

# NewSkokie



October 2011

The award-winning municipal information source

## Leaf Collection Begins and Yard Waste Collection Ends


Regularly scheduled yard waste collection for the 2011 season concludes after the November 9, 2011 collection. On Monday, October 17, 2011, the Village begins its annual leaf collection pro-

gram that continues through early December, weather permitting. Instead of bagging, or for those who do not mulch leaves, residents may rake leaves into the street next to the

curb in front of their home. Residents are reminded not to place their leaves in the street prior to the beginning of the leaf collection season. As weather permits, Village crews make rounds throughout Skokie collecting the leaves on a weekly basis. Please follow these tips to insure collection:

- Rake leaves away from parked cars and do not park on leaf piles.
- Be mindful of fire hydrants and keep them visible.

- Wetting leaves while piled prevents them from blowing away.
- Do not rake leaves onto or in sewer drains.
- Please do not add grass piles, twigs and branches or other garden debris to leaf piles as these items can damage equipment and prevent leaf collection.

For more information on leaf collection contact the Public Works Department at 847/933-8427. 

### What Do You Love About Skokie?

At the 2011 Backlot Bash, visitors to the Village booth were given forms on which to write what they love most about Skokie. More than 100 responses were received. Many residents praised the Skokie Public Library, Skokie Park District, Village services and the community's wonderful cultural diversity. Here are a few things that residents said they love about Skokie:

**"I love that Skokie is a small town with warmth and charm and big city advantages and amenities."** Sandy R., 34-year resident


**"I love the diverse community. My children are better citizens of the world because they are exposed to so many different cultures."** Jennifer M., 9-year resident

**"Public Works. They are hard workers. Fixed a water main on a cold night. Great job!"** Hank L., 30-year resident

**"I love all the things that Skokie has to offer to our family. My kids are involved in a lot of Skokie programs. Our friends think we are lucky to live in this suburb with all there is to do."** Michelle E. 15-year resident

**"Comfortable diversity."** Kathy J., 20-year resident

**"Why go into the city? We have everything in Skokie – theaters, movies, restaurants, bars, the library, – we have it all!"** Leslie S., 40-year resident

What do you love about Skokie? Send an email to [info@skokie.org](mailto:info@skokie.org) or write to Village of Skokie, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, 60077, Attention: Public Information. Please include your name, address, phone number, 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. 

### Things to Do in Skokie This Fall

The Village of Skokie has many fall activities for residents and visitors to enjoy. From selecting fresh apples and pumpkins at the Skokie Farmers' Market to a leisurely bike ride along the Skokie Northshore Sculpture Park to a Friday night high school football game, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Listed below are things to do this fall throughout Skokie. See how many you can check off!

#### Relax

Relax before the stressful holiday season by learning the art of meditation at the Skokie Public Library on October 10. *Meditation: An Entrance Into the Sacred Ocean of Silence* begins at 7 p.m. at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton Street.

#### Stay in Shape!

Summer may be over, but fitness should still be a priority. Check out one of the many local fitness, dance and/or martial arts studios in Skokie to keep your fitness level strong.

#### Visit Your Favorite Ice Cream Shop

Check out that Skokie ice cream shop you meant to visit during the summer. Skokie is home to several ice cream and frozen yogurt shops. Try them all and see which one is your favorite.

#### Check Out Skokie's History

Visit the Skokie Heritage Museum and Historical Society at 8031 Floral Avenue. For hours, programs and other details call 847/674-1500 x 3000. *Continued on page three*

## Spotlight on the Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is charged with hearing requests that do not meet certain Zoning Chapter requirements. The Zoning Board of Appeals reviews exception permits and variation requests. Exception permits may involve fence height or the location of air conditioning units, swimming pools or barbecues. Variations include the location and size of accessory buildings and structures, lot coverage by buildings or impermeable surfaces, floor area ratios, yard requirements, off-street parking, commercial vehicle parking and substandard lots.

The Corporation Counsel's Office and Community Development Department provide staff advisors to the ZBA. The Zoning Board of Appeals is a final hearing body, with only specific types of appeals requiring Village Board action. There are nine members on the Zoning Board of Appeals, each serving a four-year term. Meetings are usually held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Council Chambers.

For more information regarding Zoning Board of Appeals cases, hearing dates and submittal requirements or deadlines, contact the Building and Zoning Division at 847/933-8223. ∞



From left to right, back row to front: Staff Liaisons Brian Augustine, Marlene Bargamian, Members Michael Halliburton, Richard Perlin, Ilenka Ulrich, Alan Gerstner, Sharon Kirpatrick, David Solovy, Assistant Corporation Counsel James McCarthy, ZBA Chair Ralph Klein and Member Elaine Jacobson.  
Not pictured: Member Sam Bhatt.

## Who's Who: Ralph Klein, ZBA Board Chair

### How long have you lived in Skokie?

I have lived in Skokie most of my life. I graduated from Cleveland, Oakview and Niles East Schools.

### How many years have you been on the Zoning Board of Appeals?

I have been on the ZBA for about 10 years.

### How many years have you been Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals?

I have been chairman for the last seven years.

### What is your profession?

I own a printing company in Chicago.

### Why did you move to Skokie?

When my wife and I were expecting our first child (Ryan) we looked first for good schools (my wife Lillian is a math teacher at McCracken). We then looked for a good community, great Village services and a home that would



Ralph Klein  
ZBA Board Chair

keep its value. My wife, who is a Chicago native, said the only place she could find that met all of our needs and requirements was Skokie. I went to Village Hall to learn about community development in my neighborhood.

### Why did you seek a volunteer position on the Zoning Board of Appeals?

I spoke to then Mayor Gorell during a visit to Village Hall and she recommended that I get involved in the community. From there I served on the Fine Arts Commission for seven years. I am very proud of the work I did on the Fine Arts Commission.

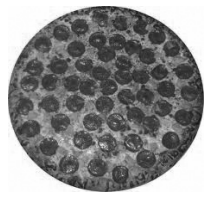
### What is your favorite shop or restaurant in Skokie?

My wife, myself and many of our friends eat at the Skokie Club on Main Street. ∞

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](http://www.skokie.org) to download a Board and Commissions application. You can also find volunteer opportunities at [www.SkokieServes.com](http://www.SkokieServes.com)

## Things to do in Skokie this Fall!

Continued from front page



### Movie and a Pizza

Ease into the weekend by enjoying your favorite classic movie borrowed for free from the Skokie Public Library and a fresh, piping hot pizza from your favorite Skokie pizzeria. Instead of delivery, save money and walk to the pizzeria to pickup your hot pie.



### Volunteer

Do your part for the community by raking leaves for an elderly or sick neighbor.

### Visit Wilde & Greene

You've heard about it, but have you seen it yet? Check out the Wilde & Greene Restaurant + Natural Market at Westfield Old Orchard. This restaurant is set up like an open market with all of the items made fresh in front of customers at 18 different food stations. The Wilde & Greene Restaurant + Natural Market also has a seasonal lounge upstairs and hosts a market with fresh fruits and vegetables and organic, vegan, gluten-free and kosher items.



### Picnic at the Skokie Northshore Sculpture Park

Take the family on a picnic while enjoying the changing leaves at the Skokie Northshore Sculpture Park. Download the Family Guide at [www.sculpturepark.org](http://www.sculpturepark.org) to enhance the experience. The guide is complete with clues, questions, information and suggestions for at-home activities for children and families. Bring a pencil and notebook and have fun discovering the many sculptures that call Skokie home.



### Attend a Niles North or Niles West Football Game

Show your Skokie spirit by attending a Friday night Niles North or Niles West football game. Game dates and times vary, but check the District 219 website at [www.niles-hs.k12.il.us](http://www.niles-hs.k12.il.us). Admission to games is free to Niles West and Niles North students. Admission for other students is \$1 and \$3 per adult.



### Visit Downtown Skokie

Make it a Downtown Skokie date night and treat your palate right with a trip around the world at one of Downtown Skokie's many diverse restaurants. Choose from Afghan, Irish, Italian, Latin, Mexican, Thai or classic American fare. Visit [www.skokiedowntown.org](http://www.skokiedowntown.org) for more information. After dinner check out what musical event is playing at the Skokie Theatre, [www.skokietheatre.com](http://www.skokietheatre.com).



### Enjoy a Show

Enjoy a show at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Boulevard. Events include *Snapshots* through October 23, WGN Morning Show Comedians on October 21 and Adam Pascal and Anthony Rapp, stars of *Rent*, on October 22. Call 847/673-6300 or visit [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org) for tickets.



### Get Scared

Get scared at the 2011 Skokie Park District Scream Scene October 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29, 30 and 31 from 7 to 10 p.m. The scariest haunted house in town; the faint of heart will not want any part of these ghouls! For those with younger children, visit Scooter's Halloween Party at the Skatium Ice Arena on October 28 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. On October 29 from 10 a.m. to noon the Exploritorium becomes the Ex-Scare-Itorium for the little ones at the Oakton Community Center, where art projects, treats, a costume parade and more will be part of the fun. Visit Emily Oaks Nature Center for Things That Go Bump in the Night for non-scary Halloween fun on October 14 and 15 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Contact the Skokie Park District for more information, 847/674-1500.



### Attend the Harvest Festival

Visit Westfield Old Orchard on Saturday, October 22 and Sunday, October 23 from 12 to 5 p.m. for their annual Harvest Festival where Trick-or-Treating is a part of this family event. The event is held on the north end of the shopping center. Family entertainment includes a hay maze, pumpkin giveaway and more. Retailers who are participating with Trick-or-Treating will display a window/door decal.



### Visit the Farmers' Market for Fresh Fall Produce

Grab a thermos of coffee from home or a Downtown Skokie coffee shop or restaurants and find that perfectly plump pumpkin at the Skokie Farmers' Market. Fall also is the perfect time to find fresh, in-season apples at the Farmers' Market to make caramel apples with the kids. The Skokie Farmers' Market is open from 7:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. every Sunday through October 30, 2011. ↻

## Be Aware of Senior Scams

Nothing can be more devastating for a senior than being financially scammed out of money that many have taken a lifetime to accumulate. Help the Skokie Police Department protect seniors by making sure you and your family are aware of some of the most common senior scams.

Many people are aware of the typical scams where criminals try to gain information over the phone or internet, many times by trying to confuse the senior. Other unsavory methods include scaring the senior into thinking that if they do not respond quickly to the requests of the scam artist, then they will lose larger amounts of money.

These scams include:

### **Ruse Entry (Most Common)**

The con begins with an offender offering to provide an inexpensive service since they just completed work in the area. While one offender distracts the senior, the other offender enters the residence and removes items.

### **Telemarketing Scams**

The scam begins with a con artist conducting a harmless survey regarding an unrelated topic only to call back several weeks later with bank or financial information that was previously given out but had been long forgotten by the victim. The con ends with instructing the victim to provide credit card information, bank information or other financial details.

### **The Bank Examiner**

A scam where the victim is led to believe that they are assisting the police or other authorities in apprehending a bank employee who is committing some sort of crime at the bank. The victim is

asked to go to the bank and withdraw a specific amount of money. The victim then turns the money over to one of the con artist as evidence of the crime.

### **Lotto Hustle**

A short con where the victim is approached on the street by a person claiming to have won the lottery. However, they can't cash in the ticket because they are not a citizen. The victim usually purchases the ticket for a percentage of its value. The ticket is forged or altered.

### **Pigeon Drop (several variations)**

A con where the victim and the con artist find a large sum of money. The victim is asked to produce some of their own money for various reasons, depending on what variation of the con game is being used. The con ends with the victim holding some cut up newspaper, a worthless check or an empty bag.

### **What Can You Do?**

These crimes can be prevented by simply being aware of the scams and looking out for seniors in our neighborhood and family. Many seniors often do not report crime for fear of being criticized by family members.

*For more information, please contact the Skokie Police Crime Prevention/Community Relations Unit at 847/982-5919. If you suspect that you, a family member or a neighbor are being lured into one of these scams, call 9-1-1 immediately! Remember if it appears too good to be true, it probably is. ∞*

## Skokie Fire Department Open House

The Skokie Fire Department will host an Open House on Sunday, October 9, 2011 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Fire Station #17, 8157 Central Park Avenue.

Take part in the fun and educational activities:

- 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](http://www.skokie.org) or contact the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5340. ∞*





*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:**  
October 3, 17

**Plan Commission:**  
October 6, 20

**Appearance Commission:**  
October 12

**Zoning Board of Appeals:**  
October 5, 19



## Village Board Action

Jesse Barnes, John Moersfelder and Mark Cianchetti were sworn in as Skokie Police Sergeants.

The Village Board approved an amendment to the Village Code permitting the sale and consumption of alcohol on public rights-of-ways, specifically sidewalk cafes. This is an extension of the Board's broad effort to encourage economic development in Skokie.

The Village Board heard a presentation on Phase I and II of the design of the Skokie multi-use path from Oakton Street south to the Skokie Village limits.

Medical Reserve Corps volunteers were certified and recognized by the Village Board.

## Skokie Backlot Bash 2011

### Lots of Fun in Downtown Skokie!

Approximately 35,000 people enjoyed the Backlot Bash in Downtown Skokie on August 26, 27 and 28, 2011. Great food, music and other entertainment kept the crowds coming throughout the weekend.

The Village booth in front of Village Hall promoted Downtown Skokie, including the 16 great restaurants in the Downtown area. Visitors to the Village booth won fabulous prizes by spinning the "Wheel of Skokie." Prizes included Downtown Skokie magnetic bumper stickers, buttons and tattoos along with gift certificates from Downtown Skokie restaurants and other items. Booth visitors also were asked to fill out a *What I love about Skokie* form (see article on the front page) and to subscribe to SkokieNews, the Village's electronic newsletter. To subscribe to SkokieNews, visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org).

*To learn more about what's going on in Downtown Skokie, visit [www.skokiedowntown.org](http://www.skokiedowntown.org).*



## The Village Answers Your Questions!

Village officials are frequently questioned by residents on numerous topics. For several months the Village has been featuring a question of the week on the Village website, [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org), answering some of the more popular questions. Below is a sample of these questions. For a complete set of questions, visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org).

### **Why are there so many property foreclosures and what is the Village's response to them?**

Many Skokie residents have been affected by foreclosures. Since 2007, when the Village started tracking foreclosures, 1,867 properties have gone into the foreclosure process. Most of these properties have been residential. The Village tracks these foreclosures and inspects them to assure that they do not fall below acceptable community standards.

Each month the Property Standards Division performs an exterior inspection of each property. Inspections are made to assure that the properties are still well maintained and secure if not inhabited. The Village works with bank maintenance companies to assure that issues are addressed. The Fire, Police and Public Works Departments also are informed about the properties to perform safety inspections.

The Public Works Department shuts off water to vacant foreclosed properties to assure that water damage does not occur during winter months.

The Human Services Division provides counseling to property owners to help prevent the completion of the foreclosure process when possible. Recently there have been signs that the number of foreclosures is declining and that many of the foreclosed properties are being resold.

### **If my property assessment is the same as last year, why is my tax bill so different from year to year?**

Many factors impact the final property tax bill. First, other than Skokie, the levies of many agencies increase each year. This is particularly true for school districts.

Second, the value of the homeowner's exemption has changed a number of times recently making comparison to prior years extremely difficult.

Finally, as a result of property assessment appeals, your property may change in proportion to the Village as a whole. While any single residential property is a very small portion of the Village, large properties that receive downward assessment spreads the tax burden across all other properties in Skokie.

### **What is Section 8 housing and is it increasing in Skokie?**

Section 8 of the Housing Act of 1937 first authorized the payment of federal money for rental housing assistance to private landlords. Most such payments are administered through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are officially termed Housing Choice vouchers. Low-income people who receive such vouchers have the right to relocate and use the voucher anywhere in the United States where a landlord agrees to accept the voucher. Landlords do not have to accept Section 8 tenants, but neither can local governments prevent recipients from using the vouchers in their communities.

The location and number of Housing Choice vouchers in the Village of Skokie has often been brought up as an issue of concern by residents. Apartment units being inhabited by such voucher recipients are primarily located in the multiple family zoning districts, although a voucher could be used to rent a single family home.

The number of vouchers used in the Village has actually declined annually for the past few years from a high of 457 units in 2006 to 414 units in 2011. The Housing Choice vouchers assist many people with lower paying jobs to afford safe and clean housing in the Village. Although there is a perception that Housing Choice voucher users may contribute to crime in the community, there is no evidence that there is a correlation between crime and voucher holders.

### **If Skokie has had a property tax freeze since 1990, why are my property taxes always going up?**

Skokie is only one taxing jurisdiction out of the more than a dozen different taxing bodies represented on property tax bills. Schools comprise approximately 68% of an average property tax bill and increase each year as permitted by tax caps and/or approved referendum.

### **What is the status of the Village's Finances?**

The Village's award-winning budget continues a tradition of careful financial management while maintaining Village services. During the recession the Village was able to achieve a AAA bond rating from two rating agencies, a significant accomplishment (Moody's and Fitch). The Village's property tax levy of \$15.4 million is the same as it was in 1990 due to the self-imposed property tax freeze. Over the years of the self-imposed property tax freeze, **Skokie's percent of an average taxpayer's property tax bill has decreased from 15.2% to 7.3%.** ∞

## Skokie Boulevard and Oakton Street Improvements

There are numerous construction and improvement projects that are underway, upcoming or just completed in the eastern section of Downtown Skokie at Skokie Boulevard from Main to Oakton Streets and on Oakton Street east of Skokie Boulevard. A summary of the project includes:

### CTA Yellow Line Oakton Station in Downtown Skokie

Also known as the Oakton-Skokie Station, the construction project remains on schedule and on budget. The “Kiss & Ride” station will provide service to both the Dempster-Skokie and Howard Street stations, and is expected to become operational in 2012.

### Traffic Signal at Searle Parkway and Skokie Boulevard

The Illinois Department of Transportation recently issued a permit for installation of a traffic signal at the intersection at Skokie Boulevard and Searle Parkway adjacent to the new Oakton-Skokie Station. Installation takes place in fall 2011, with the signal operational in early 2012.

### Skokie Boulevard Streetscape

The Village recently completed a streetscape project on Skokie Boulevard from Main Street south to Oakton Street being paid for largely with federal funds. The project included installation of new sidewalks, light poles, trees, decorative



*Rendering of the new CTA Yellow Line Oakton Station in Downtown Skokie.*



*Current view looking south of the CTA Yellow Line Oakton Station in Downtown Skokie.*



*Rendering of the Skokie Valley Trail at the Illinois Science + Technology Park.*

brick pavers in select areas and other amenities to improve the area’s appearance in advance of the Oakton-Skokie station opening early next year.

### Oakton Street Streetscape

The Village recently received another federal grant to install streetscape amenities on Oakton Street from Skokie Boulevard to approximately Lowell Avenue. In commercially zoned areas, project amenities will be similar to those described in the Skokie Boulevard streetscape section. Plans will be completed in coming months with construction in 2012.

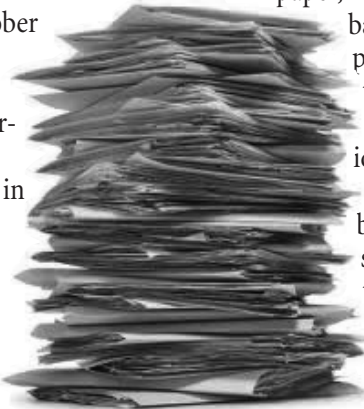
### Skokie Valley Trail

The 10-foot-wide multi-use path will run along the west side of the CTA tracks from Oakton Street north to Dempster Street. The path will meet industry design standards for bicycle and multi-use paths and will include two-foot aggregate shoulders on both sides. Installation of the asphalt path and aggregate shoulders will take place in fall 2011, with landscaping installation set for spring 2012.

The project is being funded by one of the Village of Skokie’s Tax Increment Financing Districts and from a federal grant. Plans are being developed to extend the Skokie Valley Trail south of Oakton Street to the southern Village limit. ∞

## Skokie Document Destruction Event

The Consumer Affairs Commission will host a document destruction event on Sunday, October 23, 2011 at the Skokie Farmers' Market. The event is held in cooperation with the Skokie Chamber of Commerce. Proper de-



struction of documents such as residentially generated paper, medical forms, bank statements, personal files, retired tax forms, etc. prevents identity theft. No materials from businesses, schools or institutions will be accepted. The event will

be held from 9 a.m. to noon in the Village parking lot just east of the Farmers' Market.

*The Skokie Consumer Affairs Commission is one of the Village of Skokie's 13 volunteer boards and commissions. For more information on the*

*Consumer Affairs Commission, Skokie Farmers' Market or the October 23 event contact Terry Oline, Market Manager at 847/933-8224.* ∞

## Make a Difference!

The Village of Skokie Human Services Division offers a Home Delivered Meals (HDM) program for Skokie's most vulnerable residents. HDM volunteers help their Skokie neighbors remain independent in their own homes by contributing a small amount of time to deliver meals.

*If you are interested in volunteering, please complete the volunteer application available at [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) or call the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208 to have an application mailed to you.* ∞

## TeenLink Program

The Village of Skokie offers the *TeenLink* program to unite Skokie residents who are in need of outside seasonal yard work, including snow shovel-

ing, 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.

*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](http://www.skokie.org) to download an application.* ∞

## National Prescription Take Back Day

Saturday, October 29, 2011 is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on October 29 residents may drop-off unwanted and unused prescription drugs including controlled substances (i.e. pain killers, muscle relaxants, etc.) in the Skokie Police Headquarters' main lobby, 7300 Niles Center Road.

*For more information please contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8252.* ∞





## Halloween 2011



It's time for kids and their parents to don costumes in Skokie for trick-or-treating. Halloween is Monday, October 31 and trick-or-treating hours are from 3 to 8 p.m. Please respect the privacy of other residents and do not ring doorbells before or after this period. If the outside house light is off, do not disturb the homeowner by ringing the doorbell. 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 homemade 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.

## Flu Shot Clinics Continue By Appointment Only

The Skokie Health Department will offer influenza ("flu") shots, **by appointment only**, to Skokie residents this fall. **Proof of Skokie residency will be required** for all participants, and appointments will be given on a first-come, first-served basis. You can make your own appointment online at [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) or by calling the Health Department at 847/933-8252.

The clinics will be held on Monday, October 3 from 3 until 7 p.m. and on Tuesday, October

11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **These are appointment only clinics. No walk-ins will be taken.** Participants covered by Medicare Part B are asked to bring their card with them to the clinic. This is necessary for the Health Department to receive reimbursement from Medicare.

The clinics will be held at the Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street. This site is accessible to people with disabilities and is also accessible via the #97 and #54A buses. ↻

## When Your Carbon Monoxide Alarm Goes Off

When your carbon monoxide detector or smoke alarm activates in your home do not take it lightly. Carbon monoxide poisoning can have deadly results and a fire can consume a home very quickly.

If either of these detectors sounds an alarm please call 9-1-1 immediately. There is no charge or cost associated with this service. Also, remember to have a qualified technician inspect your fuel-burning appliances and chimneys each year before the heating season starts to make sure they are operating correctly and that there is nothing blocking the fumes from being vented out of the house.

*The Skokie Health Department's Environmental Health Division also offers free carbon monoxide screening for Skokie residents. Call the Health Department at 847/933-8484 to make an appointment.* ↻

## If Your Pet Gets Lost

The Skokie Health Department's Animal Control Division takes reports of pets that are lost or found in Skokie. The Department will cross-reference lost and found reports in order to get missing pets back home.

If you lose a pet, whether it's a dog, cat, rabbit, ferret, bird or reptile, please call Skokie Animal Control at 847/933-8484 to make a missing pet report. Pets are dependent on their owners to keep them safe. You can also help get your pet back sooner by making sure your pet always wears a collar with identification tags. ↻

## October 2011

### Refuse and Recycling Collection 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.

#### Recycling Collection

To find out which day your recycling is collected and what items are recyclable, please visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org).

For more information please visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) or call the Skokie Public Works Department at 847/933-8427.

### 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.

**Flu Vaccination Clinics**  
Monday, October 3 from 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street. *By appointment only, no walk-ins.*

**Hearing Screening\***  
Friday, October 14 from 9 a.m. to noon.

**Lead Screening\***  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesday, October 5 and 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$25 fee.

#### 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, October 5 and 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays, October 12 and 26 from 2 to 4 p.m.

#### Body Composition Analysis\*

Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon.  
Thursdays 2 to 4 p.m.  
Wednesdays, October 5 and 19 from 5 to 7 p.m.  
\$6 fee.

#### Blood Pressure Screening

Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.  
Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, October 5 and 19 from 5 to 7 p.m.

#### Diabetes Screening\*

Thursday, October 20 from 9 a.m. to noon.  
\$5 fee.

#### Simple Cholesterol Screening

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, October 5 and 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$6 fee.

#### Lipid Profile Screening\*

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon.  
Wednesdays, October 5 and 19 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.

#### Well Child Clinic\*

Monday, October 10 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

#### Blood Drive

Sunday, October 16 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Skokie Farmers' Market, 5127 Oakton Street.

#### 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, October 18 and 25 at 1:30 p.m.

#### Conversational German

Thursdays, October 6 and 20 at 1:30 p.m.

#### Hearing Loss Support Group

Thursday, October 13 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

#### FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)

Wednesday, October 12 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Please call Juanita at 847/933-8208 for more information.

#### Circuit Breaker/ Illinois Cares RX

Please call 847/933-8208 for an appointment.

#### Low Vision Support Group

Tuesday, October 11 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

#### Medicare Supplement Claims Assistance/ Senior Health Insurance Program

Appointments are necessary. Tuesday, October 11 from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

#### Needlework

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

#### Stamp Club

Wednesdays, October 5 and 19 at 1:30 p.m.

#### Rules of the Road

Review for driver's exam. Monday, October 3 from 9:15 a.m. to noon.

#### Silver Singers

Monday, October 31 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.

*Continued on page 11*

## Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week is October 9 through 15, 2011 to emphasize fire safety at home. National statistics show that eight percent of all fire deaths occur in the home.

From October 9 to 15, fire and life safety educators from the Skokie Fire Department will provide Skokie residents with simple ways to protect their families from fire.

*Don't Get Burned! To learn more, please visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) or contact the Skokie Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/982-5340.*

*Continued from page 10*

**U.S. Citizenship Class**  
Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. at the Smith Activities Center. Please call 847/933-8208 to register for the class.

**Womens' Discussion Group**  
Wednesdays, October 12 and 26 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. At Oakton Park.

**Secretary of State**  
On Monday, October 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Secretary of State will 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. At 5120 Galitz, Skokie.

**CPR Schedule**  
Please call the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5340 for October 18 program information. **Residents:** \$15 refundable fee. **Non-residents:** \$20 non-refundable fee.

### Skokie Public Library

*For more details on library activities and events, please visit [www.skokielib.org](http://www.skokielib.org) or call 847/673-7774.*

**Young Steinway Concert**  
Sunday, October 2 at 3 p.m.

**Meet Author Melanie Benjamin**  
Wednesday, October 5 at 7 p.m.

**LinkedIn: Social Networking for Job-Seekers and Professionals**  
Thursday, October 6 at 7 p.m.

**Music of the Civil War: Phil Passen**  
Sunday, October 9 at 3 p.m.

**Digital Photos 101**  
Monday, October 10 at 7 p.m.

**Tai Chi and Qi Gong for Beginners**  
Wednesday, October 12 at 7 p.m.

**Abraham Lincoln: From Prairie Lawyer to President**  
Thursday, October 13 at 7 p.m.

**Concert: Lincoln and Liberty**  
Sunday, October 16 at 3 p.m.

**On the Road and at Home with the Rolling Stones**  
Tuesday, October 18 at 7 p.m.

**Concert: Rachmaninoff and Friends for Soprano and Piano**  
Sunday, October 23 at 3 p.m.

**Google Chrome Tips and Tricks**  
Monday, October 24 at 7 p.m.

**Civil War Surgeon General, William Hammond, MD**  
Tuesday, October 25 at 7 p.m.

**Super Couponing: Save on Everything**  
Wednesday, October 26 at 7 p.m.

**Natural Remedies to Alleviate Chronic Pain**  
Thursday, October 27 at 7 p.m.

### Skokie Park District

*For more information on Park District programs, call 847/674-1500 or visit [www.SkokieParkDistrict.org](http://www.SkokieParkDistrict.org).*

**Scream Scene**  
Get scared at the 2011 Scream Scene October 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29, 30 and 31 from 7 to 10 p.m.

**Things That Go Bump in the Night**  
Non-scary Halloween fun at Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel. October 14 and 15. Call for times, 847/674-1500, ext. 2500. \$5 per person.

**'Still Acting Up' Presents "Which Way to Stage Left?"**  
The nationally-acclaimed senior acting troupe does it again with yet another original show, this time with the cast sharing what goes on backstage. October 12 through 23. Call 847/674-1500 ext. 2400 for dates and times. Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Street.

**Scooter's Halloween Party**  
Skating, storytelling time, hayrides, costume contest and penny carnival. October 28 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. \$6 to \$7 per person. Weber Center's Skatium Ice Arena, 9300 Weber Park Place.

**Ex-Scare-Itorium**  
Art projects, treats, costume parade and more! October 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. 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 2011 performance dates and information please call the box office at 847/673-6300 or visit [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org)*

**Morning Show Comedians from WGN-TV**  
*In the Centre East Theatre*  
Friday, October 21 at 8 p.m.

**Stars of Rent, Adam Pascal & Anthony Rapp**  
*In the Centre East Theatre*  
Saturday, October 22 at 8 p.m.

**Snapshots World Premiere!**  
*Northlight Theatre*  
Through October 23

**Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra**  
*In the Centre East Theatre*

**Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra An English Landscape with Amit Peled**  
*In the Centre East Theatre*  
Sunday, October 23 at 3 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*  
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**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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**Assistant Editor/Layout**


Nicholas A. Wyatt

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## Oakton Street "Road Diet" Test Review and Discussion


At the October 17, 2011 Village Board meeting, Village staff and project consultants will provide an overview of the results of the recent Oakton Street "Road Diet" test. The meeting begins at 8 p.m. at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton Street, in the Petty Auditorium.

The "Road Diet" test took place from early May to late June, 2011, to test traffic patterns and other details associated with changing Oakton Street in Downtown Skokie to a two-lane thoroughfare with a center turn lane to calm traffic, provide room for wider sidewalks and other amenities to create a more vibrant, walkable Downtown area.

After the presentation, residents and business representatives are invited to ask questions and express their views on the proposed project. This meeting follows a series of meetings with the Downtown business community to learn their opinions on the project and its potential impact on their businesses. For more information on the Oakton Street "Road Diet" test project, visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org). 

## Downtown Skokie Savvy Award

The Village of Skokie was recently awarded the 2011 Silver Circle - Savvy Award through the City-County Communications and Marketing Association (3CMA). The Village of Skokie entered the new Downtown Skokie Reinvented campaign/logo in the awards competition. The Downtown Reinvented campaign included a branded logo, street banners in the downtown area, installation of standardized window coverings on vacant storefronts in the downtown area, a business-to-business Downtown Skokie Dine-Around event, website dedicated to Downtown Skokie and direct mail marketing outreach to the entire community and the Chicagoland area.

*The 3CMA Savvy award recognizes local government programs, strategic marketing and communications efforts. 3CMA receives Savvy awards competition entries from local governments all over the United States each year. The Village received notice of the Silver Circle award in September.* 

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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