

Sauk Village Hall
21801 Torrence Ave.
Sauk Village, IL 60411
708-758-3330

Press Release
Library News
Police News
Senior News

High School Registration
Student Government Day
Economic Development News
Fire Department News

Issue 57
May 2011
Volume
VIII

Sauk Talk

News From the Mayor

Lewis Towers

I would like to say hello to all the citizens of Sauk Village. We all made it through this amazing winter despite one of the most treacherous blizzard of this decade. Winter maybe over but we know that sometimes old man winter holds on a little longer in this region of the United States. But our hope of a green budding Spring is still within our expectations. As we prepare to beautify around our many homes and assess the much needed yard work to be done we are thankful for the much warmer weather. There are many street construction projects underway and soon there will be a new ground breaking project in the Village as well. I have also worked hard and teamed up with The Illinois Department of Employment Security to host a Community wide Job Fair May 5, 2011 at the Paesel Community Center. Flyers are currently being distributed at the many businesses in the Village and community by IDES themselves. Please come out and take advantage of this event to secure employment.

The Spring season marks the new beginning of the many sports activities that are always a good source of development as well as family enjoyment for the children and adults. I have worked diligently and tirelessly with businesses to secure funding for our children and young adults programs. I am pleased to let everyone know that I have secured a donation of thirty five thousand dollars for our community recreation programs from C & N Railroad Lines. We need volunteers to help make this a well rounded success for our young adults and children. Volunteering to help with recreation activities will show our appreciation to C & N Railroad Lines for their most needed contribution to our community Parks and Recreation program. I am very confident that all persons that can will indeed step up to this challenge. And I thank you well in advance for your volunteering.



News from the Village Clerk

Debbie Williams

Happy Spring! The Village Hall will be closed on Monday, May 30th and Monday, July 4th in observance of Memorial Day and the 4th of July. The Village Hall also continues to be closed on Wednesdays. Check out the new village website www/saukvillage.org for updated information on current events, the administration and elected officials, board meeting minutes and local ordinances. Pet licenses have

been on sale since April 1st. The cost of the pet license is \$15.00. If your pet is spayed or neutered the cost is discounted to \$7.00. Seniors can purchase their pet license for \$5.00. Vehicle stickers go on sale May 1, 2011. All vehicle stickers must be displayed no later than midnight June 30, 2011. Penalties, late fees and doubling of the sticker cost goes in effect on July 1, 2011. The cost of the Pet licenses expired on April 30th, 2011. Pet licenses have

discount per household for seniors and the disabled. This year's sticker will reflect "United We Can". Sauk Village has experienced some difficulties but together we can make a difference. **How can you make a difference in your community?**



Mayor's article continued

The election is over and my congratulations to Trustees Burgess, Hanks and Chavez. Also, congratulations to the new School Board and new Library Board members. I want to thank all of the candidates for getting involved in the political process. I want to thank Francine Anderson for all her hard work while serving as a Trustee, Chair of the Senior Committee and Chair of the Police Alliance Committee. Please join me in thanking Francine for her tireless efforts and continued community involvement.

Right now is the time for our community to come together to help our many newly elected officials, as well as current ones, find solutions to move our Village progressively forward. Whether, you voted for the elected official or not, we now have a civic duty to stand ready to help by joining any one of the

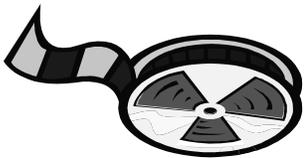
following committees: Senior Citizens, Police Alliance, Parks and Recreation, Housing Commission, Ordinance Review, Economic Development, Public Relations, Human Relations or Mayor's Office of Special Events. The Village needs each of you to serve as a volunteer on the committee of your choice. Now is the time to decide to get into a new spirit of helping one another. So, join hands and minds with your neighbors and pull together for a better Sauk Village.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer. Thank you so very much.

Mayor Lewis Towers
708-753-5124

McConathy Public Library News

The next senior movie will be on May 9, 2011. We will be showing **MUSIC MAN** at 1:00pm.



Upcoming movies are:

June 13, 2011 **THE BIG TREES**

July 11, 2011 **MONSTER-IN-LAW**



There will be light refreshments served.

Sauk Talk is Produced by volunteers of the Public Relations Committee of Sauk Village, Rosie Williams Trustee/Composer and Staff Members Nanette Wargo and Debbie Williams. With special appreciation to and technical support from Deputy Village Clerk Colleen Baughman. Suggestions should be directed to the Village Hall at 708-758-3330 or emailed to sauktalk@saukville.org.

Press Release

May 9, 2011

The Village of Sauk Village Mayor and Board of Trustees urge the General Assembly and the Governor to prioritize the protection of revenues that are collected by the State of Illinois on behalf of local governments for use in funding social services, public safety, transportation and infrastructure.

The state is faced with a \$13 billion budget deficit. This budget deficit has been allowed to grow over several years while local governments have been reducing their budgets to align spending with lower revenue projections.

Local governments have been responsible stewards of taxpayer revenue during the economic downturn. We have found it necessary to make very difficult choices to balance our budgets and have done the best we can to preserve core services.

Despite several years of hard decisions and painful sacrifice, local governments are in danger of losing even more scarce revenue. These losses would not come from natural revenue declines, but by an act of the General Assembly.

Policymakers in Springfield are discussing ideas to reduce the massive state budget deficit. Two proposals in particular advocate for reductions in state-collected local government revenues.

The loss of this revenue would jeopardize the core services provided to Sauk Village residents. Some have called for \$300 million in cuts from revenue that is collected by the state on behalf of local governments. This kind of revenue diversion would amount to a loss of \$23.40 per municipal resident. If this money were taken out of local communities by the state, it would represent a total revenue loss of \$250,000.00 or more to Sauk Village alone.

The loss of these critical revenues would jeopardize our ability to maintain current service levels. We've already pushed the limit of our comfort zone with the cuts we've had to endure. Losing any state-collected local government revenue could affect our ability to fund priorities like public safety, social services, and basic infrastructure. We've already eliminated any excess and we would really be talking about cutting core and essential community services. People would absolutely notice the cuts.

Please sign and mail the attached letters included in the back of this edition of the Sauk Talk if you oppose a reduction in the revenue that Sauk Village will receive from the State of Illinois.

"It's Not About Sacrifice, It's About Survival!"

Economic Development

Trustee Derrick Burgess

The Economic Development Committee continues its quest to portray Sauk Village as an ideal community for retail businesses. In the last Sauk Talk, this committee asked residents to complete a survey listing the businesses they would like to see in Sauk Village. The survey contained five categories of businesses; fast food, grocery stores, shoes and clothing stores, recreational activities or other sundry stores. Below is a percentage breakdown of how you've voted to date!

Fast Food Establishments	23%
Grocery Stores	21%
Shoes/Clothing Stores	23%
Recreational Facilities	23%
Other Stores	10%

Taco Bell gets the top vote in the Fast Food category. Meijer is tipping the scales as the type of grocery store Sauk Village needs. Our families are giving 'thumbs up' to Payless Shoes as the top choice in the Clothing/Shoe store category. And the most votes were cast for a Movie theater as the top choice for entertainment.

We thank all of you for your participation in the survey. However, while the Economic Development Committee continues to compile statistics to attract potential developers, we still need more residents to voice their choices by completing the surveys. The more responses we receive, the better we are able to identify your top priorities. So please look for the surveys in our local establishments. We encourage you to keep voting!!!

Our Economic Development members are holding to their commitment to attend each meeting held by the Chicago Southland Economic Development Quarterly Forum. Two members attended the latest meeting held on April 20, 2011 at the Olympia Fields Country Club. The purpose of this forum was to discuss the "Infrastructure Investment, Land Use and Economic Development in the Southern Suburbs which was heavily attended by the surrounding communities of Sauk Village. Below are the top three topics that will immediately affect our town.

Illiana Expressway – This project proposes a new expressway to connect communities and industry on either side of the Illinois and Indian border.

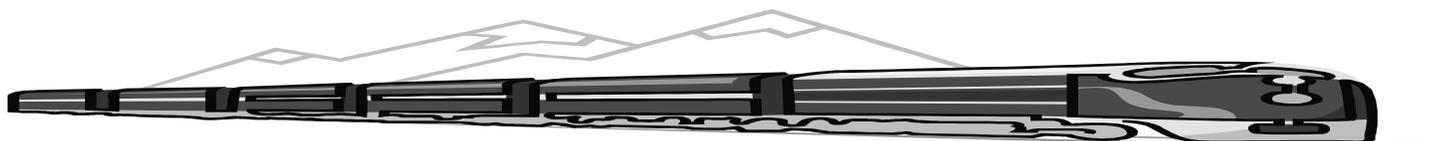
Metra Southeast Service – This proposal includes 33 miles of new Metra track to connect 20 communities on the Southside and southern suburbs to downtown Chicago at the LaSalle Street Station. Train stops will be built in Chicago Heights, South Chicago Heights, Steger, Crete and Balmoral Park.

South Suburban Airport – to be built on 2,444 acres of existing land acquisition toward development of the long planned South Suburban Airport. When built it could create as many as 7,700 jobs and nearly 17,000 indirect jobs by the year 2030. Investors are very serious about this project. As to date nearly \$33.13 million has been spent on property acquisition.

Lastly, in our own community, some of our innovative residents have expressed an interest in starting a Flea Market Co-Op. Our committee will introduce them to the business property owners in Surreybrook Plaza to begin space rental discussions.

Finally, Trustee Derrick Burgess has spoken to the owners of Iuccio's Pizza to address the rumors of their closing. Iuccio's Pizza assured Trustee Burgess they have no intentions of leaving Sauk Village. So residents, continue patronizing our local businesses to encourage them to stay!!!!

Trustee Derrick Burgess





Fire Department News

Deputy Fire Chief Rich Atwood



On April 29, 2011, the Alabama Emergency Management officials released this information: Alabama had 210 confirmed deaths. There were 33 deaths in Mississippi, 33 in Tennessee, 15 in Georgia, five in Virginia and one in Kentucky. Hundreds if not thousands of people were injured — 800 in Tuscaloosa, AL alone.

This report stemmed from a tornado outbreak that spawned a reported 150 tornadoes in the overnight hours of April 27-28. To date, I have at least one family member and one friend directly affected by this horrific event. I'm sure there are many others in Sauk Village who likewise are affected in some way as well.

In the aftermath, I was asked by a friend if I thought it would be nuts if they made an emergency kit to store in the basement bathroom. My reply was simply "you'd be nuts not to!" Then I proceeded to supply my friend with a website address- the same address that I have listed in past Sauk Talk articles numerous times. If you will take the time, go to **ready.illinois.gov**. On the home page there is a link to a preparedness checklist. You can print this off and make your own emergency kit, keeping in mind that you want to be self sustainable for at least 72 hours.

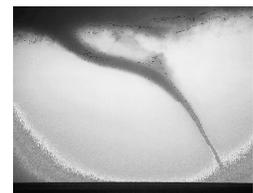
The moral of this story is "don't be fooled for one second thinking that this can't happen to you." A wise fire officer once said, "In fire command and tax preparation, don't let your inclination to gamble out perform your fear." This same thing could be said about emergency preparedness. I refuse to live my life in fear, but

there are a few simple things that we can all do to prepare ourselves. Prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

With that said, the Sauk Village Fire Department and ESDA have joined forces on a new project. We are asking residents with special needs to register with the Fire Department. We need some basic information to create a database to be used in the event of a disaster or long term crisis. For example, if you are energy dependant for health reasons, like oxygen equipment, we want to know about it. If you are bedridden or have limited mobility- we want to know about it.

In a disaster scenario, emergency services are immediately taxed. With the 72 hour rule of thumb, this is meant to allow emergency services to focus on higher priorities like getting to those that are trapped. This database will help emergency services to identify priority residents that may need help sooner than 72 hours.

To help us help you, please register your household if you have people living with you that have special needs and won't be able to fend for them selves in a disaster. Registration forms are available at the Fire Station, Village Hall, Walgreens, and the Library. Just return the completed form to the location where you got it or bring it to the fire station. Registration forms can also be emailed to you by contacting richresq1@comcast.net. All information will be kept confidential and only used in the event of a community wide emergency.




Public Relations Committee


Trustee Rosie Williams

The Public Relations Committee would like the opportunity to once again congratulate the winners of Student Government Day. As you may be aware, the 8th grade students were asked to write an essay regarding how the economic crisis has affected their way of life. We received many amazing essays but could only pick 19. Below is the list of winners. The Public Relations Committee has remained busy with items regarding Student Government Day. We have been in the process of creating a special day for the winners to celebrate their achievements.

Also, we are also looking forward to expanding our horizons and discovering new and exciting ways to relate to the public. We encourage any suggestions of ways we can better serve the community. Please feel to contact me with the ways we can work with you. **Have a safe and happy Spring!!!**

Congratulations to the winners

ANDREW WOLSKI	Mayor	DIAMOND EPPS	Public Works
AMBER BOYD	Village Clerk	KARAH WRIGHT	Building and Grounds
JEANETTE BUTLER	Trustee Hanks	ANDRES ROSALES	Finance Director
ZOE FLORES	Trustee Williams	AMBER THOMPSON	ESDA
KIANNA JACKSON	Trustee Burgess	KHALIYAH GAULT	Treasurer
ABBY CHILLERS	Trustee Anderson	JUSTICE ISOM	Village Attorney
D'SJON CALHOUN	Trustee Benson	GODSON RAHEEM (911)	Alternate
KYEISHA ESTRS	Trustee Myers	NOAH JORDON III (SVPAC)	Alternate
LAMARR GAINES	Police Chief	NEENAH HARVEY	Alternate
ELIZABETH ARNOLD	Fire Chief		

Introducing New Trustee Robert Chavez

Robert Chavez 34, is a lifelong resident of Sauk Village. (Ok, since he was age five). He and his wife Ida are raising their three children here: Angelica, 15, Robert Jr., 13 and Kathryn, 10.

A 1995 graduate of Bloom Trail H.S., Robert was an amateur boxer when he was young. Today, in addition to his full-time job at St. James Hospital, he owns a business coaching and training young boxers. In fact, all three of Robert's children box and the youngest, Kathryn, is a three-time Silver Gloves Champion.

Robert comes to public service in Sauk Village sports and recreation programs. He worked with the Sauk Village Sports Association for five years doing everything from coaching boys baseball to dragging and chalking the fields to cleaning up the restrooms.

Over the past two years, Robert has grown increasingly concerned with the direction of his

hometown. As a result, he's joined with Trustees David Hanks and Derrick Burgess to represent ALL of Sauk Village in 2011. This was Robert's first campaign for public office.

Robert has the honor of being the first Village Trustee of Mexican American decent. Robert said, "Being the first of anything is always an honor, but really, I'm running to be a good Trustee who is a servant of the people who happens to be of Hispanic heritage".



Senior Committee

Francine Anderson

SENIORS SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW

KUDOS to The Chili Cook off Winners: First place, Jesse Boswell, Second place, GiGi Austin and Third place, Judy Yates. The Senior Committee would like to thank everyone for their participation in The Chili Cook Off was held on Saturday March 26, 2011. Special thanks to all the volunteers; especially our Judges Mayor Lewis Towers, Barb Dorman Southland Voice Publisher, Laura Seeley, Lindra Mudra and Carol Hurlick; US Bank employees, Tasha Bell, Alicia Comage and Delores Carvajal; The Chili Chefs, Bill Morgan, Nadine Morgan, Jesse Boswell, Carol Salinger, Pat Weatherford, Delores Randall, Judy Yates, Shirley Rowley, Dorothy Barnes, Gayle Wonder, GiGi Austin, David Chick, Francine Anderson and Angie Cox. Excellent Entertainment was provided by THE MORGAN FAMILY and Line Dancing by Flora Haynes.

Seniors come join the fun at The Senior Center. The following activities are offered social gatherings, dancing, games, activities, refreshments, dinners and outings. The clubs and organizations that are currently sponsoring activities for Seniors are:

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 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. The cost is \$5.00 per week.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) meet every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

SPECIAL THANKS to Sauk Village Senior Committee for allowing me to represent you for the past four years. I would like to express a sincere and heartfelt appreciation for your support and willingness to bring new activities to other seniors in our community. **You have been second to none**; KUDOs to Rose Langston, Delores Randall, Noelle Dahlmer, Carol Manners, Beverly Sterrett, Bob Barnes, Floyd Morgan, Robert Fallon, and all of the members of each of the senior groups Fun Club, Leisure Times, Sunshiners.

Thank You



Police Department News

Police Chief Tim Holevis

I would first like to take a minute to thank Boy Scout Joshua Witt for his fantastic work on the newly remodeled kitchen in the police department. Josh did the remodeling with the help of other scouts, friends and family. The kitchen was a huge moral boost for our police officers, who for the last two years have had no break room. Thank you Josh for everything and I would like to welcome all the village residents to help honor Josh and his troop for their efforts on May 24, 2011 at the regular board meeting.

Crime has been on a steady decline during the month of April. We have had 8 burglaries, down from 27 in March. Officers have taken 7 guns off the street, including a small machine gun. Please realize that Sauk Village Police Officers have stepped up their campaign to rid the village of gang members and drug dealers. So be forewarned, if you are breaking the law, you will be arrested!

The month of May is dedicated to police officers across the country. More specific, May 15 thru 21, 2011 is Police Memorial Week. This annual event is dedicated to all the police officers across the country who sacrificed their lives for the protection of others. There have been 65 police officers killed in the line of duty since January 1, 2011. This is a historic increase of 18%. Please remember all of these great officers during Police Memorial Week.

The Click It or Ticket Campaign will be conducted in the village during the month of May. Please remember to Buckle Up!

The Cop on Top fundraiser for Police Special Olympics will be conducted on May 20th, 2011 at the Sauk Village Dunkin Donuts. Police Officers from Sauk Village and Lynwood will be on the roof and in the streets in an attempt to raise funds that will be donated to the Special Olympics charity. The police officers will be assisted by the PLAN organization, village trustees and various local businesses. For more information, please contact Sgt. James Vela.

One last item, the police department along with the PLAN organization will sponsor National Night Out on the 1st Tuesday in August. Additional information will follow as it becomes available.

FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

A LITTLE POLICE HUMOR

The Judge said to the defendant. "I thought I told you I never wanted to see you in here again." "Your Honor," the criminal said, "that's what I tried to tell the police, but they wouldn't listen."



Clean Water Tips

Clean Water Begins in Your Home



Most households have at least one spot where those containers of leftover household products, like pesticides, solvents, old medicines and batteries end up, hopefully safely out of reach of children and pets. Most people realize that these products can lose their effectiveness in a few months or years, but what many people don't know is how to get rid of all that unwanted and often dangerous stuff. Sometimes you even inherit waste from previous homeowners who didn't take the time to clean it up. Those old containers are rusting away silently; sooner or later they might begin to leak. An even worse problem occurs when these products are dumped into sinks or storm drains, or on the ground, where they will eventually end up in lakes, rivers and groundwater- and our drinking water!

Tips for Storage and Disposal:

- Be aware of household products that can be harmful to humans, pets and the environment. The words "danger", "caution", "warning" or "toxic" indicate that you need to be particularly careful how you use *and* dispose of the product. ***Read and follow label directions carefully for usage and disposal.***

- **Less is Better.** Reduce waste and save money by purchasing only the materials you need. Choose less toxic alternatives when possible.

- **Store Properly.** Keep unused products in their original containers with labels intact. Select cool, dry storage areas safely away from kids, pets and wildlife. Mark with the date opened and use or dispose of by the expiration date, if noted on label. Store products in plastic bins or trays to contain any spills.

- **Disposal is Key.** Never dump motor oil, chemicals or any other toxic materials down the drain, into septic systems or on the ground.

Contact Sauk Village's Public Works Department at (708) 757-2420 to find out the time and location of upcoming collections in Cook County.



Public Works Department

Kevin Weller

Street Sweeping

The street sweeping schedule for the 2011 season will be as follows:

The weeks beginning- **April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, and October 17.** Sweeping during the month of **November**, will follow our leaf pickup program.

If additional sweepings are necessary, notification will be posted on the Marquee located on Sauk Trail at the corner of Cornell Ave.

Ordinance prohibits parking on the streets between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. during the day of your garbage pickup.

Hydrant Flushing

Hydrants will be flushed in the following sections of town on the specified dates.

- April 5** - South Side of town; south of Sauk Trail & west of Torrence extending to Deer Creek
- May 3** - North Side of town; north of Sauk Trail extending to Carlisle Estates
- June 7** - Eastern section of town; located east of Torrence & south of Sauk Trail
- July 5** - South Side of town; south of Sauk Trail & west of Torrence extending to Deer Creek
- August 2** - North Side of town; north of Sauk Trail extending to Carlisle Estates
- September 6** - Eastern Section of town; located east of Torrence & south of Sauk Trail
- October 4** - South Side of town; south of Sauk Trail & west of Torrence extending to Deer Creek

Actual flushing will begin at 11:00 P.M. of the previous night, continuing through the morning until the area has been completed.

Residents should refrain from washing whites during flushing and for at least 24 to 48 hours after flushing.

Tree Limb Pickup

The first pickup for the 2011 season will begin **Monday May 2** and end on **Friday May 13**. Residents are asked to have limbs out no later than **Sunday May 8**.

The second and final pickup for the 2011 season will begin **Monday September 5** and end on **Friday September 16**. Residents are asked to have limbs out no later than **Sunday September 11**.

Remember to bundle small branches and to stack branches neatly in the same direction as this speeds the tree limb pickup. There will be no branches picked up after these dates **no exceptions**

Anyone having questions concerning their pickup can call the Village Hall (758-3330) Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Bloom Trail High School Registration Dates

Tuesday, July 19, 2011	8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 20, 2011	3:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 21, 2011	3:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Monday, July 25, 2011	3:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

You must bring the following with you for all students:

Driver's license or State photo ID with your name and current address

Two utility bills with your name and current address

One of the following

Property tax ID Number

Homeowner's Insurance Policy

Current lease with landlord's name, address, and phone number

Renter's Insurance Policy

Registration Fee in the form of cash, check, money order, or credit card

You must bring the following items with you for all incoming freshman:

Birth Certificate for your son/daughter (copied and returned the same day)

Health Records: immunization record, physical & dental exams

Current Medicaid Card or Public Aid Card when applicable

8th grade diploma

\$25 Discount on Registration fees paid before or during registration

Incoming freshman receive a \$25.00 discount and 1 Free Gym Uniform =

\$150 total for Registration fees by June 1st

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2011

DISTRICT-WIDE

MAKE-UP

PLACEMENT TESTING FOR ALL INCOMING FRESHMEN

At

BLOOM HIGH SCHOOL

101 W. 10th St. Chicago Heights, IL

Testing Time is 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Enter at front of school

For more information please contact:

Bloom Trail High School

Amanda Roth ARoth@sd206.org

708-758-7000 ext. 3126



21801 Torrence Avenue
 Sauk Village, IL 60411

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911	SAUK VILLAGE HALL	758-3330
POLICE & FIRE NON-EMERGENCY	758-1331		
COMMUNITY CENTER	758-4115	SENIOR CENTER	753-5141
BLOOM TOWNSHIP	754-9400	COOK COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.	210-4500
RESPOND NOW EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	755-4357	McCONATHY LIBRARY	757-4771
COMMONWEALTH EDISON	1-800-334-7661	NICOR	1-888-642-6748
SKYLINE DISPOSAL	754-5460	VISIT US ON THE WEB: WWW.SAUKVILLAGE.ORG	