



Mayor Nick Caiafa, the Village Clerk, Village Trustees and staff celebrated the 4th of July with a picnic, followed by a pool party at the Anna Montana Water Park and Memorial Pool.



## Mayor's Corner

### Beautifying, Renovating and Modernizing Our Public Spaces

I hope you have noticed our colorful new flowerpots along Irving Park Road. In the last several months, we have been hard at work on projects, both large and small. Together, they help to beautify our community, enhance our quality of life, increase our safety and expand our green space. The Board and I believe that Schiller Park is a great place to live, work and raise a family. We want our community to reflect this belief, to inspire pride and encourage a strong community spirit. We hope these beautification and renovation projects will encourage residents to continue to enjoy our parks and green spaces.

#### A Place to Gather

Clock Tower Park, the location of many Village events and concerts, is an important gathering place for our community. It is home to our Wall of Honor and our official flags. We were excited to have been awarded a \$156,000 Open Spaces grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), which will allow us to move forward with our plan to expand and upgrade the park.

The IDNR funds helped the Village to purchase an adjacent house, allowing us to incorporate that space for park use. The funds will be also be used to add amenities and offer additional leisure opportunities in Clock Tower Park. The renovated park will include a rain garden, new playground equipment and enhanced landscaping.

The playground is a key component of our park expansion plan. It is very important to us that children who live in the area have a safely accessible play area near their home. Children who live near Clock Tower Park will no long need to cross Irving Park Road to access a playground.

#### A Place to Play

A few months ago the Illinois Tollway required a temporary easement, encompassing most of Dooley Park for the staging of their equipment during their expansion project. As a result, most of Dooley Park was closed to the public. Only the area that includes the playground for very young children remains open.

It was important to us in our discussions with the Tollway that the Village be compensated appropriately for this prolonged interruption to park access. Thanks to our negotiations, the Village will receive \$267,000 from the Tollway to completely renovate Dooley Park.

A Landscape Architect will submit renovation designs that will include additional green space, replacement of lost trees and updated landscaping. The safest and most up-to-date amenities will replace some of the current aging equipment in the park. The renovated park will have a modern design and will meet all ADA Accessibility and Safety Guidelines.

The Tollway construction and park closing have been a temporary inconvenience for our residents, visitors and businesses. The Tollway expects to complete their project this winter, and then Schiller Park will begin renovations on this new, beautiful recreational area for all to enjoy.

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## Community Garage Sale – September 13 - 15



Are you in need of some retail therapy? Looking for that one-of-a-kind treasure to add to your collection? Then plan to shop until you drop at the Village's annual Community Garage Sale! This year's event will be held Friday through Sunday, September 13, 14 and 15 from 9 AM to 4 PM. To obtain the list of addresses and the map of homes that will be participating, go to [www.villageofschillerpark.com](http://www.villageofschillerpark.com) or visit Village Hall a few days prior to the event.

## Village Hosts Shred Event – September 14



The Village will host a free Shred Event for Schiller Park residents on Saturday, September 14, from 9 AM to 1PM in the area behind the Streets Department Garage (which is located behind Village Hall). Protect your identity from being stolen by shredding documents that contain your personal information such as outdated medical bills and old tax returns.

## September 11 Remembrance

Everyone is invited to the Village's 911 Remembrance at Clock Tower Park on Wednesday, September 11 at 8:30 AM which includes a moment of silence to honor our First Responders and to remember the fallen.

## Calendar of Events

**Village Board Meetings**  
Thursdays  
September 19, October 3 and October 7  
Village Hall 2nd Floor Boardroom 7 PM

**Autumn Leaves Senior Club Meetings**  
Tuesdays  
September 10 and 24  
October 8 and October 22  
Community Center 1 PM

**Street Sweeping Schedule**  
Even Addresses on Mondays  
September 9 and 23  
October 14 and 28  
Odd Addresses on Tuesdays  
September 10 and 24  
October 8 and 22

**Blood Drive**  
Tuesday, October 15 1 - 7 PM  
Community Development Offices

**Stay Connected**  
You can stay connected with the Village by visiting our Facebook Page. Also, you can sign-up to receive our periodic E-Newsletter and other important alerts via email at <http://bit.ly/SchillerParkSignUpHere>

Please check our Village website at [www.villageofschillerpark.com](http://www.villageofschillerpark.com) and watch our Village Facebook Page for updates on the progress of the Clock Tower Park and Dooley Park renovation projects.

### A Safer, Cleaner Look

The Village has been working with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to upgrade the viaducts on Lawrence Avenue and Irving Park Road. Viaduct retaining walls are being reinforced to enhance safety and to help deter street flooding. The viaduct on Lawrence Avenue has been painted and new, high efficiency lighting has been installed. These improvements provide a safer, cleaner and more attractive passageway for everyone.

### Mayor Nick Caiafa



Clock Tower Park is the Village's primary gathering place to enjoy summer concerts and to celebrate community events. Park expansion plans include a rain garden, new playground equipment and enhanced landscaping.

## Village Wins ComEd Grant for Clock Tower Park Project

The Village of Schiller Park received an environmental grant from ComEd as part of their Green Region Program. The \$9,000 grant will support biodiversity by enhancing natural habitats at Clock Tower Park.

The Village's expansion of Clock Tower Park includes a pollinator garden, which is a primary focus of ComEd's Green Region Grant Program this year. Pollinator Gardens provide a habitat that protects pollinator species such as bees and butterflies. ComEd chose to support pollinator garden expansion in response to a decline of pollinators in Northern Illinois and hopes to advance and protect the region's essential pollinator species.

You can learn more about ComEd's Green Region Program at [Openlands.org/GreenRegion](http://Openlands.org/GreenRegion).

## Monarch Conservation – How You Can Help

Everyone knows that monarch butterflies are beautiful, but did you know that their habitat provides many environmental and economic benefits including storm-water mitigation and improved pollination services? Our food sources and ecosystems are dependent on healthy pollinator populations. Unfortunately, the monarch butterfly populations have declined by 90% in the last 20 years!



The Village is including a new pollinator garden as part of its Clock Tower Park renovation plan. The Village has taken the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge after Schiller Park resident Karen Klafeta brought the plight of the monarch to the Board's attention. The pledge commits us to creating and protecting habitats for the monarch butterfly and other pollinators. The Village is asking residents to get involved in monarch conservation and become part of the international effort to protect monarch migration for future generations. Here's how you can create habitat for monarchs:

**Plant native milkweed** to feed monarch caterpillars. Monarchs need milkweed to survive and it is the only plant monarchs will use to lay their eggs.



**Plant a variety of native perennial nectar plants** to provide bloom throughout the growing season to help adult monarchs. If you also plant non-native species including annuals, choose those that provide nectar. Flowers provide monarchs with the fuel (nectar) they need to reproduce and migrate.

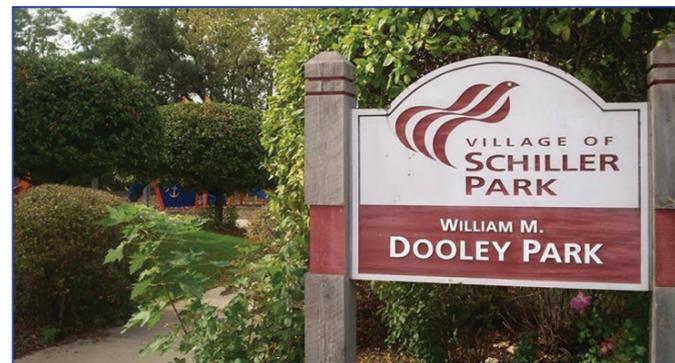


**Bigger is better!** Plant as much as possible but know that monarchs can find and use everything for breeding or fueling migration. Yard-by-yard, efforts build upon one another, connecting vital habitat for pollinators.

**Don't use pesticides** because they have a negative impact on monarchs and other pollinators.



**Go to [www.plantmilkweed.org](http://www.plantmilkweed.org)** to learn more about creating habitat for monarchs, including how to source native seeds and plants. Also visit our Village website for links to the Mayors' Monarch Pledge.



When renovation is complete, Dooley Park will feature the safest and most up-to-date equipment, additional green space and new landscaping.

## Street Improvement Program Will Increase Home Values

This summer, we have been working to improve our Village streets, curbs and gutters. Street improvements, whether it is on your block or across town, will positively impact home values throughout the entire community. Well maintained streets are important to the safety and quality of life of our residents. Street improvements are also essential to a business's ability to operate in the Village.

The Village's 2019 Street Program prioritized four streets identified as the most in need of repair. Repair work was completed on Rose Street, from Moore Lane to the Dead End, on Wilson Avenue, from Scott Street to Sunnyside and on Wehrman Avenue, from the Village limit to Irving Park Road. Some curb and gutter replacement was done on each street and was followed by a complete resurfacing of the roadway. Final landscaping will take place during the fall.

Improvements on Scott Street, from Seymour Avenue to Irving Park Road, will begin in early September after the Anna Montana Water Park & Memorial Pool has been closed for the season. Work is expected to be completed by October 1.

Not one penny of the Village's Street Improvements Program was funded by property taxes. It was funded by grants, low-interest loans, the Airport Parking Tax and the State's Motor Fuel Tax, which is shared with local municipalities.



Schiller Park, like many communities, needs to upgrade our community's aging and deteriorating infrastructure. In August, the Village replaced a water main which runs under the 4000, 4100 and 4200 blocks of Goss Avenue and under the 9200 block of Marie Lane. Following the water main replacement, a complete resurfacing of the roadway was completed which benefited the surrounding community.

These repair and replacement projects are part of our overall plan to upgrade and renew Village roadways and infrastructure. They were identified and prioritized by the Board last year based on a Capital Improvement Plan developed by Hancock Engineering. The plan is our roadmap for addressing infrastructure upgrades needed to improve services to our community.

The Village is committed to on-going infrastructure repairs and is hoping to announce the next round of streets targeted for upgrades this fall. The Board is aggressively moving to get as much work completed as possible before the weather changes.

If you have questions or concerns about the street resurfacing or infrastructure improvement projects please contact Brian Bursiek, Assistant Village Manager, at 847-671-8534 or at [bbursiek@schillerparkil.us](mailto:bbursiek@schillerparkil.us).



Photos show two examples of the Village's Street Improvement Program. On the left, crews are working to pave Rose Street and on the right, workers are installing a new water main on Goss Avenue.

## In Schiller Park, Everyone Counts!

The US Constitution requires a headcount of everyone residing in the United States every 10 years and should include people of all ages, races and ethnic groups and non-citizens. Everyone in a household should be counted including people who may be living at your address temporarily.

Your participation in the census count is important because the information gathered determines how much money Schiller Park will receive from the federal government to support road construction and repairs, infrastructure upgrades, school funding and social services programs for veterans, the elderly and families. The census count also determines how many seats our state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and in the Illinois General Assembly.

The US Census Bureau is taking extraordinary steps to protect personal privacy and to safeguard all data from cyber threats.

The information is NOT shared with other agencies such as law enforcement.

The census count will begin in March 2020. Schiller Park will be forming a Complete Count Committee soon to encourage maximum participation in the count. The committee will include representatives from the library, schools, local government agencies, community organizations, businesses and faith-based organizations. They will be working to inform our residents of the importance of responding to the census accurately and within the established time frame.

You will be hearing more about this important project over the next few months. We will be preparing materials in different languages and for different age groups. We will be encouraging groups that were undercounted in the last census to participate. Please check our website and watch this newsletter for updates.