



Skokie Health Department Vaccinates for H1N1 Influenza

The Village of Skokie has one of only eight municipal State-certified health departments in Illinois and, as such, was able to order and receive 40,000 doses of H1N1 influenza vaccine. From October through late December, 2009, the Village administered nearly 29,000 doses of H1N1 vaccine in the community and distributed another 11,000 to Skokie physicians.

Dr. Catherine Counard, Skokie Health Director, and her staff estimated that 40,000 doses would be required to vaccinate all Skokie residents in the H1N1 vaccination priority groups established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Through mid-December, the Village was limited to offering vaccinations to people in priority groups that included pregnant women, individuals from 6 months to 24 years of age, individuals age 25 to 64 with underlying health conditions such as asthma or diabetes, health care workers and individuals who care for or live with children less than 6 months of age.

The Village's H1N1 vaccination effort had three phases. The first phase, which ran from mid-October through mid-November, consisted of holding vaccination clinics in all 53 Skokie schools, preschools and

day care centers. Some 10,000 vaccinations, primarily in nasal mist form, were administered to Skokie children and also to children who don't live in Skokie but attend school in the community. Phase one also included administering nearly 600 doses of vaccine at Village Hall, including 258 to fire fighters and paramedics from Skokie and surrounding communities. When these vaccination efforts were complete, the Village transferred just over 11,000 doses of vaccine to 30 Skokie medical practices and also to Skokie Hospital.

Phase two of the Village H1N1 vaccination campaign began in early December when the Village held four large community vaccination clinics. Illinois Department of Public Health regulations required that the Village open the clinics to all Illinois residents, and also to limit vaccinations to individuals in the previously established H1N1 vaccination priority groups. The Village clinics were held at Oakton Park, 4701 Oakton Street, by appointment only, and an on-line reservation system was activated.

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Shown above: Patrons of one of Skokie's four H1N1 Influenza Vaccination Clinic check-in to begin the process of receiving their vaccination.

Alternate Side Snow Parking Program

After a snowfall of two inches or more, the Village places an alternate side parking program in effect from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The program stays in effect for at least two days. On even-numbered days, cars must be parked on the even-numbered side of the street. On odd-numbered days, cars must be parked on the odd-numbered side of the street.

Residents are informed that the program is in effect by an "alert" warning siren that sounds at 7 a.m. The siren sounds again at 6 p.m., after which residents may move their vehicles to the opposite side of the street. **To confirm that the program is in effect please call the Village's snow hotline at 847/675-SNOW(7669) or listen to 1660 AM Skokie.**

For more information or for frequently asked questions about the Village's alternate side parking program please visit www.skokie.org.

Skokie Vaccinates for H1N1 Influenza

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The Village sent a reverse 9-1-1 call to every Skokie residence to inform the community about the clinics before word spread to those outside Skokie.

Nearly 13,000 individuals were served at the clinics, with 24% of the appointments made by Skokie residents. The remaining 76% of the appointments were made by non-Skokie residents from 193 different area municipalities. A few people even came from Iowa and Wisconsin. Long lines formed at the first clinic on December 3, and despite the best efforts of the medical personnel and vol-

unteers, waits of up to an hour or more occurred. Operations for the remaining clinics were refined, and people attending the clinics on December 6, 9 and 12 experienced waits of no more than 30 minutes, and much less in most cases. Many people were served in 10 minutes or less.

The Village has received numerous expressions of appreciation from clinic participants thanking Skokie for its efforts to distribute vaccine to those vulnerable to contracting H1N1 flu.



Shown above: A patron receives her H1N1 vaccination.



Shown above: Patrons complete paperwork in anticipation for their H1N1 vaccination.

More than 1,100 volunteers, including 232 medical volunteer vaccinators, assisted during the entire campaign. Many of the volunteers also serve on one of the Village's volunteer boards and commissions.

The third and final phase of the Village H1N1 vaccination campaign ran from December 15 through December 30. Subsequent to the December 11 Illinois Department of Public Health announcement that all Illinois residents qualify for H1N1 vaccinations as of December 15, the Village scheduled nine clinics for Skokie residents only at Village Hall,

also by appointment only. Appointments were offered to any Skokie resident over 6 months of age. At press time, the Health Department reported a strong response from the community to outreach in the form of a reverse 9-1-1 call to all Skokie residences announcing the clinics, emailing clinic information to SkokieNews subscribers, posting information on the Village web page and announcing the clinics on 1660 AM Skokie, the Village's emergency radio station. Any H1N1 vaccine that remains after the final series of clinics will likely be distributed to Skokie health care providers.

Skokie Police Department Crime Prevention/Community Relations Unit

The Village of Skokie Police Department strives to create and maintain a sense of security in the community.

To reinforce these efforts, the Skokie Police Department offers many programs to residents at no cost.

These programs include:

- Neighborhood Watch Program
- Security Surveys
- Personal Safety/Identity Theft/Business Security Presentations

- Senior Citizens TRIAD Group (a group focused on reducing crime against older persons)

The Skokie Police Department invites any person interested

in the programs to contact the Crime Prevention/Community Relations Unit at 847/982-5919. ∞

The Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)

The Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV), also known as Section 8, is a federally funded program that provides housing assistance to low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe and sanitary housing in the private market. Since housing assistance is provided on behalf of the family or individual, participants have the freedom to find their own housing, including single-family homes, townhouses and apartments. This program was first authorized under the U.S. Housing Act of 1937. The current program was reauthorized by the Housing and

Community Development Act of 1974 and is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Under the HCV program, assistance comes in the form of rental subsidies administered by local public housing authorities (PHA). The PHA that administers housing vouchers for Skokie is the Housing Authority of the County of Cook (HACC). Through the HCV program, the HACC pays a participating landlord who has accepted the program recipient the difference between 30% of the recipient's gross

household income and the fair market rent for the area. The rent must be considered reasonable for the area and the rental unit must meet basic quality standards. Program recipients must meet basic obligations in order to maintain the voucher. There are no time limits on participation in the program, but household income must be re-certified on an annual basis. Landlords are not forced to accept housing choice vouchers; it is entirely their choice.

To qualify for the HCV program a family or individual must be low-income, defined as making below 50% of the area median income (\$37,700 annually for a family of four). A PHA is legally obligated to provide 75% of its vouchers to applicants whose incomes do not exceed 30% of the area median income (\$22,600 annually for a family of four). One of the unique provisions of the HCV program is that once a person has a voucher, they can use the voucher anywhere in the country where a PHA is operating. This is intended to give recipients the opportunity to move to high-opportunity areas and ultimately improve their situation.

Many people believe that "Section 8" has increased dramatically in Skokie in recent years. The statistics do not bear this out. There are 440 vouchers in use in Skokie as of September 2009, according to the HACC.

This is the same number of vouchers in Skokie in March 2005. The number of vouchers has fluctuated in the past four years, but overall numbers have not changed much. Given that there are over 6,000 rental units in Skokie, HCV program recipients do not constitute a large portion of the local rental housing market. Also, over 200 of the housing choice vouchers are utilized by elderly renters throughout Skokie. Many of the voucher recipients are working families.

While Village officials are aware that HCV program recipients are dispersed throughout Skokie's multi-family neighborhoods, the Village is not given any information regarding specific addresses, family sizes or other personal data. Due to HUD regulation, the Housing Authority of the County of Cook cannot reveal such information. There are no limitations on the amount of housing choice vouchers in an individual community, and the Village has no control or approval authority over landlords' acceptance of vouchers.

Voucher recipients are subject to the same rules and guidelines as other tenants. Landlords must follow all fair housing guidelines when renting to voucher recipients. They must also follow all building codes administered by the Village of Skokie. ∞

SWANCC Offers Holiday Light Recycling

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) is offering a Holiday Light Recycling Program, free of charge. All holiday string lighting and extension cords can be dropped off at the following communities: Arlington Heights, Elk Grove Village, Evanston, Glenview, Hoffman Estates, Lincolnwood, Park Ridge, Rolling Meadows, Wilmette and Winnetka. The exact locations and drop-off hours can be found at www.swancc.org. *Garland, live greens, wreaths or other non-recyclables are not accepted in this program.*

SWANCC and the participating communities have partnered with Elgin Recycling Inc. to recycle the lights and cords. The collected material will be processed at the Palatine facility. The strands are chopped, separated, baled and sold as a commodity to foundries and mills in the United States.

For other SWANCC programs and services, please visit www.swancc.org.



Know Your Neighbor Week

The *Know Your Neighbor Week* program is sponsored by the Village of Skokie to encourage Skokie residents in all of the cultures in our community to get to know one another and to celebrate our similarities and differences. This special week, coordinated by the Human Relations Commission, takes place May 17 through May 23, 2010 and is funded by The Chicago Community Trust Immigrant Integration Initiative.

Please consider opening your home for a neighborhood coffee during *Know Your Neighbor Week*. Invite neighbors new and old, new people from your house of worship, school and any other friends or acquaintances new to the community for an informal gathering.

The Village of Skokie will provide all registered hosts with a coffee kit that includes invitation flyers, name tags, markers, information about Village programs and services, conversation starters/ideas and a certificate for a free coffee cake to serve at their *Know Your Neighbor Week* event. Kosher coffee cake available on request.

For more information or to register as a host and to receive your coffee kit please e-mail info@skokie.org or call 847/933-8257. ∞

Census 2010: Skokie Homes Soon to Receive Questionnaires

The census happens every 10 years as stipulated by the United States Constitution. Residents of all 50 states and Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa and non-citizen residents participate in the census. The census takes less than 10 minutes to complete and requests information asking for name, relationship, gender, age, date of birth, race and whether the person is a renter or homeowner. All the information collected by the Census Bureau is protected by federal law.

Census 2010 Timeline

- Work on Census 2010 began in spring 2009, with census workers identifying and recording every residential address using hand-held computers. The computers electronically collect infor-

mation with global positioning systems (GPS) capabilities, helping to ensure that every resident will receive a census questionnaire. GPS technology allows the Census Bureau to create an address map, making data tracking much easier and quicker than ever before.

- Beginning in early spring 2010, census questionnaires will be mailed or delivered to homes. Each household should complete a census form and return it to the Census Bureau. In 2010, the Census Bureau is hoping for a 69% return rate.
- In late 2010, the Census Bureau will report the census findings to the President and, in March 2011, redistricting data will be routed to the states. The redistricting data determines which states will gain Congressional seats,

which will lose them and which local bodies will get federal funding based on population. There is roughly \$300 billion annually in federal funds available for distribution to local, state and tribal governments based on census data.

For the first time ever, the Census Bureau also will target group quarters, which mean dormitories, group homes, prisons and homeless shelters, and include them in the census coverage. By doing so, census results will provide a much more accurate count.

It is very important that all Skokie residents participate in the census to ensure that the Village's population is accurately represented. To learn more about Census 2010, please visit www.census.gov/2010census/. ∞

The Village Forester Says...

Tree City USA

The Village of Skokie recently was awarded Tree City USA designation for the 24th year.

Skokie honors its designation each year in April on Arbor Day by planting a tree. Check back in the April edition of *NewSkokie* to learn more about Arbor Day 2010.

Residents are encouraged to plant a tree on the parkway in front of their houses. The Village's 50/50 Parkway Tree Planting Program will pay for 50 percent of the cost of the tree. Parkway Tree Planting applications are available from the Village Forester and online at www.skokie.org.

For more information please contact the Village Forester at 847/933-8427, or visit www.skokie.org. ∞



TREE CITY USA.



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:

January 4, 19
February 1, 16

Plan Commission:

January 7, 21
February 4, 18

Appearance Commission:

January 13, 27
February 10, 24

Zoning Board of Appeals:

January 6, 20
February 4, 18



Village Board Action

The Village Board approved a contract for an Oakton Street Corridor Study. There are two main phases for this contract: Phase 1 - A traffic and parking analysis, traffic speed study, modeling of the impact of reducing the number of lanes on Oakton Street and selection of alternative routes for through traffic. Phase 2 - Development of alternate street parking and lane configurations. The funding for this analysis comes from the Downtown Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) account. A draft report will be completed by the end of January 2010.

The Village Board approved a resolution authorizing a local agency agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation for the Downtown Skokie Swift station. The Village received a \$14,107,514 grant from the Federal Government for station construction. Village matching funds from the Downtown TIF account will result in a total project cost of approximately \$20,000,000. Construction is expected to start in spring 2010.


The Village Board approved the Architect and Engineering (A&E) and Construction management services for the Skokie Swift Downtown Station. A&E services were awarded to Chicago-based McDonough Associates, Inc. that have completed similar projects including the Linden Avenue station in Wilmette, the Blue Line rehabilitation and the Belmont/Fullerton stations. Construction management services for the new Downtown station were awarded to Riley Construction of Lake Bluff. Riley Construction is the Construction Manager for the new police station project and has constructed public facilities for Glenview, Lake Zurich, Lake County, Winnetka and Lake Forest.

Foreign Fire Insurance Tax

Pursuant to Illinois statute, the Village of Skokie and many other municipalities have a 2% tax on out-of-state fire insurance companies. The tax is imposed by local ordinance and has been in place for many years. The tax yields approximately \$60,000 to \$70,000 per year. The Village has traditionally deposited 100% of the revenue into the Fire Pension Fund.

In 2008, the Illinois Legislature amended the statute requiring the agent (in this case the Illinois Municipal League) to address the check to the Treasurer of the local Foreign Fire Insurance Board rather than to the Municipal Treasurer as had been the case.

Consequently, the Village cannot cash or deposit the check to the Fire Pension Fund as had been the practice. In January 2009, the Village established by ordinance a "Foreign Fire Insurance Board" with officers that include a treasurer, so that the revenue can be properly deposited. Pursuant to local code, members of the Foreign Fire Insurance Board are elected by members of the Fire Department and are charged with determining how Foreign Fire Insurance Tax revenue is spent.

The Foreign Fire Insurance Board allocated this year's revenues toward Fire Department training and equipment, such as thermal imaging cameras. These cameras will allow firefighters to see areas of heat through smoke, darkness or heat-permeable barriers. This will allow them to quickly find the seat of a structure fire, or see the heat signature of visually obscured victims. 

January/February 2010

Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule



Holiday Refuse Collection

Due to the Martin Luther King Day holiday on January 18, 2010, Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged. Due to the Presidents' Day holiday on February 15, 2010, Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collection unchanged. To find out which days your refuse is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Holiday Recycling Collection

Normal collection schedules will remain in effect during the Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day holidays. To find out which days your recycling is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Health Happenings

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, February 10 from 2-7:30 p.m. Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

Blood Pressure Screening

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4:45 p.m., Wednesdays from 9-10:30 a.m. and Wednesday, January 20 and February 3, 17 from 5 p.m.-8 p.m.

*Body Composition Analysis

Mondays from 2-4:30 p.m., Thursdays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and Wednesday, January 20 and February 3, 17 from 5-8 p.m. \$6 Fee

Cholesterol Screening Programs:

Simple Cholesterol Screening (Total Cholesterol Reading Only)

Mondays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. and Wednesday, January 20 and February 3, 17 from 5-8 p.m. \$6 Fee

**Lipid Profile Screening (Total Cholesterol, HDL, Triglycerides, LDL, Cholesterol/HDL Ratio). Mondays and*

Thursdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and Wednesday, January 6, 20 and February 3, 17 from 5-8 p.m. \$15 Fee

*Diabetes Screening

Tuesdays, January 12 and February 16 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. \$5 Fee

*Hearing Screening

Fridays, January 22 and February 19 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

*Immunization Clinics

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesday, January 20 and February 3, 17 from 5-8 p.m., Wednesday, January 13 from 1:30-4 p.m., Wednesday, January 27 from 1:30-4 p.m., Wednesday, February 10 from 1:30-4 p.m. and Wednesday, February 24 from 1:30-4 p.m. \$5/person Clinic Fee

*Lead Screening

Wednesday, February 3 from 2-4 p.m. \$18 Fee and Wednesday, January 6, 20 and February 3, 17 from 5-8 p.m. \$25 Fee

*Nicotine Addiction Seminar

Wednesday, January 27 and February 24 at 7 p.m.

*TB Skin Testing

Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Tuesdays from 1-4:45 p.m. \$5 Fee

*Well Child Clinic

Tuesdays, January 19 and February 9 from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Village Hall Closed

The Village of Skokie will be closed on Monday, February 15, 2010 in observance of the Presidents' Day holiday.

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

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

Conversational German

Thursdays, January 21 and February 4, 18 at 1:30 p.m.

Conversational Yiddish

No fee or registration required. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays, January 19, 26 and February 16, 23 at 1:30 p.m.

FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)

Wednesdays, January 13 and February 10 from 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Juanita at 847/933-8208 for more information.

Hearing Loss Support Group

Thursdays, January 14 and February 11 from 1:30-3 p.m.

Illinois Cares RX and RX Plus

(Formally known as Circuit Breaker) Appointments are necessary.

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesdays, January 12 and February 9 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. Tuesdays, January 12 and February 9 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.

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Rules of the Road

Review for driver's exam.
Monday, February 1
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.

Stamp Club

Wednesdays, January 20 and February 3, 17 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, January 13, 27 and February 10, 24 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Woodcarving

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

Skokie Park District

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

Summer Camp 2010 Open House

January 13 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Meet camp directors and compare programs and

fees. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

Camp Resident Registration Begins

January 31 for Skokie residents and February 22 for non-residents. Use WebTrac at www.SkokieParkDistrict.org for fast and easy service. Walk-in and mail registration also accepted.

Daddy-Daughter Valentine's Dance

February 6 from 5-7 p.m.
Dance the night away with your daughter or daddy! Ages 1+. Fee: \$20-30/couple, \$10 for additional attendees. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

Winter Chilly Fest

February 13 and 14 from 4-8 p.m.
Enjoy an evening of outdoor ice skating, a cozy chili dinner and more. Admission: \$5-11. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel Street.

Spring Program Resident Registration Begins

February 15 for Skokie residents and February 22 for non-residents. Use WebTrac at www.SkokieParkDistrict.org for fast and easy service. Walk-in and mail registration also accepted.

Devonshire Playhouse Presents: "The Dining Room"

February 20 through March 7.
Call 847/674-1500, ext. 2400 for showtimes and ticket information. Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Street.

Snowshoe Rentals at Emily Oaks Nature Center

Durable snowshoes are available to rent on a first-come, first-served when four or more inches of snow are on the ground. \$5/hour. For details call 847/674-1500, ext. 2500. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel Street.

Franklin Friday Frenzy—Win \$100!

Visit www.SkokieParkDistrict.org weekdays for a clue to win \$100 every Friday through April 30, 2010. On Friday, you will discover new places in the district and we will cook up unusual ways for someone to win each week.

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

Capitol Steps

Centre East Theatre
January 21-24. Call for showtimes.

Awake and Sing

A Northlight Theatre Production
January 21- 24, 27-31 and February 2-7, 10-14, 17-21, 23-28. Call for showtimes.

Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats

Centre East Theatre
January 26-29. Call for showtimes.

Bob Woodward

Centre East Theatre
January 30 at 8 p.m.

Spirit of Harriet Tubman

Centre East Theatre
February 5 at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Paula Poundstone

Centre East Theatre
February 5 at 8 p.m.

Most Valuable Player

Centre East Theatre
February 11 at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Frank Sinatra, Jr.

Centre East Theatre
February 13 at 8 p.m.

The Second City 50th Anniversary Tour

Centre East Theatre
February 20 at 8 p.m.

The Little Engine That Could

Centre East Theatre
February 24 at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Max & Ruby

Centre East Theatre
February 27 at 3 p.m.

Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra #4: Nordic Warmth

Centre East Theatre
February 28 at 4:30 p.m.

Skokie Public Library

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

Parents' Guide to Facebook and Social Networking

Tuesday, January 12 at 7 p.m.

Be an Informed Patient: Introduction to Health and Medical Resources Online

Thursday, January 14 at 7 p.m.

Preschool and Child Care Fair

Tuesday, January 26 at 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The Seasons on Henry's Farm

Wednesday, February 3 at 7 p.m.

The Bollywood Ticket: An American Guide to Indian Movies

Wednesday, February 10 at 7 p.m.

Introduction to Henna Tattoos

Wednesday, February 24 at 7 p.m. 

∞ **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.

January 25: Silver Singers

Tune-up your vocal cords and sing-a-long while Miriam Strauss plays musical tunes on the piano. The Silver Singers meet the last Monday of every month.

February 1: Table Games

Bring your friends and treats to share and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with your favorite table game.

February 22: Silver Singers

Tune-up your vocal cords and sing-a-long while Miriam Strauss plays musical tunes on the piano. The Silver Singers meet the last Monday of every month.

Smith Center Events

The Life and Music of Ray Charles

On Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. Jack Diamond, a vocal historian, will bring the music and history to life of the legendary performer Ray Charles. Ray Charles left a long list of hits and Grammy awards behind to be enjoyed by generations to come. A mid-day treat will be served after the program. The fee for this program is \$3 and is due at time of registration.

Be Prepared for Litter When the Snow Melts

Every year when the snow melts, litter, food wrappers, cans and other trash are exposed. The Village of Skokie urges all residents to focus on keeping Skokie clean by picking up litter and debris in their neighborhood and around their homes and businesses. If everyone does their small part, we can help Skokie remain a clean and beautiful place to live and work. ∞

Federal Income Tax Program

Federal Income Tax help is provided free-of-charge at the Smith Activities Center, 5120 Galitz Street, beginning February 9, 2010, through April 6, 2010 to low- to moderate-income senior residents (at least 60 years of age) and those individuals who are handicapped. The program is held on Tuesdays and an appointment is necessary – *no drop-ins*.

Through the coordinated efforts of the Village of Skokie Human Services Division and AARP, tax aides will assist low- to moderate-income senior residents (at least 60 years of age) and those individuals who are handicapped.

The program is provided free of charge every Tuesday beginning February 9, 2010 through April 6, 2010. Appointments are necessary, no drop-ins.

Tax aides will assist individuals with the completion and review of *simple taxes only*. Qualified individuals will be allowed only one, one-hour appointment. Please have all your paperwork at the time of your appointment. The tax aides will not be able to provide assistance without complete documentation.

This program is available to U.S. Citizens only. For further information, or to make an appointment for this service, call 847/933-8208 near the end of January 2010. ∞

Carrier Watch Program

The Village of Skokie Human Services Division encourages Skokie seniors and persons with disabilities to sign up for the Carrier Watch program. This free-of-charge program authorizes postal carriers to notify the Human Services Division if a resident's mail accumulates for more than 24 hours. The Human Services Division will contact the person and/or notify their designated emergency contact.

Registration can be done over the phone with the Human Services Division. Seniors and persons with disabilities will be asked to provide a staff member with their name, address and emergency contact information. The information is then sent to the post office, and the designated postal carrier for the address will place a Carrier Watch sticker in the mailbox.

If you would like more information or would like to register for the program please call the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208. ∞

Winter Health Tips

The mention of winter evokes images of sparkling snowflakes and skaters gracefully gliding across the ice. But winter can also be a time of illness and injury, if people fail to take adequate health and safety precautions.

Hypothermia

Hypothermia, a drop in body temperature to 95 degrees or less, can be fatal if not detected promptly and treated properly. In the United States, about 700 deaths occur each year from hypothermia.

While hypothermia can happen to anyone, the elderly run the highest risk because their bodies often do not adjust to changes in temperature quickly and they may be unaware that they are gradually getting colder. The condition usually develops over a period of time, anywhere from a few days to several weeks, that even mildly cool indoor temperatures of 60 to 65

degrees can trigger. If you have elderly relatives or friends who live alone, encourage them to set their thermostats above 65 degrees to avoid hypothermia.

When the body temperature drops, the blood vessels near the surface of the body narrow to reduce heat loss. Muscles begin to tighten to make heat. If the body temperature continues to drop, the person begins to shiver. The shivering continues until the temperature drops to about 90 degrees. Temperatures below 90 degrees create a life-threatening situation.

Signs of hypothermia include forgetfulness, drowsiness, slurred speech, change in appearance (e.g., puffy face), weak pulse, slow heartbeat, and very slow and shallow breathing. If the body temperature drops to or below 86 degrees, a person may slip into a coma or have a death-like appearance.

If you notice these symptoms in a person, take his or her temperature. If it is 95 degrees or below, call a doctor or ambulance or take the victim directly to a hospital. To prevent further heat loss, wrap the patient in a warm blanket. A hot water bottle or electric heating pad (set on low) can be applied to the person's stomach. If the victim is alert, give small quantities of warm food or drink.

There are several things you should not do to a hypothermia victim. Do not give alcoholic beverages. Do not give a hot shower or bath, since it could cause shock. Generally, do not try to treat hypothermia at home. The condition should be treated in a hospital.

Frostbite

The parts of the body most affected by frostbite are exposed areas of the face (cheeks, nose, chin, forehead), the ears, wrists, hands and feet. Frostbitten skin is whitish and stiff and feels numb rather than painful. When spending time outdoors during cold weather, be alert for signs of frostbite and, if you notice any, take immediate action.

To treat frostbite, warm the affected part of the body gradually. Wrap the area in blankets, sweaters, coats, etc. If no warm wrappings are available, place frostbitten hands under the armpits or use your body to cover the affected area. Seek medical attention immediately.

Do not rub frostbitten areas; the friction can damage the tissue. Do not apply snow to frostbitten areas. Because its temperature is below freezing, snow will aggravate the condition.

If you have any questions or would like more information these winter health tips, contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252.

Guidelines for Feeding Wildlife

Many people like to feed birds and animals during the winter months, but most don't realize that this practice is regulated. Ground feeding can attract rats, skunks, and other unwanted "guests."

According to Village ordinance, feeding wildlife requires the use of approved feeders that are off the ground. The feeders and the areas around them must be properly maintained to discourage unwanted pests.

Officers from the Skokie Health Department's Animal Control Division will be happy to give recommendations about approved feeders and how to maintain them properly. The officers will also investigate complaints of illegal feeding.

For more information about the Village's bird feeding ordinance, contact the Health Department at 847/933-8484.



Tune to
1660 AM

Village of Skokie
Municipal Advisory
Radio Station

For emergency preparedness information, up-to-the-minute reports, alerts and relevant instructions for what to do in an emergency and national weather service announcements.

Skokie Coming Together Project

The Village of Skokie, Niles Township High Schools and Skokie Public Library welcome everyone to participate in Coming Together in Skokie. This new program, that will highlight a different culture in our community each year, is intended to build knowledge, awareness and appreciation of our different backgrounds.

The first annual Coming Together in Skokie initiative features the Asian Indian population and, to begin exploring the Indian culture, the project committee chose the book *Motherland* by Indian author Vinita Vijayaraghavan. The project committee hopes that residents and students will read *Motherland* as well as participate in both book discussion groups at the library and high schools and in events sponsored by other community organizations such as the Indian Community of Niles Township, Oakton Community College and Skokie Hospital. For further information about Coming Together in Skokie and a calendar of program events, please visit www.skokielibary.info. ∞



Carbon Monoxide & Microwave Oven Testing Available

The Skokie Health Department offers carbon monoxide and microwave oven testing for Skokie residents. These tests are done by appointment only.

One of the Environmental Health staff will come to your home and check for elevated carbon monoxide levels or radiation leakage from your microwave oven. If elevated levels of carbon monoxide are found, you should open windows to air out your home and have your furnace and/or other appliances checked and serviced by a reputable firm. If elevated radiation levels are detected from your microwave, you should stop using the appliance until it has been serviced or replaced.

If you would like more information about these services or to make an appointment, contact the Skokie Health Department's Environmental Division at 847/933-8484. ∞

SkokieNews

Stay up-to-date with important Village of Skokie information and events with Skokie's monthly electronic newsletter.

To register for SkokieNews, visit www.skokie.org or call 847/933-8257 and ask to be added to the list. ∞

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.

If you notice a form, permit or application you frequently use that is not listed and would like it posted online, please contact the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8257. ∞

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

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

Monday, February 15 (Presidents' 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 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 time, please call 312/744-7606. For other household chemical 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 1 (New Year's Day): Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday, Friday collection on Thursday.

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

Monday, February 15 (Presidents' 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 visit www.skokie.org.

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

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

Council/Manager
Government
Since 1957



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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