

Alternate Side Parking Program: Are You Ready for Snow?

Alternate-side parking during heavy snow allows Skokie's Public Works Department to efficiently plow Village streets. The mandatory program is designed to provide the ability to plow the streets from curb-to-curb within a two-day period. Residents should call 847/675-SNOW (7669) or tune to 1660 AM, Skokie's new advisory radio station, to confirm that the program is in effect and for program updates. For more information on 1660 AM Skokie, please see page two. There is a \$50 fine for vehicles parked on the wrong side of the street when the Village's alternate side parking program is in effect.

Frequently Asked Questions

• On what side of the street do I park?

On odd-numbered dates, residents park vehicles on the odd-numbered side of the street. On even-numbered dates, residents park vehicles on the even-numbered side of the street. Odd and even dates are determined by the date on the calendar. Odd and even sides of the streets are determined by house addresses.

• When is alternate-side parking in effect?

The alternate-side parking plan is in effect between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. after any snowfall of two inches or more. An alert siren sounds to signal the start of alternate-side parking at 7 a.m. each day the plan is in effect. Cable television subscribers are alerted through the Village emergency over-ride system at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Additional information can be found on the SkokieVision cable station, 1660 AM (see article on page two for details) or by contacting 847/675-SNOW(7669) for a recorded status report.

• How many days does alternate-side parking last?

The program generally is in effect for at least two days. To find out if it is extended, call 847/675-SNOW (7669).

• What should I do with my vehicle(s) while on vacation or while I am at work?

Residents who do not have off-street parking facilities must make arrangements to have vehicles moved when the program is in effect.

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Village Schedules H1N1 Community Vaccination Clinics

In December, the Village will hold four community H1N1 vaccination clinics that will be open to all individuals in the priority groups that include pregnant women, individuals between 6 months to 24 years of age, people age 25 to 64 with underlying medical conditions (such as asthma or diabetes), healthcare workers and caregivers of children under 6 months of age. The clinics will be held at Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street, according to the following schedule:

Thursday, December 3 and Wednesday, December 9
Noon to 8 p.m.

Sunday, December 6 and Saturday, December 12
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vaccinations are free of charge and will be given by appointment only. A total of 5,000 vaccinations will be given at each clinic. Appointments can be made at www.skokie.org. No walk-ins will be accommodated without an appointment. To gain entry to the clinic, participants must show the printed confirmation or the identification code they will receive when registering for an appointment. All participants under age 18 will need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The Village expects that there will soon be adequate H1N1 vaccine supplies to offer vaccinations to people not in the current national priority groups. Please check www.skokie.org and listen to 1660 AM Skokie for updates.



Have You Prepared Your House for Cold Winter Weather?

Frozen Pipes

Frozen pipes usually occur for one of three reasons: when cold outside air leaks into the house and freezes the water in pipes, when a homeowner lowers the thermostat in their house to 55 degrees or less when they are out of the house or when the pipes in crawl spaces or attics are not properly insulated. When a pipe is frozen only a trickle of water comes out when the faucet is turned on.

If you choose to thaw the pipe yourself do not use a blowtorch, kerosene or propane heater or any open flame device.

It is advised that you have a licensed plumber assist if you cannot immediately locate the frozen pipe or cannot make the necessary repair.



Ice Dams

Ice dams are the result of melting water and ice entering attics via the roof shingles. Dams primarily occur after a cycle of melting-freezing days. Water from ice dams may damage ceilings, walls, floors and household items.

To reduce the chances that an ice dam will form be sure to clean out all gutters and downspouts, replacing or repairing those which are damaged, and do not allow ice or icicles to accumulate in or around gutters.

For more information please visit www.skokie.org. ∞

1660 AM Skokie

To improve communication and enhance the safety of those living, working and visiting in Skokie, the Village of Skokie has an AM advisory radio station. The frequency of the station is 1660 on the AM dial. Hundreds of communities, universities and government agencies across the country now operate AM advisory radio stations to tell citizens what to do during an emergency or critical situation. By contrast to conventional AM radio channels, advisory radio stations give listeners direct, repeated, up-to-the-minute reports, alerts and relevant instructions.

The primary use of 1660 AM Skokie is to inform the public of emergency conditions in the area and how to respond to them. An emergency could consist of severe weather to hazardous material spills, alternate-side parking when there are two or more inches of snow on the ground or any other condition that could affect the well-being of the public in the Skokie area.

This non-commercial radio station is monitored by the Village, and in non-emergency situations, the station will broadcast emergency preparedness and Village of Skokie information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. New AM radios in cars and other radios will be able to receive frequency.

For further information about 1660 AM Skokie, the Village's municipal advisory radio station, please contact the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8210 or visit www.skokie.org. ∞

Emergency Kit Supplies

There has rarely been a winter in our area without two or more severe storms. Be prepared for weather-related emergencies by having an emergency kit in both your auto and home. At a minimum the kit should include the following:

- Non-perishable food and a bottle of water
- Flashlight with spare batteries
- Portable battery-operated radio with spare batteries
- Warm clothing and a blanket
- First aid kit
- Small tool kit, flares for an auto
- Spare cell phone battery
- Phone numbers of relative, physicians, etc.
- Copy of prescriptions and an emergency supply of medication taken on a daily basis.
- Extra credit cards or travelers checks
- Writing materials
- Extra car keys

For further information about emergency preparedness please visit www.skokie.org. ∞

Alternate Side Parking Program: Are You Ready for Snow?

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• May I park on either side of the street once the street is plowed?

No, even after the street is plowed, your vehicle must remain parked on the proper side of the street until 6 p.m. This allows Public Works crews to plow a second time if necessary. At 6 p.m., an alert warning siren will sound to notify residents that cars may be moved to either side of the street.

• To what location is a vehicle towed if in violation?

If your vehicle has been towed due to a violation of the Village's snow ordinance, contact the Police Department at 847/982-5900.

• Are there streets that are exempt from snow parking provisions?

Yes, the following blocks are exempt on Saturdays, Sundays, New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day:

Birchwood Avenue: 4600 block

Bronx Avenue: 8800, 8900, 9000 and 9100 blocks

Carol Street: 4800, 4900 and 5000 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Central Park Avenue: 8000 and 8100 blocks

Cleveland Street: 3300, 3400, 4600 and 4700 blocks

Conrad Street: 4800 and 4900 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Crain Street: 4800, 4900 and 5000 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Davis Street: 4600, 4700, 4800, 4900, 5000 and 5100 blocks

Dobson Street: 4700 block

Elm Street: 4800 block

Enfield Avenue: 4800, 4900, 5000 and 5100 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Greenleaf Avenue: 4800 block

Greenwood Avenue: 4800, 4900, 5000 and 5100 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Grove Street: 4700, 4800, 4900, 5000 and 5100 blocks (to Terminal Avenue)

Hull Street: 4800 and 4900 blocks

Jarvis Street: 3800 and 3900 blocks

Karlov Avenue: 7900 block

Keating Avenue: 8000, 8100, 8200 to 8350, 9000, 9100 and 9200 blocks

Kedvale Avenue: 7900 block

Keeney Avenue: 4600 and 4700 blocks

Kilpatrick Avenue: 8000, 8100, 8200 to 8300, 9000, 9100 and 9200 blocks

Kimball Avenue: 8300 block

Kirk Street: 4800 and 4900 blocks

Knox Avenue: 7600, 8000, 8100, 8200, 8300 blocks

LaCrosse Avenue: 7900, 8800, 8900, 9000 and 9100 blocks

Lamon Avenue: 7800, 7900, 8800, 8900, 9000, 9100 blocks

Lavergne Avenue: 8800, 8900, 9000, 9100, 9200, 9300, 9400 and 9500 blocks

Lawler Avenue: 9100, 9200, 9300, 9400, 9500 blocks

Lee Street: 4800 block

Long Avenue: 7800, 7900, 8000, 8100 and 8200 blocks

Louise Street: 4800 and 4900 blocks

Madison Street: 4600 and 4700 blocks

Monticello Avenue: 8000 and 8100 blocks

Mulford Street: 4800, 4900, 5400 and 5500 blocks

Niles Avenue: 7750, 7800 and 7900 blocks

Ridgeway Avenue: 8000 and 8100 blocks

St. Louis Avenue: 8300 and 8600, 8700 blocks

Suffield Terrace: 5000 block

Trumbull Avenue: 8600 and 8700 blocks

Washington Street: 4600 and 4700 blocks

Wright Terrace: 4800 block

• Are state and county roadways exempt from snow parking provisions?

Yes, the following roads are exempt from the program:

Crawford Ave. (Jarvis Ave. to Old Orchard Rd.), Church St. (Gross Point Rd. to McCormick Blvd. and Linder Ave. to Gross Point Rd.), Frontage roads, Gross Point Rd. (Church St. to Old Orchard Rd.),

Golf Rd. (McCormick Blvd. to Harms Rd.), Gross Point Rd. (Lincoln Ave. to Howard St.), Lincoln Ave. (Linder Ave. to Jarvis Ave.), McCormick Blvd. (Touhy Ave. to Golf Rd.), Niles Center Rd. (Main St. to Church St. and Pratt Ave. to Brown St.), Oakton St. (Skokie Blvd. to McCormick Blvd.), Old Orchard Rd. (Harms Rd. to Crawford Ave.), Skokie Blvd. (Jarvis Ave. to Old Orchard Rd.) and Touhy Ave. (east to west limits).

Refuse Carts and Fire Hydrants

Refuse collectors have a difficult time emptying refuse and recycling carts that are buried by drifts or piles of snow. Residents are responsible for ensuring that refuse containers are accessible. Please clear a path for the crews so that your recycling and refuse can be picked up as scheduled.

In addition, snow plowing operations may cover your fire hydrant. Please assign someone in your household the responsibility of keeping fire hydrants on or near your property clear of snow for easy access. Snow piled on top of fire hydrants slows fire response time. In the event of a fire emergency every second counts!

For more information please visit www.skokie.org

2010 Refuse and Recycling Schedule

Refuse Collection

- *If you live on the north side of Greenleaf Street or north of Greenleaf Street, refuse is collected on Monday and Thursday.*
- *If you live on the south side of Greenleaf Street or south of Greenleaf Street, refuse is collected on Tuesday and Friday.*

2010 Holiday Refuse Collection Schedule:

Friday, January 1st (New Year's Day)- Monday, Tuesday and Friday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday.

Monday, January 18 - Martin Luther King Day: Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, February 15 - President's Day: Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, May 31 - Memorial Day: Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, July 5 - Independence Day: Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, September 6 - Labor Day: Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26 - Thanksgiving Holiday: Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, attempt to complete Thursday and Friday collections on Wednesday.

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Holiday: Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday, Friday collection on Thursday.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency offers a household hazardous chemicals disposal facility at Goose Island, 1150 North Branch Street in Chicago. For more information or for drop-off times, please call 312/744-7606. For other household hazardous waste disposal options and electronics recycling, visit the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County website at www.swancc.org.

Recycling Collection

- **MONDAY:** Residents living east of Kostner Avenue and north of Greenleaf Street have recycling collection every Monday.
- **TUESDAY:** Residents living east of Kostner Avenue and south of Greenleaf Street have recycling collection every Tuesday.
- **THURSDAY:** Residents living west of Kostner Avenue and north of Greenleaf Street have recycling collection every Thursday.
- **FRIDAY:** Residents living west of Kostner Avenue and south of Greenleaf Street have recycling collection every Friday.

In curbside collection areas, set out recycling containers by 7 a.m. on the day of pickup, but not before 6 p.m. on the night before collection.

2010 Holiday Recycling Collection Schedule

Friday, January 1st (New Year's Day)- Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, attempt to complete Thursday and Friday collections on Thursday.

Monday, January 18 - Martin Luther King Day: Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

Monday, February 15 - President's Day: Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

Monday, May 31 - Memorial Day: Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, July 5 - Independence Day: Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, September 6 - Labor Day: Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26 - Thanksgiving Holiday: Monday, Tuesday and Friday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday.

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Holiday: Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

For more refuse and recycling collection information please see page 10 or visit www.skokie.org.



The Skokie Village Board meets the first and third Mondays of each month, except in the case of a holiday. Meetings begin at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

Watch Village Board Meetings on SkokieVision Cable Television (Channel 25 on RCN systems, Channel 17 on Comcast systems). The Board Meetings are broadcast at noon and 8 p.m. on the Thursday, Saturday and Tuesday following a Board Meeting.

Upcoming Public Meetings

All meetings are held at Village Hall (5127 Oakton Street).

Board of Trustees:
December 7, 21

Plan Commission:
December 3, 17

Appearance Commission:
December 9

Zoning Board of Appeals:
December 2, 16



Village Board Action

The Village Board approved an increase in the parking fine for violating the Alternate Side Parking plan during snow events. The fine was raised from \$35 to \$50. For more information on the Alternate Side Parking program, please see page one.

The Village Board endorsed a Downtown Skokie Action Plan. The plan is divided into two phases: Phase One, 2009 to 2012, centers on pre-retail recruitment site preparation and Phase Two, 2012 and beyond, includes active retail recruitment. For more information on the Downtown Skokie Action Plan, please see page six.

2010-2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Each year under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides block grants to qualified local communities.

Skokie expects about \$500,000 in funding for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2010. These funds are used for physical improvement projects, housing programs, limited social services and other activities that are consistent with local planning goals and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) regulations.

Eligible projects must meet national objectives by principally benefitting people in the community with low- to moderate-income or aiding in the prevention and elimination of blighted conditions. All projects are approved by HUD before funds are released.

The Village has scheduled three public hearings to solicit public input on the 2010-2011 CDBG Program. Information gathered at the hearings assists in formulating the Village's funding request to HUD. At the December 21, 2009 Village Board meeting, the Board will review the current year's program progress and discuss 2010-2011 community development needs and objectives.

Project suggestions, comments and program recommendations that are solicited from Village staff, citizens and representatives of various social agencies will be presented at the January 4, 2010 Village Board meeting. The Board will select the projects to be funded at the February 1, 2010 hearing. Village Board meetings begin at 8 p.m. and Community Development Block Grant hearings are held at the close of regular Village business.

For information on the Community Development Block Grant Program contact Economic Development Coordinator Tom Thompson at 847/933-8446.

Downtown Skokie Action Plan

In the November 2009 edition of *NewSkokie*, the Village reported on the current state of Downtown Skokie. The article pointed out that while the Downtown Skokie planning process has been lengthy, and continues, there are a number of current success stories that should be noted: Illinois Science + Technology Park, CTA Yellow Line Oakton Street station (to be built in 2010), the Skokie Theatre, successful mixed-use and residential developments, successful retail and restaurants, parks, the Skokie Public Library, Oakton Community College and much more.

To build upon these successes and to create further development, the Village hired Lisle, Illinois-based consultant 4Insights to develop a Downtown Skokie market assessment and retail strategy. In fall 2009, 4Insights presented the Village Board with a market assessment and retail strategy based upon their research and studies. The following statement briefly summarizes the vision for Downtown Skokie, as gleaned from 60 interviews with Downtown Skokie stakeholders.

Vision for Downtown Skokie

A lively, attractive, active commercial district with offices, institutions and residential development served by food- and service-oriented retail. The pedestrian-friendly area should support year-round activity with people strolling, dining and shopping at

unique businesses that reflect Skokie's diversity while still holding broad appeal. The area should have a clear identity that is unique to Skokie.

Village staff reviewed the recommended strategy to achieve this vision and developed an Action Plan for Downtown Skokie redevelopment effort. Funding for nearly all of the proposed Action Plan initiatives will come from the Downtown Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) that will expire in 2013. The Village intends to collaborate with the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie, the Skokie Chamber of Commerce and other interested parties on implementing many of the action items.

According to the consultant, success in redeveloping and revitalizing Downtown Skokie is dependent on a two-phase process. Phase One includes pre-retail recruitment and site preparation. This began in 2009 and continues through 2012, and includes improving Downtown Skokie's streetscape and visually connecting existing retail clusters into one compact street grid for easy pedestrian movement. Part of this phase involves increasing connectivity between Oakton Community College and Downtown Skokie and exploring options for better vehicular and pedestrian movement along Oakton Street. Phase One also includes continued relationship

building with retailers, commercial brokers and developers. This will involve the development and implementation of retail assistance programs for existing retailers to improve the appearance of window displays, and to continue to strongly promote the Downtown Skokie Incentive Program for restaurants and retail businesses. To learn more about the Downtown Skokie Incentive Program, please visit the Economic Development section of the Village's website at www.skokie.org.

Phase One of the Downtown Skokie Action Plan also involves development activities with continued focus on Block One and the Floral Triangle (the area bordered by Oakton Street, Floral Avenue, Cleveland Street and Lincoln Avenue). In these and other Downtown Skokie areas, efforts will continue to add mixed-use retail development. This type of development already exists in several areas of Downtown Skokie and emphasizes retail parcels on the ground level and residential units on the second floors and above.

One of the most crucial aspects of Phase One involves marketing. Beginning in early 2010, *NewSkokie* will feature a short "Downtown Skokie" corner with information on activities and events, retailer profiles or other information to heighten interest in Downtown. *NewSkokie* also will become a key outlet to list new businesses from Downtown Skokie and other Skokie

shopping districts in an effort to promote their success in the community and to emphasize the importance and direct economic benefits of shopping locally.

According to the Downtown Skokie Action Plan, Phase Two will begin around the end of 2012, and will include active retail recruitment. Specific Phase Two goals and objectives will be developed as the initiatives in Phase One are completed.

The November NewSkokie listed successful Downtown Skokie restaurants. We regret that Pat's Place was omitted from the article.

For more information about the Downtown Skokie Action Plan and other Skokie Economic Development initiatives, please visit www.skokie.org.

Locally Purchased Gifts

Skokie offers a variety of art, entertainment, dining and retail options. This holiday season, try shopping in Skokie not only to see what's new but to also give a gift that will help support your community. For a listing of local entertainment venues, dining and retail outlets, visit the Skokie Chamber of Commerce website at www.skokiechamber.org or the Chicago's North Shore Convention & Visitor's Bureau at www.cnsccb.com.

Property Tax Information

Skokie residents recently received property tax bills, many of which were significantly higher than previous bills. Property tax bills vary depending on the home, neighborhood and community. According to an analysis conducted by the Village, the average property tax bill in Skokie increased by about 10.65%, with the highest increase topping off at 18.96% and the lowest increase at 1.94%. The chart to the right shows the distribution of tax dollars to the taxing agencies applicable to most Skokie residents.

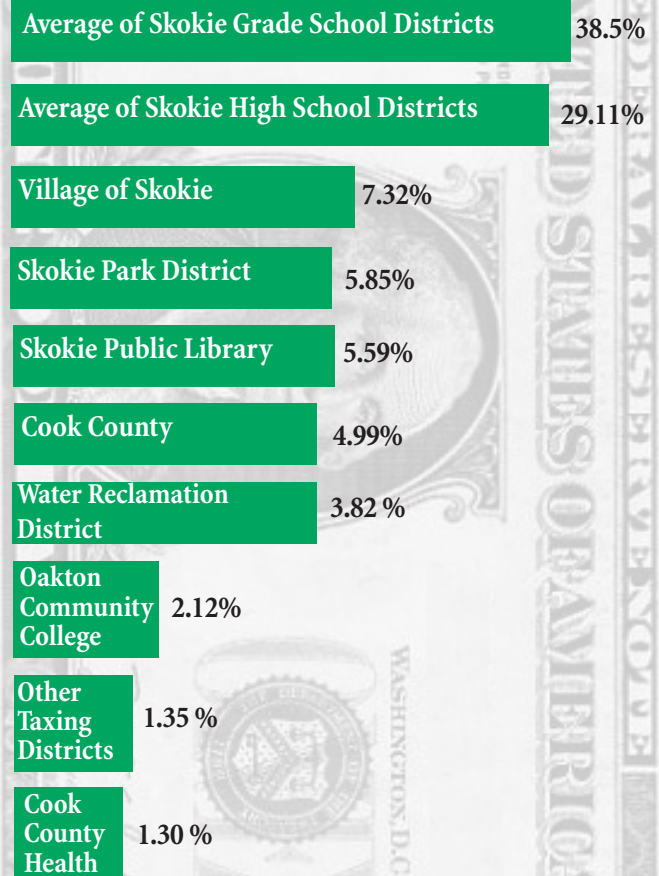
The Village's analysis also included a review of tax levys of each of the 15 taxing jurisdictions that compose a Skokie property tax bill. These jurisdictions include Cook County, elementary and high school districts, the Skokie Park District, Oakton Community College, etc. Through conservative budgeting and strategic economic development, the Village Board has been able to freeze Skokie's share of the property taxes since 1990, or for 18 consecutive years. In 1990, Skokie received \$15.4 million in property tax revenue; in 2007, the Village received this exact same amount and will again for 2008. This portion has dropped from 7.7% to 7.32% because of the other taxing districts taxing proportionately more than the Village.

The Village has no control over other jurisdiction's taxes, the Cook County property tax assessment process or the impacts of tax and assessment appeals by homeowners and businesses, all of which combined will impact the total amount of property taxes paid by Skokie residents and businesses.

Property owners should ensure that they receive any property tax exemptions for which they are eligible, such as a homeowners exemption, long-time home occupant exemption or senior citizen exemption. Please contact the Niles Township Assessor's Office at 847/673-9300 with any questions or visit www.nilestownshipassessor.com. ∞

How Skokie Property Tax Money is Divided

The distribution of tax dollars below uses the taxing agencies applicable to most Skokie residents.



Youth Community Service Recognition Program

Diversity Action by Youth

The Education Committee of the Village of Skokie Human Relations Commission is offering a new community service recognition program for Skokie high school students beginning with the 2009-2010 academic school year.

The goals of the Skokie D.A.Y. program are to show the value of diversity and to promote cultural awareness through volunteer work

performed by Skokie's high school students that addresses unmet community needs.

Applicants must be Skokie residents, or enrolled in a Skokie school in grades 9 through 12 and must perform a minimum of 24 hours of community service related to helping someone or a group that is different from the applicant. For examples of qualifying activities please visit www.skokie.org.

After completing the 24 community service hours, applicants will submit a Skokie D.A.Y. application and 300- to 500- word essay describing their experience. Each essay will be evaluated by a panel assembled by the Human Relations Commission Education Committee. Recognition and honors will be given at the Skokie Festival of Cultures in May 2010.

Entries are due by 4 p.m. on Friday, March 5, 2010. **Program details and applications for the Skokie D.A.Y. application can be found at the Human Relations Commission webpage at www.skokie.org.**

For more information or to obtain an application, please visit the Human Relations Commission webpage at www.skokie.org or contact the Human Services Division 847/933-8208. ∞

∞ **SmithCenterNews** ∞
Senior Activities

Monday Senior Group

All programs take place at the Smith Activities Center located at 5120 Galitz Street. Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. For more information on Monday Senior Group Programs please call 847/933-8208.

December 7 - Table Games

Bring a table of friends and enjoy an afternoon with your favorite table game. Bring treats to share with your tablemates.

December 14 - Stress Management

Join Social Worker Cindy Benton in a lively discussion on how to relieve stress in order to increase the quality of your life.

December 21 - Video

Join the Human Services Division for a video. Video to be announced.

December 28 - Annual New Year's Party

NOTE: This program begins at 12 p.m. Join the Human Services Division for the annual New Year's Party. An assortment of sandwiches, chips, punch and dessert will be served. The fee for lunch is \$5 and is due at the time of registration. Entertainment will begin at 1 p.m. and feature Carol Holmes and her accompanist. Ms. Holmes performs with a senior group at the Cultural Center in Downtown Chicago and her performance will feature musical tunes associated with "Out of the Old, In With the New". ∞

Outdoor Emergency Sirens

The Village's warning siren system is used to advise residents to take specific actions. These actions include preparation for dangerous conditions and announcing phases of snow removal operations. The sirens are often used to signal the start and conclusion of alternate-side parking during snow emergencies. Sirens are tested in Skokie on the first Tuesday of each month for one minute at 10 a.m. A steady tone is used for testing.

Learn more about outdoor emergency sirens and the Village's alternate-side parking program at www.skokie.org. ∞

TeenLink Program: Uniting Residents & Seniors with Local Teens

The Village's TeenLink program provides residents with names of teens willing to do various tasks, such as yard mowing, pulling weeds, raking leaves and snow shoveling. Teenagers are needed year-round, but especially during heavy snowfalls.

Skokie residents often request assistance for snow shoveling during harsh winters and for lawn care in the summer. Teens provide their contact information to the TeenLink list and Skokie residents are provided with a complete list of available teens in their area. The resident is responsible for contacting the TeenLink teenager and for making financial/scheduling arrangements. The TeenLink teenager is responsible for completing the task or notifying the resident if they are unable to complete the work.

The TeenLink program has connected residents with Skokie teenagers for over 15 years. Many communities have implemented similar programs with limited success. The Skokie TeenLink program is a testament to our community's spirit. Help out your community - become a member of TeenLink today!

If you are a teen who would like to register or a senior who would like a list of available teens, please call 847/933-8257 or visit www.skokie.org. ∞

Skokie Holiday Giving Program

For 15 years the Skokie Human Services Division has coordinated a holiday giving program designed to assist Skokie families with limited financial resources that might not otherwise be able to celebrate winter holidays with their children. Families receive gift certificates for area businesses which they use to purchase holiday food and to buy items specific to each child's needs and wants. For further information or to make a donation please contact the Skokie Human Services Division at 847/933-8208.

Those interested in making a donation are asked to please do so by December 11, 2009. ∞

December Clinics Change

Due to the H1N1 flu vaccination program, the majority of in-office Health Department clinics for December have been cancelled.

The following clinics will be held:

- **Community Blood Drive (walk-ins welcome):** Wednesday, December 9 from 2 to 7:30 p.m., Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street. For details, please see article on this page.
- **Immunization Clinic (by appointment only):** Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **TB Skin Testing (by appointment only):** Tuesdays, 1 to 4:45 p.m.
- **Nicotine Addiction Seminar (registration required):** Wednesday, December 16, 7 to 9 p.m.

If you have any questions or to make an appointment, please contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252.

38th Anniversary Blood Drive

The Skokie Blood Program will be celebrating its 38th anniversary at the December 9 blood drive. It will be held at the Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street from 2 to 7:30 p.m. No appointment is required.

The anniversary drive will feature cake and coffee. In addition, donors will be entered in a drawing for a turkey.

Donating blood is a simple process that takes only a short time and can save a life. Still, many people don't donate for a variety of reasons. Often they believe that they may not be eligible. The fact is that most healthy people can donate blood every eight weeks.

For more information about the December blood drive or to inquire about eligibility to donate, contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252.

Holiday Safety Reminder from the Skokie Health Department

You can help keep your holiday season safe and happy by following some simple safety precautions from the Skokie Health Department.

Choosing the right gift for children is very important. Many accidents result from giving gifts inappropriate for a child's age. Toys are rated for

the youngest age at which they can be safely used. Please don't give a child a toy rated for older children.

Proper disposal of packaging and wrapping paper also is important. Keep plastic bags and wrapping away from small children. Gift wrapping should not be burned in the fireplace. People have been severely injured by flash fires that result when highly volatile wrapping materials are thrown on a fire.

Alcohol-related accidents account for the majority of holiday traffic deaths. When going to a party or out with friends, choose a designated driver. When hosting a party, have non-alcoholic beverages available for your guests. Stop serving alcohol at least one hour before the party's end. People who have had too

much to drink should be given a ride home or persuaded to use public transportation. Under no circumstances should you allow your guests to drive if they have had too much to drink.

For more information about holiday safety, contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252.

Carbon Monoxide Testing

As the winter heating season begins, it's time to have your gas furnace and water heater checked to make sure they are venting safely. Blocked chimneys or improperly functioning heating units can cause carbon monoxide to build up in your home. This colorless, odorless gas can cause illness and, if the levels are high enough, result in death.

The Skokie Health Department offers free carbon monoxide testing for Skokie residents. The test is very simple and takes only a few minutes. If the test shows harmful levels of carbon monoxide, you will be urged to have your appliance serviced as soon as possible by a reputable contractor.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact the Health Department's Environmental Health Division at 847/933-8484.

Car Seat Loaner Program

The Skokie Health Department offers a short-term car seat loaner program for Skokie residents. The program requires a \$10 deposit which will be returned, less a \$5 cleaning fee when the seat is brought back in good condition. To learn more about the program or to reserve a seat, please call 847/933-8252.

December 2009

Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule



Holiday Refuse Collection

Due to the Christmas Holiday (Friday December 25, 2009), Monday and Tuesday collections are unchanged, Thursday collection will take place on Wednesday and Friday collection on Thursday. To find out which days your refuse is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Holiday Recycling Collection

Due to the Christmas Holiday (Friday, December 25, 2009), Monday and Tuesday collections are unchanged, Thursday collection will take place on Wednesday and Friday collection on Thursday. To find out which days your recycling is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Accepted Recycling Materials

Below are some examples of accepted materials in the recycling program. Please do not mix refuse with recycling materials:

- Newspaper
- Aluminum cans, foil & tins
- Steel, tin, and bi-metal cans
- Empty/dry steel paint cans
- Empty aerosol
- Glass containers - all colors
- Plastic containers marked 1 through 7
- Beverage six-pack rings
- Plastic grocery bags
- Plastic newspaper bags
- Foam egg cartons
- Small plastic foam trays

For more refuse and recycling information, please see page four or visit www.skokie.org.

Health Happenings

Due to anticipated special vaccination clinics being held in the community this fall and winter, only the following Skokie Health Department clinics/ events will be held during the month of December:

Unless otherwise noted, all clinics are held at the Health Department, 5127 Oakton Street. Clinics marked with an (*) require advance registration. For more information or to register for a clinic, call 847/933-8252.

Blood Drive

Wednesday, December 9 from 2 to 7:30 p.m.
Please see page nine for details.

Immunization Clinics*

Immunizations are available for only a \$5 per person clinic visit fee. Appointments are required. Tuesdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Nicotine Addiction Seminar*

Wednesday, December 16 from 7-9 p.m.

TB Skin Testing*

Tuesdays from 1-4:45 p.m. \$5 fee.

Smith Center Activities

Located at 5120 Galitz Street. Please call 847/933-8208 for more information or to register.

Bright Ideas ESL Class

Registration required. Mondays and Thursdays from 9:15-11:15 a.m.

Village Hall Closed

The Village of Skokie will be closed on Friday, December 25, 2009 for the Christmas holiday and Friday, January 1, 2010 in observance of New Year's Day.

Chess

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12-4:30 p.m.

Conversational German

Thursdays, December 3, 17 at 1:30 p.m.

Conversational Yiddish

No fee or registration required. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays, December 15, 22, 29 at 1:30 p.m.

FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)

Wednesday, December 9 from 7-8:30 p.m.
Please call Juanita at 847/933-8208 for more information.

Hearing Loss Support Group

Thursday, December 10 from 1:30-3 p.m.

Illinois Cares RX and RX Plus

(Formally known as Circuit Breaker) Appointments are necessary.

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesday, December 8 from 1:30-3 p.m.

Monday Group

See page eight for details. Mondays at 1:30 p.m.

Medicare Supplement Claims Assistance/ Senior Health Insurance Program

Appointments are necessary. Tuesday, December 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Music and Laughter (formerly known as Men's Discussion Group)

Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

Needlework

Socialization and needlework. Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

News and Views Discussion

Fridays, 10 a.m.

Rules of the Road

Review for driver's exam. Monday, December 7 from 9:15 a.m.-12 p.m.

Skokie Senior Mens' Group Discussion

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., Weber Park, 9300 Weber Park Place.

Simple Will/Durable Power of Attorney/ Living Will Program

Program for low-income seniors who meet requirements. Fee charged by attorney. Call 847/933-8208 for program details and registration information.

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Stamp Club

Wednesdays, December 2, 16 at 1:30 p.m.

U.S. Citizenship Class

Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. at the Smith Activities Center. Please call 847/933-8208 to register for the class.

Womens' Discussion Group

Wednesdays, December 9, 23 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Woodcarving

Fee required. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Instructor: Irv Marion

CPR Schedule

No December class. Check back next month for the 2010 CPR schedule and registration information.

Skokie Park District

For more information on Park District programs, call 847/674-1500 or visit www.SkokieParkDistrict.org.

Winter Program Registration Begins

On-line and walk-in registration begins for hundreds of Skokie Park District winter programs on December 15 for residents and on December 22 for non-residents.

Santa's Hotline and North Pole Express

Surprise your kids with a phone call or letter from Santa! (Calls limited to 847, 630, 312 and 773 area codes.) Register by December 14.

Itty Bitty New Year

The Exploritorium's family New Year bash with art projects, face painting, a noon balloon drop and more! December 31, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

Ice Skating: Holiday Public Sessions

Lace up your skates and hit the ice with the whole family! The Skatium Ice Arena offers public skating sessions once or twice daily over the holidays. Fees: \$4 to 4.50; skate rental \$2.50; Sunday, December 20 through Saturday, January 2. Call 847/674-1500, ext. 2900 for times. Skatium Ice Arena, 9300 Weber Park Place.

Franklin Friday Frenzy!

Every Friday, through April 30, 2010, the Skokie Park District will award one lucky winner a crisp, new \$100 bill. Simply check out www.SkokieParkDistrict.org during the week leading up to the event for your instructions to win.

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie

Located at 9501 Skokie Blvd. For 2009 performance dates and information please call the box office at 847/673-6300 or visit www.northshore-center.org.

Souvenir

Northlight Theatre December 1-6, 8-13 and 16-20. Call for show times.

The Civic Ballet's The Nutcracker

Centre East Theatre December 11 at 8 p.m., December 12 at 3 p.m. and December 13 at 3 p.m.

The Klezmatics

Centre East Theatre December 19 at 8 p.m.

Aga-Boom

Centre East Theatre December 26 at 7 p.m., December 27 at 1 and 5 p.m. and December 28 at 3 p.m.

Skokie Public Library

For more details on library activities and events, please visit www.skokieliibrary.info or call 847/673-7774.

Is Your Child Ready for Music Lessons?

Saturday, December 5 at 2 p.m.

The Technology Behind I-Go Car Sharing

Tuesday, December 8 at 7 p.m.

Winterizing Your Car

Wednesday, December 9 at 7 p.m.

Illinois Worknet: Job Search Help

Thursday, December 10 at 11:30 a.m.

Seniors: Are You Eligible to Receive More Benefits?

Thursday, December 10 a 3 p.m. and repeated at 7 p.m.

Foreclosure Prevention Workshop

Thursday, December 10 at 7 pm.

Nut Tapper: Tchaikovsky Meets Tap, Flamenco and More!

Saturday, December 12 at 4 p.m.

Introduction to the Digital Media Lab

Wednesday, December 16 at 7 p.m.

Family Fun at Your Library: Holidays Around the World

Monday, December 21 at 3:30 p.m.

Using Craigslist to Buy, Sell, Rent and More

Monday, December 28 at 7 p.m.

Family Fun at Your Library: New Year's Eve Extravaganza

Thursday, December 31 at 11 a.m.

Forms, Permits and Applications

The Village of Skokie wants to make it easy for residents and business owners to complete Village forms, permits and applications.

The most frequently requested forms, permits and applications are available online at www.skokie.org. The forms are designed to be printed on your printer, but may be completed electronically (using Adobe Acrobat) or by hand. Adobe Acrobat is a free program and if your computer does not have this program, a link to download it is available on the forms, permits and applications page.

All forms, permits and applications may be submitted in person or by mail to the Village of Skokie, with specific addresses listed on each form, permit or application.

We want to hear from you!

The Village welcomes comments and questions from residents. A number of options are available for residents to share questions, thoughts and concerns with the Village:

- Complete and submit the Feedback form below, or on the back page of any edition of *NewSkokie*.
- Email the Village at info@skokie.org.
- Call one of the Village departments (see back page).

NewSkokie

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5127 Oakton Street
Skokie, IL 60077

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Mayor
George Van Dusen

Clerk
Marlene Williams

Trustees
Michele L. Bromberg
Michael M. Lorge
Donald P. Perille
Randall E. Roberts
Pramod C. Shah
Edie Sue Sutker

Manager
Albert J. Rigoni

Counsel
J. Patrick Hanley

Phone Numbers:
Emergency
9-1-1

Information
847/673-0500

TTY
847/933-8455

Fire Non-Emergency
847/982-5300

Police Non-Emergency
847/982-5900

Citizens Assistance
847/933-8480

Managing Editor
Ann E. Tennes

Assistant Editor/Layout
Natalie M.K. Marquez

Skokie Offers Online Payment Options

The Village has a new, convenient online payment program for:

- Water bills
- Parking tickets and other non-moving violations
- Miscellaneous invoices



Payment may be made online using American Express, Mastercard, Discover, Visa credit and debit cards. The Village does not charge a fee for this service. To make a payment or learn more about online payments and Automatic Bank Payment, please visit www.skokie.org.

Feedback

The Village is pleased to respond to your questions and concerns. If you have a suggestion for the Village web site or for a future NewSkokie article, or have a question, return this form to the Village Hall or e-mail info@skokie.org. Please provide your address for a direct response.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Forward inquiries to:
Village Manager's Office, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077

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Village Departments

Building/Housing/Zoning
847/933-8223

Citizens Assistance
847/933-8480

Civil Engineering
847/933-8231

Clerk's Office
847/933-8203

Community Development
847/933-8447

Health Department Administration
847/933-8252

Animal Control
847/933-8484

Environmental Health
847/933-8484

Personal Health
847/933-8252

Human Services
847/933-8208

Public Works Forestry
847/933-8427

Refuse and Recycling
847/933-8427

Signs and Street Lights
847/933-8232

Streets and Alleys
847/933-8427

Water and Sewer
847/933-8427

Traffic Engineering
847/933-8232

Village Hall
847/673-0500

Village Manager's Office
847/933-8210

Water Billing
847/933-8418