

In This Issue

- Student Government News
- Election Reminder
- Senior News
- Tax Appeal Seminar
- HRC Sweetheart Dance
- Parks and Recs News

Issue 43
Jan 2009
Volume VI

From the Mayor's Corner

Roger Peckham

2009 has arrived with a new outlook, new hopes and potholes for our driving pleasure. Shortly our new president will be taking charge of our country while our economy is having one of the largest slow downs seen by our country in many years. This type of economy effects your Village government as well as our residents. This administration has kept your Village budgets balanced for many years unlike many communities of similar sizes in our area. This Village Board will continue to give to our residents the best affordable services through out this budget year. This Village Board is continuingly

monitoring the revenues and expenses with the support of our experienced Village staff to minimize the negative economy impact on our community. Items such as fuel prices and road salt (from \$30 a ton to \$130 a ton) impact the Villages budget expenditure side of the budget. Revenue is impacted by the real estate taxes not collected or remitted on foreclosed homes or income taxes not being received on wages on lost employment and jobs. Our large purchases such as our new Village Hall are made through well planned long term financing which do not impact our daily revenue and expenses.

Many times as our large infrastructure expenditures are funded by special revenue sources that by state law cannot be used for daily operations nor can such revenue be expended for other funds or projects (impact fees generated by business park growth not allowable expenditures for water fund improvements or recreational programs). While we all face difficult times during this economy please consider being part of the solution by getting involved and helping find the solutions and not blaming those that try.



News from the Village Clerk

Beth Zupon

The New Year is a good time to run through some reminders about garbage removal. Household garbage should be placed at the curb no sooner than 6 pm the day before collection and no later than 6 am the day of collection. Once garbage has been picked up, failure to remove garbage cans from the curb timely can result in Community Development issuing you a ticket, so please be prompt in getting garbage cans off the street and properly stored (remember, it is also a violation to have garbage cans visible from the front of your home when not out on the curb for pick up).

Skyline Disposal recognizes 6 holidays each year: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. If your collection day falls on or after one of these 6 holidays, garbage collection is delayed by one day that week. If you recycle, blue bags bearing the Sauk Village logo should be placed at the curb next to your garbage can. They should be tied and weigh no more than 25 pounds. These special blue bags are available (10 bags for \$1.50) at Village Hall. They are also available at Fairway and Ace Hardware.

(Continued on page 2)

News from the Village Clerk (continued from cover)



Recyclable materials include:

#1 and #2 plastic containers (rinsed with lids removed), clear and colored glass (rinsed with lids removed) – DOES NOT INCLUDE MIRRORS, LIGHTBULBS, or PLATES, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, telephone books, corrugated cardboard (flattened), boxboard such as cereal and tissue boxes (flattened, with liners and cellophane removed), food cans (rinsed with labels removed)

Note, the *Nancy L. McConathy Public Library* recycles paper and has a collection bin in its parking lot if you prefer to recycle paper through them (you can contact them at 708-757-4771 for more information on their paper recycling program). Yard waste

(grass clippings, leaves, garden waste, small twigs and branches) is collected weekly, from April 1st through November 30th, and must be placed in 30 gallon biodegradable paper yard bags alongside your garbage can. Each bag must have a yard waste sticker affixed to it in order for it to be picked up and must weigh no more than 50 pounds. These stickers are available at Fairway and Ace Hardware. It is important to not include other garbage in with your yard waste. One bulk item per week will be picked up (mattress, TV, certain appliances). If you have any questions about what can and cannot be picked up, please contact Skyline Disposal directly, at 708-754-5460.

I am a big fan of recycling. As the year progresses, I will share some recycling facts, in the hopes that more of us will start to recycle. I start with these numbers, which shed some light on our consumption: Americans comprise 5% of the world's population, yet we consume 25% of the world's resources.

Changing gears, we continue to find ourselves in challenging times. The economy is struggling, and many of our friends and neighbors are struggling to hold onto homes and jobs. No matter how small the gesture, please help someone less fortunate than yourself; it will help someone out and make you feel better about yourself. My wish for you all is to have a very healthy and safe 2009.

Sauk Talk is Produced by
*Volunteers of the Public
 Relations Committee of Sauk
 Village, Rosie Williams*
 Trustee/Editor and Staff
 Members *Suzanne Downing,
 Angela Harris, Javette Jones,
 Maxine Towers, Nanette Wargo
 and Debbie Williams.*

Suggestions should be directed
 to the Village Hall at
 708-758-3330 or emailed to
sauktalk@saukville.org

NEW VILLAGE HALL HOURS

The new hours for Village Hall located at 21801 Torrence Avenue will be Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. The second and fourth Tuesdays (Board meeting Tuesday) the hours are 8:00 am 1 to 8:00 pm. The last Wednesday of the month the hours are 9:00 am until 5:00 pm.

AFTER HOURS DROP BOX

Payments made after hours can be placed in the drop box located at the north east corner of the new Village Hall.



Human Relations Commission Committee News

The Human Relations Commission recognizes people who exemplify excellence in our community with the "Saug Arrow Award of Excellence" We are pleased to present the 2008 Saug Arrow Award of



Presentation of Saug Arrow Award of Excellence to Joshua and Stephanie Morris November 11, 2008 by Human Relations Commission.

Excellence to *Joshua Morris and his wife Stephanie* for their work with the youth of Saug Village. Officer Morris with the help of his wife Stephanie mentored and tutored youngsters during the school year and also held a camp during the summer teaching young men discipline through marching and army core practices.

Officer Morris joined the *Saug Village Police Department* in January, 2006 and shortly thereafter began working with juveniles and became one of the certified juvenile officers on the department. Officer Morris and Stephanie volunteer to work with youngsters and be a positive influence in their lives by meeting with young men weekly on their own time.

Parks and Recreation Committee News

Trustee Derrick Burgess

Happy Holidays from the Parks & Recreation Committee

Santa Claus came to town on Saturday, December 6th. Saug Village sported North Pole-like weather conditions of cold, snow and ice for the annual motorcade throughout the town. Ms. Saug Village, *Marivel Sandoval* and Junior Ms. Saug Village, *Phalon Davis* braved the cold to help Santa and his elves greet the excited children along the way. Santa stopped by the Community Center for refreshments, take pictures with and listen to last minute gift requests before heading back to the North Pole.

The following Friday evening, December 12th, the *Parks and Recreation Committee* held a *Holiday Dance* for the *Rickover Junior High* students. Just like the Fall Dance, over 100 students came to dance and have fun. The Parks & Recreation Committee would like to thank *Chief Tom Lacheta* for donating pizzas for the event. We would also like to thank committee members *Nancy, Debi and Sandy* and volunteers *Albert, Beth, Erika, Juanita, Rex Sr. and Rex Jr.* for donating their time to decorate, supervise and help execute both events.

Registration for Parks and Rec's *Annual Basketball season* took place in December. Basketball practice will begin during the 2nd week of January as scheduled by each coach. Should you have any questions, please contact *Trustee Derrick Burgess* or Parks & Rec's Director, *Sandy Cosey* at 758-4115.

The *Y.E.S. Leadership youth group* meets every Monday from 4 PM – 5:30 PM at the *Mc Conathy Public Library* in Saug Village. This group is open to all children ages 10-18 years old.

The Y.E.S. Leadership group, in conjunction with the *SSDMC (South Disproportionate Minority Contact)*, will be sponsoring two "Rollin' Against Violence" events at the *Lynwood Sports Center* in Lynwood. The dates for these skating events are

Thursday, February 26, 2009 and Thursday March 26, 2009. The cost is \$10.00 which includes admission, skate rental, hot dog, chips, pop and transportation if registered in advance through the youth group.

Please contact *Debbie Williams* 708/351-8922 or *Lewis Towers* 773/848-0596 for more information on these events and other upcoming Y.E.S. Leadership youth events.

From The Desk of *Community Development*

CODE ENFORCEMENT



- According to the *National Electric Code* temporary lighting installations shall be permitted for a period not to exceed 90 days for holiday lighting. *Holiday lights* should be removed no later than the first week of March.

- *Property maintenance* is year- round. Please walk around your homes and check for any damage caused by wind, snow, rain and freezing... even if you rent! Some repairs done now will preclude further damage from the remainder of winter and spring rains. (If you rent, tell the landlord about the problems... call us if the landlord doesn't respond.)

- Make sure your *house numbers* are at least 4 inches and are a contrasting color. This might seem like a minor item but if you have an emergency it is really important for emergency services to be able to see your address from the street.



- *Parking* on a non hard surface is against the ordinance. Please make sure you park on concrete or asphalt.



- Please store *garbage/containers* to the rear of the property. It's unsightly to have garbage overflowing in the front yard of the house. We will be ticketing for this, too many residents are not complying with this ordinance. It creates a nuisance for surrounding neighbors that have to pick up trash that's blowing into their yards and into the streets.

The web page has important information on ordinances and building permits. To view go to www.saukville.org under Community Development. A copy of the ordinance book is available on line if you need to view a particular ordinance.

Fire Department News

With colder weather comes an increased amount of calls for *carbon monoxide (CO) alarms*. A large number of the fire department responses over the winter months are for CO



related incidents, most of which end up being false alarms. Please don't misinterpret this- the Fire Department would rather have you *call 911* if you're not sure what's going on. It's better to be safe than sorry.

With that said, here's a review of the basics with

CO and smoke detectors. Back in January, 2007, Illinois passed into law that every building that has rooms used for sleeping has to have *at least one CO detector within 15 feet* of that room. It's not a bad idea to have a detector on every level of the house either. The same goes with smoke detectors, however the *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)* recommends a smoke detector be placed inside every sleeping room as an added precaution.

A lot of newer homes have been equipped with "hard wired" smoke and CO alarms. This means they are tied in directly to your household electricity. These types of detectors do still have batteries in them in case of power outages and the batteries do have to be changed twice a year- **CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES!** Keep in mind, that if you remove a battery from a hard wired detector system, it will cause the detector and possibly every detector in the system to alarm.

Here are some things about CO detectors specifically. *Carbon Monoxide* is slightly lighter than regular air, so it will mix in at any level. It doesn't really matter if your detector is at floor level plugged into an outlet, or on the ceiling.

But there are a few other guidelines to go by when considering placement.

Don't place your CO detector directly above or beside fuel burning appliances. Don't put a detector within 15 feet of a heating or cooking appliance and in or near humid areas like a bathroom. It is also recommended that if you're mounting a detector on the ceiling, to keep it at least 8 inches from any corners or edges.

THE BOTTOM LINE: Call 911 if you're not sure what that alarm is or if you don't know what to do. If your CO alarm goes off, evacuate the building and PLEASE- leave windows and doors closed. This will greatly assist the Fire Department in finding where the problem is. We're not there to necessarily fix the problem, but we can pin point it to a specific appliance if you'll keep the house closed up and not ventilate it.

On a similar note, as more and more basements are being converted to living space, take a look through those dark forgotten basement storage closets. The Sauk Village Fire Department recently responded to a "possible CO" problem. After ruling out CO, it turned out that fumes from an old forgotten kerosene lantern stored in a basement closet (which was now in a bedroom) was the culprit behind the sore throats and watering eyes. The cans of paint and wood stain weren't contributing to the fumes, but presented a horrible potential as the storage closet was right next to the furnace and hot water heater.

Be safe and conscientious about safety in your home- take nothing for granted. If you do have any questions, feel free to contact the fire department at 708-758-2225 during normal business hours.

Sauk Village

This years "Shop with a Cop", a program for children without the ability to buy gifts, was a great success. The program, lead by *Officer Laura Placek* hosted 17 children from Sauk Village at the *Steger K-Mart*. The program allowed each child to buy gifts for themselves and others, was followed by lunch at the Police Department which ended this great day. The following staff and friends also assisted with their time to make this day a great one! *Sergeant James Vela, Officer Josh Morris, Chief Tom Lacheta, Deputy Chief Rebecca Sailsbery, Police Association member Robert Unruh, and volunteer Donna Sailsbery*. Funds for this fantastic day of shopping were donated by the *Sauk Village Policemen's Association* which donated over \$1,000.00 this year alone!!!! *Officer Laura Placek* not only lead and planned this event, as she has done in the past, but she was named *Officer of the year for 2008* by the Police Association.



The Sauk Village Police Department in conjunction with *the Sauk Village Police Alliance* Committee hosted an *Open House* for the Police Department on Saturday, January 17th 2009. The Department offered tours and the staff on hand explained each of the various divisions within the department.



The building that in the past held both Village Hall and the Police Department is *no longer home to Village Hall!* (see page 2 for Village Hall location) *This entire building is now home to the Sauk Village Police Department.*

Please do not drop off payments for Village fees, tickets, water bills etc at this location. The New Village Hall is one building south with a large clock tower in front of it. Payments have been dropped off under doors, in no longer used mail slots and just left on the counter in the lobby of the police station since this move took place in October. To insure your payment, please utilize the new building at 21801 Torrence (clock tower building) or its new *Drive-up Drop Box* located at the north east corner of the New Village Halls parking lot. Payments dropped off at the Police Department may be lost, or delayed if left at the old Village Hall location.

Police News

Every year children are killed by the mishandling of firearms in the home. The Sauk Village Police department has invested in this program, to prevent a tragedy from happening in our area.

The Sauk Village Police Department in cooperation with Project Childsafe is offering gun locks for anyone in Sauk Village or the Sauk Village area.

The locks are free! NO COST AT ALL.

We will not ask your name, your age, if you have a FOID card, and we won't even ask if you live in our community.

All we ask is how many locks? (up to 5 locks per person, per visit)

These locks are steel cable with a plastic coating, two keys and a safety booklet.

Please stop by the Sauk Village Police Department anytime day or night and receive your lock(s).

"If just one of these locks makes it on a gun that will keep a child in town from getting hurt or killed, then this program is a great success!"

Chief Lacheta



Project ChildSafe® is a nationwide program that helps ensure safe and responsible firearm ownership and storage.



Election Reminder



As a reminder... Election season is upon us. The Election for Sauk Village will be held *April 7th 2009*. The next Sauk Talk edition is in March. Inside the March edition, there will be a section devoted entirely to the candidates and things you should expect to see on your ballot as well as polling locations and hours. While we all understand the importance of a federal election, we need to respect the necessity of local elections as well. The people you vote for will influence your day to day life and you should be as involved in this process as possible. Look forward to information coming forth about meet and greets, forums and debates. Settings like these, informal or formal, will give you an opportunity to meet the candidates, review their running points, and make an educated and informed decision at the polls. If you are not registered to vote, there is not much time. Please contact the Village Hall or Library for more information regarding registering. Happy Voting! *Rosie Williams, Trustee*

ARE YOUR PROPERTY TAXES TOO HIGH????



The *Concerned Citizens of Sauk Village* sponsored a Property Tax Appeal Outreach session on Saturday, January 31, 2009 from 10 am - 2 pm at the Community Center (behind the Village Hall).

Lewis Towers and his staff from the *Cook County Tax Assessors Office* addressed property tax appeal questions and concerns. Residents can file their appeal at the *Markham Courthouse* up until Friday, *February 6, 2009*.

Seniors: Did you know...

Trustee Francine Anderson

Sauk Village Senior Committee sponsors *Free Movie Monday* at the *McConathy Library* every second Monday of the month at 1:00pm. Refreshments will be served. Come enjoy the fun, Movies are scheduled for February 9, 2009 & March 9, 2009.

Seniors come join the fun at the New Senior Center. We're offering social gatherings, dancing, games, activities, refreshments, dinners and outings. Listed below are the Clubs and Organizations that are currently sponsoring activities for Seniors:

- *Fun Club* meets every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 12:30pm.
- *Sunshiners* meet every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00pm.
- *Leisure Timers* meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm.
- *Blue Grass* meets every Sunday from 6:00pm to 10:00pm.
- *Ceramic Classes* meet every Wednesday at 8:00am – 12:00noon
- *Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)* meet every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.



Sauk Village Senior Committee sends our thanks to all that participated and made our first quarterly event *Spaghetti Dinner* a success. Your support was greatly appreciated!



Respond Now will continue to have a satellite food pantry here in Sauk Village at the Community Center (old senior center) every Tuesday from 10am. to 2pm. Please consider volunteering with them.



Public Relations Committee News

Trustee Rosie Williams

The Public Relations committee will be doing some exciting things during these next few months. We are in the beginning stages of preparing for the Volunteer Appreciation Award Dinner in May and Student Government Day this March.



For those who don't know, *Student Government Day* gives all the 8th graders attending Sauk Village schools

the opportunity to polish their writing skills as well as their governmental education. Once all essays are received they are reviewed by a panel of judges and 22 students are chosen to participate. These students will take the place of your elected officials the night of the board meeting and pass the laws and ordinances as sworn in government officials!!!!

With all of the discussion of being more earth friendly we decided to get the kids involved. The essay topic the Public Relations committee has chosen for the 2009 season is...



"If you were an environmental super hero, what would be your name, what are your powers and

how would you use them to make Sauk Village go green?"

We feel that this topic requires imagination, research as well as literary skills, a perfect match to our goals!!! The winning essay will be discussed with the village board and possibly Skyline Disposal to see if it is possible to implement a version of this idea.

Also, please look forward to our special election edition next time in March!! This will provide you a detailed list of candidates and their resume so you can make an informed decision at the polls. Also provided will be a list of polling places and locations!! Remember, your vote is your right, don't give up your right!!! If you are not registered please contact the Village Hall or the Library, you will need a valid *Sauk Village drivers license* or *State ID* with your current Sauk Village address and a second form of ID.

Happy New Year from the Public Relations Committee!!!!



Human Relations Commission Presents...



FREE SWEETHEART SOCIAL
FOR COUPLES & SINGLES
Ages 21 and over
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2009
EDWARD PAESEL COMMUNITY CENTER
2700 Kavelage Drive
6:00 – 10:00 pm
PARTY GAMES
DOOR PRIZES & GIFT BASKETS
APPETIZERS



Valentine's for Veterans



For a few years, Barb Petner and her volunteers have been sending out thousands of cards to our Veterans in the United States. They are sent to *Veterans Nursing Homes, Hospitals and Out-Patient Clinics*. This year she will be helping bring a smile on Veterans faces with a personal card for Valentine's Day. Our Veterans have served our Country with Honor and quite a few of them have been forgotten with time.

Barb reveals "If only one person could make or buy just one card it would mean so much. Taking the time is so greatly appreciated. Talk to your friends, get together over a cup of coffee. Talk to your children's teachers, your neighbors, people at the stores where you shop. If anyone wants to make cards and needs supplies just give me a call!"

Donations are kindly accepted, such as copy paper, card stock, stickers, labels, envelopes, monetary donations for supplies and stamps.

To offer a helping hand of all ages: 7 years old and up, teens and elders, or donate items, please contact Barb Petner at 708-758-4461





21801 Torrence Avenue
Sauk Village, IL 60411
www.saukvillage.org

Bulk
Rate
Permit
#346

*POSTAL CUSTOMER
SAUK VILLAGE, IL 60411*

IMPORTANT LOCAL NUMBERS

<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>911</i>	<i>SAUK VILLAGE HALL</i>	<i>758-3330</i>
<i>POLICE & FIRE NON- EMERGENCY</i>	<i>758-1331</i>		
<i>COMMUNITY CENTER</i>	<i>758-4115</i>	<i>SENIOR CENTER</i>	<i>758-9115</i>
<i>BLOOM TOWNSHIP</i>	<i>754-9400</i>	<i>COOK COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.</i>	<i>210-4500</i>
<i>RESPOND NOW EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE</i>	<i>755-4357</i>	<i>MCCONATHY LIBRARY</i>	<i>757-4771</i>
<i>COMMONWEALTH EDISON</i>	<i>1-800-334-7661</i>	<i>NICOR</i>	<i>1-888-642-6748</i>
<i>SKYLINE DISPOSAL</i>	<i>754-5460</i>	<i><u>VISIT US ON THE WEB:</u> www.SaukVillage.org</i>	