



# Schillergram

## SCHILLER PARK UPDATES



### Mayor's Update

Dear Residents,

So far the stalemate in Springfield, over the budget and politics, has not affected our Village. As Crain's Chicago Business aptly described it recently, Governor Rauner's ideology is

clashing with Speaker Michael Madigan's power. Until that divide is bridged, we run the risk of being collateral damage. This is the concern among Illinois municipalities, including Schiller Park. Part of the Governor's announced "Turnaround Agenda" plan is to reduce the amount of state income tax revenue the State shares with municipalities, known as the Local Governmental Distributive Fund (LGDF). This sharing agreement dates back to 1969, when the State opted to collect income tax for the entire State and share a portion of it with municipalities. This statewide collection method was extended to sales taxes as well. Therefore, the money collected is not the State's money to keep. The State needs to find a way to balance their budget, but it should not be on the backs of municipalities that have struggled with their own budgets.

Until fundamental change occurs regarding how Springfield conducts business, siphoning off more money to throw at the monster will be futile. Perhaps portions of the Governor's plan have merit, but they must be implemented as part of a comprehensive agreed upon structure taking all sides of the argument into account. This task lies squarely in the hands of our legislators and all other involved stakeholders. Until steps towards a resolution are found, we are all at risk. I personally would love to see the governor or his representatives locked inside a room with a few legislative reps and not allowed out until a solution is reached!

I traveled to Springfield this spring with a group of mayors to meet with legislators and share our message. Many of the legislators understand and support our position, however, the state also clearly has its own problems to contend with. The State's fiscal year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. The State's 2014-15 fiscal year budget was passed with a deficit, meaning that budgeted expenditures exceeded projected revenues. Similarly, the state is staring at another deficit for 2015-16, but no budget has been passed.

What does this mean for Schiller Park? Well, we are feeling the impact by the suspension of a \$600,000 DCEO grant that would help repair and improve a lift station to help prevent flooding, install a bridge over the 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue creek so residents do not have to walk in the street (safety hazard), and a number of other improvements that we planned to use the funds for that would truly benefit the residents. An important revenue source for projects is the State Motor Fuel Tax (MFT). This money is distributed to municipalities each year to repair local streets. The State is holding all funds until further notice. Some are concerned that the dollars will be used to cover the State's deficit. The Village Board recently adopted a resolution requesting these funds.

If the State's budget impasse continues and the state government experiences a temporary shutdown, please know the Village will not be directly affected. Essential services to our residents, such as police and fire protection, will continue as well as utility services and public works operations. The Village is in a solid financial state and has sufficient reserves. However, we remain very concerned about the long term effects of a potential reduction in the LGDF revenues.

#### Looking forward.

The Village is currently working on hiring experts to help us devise a comprehensive plan for our town, something that has not been done since 1992. This comprehensive plan will put Schiller Park on a bright course in terms of future development, services and economic stability. The proposed West Gateway development is a great example. This project involves two new hotels, restaurants, and retail essential for Schiller Park. It will be a huge boom to our local economy, village finances and potentially lower property taxes for residents. The Village hopes to have this development deal completed very soon. We look forward to sharing this comprehensive plan with our residents and receiving their input.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to me. I am truly interested in any recommendations you may have pertaining to our community. If you have a question I cannot answer, I promise I will find the answer. The Village employs very professional staff and we are part of an information network including membership in several Councils of Government to use as resources. Also, I would urge anyone who hears rumors on the street or through social media to call and speak with me personally to verify anything they may hear or read. We want our residents to be informed, but with facts, not rumors or incorrect information.

I wish all our residents a very Happy Thanksgiving. If you are able, share your blessings with others; there are many food banks in the area that could use donations such as the Leyden Family Service, Resurrection Church in Franklin Park or our own Loaves and Fishes program that is held every Friday at the Community Center. Every donation is appreciated.

I am truly blessed with the position I hold and the opportunity to serve you. I hope to meet and see many of you at some of our upcoming events. The best part of my job is talking with residents.

Enjoy the fall weather!

Working for you with a vision.

Mayor Barbara

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

847-671-8502

**MAYOR**  
BARBARA J. PILTAVER

**CLERK**  
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RICHARD W. DESECKI  
CATHERINE GORZYNSKI  
MOSES DIAZ  
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ROBERT LIMA

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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)

Follow us on 

# Police Chief's Corner



## Policing with Values

In early September the Village of Schiller Park asked me to serve as the Interim Chief of Police. My initial goal has been to learn about the officers within the department, their capabilities and their values. Personnel are responsible for being professional and knowledgeable. They are sworn to deliver policing services and protection with professional values every day. The core values for doing this are as follows:

- \* **Personnel should provide fair treatment and equal protection under the law to all people, at all times, without exception;**
- \* **Officers should use only the minimum force necessary to accomplish a lawful purpose;**
- \* **Personnel should be honest and perform their duties with integrity;**
- \* **Officers should define their role, not narrowly as being just law enforcement officers, but broadly as being community problem-solvers.**
- \* **Officers should view their badge not as a symbol of authority, but of the public's trust in them.**
- \* **Officers should hold themselves to a higher standard of conduct both on and off the job.**

I have shared the above values in my interviews with police officers, and have observed how they deliver services during ride-alongs, through report review and in discussion with prosecutors. Keeping organizational values strong is the chief's responsibility and I will be paying particular attention to entry level selection criteria, training programs, daily supervision and the process for investigating personnel complaints. Citizen input is very important too. Please call me with your thoughts at 847-671-8525.

## Police Department News – New Officer

Officer Patrick Flynn was sworn-in on June 22, 2015 as the newest full-time member of the police department. He is from the area and worked previously in the fitness industry and also served briefly with the Lake County, Illinois Sheriff's Office.

Officer Flynn graduated from the Cook County Sheriff's Police Academy on Sept 11, 2015 and was named the class valedictorian. Officer Flynn also won the academy's marksmanship award, and his classmates voted him as the sole recipient of the "Frank Knapp Outstanding Officer Award" which is bestowed upon cadets who shine in the areas of leadership, character, and teamwork.

Officer Flynn will now participate in the department's field training program where he will be partnered with veteran training officers for a minimum of 12 weeks.



# Fire Department News



*Correction: In the last issue the Fire Department made one incorrect reference to retiring Paid On-Call Firefighters, It should have read: Paid on Call Firefighter Kevin Dusek retiring after 19 years. My apologies.*

## Safely Install Car Seats



For anyone who has kids, whether your own, grandkids, or children you babysit for, safety should be of the utmost importance, especially when traveling in a car. The Schiller Park Fire Department is committed to helping you keep kids safe! Schiller Park has a full time firefighter/paramedic, Tim Bubis, trained in the proper use of car seats and can assist you with your installation. FF/PM Bubis is versed in how to install car seats, address problems, and demonstrate how to properly and safely secure your child in a vehicle. Please contact the Fire Department at (847) 678-5136 to schedule a time to get your child seat installed.

## Hydrant Flushing



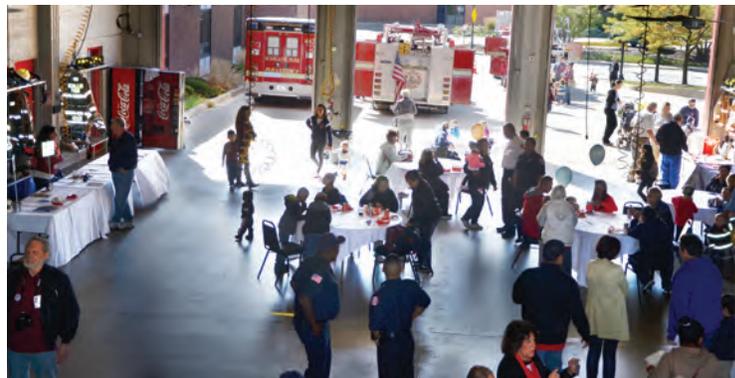
The Schiller Park Fire Department has completed its 2015 Hydrant flushing program. Each year the fire department flows each hydrant, approximately 400, to exercise the valve and see if there are any problems. When an issue arises, Schiller Park Fire and Public Works personnel work hand-in-hand to make necessary repairs and get it back in service. The Fire Department also does flow testing to gauge the available water in gallons per minute (GPM). This helps in knowing how much water is available on that water main and aids businesses in the necessary GPM's for sprinkler systems.

## Schiller Park Fire Department Looking for Donations



The Schiller Park Fire Department accepts donations to their Training Division. Donations in the past have included houses, buildings and cars. These assets are used so that real hands-on training can occur for our 28 firefighter/paramedics. A tax deductible letter can be issued for these items. If you have a structure that will be razed, we would love the opportunity to train on and in it. We can provide a certificate of insurance in these instances. If you would like to make a monetary donation or memorial for equipment that we use, please contact Chief Peter Chiodo at (847) 671-8545.

## Fire Department Open House



The Schiller Park Fire Department hosted its annual Open House on October 10<sup>th</sup> during Fire Prevention Week. Family and Friends were able to see inside a working firehouse, have the children crawl through a firefighter maze, put out a "house fire" and do firefighter physical

➡ Continued on page 3

challenges. For the adults information was provided on the secure key system, home alarms and a look back at our history via the Schiller Park Historical Society. Everyone was treated to hot dogs, chips and lemonade with the firefighters.

### Schiller Park Remembers 9/11

The Village of Schiller Park moved the 9/11 Remembrance from Clock Tower Park to the apparatus floor of the firehouse because of severe storms and rain. Those who perished in the tragedy were remembered by Mayor Piltaver, Rev. Rob Schultz, Chief Chiodo and guest speaker Russ Klug. Russ spoke from his four perspectives of Police Officer, Trustee, Parent and Veteran. The Village plans to have next years 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup>.



### New Village Manager Appointed

The Village of Schiller Park is pleased to announce the appointment of Brad Townsend as Village Manager. Mr. Townsend has been serving as Interim Village Manager for the past 6 months while a national search for a long-term Village Manager was conducted by *GovHR USA*. The official appointment took place the September 3<sup>rd</sup> Village Board Meeting.



When he started as Interim Village Manager (VM), Mr. Townsend did not intend to take on this role in a long-term capacity. "Shortly after working here in Schiller Park, I developed a renewed interest in municipal management and realized I wanted to get back into this type of job full-time. Schiller Park is a culturally diverse, affordable place to live. The Village is rich in history with attractive neighborhoods and parks. It's at the center of commerce and industry. I have enjoyed meeting many residents and business owners. The elected officials and employees are great to work with as we provide many public services." said VM Townsend.

As Village Manager/Comptroller, Mr. Townsend will be responsible for the daily operations of the Village and Village Departments, including oversight of all employees. Holding previous municipal administrative positions as well as financial advisory roles in the private sector, Mr. Townsend has a clear understanding of Village operations and financial accountability.

Barbara Piltaver, Mayor of the Village of Schiller Park, said, "Brad has 35 years of Village management and financial advisory experience. I look forward to his leadership in furthering Schiller Park's goals of improving communication, government efficiency and maintaining the quality of life that we enjoy in this great community." Mayor Piltaver continued, "During his 6 months as Interim Village Manager, Brad maintained a level of professionalism, integrity, and productivity at Village Hall that impressed all the Trustees. The appointment of the Village Manager is one of the most important decisions a Village Board can make. My colleagues and I are very pleased that Brad has accepted this position."

Mr. Townsend is a highly credentialed manager that received his Masters Degree in Public Administration (MPA) from Northern Illinois University and a BA in Public Administration from Western Illinois University.

## SCHILLER PARK BLOOD DRIVE REPORT



The Village of Schiller Park in conjunction with Life Source, held a blood drive on October 20<sup>th</sup>. 29 units of blood were collected from 33 people participating. They had one new donor and one donor made a "double red" donation. On the red blood cells are collected from the donor's blood. It's two collections; and it is counted as (two) donations from 1 donor. There were five donors that were deferred. Several donors reached milestones. Rick Desecki reached 3 gallons, Doris Dominguez 2 gallons and Scott Taylor 1 Gallon.

All donors were entered into a drawing for some great prizes many of which were generously donated by some local Schiller Park businesses, Fratelli Coffee Co, Subway, the Schiller Park Rec Department and the Chamber by O'Hare. Winners included John Kusiak, Javier Gonzalez, Gladys Martinez, and Rick Desecki.

As always, there were some great after donation treats to be enjoyed. Sandwiches were donated by Super Low Foods and donut holes from Dunkin Donuts on River Road. JoAnne Michonski again made her delicious chocolate oatmeal cookies and rice-crispy treats.

The next blood drive will be TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015 from 1:30 to 5:30 at the Community Center, 4501 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Please mark your calendars as we are again trying to reach our goal of getting 60 donations. There will be another round of great prizes including a \$25 gift card from Sally's Waffle Shoppe, gourmet coffee from Fratelli Coffee Company and two \$25 gift cards from the Village of Schiller Park.

Help give the gift of life and donate blood. Again, be sure to mark your calendars for December 15.

### Schiller Park's Best Holiday Decorated House Contest



Do you enjoy decorating your house for the holidays? If so then let the Recreation Department recognize your efforts. Just call (847) 671-8580 to give your address and register for this free activity. Houses will be judged for creativity and the winner will receive their choice of a 2016 season pass for the water park or an individual 6 month fitness pass at the Recreation Center. The house must be located within the corporate boundaries of Schiller Park.

**Call and register by December 14.**

**Mayor Piltaver, along with the Board of Trustees and the Schiller Park Police Department will be participating in this year's Toys-for-Tots Campaign. This campaign will help provide Christmas cheer for children who might not otherwise receive gifts this year.**

**Your donation of new, unwrapped toys for all ages can be dropped off at one of the conveniently located donation boxes throughout Schiller Park including; Village Hall, Police Department, Community Development, Recreation Center and the Schiller Park Library.**

***Dates for donating are November 9, 2015 thru December 6, 2015.***



# Electricity Solicitors Update

As a reminder, the Village of Schiller Park renewed its electric aggregation program. Notices were mailed to all ratepayers the first week of July. Power flow with new supplier Dynegy Energy began at meter readings in September at the fixed rate of 6.851¢ per kWh. There are no fees to join, nor any termination fees. Residents who received the opt-out notice, and did not opt-out, received an enrollment confirmation from ComEd in August. If you are enrolled, the back page of your ComEd bill will state “Dynegy Energy” next to the heading “Supply” under Charge Details.

The Village has been advised that solicitors are going door to door, informing folks they must sign up for the Village’s program. That is inaccurate. No one from the Village or from Dynegy Energy will ever solicit a ratepayer to enroll by calling or knocking on your door.

If someone comes to your door and claims to be representing Dynegy Energy, residents are encouraged to call the Police at either 911 or (847) 678-4794.

Residents are advised to be cautious of all solicitors. Residents should never release their ComEd account number to a solicitor, unless they have first carefully reviewed contract terms for floating rates, early termination fees, added monthly fees, or above-market prices.

It is recommended residents never reveal their ComEd account number to a caller as account “jamming” may occur—that is, switching to another supplier without the resident’s authorization. Such activity has occurred in Illinois on occasion and has resulted in ratepayers trapped at high rates or with hidden fees.

Com Ed does not ask for residents’ account numbers over the phone, nor make door-to-door calls.

If you are the victim of account jamming or wish to file a complaint about a supplier, you are urged to contact the Illinois Commerce Commission Consumer Services Division complaint line at 800-524-0795. Customers may also file a complaint at: <http://www.icc.illinois.gov/consumer/complaint>.

Furthermore all commercial solicitors are required to get a permit from the Village, after passing a background check, before they can go door-to-door. If a solicitor (for electricity or other commercial venture) comes to your door they should have a badge issued by the Village with a clearly printed expiration date. If they do not have such a badge, please contact the Police immediately so they can be questioned. They may be cited for violation of Village ordinances.

Howard Moser, Director • 847.671.8554

## Public Works

### UPDATE



#### FALL TREE PLANTING HAS BEEN COMPLETED

The 2015 fall tree planting program has been completed with the planting of 30 new trees throughout the village. Several species were installed including Autumn Blaze Maple, October Glory Maple, Ironwood, Little Leaf Linden, Swamp White Oak and Skyline Honey Locust. These new trees will improve the air quality, increase property value, lower cooling costs and upgrade the overall appearance of Schiller Park. This time of year the new trees will not require much watering, once a week is plenty. Be sure not to pile grass clippings or leaves against the base of the tree as this creates an environment subject to decay.

#### BRANCH COLLECTION AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION ENDING

The Villages 2015 weekly branch collection program will conclude on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please get any remaining branches out to the curb before the 23<sup>rd</sup> to ensure they are collected.

##### Collection Guidelines

- Branches must be on the parkway by 7:00 am on Monday morning.
- Branches must be 2 feet or longer, cleanly cut (without roots), and bundled with cut ends pointing to the curb.
- Branches must be smaller than 8 inches in diameter (measured at the cut end).
- Branches should not obstruct sidewalks or streets.

\* Last Yard Waste Collection will occur on Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup> \*

Yard waste pickup is handled by the Village garbage contractor GROOT and is picked up along with resident’s regular trash and recycling pickup. Yard waste must be put out in 32 gallon containers marked with at least two Village yard waste stickers or in biodegradable paper bags which are folded at the top. Yard waste that is too large for bags or cans (such as branches or brush) may be tied up using biodegradable twine and left at the curb with other yard waste.

#### STREET IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED

The 2015/16 street improvement program was completed on schedule and included resurfacing of the following locations: Linn Avenue (Forster to Harold), George Street (Bertheau to Irving Park Road) and the alley north of Irving Park Road (Kolze to Old River Road). Partial road patching also occurred in various locations throughout the Village that were identified by Public Works Staff.

## Around Town Community Development News

Community Development is excited to announce the arrival of a number of new companies to the Village of Schiller Park. These new businesses offer a wide variety of service and help make Schiller Park one of the most attractive places for companies to locate. They help to provide a diverse workforce. Please help us welcome:

- Varian Medical Systems at 3709 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- J & H Fulfillment at 4306 United Parkway
- Enrollment RX LLC at 9511 River Street

- Commercial Heating & AC at 9530 Ainslie Street
- Elite Dance Club at 9438 Irving Park Road
- Catering for Every Occasion at 9439 Irving Park Road
- Society of St Vincent de Paul at 10525 Delta Parkway
- Alpine Orthotic & Prosthetic Lab at 3740 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Ferravit Remodeling at 9801 Lawrence Avenue #B
- A & C Plastics at 3801 N 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue

The Community Development department welcomes residents to visit our office for help in your home improvement projects, questions on finding reliable contractors and information on filing for permits and zoning issues. We are here to help you at 4501 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact our office at 847-671-8555.

**John Zalud, Community Development Director.**

## Make a Difference Day Once Again a Success!

Make a Difference Day in Schiller Park on October 24<sup>th</sup> started out rainy but at least it wasn't cold. Several people came out to join the Mayor and volunteer their time to help out seniors and those with disabilities. Leyden High School also sent students to lend a hand. Their first project was to clean the outside windows of a home, rake his leaves and ultimately killed a wasps nest! The crews then moved on to other homes down the block and started to trim some bushes, rake more leaves before the downpour started and everyone ended up in the garage. Once the rain let up, the students finished up and then went back to school. The rest of the volunteers continued their work on six other homes doing such chores as cleaning floors, refrigerators, stoves, trimming trees, pulling weeds and more leaf raking. We finished up our projects with a gratifying feeling knowing we helped a lot of people.

Mayor Piltaver wishes to thank all the volunteers who helped her out that day; John Piltaver, Sandra Rosario, John Zalud, Karen Ortiz, Mark Mukahirn, Jim Grabowski, Mila Stryjecka, Sherri Adair and all the students from Leyden High School. Make a Difference Day is a USA Today initiative that unites millions of volunteers across the nation with a common mission – to improve the lives of others. It is the largest day of community service.

We look forward to doing it again next year and hope that more people take part in an effort to make a difference in Schiller Park.



## Village of Schiller Park Refinancing of Bonds Completed

The Village of Schiller Park is currently in the final stages of negotiating an agreement that will result in hotels and other improvements on the West Gateway development area at the corner of Irving Park Road and Mannheim Road. Unfortunately it may take the better part of five years for this development to realize its full potential. In the meantime the Mayor and Village Board decided to approve the refinancing of two older bond issues in order to substantially lower the Village's debt repayment amount on them for the next five years.

The plan is that during these five years the new West Gateway hotel development can be completed and begin producing the tax revenue needed to pay for these bonds. Therefore the refinancing of these bonds strengthens the Village's short term financial outlook by greatly assisting the Village's ability to produce a balanced budget over the next several years while also maintaining a healthy fiscal reserve for emergency use.

It should be clear that the refinancing of these bonds does not involve taking on any new debt but rather represents a reshuffling of existing repayment obligations in order to provide short term relief. Village Manager Brad Townsend stated that "Given the circumstances, this is one important part of the overall effort to improve the Village's financial condition now and in the future." The S&P credit rating report that confirms Schiller Park's excellent AA- (stable outlook) rating is yet another reason for this approval and gives investors a lot of confidence. Overall the Village feels that refinancing these bonds was an important step to deal with these existing debt obligations while the development in West Gateway moves forward.

## Halloween Decorated House Winners Announced



The Recreation Department judged 8 houses that entered the contest this year. Several of the houses were outstanding, making the judging more difficult. The two co-winners pictured here will receive a choice of a free 6 month fitness membership or 2016 Pool Pass. Thank you to all who participated.

# Calendar of Events

## Village Board Meetings

Thursdays, November 19<sup>th</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 PM

Village Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Boardroom

## Autumn Leaves Senior Club Meetings

Tuesdays, November 24<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>  
1:00 PM

Community Center

## Veteran's Day

Wednesday November 11<sup>th</sup>  
Village Offices Closed

## Street Sweeping Schedule

Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> Even Addresses

Tuesday November 10<sup>th</sup> Odd Addresses

Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> Even Addresses

Tuesday November 24<sup>th</sup> Odd Addresses

*Street Sweeping Ends for Year on November 24th*

## Tax Appeal Seminar

Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM  
Community Center

## Branch Pickup Ends

Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup>

## Thanksgiving Day & Day After Thanksgiving

Thursday November 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday November 27<sup>th</sup>  
Village Offices Closed  
(Village Hall Also Closed Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup>)

## Yard Waste Pickup Ends

Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup>

## Santa's Winter Wonderland

Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Community Center

## Holiday Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM  
Clock Tower Park

## Blood Drive

Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 1:30 PM – 6:30 PM  
Community Center

## Christmas Eve

Thursday December 24<sup>th</sup>  
Village Offices Closed 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

## Christmas Day

Friday December 25<sup>th</sup>  
Village Offices Closed

## New Year's Eve

Thursday December 31<sup>st</sup>  
Village Offices Closed 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

## New Year's Day

Friday January 1<sup>st</sup>  
Village Offices Closed

*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



## Child Abuse Victims Memorial Tree Dedicated

In the morning of Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> a beautiful young tree in Stalica Park was dedicated by the Village as the "Child Abuse Victims Memorial Tree" and a plaque, designed and paid for by a local community group, was unveiled. Mayor Barbara Piltaver spoke of the dedication of the members of the community group and the need for our society to do all we can to end child abuse while a small crowd, that included a number of Village Trustees and Staff, looked on.



Angela Melendez, a Schiller Park resident and leader of the group, spoke of the need for a place for the group to gather and remember lost loved ones, and for those in our community that become aware of child abuse, or suspected child abuse, to immediately report it to the Police. Also present and working with Angela Melendez as part of the group were Amanda King and Natalie Jasinska.

Their efforts are driven by a desire to honor the memory of victims Tyler, Jayden, Deklin, Gizzell & Ariana. They want to help prevent other families from suffering through same type of horrible loss like they suffered. The group plans to remain active in Schiller Park and the surrounding communities in their effort to stop child abuse wherever they can. Those interested in donating or participating in their efforts can contact Angela Melendez via email at [angela@familiesagainstchildabuse.org](mailto:angela@familiesagainstchildabuse.org).

## ATTENTION TAXPAYERS SEEKING TO APPEAL THEIR 2015 PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS

Mayor Barbara Piltaver and the Village of Schiller Park will be hosting a Property Tax Assessment Appeal Seminar on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 at 6:30 pm at the Schiller Park Community Center, 4501 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Dan Patlak will be there to educate taxpayers on how to file a successful tax appeal and address why property taxes go up when the value of your home goes down. The hour long seminar includes a presentation by Commissioner Dan Patlak explaining the appeal procedure at the Board of Review. Before the end of the evening, taxpayers will have an opportunity to work with staff from the Board of Review to address their specific questions and concerns. This event is FREE to the public, and there is no fee to appeal at the Board of Review. Taxpayers are asked to bring a copy of their most recent tax bill. Seniors who are on the senior freeze are not eligible to appeal. If you are not able to attend, you may file an appeal online by visiting the Board of Review website: [www.cookcountyboardofreview.com](http://www.cookcountyboardofreview.com). There is a limited amount of time to appeal your taxes and even if you appealed last year, you can appeal again. Don't miss this event!