

Message from the Mayor

You may notice as you read this issue of *Village Views* that there are a number of great family activities offered by our Parks and Recreation Department. For example, Breakfast with Santa, our fitness center, open gym, the sledding hill and ice rinks. They all exemplify the department's theme for Winter 2011: Let's Have Some Fun. But there are hundreds of other great opportunities listed in Parks and Rec's winter brochure that was recently mailed to your home. I hope that you will take the time to look through it to find the indoor and outdoor fun that's just right for you and your family.

As we begin the holidays, the Village Board, staff and I wish you much happiness. We hope to see you throughout the Village this season taking advantage of our great shopping, restaurants and other businesses. We encourage you to continue our tradition of sharing with those less fortunate. And, we look forward to seeing you Friday, November 26, for the annual Village tree lighting.



Terry Wepler, Mayor

Share holiday spirit at annual tree lighting

The annual Village tree lighting is the perfect place to share the holiday spirit with your family, friends and neighbors. The festivities begin at 6:30 PM on Friday, November 26, at Cook Park. After singing traditional carols and a visit from Santa, the tree is set aglow. Cap off the evening with a stroll through local shops offering extended hours. You will enjoy special treats, beautiful holiday decorations and great shopping. For additional holiday festivities and party rental options, please see pages 4 to 6.



New police chief is on the job

Experience, leadership and people skills are among the assets Clint Herdegen brings to his new position as Libertyville Police Chief. His 29 years of police experience with the Village of Hoffman Estates included 12 years as police chief, a position from which he retired in September.

Chief Herdegen is president of the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS), a joint venture of 100 suburban police departments whose specially trained officers assist NIPAS members with natural disasters, crowd control and other dangerous situations. A graduate of Lewis University and Northwestern University Traffic Institute of Police Staff and Command, he is also a board member of the Northwest Police Academy.



Please see **Police Chief** on page 2

Government Transparency

While the Village of Libertyville has always prided itself in being responsive and transparent to residents, the Village Board and Staff recently enhanced Village transparency by placing both audio recordings of Village Board meetings and bills/accounts payable on the Village website at www.libertyville.com.

Libertyville Foundation

As we approach the end of the calendar year 2010, please consider making a tax exempt gift to the Libertyville Foundation. This 501(c)(3) organization has a separately appointed Board of Trustees and accepts donation on behalf of the Village of Libertyville. More information can be found on the Village website (www.libertyville.com) or by contact the Village Administrator's office.

A tradition of sharing

During this holiday season, please remember the elderly and those less fortunate than yourself. When you are shoveling your walk or driveway, consider doing the same for a neighbor. Check in on senior citizens. Donate a new toy to Toys for Tots, participate in a giving tree project at a local place of worship, or take canned goods, grocery gift certificates or paper products to the local food pantry at the Libertyville Township Center.

Police Chief

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Chief Herdegen sought the new position in part because of Libertyville's strong sense of community among its residents. "Although it's a much smaller community than Hoffman Estates, Libertyville has a real downtown, a place where people gather to shop and enjoy one another. I'm looking forward to working with the residents as well as being more hands-on because as a smaller community we have a smaller staff," Herdegen said.

"The police department here has a strong reputation and my goal is to continue to provide the same level of professional service that residents have grown accustomed to," he added.

Hide it. Lock it. Or, loose it.

One tip Police Chief Herdegen offers this holiday season is to, "Hide it. Lock it. Or, loose it." To avoid having your car broken into, be sure to lock your packages, GPS units, purses, cell phones and any cords in the trunk. If you have no trunk, hide them under the seats or lock what you can in the glove box. "Don't create crime of opportunity," Chief Herdegen said.



Shop in your hometown for the holidays

With hundreds of retailers, restaurants and service providers situated in 24 retail centers, the Village is the perfect solution for all your holiday shopping needs. Unique gifts, party supplies and gift certificates are available from local businesses which are listed on the Village website at www.libertyville.com/business directory.

Many businesses offer extended holiday hours, including evening and Sunday hours. Dealing directly with business owners and offering a wide array of unique products and services, are great reasons to shop Libertyville. If you shop downtown, don't forget to use the Village's parking structure. Also, MainStreet Libertyville (www.mainstreetlibertyville.org) offers gift certificates which can be used at more than 50 local businesses. Shop local and keep Libertyville a vibrant, desirable place to live.

Downtown redevelopment becomes reality

More than 20 years ago Village planners envisioned a vibrant addition to the community: new housing that would compliment the downtown area. The Village purchased homes along School Street and then partnered with School District 70 to sell their combined property. In 2006, Hummel, LLC began a development of upscale row homes. Due to the poor economy, the developer abandoned the project after only five row homes were completed.

In September, however, a new School Street development gained final approval from the Village Board and construction began on the first of 26 single family homes. The plan also calls for 15 dwelling units in the former Central School, six of which must be attainable by people who work and live in the Village.

"This is an exciting new urbanism project with each single family home having a front porch and unique design. One of the homes is even being designed by renowned architect Sarah Susanka, author of The Not So Big House. The project offers a great location near shopping and the train and is the type of development any community would warmly welcome," Director of Community Development John Spoden said.



A new urban development of single family and multifamily residences is under construction on School Street in the Village's downtown area.

Tips for a safe holiday

To help ensure that your family enjoys the winter season, the Fire Department offers the following fire safety tips.

Decorative Lights

- Be sure all indoor and outdoor lights bear the label of an independent testing laboratory.
- Discard lights that have cracked or frayed cords.
- Do not overload outlets or run extension cords under carpets or across doorways.
- Unplug all decorative lights before leaving home or going to bed.

Holiday Trees

- Choose a fresh tree that doesn't shed its needles, and keep it watered.
- If the holiday tree dries out, store it away from the house until you can dispose of it.

Candles

- Put candles securely in non-tip candle holders and never leave them unattended.
- Place candles out of the reach of small children.
- Never burn candles near holiday decorations, curtains, or other combustibles.
- Use flameless candles if at all possible.



Heating safety

To ensure that you heat your home safely, the Fire Department recommends that you have your furnaces and chimney inspected and cleaned prior to the heating season. Fireplace safety also includes using screens or doors on the fireplace to prevent sparks from flying out and removing ashes from the fireplace and storing them in a metal container outside of the home. If you use space heaters, keep them away from anything that can burn such as curtains, furniture and newspapers.

The Fire Department recently received the 2009 Life Safety Achievement Award. The Department was recognized for demonstrating its active and effective fire prevention program, Risk Watch, and recording zero fire deaths in structures.

When the snow flies



The Village begins plowing streets when snow is more than one inch deep and when freezing temperatures indicate there will be no melting.

Many state and county roads in and around the Village are cleared by state or county crews. However, the Village plows and salts Milwaukee Avenue from

Adler Drive to Hollister Drive and Park Avenue from Butterfield Road to Mungo Industrial Center. Streets with high traffic volume, emergency routes and bus routes on school days receive priority for plowing over residential, non-primary routes that typically do not have heavy traffic volume.

There are several ways you can help keep the Village safe during the winter.

- Clear your sidewalk. This is especially helpful for children trying to get to school safely.
- Consider helping senior citizens who live nearby shovel their sidewalks. State law does not hold citizens liable when they make reasonable efforts to clear sidewalks of snow and ice in the interest of public safety.
- When you clear your driveway, shovel or blow the snow onto the parkway to the right side of your driveway as you face the street. A Village ordinance prohibits depositing snow on streets.
- Park your vehicle off the street. On-street parking is prohibited between 10 PM and 6 AM during snow events.
- Make sure your mailbox is 12 " from the curb and that the post is secure.
- "Adopt a fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow. It's there to protect you.

Mayor's Business Breakfast

Mayor Terry Weppeler, Village Trustees and Staff met with 150 business leaders at the Mayor's Breakfast in September. The annual meeting gives business owners and managers an opportunity to learn about Village projects and programs and to ask any questions they may have about the Village.



Plan your next special event at the Libertyville Sports Complex



His face says it all: Libertyville's Sport Complex

is a great place for a party. More than 800 children and their parents had a spooktacular time at the Village's indoor Halloween Fest. If you are looking for a great place for a party, meeting or other special event, call 847-918-7275 for information about Parks and Recreation Department facilities.

Train Quiet Zone

A new 24-hour Quiet Zone along the Metra Milwaukee District North Rail line at crossings in the villages of Libertyville and Grayslake has been approved by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and is now in effect. The Quiet Zone does not include the St. Mary's Road crossing, which according to Metra lacks the necessary Early Warning Detection equipment for the Quiet Zone. Train engineers are allowed to blow the train whistle in an emergency situation or when they deem appropriate. This is the third Quiet zone established along railroads that run through the Village.

Parks and Recreation Department: 'Let's Have Some Fun'

For more information about the fun winter activities listed below, the Sports Complex or other programs for kids and adults, check out our Winter Brochure (mailed to residents), the Village website at www.libertyville.com or call 847-918-7275.

Breakfast with Santa



Santa is sneaking away from the North Pole this holiday season just long enough to have breakfast with children ages 3 to 8 at the Crawford Warming House. The breakfast begins at 9 AM on Saturday, December 18. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Kids may sit on Santa's lap and receive a special gift. The cost is \$10 per person.

Practice golf all winter

Take advantage of two levels of heated golf driving stations at one of the only ranges in Lake County open all winter long. Please call for hours of operation. Range cards or buckets of balls for \$5 and up make great holiday gifts.



A magical night for seniors at Holiday Ball

Dance the night away to old favorites and take time to relax and chat with friends at the Senior Center's Holiday Ball. Offered for those 55 and better, the festivities will be from 6 to 8 PM on Saturday, December 10, at the Civic Center. Enjoy hors d'ouvres, dessert and a lot of fun. The cost is \$7 per person.

Open gym for kids during holidays

The holiday break is the perfect time for kids to take advantage of the equipment and fun at the Sports Complex. From December 26 through January 2 (closed January 1) our Open Gym will feature both general fun and organized activities. Please call 847-367-1502 for hours. The cost is \$7 per person.



Fitness Center Open House



Try out more than 50 pieces of cardio equipment including treadmills, ellipticals, bicycles, step mills, and AMT's at the Fitness Center's Open House from 5 AM to 10 PM on Thursday, December 8, at the Sports Complex. The center also features a complete circuit of Life Fitness machines, as well as free weights, stability balls and much more. Jump Start your New Year's resolution and join the Fitness Center for just a \$1 day for an annual membership, even less for seniors.



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The Village Views is published by the Village of Libertyville, Illinois, in the belief that interested and informed citizens are the safe-guard of good government.

website: www.libertyville.com

Shop Libertyville

Outdoor Winter Fun

Take a few inches of snow, some cold weather to make ice, and sprinkle in a sled, snowboard, skates or skis. You have the ingredients for outdoor winter fun in the Village. Adler Park offers an unsupervised recreational ice skating rink and a lighted sled hill. Bolander Park has an unsupervised full-size hockey rink and recreational ice rink. Nicholas-Dowden Park has a smaller ice rink for ice skating and hockey. For an update on rink conditions, please call the hot line at 847-247-5433.

Village Offices closing during the holiday season

During the holiday season, Village offices will be closed on the following dates:

- Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26**
- Friday, December 24**
- Friday, December 31**

MainStreet Dickens of a Holiday

MainStreet Libertyville sponsors Dickens of a Holiday on Saturdays, December 4 and 11. The annual event includes visits and photos with



Santa Claus in Cook Park from 11 AM to 1 PM and 2 to 4 PM and a Children's Holiday Shoppe at the Civic Center from 11 AM to 4 PM.

A luxuriant Victorian Tea begins at 11 AM both days at St. Lawrence Church. Included are genuine English Tea, finger sandwiches

and bite-sized desserts.

For more information, please call MainStreet at 847-680-0336.



Cook Museum Tours

The Libertyville-Mundelein Historical Society will host tours of the Ansel B. Cook Museum on Friday, November 26, from 7 to 9 PM, and on the first three Saturdays and Sundays in December from 12 to 4 PM.