

NewSkokie



October 2009

The award-winning municipal information source

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 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.

Examples of activities that would qualify include:

- Read a book to a younger child, a sight-impaired person or an older neighbor.
- Make and personally deliver get well cards for people in hospitals and convalescent homes.
- Work in an adult daycare center.
- Distribute food to clients at a food pantry.
- Prepare and serve food at a shelter or soup kitchen.

Continued on page eight

In this Edition:


- **Novel Influzena A (H1N1) Update, page two**
- **Fire Prevention Week, page three**
- **Yard Waste and Leaf Collection, page four**
- **Village Board Action, page five**
- **Smith Center News, page eight**
- **Health Notes, page nine**
- **Community Calendar, pages 10-11**

Skokie Fire Department Open House

Sunday, October 18, 2009 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Fire Station #17, 8157 Central Park Avenue

Take part in the fun and educational activities planned, including:

- Tour the fire station, meet firefighters and view apparatus and equipment.
- See high-angle rope rescue and vehicle extrication demonstrations.
- Participate in fire safety activities.
- Take a ride on an antique fire engine.

For event details visit www.skokie.org or contact the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5340. 

Pension Funding and Taxes

Pension benefit decisions for police and fire personnel and other municipal employees are made by the Illinois General Assembly but must be paid for out of local property taxes.

The Village of Skokie has a legislatively mandated responsibility to fund pension benefits for these employee groups, and each group has a separate pension program. Police and firefighters are covered by local pension funds in which decisions are made by a board consisting of two active employees, one retiree and two municipal representatives. All other eligible municipal employees are

covered by the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF), a statewide program for local employers that is governed by a board consisting of three current employees, one retired individual receiving an IMRF pension and four representatives of employer local governments.


While each pension board makes its own pension investment decisions, benefits and employee contributions for pension programs are determined solely by the Illinois General Assembly, not by local elected officials.

Continued on page six

Trick-or-Treating in Skokie

Skokie Halloween celebrations abound as children join their friends and family in the favorite tradition of door-to-door trick-or-treating.

The Village has set trick-or-treat hours from 3 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2009. Please do not ring doorbells before or after this period.

For more information on trick-or-treating in Skokie please visit www.skokie.org or contact the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8210. For Halloween safety tips, please turn to page eight. 

Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Update

The Village of Skokie Health Department continues to monitor the spread of novel influenza A (H1N1) virus in the Skokie community.

Since the outbreak began in late April 2009, the Skokie Health Department has worked closely with Skokie schools and health care providers to ensure that necessary precautions and proactive measures are taken to protect the health and well-being of the community.

The United States anticipates a return of the novel H1N1 virus this fall, when the flu season officially begins October 1, 2009. The majority of the U.S. population does not have immunity to this virus and can expect to be susceptible to infection.

The federal government has released information to local health officials, including Skokie, that there will likely be an adequate supply of novel H1N1 vaccine to immunize persons at risk of infection. As a result, the Village is working diligently with county, state and federal officials as well as Skokie health care organizations to prepare for large-scale distributions of the vaccine expected to begin in late October.

Minimize Waste With SWANCC

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) offers an electronic mailing list (e-list) which allows residents to stay informed about recycling collections, Household Chemical Waste collections and other fun SWANCC events. The e-list also gives helpful information on waste reduction tips and practices and is a great way to stay up-to-date with community events. To join SWANCC's e-list, visit www.swancc.org.

Green Pages, a SWANCC resource, provides information on various aspects of recycling and waste. It is a good reference to have on hand when trying to determine the correct way to dispose of Household Chemical Waste or when researching local recycling centers.

Just a few of the many items covered by SWANCC's *Green Pages* include how to recycle:

- Anti-freeze
- Computer software
- Ink jet cartridges

For more information on SWANCC programs or services please visit www.swancc.org or call 847/724-9205. ∞

The novel H1N1 vaccine is different from the seasonal flu vaccine in that it is specifically created for the novel H1N1 virus and is aimed at a younger population than the traditional flu vaccine.

The initial target groups for novel H1N1 vaccination are:

- Pregnant women
- Children age 6 months to 18 years
- Household members and caregivers of children less than 6 months of age
- Adults age 19 to 24 years
- Adults age 25 to 64 years with underlying health problems
- Healthcare workers and EMS

At the time of printing this edition of *NewSkokie*, distribution plans were still in development. It is likely that novel H1N1 vaccine will be distributed through several sources including private physician offices, pharmacies and public vaccination clinics. To stay up-to-date on the novel influenza A (H1N1) virus, please visit www.skokie.org or call the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252. ∞

Renters and Landlords Working Together

The Village suggests that tenants gauge the efficiency of their apartment's heat during mild winter days and work closely with landlords to prevent temperature emergencies. Every rental building owner or operator that furnishes heat for tenants is required to maintain a mean temperature of 68 degrees at all times.

Be sure that storm windows are closed and radiators and vents are in the open position to allow heat flow. Also ensure that furniture does not block radiators and vents.

Landlords also are responsible for keeping sidewalks, parking lots and all common areas, including open porches, free from all hazardous conditions, including ice and snow. Renters experiencing cold conditions or other code violations should first contact their landlord. If the problem continues, please contact the Village's Property Standards Division at 847/933-8223. ∞

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.



Emergency Override of Broadcast Stations

During a municipal emergency, the Skokie Police Department can override programming on Comcast cable channels and place a written crawl on RCN cable channels. The override is used to distribute a brief message during a local emergency. In Skokie, the system is typically used to signal the start and conclusion of alternate-side parking during snow emergencies. The Skokie override is tested on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. ∞

Fire Prevention Week: October 4 -10

Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned!

Fire Prevention Week 2009 will focus on burn awareness and prevention as well as keeping homes safe from the leading causes of home fires.

From October 4 to 10, 2009, fire and life safety educators from the Skokie Fire Department will focus on burn awareness and prevention and provide Skokie residents with simple ways to Stay Fire Smart!



Don't Get Burned! To learn more, please visit www.skokie.org or contact the Skokie Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/933-5340. ∞

"TOTS" Car Seat Program

The Village of Skokie's Health Department offers a short-term infant/toddler car seat loan program. The "Toddler Seats Offer Travel Safety" (TOTS) program is available to Skokie residents and is ideal when young guests are visiting.

Seats are subject to availability and are loaned for up to six weeks. A \$10 deposit is required for each seat borrowed. The participating resident receives \$5.00 of the deposit back once the seat is returned in good condition. The Health Department can assist with the proper installation of loaned seats.

Please contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252 for additional information or visit www.skokie.org. ∞

Skokie Farmers' Market

Last Call for the "Best on the North Shore" Skokie Farmers' Market

Skokie's "Best on the North Shore" Farmers' Market closes for the season on Sunday, October 25, 2009. The Market is open on Sundays from 7:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m., presenting farmers and vendors from four Midwestern states: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. The market is located near Village Green, between the Skokie Public Library and Skokie Village Hall.

Questions? Contact Market Master Terry Oline at 847/933-8223. ∞



Forestry Corner: Emerald Ash Borer Update

The emerald ash borer is a destructive beetle native to China and Eastern Asia. The larvae tunnel beneath the bark which destroys the tree's water and nutrient uptake and results in the death of the tree. It was discovered in Skokie along Grant and Crawford Avenues in 2007.

Each year Village Foresters survey all parkway ash trees in search of signs and symptoms of the beetle. Approximately 400 declining parkway ash trees have been removed since 2007, and infestations have been confirmed in all areas of the Village.



To date, the Village has maintained its goal of planting a new parkway tree for each ash tree removed. Residents are encouraged to contact an insured ISA Certified arborist if they are interested in an inspection, treatment, pruning or removal of their private ash trees. Certified arborists can be found in the Yellow Pages under "Tree Service", or visit <http://www.illinoisarborist.org/> and click on "Certified Arborists".

As a reminder, firewood should be purchased locally and not moved in or out of a community. Federal fines are in place for those who move firewood across state lines. ∞

Yard Waste and Leaf Collection

The regular collection of residential yard waste will end after the October 14 collection. After this date, residents who have yard debris or small brush bagged in 30-gallon kraft paper bags or bundled will be required to contact the Public Works Department to schedule a collection. Grass clippings are not collected.

To schedule a yard debris or small brush collection, please visit www.skokie.org or call 847/933-3333.

Weather permitting, the Village leaf collection service begins the week of October 19 and is expected to run through mid-December. Residents who do not mulch their leaves may rake leaves to the street next to the curb line in

front of their residence. Village crews will collect loose leaves from the street. Caution should be exercised so that leaves are not raked into sewer inlets or in front of fire hydrants. Do not mix grass piles, twigs, branches, sticks, rocks, bottles, garden debris, etc. with the leaves as such items could cause the equipment to breakdown. It is suggested that residents wet down any loose leaf piles to keep them from blowing away. Avoid parking your car in front of a large leaf pile and, when raking, please try not to pile leaves where vehicles are parked. It is difficult for the collection crews to work around parked cars.

The Public Works Department makes every effort to complete one cycle through the Village every five to seven working days. Due to the large volume

of leaves and weather uncertainties, it is impossible for the Village to guarantee leaf collection on a specific day. During the winter months or anytime during the normal leaf collection season, residents have the option to place their leaves in a 30-gallon kraft paper yard waste bag and call Public Works to schedule a collection.

Residents who are in need of assistance with their yard work should consider participating in TeenLink, a program that matches Skokie seniors with teens who are available for hire for outside seasonal yard work. Details on this program can be found on page 11.

For questions regarding the yard waste and leaf collection programs, contact the Public Works Department at 847/933-8427. ∞





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 Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday following a Board Meeting.

Upcoming Public Meetings

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

Board of Trustees:
October 5, 19

Plan Commission:
October 8, 22

Appearance Commission:
October 14

Zoning Board of Appeals:
October 7, 21



Village Board Action

The Village Board approved a traffic signal installation and intersection improvements at Madison Street and Niles Center Road.

The Village board approved a contract with Arrow Road Construction to resurface one mile of Village streets and associated curb and sidewalk work on Lamon Avenue and Mulford Street to Oakton Street. This is the Village's third street resurfacing program for the 2009 construction season.

The Village Board approved a Special Use Permit for a funeral home at 8845 Skokie Boulevard.

The Village Board approved a \$47,000 one-time supplemental Basic Health Services Grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health. The grant will cover costs associated with the Environmental Health Unit's transition from a completely paper-based inspection and complaint record system to an electronic, web-based data management system.

The Village Board approved a resolution for an intergovernmental agreement between the Skokie Fire Department, Human Services Division and the Skokie Park District. The agreement formalizes a plan for mass care functions whenever a disaster or emergency is declared.

The Village Board approved a contract with Millennia Consulting to conduct an immigrant integration assessment and to develop a long-range immigrant integration plan for the community.

Groundbreaking at the New Skokie Police Department Facility



The Village of Skokie recently broke ground at the site of the new Skokie Police Department facility on Niles Center Road.

Shown in photo (back row): Deputy Chief of Police Anthony Scarpelli, Police Commander Michael Pechter, Ray Lee of Sente Rubel Bosman Lee Architects (SRBL), Christopher Siefert of Riley Construction, Police Chief Barry Silverberg, Village Manager Albert Rigoni, Dave Riley of Riley Construction, Fire Chief Ralph Czerwinski; (front row): Trustee Pramod Shah, Village Clerk Marlene Williams, Mayor George Van Dusen, Trustee Randall Roberts, Louise Kowalczyk of SRBL, Assistant to the Chief of Police Dane Smith and Deputy Chief of Police Russ Van.

Pension Funding and Taxes

Continued from front page

Police and fire personnel receive a full pension (75% of their final pay) after age 50 with 30 years of service and may receive a 50% pension at age 50 with 20 years service. IMRF employees receive a full (75%) pension at age 60 after 40 years service.

The funding for public employee pensions comes from three sources: employee contributions (capped by the Illinois General Assembly), employer contributions (i.e. local taxes) and investment returns from the funds held in reserve to pay for pensions.

While the economic downturn has impacted Skokie residents, businesses and municipal revenues, it also has taken a toll on the funding for public employee pensions.

Pension funds across the nation, including those in Illinois, face a serious funding dilemma. The cause of Illinois public pension funding issues arise primarily for two reasons: investment losses and increased benefits awarded by the Illinois legislature. The investment losses of 2008 affected public sector investments as it did in the private sector.

These losses will affect the Village of Skokie because the Illinois Municipal Retirement fund, for example, lost 25 % of

the value in 2008 and the fund is ramping up the contributions expected from municipal employers.

As to pension benefits, the Illinois legislature has awarded numerous and costly benefit enhancements to police and fire employees over the past decade. These state-mandated benefits are paid by the local municipality through property taxes. *The State of Illinois provides no funding at all for local police, fire or IMRF pension funds.*

Unless the Illinois General Assembly takes action to provide relief from public safety pension costs during their fall veto session (in mid- to late-October), Skokie will be forced to make some important decisions: to increase the property tax or reduce some municipal services.

Skokie's share of the property tax has been frozen at \$15.4 million since 1990, annually collecting this identical amount or less since 1990.

The Village of Skokie is working diligently to avoid any changes that would hinder municipal services or burden Skokie taxpayers. If you would like to assist the Village in taking action on this matter, please contact your State Senators and Representatives and urge them to support Senate Bill 2011 to provide taxpayer relief from escalating public safety pension costs:

Governor Pat Quinn (D)

207 Statehouse
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/782-0244
governor@state.il.us

District 8 (D)

State Senator

Ira I. Silverstein

121 B Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/782-5500

District 9

State Senator

Jeff Schoenberg (D)

218-A State Capital
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/782-2119
senator@jschoenberg.org

District 15

State Representative

John D'Amico (D)

284-S Stratton Office Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/782-8198

District 16

State Representative

Louis Lang (D)

Assistant Majority Leader
109 Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/782-1252

District 17

State Representative

Elizabeth Coulson (R)

220-N Stratton Office Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/782-4194



License Plate Covers

License plate covers, whether tinted, colored, painted, marked, clear or illuminated are illegal in the State of Illinois. Drivers using license plates covers may be ticketed. This type of ticket is considered a non-moving violation.

Prepare Your Car in Advance of Winter Weather

Reliable transportation is especially important during the winter. If you have a vehicle, make sure it is ready for whatever winter weather may bring. Not only should your vehicle be kept in top operating condition all year round for safety and fuel economy, it is especially important to get it winterized to avoid any unpleasant or dangerous situations while traveling in inclement weather. Items to check include: the ignition system, fuel system, brakes, exhaust system, wiper blades, snow tires, tire tread, defroster, proper grade oil, cooling system, battery, lights and antifreeze. ∞

When Did You Last Visit www.skokie.org?

Top 10 Clicks

Some of the most frequently visited pages include the homepage; job opportunities; the search function; A to Z service guide; forms, permits and applications; refuse and recycling; Village code; epay; maps and Downtown Skokie.

Recent Additions to www.skokie.org

- *Downtown Skokie*
- *Novel Influenza A (H1N1) virus updates*
- *Village of Skokie Attractions*
- *New Resident Information*

Village of Skokie News and Press Releases

The Village of Skokie News section of the home page is updated frequently and highlights important information. **Check out www.skokie.org often to stay informed!**

Check this Out

Have you searched the Village's online *Community Calendar*? Check it out today to learn about all the Village-sponsored programming, including Health Department clinics, Human Services Division programs, public meetings and more.

Having trouble finding what you're looking for on the website? Click on the *A to Z Service Guide*. From here, you can search alphabetically through the Village's many programs, services and more.

Learn about Skokie bicycle routes and the Bikeway System Plan that identifies existing and future bike routes in Skokie. Click on *Bicycling in Skokie* for details.

Online Payment Options

The Village has a 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. ∞

1660 AM Skokie

The Village's Emergency Advisory Radio Station

To improve communication and enhance the safety of those living, working and visiting in Skokie, the Village of Skokie has an advisory AM radio station. The frequency of the station is 1660 AM on the AM dial.

The primary use of this station 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 broadcasts emergency preparedness and Village of Skokie information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For further information about the Village's advisory AM radio station, please contact the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8210. ∞

SkokieVision Cable TV

Skokie broadcasts around-the-clock information to residents on the SkokieVision cable television station. **SkokieVision programming can be found on Channel 17 (Comcast) and Channel 25 (RCN)**, and features several informational videos, among which include:

- **Village Board Meetings:** Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday following a Board meeting at 12 and 8 p.m.
- **Video Series:** An approximately 30-minute video collection shown daily at 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. The collection features: *Skokie: A Great Place to Call Home*; *Public Works: Exceptional Services*; *Stormwater Runoff Control*; *Recycling Begins With You*; *Health and Human Services*.
- **Skokie Adopts Council-Manager Form of Government:** A short video created in celebration of Skokie's 50th Anniversary of the Council-Manager form of government. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 2 and 6:30 p.m.
- **Skokie Swift Relocation:** A short video exploring the technical challenges and successful relocation of the historical Skokie Swift station building at Dempster Street. Daily at 11:45 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.

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.

October 5 - Table Games

Bring a table of friends and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with your favorite table game. You may bring treats to share with your tablemates.

October 12 - Video

Join the Smith Activities Center for a video. Video to be announced.

October 19 - Secretary of State

Note: This program runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A representative from the Secretary of State's Office will be at the Smith Activities Center to issue ID cards (over age 65 is free) and renew driver's licenses for those under the age of 75 with a clean driving record. Services will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

October 26 - Autumn Party-Hot Dog Fest

Join the Smith Activities Center for an autumn party that will include a hot dog feast with all the trimmings. There is a \$5 fee due at the time of registration. Entertainment will be provided by The Chicago Swedish Glee Club.

Community Service Recognition Program

Continued from front page

After completing the 24 hours of community service, applicants will submit a Skokie D.A.Y. application and an essay of 300 to 500 words 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. Depending on the number of entries, up to three winners will be selected for each grade level, and winners will receive an official certificate from the Village of Skokie. Winning entries also will be displayed at the Skokie Public Library. Entries are due by 4 p.m. on Friday, March 5, 2010. Program details and applications for the Skokie D.A.Y. application may be found at the Human Relations Commission webpage at www.skokie.org.

Give your time. Make a difference. Do it all in a D.A.Y.

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.

Skokie Community Giving Program

For 15 years the Skokie Human Services Division has coordinated a 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. 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 do so by December 11, 2009.

Going Trick-or-Treating?

Trick-or-treating hours are from 3 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2009. The Skokie Health Department would like you to remember these tips to have a SAFE HALLOWEEN:

- S** words, knives and similar costume accessories should be short, soft and flexible.
- A** void trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
- F** asten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.
- E** xamine all treats before eating them for choking hazards and tampering. Limit the amount of treats you eat.
- H** old a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and to help others see you.
- A** lways test make-up in a small area first and remove it before bedtime to prevent skin and eye irritation.
- L** ook both ways before crossing the street and use established crosswalks.
- L** ower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.
- O** nly walk on sidewalks or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.
- W** ear well-fitting masks, costumes and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips and falls.
- E** at only commercially-wrapped treats. Avoid eating home-made treats unless you know the chef well.
- E** ntering homes for treats should be avoided unless accompanied by a trusted adult.
- N** ever walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.

Health Department Clinic Schedule Change

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

• **Blood Drive:** Wednesday, October 14, 2-7:30 p.m. at Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

• **Flu Clinics:** Please note that these clinics are for seasonal flu shots. Novel influenza A (H1N1) flu shot clinics will be held at a later date.

Please see article on page two for a novel influenza A (H1N1) update. Tuesday, October 6 and 13 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. and Monday, October 19 from 3-7 p.m. at Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

For further information on flu clinics, please see the article below.

• **Immunization Clinics*:** Tuesdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Skokie Health Department, lower level of Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

• **Nicotine Addiction Seminar*:** Wednesday, October 28 from 7-9 p.m. at the Skokie Health Department, lower level of Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

• **TB Skin Testing* :** Tuesdays from 1-4:45 p.m. at the Skokie Health Department, lower level of Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

Clinics with an (*) require advance registration.

All other clinics, including Wednesday evenings, have been canceled for the month of October.

For more information or to register for a clinic, contact the Health Department at 933-8252 or visit www.skokie.org.

Seasonal Flu Shot Clinics Continue

Seasonal, or common flu, is a contagious respiratory illness that is caused by different influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Older people, young children and people with certain chronic health conditions are at high risk for serious flu complications. The best way to prevent seasonal flu is by getting a flu vaccination each fall.

The Skokie Health Department will continue offering flu shots to Skokie residents in October. **Walk-in clinics will be held on Tuesday, October 6 and 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Monday, October 19 from 3 to 7 p.m. at Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.**

Please note that these clinics are not for the novel influenza A (H1N1) flu. Clinics for this vaccine will be held at a later date. For more information, please see page two.

Any Skokie resident age 50 or older is eligible to obtain a flu shot and will not be charged. Skokie residents under the age

of 50 are also eligible to receive a flu shot if they have been diagnosed with a chronic illness and have a note from their physician which states the illness and that a flu shot is medically indicated.

Proof of residency is required for all participants. Please note that the only proofs of residency that will be accepted are a current Illinois Drivers License, State I.D., Vehicle Registration Card, Voters Registration Card issued within the last four years, current utility bill, or a current lease or deed. If a person does not have one of these proofs of residency, they will not receive the flu shot at the clinics. Participants covered by Medicare Part B are asked to bring their card with them to the clinic.

If you are allergic to chicken eggs or have had a reaction to the flu shot in the past, you must receive your shot from your doctor. The Health Department cannot vaccinate individuals who fall in this category due to the increased risk of a severe reaction to the shot.

Did you know... that all Health Department clinics and scheduled programs and services are listed in the online community calendar at www.skokie.org?

Nicotine Addiction Seminar

In conjunction with its tobacco education program, the Skokie Health Department is offering a monthly Nicotine Addiction Seminar. In one easy two-hour lesson, this program will show people how to overcome the effects of withdrawal and then stay off nicotine-containing products.

This program is conducted by Jerry Zabin. Mr. Zabin has many years of presenting smoking cessation programs for adults and smoking prevention programs for children in the Chicagoland area.

The next Nicotine Addiction Seminar will be held on Wednesday, October 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Annex Room located on the lower level of Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street. All interested individuals are invited to attend. Please call 847/933-8252 to reserve your seat for this informative program.

October 2009

Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule



Refuse

Refuse is collected twice per week on Mondays and Thursdays or Tuesdays and Fridays. To find out which days your refuse is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Recycling

Recycling is collected weekly on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays or Fridays. 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 anticipated special vaccination clinics being held in the community this fall, only the following Skokie Health Department clinics/events will be held during the month of October.

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

Skokie Community Drive. Wednesday, October 14 from 2-7:30 p.m. at Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

Flu Clinics

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, October 28 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.

Chess

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

Conversational German

Thursdays, October 1, 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Conversational Yiddish

No fee or registration required. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays, October 20, 27 at 1:30 p.m.

FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)

Wednesday, October 14 from 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Juanita at 847/933-8208 for more information.

Hearing Loss Support Group

Thursday, October 8 from 1:30-3 p.m.

Illinois Cares RX and RX Plus

(Formally known as Circuit Breaker) Please call for an appointment.

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesday, October 13 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, October 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Music & Laughter (formerly known as Mens' Discussion Group)

Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

Needlework

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

News and Views Discussion

Fridays, 10 a.m.

Rules of the Road

Review for driver's exam. Monday, October 5 from 9:15 a.m.-12 p.m.

Silver Singers

For details, please call 847/933-8208.

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, October 7, 21 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.

Woodcarving

Fee required. Tuesdays from 9-11:30 a.m. Instructor: Irv Marion

Womens' Discussion Group

Wednesdays, October 14, 28 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

CPR Schedule

Please call the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5340 for October 20 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.

Your Flight Has Been Delayed

A "Still Acting Up" production. October 14-25. Call 847/674-1500, ext. 2400 for showtimes. Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Street.

Scream Scene 2009

The scariest haunted house in town. October 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31 from 7-10 p.m. \$8 per person. Not recommended for children under 10. Skokie Water Playground, 4701 Oakton Street.

Continued on page 11

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.



Continued from page 10

Things That Go Bump in the Night

Non-scary Halloween fun at Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel. October 16 and 17. Call for times, 847/674-1500, ext. 2500. \$5 per person.

Scooter's Halloween Party

Skating, storytelling time, hayrides, costume contest and penny carnival. October 30 from 6-8:30 p.m. \$5-6 per person. Weber Center's Skatium Ice Arena, 9300 Weber Park Place.

Ex-Scare-Itorium

Art projects, treats and costume parade. October 31 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Call for fees, 847/674-1500, ext. 2700. Oakton Center Exploritorium, 4701 Oakton 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

Ed Asner in FDR

Centre East Theatre
October 2 at 8 p.m.

Jackie Mason

Centre East Theatre
October 16 and 17 at 8 p.m.

Shawn Colvin

Centre East Theatre
October 24 at 8 p.m.

If You Give a Pig a Pancake and Other Story Books

Centre East Theatre
October 24 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Ars Viva: Mendelssohn

Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra
October 25 at 4:30 p.m.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing

Centre East Theatre
October 26 at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Skokie Public Library

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

Lunch and Learn: Annuities and the Pension Protection Act
Tuesday, October 6 at 12 p.m.

Wikipedia: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
Tuesday, October 6 at 7 p.m.

Forgotten Skokie, Forgotten Chicago
Wednesday, October 7 at 7 p.m.

Learn How to Network and Get a Job
Thursday, October at 7 p.m.

You Can't Google This!
Monday, October 12 at 7 p.m.

Understanding YouTube
Wednesday, October 14 at 7 p.m.

Charles Darwin: Journey to Evolution
Thursday, October 15 at 7 p.m.

In Full Swing Jazz Orchestra
Sunday, October 18 at 3 p.m.

Attachment-Based Parenting Skills for Adoptive Parents
Sunday, October 25 at 1 p.m.

Skype for Beginners
Thursday, October 29 at 7 p.m. ☞

Teen Job Match-Up Listing Help for Seniors and Other Residents

Teenagers interested in snow shoveling, leaf raking and other outdoor jobs are encouraged to sign up for the TeenLink job match-up listing service.

A list of teen participants is available to seniors and other residents in need of these services.

The resident is responsible for contacting the teenagers and for making financial arrangements.

The TeenLink Village program has been matching residents with Skokie teenagers for over 15 years.

To sign up for the TeenLink job match-up listing service, contact the Village Manager's office at 847/933-8257. Applications also are also available at www.skokie.org. ☞

The Village Wants 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 on the back page of this or any edition of *NewSkokie*.
- Email the Village at info@skokie.org.
- Call one of the Village departments (see back page).
- Attend a Village Board meeting. See page five for October 2009 meeting dates and times. ☞

*****ECRWSS*****
POSTAL CUSTOMER
SKOKIE, IL

The Village of Skokie
www.skokie.org
1660 AM Skokie

Council/Manager
Government
Since 1957



Officials:

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

Triennial Citizen Survey

Just a reminder that in fall 2009, the Village will once again contract with National Research Center, Inc. (NRC), Boulder, Colorado, to develop and administer a professional citizen survey. Offered through the International City Management Association and the NRC, the survey program provides communities with a professional, affordable survey instrument to accurately assess residents' opinions about community programs, issues and services. The Village participated in the National Citizen Survey project in 2003 and 2006. Participating households are selected at random. If your household is selected, please assist your community by responding.

For more information please contact the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8257.

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

NewSkokie is printed on 45% post-consumer recycled content paper with soy-based ink.



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