

H1N1 Flu Vaccines Available Free to Skokie Residents

The Village of Skokie Health Department continues to monitor the spread of the H1N1 virus (sometimes called 'swine flu') in the Skokie community. The H1N1 flu is different from the seasonal flu and, thus far, has impacted a younger population than the typical seasonal flu. The initial target groups for the H1N1

vaccination include pregnant women, children, young adults and others with underlying health problems.

In mid-October, the Village began an H1N1 vaccination campaign in Skokie schools, preschools and day care centers. All vaccinations are free and are given on a voluntary

basis. There is one vaccination clinic scheduled for each Skokie school, preschool and day care center, with immunizations limited to students, teachers and others affiliated with the schools. Parents and guardians are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to have their child or children vaccinated.

In early December, the Village will hold a number of free H1N1 vaccination clinics that will be open to all Skokie residents and children attending school, preschool or day care in Skokie.

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Village Assigned AAA Bond Rating


Retains AAA Rating for Existing Debt

Fitch Ratings, Inc. recently evaluated Skokie's credit rating and assigned the Village with an "AAA" rating for two bond series sold in summer 2009. This is the highest rating given by bond agencies and is a clear marker of Skokie's credit quality. Fitch cited the Village's solid economic development, moderate overall debt levels and strong financial performance as among the factors considered in assigning Skokie the AAA rating for the new bonds. The bond rating agency also affirmed an AAA rating for the Village's other outstanding general obligation debt. "Obtaining the highest credit rating enables the Village to secure the most competitive

interest rates available when securing debt, and this ultimately saves the Village money," stated Village Manager Albert J. Rigoni.

According to Fitch, "...the village benefits from conservative financial management, as demonstrated by five-year financial forecasts, timely expenditure reductions and pension funding in excess of statutorily required contributions." Fitch's report acknowledges that the Village has realized reduced revenues in light of the current national economic downturn but could augment other revenue sources to shield the Village's financial status from dependence on sales tax revenues.

Even with the Village drawing on reserves during both the current and previous fiscal years, Fitch says it, "...expects reserves to remain within management's conservative policy level."

The ratings came as the Village sold \$24.98 million in general obligation bonds of which \$18.42 million were taxable bonds (Build America Bonds) to construct the new police station on Niles Center Road and just over \$15 million in general obligation bonds to refinance outstanding bonds and provide debt service savings. The police station is expected to be complete in fall 2010. 

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Recycling Programs for Skokie Residents

Compact Fluorescent Light bulb (CFL) Recycling

The Skokie Health Department encourages everyone to properly dispose of burned out or used CFL bulbs. To assist with this effort, recycle your CFL bulbs by bringing them to the Skokie Health Department, 5127 Oakton Street, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There is little danger from a single bulb breaking – the amount of mercury in a CFL is less than 5mg, roughly the size of a tip on a ballpoint pen. However, as a precaution, take the following steps to dispose of a broken CFL:

- Open the window and leave the room for 15 minutes or more.
- Do not use a vacuum cleaner – wear gloves and scoop the fragments with cardboard and place them in a puncture-proof, tightly sealed container such a glass jar. On carpet, use sticky tape to pick up small pieces and powder.
- Wipe the area clean with damp paper towels.
- Place all cleanup materials in the sealed container and bring them to a CFL recycling center. Wash your hands after the cleanup and disposal of the sealed container.
- If you must vacuum, remove

the vacuum bag after cleaning, put it in two sealed bags and place in the outdoor trash for normal disposal.

For more information on proper disposal of CFL bulbs, please call the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252.

Document Destruction Events

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) offers document destruction events throughout the year. During spring and summer 2009, SWANCC sponsored nine events and collected and shredded a total of 110,120 pounds of paper. To learn when the next document destruction event will take place, please visit www.swancc.org or call 847/724-9205.

Latex Paint Recycling

Properly dispose of latex paint by recycling it at Skokie Ace Hardware, 5035 Oakton Street. Bring any unused latex paint in cans to have it professionally recycled for a small fee:

- Quart container: \$1.50
- Gallon container: \$2.50
- Five-gallon bucket: \$8.00

For more information, please contact Skokie Ace Hardware at 847/673-0700.

Pharmaceutical and Sharps Disposal Programs

Properly dispose of unused or expired pharmaceuticals and sharps by recycling them at the Skokie Health Department. A recycling drop off is located at the Health Department, 5127 Oakton Street, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. To learn more about how to recycle these items, please contact the Health Department at 847/933-8252.

Household Chemical 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 chemical waste disposal options and electronics recycling, visit the SWANCC website at www.swancc.org.

Village of Skokie Curbside Recycling

Skokie residents have the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the environment through the Village's comprehensive weekly curbside recycling program.

Please DO NOT mix garbage in the recycling cart.

Below are some examples of non-paper materials accepted in the recycling program:

- Aluminum cans, foil and tins
- Steel, tin, and bi-metal cans
- Empty/dry steel paint cans
- Empty aerosol cans
- 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 a full list of materials accepted for recycling please visit www.skokie.org.

Are You Ready For Winter Weather?

The Village of Skokie would like to remind residents, business owners and visitors about the Village's Alternate Side Parking Program. When there is snow accumulation of two inches or more on the pavement, the Village's Alternate Side Parking Program will go in to effect from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week. The snow removal program is a minimum two-day operation and the Alternate Side Parking Program is an important component of the Village's snow removal efforts.



An "alert" warning siren will sound at 7 a.m., indicating that alternate side parking will be in effect. At 6 p.m., the siren will sound again, indicating that residents may move their vehicles to the opposite side of the street.

- **On even days of the month, after two inches or more of snowfall, all vehicles must be moved to the side of the street with even-numbered addresses. Violators will be ticketed and towed.**
- **On odd days of the month, after two inches or more of snowfall, all vehicles must be moved to the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses. Violators will be ticketed and towed.**

Cable television subscribers will be alerted of the program through the Village emergency override system at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Comcast customers should tune to channel 17 and RCN customers should tune to channel 25.

Need help shoveling snow? See article below for TeenLink program information.

Residents also may tune to 1660 AM, the Village of Skokie's Advisory Radio Station, to learn more about the alternate side parking program and if it is in effect. The Village's "Snow Hotline" at 847/675-SNOW (7669) provides a recorded message noting if the alternate side parking program is or is not in effect.

The Village does have certain streets that are exempt from the Alternate Side Parking Program but only on Saturday, Sunday and some holidays. There also are streets in Skokie that are under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Transportation or Cook County. A complete listing of these streets is available at www.skokie.org.

To learn more about the Alternate Side Parking Program, please visit www.skokie.org. ∞

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment

Medicare Part D open enrollment begins on November 15, 2009. If you are unsure about the plan you are currently enrolled in, now is the time to review and make a change if needed. Sometimes plans drop previously covered medications from their formularies, leaving the beneficiary without coverage for that medication. It is important to review your Part D coverage each year for such changes. Please contact the Human Services Division for personal assistance.

A social worker or volunteer is available to provide assistance in reviewing the options. The deadline to make changes is December 31, so call for your appointment now.

For more information or to make an appointment, please contact the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208.



TeenLink: Uniting Residents & Seniors with Local Teens

The Village's TeenLink program provides residents with names of teens willing to do various outdoor yard tasks such as lawn 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. When a teen provides their contact information to the TeenLink list, Skokie residents can be 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 Village TeenLink program has been connecting residents with Skokie teenagers for over 15 years. Many communities have implemented similar programs with limited success. The success of 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 that 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 ∞

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The clinics will be held at Oakton Park, 4701 Oakton Street, according to the following schedule:

- December 3, 12 to 8 p.m.
- December 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- December 9, 12 to 8 p.m.
- December 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Proof of Skokie residency or proof of enrollment at a Skokie school will be required to receive a vaccination.

The majority of the U.S. population does not have immunity to the H1N1 virus and can expect to be susceptible to infection.

The federal government maintains that there will likely be an adequate supply of novel H1N1 vaccine to immunize persons at risk of infection. The H1N1 vaccine also will be distributed through private physician offices and pharmacies.

All Skokie residents are encouraged to get a seasonal flu shot to protect against other influenza viruses expected to circulate this year. A seasonal flu shot will not provide protection against the H1N1 virus.

In addition to getting a seasonal flu shot, and an H1N1 vaccina-

tion when available, residents are encouraged to avoid illness by practicing the 3 C's:

- 1. Clean:** wash your hands several times a day with soap and water. In the absence of soap and water, alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be used if rubbed until dry.
- 2. Cover:** your cough with your elbow instead of sneezing into your hands; teach this to your children, too.
- 3. Contain:** stay home if you have flu-like symptoms to keep from spreading the virus.

The situation with H1N1 vaccination clinic plans is subject to change depending on vaccine availability. For up-to-date information, see www.skokie.org and subscribe to SkokieNews electronic newsletter for regular email news updates on H1N1 flu matters and other Village programs and services. Visit www.skokie.org for more information on the H1N1 virus please visit the Centers for Disease Control web site at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/. With other questions call the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252. ∞

I-GO Car Sharing Now in Downtown Skokie

The Village Board has approved an agreement with I-GO Car sharing and I-GO vehicles are located in two reserved parking spaces in the municipal parking lot at Lincoln Avenue and Oakton Street (behind Veterans Memorial at Krier Plaza). I-GO is a non-profit, locally based car sharing service. I-GO members have access to vehicles on an as-needed basis 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. For more information visit www.igo-cars.org or call I-GO member services at 773/278-4446. ∞

Village Receives Federal Stimulus Funds for Skokie Boulevard Beautification Project

The Village has received notice from the Governor's Office that Skokie will receive approximately \$858,000 in federal stimulus funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for a Skokie Boulevard beautification project. Skokie's grant award is one of 27 project awards in the State of Illinois. The project area is Skokie Boulevard from Oakton Street to Main Street, and includes the area adjacent to the new CTA Yellow Line station, construction of which is expected to begin in 2010. Project improvements include replacing existing sidewalks with streetscape elements and adding ADA-compliance upgrades, installation of pedestrian lighting, upgraded street lighting, wayfinding signage, area-appropriate trees and other plantings. The funding program requires project completion in 2010. ∞

Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County to Host "Trashy Fashions Show"

SWANCC will host its third "Trashy Fashions Show" on Friday, November 13, 2009 at 7 p.m. in recognition of America Recycles Day, nationally observed on November 15th. The event will be held at The Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Avenue in Glenview. This community-based project will showcase outfits created by 30 designers, including students from Niles North High School, from "trash", materials destined for the landfill rather than purchased from a store. There is no cost to attend, but space is limited and reservations are required. For more information, please visit www.swancc.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:

November 2, 16

Plan Commission:

November 5, 19

Appearance Commission:

November 11

Zoning Board of Appeals:

November 4, 18



Village Board Action

The Village Board gave authorization for an intergovernmental agreement for wireless alarm monitoring. The intergovernmental agreement will modernize the current manner in which police/fire alarms are monitored by the Skokie Police and Fire combined dispatch center. The Village will save \$150,000 annually and benefit the subscribers who would experience fewer false alarms and see less of an impact in terms of inflationary increases in annual fees.

The Village Board authorized Mayor Van Dusen to execute the Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for the resurfacing of Main Street between Skokie Boulevard and Crawford Avenue. The total estimated cost is \$950,000, of which \$760,000 is a federal grant. The Village will contribute approximately \$190,000 of construction costs funded by the fiscal year 2010 Capital Improvement Program budget. This project is scheduled for a state bid letting in November by the Illinois Department of Transportation, with construction scheduled to begin in 2010.

The Village Board approved a Buffer Zone Protection Program grant by the Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$199,000. The funds are provided to increase the preparedness capabilities of jurisdictions responsible for the safety and security of communities. The money will be used as follows: \$138,495 for the purchase of VirTra 300-HD Firearms and Use of Force Simulator from VirTra Systems, and \$60,505 for the purchase and installation of a video surveillance and security system at the North Side Water Reclamation Plant at 3500 Howard Street.

Skokie Fine Arts Commission

The Skokie Fine Arts Commission is now accepting applications for the 2009-2010 granting year. To be eligible for a grant, all projects and programs must take place between May 1, 2009 and April 30, 2010.

Skokie schools are invited to submit arts-related projects and programs for Cultural Arts Grants in the amount of \$500. Skokie-based arts organizations may apply for Project Grants in varying amounts. Applications for both grants are available on the Commission's web page at www.skokie.org.

If you are a first-time grant applicant, please consider attending the Fine Arts Commission Grant Workshop on Wednesday, November 11, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street. The first-time grant applicant presentation also is available on the Commission's web page at www.skokie.org.

For more information or to download a copy of the grant application, please visit www.skokie.org.



Downtown Skokie Update

The Village continues to plan for Downtown Skokie improvements. In a 2006 community survey, the Village asked residents to rate the importance of redeveloping Downtown, and overall, residents strongly favor Downtown Skokie redevelopment. In total, 86% of respondents said that investment in revitalizing Downtown Skokie is important, very important or essential (32% ranked it essential). Some 88% rated having unique retail stores and restaurants as essential, very important and important, with only a 3% "not very important" rating. Having a variety of housing options and retail stores in Downtown Skokie also received high essential, very important and important ratings at 76% and 73%, respectively. The Village asked similar questions in the 2009 National Citizen Survey conducted in October 2009; 1,200 randomly selected homes received the five-page written survey that included questions on a variety of topics. Data from the 2009 survey is expected by the end of the year, and a summary of results will be featured in a spring 2010 edition of *NewSkokie*.

Subsequent to the 2006 survey, the Village began an intense Downtown Skokie planning process. In fall 2007, after several public hearings, the Village Board approved a master plan for Downtown (also called "Sector A"), the purpose of which is to provide development direction by determining land uses

for various areas on the Downtown district. Around the same time, and after an extensive Request for Qualifications process, the Village selected and worked with a national developer to build a mixed-use retail development on the northwest corner of Lincoln Avenue and Oakton Street. As the national economy began its current state of decline, the developer changed its terms and the Village determined that the development was not feasible under the amended economic conditions the developer requested.

Earlier this year, the Village hired Lisle, Illinois-based consultant 4Insights to develop a Downtown Skokie market assessment and retail strategy. The rationale is to have a report in hand and begin taking action steps to ready Downtown Skokie for new development that will, hopefully, result when the current national economic downturn improves. The 4Insights study found strong market conditions in and around Downtown Skokie that should attract retail development. Further, the study cites the CTA Yellow Line Oakton Street Station (construction expected in 2010) and the Illinois Science + Technology Park as key drivers for the Downtown Skokie economy, along with Oakton Community College and the Skokie Public Library. In early November Village staff expect to present the Village Board with a three-year action plan for Downtown improvements and activities to

ready the area for further development. Implementation of action steps will begin right away, with most projects funded through the Village's Downtown Tax Increment Financing District.

While the Downtown Skokie planning process has been lengthy, and continues, there are a number of current success stories in the area that should be noted:

Illinois Science + Technology Park

The nearly 24-acre research and development park is north of Oakton Street and east of Niles Avenue. With the recent announcement that German-based Vetter Pharma International signed a long-term lease for approximately 25,000 square feet of space, the park now has 15 tenant firms with a total of more than 800 on-site employees. This is more than half of the number of on-site employees working at the park when it was owned by a single pharmaceutical firm.

CTA Yellow Line Oakton Street Station

Construction of the "Kiss 'n Ride" station is expected to begin in early 2010. The station is fully designed and will cost approximately \$20 million, with the Village funding \$6 million and the additional \$14 million coming from federal funds.

The Skokie Theatre

The beautifully renovated 140-seat landmark theatre building

features jazz and live theater performances and is an important Downtown Skokie destination. The Village provided a measure of financial support for the theatre renovation efforts.

Successful mixed-use and residential developments

Some are new and others have been in place for more than 10 years, but all add to the Downtown Skokie market. The Metropolitan on Oakton Street and Madison Place on Lincoln Avenue are examples of new developments. The mixed-use development on Oakton Street just west of Niles Avenue and the Lincoln Terrace and Lincoln Court townhomes-above-retail at Lincoln and Warren Avenues are examples of older mixed-use developments. The Village provided incentives for some of these developments, and also acquired property to assemble the land used for some of the projects.

Successful retail

Walgreen's on Oakton Street is the first national chain to come to Downtown Skokie. The Aldi and Market Place food stores on the south side of Oakton Street are examples of a successful site re-use that help make Downtown Skokie a destination.

More recently, Sweetie Pies bakery moved from a modest-sized location on Lincoln Avenue south of Oakton Street to a significantly larger space on Lincoln Avenue north of Oakton Street.

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In doing so, the owners took advantage of the Downtown Skokie Business Incentive Program that offers up to \$100,000 or more in financial assistance for new or existing Downtown Skokie businesses undergoing façade and/or interior renovation. The Village began offering this program in 2008.

Successful restaurants

Downtown Skokie has a unique mix of new and established restaurants. In recent months, Yolo Mexican Eatery opened on Brown Street, and De Jred restaurant featuring Caribbean cuisine opened on Oakton Street. These new eateries join the established Annie's Pancake House, Subway, The Curragh Irish Pub, Toscana, Tub Tim Thai and Village Inn Pizzeria Sports Bar & Grill.

Parks

In 2004, the Village of Skokie relocated the Veterans Memorial from Village Hall to the newly renovated Krier Plaza at Oakton Street and Lincoln Avenue. Now called Veterans Memorial at Krier Plaza, the park serves as the site of the annual community Memorial Day observance. The Village also purchased and razed two dilapidated residences on Lincoln Avenue just south of Cleveland Street. The Skokie Park District transformed the area into the beautiful Veterans Park.

Façade renovations

A number of Downtown Skokie businesses, including Eurostyle Deli, have taken advantage of a

Village-sponsored façade renovation assistance program that was started in the 1990's.

Skokie Public Library

The Library draws thousands of people to Downtown Skokie each year and in 2003 expanded to its current size of 133,190 square feet. To accommodate its ever-growing number of patrons, the Library also added additional parking on the west side of the building.

Oakton Community College

In 2005 the college began holding classes in the new Art, Science and Technology Pavilion, construction of which added 59,000 square feet to the campus. In fall 2009, the Village began improvements to Lamon Avenue to upgrade the pedestrian connection between the campus and Downtown Skokie. Improvements include street and pedestrian lighting, new handicapped ramps, improved crosswalks, benches and street resurfacing.

Public art

A number of outdoor sculptures are in place in Downtown Skokie. Several years ago, the Village established a Public Arts Advisory Committee and established a fund to procure public art for Downtown Skokie. In the past year, two sculptures were added to the Village Green between Village Hall and the Skokie Public Library.



Shown above: Carnival ride at the 2009 Backlot Bash

Special events

The Backlot Bash, a collaboration between the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie (IMODS), the Skokie Park District, the Village, Skokie Chamber of Commerce and other entities, this popular, three-day outdoor community festival takes place in late August and draws tens of thousands of people to Downtown Skokie. The Chamber and IMODS also collaborate on the Cruise the Backlot car shows during the summer and fall months that take place in the parking lots near Village Hall and the Village Green. The Skokie Farmers' Market, voted "Best on the North Shore" is held every Sunday from late June through late October in the Village Hall parking lot and brings many visitors to Downtown Skokie.

IMODS

This active group of Downtown Skokie restaurateurs, retailers and others interested in the area's success meet regularly and has instituted a number of important programs. They support and provide suggestions on

Village redevelopment efforts. The Village has provided financial support to the organization and its programs.

Adding to the above list of Downtown Skokie successes are the new stoplight being installed on Madison Street at Niles Center Road and the re-configured roadway and parking area around the United States Post Office, the Village Board's recent approval of an agreement with I-GO Car Sharing to locate two vehicles in a municipal parking lot on Lincoln Avenue behind Veterans Memorial at Krier Plaza and the Village learning that it will receive \$858,000 in federal stimulus funds to beautify and add pedestrian amenities to Skokie Boulevard between Main and Oakton Streets.

While there is much more work to be done in Downtown Skokie, the past 15 years have included many successes such as those mentioned above. For more information on Downtown Skokie, visit www.skokie.org. ∞

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.

November 2 - Table Games

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

November 9 - Safe and Smart

The Illinois State's Attorney's Office will inform Skokie seniors on what to do in an emergency situation.

November 23 - Harvest Party with Entertainment

NOTE: This program begins at 1 p.m. Join the Smith Activities Center for the annual Harvest Party. Coffee and dessert will be served, and "Still Acting Up" will provide entertainment with a musical review. Registration is required by Thursday, November 19. Please call 847/933-8208 to register.

November 30 - Silver Singers

Sing-a-long while Miriam Strauss plays her musical tunes on the piano. ☞

Skokie Community Giving Program

For 15 years the Village of Skokie Human Services Division has coordinated a Skokie Community 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. In 2008, the Skokie community generously donated more than \$38,000 to the program. For further information or to make a donation this year 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. ☞

Lunch at Lincolnwood Place

Join the Smith Activities Center on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 for lunch and a tour of Lincolnwood Place. The trip will leave from the Smith Activities Center, 5120 Galitz Street, at 11 a.m. and return around 2 p.m. This is a free trip with a limit of 20 participants. Registration is required. For more information, please call the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208. ☞

Village of Skokie Human Services Division

The social work staff of the Skokie Human Services Division provides information and referrals for such needs as:

- Community Resources
- Employment Resources
- Home Care Providers
- Housing Resources
- Financial Assistance Providers and Availability
- Legal Assistance Resources
- Retirement/Nursing Home Resources

The social workers provide advocacy and short-term counseling for personal difficulties, family problems and other life issues. Long-term counseling needs are referred to outside agencies. The experienced staff can make home visits if requested.

To learn more about this program or to make an appointment please contact the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208. ☞

Lending Closet

The Skokie Human Services Division Lending Closet offers Skokie residents the use of canes, walkers, crutches and wheelchairs for periods up to six months. A driver's license is required for wheelchair loans. For wheelchairs only there is a \$25.00 refundable deposit for 24-hour or up to a five-day loan period, and \$25.00 non-refundable fee for six-month loan.

The lending closet is open Monday through Friday at the Smith Center, 5120 Galitz, between 9 and 10:30 a.m. and again from 2 to 4 p.m.

Please call 847/933-8208 for further information. ☞

November Clinics Change

Due to the H1N1 flu vaccination program taking place in Skokie schools, the majority of in-office Health Department clinics for November have been cancelled.

The following clinics will be held:

- **Immunization Clinic (by appointment only):** Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **TB Skin Testing (by appointment only):** Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **Nicotine Addiction Seminar (registration required):** Wednesday, November 18, 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.

H1N1 Community Vaccination Clinics Coming

The Skokie Health Department will be holding four H1N1 community vaccination clinics during the month of December. The clinics are open to all Skokie residents and children who attend a Skokie school, pre-school or day care. The clinics will be held at the Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street on the following dates:

- **Thursday, December 3, Noon - 8 p.m.**
- **Sunday, December 6, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, December 9, Noon - 8 p.m.**
- **Saturday, December 12, 9 am - 5 p.m.**

Proof of Skokie residency or proof of enrollment at a Skokie school is required.

For more information, please see the article on page one or contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252.

Safely Storing Leftovers

Cut the turkey into small pieces; refrigerate stuffing and turkey separately in shallow containers within two hours of cooking. Use leftover turkey and stuffing within three to four days; gravy within one to two days; or freeze these foods. Reheat thoroughly to a temperature of 165°F.

For additional food safety information you can call the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8484 or the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 800/535-4555.

Thanksgiving Turkey Safety

As Thanksgiving approaches, cooking the traditional turkey dinner may give rise to anxieties and questions. The Skokie Health Department recommends these simple steps to ensure a delicious and safe meal.

Plan Ahead

- **FRESH OR FROZEN:** To most consumers there is no appreciable difference between a fresh or frozen bird. It is just a personal preference.
- **WHEN TO PURCHASE:** If you choose to buy a frozen bird, make sure you have adequate storage space in your freezer. *If you buy a fresh turkey, be sure you purchase it only one to two days before cooking.* Do not buy a pre-stuffed fresh turkey.
- **THAWING IN REFRIGERATOR:** Place frozen bird in original wrapper in the refrigerator (40°F). Allow approximately 24 hours per five pounds of turkey. After thawing, keep turkey refrigerated for only one to two days.

THAWING IN COLD WATER:

If you forget to thaw the turkey or don't have room in the refrigerator for thawing, you can submerge the turkey in cold water and change the water every 30 minutes. Allow about 30 minutes defrosting time per pound of turkey.

THAWING IN MICROWAVE:

Microwave thawing is safe if the turkey is not too large. Check the manufacturer's instructions for the size turkey that will fit into your oven, the minutes per pound, and the power level to use for thawing. *Cook immediately after thawing.*

Preparation of the Turkey

Make sure you have all the ingredients and equipment you will need to prepare your holiday meal, including a roasting pan large enough to hold your turkey and a meat thermometer.

Wet and dry stuffing ingredients can be prepared ahead of time and refrigerated separately. If you choose to stuff your turkey, stuff loosely – about 3/4 cup of

stuffing per pound of turkey.

The stuffing should be moist, not dry, since heat destroys bacteria more rapidly in a moist environment. Place stuffed turkey in the oven immediately.

Use a meat thermometer to check the internal temperature of the turkey. When the temperature of the poultry (as measured in the thigh) has reached 180°F, the entire bird should be at a safe temperature of 165°F. Check the temperature in several locations, being sure to include the wing joint. All turkey meat, including any that remains pink, is safe to eat as soon as all parts reach at least 165°F for a minimum of 15 seconds. The stuffing should also reach 165°F for 15 seconds. Stuffing temperature is easier to control if it is cooked in a separate dish outside the bird.

When the turkey is removed from the oven, let it stand for 20 minutes before carving. This allows the meat to reabsorb some of the moisture lost during the cooking process.

November 2009

Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule



Holiday Refuse Collection

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday (Thursday and Friday, November 26-27, 2009), Monday and Tuesday collections are unchanged, with an attempt to complete both Thursday and Friday collections on Wednesday. To find out which days your refuse is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Holiday Recycling Collection

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday (Thursday and Friday, November 26-27, 2009), Monday, Tuesday and Friday collections are unchanged, Thursday collections will take place on Wednesday. To find out which day your recycling is collected and what items are recyclable, please visit www.skokie.org.

For more information please visit www.skokie.org or call the Skokie Public Works Department at 847/933-8427.

Health Happenings

Due to H1N1 Flu vaccination clinics being held in the community this fall, only the following Skokie Health Department clinics/ events will be held during the month of November:

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.

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, November 18 from 7-9 p.m.

TB Skin Testing*

Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon. \$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.

Chess

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

Conversational German

Thursdays, November 5, 19 at 1:30 p.m.

Conversational Yiddish

No fee or registration required. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays, November 17, 24 at 1:30 p.m.

FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)

Wednesday, November 11 from 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Juanita at 847/933-8208 for more information.

Hearing Loss Support Group

Thursday, November 12 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, November 10 from 1:30-3 p.m.

Village Hall Closed

The Village of Skokie will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

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, November 10 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, November 2 from 9:15 a.m.-12 p.m.

Silver Singers

For details, please call 847/933-8208 or see page eight.

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.

Stamp Club

Wednesdays, November 4, 18 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, November 11, 25 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street, Skokie.

CPR Schedule

Please call the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5340 for November 17 program information. Residents: \$15 refundable fee. Non-residents: \$20 non-refundable fee.

Skokie Park District

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

Devonshire Playhouse Presents: Footloose

November 7-22. Call 847/674-1500 ext. 2400 for showtimes and ticket information. Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Street.

Continued on page 11

Continued from page 10

Princess Ball

This parent/child dance involves dancing, hors d'oeuvres, and a visit from Cinderella, Belle and Snow White. Attendees should wear their "finest" attire and each child will receive a special invitation in the mail. Pre-registration is required, no at-the-door registration. Ages 3+. Fee: \$24-30. November 14 at 6 p.m. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

Retro '80s Teen Dance Party

Attend the Devonshire Playhouse production of Footloose and stay after with the cast for an '80s teen dance party. Combo tickets are available. Grades 6-8. Fee: \$8-10. November 21 from 7-10 p.m. Call 847/64-1500 ext. 3500 for more information. Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Street.

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.northshorecenter.org

Apollo: To the Moon
Centre East Theatre
November 6 at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

An Evening with Greg Behrendt
Centre East Theatre
November 7 at 8 p.m.

Mathemagic starring Bradley Fields

Centre East Theatre
November 10 and 12.
Call for showtimes.

Thodos Dance Chicago

Centre East Theatre
November 13 at 8 p.m.

Bruce Hornsby

Centre East Theatre
November 14 at 8 p.m.

Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra: Brahms

Centre East Theatre
November 15 at 4:30 p.m.

Schoolhouse Rock Live!

Centre East Theatre
November 17 at 10 a.m.

Skokie Public Library

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

7 Keys to Email Marketing

Monday, November 2 at 10 a.m.

Urban Beat Dance Companies

Friday, November 6 at 6:30 AND 7:30 p.m.

Varshavski-Shapiro Piano Duos

Sunday, November 8 at 3 p.m.

Twitter for Beginners

Monday, November 9 at 7 p.m.

Skokie in Photos: 2009 Backlot Bash



The Backlot Bash was held on August 28 to 30, 2009 in Downtown Skokie.

Giving Thanks for Nutrition: A Cooking Class

Wednesday, November 11 at 7 p.m.

Demystifying the Estate Planning Process

Thursday, November 12 at 7 p.m.

Modern Iran, Ancient Persia

Sunday, November 15 at 1 p.m.

Beating Fatigue

Wednesday, November 18 at 7 p.m.

Be an Online Detective

Thursday, November 19 at 7 p.m.

Elements

Contemporary Ballet
Sunday, November 22 at 3 p.m.

Bach to Brazil: A Harp And Guitar Concert

Sunday, November 29 at 3 p.m.



Turn Back Time

It's time to reset your alarm clock! Daylight Saving Time officially ends on November 1. Time will revert back to standard time at 2 a.m. that Sunday.

In addition to setting back your clocks, the Fire Department reminds residents to change the batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and in all emergency kit accessories.



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1660 AM Skokie

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Since 1957



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Edie Sue Sutker

Manager
Albert J. Rigoni

Counsel
J. Patrick Hanley

Phone Numbers:
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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

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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