

NewSkokie



December 2011

The award-winning municipal information source



Karate demonstration before the showing of *Pee-Wee's Big Adventure* on July 27, 2011 at the *Wednesdays on the Green* event.

Skokie 2011 In Review

Many exciting events and projects occurred throughout Skokie in 2011, including:

Wednesdays on the Green

Thanks to the cooperation between the Skokie Chamber of Commerce, Village of Skokie, Skokie Park District, Skokie Public Library and the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie there was a free, fun, family friendly event on the Village Green every Wednesday evening, weather permitting, from May 18 to August 24, 2011. Highlights from the summer events include performances by the Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra, Rock around the Clock 50s' night, Classic and Custom Cars on the Green and the showing of the sing-along version of *Grease*. A special thanks to Skokie resident, business owner and volunteer Scott Holtz who was instrumental in organizing and implementing the *Wednesdays on the Green* events. Mr. Holtz serves

on the Board of Directors of both the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie and the Skokie Chamber of Commerce. Stay tuned for the lineup of events for the summer 2012 *Wednesdays on the Green* program! *Continued on page six*

Shop Downtown Skokie in 2012!

Early in the New Year, all Skokie homes will receive a post card encouraging them to shop and dine in Downtown Skokie. The 'shop local' program will run from January through May, and here's how it will work:

- Fill in the post card with your name, address, phone number and email address.
- Take the card along when shopping and dining in Downtown Skokie, and ask participating businesses to stamp the card when you complete your purchase.
- After receiving five stamps, turn in the completed card to the participating business of your choice.
- When turning in your completed card, you will receive a


token gift of up to a \$5 value from the participating business.

- On or around the first of each month from February through June, a random drawing will be held from all of the completed cards turned in the month before. The winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to a participating Downtown Skokie business.

Extra cards will be available at Village Hall and other community locations. A list of participating businesses and other program details will be posted soon on www.skokiedowntown.org.

Residents are encouraged to shop in Skokie stores, whether in Downtown Skokie, at West-


field Old Orchard, on Dempster Street, at Village Crossing and other areas of the community as

often as possible. Invest in the community – shop local! 

Is Alternate Side Parking in Effect?

The Village of Skokie provides many avenues to learn when Alternate-Side Parking is in effect after it snows:

- Call the Village's 24-hour Snow Hotline at 847/675-7669;
- Sign up for email alerts through [SkokieNews](http://SkokieNews.org);
- Listen to 1660 AM Skokie Radio;
- Visit www.skokie.org and look for a notice near the top of the home page;
- Tune to SkokieVision cable and look for the crawl message at the bottom of the screen (Channel 25 on RCN systems, Channel 17 on Comcast systems); or
- Listen for the emergency siren that sounds at 7 a.m. to signal that the program is in effect from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. that day.

For more information please visit www.skokie.org. 



Spotlight on the Public Safety Commission

The Public Safety Commission promotes and enhances the safety of all residents, businesses and visitors within the Village of Skokie through education, outreach and interaction.

The Commission examines ways to enhance residents' personal safety as well as that of their homes and property. The Commission also explores ways to promote traffic safety for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians. The Commission acts as an advisory body to the Village Board and develops proposals for new public safety related ordinances, programs and services.

The Public Safety Commission consists of 20 members who meet the third Wednesday night of each month. ∞



From left to right, back row to front: Commissioners Joel Rubin, Bradley Rosen, David Freireich, Staff Liaison Fred Schattner, Trustee Edie Sue Sutker, Fire Chief Ralph Czerwinski, Thomas Mannard, Mark Anderson, Mark Penning, Paul Pitalis, Helen Bildires, Deputy Police Chief Al Lopez, Police Chief Anthony Scarpelli, Frank Ippolito, Marcie Claus, Trustee Randy Roberts, Deputy Police Chief Michael Pechter and Tom Dornback. Not pictured: Commissioners Carol Arkin, Chuck Kohn, Mitchell Kushner, Julian Levy, Earl Nicholas, David Putrus and Merrill Silverman.

Who's Who: Paul Pitalis, Public Safety Commission Chair

How many years have you been on the Public Safety Commission?

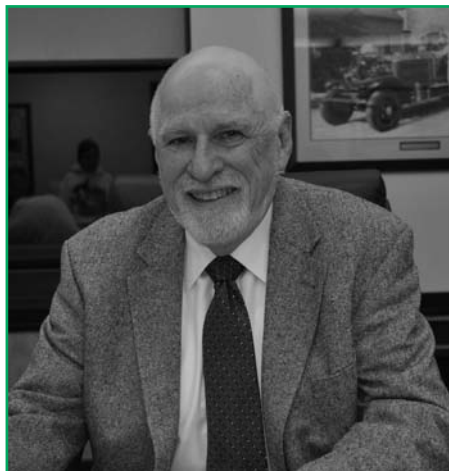
This is my 31st year serving on the Commission.

How many years have you been Chair of the Public Safety Commission?

I have served as Chair for 10 years.

Why did you seek a volunteer position on the Public Safety Commission?

Before serving on the Commission, I served for fifteen years on several local school boards (District 69, District 73 and NTDSE). One thing just flowed into the next. I chose the Traffic Safety Commission (now the Public Safety Commission) because of my experience in the insurance business.



Paul Pitalis
Public Safety Commission Chair

opportunity to interact with fire and police personnel and learn about safety on the streets.

What is your profession?

I have been in the insurance industry for 54 years, both in agencies and companies. I hold CPCU and CLU designations and currently teach insurance courses and do consulting within the business.

How long have you lived in Skokie?

My family and I moved to Skokie from Evanston in 1971.

Why did you move to Skokie?

I moved to Skokie because of the well regarded school system for my two daughters.

What is your favorite Public Safety Commission activity?

My favorite activity is the Commission's annual Bicycle Safety Day. The event attracts a lot of youngsters and they have a great

What is your favorite shop or restaurant in Skokie?

The Skokie Club and Sanders. My family dines at both places frequently. We were glad to see the Skokie Club return.

If you would like further information on how to become an active member of the Skokie community, or information on volunteer opportunities, please contact the Mayor's office at 847/933-8269 or visit www.skokie.org to download a Board and Commissions application. You can also find volunteer opportunities at www.SkokieServes.com

2012 Refuse and Recycling Schedule

The Village of Skokie has a comprehensive refuse and recycling division. Crews are projected to collect close to 18,000 tons of garbage this coming year and more than 5,000 tons of solid waste are expected to be diverted from landfills as a result of the Village's weekly recycling collection program.

For more refuse and recycling collection information please visit www.skokie.org.

Refuse Collection

A 95-gallon refuse container is provided to each single-family household for storage of up to 200 pounds of household refuse, with the exception of hazardous materials and construction debris. These items require special disposal. For more information on hazardous waste and construction debris disposal, please visit www.skokie.org.

2012 Holiday Refuse Collection Schedule:

Monday, January 2 (New Year's Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, January 16 (Martin Luther King Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, February 20 (President's Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Wednesday, July 4 (Independence Day)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, September 3, (Labor Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Thursday and Friday, November 22 and 23 (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, attempt to complete Thursday and Friday collections on Wednesday.

Tuesday, December 25 (Christmas Holiday)

Monday collection unchanged, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Tuesday, January 1, 2013 (New Year's Day)

Monday collection unchanged, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

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.

2012 Holiday Recycling Collection Schedule

Monday, January 2 (New Year's Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, January 16 (Martin Luther King Day)

Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

Monday, February 20 (President's Day)

Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Wednesday, July 4 (Independence Day)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Monday, September 3, (Labor Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Thursday and Friday, November 22 and 23 (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Monday, Tuesday and Friday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday.

Tuesday, December 25 (Christmas Holiday)

Monday collection unchanged, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

Tuesday, January 1, 2013 (New Year's Day)

Monday collection unchanged, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged Monday.

Crime Down in Skokie: 2011 Year-to-Date Statistics

According to statistics through October 31, 2011, crime in the community is down by an overall 8% so far this year. Most of the specific offense categories are down for the year to date, including a 35% decrease in robberies

(robbery is the taking of money or property in the possession of another, from his or her presence by force or threat of force), a 7% decrease in burglaries (theft is criminal entry to a building or dwelling to commit a

felony or theft therein) and a 14% decrease in theft (such as shoplifting). Nearly all crime categories are down, including several categories of assault, driving under the influence, arrests, criminal damage, disorderly conduct and more.

97% of the motor vehicles were unlocked. As a result, the Crime Prevention/ Community Relations Unit released information to the community encouraging residents to secure their vehicles and property to deter these types of preventable thefts.

What I Love About Skokie

The Village continues to receive messages from residents with details on what they love about Skokie. Here are a few that have been received in recent weeks:

“I think that Skokie is a really diverse community. Everyday, I see different people from different places and it is important that we all respect one another. I think Skokie is a great example of equality. We are all in one big neighborhood where everybody is treated with equality and shares their own culture with others.” *Gloria G., 12-year resident*

“It’s like a big city, without the problems of the big city.” *Barbara M., 30-year resident*

“Friendliness of the residents, great neighbors, the trees and the variety of homes and parks.” *Myles, 11-year resident*

“My family and I moved from Chicago two years ago for a better school system. Skokie is so much different than Chicago and we really love it! Skokie is less crowded, has less traffic, has nice parks for my two kids and is especially more safe and clean. Skokie is a family friendly and eco-friendly community. I definitely made the right choice moving here!” *Wannapa P., two-year resident*

“I love our community, our parks, our library, our sculpture park, our arts and our diversity” *Eileen W., 12-year resident*

“Simply love the small town feeling. Skokie has great food and great parks!” *Lanh M., one and a half year resident*

What do you love about Skokie? Send an email to info@skokie.org or write to Village of Skokie, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, 60077, Attention: Public Information. Please include your name, address, phone and email address and the number of years you have lived in Skokie. As space permits, the Village will feature these comments in NewSkokie, on the Village web site and in other Village outreach. ∞

One of the few crime categories that have increased in 2011 is burglary/theft from motor vehicles. In 2011 year to date, Police Department staff determined that some 49% of vehicles from which property was stolen were unlocked. In August 2011, a rash of burglaries/ thefts from motor vehicles occurred. Of the cases reported during August 2011, some

More areas of the community continue to join the Neighborhood Watch program. By joining this initiative, neighbors work together with the Police Department to promote a safe and secure neighborhood environment. For further information about Neighborhood Watch, contact the Crime Prevention/ Community Relations Unit at 847/982-5919. ∞

Dempster Station Area Plan - Get Involved!

The Village of Skokie has partnered with the Regional Transportation Authority and a team led by OKW Architects to prepare a Dempster Station Area Plan to create a circulation, land use, parking and development vision for the area’s future.

Please visit the official Dempster Station Area Plan web page through a link located at www.skokie.org, to provide location-specific comments with an interactive mapping tool. Comment categories include community asset, development priority site, problematic intersection, public safety concerns, undesirable use, desired use/development, poor appearance, and “other”. The input gained through Dempster Station Area Plan web page will be used to prioritize the issues that are most important for the Village to address in the near term and in the future.

There will also be a public meeting for those who would like to provide development ideas and input for the area on Tuesday, December 6 at 7 p.m. at Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

For more information about the Dempster Station Area Plan, please contact Steve Marciani, Planning Supervisor, at 847/933-8447. ∞



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

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

Upcoming Public Meetings

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

Board of Trustees:
December 5, 19

Plan Commission:
December 15

Appearance Commission:
December 14


Zoning Board of Appeals:
December 7



Village Board Action

The Village Board recently approved a contract with Lake Shore Waste Services for multi-family, condominium and commercial recycling and refuse services. The new contract with Lake Shore Waste Services will provide more favorable pricing and provide better recycling services through a unique collection system that encourages more commercial sector recycling.

The Village Board approved a resolution that would place a referendum regarding municipal electrical aggregation on the March 20, 2012 ballot. State statute permits the purchase of electrical energy by municipalities for the benefit of its residents and small businesses. The advantage of doing so would be a reduced cost for energy to residents and small business owners. If approved by referendum, public meetings and a public bidding process are necessary. Commonwealth Edison would still deliver and bill for energy so this process would be transparent to the consumer except for the reduction in their invoice due to the reduced cost for energy.


The Board recently approved an Interior Rehab Program grant for Suinik, a new Armenian restaurant that will be located in Downtown Skokie at 4839 Oakton Street. The space was previously occupied by a florist, but has been vacant for several years. 

Interactive Mapping Tools Available at www.skokie.org

Would you like to make custom maps of your neighborhood or easily obtain useful information on your property? Through MapOffice™, available at www.skokie.org/maps.cfm, residents have access to interactive mapping tools that allow users to create, markup and print custom maps. Additionally, “My Skokie Property Search” powered by MapOffice™ gives residents and businesses access to an easy-to-use address search function and parcel summary tool. Users can simply type in their address and retrieve a range of information related to their property, including:

- Parcel/zoning information;
- Link to county PIN and assessor data;
- School district information; and
- Recycling/garbage collection days.

To access MapOffice™, please visit www.skokie.org, click on Skokie Maps in the left-hand column and type an address in the “My Skokie Property Search” tool.

In 2005, the Village of Skokie became a member of the GIS Consortium, a cooperative of local governments that work to lower the cost of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and related technologies. As part of this membership, the Village has created, collected and maintained a wealth of geographic information such as parcels, aerial photography and roadways. This information also is available to all Skokie residents on Skokie’s website, www.skokie.org, through MapOffice™, an interactive mapping application. 

2011 Year in Review

Continued from front page

February Blizzard and Summer Storm Response

Skokie saw extreme weather in 2011 including a historic blizzard in February and a summer storm that left many Skokie residents without power for several days. Throughout these weather patterns Skokie Public Works crews provided exemplary service. During the February blizzard, Public Works snow plow crews had the center lane of all Skokie roadways cleared within a 24-hour period and worked tirelessly during the summer storms to remove all trees and branches from streets in the community.

New Oberweis Coming to Dempster Street

In a continued effort to revitalize the West Dempster Street corridor, the Village Board approved the development of an Oberweis Ice Cream and Dairy Store at Dempster Street and Skokie Boulevard. The new site will include a new quick-serve restaurant concept being developed by Oberweis. Village leaders believe that the initiative could serve as a catalyst for additional interest in the Village's remaining West Dempster Street opportunity sites.

New Skokie Police Chief and LEED Gold Certification

In May 2011, after the retirement of Police Chief Barry Silverberg, Deputy Police Chief Anthony Scarpelli, who joined the Skokie Police Department in 1982, was appointed Skokie's new Police Chief. Chief Scarpelli has already had significant successes as Chief, including a Summer Crime Task Force that helped reduce youth criminal and delinquent activities in the community. Chief Scarpelli also has increased Skokie Police outreach and interactions with the public.

As a result of numerous "green" design and construction features the new Skokie Police Headquarters earned LEED certification at the Gold level as established by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Wilde & Greene Restaurant + Natural Market Opens at Old Orchard

In August, Wilde & Greene Restaurant + Natural Market opened at Westfield Old Orchard. The Wilde & Greene at Westfield Old Orchard is the only United States location for the Canadian-based company. The open-market restaurant boasts numerous food stations with all items made fresh in front of customers. Wilde & Greene Restaurant + Natural Market also has a seasonal upstairs lounge and a market with fresh fruits and vegetables and organic, vegan, gluten-free and kosher items.

Westfield Old Orchard as a whole has done remarkably well during



Carnival rides at the 2011 Skokie Backlot Bash.

the recent downturn in the economy. The vacancy rate at Old Orchard is at an all-time low and gross sales volume has increased by double digits since 2009.

CTA Yellow Line Oakton Station in Downtown Skokie

Significant progress occurred on construction of the new CTA Yellow Line Oakton Station in Downtown Skokie. The station is nearly complete and is expected to be operational in early 2012. The station will greatly enhance transportation options for Skokie residents, Downtown Skokie patrons and businesses and the 1,300 employees at the Illinois Science + Technology Park. The "Kiss & Ride" Station will provide service to both the Dempster-Skokie and Howard Street Stations.

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Skokie Valley Bike/Walking Trail in Downtown Skokie

In early 2011 the design and conceptual drawings of the Skokie Valley Trail in Downtown Skokie along the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way between Oakton Street and Dempster Street was presented to the Village Board. Construction will begin in spring 2012 and will be completed in early summer 2012. Additionally, the Village received grant money to create plans to extend the Skokie Valley Trail from Oakton Street south to the Village of Lincolnwood limits along the ComEd right-of-way.

Oakton Street "Road Diet" Test

In late spring 2011, a test of an Oakton Street "Road Diet" took place in Downtown Skokie to determine the effects on traffic patterns on Oakton Street and surrounding roadways of such a plan. After numerous public meetings on the project, the Village Board determined that the community, as a whole, did not favor the project and declined to pursue the concept any further.

Feedback received during the project clearly demonstrated community wide support of a revitalized, vibrant Downtown area. Although an Oakton Street "Road Diet" will not take place, the Village will begin working on significant roadway improvements and streetscape beautification projects throughout Downtown Skokie.

Skokie Backlot Bash

Record numbers attended the late August Backlot Bash in Downtown Skokie. There were activities for all ages to enjoy, including live music throughout the event, a 5k run, carnival rides, a classic auto show and a business expo. The 2012 Backlot Bash is being held Friday, August 24 through Sunday, August 26. Make sure to mark it on your calendar! ∞

TeenLink

The Village of Skokie offers the *TeenLink* program to unite Skokie residents who are in need of outside seasonal yard work, including snow shoveling, raking and lawn care, with Skokie teens who are available for hire to do the work.

The *TeenLink* program list provides contact information for Skokie teens available to do seasonal yard work. The list includes the name and address of the teen, days available, type of work they are willing to do and their expected rate of pay. Residents can receive the list by mail or email.

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

If you would like the *TeenLink* contact list please call the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8257.

Skokie teens can also complete an application to be added to the *TeenLink* program by contacting the Village Manager's Office or visiting www.skokie.org to download an application. ∞

Skokie Places 1st in Snowplow "Roadeo"

Did you know that Skokie has the best snowplow team around? The Skokie Public Works Department recently competed in the American Public Works Association's (APWA) 2011 Snowplow/Loader "Roadeo" where they placed first.

Teams were tested on their knowledge of vehicle safety and operations, mechanical knowledge of snow control equipment and their driving ability while navigating through an obstacle course. Snowplow operator Gary Schrambeck and Dave Nygren represented Skokie in this year's competition. ∞



Electronics Waste Ban

In September 2009, Illinois adopted the Electronics Products Recycling and Reuse Act/SB2313 (Act). This legislation initially banned televisions and monitors from entering Illinois landfills beginning January 1, 2012.

Recently, Governor Quinn signed legislation that makes extensive changes to the Act that expands the number of covered electronic products to include the following items: televisions, monitors, printers, computers (including tablet computers), electronic keyboards, facsimile machines, video-cassette recorders, portable digital music players, digital video disc players, video game consoles, small scale servers, scanners, electronic mice, digital converter boxes, cable receivers, satellite receivers and digital video disc recorders.

The Village of Skokie works with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) to provide residents with recycling options for electronics through one-day collection events, permanent drop-off locations and the At-Home Pick-Up Program. Additionally, residents may utilize many retail store dropoffs during evening and weekend hours. For a complete list of options, please visit swancc.org. ∞

2012-2013 Community Development Block Grant Program

Each year under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides block grants to qualified local communities. Skokie expects to receive \$400,000 to \$450,000 in funding for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2012. These funds will be used for physical improvement projects, housing programs, limited social services and other activities that are consistent with local planning goals and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) regulations.

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

The Village has scheduled three public hearings to solicit public input on the 2012-2013 CDBG Program. Information gathered at the hearings assists in formulating the Village's funding request to HUD. At the December 19, 2011 Village Board meeting, the Board will review the current year's program progress and discuss 2012-2013 needs and objectives. Project suggestions, comments, and program recommendations that are solicited from Village staff, citizens, and representatives of various social service agencies will be presented at the January 3, 2012, Village Board meeting. The Board will select the projects to be funded at the February 6, 2012, hearing. Village Board meetings begin at 8 p.m. and CDBG hearings are held at the close of regular Village business.

For information on the Community Development Block Grant Program, contact Planner/CDBG Administrator Carrie Haberstick at 847/933-8447. ∞

Alternate Side Parking: Are You Ready for Snow?

Alternate-side street parking during heavy snow allows Skokie's Public Works Department to efficiently plow Village streets. The mandatory program is designed to provide the ability to plow the streets from curb-to-curb within a two-day period.

Residents should call 847/675-SNOW (7669), visit www.skokie.org, sign up for email alerts through SkokieNews or tune to 1660 AM, Skokie's advisory radio station, to confirm that the program is in effect and for program updates. Vehicles parked on the wrong side of the street when the Village's alternate side parking program is in effect are subject to a \$50 ticket and/or tow.

Refuse Carts and Fire Hydrants

Refuse collectors have a difficult time emptying refuse and recycling carts that are buried by drifts or piles of snow. Residents are responsible for ensuring that refuse containers are accessible. Please clear a path for the crews so that your recycling and refuse can be picked up as scheduled. After a heavy snowfall, refuse collection may be suspended for one or more days while snow clean up operations are underway. For information on any refuse collection delays after a snowfall, visit www.skokie.org.

In addition, snow plowing operations may cover your fire hydrant. Please assign some-

one in your household the responsibility of keeping fire hydrants on or near your property clear of snow for easy access. Snow piled on top of fire hydrants may impact timeliness of emergency response. In the event of a fire emergency every second counts!

Frequently Asked Questions

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

How many days does alternate-side parking last?

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

When is alternate-side parking in effect?

The alternate-side parking plan is in effect between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. after any snowfall of two inches or more. An alert siren sounds to signal the start of

alternate-side parking at 7 a.m. each day the plan is in effect. Additional information can be found on the SkokieVision cable station, 1660 AM, www.skokie.org or by contacting 847/675-SNOW (7669) for a recorded status report.

Where is a vehicle towed if in violation?

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

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

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

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

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

For more information please visit www.skokie.org.



Firearm Safety

The Skokie Police Department Crime Prevention/Community Relations Unit and the Village's Public Safety Commission would like to remind residents of the importance of firearm safety. While always important for those who choose to have a firearm in their home, safety is of particular importance when children live in or visit the home.

For more information on firearm safety, and specific tips for firearm safety and education for children, please contact the Crime Prevention Bureau at 847/982-5919 or info@skokie.org.

Skokie Blood Program Celebrates 40th Anniversary

The Skokie Community Blood Program will celebrate its 40th Anniversary with a blood drive from 2 to 8 p.m on December 7, 2011 at Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

The Skokie Community Blood Program was the first community blood program in the State of Illinois; its first blood drive was held on December 29, 1971. Mayor Albert J. Smith, Director of Health Dr. Samuel Andelman, and Board of Health Chair Dr. Herbert Lipschultz worked tirelessly to establish the program, thereby ensuring that Skokie residents would be able to receive blood if they ever needed it. Since 1971, nearly 36,000 units of blood have been donated.

The anniversary drive will feature cake and coffee. In addition, all donors will be entered into a raffle for a gift card to a Downtown Skokie restaurant.



Visionaries of the Skokie Community Blood Program in 1971 at the first blood drive. From left to right: Mayor Albert Smith, Chair of the Skokie Blood Program Ed Margolis, Dr. Thiru Vaithianthan of Skokie Valley Hospital and Director of Health Dr. Samuel Andelman.

Donating blood is a simple process that takes only a short time and can save a life. Still, many people don't donate for a variety of reasons. Often they

believe that they may not be eligible. The fact is that most healthy people can donate blood every 56 days.

For more information about the December 7, 2011 blood drive or to inquire about eligibility to donate, contact the LifeSource at 877/543-3768.

Holiday Season Safety Reminder

You can help keep your holiday season safe and happy by following some simple safety precautions from the Skokie Health Department. Choosing the right gift for children is very important. Many accidents result from giving gifts inappropriate for a child's age. Toys are rated for the youngest age at which they can be safely used. Please don't give a child a toy rated for older children.

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

Alcohol-related accidents account for the majority of holiday traffic deaths. When going to a party or out with friends, choose a designated driver. When hosting a party, have nonalcoholic beverages available for your guests. Stop serving alcohol at least one hour before the party's end. People who have had too much to drink should be given a ride home or persuaded to use public trans-

portation. Under no circumstances should you allow your guests to drive if they have had too much to drink.

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

Courage to Quit

The Skokie Health Department is offering a stop smoking program for Village residents and those who work in Skokie. A \$15 course fee will be refunded to those participants who complete the program.

The six session program will be held every Monday night at 7 p.m. from January 9 to February 13. The program will be held at the Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

Advance registration is required for the stop smoking program. For more information or to register for the program, please call 847/933-8252.

December 2011

Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule



Holiday Refuse Collection

Due to the Christmas holiday (Monday, December 26, 2011) and New Year's Day observance (January 2, 2012), Monday collection occurs on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collection are unchanged. To find out which days your refuse is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Holiday Recycling Collection

Due to the Christmas holiday (Monday, December 26, 2011) and New Year's Day observance (January 2, 2012), Monday collection occurs on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collection are unchanged. To find out which days your recycling is collected please visit www.skokie.org.

Accepted Recycling Materials

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

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

For more refuse and recycling information, please see page three or 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.

Hearing Screening*
Friday, December 16 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Lead Screening*
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesday, December 7 and 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$25 fee.

Blood Pressure Screening
Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 7 and 21 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Immunization Clinics*
Immunizations are available for only a \$5 per person clinic visit fee. *Appointments are required.* Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 7 and 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays, December 14 and 28 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Diabetes Screening*
Thursday, December 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. \$5 fee.

Well Child Clinic*
Monday, December 12 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Simple Cholesterol Screening
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, December 7 and 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$6 fee.

Body Composition Analysis*
Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon. Thursdays 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, December 7 and 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$6 fee.

Lipid Profile Screening*
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 7 and 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$15 fee.

TB Skin Testing*
Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 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 to 11:15 a.m.

Woodcarving Club
No instructor. Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Amateurs are welcome.

Chess
Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 4 p.m.

Conversational Yiddish
No fee or registration required. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays, December 20 and 27 at 1:30 p.m.

Conversational German
Thursdays, December 1 and 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Hearing Loss Support Group
Thursday, December 8 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)
Wednesday, December 14 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Please call Juanita at 847/933-8208 for more information.

News and Views
Discussion. Fridays at 10 a.m.

Circuit Breaker/ Illinois Cares RX
Please call 847/933-8208 for an appointment.

Low Vision Support Group
Tuesday, December 13 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Medicare Supplement Claims Assistance/ Senior Health Insurance Program
Selected dates, appointments are necessary. Please call 847/933-8208 for more information.

Needlework
Socialization and needlework. Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Continued on page 11

Village Hall Closed

The Village of Skokie will be closed on Monday, December 26, 2011 for the Christmas holiday and Monday, January 2, 2012 in observance of New Year's Day.

Continued from page 10

Stamp Club

Wednesdays, December 7 and 21 at 1:30 p.m.

Rules of the Road

Review for driver's exam. Monday, December 5 from 9:15 a.m. to noon.

Silver Singers

Monday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m. For more 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.

U.S. Citizenship Class

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

Womens' Discussion Group

Wednesdays, December 14 and 28 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. At Oakton Park.

CPR Schedule

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

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie

Located at 9501 Skokie Blvd. For 2011 performance dates and information please call the box office at 847/673-6300 or visit www.northshorecenter.org

Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra Featuring: Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Mozart and Schubert

In the Centre East Theatre
Sunday, December 4.

Chris Isaak

In the Centre East Theatre
Saturday, December 10 at 8 p.m.

Salt Creek Ballet's The Nutcracker

In the Centre East Theatre
Saturday, December 17 at 3 p.m. and Sunday, December 18 at 3 p.m.

Season's Greetings

In the Northlight Theatre
Through December 18.

New Year's Eve with E. Faye Butler

In the Northlight Theatre
Saturday, December 31 at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Skokie Public Library

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

Young Steinway Concert

Sunday, December 4 at 3 p.m.

Job Hunting on the Web

Monday, December 5 at 7 p.m.

Introduction to Computers and the Internet

Friday, December 9 at 10 a.m.

Concert: Second City Brass

Sunday, December 11 at 3 p.m.

Job Seekers Guide Workshop

Tuesday, December 13 at 10 a.m.

Guide to Google+

Thursday, December 15 at 7 p.m.

Library Closed for Staff Training

Friday, December 16

Young Steinway

Alumni Concert
Sunday, December 18 at 3 p.m.

Career Support Group

Monday, December 19 at 9:30 a.m.

Library Closed

Saturday, December 24 and Sunday, December 25.

Skokie Park District

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

Devonshire Fall Showcase

The talented students in the Skokie Park District's drama and dance departments work intensively throughout the fall season to present this astounding performance. Join the Skokie Park District for spectacular circus feats, musical theater, classic children's tales and the Devonshire Dance Ensemble. Free! Sunday, December 11 at 2 p.m. Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood Street.

Santa's Hotline and North Pole Express

Surprise your kids with a phone call or letter from Santa! Calls limited to 847, 630, 312 and 773 area codes. Register by December 12.

Itty Bitty New Year

The Exploritorium's family New Year bash with art projects, face painting, a noon balloon drop and more! December 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

Ice Skating - Holiday Public Sessions

Lace up your skates and hit the ice with the whole family! The Skatium Ice Arena offers public skating sessions once or twice daily over the holidays. \$4.50 - \$5; Skate rentals \$3. Saturday, December 24 through Saturday, January 7. Call 847/674-1500, ext. 2900 for times. Skatium Ice Arena, 9300 Weber Park Place.

Breakfast with Santa

Join the Skokie Park District for a delicious pancake breakfast, entertainment and a raffle. Santa will be on hand to take pictures with you and your family. \$10 - \$12. December 3 at 9:30 a.m. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

Winter Program Registration Begins

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

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

Council/Manager
Government
Since 1957



Officials:
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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

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Skokie Offers 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 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. 

SkokieNews & Downtown Skokie Specials

Stay up-to-date with important Village of Skokie information and events with Skokie's electronic newsletter, SkokieNews. To register for SkokieNews, visit www.skokie.org or call 847/933-8257 and ask to be added to the list.

The Village of Skokie has also created an email distribution list for subscribers to receive information on Downtown Skokie specials, promotions and events. To register, please visit www.skokiedowntown.org or call 847/933-8257.

Subscriber's email addresses are confidential and will not be distributed. 

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Village Departments

Village Hall
847/673-0500

Citizens Assistance
847/933-8480

Civil Engineering
847/933-8231

Clerk's Office
847/933-8203

Community Development
*Building/Property Standards/
Zoning*
847/933-8223

Economic Development
847/933-8446

Planning
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 Manager's Office
847/933-8210

Water Billing
847/933-8418