



830 Sheridan Road
Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096

Village of Winthrop Harbor NEWSLETTER

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JAN/FEB 2007

Volume 11 - Issue 1

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Did you know?

Winthrop Harbor residents who own snowmobiles must register them at Village Hall. The fee for a 3-year Snowmobile registration sticker is \$15.

Snowmobiles may be operated within the Village from 8am-10pm on Mondays thru Thursdays, and 8am-Midnight on Fridays thru Sundays.

Snowmobiles may not be operated on any roadway, with the exception of to cross the roadway from one authorized area to another.

For complete details, see Ordinance Section 73.30 online at www.winthropharbor.com or request a copy at Village hall.

Annual Fun Fair ...

Hey, kids... get ready! Winthrop Harbor's annual **Fun Fair** is scheduled for 11am-4pm on **Saturday, Feb. 17th** at the Schlader Recreation Center. This event is an annual favorite for the whole family! There will be lots of fun and excitement with 20 different games, including *The Wheel*, *Basketball Shoot*, *Darts*, *Cake Walk*, and *Pop Toss*. You might win a fish at the *Goldfish* game, or take home a mouse at the *Mouse Race* game!

We'll also have the MoonWalk for kids of all ages to bounce until they can bounce no more... plenty of raffles with some great prizes (last year we gave away two brand new bicycles, courtesy of Zion Cyclery and Bruno Chiropractic)... and lots of fun and educational info from the Police and Fire Departments.

The General Store will be filled with goodies for a fair price, and as always, refreshments will be served from the kitchen for your convenience. Watch for more information, coming in January, on what's happening at this year's Fun Fair. See you there!

Fire Safety Program Offered to Residents

In November the Winthrop Harbor Fire Department began a **Fire Safety Program** to assist residents in having at least one working smoke detector in their homes. The program was started with a grant from the Firefighters Charitable Foundation. If you are interested in having the Fire Dept. come to your home to install a detector, or to check an existing detector (including battery replacement), please call 847-872-5957 to schedule an appointment. The Fire Dept. can also perform a quick and easy fire prevention survey to help ensure your safety. For more information on the Fire Safety Program, please call us at the above number or send an e-mail message to kyohe@whpd.org. It has been proven that working smoke detectors save lives, and with the winter season being the highest risk for house fires, this is the best time to make sure that the lives of your loved ones are protected. For more fire prevention safety tips, please turn to page 7.



Village Hall will be closed on the following holidays:

Jan. 1

New Year's Day

Jan. 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Feb. 19

President's Day



Joe Leech Jr., Mayor

Jana J. Lee, Village Clerk

- VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES -

Trustee	Committee
Dr. Michael Bruno	Recreation Dept.
Terry Isaacs	Planning & Zoning
Virginia N. Lopez	Finance Dept.
Ronald Molinaro	Public Works Dept.
Timothy Neargarder	Fire Dept.
Richard Robards	Police / ESDA Dept.

- VILLAGE DEPARTMENTS -

Joel Brumlik, Chief	Police Dept.
Scott Fuller, Director	Recreation Dept.
John Hogan, Supt.	Public Works Dept.
Laura Ruckebeil, Director	Building, P/Z Dept.
Lisa Shaw, Director	Finance Dept.
Neil Wollert, Chief	Fire Dept.

- IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS -

Village Hall	847-872-3846
Police Dept. *	847-872-2131
Fire Dept. *	847-872-5957
Recreation Dept.	847-746-3505
Public Works Dept.	847-872-5275

* FOR EMERGENCIES DIAL 9-1-1

Village of Winthrop Harbor Newsletter, Volume 11, Issue 1, JAN/FEB 2007. Published bi-monthly by the Village of Winthrop Harbor, 830 Sheridan Road, Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096. **Editor:** Mike Bitton **MAR/APR issue Deadline:** February 10th. **Submissions:** Drop off at Village Hall, mail to above address, or e-mail to mbliton@whpd.org.

Village of Winthrop Harbor

830 Sheridan Road

Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096

Phone: **847-872-3846**

Fax: **847-872-0639**

E-mail: info@winthrop harbor.com

Web site: www.winthrop harbor.com

- VILLAGE HALL BUSINESS HOURS -

Monday through Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Branch Pick-Up Program Revised

The popular Winthrop Harbor Branch Pick-Up Program, which is intended for residents who prune their own trees, has been revised for 2007. As tree maintenance is generally performed in early Spring or late Autumn, the pick-up service will occur on Mondays in **April & October only**. Please mark your calendars for the dates that the Public Works Dept. will be picking up pruned branches: April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, and October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Residents are reminded that Public Works will only be collecting trimmed branches. **Branches that are left from entire tree removals will not be picked up.** In addition, Public Works will not pick up lawn refuse, leaves, grass clippings, tree trunks and/or logs, etceteras. To facilitate timely pick-ups, the length of the limbs and branches should be left as long as possible. Whole limbs chip up much better than small, cut up pieces. Please spread out evenly along the parkway, with cut ends of branches and limbs facing the street. **Tangled piles of limbs or branches placed haphazardly will not be picked up.** If a tree trimming service or lawn service takes down, trims or

(Continued on page 7)

Village Meetings Open to the Public

Mayor Joe Leech, Jr., the Board of Trustees and Village staff encourage residents to attend the Village Board and committee meetings, held monthly at Village Hall or the Schlader Memorial Recreation Center. We value the input that our residents provide, and are committed to addressing all questions and concerns in a constructive, positive manner. Please consider joining us at any of the meetings listed in the table below:

<u>Board / Committee</u>	<u>Meeting Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Village Board of Trustees	Jan. 2 & 16 / Feb. 6 & 20	7:00 p.m.	Village Hall
Planning & Zoning Board	Jan. 9 / Feb. 13	7:00 p.m.	Village Hall
Economic Development Com.	Jan. 10 / Feb. 14	7:00 p.m.	Village Hall
Recreation Advisory Com.	Jan. 8 / Feb. 12	7:00 p.m.	Schlader Building

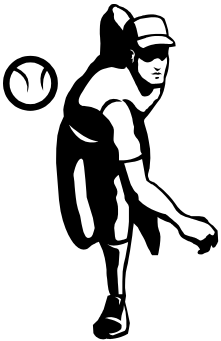
Village Board of Trustees meetings are televised on Comcast Public Access Channel 19 on Wednesdays (1 p.m.), Thursdays (12:00 p.m) and Saturdays (9:00 a.m.). For the full schedule please visit www.accesschannel.com.

Recreation Department News and Activities

WALKIN' WALKIN' - Come indoors from 8am to 10am on Mondays through Fridays at the Schlader Recreation Center to walk & talk while staying warm & dry. Don't let winter slow you down! (note that the gym is closed on holidays.)

TEEN DANCE — The Recreation Dept. will host Teen Dances from 7pm-10pm on Fridays, **Jan. 12th & Feb. 9th** at the Schlader Building. Students attending 5th-8th grades at Winthrop Harbor schools may attend, as well as students who live in Winthrop Harbor but attend alternative schools. (Students attending alternative schools, please call ahead so we can add you to the list for entry into the dance.) Admission is only \$2, and pizza & soda will be available for sale. Please note that the normal school dress code is strictly enforced, and once you've entered the dance you may only leave when it's over at 10pm, unless a parent comes to the door to pick you up earlier. The dances are organized by the Recreation Dept. and we're always looking for help with chaperones. If you would like to help, please call 847-746-3505.

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL REGISTRATION — As February approaches, so does Winthrop Harbor's baseball/softball registration. This year's sign-ups will be from **Monday, Feb. 26th** through **Friday, Mar. 30th**. Registration forms will be available at Village Hall and also at the Schlader Building. You may also turn in sheets on Saturdays or Sundays at the Schlader Building as the basketball season continues. Registration sheets will also be available to print online at www.winthropharbor.com. It is imperative that registration sheets are turned in during this five week period



in order to secure a spot for your child in this year's league. Anyone wanting to register a child after March 30th will go straight to a waiting list and will only have a chance to play if another child decides to leave the league.

Tee Ball starts out at age 5 for boys and girls, and the oldest age groups will be 18 years for girls and 14 years for boys. This year we are dividing age groups for girls softball to try and keep ages and skill levels a little more consistent and closer. Ages will be divided by every 2 years. Pee-Wee girls will be ages 7-8, Jr. girls will be ages 9-10, Sr. girls will be ages 11-12. Teams of 13-15 years and 16-18 years will participate in League play against surrounding towns, traveling for half of their scheduled games. The surrounding communities of Zion and Beach Park are also making this change in ages, in order for us all to compete against each other for our seasons. For information on this year's fees, or to get in-

involved as a coach, sponsor or umpire, please call 847-746-3505.

Practices begin at the end of April and run at most twice a week. Games will begin end of May, with games being played on weeknights with Saturdays used as makeup days.

WINTHROP HARBOR BASKETBALL — Looking for something fun and exciting to do on the weekends? Why not come out and watch as the stars of tomorrow take the floor. The season for Youth Basketball will begin the weekend of Jan. 13-14, and will continue every weekend (excluding Feb. 17) at the Schlader Building until March 18th. Grades 1-4 play from 9am to 2pm on Saturdays, while grades 5-8 play 1pm to 6pm on Sundays. The Recreation Dept. would like to thank all of the coaches and assistant coaches who dedicate their time to make this league a great experience for all. We would also like to thank your sponsors who so graciously give back to the youth of our community. Your donations are greatly appreciated!



CO-ED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION — This is a recreational league and not meant for competitive level players. The fee is \$275 per team, plus an additional one-time \$10 fee for each non-resident player. There is a limit of 8 teams (10 players per team) for the league so don't miss out! Registration begins Jan. 2nd and closes on Feb. 1st. Games will be played on Thursday nights, 7-10pm, beginning Feb. 1st. If you're interested in reserving a spot, contact Scott Fuller at the Recreation Dept., 847-746-3505.

OPEN PLAY VOLLEYBALL & BASKETBALL — Come to the Schlader Building on Monday and Tuesday nights for some friendly competition and camaraderie! Open-play volleyball is on Mondays from 7-9pm, and basketball is on Tuesdays from 7-9pm. For only \$2 (\$3 for non-residents) you'll have a great time!

SCHLADER BUILDING CLOSURES — The Schlader Recreation Center will be closed on January 1st & 15th, and February 16th, 19th and 27th.

FUN FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — The true driving force that makes our annual Fun Fair event such a success is the volunteers. We need people to help decorate on Friday, and to help run the games, sell tickets, or work the kitchen on Saturday. (There will be two shifts for volunteers on Saturday.) We also need cakes for our popular Cake-Walk. If you are available and would like to help, please call the Recreation Dept. at 847-746-3505.

Boy Scout Troop 667

We would like to recognize our new Eagle Scouts, *Sean Turner* and *Daniel Wienke*. We're very proud of their achievements and accomplishments!

We would like to thank everyone who stopped by to support the troop for our Pancake Breakfasts this year, and look forward to seeing you again next year. Watch for advertisements for upcoming dates. Also, thanks to the community for supporting our wreath sale fundraiser. This is our main fundraiser and we appreciate your continued support.

Anyone interested in joining our troop is encouraged to stop by during one of our Tuesday night meetings, held 7 to 8:30pm at the Community Center on 7th Street.

News from AARP Chapter 871

Several of our AARP members enjoyed participating in the Annual Light Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 2nd. Many thanks to the Village of Winthrop Harbor for providing bus transportation that allowed the seniors to participate.

Our **Jan. 16th** meeting will include a presentation by the *Gift of Hope* organ and tissue donor network. (Plans are still in the works for our **Feb. 20th** meeting.)

The Winthrop Harbor AARP Chapter meets at 1pm on the third Tuesday each month. Meetings are held at the Community Center on 7th Street.

Refreshments are served after each meeting, and guests and new members are always welcomed! Please call Jerry Larson at 847-746-6567 or email him at jerrylarson@comcast.net for further information.

Police Pension Fund Sets Schedule

The 2007 quarterly meeting dates for the Board of Trustees of the *Winthrop Harbor Police Pension Fund* are listed below. The meetings are held at 6:30pm at Village Hall, and the quarterly Agendas are placed on the Village Hall bulletin board no less than five days prior to each meeting. The scheduled dates for 2007 are: **Jan. 8th, Apr. 2nd, Jul. 9th and Oct. 15th**. These are open meetings, and the public is both welcomed and encouraged to attend.

American Legion Post 1943

Winthrop Harbor's new American Legion Post (Samuel Schiera Post 1943) will have their first installation of officers on **Jan. 13th**. The post is now 47 members strong and growing. The Samuel Schiera Post holds its meetings at 7pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Schlader Building. All members are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings.

If you wish to join our local American Legion post, please

contact Clyde Harper, Sr. (Post Commander), Steve Amerighi (Vice-Commander), Steve Willett (Adjutant), Hayden Evans (Finance Officer), or any other member of the post. All former and active duty service members are welcomed. Proof of service is required in the form of an active duty military ID or DD214 form.

We will be including posts for the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of American Veterans with the Samuel Schiera Post 1943. We welcome the spouses, sons and daughters of vets to all of our meetings.

Winthrop Harbor Lions Club

What a successful Candy Day fundraiser we had this year! Please support all of those businesses that supported this very important cause. A very heart filled and sincere THANKS goes out to the following: BC Automotive, Bertrand Bowling Lanes, Congdon & Co Funeral Directors, Harbor Foods, Meyer Engineering, State Representative JoAnn Osmand, Waukegan Architectural, Brad's Printing, Harbor Animal Hospital, Harbor Pharmacy, Midwestern Regional Medical Center, Ace Hardware, Re/Max Showcase, Stried Builders, American Family Insurance, Ann's Hallmark Shop, NorStates Bank, Nu Glo Cleaners, Savage Enterprises, Dr. Vlasis & Dr. Battaglia, Dr. Perri and Norstar Soccer Club. Job well done!

Another special thank you goes out to our Winthrop Harbor Tropics Restaurant for hosting our annual Charter Night dinner. What a wonderful display of hospitality and service!

Please join us for a fun filled night of BINGO every Wednesday at the Schlader Building. New games, new friends, and if you play your cards right, new money!

The Winthrop Harbor Lions Club is in full swing with our winter activities. If you are interested in what our Lions Club is all about, or for more information on upcoming events, please contact Steve Willett at 847-208-0099.

Cub Scout Pack 667

On Sep. 30th our Cub Scouts had a Bike Hike for our first fundraiser of the year. The Scout that brings in the most money wins a bike. This year we had a very generous winner. Branden Maglio won the bike, but since his little brother had never had a new bike and he had, he decided to give his new bike to his little brother, Collin. We are very proud of Branden for being so generous. Congratulations to both boys!

Pack 667 would also like to thank the many citizens of Winthrop Harbor that bought popcorn from our Cub Scouts either by placing an order or purchasing from our of our many sites. Thank you very much.

If anyone is interested in joining our Pack, feel free to

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

come to our next Pack meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm at the Schlader Building. Scouts are welcome to join at any time or if you can't make it to the pack meeting, please call Corky Monson-Ellison at 847-746-8263.

Benton Township News

Benton Township offers a variety of services to citizens of all ages. For more information about any of the services listed below, please call Jan Suthard, Benton Township Supervisor, at 847-746-2100.

ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS AT GAS STATIONS

Every Wednesday from 9am-1pm the new Winthrop Harbor Marathon station at 9th and Sheridan, and the Marathon at Wadsworth Rd. and Green Bay Rd., will have an attendant available to assist Benton Township Seniors with fueling their vehicles. To participate you'll need a placard which is available at the Township office or Winthrop Harbor Village Hall. We thank the Marathon owners for their generosity in providing this service.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

For drivers age 50 and over, this program allows you to take advantage of an 8 hour refresher course. The next class will be held on **Feb. 6-7** from 10am until 2pm at the Zion Benton Public Library. There are no tests. Most insurance companies give a discount if you complete the course. Cost is \$10, space is limited. To register please call Benton Township at 847-746-2100. Free *Illinois Rules of the Road* books are available at the township office, as are free Illinois maps in regular and large size print.

PACE DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICE

Pace Dial-A-Ride bus service is available for Benton Township residents. Service hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 9am until 4pm. This service will take you anywhere in Benton, Newport and Zion Townships, as well as the Villages of Beach Park, Wadsworth, Winthrop Harbor, Gurnee and Zion. To schedule a ride, call 800-201-6446 at least one day in advance.

FREE AMPLIFIED PHONES

Free volume amplified phones are available for people who are deaf, hard of hearing or need alternative speech communication assistance. There are no age or income restrictions to qualify for the program, however you must be a legal resident of the State of Illinois. For more information, contact Lake County Center for Independent Living at 948-949-4440 for an application.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG CARDS

For those without prescription insurance, Prescription Discount Cards are available at the township office. Av-

erage savings at a participating retail pharmacy is 20% and the card may be used over and over. Income or age is not a factor in obtaining the discount card.

FREE EMERGENCY CELL PHONES

For seniors and disabled citizens without a cell phone, the township office has free emergency cell phones available. The phones are programmed for calling 911 only.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Meals-On-Wheels program is in need of drivers for deliveries in Winthrop Harbor on Tuesdays. If you can help, please call the township office at 847-746-2100.

FREE FOOT CARE

Free foot care for the uninsured is available through the Scholl Podiatry Clinic. Benton Township residents may call 847-473-4357 to schedule an appointment.

Toys 4 Our Tots

A very special Thank-you to the following businesses for allowing us to put out a donation can: Harbor Foods, United Liquors, Harbor Optical, Pete's Embroidery, American Family Insurance, Bob & Ann's, Wenzel's Auto, Read & Become Books, Gyros & Heros, Alexander's Auto, Clark's, Coin Shop, Blue Lagoon, Harbor Pharmacy, Sahaira Salons, Rich's Deli, Comic Book Store, The Tropic's, J. Jireh's Gift Shop, Outdoorsman, Stone Creek Grill, Subway, Harbor Food's & Liquor, Norstates Bank, and the Village Hall. We will have a total of the money collected in the next newsletter, as the cans are still out, but so far we have collected over \$1000.00. Thank-you to Norstates Bank, Alexander's, Gyros's & Heros, and American Family Insurance for allowing us to put out cans to collect toys. Thank-you to all the residents who have contributed to the donations cans around town, or who have donated a toy.

Thank-you to our schools for all the hats & gloves and canned foods they collected. Thank-you to the 17 girls from Brownie Troop 2650 who donated toys to us. Thank-you to Fedlers Photography for all the toys they collected at their Halloween picture fund raiser. Thank-you to the W.H. Fire Dept for your support in the delivery of the gifts to the families and for purchasing board games for every family. Thank-you to the guys from the Public Works Department that picked up all the food for the baskets from Harbor Foods for us.

We are so proud & grateful for all the donations we receive from the residents & businesses in our community. A list of all cash donations will be in the next newsletter, as we still are receiving them. We have helped provide assistance to 25 families and 42 children so they, too, can have a joyous holiday.

W. H. Toys 4 Our Tots Committee
Pam Humphres, Cindy Loy, Scott Fuller

January 2007

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 Village Hall Closed SCHLADER CLOSED	2 Village Board Walkin' 8-10am-SB Boy Scouts 7pm -CC Open Play B.B. 7pm-SB	3 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	4 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Ladies Volleyball-SB	5 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6-9pm -CC	6
7 VFW Breakfast 8-11:30 am At VFW Hall	8 Recreation Com. Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6pm -CC Open Play V.B. 7pm-SB	9 Planning-Zoning Walkin' 8-10am-SB Boy Scouts 7pm -CC Open Play B.B. 7pm-SB	10 E.D.C. Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	11 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Ladies Volleyball-SB	12 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6-9pm -CC TEEN DANCE 7-10pm -SB	13 Basketball Starts
14	15 Village Hall Closed SCHLADER CLOSED Cub Scouts 7pm -SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6pm -CC	16 Village Board Walkin' 8-10am-SB AARP Mtg. 1pm -CC Boy Scouts 7pm -CC Open Play B.B. 7pm-SB	17 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	18 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Ladies Volleyball-SB	19 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6-9pm -CC	20
21	22 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6pm -CC Open Play V.B. 7pm-SB	23 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Boy Scouts 7pm -CC Open Play B.B. 7pm-SB	24 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	25 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Ladies Volleyball-SB	26 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6-9pm -CC	27
28	29 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6pm -CC Open Play V.B. 7pm-SB	30 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Boy Scouts 7pm -CC Open Play B.B. 7pm-SB	31 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	WANTED: <u>Volunteers!</u> Please call the Rec. Dept. at 847-746-3505		

February 2007

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Meet your friends for a morning walk at the Schlader Building! (8-10am Mon-Fri)				1 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Co-Ed Volleyball-SB	2 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6-9pm -CC	3
4 VFW Breakfast 8-11:30 am At VFW Hall	5 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6pm -CC Open Play V.B. 7pm-SB	6 Village Board Walkin' 8-10am-SB Boy Scouts 7pm -CC Open Play B.B. 7pm-SB	7 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	8 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Co-Ed Volleyball-SB	9 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6-9pm -CC TEEN DANCE 7-10pm-SB	10
11	12 Recreation Com. Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6pm -CC Open Play V.B. 7pm-SB	13 Planning-Zoning Walkin' 8-10am-SB Boy Scouts 7pm -CC Open Play B.B. 7pm-SB	14 E.D.C. Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	15 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Co-Ed Volleyball-SB	16 SCHLADER CLOSED Tae-Kwon-Do 6-9pm -CC	17 FUN FAIR Schlader Building 11am-4pm
18 SCOUTS BLUE & GOLD BANQUET Schlader Building	19 Village Hall Closed SCHLADER CLOSED Cub Scouts 7pm -SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6pm -CC	20 Village Board AARP Mtg. 1pm -CC Walkin' 8-10am-SB Boy Scouts 7pm -CC Open Play B.B. 7pm-SB	21 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	22 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Co-Ed Volleyball-SB	23 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6-9pm -CC	24
25	26 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Tae-Kwon-Do 6pm -CC Open Play V.B. 7pm-SB Baseball Registration Starts	27 SCHLADER CLOSED (Election Polling Place) Boy Scouts 7pm -CC	28 Walkin' 8-10am-SB Lions BINGO 7pm -SB	Don't miss the excitement at the Feb. 17th FUN FAIR!		

Fire Department Safety Tips

Keep Fireplaces and Wood Stoves Clean.

- Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials.
- Always use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces. Leave glass doors open while burning a fire.
- Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures.
- Keep air inlets on wood stoves open, and never restrict air supply to fireplaces. Otherwise you may cause creosote buildup that could lead to a chimney fire.
- Use fire-resistant materials on walls around wood stoves.

Safely Burn Fuels.

- Never use flammable liquids to start a fire.
- Use only seasoned hardwood. Soft, moist wood accelerates creosote buildup.
- Build small fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.
- Never burn cardboard boxes, trash or debris in your fireplace or wood stove.
- When building a fire, place logs at the rear of the fireplace on an adequate supporting grate.
- Never leave a fire in the fireplace unattended. Extinguish the fire before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Soak hot ashes in water and place them in a metal container outside your home.

Protect the Outside of Your Home.

- Stack firewood outdoors at least 30 feet away from your home.
- Keep the roof clear of leaves, pine needles and other debris.
- Cover the chimney with a mesh screen spark arrester.
- Remove branches hanging above the chimney, flues or vents.

Protect the Inside of Your Home.

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Test them monthly and change the batteries at least once a year. Consider installing the new, long life smoke alarms.
- Provide proper venting systems for all heating equipment.
- Extend all vent pipes at least three feet above the roof.

Use of Space Heaters Inside of Your Home.

- Always turn off space heaters when leaving the room for an extended period of time.
- Use a space heater with a tip-over shut-off feature.
- Keep an area of 24 inches from your space heater clear of any combustible materials, like wood, paper, cloth or plastics.
- Never leave a space heater unattended with children present.

Economic Development News

Making the Case for Economic Development

Why is it important to be proactive in seeking new economic development in our Village? The answer lies in the numbers. Based on planned land use for economic growth and considering the types of businesses that the developers are seeking, Village revenues through property and sales tax collections can be estimated to increase by \$1 million annually. The estimated increased revenue is more than wild speculation, but rather something that is likely to happen if the Village is able to encourage investment in our community.

Today, 90% of the Village's annual budget is funded through residential property taxes. Increasing revenues through economic development can change this burden to approximately 70%, and that would be a good thing.

T.I.F. District Update

The Village Board has decided to continue to explore the idea of using tax increment financing as a development incentive for the triangle. This decision was made based on a preliminary report that indicated that the area is likely to meet state requirements for implementing a TIF. Next, a full study will be conducted to determine if indeed the area will meet the guidelines.

Throughout these preliminary stages of this process, opportunities have been and will continue to be provided for input from all concerned parties.

Façade Improvement Grants Approved

We are pleased to announce that Marine Specialists of 1011 Sheridan Road were awarded a grant of up to \$2,000 for planned improvements to their building. Given the time of year, work is not planned to begin until Spring 07.

If you are considering making improvements to your business building, please contact the Village for an application.

Prosperous New Year Wishes

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous new year to all those who remain committed to the bright future of our community.

(Branch Pick-Up Program, continued from page 2)

prunes your tree, please have the service company provide removal of the debris. The Public Works Department will not remove debris or branches left by tree trimming companies or lawn service contractors.

Please note that small amounts of branches or twigs that can fit into lawn refuse bags should be placed into bags instead of in the parkway. These smaller piles of twigs do not go through the chipper well.

For questions or information, please call Village Hall at 847-872-3846, ext. 248, or the Public Works garage at 847-872-5275.



Zion-Benton Public Library

* **Free Wi-Fi access is now available @ ZBPL. Use your own computer—no passwords, no reservations. You can surf the 'net, check your e-mail, use online resources from any spot in the library.**

* **Downloadable audiobooks are a click away. Log on to www.zblibrary.org and go to NetLibrary.**

Library programs are FREE!

Call 847-872-4680 x 4 for adults, x 5 for children.

Registration is requested so we'll have chairs, refreshments, and supplies for all.

Registration is required when seating is limited or when the presenter specifies a minimum or maximum.

Don't hesitate to call the day of a program -- more than likely, there will be a space for you.

OBA WILLIAM KING returns!

Saturday, Feb. 17, 1:00 p.m.

The Poetic Storyteller is a phenomenal performer and showman. He brings stories, poems, and cultural songs to life.

For the whole family!

ADULT PROGRAMS

Japanese Cooking -- Saturday, January 13, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Ying Stoller, a cooking instructor at CLC, will demonstrate a simple Japanese dish (with a taste for everyone). (Reg. required)

Around the World in an Hour -- Saturday, January 27, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Ken and Anne Miller of Zion left Waukegan Harbor in a 35-foot sailboat and sailed around the globe! They'll share their 10-year adventure.

Summer Bulbs -- Tuesday, February 6, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

It's never too soon to plan your garden! Sharon Yiesla, University of Illinois Extension, will show you how to use and care for gladiolas, caladiums, and dahlias so you can enjoy their flowers all summer.

Scrapbooking with Mary Foor

(Reg. required)

"Photo Organization," Wed., 2/21, 6:30-8:30

Learn to organize film and digital photos. Bring your photos.

"Scrapped," Wed., 2/28, 6:30-8:30

Watch the movie and get hands-on experience with the tools of the trade. Bring photos.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Registration required.

Intro to Computers -- Tues, 1/18, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Microsoft Word Basics -- Thurs., 2/1, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Beginner Internet -- Thurs., 2/15, 7:00-8:00

Intermediate Internet -- Thurs., 3/1, 7:00-8:00

TEEN SCENE

Drum out the Winter Doldrums

With *Rhythm of the Round* of Kenosha.

Open to all high school students.

Registration required.

Tuesday, 2/20, 5:00-6:00

FOR KIDS

Storytimes help your child get ready to read.

Registration required.

Infants and Toddlers (newborn-3)

Mondays 6:00-6:30, Jan 8-29; Feb 12-Mar 5

Baby and Me (newborn-18 mos)

Tuesdays 9:30-10:00

Jan 9-30, Feb 13-Mar 6

Tiny Tykes (18 mos to 3)

Tuesdays 10:30-11:00

Jan 9-30, Feb 13-Mar 6

Preschool (3-6 years)

Mondays 9:30 or 10:30

Jan 8-29, Feb 12-Mar 5

Thursdays 6:00

Jan 11-Feb 1, Feb 15-Mar 8

After School Stories and Crafts – Grades K-4 – 3:30-

4:45, Jan 3 & Feb 7

Discovery Science – Graded K-4 – Wed, 3:30-4:45, Jan 17 & 21

School's Out! Specials

Jan 15 – Roald Dahl's Silly Stories (grades 3-8)

Feb 5 – King Tut Returns (grades 3-8)

Happy New Year!