

Sauk Village Village Hall

21801 Torrence Ave.

Sauk Village, IL 60411

708-758-3330

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Issue 48
November
2009
Volume
VI

Sauk Talk

News from the Mayor

Lewis Towers

Happy autumn! The trees in the village are changing colors and the leaves are beginning to fall. Public works has set the schedule for leaf pick-up. Leaves may be raked to the curb beginning on November 7th. Leaves will be picked up beginning on November 9th. Pick up will continue through November the 15th.

A lot has been going on in our village over the past three months. After 28 years of service, Police Chief Thomas Lacheta has retired. I would like to thank Chief Lacheta for the services that he has rendered to the Village of Sauk Village in those 28 years. I wish him well, and extend the best of luck to Tom and his family. Congratulations are in order for the Village Interim Chief, Rebecca Sailsbery. The Village of Sauk Village was in receipt of a First Cops Grant in the amount of \$238 thousand dollars. This grant will allow the village to hire an additional full time Police officer for the next three years.

I would also like to thank Jim Griegel for the many years of service that he has rendered to the Village as Treasurer. Thank you for your time and effort on behalf of our community. The newly appointed Treasurer

for the village is Sauk Village resident, Genorise Carmichael. The Village Board of Trustees and I are looking forward to working with you.

Line Dancing has arrived in the village and is being held at the Community Center on Mondays, from 7:00PM-9:00PM. For the past two weeks there has been a full house of residents and people from the surrounding municipalities. We are having a great time and it seems as if everyone is enjoying the fun of line dancing. Come out and join us.

The Youth Group is back up and running as the Youth Arts Program, directed by Sauk Village resident, Yolanda Robinson. Mrs. Robinson is doing a fantastic job with the youth. The Youth Group meets four days a week (Monday -Thursday) at the Community Center from 3:00PM-6:00PM. The Youth Group is currently practicing for the Holiday Play. Other activities include arts and crafts, dancing and a study table. Snacks are being served to the group at the end of each session.

The Boxing program is off to a great start also. Coach Rob Chavez is doing an excellent job with the youth

and this boxing program. The kids are punching away and are having a great time. Thank you Coach Chavez. Keep up the good work.

VISTA (Visiting in Service to America) has arrived in the Village of Sauk Village. VISTA is located in the Community Center and has a variety of community services that are being offered. Please stop by and visit this program. Thanks to the SSDMC and their Executive Director Angela Greene for all of her assistance in the set up of this program.

Respond Now and Panera Bread are still providing a satellite food pantry for our community. This program is in the Community Center on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please stop by and receive necessary assistance from these two groups.

Safety in the Village is important to everyone. As the seasons and the time changes, please be mindful of your comings and goings from your home. Be watchful for your neighbors and be aware of any suspicious activities that may be going on in your neighborhood. (cont'd on page 2).

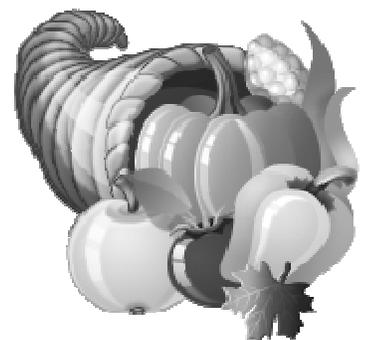
News from the Village Clerk

Debbie Williams

Check out the new Clerk's Page on the web at www.saukville.org. Sauk Village Board meeting agendas and minutes are now posted on the site. Local happenings and a link for the Sauk Village Board, Committee and Commission meetings will be available on the new News & Events page.

The Village Hall will be closed on November 26th and 27th, December 24th and 25th and January 1, 2010 in observance of the holidays.

My sincerest wish for you and yours for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous holiday season.



Continued Mayor's Article

Do not be afraid to report any activities that may cause harm and or damage to yourself and your neighborhood. I ask that you call the Village Hall (758-3330) and notify the Police (758-1331) when necessary. As I have always said, an informed Mayor is how the job can and will get done.

The Village is working hard on the financial problems that have been placed upon us. The Chief of Staff, Brunetta Hill-Corley and the Finance Director, Beverly Sterrett are working diligently with our team of Financial Advisors, Kane and McKenna and Village Attorney, Jimmy Vasselli as it relates to securing a loan for the Village of Sauk Village. I am thankful and proud to say that State Representative Anthony DeLuca and Senator Toi Hutchinson's efforts have paid off again for the Village of Sauk Village. Another grant has been awarded to the Village in the amount of \$250 thousand dollars for village streets and road infrastructure repairs. Jim Czarnik of Robinson Engineering has informed the Village that we are in receipt of monies from IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) that will also assist in road repair. The initial CDBG grant is well under way with hope to begin in December repairing 225th Place. I am thanking everyone that has assisted and is assisting the Village with receiving grants and financing that will improve Village streets and neighborhoods.

The Census 2010 committee is up and running. There is quite a bit of Census Count Tokens that are in need of being placed in the residents hands. Throughout the week and on weekends a Census committee member will be visiting your local neighborhood. Stand Up and Be Counted in the Village of Sauk Village. We cannot receive those federal dollars that the Village is in need of, if you do not file the Census 2010 Stand up and be counted profile. If you should have any questions regarding the Census 2010, please feel free to contact the Village Hall and ask for the Chief of Staff, Brunetta Hill-Corley.

I would like to wish you and your family a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

Public Relations News

The Public Relations Committee is remaining busy with Student Government Day 2010. This will be the 35th Anniversary of Student Government Day in Sauk Village. We are very excited to be a part of this. This program will be offered to 8th graders in Sauk Village schools.

The topic for this year will be the 2010 Census and just how important it is to be counted. Some of the Village's revenue comes from Government funding. The grants and loans are fundamentally funded by the population of our Village. In order to maximize on this funding we need to ensure that every person is counted!!! It will be curious to see how the 8th graders see themselves on a larger scale, and how they can support this valiant Census mission.

The Public Relations committee is still looking for members. We want to remain an active committee, and to do that we need new ideas and

new people. Please contact Trustee Williams for more details.

The Public Relations committee was sponsoring a line dancing program at the Library on Mondays at 6pm. We were unable to gain permission to use the Community Center, and were forced to go to the Library. Due to the lack of space and the floor material, the Public Relations program at the Library will conclude on Monday, November 30, 2009.

On behalf of myself and my committee, I would like to wish you a joyous and SAFE Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanza, and New Year. See you in 2010



Sauk Talk is Produced by volunteers of the Public Relations Committee of Sauk Village, Rosie Williams Trustee/Editor and Staff Members Nanette Wargo Debbie Williams, and contributing editor Colleen Baughman. Suggestions should be directed to the Village Hall at 708-758-3330 or emailed to sauktalk@saukvillage.org.

Sauk Village Housing Authority

Winter Safety Tips

With the colder months of the year now upon us, the following are a few safety tips for you and your family to keep in mind.

CANDLES - Always put candles in non-tip candleholders before you light them, and do not burn candles near decorations or displays. Keep candles well away from curtains, and never put candles in windows or near exits. Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Never leave a room with a candle burning or within reach of small children.

SMOKE DETECTORS / CARBON MONOXIDE - Consider installing detectors on every level of the home, near sleeping areas where the audible alarm can be heard. If the alarm goes off, exit the home and call 911. Recognize the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning and exit the home immediately if you suspect the presence of carbon monoxide. Call 911 from a safe location. If it has a 9-volt battery, change the battery once a year.

CHRISTMAS TREES

A fresh tree is green.

Fresh needles are hard to pull from branches.

When bent between your fingers, fresh needles do not break.

The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin.

When the trunk of a tree is bounced on the ground, a shower of falling needles shows that tree is too dry.

Cut off about two inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption. Trim away branches as necessary to set tree trunk in the base of a sturdy, water-holding stand with wide spread feet. Keep the stand filled with water while the tree is indoors.

Place tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Heated rooms dry trees out rapidly, creating fire hazards.

Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways. Use thin guy-wires to secure a large tree to walls or ceiling. These wires are almost invisible. Avoid smoking near flammable decorations.

Avoid wearing loose flowing clothes - particularly long, open sleeves - near open flames - such as those of a fireplace, stove, or candlelit table.

Never burn candles near evergreens.

Burning evergreens in the fireplace can also be hazardous. When dry, greens burn like tinder. Flames can flare out of control, and send sparks flying into a room, or up the chimney to ignite creosote deposits.

ELECTRIC SPACE HEATERS -

Space heaters need their space! Keep combustibles at least three feet away from each heater. When buying a heater, look for a thermostat control mechanism and a switch that automatically shuts off the power if the heater falls over. Heaters are not dryers or tables! Don't dry or store objects on top of your heater. Keep children and pets away from space heaters. Never leave children in a room alone when a space heater is in use.

ESCAPE PLANS - Develop an escape route with two exits from every room.

Pick a meeting place in a safe location so all family members can be accounted for. Call the fire department from a cordless phone, a neighbor's home or another safe location. Never re-enter a burning building for any reason. Practice your home escape plan every six months and consider practicing it at night when most home fires occur.

FIREPLACES - Keep fire where it belongs - in the fireplace! Have chimneys inspected by a professional before the start of heating season. Make sure you have a screen large enough to catch flying sparks and rolling logs. Clean your chimney regularly - creosote build-up can ignite your chimney, roof and the whole house! Store cooled ashes in a tightly sealed metal container. Cardboard boxes and paper bags can quickly catch fire. Only burn materials appropriate for a fireplace, never burn trash or paper, burning paper can float up a chimney and onto your roof or into your yard.

FURNACES - Have your heating systems inspected by a qualified service professional at least once a year. This inspection should include lubrication and cleaning, replacing filters, a check of belts and thermostats and having vents cleared of

obstructions, as necessary.

GENERAL PREPARATION - Have extra blankets on hand, and ensure that everyone in your household has a warm coat, gloves or mittens, a hat and water-resistant boots. Use products only for their intended purposes. Hair dryers aren't intended to thaw frozen pipes, dry clothing or warm bedding. If you use an electric blanket to keep warm on a cold night, follow the manufacturer's instructions and make sure you turn it off and unplug it when it's not in use. Never tuck an electrical blanket in.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS - Indoors or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety. Identify these by the label from an independent testing laboratory. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets or repair them before using. Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house, walls or other firm support to protect from wind damage.

Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord. Turn off all lights on trees and other decorations when you go to bed or leave the house. Lights could short and start a fire. Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and any person touching a branch could be electrocuted! To avoid this danger, use colored spotlights above or beside a tree, never fastened onto it!

Keep "bubbling" lights away from children. These lights with their bright colors and bubbling movement can tempt curious children to break candle-shaped glass, which can cut, and attempt to drink liquid, which contains a hazardous chemical.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Sauk Village Housing Authority



Seniors Do You Know?

Thanks to all of the citizens that participated in the Spaghetti Dinner held on Saturday October 17, 2009. Great Entertainment was provided by the MORGAN Family and Flora Haynes with Line dancing. Extra Special Thanks to the Volunteers, Park National Bank employees, Belinda Dekruiff, Barbara Monk, Tatshia, Kathy, Donna, Helena, Alicia, Frances Fedorenko, Ken & Claudia Walker and Saul Bozeman

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 at the Senior Center:

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.

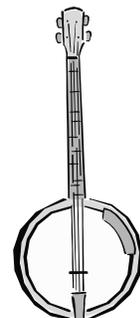
Blue Grass meets every Sunday from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. Ceramic Classes meet every Wednesday at 8:00am – 12:00noon

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

Join us for FREE Movie Mondays at the McConathy Public Library every second Monday of the month at 1:00pm. Refreshments are served. The next movie will be **Red Rock West** on December 14, 2009

Respond Now still has a satellite food pantry here in Sauk Village at the Community Center (old senior center) every Tuesday from 10am. to 2pm. Volunteers are needed.

- **The telephone number to the Senior Center is 708-753-5141.**



Fire Department News

Fire Prevention Week was the week of October 5 this year and as usual it was a pretty busy week around the fire station. Assemblies were held at Wagoner, Strassburg, and Rickover schools. The theme this year was on burn injuries and how not to get burned.

The week was concluded with a coordinated event at the Sauk Village McDonald's. The Fire Department went to McDonald's and set up the fire truck in the parking lot. Sparky and Flashy the fire dogs were out there to meet visitors. Those that came out to see the fire equipment were given coupons for freebies from McDonald's.

Since the September Sauk Talk, there has been a change in leadership at the Sauk Village Fire Department. On September 27, 2009, Christopher Sewell resigned as the fire chief. Chris was offered a position as fire chief with the Village of Flossmoor. This was a tremendous move for Chris and we at the Sauk Village Fire Department wish him all the best. As fire chief, Chris, during his seven year run, accomplished many great things for this department. Among the most noticeable accomplishments were the replacement of two very aged vehicles and the winning of almost a million dollars in grant funds which went toward the new aerial truck, new firefighting gear, new air packs, and a number of other very important and otherwise costly items. Chief Sewell was a fair and reasonable man and only ever wanted what was best for his department and the Village he grew up in. He will be missed.

Immediately following Chief Sewell's resignation, Deputy Fire Chief Alan Stoffregen was asked to fill in as Acting Chief until a more permanent replacement could be named. But on October 13, Stoffregen was officially sworn in as the new Fire Chief. Al brings 40 years of experience with the Sauk Village Fire Department to the table. Over those years, Al has worked his way up through the ranks and has served as Deputy Chief for 17 years. Recognizing Chief Sewell's many accomplishments, Chief Stoffregen's wish is to see this department continue to move forward in a positive direction as we continue to strive to provide the best possible service for the citizens of Sauk Village.

On October 14, 2009, Governor Pat Quinn signed a proclamation that a public health emergency exists in Illinois in regards to the H1N1 virus. For emergency services providers, this means extra care in patient contact and the possibility of assisting with mass vaccinations. For you, this means that the vaccination will be available and that you should likewise be extra cautious of personal hygiene particularly in public places- wash your hands regularly. This is by no means a reason to panic. You are encouraged to visit the Illinois Department of Public Health's website for detailed instructions as well as signs and symptoms to be alert for. The website is www.idph.state.il.



Photos by D. Kopaczewski



St. James News

Christmas Craft Show

ST. JAMES CHURCH

22400 S. TORRENCE AVE—

SAUK VILLAGE, IL

SATURDAY—DECEMBER 5

9AM-3PM

COME ON OUT FOR A FUN DAY!

ENJOY BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WITH US

CHECK OUT THE GREAT BARGAINS

THAT OUR CRAFTERS HAVE TO

OFFER

SANTA WILL BE HERE TO FIND

OUT IF YOU'VE BEEN NAUGHTY OR NICE!!



Thursday, December 31, 2009

St. James Church—

22400 S. Torrence Ave—

Sauk Village, IL

708-757-2170

DOORS OPEN—7PM

FULL BUFFET DINNER SERVED FROM 7PM-9PM

CASH BAR—PARTY FAVORS

COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT

ENTERTAINMENT AND DANCING 8:30PM-1AM

\$25.00 PER PERSON

INTERESTED IN PURCHASING TICKETS?

STOP BY THE NEW YEAR'S EVE

TABLE OR

CALL 708-757-2170

Public Works News

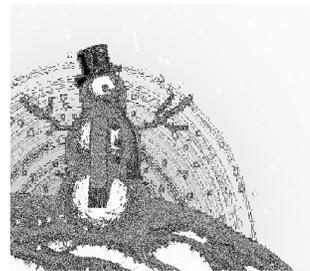
The Public Works Department salts and plows the village streets, village ordinance states **No parking on village streets after 2” snow or until completely removed.** As plows clear the streets, they push the snow toward the curb. Inevitably, the snow will be pushed in front of driveway entrance. Unfortunately, there is no way to avoid this. Each resident must assume responsibility for clearing enough of this snow to allow them to get in and out of there driveway, **without putting it back into the village street. VIOLATORS WILL BE TICKETED**

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.

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. As a side note, the salt supplies this year are not what they should be and the demand is up; so the cost is up

Respectively , Sauk Village Public Works



Community Development

Tenants, if you are having issues with your Landlord please feel free to contact our department. We will gladly assist you in getting your problems corrected. Our office hours are Monday thru Friday 8:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

708-758-3330

63°

65°

68°

10:30 p.m. - 7:30 a.m.

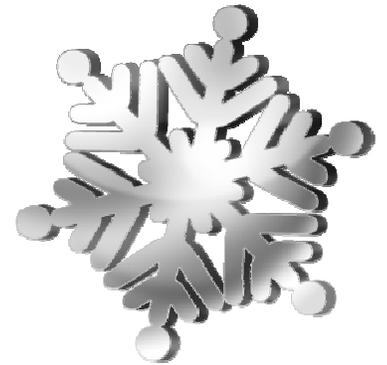
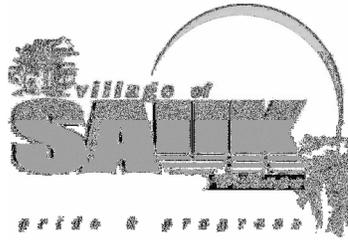
7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m.

8:30a.m.-10:30 p.m.

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 15TH THROUGH MAY 31ST

If your Landlord is not providing these minimum temperatures, You should call the Cook County Department of Building and Zoning 708-974-0500





21801 Torrence Avenue
Sauk Village, Illinois 60411

VISIT US ON THE WEB:
WWW.SAUKVILLAGE.ORG

EMERGENCY	911	SAUK VILLAGE HALL	758-3330
POLICE & FIRE NON-EMERGENCY	758-1331		

COMMUNITY CENTER	758-4115	SENIOR CENTER	753-5141
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BLOOM TOWNSHIP	754-9400	COOK COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.	210-4500
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RESPOND NOW EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	755-4357	McCONATHY LIBRARY	757-4771
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COMMONWEALTH EDISON	1-800-334-7661	NICOR	1-888-642-6748
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SKYLINE DISPOSAL	754-5460		
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