria, Gordon Siverson, Dorothy Burchardt, Millie Kiesling, Jennie Tartaglia. As we add to the archives and interview people we need volunteers. If you are a "history nut" please join us, you will enjoy it, honest. We meet Mondays 9-12 and every second Sunday. Please call (847) 671-8513 for more information.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SIGNUP REMINDER

As most of you are aware by now the Village's Emergency Telephone System Board ("ETSB") has contracted with the NTI Group to provide the Village with access to a notification system capable of quickly calling residents to deliver emergency or informational messages. Messages could be an emergency evacuation request due to a chemical spill, a simple notification of an impending water shutoff due to a main break, or possibly a request to help police find a missing child.

Residents need to know this system exists and be ready for pre-recorded messages from the Village. If you would like to verify your contact information, or would like to add additional phone numbers or an e-mail address for notification go to our web site, www.villageofschillerpark.com and click on the Connect-CTY link provided on the main page. If you have any questions about this notification system feel free to contact the Fire Chief at (847) 671-8545 or via email at firechief@villageofschillerpark.com.

CLOCKTOWER PARK

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The Village's well received series of free concerts at Clocktower Park is returning for another season of good music and family fun this coming summer. These family friendly events are always fun and you can't beat the price - they're free! Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or a blanket for seating. The following is the schedule for this summer:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2009

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Joan Hammel (Swing)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2009

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Tangent (Classic Rock)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2009

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM
White Saddle Band (Country & Western)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2009

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Ronnie Barnes & The Highway Kings (Pop - Variety)

YARD WASTE & BRANCH COLLECTION PROCEDURES

If you're planning on doing some yard work this spring and summer, you might want to brush up on the Village's processes for yard waste and branch collection. Since there are different rules and pickup days for yard waste and branches it is important to know and understand the specific rules for each program.

YARD WASTE BEGINS FRIDAY, APRIL 3

This includes items like grass clippings, twigs, shrubbery, and dead plants or flowers. Collection is made by GROOT (our normal garbage hauler) on the normal pickup day of Friday. You have two options for curbside disposal of yard waste - (1) Utilize a 30 gallon or smaller generic, biodegradable, paper bag, or (2) Use a 35 gallon or less sized garbage can for landscape waste only (this must be marked with Village supplied stickers stating "landscape waste"). These stickers can be obtained at Village Hall and are free. This service is provided until November 24th.

BRANCH PICKUP BEGINS MONDAY, MARCH 30

This service is provided directly by the Village's Department of Public Works and is done on Monday throughout the spring and summer. Please ensure your branches are out at the curb prior to 7:00 AM on Monday morning. The Public Works crew will come by and "chip" the branches into woodchips. The chips are then used by Public Works in various projects in the Village. If you have questions about the branch pickup program or you are interested in getting some woodchips from the Village's stockpile please contact Joseph Meyers, Director of Public Works at (847) 671-8554.

If you have any questions about either the yard waste program or the branch pickup program please don't hesitate to contact the Village at (847) 678-2550.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

FAST FACTS: HOME ELECTRICAL FIRES

Every year in the United States thousands of homes are destroyed by fire. Unfortunately, this problem only seems to be getting worse. According to a report recently released by the U.S. Fire Administration, fire departments across the United States responded to more than 412,000 homes fires last year - a jump of more than 16,000 fires from the previous year. Many of these fires were caused by electrical problems that could have been easily prevented.

Home electrical fires annually cause over 500 deaths, injure more than 1,400 people and account for \$1.4 billion in property damage. The potential risk for home electrical fires has increased over time with each home getting older.

- Check to make sure that outlets are not overloaded
- Do not misuse extension cords
- Do not cover up cords on the floor
- Make sure that no circuit breakers are overloaded and are the proper amperage
- Make sure that the service to the house from Com Ed is adequate

DID YOU KNOW? FIRE IS FAST!

There is little time. In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house. In minutes, a house can be engulfed in flames.

FIRE IS HOT!

Heat is more threatening than flames. A fire's heat alone can kill. Room temperature in a fire can be 100 degrees at the floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super hot air will scorch your lungs.

FIRE IS DARK!

Fire isn't bright, it's pitch black. Fire starts bright, but quickly produces black smoke and complete darkness. If you wake up to a fire you may be blinded, disorientated and unable to find your way around your home you've lived in for years.

FIRE IS DEADLY!

Smoke and toxic gases kill more people than flames do. Fires use up the oxygen you need and produces smoke and poisonous gases that kill. Breathing even small amounts of smoke and toxic gases can make you drowsy, disorientated and short of breath. The odorless, colorless fumes can lull you into a deep sleep before the flames reach your door. You may not wake up in time to escape.

FIREFIGHTER ADOPT-A-CLASSROOM

The Schiller Park Fire Department embarked on a pilot program with Washington School in School District 81 for the 2008-2009 school year. Eight members of the fire department volunteered to be assigned a classroom of fourth or fifth graders.

The firefighters who volunteered have helped to be role models and mentors for the students. Firefighters and Paramedics stop in to visit their classes every week and participate with them in school activities. They listen to their stories, provide safety messages and interact with their studies. The firefighters and paramedics work with the teachers and administration to make this successful.

Members have visited their classrooms to see the plays, recitals, help chaperone on field trips and help in the classes. The firefighters work with the teachers and administration in coordinating these activities.

"I enjoy participating in the Firefighter Adopt-A-Class program because it provides a positive role model for the students."

"The students get excited when you visit their classroom, but most importantly, it makes them feel special and important. They look forward to these visits with great anticipation. They take pride in showing off their projects/assignments, or special talents such as playing their instruments. They also like inviting us to see what they are doing and with the special giveaways we provide to the students."

"Overall, this is a good positive experience for the students and teachers alike."

- FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC, JOHN PICULAS

"Washington School participates in the Adopt-A-Firefighter program and I think that every school should have a program like this because it's so much fun and you get to learn safety tips."

"I like the part where the firefighters come because they give us some fun homework. When we turn in our homework they check it out, they give us cool rewards. When we have a question and answer period and we get the question right we get a prize. I share my fire homework with my family to make it safer for us at home."

"The firefighters come to our classes, Winter Celebration, Halloween, Music Man play, we play Bingo and they come for fun."

"We sometimes get homework from the firemen but I think that it's better than regular homework. School sometimes gets boring but when somebody comes from the fire department they turn all that around. When I was small I always wanted to be a fireman and by the fireman coming by he gets my hopes higher every time!"

- FOURTH GRADERS ROOM 102, WASHINGTON SCHOOL

PUBLIC WORKS STREET SWEEPER STAYS BUSY

Public Works operates the street sweeper from early April through late November each year. The 28 miles of streets in town are all swept on a regular schedule during this time. This adds up to about 32 weeks of street sweeping and an average of over 1,000 miles each year.

All sweepers need a significant amount of regular and routine maintenance to be kept in good operating condition. Due to the need for this ongoing maintenance the sweeper sometimes needs to be taken out of service for a day or more for the maintenance to be performed. Public Works generally rotates the days the sweeper will be used for its various tasks to ensure that all needed work is done, and that there is still time for maintenance of the sweeper as well.

The Public Works Department also wants to remind residents that they need to avoid parking on the streets during the street sweeper's scheduled cleanings. Each street is clearly marked with signs indicating the days that street parking is prohibited. Following these rules makes the job easier for the sweeper driver and ensures your street will be cleaned more effectively. Please contact the Public Works Director Joe Meyers at (847) 671-8554 with any questions or concerns about the street sweeping program.

WE WANT YOUR OPINION! The Village of Schiller Park values your opinion and offers this opportunity for residents and business people to communicate with your elected officials and the administration. Your advice, suggestions, questions and opinions are appreciated. If you need more space, attach a separate sheet. As a resident of Schiller Park, it is my opinion that...

Kindly check if you would like your name kept confidential. YES NO

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____

(Responses cannot be provided if name and address are not given) **PLEASE RETURN TO: COMMUNICATOR - VILLAGE OF SCHILLER PARK - 9526 IRVING PARK ROAD - SCHILLER PARK, IL 60176**



9526 IRVING PARK RD.
SCHILLER PARK, ILLINOIS
60176
847-678-2550

- Mayor*
ANNA MONTANA
- Village Clerk*
CLAUDIA IRSUTO
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