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V

### From the Mayor's Corner

Roger Peckham

We face many challenges today. A slowing economy, unstable gas prices, changing employee benefits and decreasing government revenues are taking a toll on all. Even during these difficult times our *village tax rate decreased* from 2.248 for 2006 to this year's 2007 tax rate of 2.204. While this decrease is not sizable it does demonstrate the taxpayers have elected officials that are working for the taxpayer's of Sauk Village. While the Village Board has continued to provide quality basic services for the residents of our community, many expanded programs in Recreational and Relief Support Services, without assistance of a strong volunteer system, can not be provided. In addition, the Board recognizes that economic development pays off in local jobs, contributes to Village revenue and builds other community assets and many programs to attract new businesses to town have been initiated. The majority of the Village's expenses are salaries, pensions and other benefits negotiated as part of union

contracts. In light of these difficult times, it is important for all of us to *maintain a sense of community in Sauk Village* and participate in volunteering in our Community.

A few months ago the Village Board reviewed and discussed the so called "*red light cameras systems*". The cameras help police officers enforce traffic law by automatically photographing vehicles whose driver run red lights. The system continuously monitors the traffic signal, and the camera is triggered by any vehicle entering the intersection after the signal has turned red, cameras record the date, time elapsed since the beginning of the red signal, vehicles speed and license plate. The Police department cannot afford to monitor with a police officer at every lighted intersection so, by the use of cameras, officers can spend more time providing service to residents. Privacy of all drivers is respected since only vehicles that enter the intersection after the

light has changed to red are photographed. All photographs taken by these cameras are reviewed before tickets for violations are issued. The equipment, installation and maintenance are paid for by revenue generated through the violations. Signs will be posted at each intersection warning drivers that photo enforcement is being used. The Village's main objectives are *detering violations and prevent accidents* at intersections that have records for serious injuries. The decision is still being reviewed by the board if any resident has comments on this item let the Board hear from you.

The new Village Hall is now open, please come in and see what has been built by fees generated from our business park development.



### News from the Village Clerk

Beth Zupon

Yes, I'm talking about Village Stickers again this issue. This time, though, it's good news - to announce a *contest to design next year's sticker*. All you young artists out there (grades 6 – 8), start practicing. This will be your chance to have your name on the Village Sticker, along with your winning picture framed and on display at Village Hall. Prizes will be awarded to the winner as well. *The subject of the contest is the new Municipal Center*. Details (picture size, deadline for submitting entries, etc.) will be available in late November. Flyers will be distributed at school, along with being available at Village Hall. *Judging will take place in January, with the winner announced in early February. Good Luck!*

# *Sauk Village Has a New Home*

*Mayor Roger Peckham and the Board of Trustees* hosted a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony on Saturday, November 1st for the new *Sauk Village Municipal Center* located at 21801 Torrence Avenue. Following the dedication, refreshments were served and tours were conducted of the new facility.

The new 18,500 square foot municipal center will house the Village's administrative offices, a new Board/Community meeting room, and space for the senior citizens of Sauk Village.

Because of the new space provided, the *Sauk Village Police Department* will undertake a much needed expansion in the current Village Hall/Police building. In addition, space in the current *Community Center/Senior Citizen Center* vacated by the seniors *will be made available to the young people of the community*. Improvements have been made to this



*Mayor Roger Peckham and the Board of Trustees*

facility as well. "This comprehensive project benefits all ages and interests in our community and allows Sauk Village to better meet the needs of our growing community" said Mayor Peckham. He added that "this \$5.5 million project is being financed entirely from impact fees generated by the *LogistiCenter at Sauk Village Business Park* and will require *no local property taxes* to pay for this major improvement."

The new Municipal Center was designed by *zpd+a Architects of Chicago* and built by *Chicago Heights Construction Company*. Ground was broken for this project in July 2007 as part of the celebration for Sauk Village's 50th anniversary of incorporation.

*(see page 11 for New Village Hall Information and Phone Numbers)*

In addition to the municipal center, the *Sauk Village Veteran's Memorial* was constructed adjacent to the new facility. The Veteran's Memorial was dedicated on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2008 and features bricks purchased by Village residents to honor and remember Veterans and loved ones.

**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](mailto:sauktalk@saukville.org)

# Parks and Recreation Committee News

*Trustee Derrick Burgess*



On Friday evening, October 24th, over 150 Rickover Junior High students braved strong winds and driving rain to attend *SV Parks & Recreation Committee's Fall Dance*. Once inside the dry confines of the newly remodeled Community Center, the youth enthusiastically greeted their classmates, mingled, ate and danced to the DJ's music for two hours! The two separate viewing rooms gave them the option to sit, rest, talk, and eat "quietly" to rejuvenate while still being able to watch their not-yet tired classmates "boogey" on the dance floor. All of the youth thoroughly enjoyed themselves and asked when the next dance will be.

The next day, Saturday, October 25th, children and parents donned their Halloween costumes to participate in the *Parks & Recreation Committee's Annual Halloween Parade* walk from Rickover Junior High to the Community Center. Upon arrival, everyone was given a *free pumpkin and a Halloween treat bag*.

I would like to thank our dedicated Committee members *Sandy, Nancy, Debbie, Jackie* and volunteer, *Juanita* for organizing and executing back-to-back events. The Parks and Recreation Committee would also like to thank *the parents and District 168* for their participation and cooperation.



*Mr. and Mrs. Claus'* have already returned their RSVP to Parks & Rec's invitation to kick off Sauk Village's Christmas Season. Our Committee is feverishly planning for their arrival as well as a *Holiday Dance* for the youth. We will *need more volunteers* for this double event.

If you would like to volunteer and/or submit donations of articles, please contact *Trustee Derrick Burgess* or *Parks & Rec's Director, Sandy Cosey* at 758-4115

Wishing you an enjoyable Holiday Season!

## Rollin' Against Violence Event

The Y.E.S. Leadership youth group of Sauk Village has hosted a Rollin' Against Violence night of roller skating in October and November.

The next Rollin' Against Violence event is Thursday, December 18, 2008. The event will take place at the *Lynwood Sports Center* located at 2030 Glenwood -Dyer Road from 5 PM-8 PM and is open to children from 4th through 12th grades. Cost of \$10.00 includes admission, skate rental, hot dog, chips and pop. Transportation is available on a first come first served basis.

Other upcoming events include the *Christmas Cookie Bake* on Thursday, December 11, 2008. The cost of \$2.00 includes all of the supplies to bake cookies and hot chocolate refreshment. This will take place at the Paesel Center (behind the Police

Department) from 7-9 PM.

*Winter break activities* will take place on December 22, 23, 29 and 30th also at the Paesel Center.

Watch for more information on those activities. All children from 4th - 12th grades are welcome. Pre registration is required.

The Y.E.S. group is sponsoring a *Christmas Party* on Tuesday, December 23, 2008 at the Paesel Center from 1 PM- 4 PM. The cost of \$1.00 includes pizza and pop/ juice will be available for .50 each.

The Y.E.S. group meets every Monday from 4-5:30 PM at the Mc Conathy Public Library.

To find out more about these events please attend the Monday meetings or call youth leaders *Debbie Williams* 708/351-8922, *Javette Jones* 773/501-1612 or *Lewis Towers* 773/848-0596.

# *Public Works Snow Removal*



responsibility for clearing enough of this snow to allow them to get in and out of there driveway, blowing snow back out into the street is prohibited, tickets may be issued.

There are 27 center lane miles of street, in Sauk Village that the plows must keep clear and salted. While we regret any inconvenience we trust you will understand.

The Public Works Department salts and plows the village streets, village ordinance states no parking on village streets after 2" snow or till completely removed . As plows clear the streets, they push the snow toward the curb. Inevitably, the snow will be pushed in front of the driveway entrance. Unfortunately, there is no way to avoid this. Each resident must assume

Residents who are incapable of removing this snow themselves or who do not care to do so may choose to hire a teen or plow service to assist them.

The highest priority of the Public Works plow drivers must be to make the streets as safe as possible for vehicle traffic and for the passage of emergency vehicles in the event they need to get to your home.



## Season's Greetings

from your

Sauk Village

Public Works team!

## *FREE English as a Second Language CLASSES*

Free ESL (English as a Second Language) classes are being held at the Library.

*Tuesdays and Thursdays*

*12:00pm to 2:30 pm*

Classes starting in January 2009

To Register call 708-709-3618



**McConathy Public Library**

21737 Jeffery Ave.

Sauk Village IL, 60411



## From The Desk of Community Development

- With fall here and winter approaching we recommend you have your *furnace* cleaned and certified by a licensed heating contractor. If you have a *wood burning fireplace* you should have a chimney sweep clean and inspect your fireplace.
- *Storage of wood* for fireplaces should be elevated not less than 12" above ground with a clear space underneath to prevent harborage of rats and other animals. All wood is required to be stored only in the rear yard.
- Make sure your *smoke/co detectors* are functioning properly. Don't forget to change the battery.  
If you own a *pool* make sure it has a proper pool cover on it. All pools that are not in use have to be winterized and covered. All quick set (temporary) and *inflatable pools* have to be removed during winter months.
- Please store *garbage/containers* to the rear of the property. It's unsightly to have garbage overflowing in front of houses. We will be ticketing for this, too many residents are not complying with this ordinance. It's creating a nuisance for surrounding neighbors that have to pick up trash that is blowing into their yards & into the streets.
- Please be advised there is no *parking* on a non-hard surface – all vehicles have to be parked on concrete or asphalt.
- Any resident that received a *property maintenance letter* time is running out for the work to be completed. If the work has not been done and you failed to acknowledge the letter you are & will keep receiving tickets.

*I would like to thank everyone that has completed their property maintenance. We encourage everyone to participate because it enhances the overall appearance of the community; also it keeps animals from getting into the home which can cause extensive damage.*

Our Department would like to wish all the residents a Happy Holiday season!

## Human Relations Vacancy

*The Human Relations Commission will be accepting letters of interest to fill a vacancy on the board. This is a volunteer board and we are seeking a strong community-minded individual who will assist us in our long-term goals as stated in our mission statement:*

*"The purpose of the commission is to promote a truly open community with long-term population diversity and integration and to stimulate the improvement of human relations among all persons, so as to provide all citizens with an equal opportunity to grow participate in and share to the best of their ability the economic, educational, political and social benefits of the community."*

Meetings are held at the Village Hall the 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm.

Some of the projects the commission has completed are:

- Maintaining a historical and ethnic and cultural bulletin board
- Sponsored a Village wide Voter Registration Drive
- Hosted diversity dinners
- Help to organize Neighborhood Watch groups

Letters of interest should be addressed to:

*Human Relations Commission  
Beverly Sterrett, Chairperson  
Village of Sauk Village • 21810 Torrence Ave.  
Sauk Village, IL 60411  
(708) 753-5120*

# Police News



Signs are clearly posted in front of both Wagoner and Strassburg Schools making it illegal to park in front of those properties. Each building has many signs that read "NO STOPPING, NO STANDING, NO PARKING BETWEEN 7:00 A.M. AND 3:30 P.M."

These signs were created with these specific words to stop any movement in front of the schools that allows the vehicle to stop even for the shortest times.

The idea of no parking in this area is for the safety of the children. Since 911 both the Police and Fire departments operated differently and require the front of the school to be empty other than emergency vehicles. These signs are clear. So, "I was just dropping off my child's lunch" or "I was picking up my ill child" or "I am just letting my child out of the car, and I have done this a million times before" may be the legitimate reason for stopping or parking, but they will not be a viable defense to a ticket.

For *Wagoner*, park your cars on the side streets following all signs and postings listed there. Also, people living in the homes on Olivia, Cynthia and Gailine may need to come and go from their homes and blocking their driveways is both rude and an action that will also get you ticketed.

*Strassburg School* has parking on the North side of 223rd Street. This school has the same signs like those at Wagoner and leave very little to interpretation. Parking in front of Strassburg during those times will be ticketed. Standing, stopping and unloading children will also get you a ticket.

*Rickover Jr. High* has off street parking. Please use same. Parking in front of the school on or near the yellow line painted area will also result in a ticket being issued.

In these hard economic times we need to watch every penny. Paying tickets is a costly expense that you can control simply by following some very easy to read signs. The enforcement will increase at all of these schools and we felt that fair warning to those that make a habit of not reading signs, was fair.



*Happy Holidays from the Sauk Village Police Department!*

*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.*

*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*

# Fire Department News



The newest addition to the Sauk Village Fire Department's fleet is now in service. The new 5120 is a 2008 Crimson with a 100 ft aerial platform and it replaced the 27 year

old snorkel truck. The new truck has been around town quite a bit in the last couple months and was a big hit at our annual open house on October 12.

Besides getting to see the new truck, the *open house* was well attended as folks came in to enjoy a pancake breakfast and tour the station. The *elementary school Fire Prevention poster contest* entries were on display during the open house too. As people came in for a tour, they were encouraged to help the Fire Department judge each grade level for winning posters.

*It was some tough competition, but the winning posters were:*

*Pre-K: Ms. Clayburn's AM class, Wagoner*

*Kindergarten: Ms. Koontz's class, Wagoner*

*1st grade: Ms. Stone's class, Wagoner*

*2nd grade: Ms. Ivie's class, Wagoner*

*3rd grade: Ms. Mucklow's class, Strassburg*

*4th grade: Ms. Greeson's class, Strassburg*



*5th grade: Ms. Carroll's class, Strassburg*

*Ms. Monko's Bilingual class, Wagoner and Strassburg*

*Ms. Boam's Cross Cat Special Ed. Class, Strassburg*

*Congratulations to these students! The winning classes were treated to ice cream by the Fire Department. All the posters were incredible and showed a lot of effort.*

As we now get into the holiday season, please keep in mind some basic safety tips to help insure a safe and happy time.

- Don't leave candles unattended.
- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from anything.
- Only use "power strip" extension cords for your holiday decorating.
- Use extra caution in the kitchen, especially around the stove when cooking.
- Keep those real Christmas trees watered

**On behalf of the Sauk Village Fire Department, we wish you a safe and joyous holiday season!**

# Sauk Village Police Alliance Committee

*Sauk Village Police Alliance Committee will be celebrating its first year anniversary on December 8, 2008.*

*Special thanks goes out to committee members Doreen Bennett Mayno, Derek Bobo, Mary E. Howard, Emelinda Perez, Chief Tom Lacheta, Trustees Rosie Williams and Francine Anderson.*

Here's to a year of accomplishments for the PAC:

- Completed research on:
- Amber Alerts
- Crisis Interventions
- Assistance for crime victims
- Illinois CHIPS
- Developed a structure of two way communications between citizens and the police department.
- Held Police Department Meet & Greet



Come join the PAC. We continue to seek citizens to participate on this committee. Our next meetings are scheduled for November 25, 2008 and December 16, 2008 at 6:00pm at the Village Hall.

*Keep the date of Saturday, January 17, 2009 open and come out for The Police Department Open House from 11am to 2pm.*

## *Diversity Inc. Dinner Honoree*

*Beverly Sterrett, Chairperson*

Human Relations Commissioner *Debbie Williams* was honored at the annual *Diversity, Inc.* Dinner held September 24 in Olympia Fields with the *Diversity Community Spirit Award*. Diversity, Inc. is an organization consisting of 23 south suburban communities that deal with common issues in:

- housing,
- discrimination,
- economic development and
- common issues that we face in the south suburbs.

At the annual dinner every year Diversity, Inc. presents diversity awards to deserving individuals

throughout the southern suburbs that have made contributions to diversity issues and this year we are very proud that our commissioner was presented with one of these prestigious awards.

Debbie received the award for her *philanthropic contributions* to our racially and ethnically diverse community of Sauk Village. Congratulations again to Debbie!



# Seniors: Did you know...

*Trustee Francine Anderson*

The New Senior Center is Open!!! Seniors and other citizens enjoyed the official open house at the New Sauk Village Municipal Center held on November 1, 2008.



Sauk Village Senior Committee is now sponsoring a *Free Movie Day at the McConathy Library* every second Monday of the month at 1:00pm. Refreshments will be served. Come enjoy the fun at our next movies

scheduled for November 10, 2008 & December 8, 2008. Free movie day will continue in 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, except for November and December 2008. There will be no meetings in January 2009.



- 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* will begin the New Year with our quarterly events by having a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday January 24, 2009 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.



*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. Consider volunteering with them.



*On behalf of the Sauk Village Senior Committee members John "Bob" Barnes, Noella "Noel" Dahlman, Robert Fallon, Rose Langston, Floyd Morgan, Delores Randall and Trustee Francine Anderson wishes you and your family a Blessed Holiday Season. We hope that you will join us in 2009 for great Senior activities and growth.*

# Public Relations Committee News

*Trustee Rosie Williams*



The Public Relations Committee would like to thank everyone who supported and attempted to attend this year's *Sauk Village Family Festival*. As we all may remember, we had the largest rainfall in a long time, which unfortunately ruined all plans for a successful festival. Gladly enough, the Public Relations committee of Sauk Village is resilient and we never let a little rain stop us!! So please look forward to another attempt for next year!!! Until then, we have plenty to keep us busy!!

We are beginning the preparations for this year's *Student Government Day*. We will be submitting all information to schools a month earlier to allow students to perfect their essay. This will allow enough time to make the necessary preparations for the meetings and dinner, which the winners must attend. If you know an 8th grader in this town, please tell them to begin preparing!!!



*I would like to close this article with a hope for kindness and health for you and your family.  
May your holiday season be joyful!*

## Emmanuel Church Provides Food Pantry



"Our Daily Bread" is in operation for Sauk Village residents, and is open each Saturday morning from 10am until noon. Please bring proof of residence and proper ID. Emmanuel is excited about helping those in our community who have a need. We provide non-perishable items, meat items and currently some fresh produce.

Emmanuel Church is located at 22515 Torrence Avenue.

# *New Village Hall Information*

## NEW VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Beginning in November the new hours for the Village Hall will be Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. The second and fourth Tuesdays (board meeting Tuesdays) the hours are 8:00 am 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 still be placed in the drop box at the Police Station until the new after hours drop box is installed at the new Village Hall.



### ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Roger Peckham	753-5124
Village Clerk Beth Zupon	753-5121
Trustee Francine Anderson	753-5138
Trustee Derrick Burgess	753-5127
Trustee David Hanks	753-5129
Trustee Jim Schultz	753-5126
Trustee Jim Slawnikowski	753-5130
Trustee Rosie Williams	753-5128
Treasurer Jim Griegel	753-5119
Village Manager Richard Dieterich	753-5122

### FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION (Water Dept.)

Main Line	758-3330
Finance Director Beverly Sterrett	753-5120
Customer Service Joanne Paesel	753-5110
Customer Service Cindy Wagner	753-5111
Accounts Payable Sandy Dieterich	753-5133
Utility Billing Pam Plamondon	753-5134

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Department Main Line	753-5112
Dept Receptionist Amanda Miller	753-5112
Director Sherry Jasinski	753-5118
Code Enf. Officer Beverly Steffens	753-5116
Code Enf. Officer Sue Dobrzniecki	753-5114
Code Enf. Officer Mike Bartnikci	753-5115



21801 Torrence Avenue  
Sauk Village, IL 60411  
[www.saukville.org](http://www.saukville.org)

# Season's Greetings

Bulk  
Rate  
Permit  
#346

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
SAUK VILLAGE, IL 60411

## IMPORTANT LOCAL NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911	SAUK VILLAGE HALL	758-3330
POLICE & FIRE NON- EMERGENCY	758-1331		
COMMUNITY CENTER	758-4115	SENIOR CENTER	758-9115
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	<u>VISIT US ON THE WEB:</u> <a href="http://www.SaukVillage.org">www.SaukVillage.org</a>	