

# Northbrook Voice

SEPTEMBER &  
OCTOBER 2024



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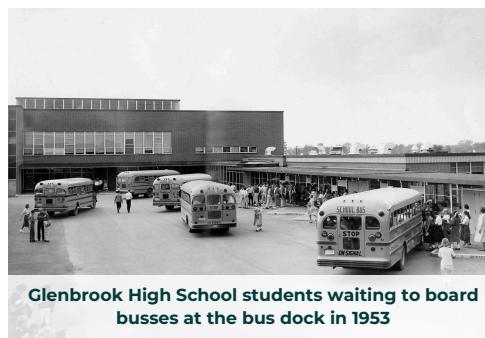
## **What Does It Mean To Be Keeper Of The Stories – Part Two**

For 50 years, the Historical Society has taken on the responsibility to tell your stories. There are stories around every corner. Stories that tell the beginning of our community, and stories that tell what's going on now. Every place you look, and every person you talk with has a story to tell. These stories are unique for each storyteller yet often have threads that tie us all together. Civic recently celebrated its 100th Northbrook Days event and on September 15, we will celebrate our annual Shermerfest from noon to 4 PM. These two outdoor festivals are the oldest in our community and are fond memories because of the joy of gathering with friends and neighbors to enjoy the fun while giving back to our community.

Each month there are milestone happenings recorded. Some of the September/October happenings are the:

- 1947 dedication of the youth center in the village Green Park
- 1953 first day of class at Glenbrook high school serving students from both Glenview and Northbrook.
- 1954 Grand opening of the Northbrook Shopping Plaza

- 1958 joint referendum passage for construction of Northbrook Junior High and Meadowhill Park.
- 1962 the first day of classes, the new Glenbrook South which changed the name of our high school to Glenbrook North
- 1963 the official opening for Northbrook direct pipeline to Lake Michigan water
- 1974 groundbreaking for the Islamic Cultural Center
- 1979 First Shermerfest and the dedication of the Sheeley Center for Performing Arts at Glenbrook North
- 1980 dedication of the North Suburban YMCA - Northbrook
- 1995 closing of the Glenview Naval Air Station
- 1999 opening of the Northbrook Library after spending a year operating in the vacant Jewel (now Sunset) store



**Glenbrook High School students waiting to board busses at the bus dock in 1953**

## **Emergency Preparedness Month**

In September, the Village of Northbrook joins communities nationwide in recognizing Emergency Preparedness Month. This annual observance, established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, aims to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and disasters.

### **Be Informed**

In Northbrook, we face the potential for severe weather events such as thunderstorms, tornadoes, and winter storms. It's crucial to stay informed about these risks. The Village recommends signing up for Northbrook Notify, our emergency alert system, which sends

critical information directly to your phone or email. Scan this QR code to sign up for notifications.



On Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 10am, there will be a Village-wide system test for all those signed up for notifications.

### **Make a Plan**

Developing a family emergency plan is essential. Discuss with your family how you will contact one another and where you will meet if separated. Identify a friend or relative in another area who can act as a central point of contact.

Last month was the anniversary of the dedication of the Hope Union Church in 1893. In October 2017, the Northbrook Historical Society became the fifth owner and first to use the building for a use other than a House of Worship. The building began as a non-denominational church. In 1924, the Northbrook Presbyterian Church added a large wing added after the original church lifted and turned to face Chapel Ct. As our Village grew, so did the church membership. In 1949, after the Village Presbyterian Church's new building opened the church became the property to St. Giles Episcopal Church and then in 1958 the Christian Science Society bought the church and 2017 sold it to the Historical Society for \$10.

In days gone by, we could gather facts about our village in the newspapers. Now we are on social media sites to gather information about the Village, opening dates for new business and restaurant. We do this because some day in the future this information will be part of the beloved memories of growing up in Northbrook for this generation. As always, we rely on you to help us gather and tell the real stories relevant to today's history and your beloved memories.

### **Build a Kit**

Building an emergency supply kit can be a lifesaver during a disaster. Essential items include water (one gallon per person per day for three days), non-perishable food (three-day supply), a battery-powered or hand-crank radio, flashlight and extra batteries, first aid kit, medications, important documents, cash, personal hygiene items, and pet supplies. Regularly review and update your kit, considering any special family needs.

The Village of Northbrook is committed to fostering a culture of preparedness. By taking these steps, residents can enhance their ability to respond to and recover from emergencies. Visit [ready.gov](http://ready.gov) for more information.



## A Message from President Ciesla Village of Northbrook

# Fall into Fall, Northbrook!

As the summer days begin to wane, it's that exciting time of year again:

### Back-to-School

On behalf of the Village of Northbrook, I am delighted to welcome all our students, teachers, and parents to a new academic year filled with promise.

Our schools are the heart of our community. They are where our children learn, grow, and build the foundation for their future. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated teachers and school staff who work tirelessly to provide a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment for students. To our students: I encourage you to embrace this new school year with enthusiasm. Each day is a chance to learn something new, to make new friends, and to take steps toward your dreams. Remember that your hard work and determination will pay off, and don't be afraid to ask questions or seek help when you need it. Your teachers, family, and entire Village are here to support you.

As a Village, we are committed to the safety and well-being of our students. Our local law enforcement and crossing guards will be out in full force to help keep our streets safe. Please remember to drive carefully, especially in school zones, and be mindful of our young pedestrians and cyclists. This school year, let's all strive to create a supportive and inclusive environment where every student feels valued and empowered to succeed. Together, we can make this a fantastic year for our entire community.

### Happy Halloween

Northbrook's official Trick-or-Treat hours are from 4-8pm on Thursday, October 31. Download a household Trick-or-Treat participation sign at [northbrook.il.us/Halloween](http://northbrook.il.us/Halloween).

Here are a few safety tips to remind trick-or-treaters:

- Walk in groups or with an adult and stay on the sidewalks.
- Wear something light colored or fasten reflective tape to costumes to help drivers see you.
- Bring a flashlight when heading out after dusk.
- Examine all treats before eating them and eat only factory-wrapped treats.
- Wear well-fitting masks, costumes and comfortable shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips and falls.
- Use a battery powered candle to light your pumpkin.
- Drivers are reminded to watch out for Trick-or-Treaters.

### New Developments

As the leaves begin to turn this fall, the Village welcomes a wave of new businesses to town, bringing fresh dining and lifestyle experiences to the community. These new establishments not only promise to enhance the local economy but also offer residents and visitors exciting new destinations to explore. Here are a few of the highlights of developments that opened their doors (or are about to) this fall.



Tesla - Northbrook is now home to a Tesla Sales, Service, and Delivery (SSD) facility at 1200 Skokie Boulevard. On August 9, the Board of Trustees and I welcomed the new Tesla facility to the Village at a ribbon cutting ceremony. If you're in the market for a new Cyber Truck or just curious about our new neighbor, go check it out!



VASA Fitness - On September 12, 2023, the Village Board approved a Special Permit for Vasa Fitness at 4125 Dundee Road replacing the former Dominick's grocery store. On June 29, 2024, the new fitness hotspot opened and is already helping local residents achieve their fitness goals.



Lazy Dog Restaurant - In late 2023, building permits were issued for Lazy Dog restaurant at 992 Willow Road, replacing the former Granite City building. Opening this fall, the Northbrook location will join over 40 others across eight states, offering made-from-scratch American food and drinks with seasonal ingredients—ideal for any dining occasion.

As we dive into this vibrant season, Northbrook is buzzing with excitement! With a new school year, an upcoming Spooktacular Halloween, and a variety of new businesses that now call the Village home, there's much to celebrate and anticipate.

President,  
Village of Northbrook

# Erika's Lighthouse Celebrates 20 Years of Youth Impact

**How Erika's Lighthouse has Impacted Over 2 Million Lives with Support in Mental Health By Nell Osborne, Mental Health Therapist, Erika's Lighthouse**

This year Erika's Lighthouse celebrated its 20th year anniversary of shedding light on depression and youth mental health. Erika's Lighthouse began in 2004 after a tragedy occurred and Erika, a 14 year old, died by suicide. For 20 years Erika's Lighthouse has grown to be an international non-profit that provides prevention and educational programs within school systems, families, and communities. One of the most impactful concepts behind Erika's Lighthouse is that they began at a kitchen table with the goal to ensure that every child has access to mental health services and can be peer led. What started as a small group of teens and adults has grown to have impacted over 535,000 students in just the 2022-2023 school year alone, which does not include the overall impact of two million.

What exactly does this mean? It means that 97% of students who receive Erika's Lighthouse educational curriculum are able to identify at least one trusted adult and 84% of students would speak to a trusted adult about their mental health. This results in a decrease in suicide rates, increased sense of community, and education surrounding mental health. Erika's Lighthouse aims to support positive mental health environments while having open conversations about mental health and mental illness. As a mental health professional within the community as well as a clinical ambassador for Erika's Lighthouse, my goal is to bridge the gap between families, communities, and school systems regarding the stigma surrounding mental health. Research has shown that community support and connection is an essential component of healthy mental

health along with healing and recovering from mental illness. Erika's Lighthouse focuses on just that- bringing the community together with education, prevention, support, and conversations.

As a community member, mother, mental health therapist, and ambassador with Erika's Lighthouse I have been hosting community fundraising events throughout the summer. Thank you to Culvers in Northbrook, Pinstripes, Goldfish Swim School, and Little Louie's for help with these events.

For additional information please visit [erikaslighthouse.org](http://erikaslighthouse.org).

## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Northbrook

**Embracing Neurodiversity: Affirming Care in Occupational and Speech Therapy**

**By Janca, Clinical Director of Amplifying Potential Therapy**

Neurodiversity affirming care in occupational therapy and speech/language therapy helps a person develop skills based on who they are at their core. Neurodiversity is an understanding that brain function is varied in the population in terms of sensory processing, motor abilities, cognition and social skills and these differences are valued. Strengths and difficulties in each of these areas are unique to each individual.

Those with neurological differences including those with ADHD, autism, dyslexia, and a variety of other conditions benefit from neuro-affirming therapy which is different from an older understanding of therapy that often aims to "normalize" individuals with neurological differences, inadvertently perpetuating a deficit-based model. By focusing on an individual's strengths and providing tailored

interventions, neurodiversity affirming therapies help build confidence and improve social-emotional well-being while they further develop communication, social, and daily living skills. A neuro affirming speech-language pathologist working with a client with ADHD knows that those with ADHD often have a natural ability to think creatively and approach problems from a unique perspective. The therapist could use this strength to help the client develop organization and planning skills.

Neuro-affirming therapy can help neurodiverse individuals learn to enjoy and participate more fully in their community. When neurodiversity is respected, accommodations are more easily implemented by the individual and their communities, which in turn helps create a richer community and culture of acceptance and inclusion.

Northbrook's Amplifying Potential Therapy (APT) offers neurodiversity affirming speech and occupational therapy services for children through young adults. APT's approach is grounded in the belief that every individual has potential that should be nurtured and enhanced. In addition to 1:1 therapy, APT offers social opportunities five days a week for neurodiverse individuals, including groups for non-speaking autistic people focused on practicing alternative augmentative communication skills alongside peers to help them connect, learn, grow, and develop communication.

By championing neurodiversity-affirming therapies, businesses like APT promote inclusivity and equity, transforming lives and enriching communities by valuing unique abilities. Learn more at [amplifyingpotential.com](http://amplifyingpotential.com).

# Meet Amy Oberholtzer

## From Living Room to Community Lifeline for Youth: Amy Oberholtzer's Journey to Founding CATCH



**Amy Oberholtzer**  
CATCH Executive Director/Founder

Amy Oberholtzer was a parent of a GBN student in 2017 and faced a reality known too well by many fellow parents – having a student that was impacted by anxiety and other mental health challenges. In response to seeing her child struggle, Amy felt galvanized to take action not only to help her own child, but to find and help other parents who were witnessing their children experiencing the same pain. From this collective concern for the health and well-being of the community's youngest members, CATCH (Community Action Together for Children's Health) was established in 2018. Amy recalls the inception of CATCH as an organic process of like minded parents deciding to take action.

"CATCH was born in my living room with moms that I had known for years way back from a preschool playgroup. I batted the idea around and they were on board and off we went."

From the outset, a key component of CATCH has been strong community involvement. The foundation of CATCH was built on the idea of dedicated volunteers collaborating to enhance the well-being of children and adolescents through a community-focused approach to health and wellness. CATCH sought to collaborate with local schools, healthcare providers, and businesses to create a support network primarily for parents and also directly for students.

This network was further strengthened by CATCH creating the Parent Support Network (PSN). CATCH's PSN offers tailored support for parents and caregivers by offering access to personalized

resources and opportunities for one-on-one connections with other parents. Additionally, participants can learn from peers in small, confidential groups. These programs help parents of children facing emotional challenges to feel less isolated and receive valuable support and advice from those who have experienced similar situations.

By 2020, CATCH was gaining momentum and making a difference in the lives of local families and like everything in society was shut down by the COVID-19 Pandemic. CATCH was able to pivot and found itself filling a growing need to aid families with children that were suffering from the Pandemic's lingering mental health effects. The wide spread adoption of virtual meetings during this time allowed CATCH to broaden its scope by offering virtual webinars and virtual education opportunities not only around the anxiety and uncertainty of COVID, but also childhood mental health in general.

CATCH has continued these virtual events and outreach efforts covering a range of topics to counteract the ever growing concerns that mental health organizations have reported in kids and teens. Throughout parenthood and her work with CATCH, Amy has never seen this such a significant level of threat to the mental health wellbeing of youth today.

"I can say unequivocally that we are in a youth mental health crisis. Kids, teens, and youth are reporting significantly increased levels of anxiety and depression. Educators we partner with are seeing a significant increase in behavior challenges, which signal discomfort and dysregulation in the minds of young people."

Amy attributes this unprecedented level of teen mental health issues to the rise of social media and digital technology, which has increased the exposure of young people to cyberbullying and unrealistic comparisons with others. To combat this, CATCH has held targeted events for parents to educate them on what their children are facing. CATCH has also launched programs and resources for students. One such program is called Coping Kits which are mental health kits given to each third, sixth, and ninth grade student in the Northbrook area schools. The contents of the kits are curated by CATCH in consultation with mental health experts to give students information and items that are meant to reduce anxiety and offer a lifeline in case the recipient finds themselves in crisis.



**CATCH Coping Kits**

Items include puzzles, fidgets of various types, scented Chapstick, and other tactile items that students can turn to as a distraction when things feel overwhelming. The kits also include step-by-step guides on how to calm down when overwhelmed and a card with a QR code that points to services that can provide support in times of crisis.

After nearly a decade of passionate advocacy through her work with CATCH, Amy has decided to retire and pass the torch to someone else to lead CATCH forward. As time goes on and the threats that CATCH combats continue to evolve, Amy is steadfast that the organization that was started in her living room will also evolve and grow.

**"CATCH has an amazing network of individuals supporting it. CATCH would not be what it is today without the volunteers, CATCH board members, families, and partners that have cared deeply about our mission to create a community approach to prioritizing the emotional well-being of our children."**



**Volunteers assemble 2,100 coping kits to support youth mental health.**

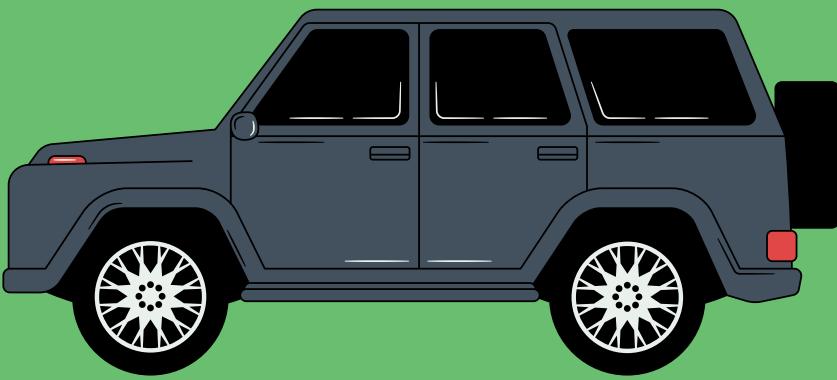
For her drive and dedication to empower families to foster emotional wellness in children, the Village is proud to have Amy Oberholtzer as this issue's Northbrook Strong Neighbor Spotlight. For more information visit [catchiscommunity.org](http://catchiscommunity.org).

# PROTECTING YOUR HOME, VEHICLE

*Ensuring the safety of your home, vehicle, and personal information is more important than ever, ensuring peace of mind.*

## AUTO THEFT:

- Lock all car doors: Ensure all doors are securely locked.
- Completely close all windows: Double-check that all windows are fully closed.
- Remove all valuables: Take all valuable items out of the car.
- Never leave spare keys in the car: Do not leave your spare keys inside the vehicle or leave it running unattended.
- Install an alarm system with GPS: Enhance security with an alarm system that includes GPS tracking.
- Park in well-lit areas: Choose well-lit locations and avoid isolated areas when parking.
- Use secure license plate screws: Install secure screws to prevent license plate theft.



## HOME BURGLARY:

- Secure all entry points: Close and lock all doors, including garage doors and side gates.
- Keep windows locked: Ensure all windows are closed and locked at all times.
- Install motion sensor lights: Set up exterior motion sensor lights for added security.
- Manage mail when out of town: ask a neighbor to pick up your mail, packages, and newspapers if you are away.
- Install surveillance and alarm systems: use video surveillance and alarm systems, such as a video doorbell.
- The Police Department offers a house watch program for residents who are away from their home for four days or more visit [northbrook.il.us/watch](http://northbrook.il.us/watch) or call (847) 664-4180.



# LE, AND PERSONAL INFORMATION

Here are some essential tips to help you protect against theft, online scams, and pickpocketing, for you and your family.



## ONLINE SCAMS:

Be cautious of scammers who pressure or intimidate you into compliance. Always verify before taking any action by contacting the company directly through their official website. Avoid clicking on links in emails from unfamiliar or suspicious sources. Report any scam attempts, whether you fell victim to them or not, to help prevent others from being targeted.

If someone instructs you to purchase gift cards for:

- Bail or ransom
- Social Security benefits
- IRS debt
- Assistance for a family member in trouble
- To reconcile a bank account balance

Disconnect immediately! This is a scam. Remember, gift cards are meant for gifts, not for payments.

## PICKPOCKETING:

- Be aware of your surroundings: Frequent bumps in a crowd may indicate pickpocket activity.
- Limit what you carry: Take only the cash and cards you need.
- Do not leave your wallet unattended in a grocery or shopping cart.
- Use secure handbags or purses: Choose bags with zippers or locking flaps, keep them closed when not in use, and carry them in front and close to your body.
- Carry wallets securely: Place wallets inside a closed coat pocket or your front pants pocket. Avoid keeping wallets in rear pockets unless they are secured with a chain or button.



# NORTHBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday, October 5  
9am-12pm**

Join the Northbrook Fire Department (and Sparky the Fire Dog) for the annual Northbrook Fire Department Open House! Kids of all ages can climb in fire trucks, talk to firefighters, and explore the station, all while learning about fire safety.

This year's Open House will have a variety of outdoor activities including live displays of fire apparatus and equipment and demonstrations by the Northbrook Fire Department Special Teams. Bring the whole family to enjoy this safety event.

The Fire Department Open House is hosted in conjunction with National Fire Prevention week (October 6-12, 2024). This year's Fire Prevention week campaign is "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!" This theme is meant to educate the public about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home. More at [nfpd.org](http://nfpd.org).



 **FIRE STATION 10 (650 HUEHL)**  
Parking will be available at 655 Huehl



# LRS Recycling and Refuse Services



The Village of Northbrook has selected LRS as its new Recycling and Refuse provider effective September 1, 2024. The normal service day will be delayed one day because of the Labor Day holiday. As LRS begins its contract with the Village, below are some key details about the LRS transition.

## Refuse and Recycling Service

Carts & material must be placed out by 6:30am on your service day. Residents may set out as many recyclable items as they wish each week for collection. Recyclable material that won't fit in recycling carts may be placed at the side of the cart. Larger or bulky boxes should be broken down before collection. Refuse disposal is limited to the capacity of your cart. Any excess refuse bags will require a sticker and need to be under 50 lbs.

## Organics & Yard Waste Service

Yard waste collection operates weekly from April 1 - November 30, on Wednesdays regardless of your regular refuse and recycling service day. This service will change to bi-weekly from December 1 - March 31. As part of LRS sustainability efforts, you may place organic waste in with yard waste. Please limit organic waste to food scraps.

## WM Cart Removal

Throughout mid-to-late August WM and LRS removed and replaced all refuse & recycling carts in the Village. If you still have your old WM cart, please reach out to WM at 800-964-8988 to schedule cart removal.

## Yard Waste Sticker Refunds - September 1 through September 30

Residents can return unused WM stickers to Village Hall for a refund between September 1 through September 30. Please note refunds could take between 4 - 6 weeks to process. LRS will also accept old WM stickers through October. LRS also has a sticker program. Yard waste must be in containers no larger than 32 gallons, biodegradable paper bags (minimum 2-ply thickness), and bundled appropriately (no more than 50 lbs. each, no longer than 4 ft., and not exceeding 2 ft. in diameter). Each item must have a sticker and be placed curbside on Wednesdays. Stickers cost \$3.25 each, and are red in color. Stickers are currently available for purchase at Village Hall.

## Contact LRS

For further details on the new service provisions, including a comprehensive list of acceptable recyclable materials and guidelines on how to properly prepare items for collection, residents can visit LRS's dedicated Northbrook page at [LRSrecycles.com/NorthbrookResidential](http://LRSrecycles.com/NorthbrookResidential), scan this QR code, or call 844.NEED.LRS (844.633.3577).



# VILLAGE HAPPENINGS

## Labor Day

### Monday, September 2

In observance of Labor Day, all non-emergency Village offices will be closed. LRS collection will be delayed by one day for the week.



### Northbrook Brewfest

#### Saturday, September 7 3-7pm

##### Village Green Park

Northbrook Brewfest returns with an afternoon of craft beer tastings, live entertainment, food, and fun for ages 21+. Purchase tickets at [nbparks.org](http://nbparks.org). This event is presented by the Village of Northbrook & Northbrook Park District.

### Paint the Prairie

#### September 7 & 8

#### 12:30pm-3:30pm

##### Techny Prairie Park and Fields

A free community event is being offered as part of the Paint the Prairie Plein Air Weekend event for artists. This free afternoon of art will include a Plein Air painting demonstration, music, artistic outlets for all ages, a nature walk with activities along the Trail Through Time, giveaways, a free prize drawing and nature and art fun for all! More information at [nbparks.org](http://nbparks.org). This event is presented by the Northbrook Arts Commission and Northbrook Park District.

## Electronics Recycling

### 1st Tuesday of the month, 7am-3pm

### 1st Saturday of the month, 9am-noon

#### Fleet Maintenance Garage (1227 Cedar Lane)

Bring your old and unused electronics to be recycled. Residents are responsible for removing items from their vehicle for contactless disposal. Do not leave items at the Village's facility outside of the recycling events.

### Shermerfest

#### Sunday, September 15

#### noon-4pm

##### Village Green Park

A classic car show & parade, a raffle, and free live music in the Village Green gazebo highlight the festival, which is a community tradition and the Northbrook Historical Society's main public event of the year. Learn more at [northbrookhistory.org/shermerfest](http://northbrookhistory.org/shermerfest).



### Rubber Ducky Race

#### Sunday, September 15

#### 3pm

##### Village Green Park

Watch your ducks as they race down the river to the finish line. Win prizes and support the people and organizations, locally and globally, who benefit from grants, scholarships, and other support from The Rotary Club of Northbrook. [go.rallyup.com/ducky2024/Campaign/Details](http://go.rallyup.com/ducky2024/Campaign/Details).

## Emergency

### Preparedness Month

#### All September

The Village of Northbrook joins communities nationwide in recognizing Emergency Preparedness Month to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and disasters. (See page 2). On Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 10am, there will be a Village-wide Northbrook Notify Test. When the test is activated, those signed up for emergency alerts will receive a notification via email, text, and/or phone call with a message indicating "This is a test of Northbrook Notify system.

## Seniorpalooza

### Wednesday, Sept. 18

#### 1-3pm

##### NSYMCA (2705 Techny Rd.)

This event brings together businesses from our local area who specialize in senior assistance, fun activities, special guest appearances, entertainment, and more! To start the event, the NSYMCA will host a special Y.E.S (YMCA Educational Series) live talk about current trends for Senior health, law, and more.

## Books on the Chopping Block

### Tuesday, September 24

#### 7-8pm

##### Northbrook Public Library

Professional actors from the City Lit Theater Company will read excerpts from the ten most frequently challenged books in the U.S. in 2023. Register at [northbrook.info](http://northbrook.info) or call 847-272-6224.

## Domestic Violence

### Awareness Month

#### All October

Domestic violence includes behaviors that physically harm, create fear, and prevent a partner from doing what they wish or force them to behave in ways they do not want. To get help call 800-799-7233 or visit [thehotline.org](http://thehotline.org).



## Fire Department Open House

### Saturday, October 5 9am-noon

##### Fire Station 10 (650 Huehl)

Parking will be at 655 Huehl. Join the Northbrook Fire Department (and Sparky the Fire Dog) for the annual Northbrook Fire Department Open House! Kids of all ages can climb in fire trucks, talk to firefighters, and explore the station, all while learning about fire safety.

## Northbrook Autumnfest

### Saturday, October 5

#### 1pm-5pm

##### Meadowhill Park

##### Northbrook Park District

Don't miss all the free fall fun at Autumnfest including bounce houses, hay rides, live music, field games, toasted marshmallows, arts and crafts, DJ, entertainers, petting zoo and food available for purchase.

Register in advance for the free sensory friendly hour from 11:30am-12:30pm using code 24195 at [nbparks.org](http://nbparks.org).

## Down Syndrome

### Awareness Month

#### All October

Down Syndrome Awareness Month is a time to celebrate people with Down syndrome and recognize their abilities and accomplishments. People with Down syndrome still face stereotypes and myths, but they've shown time and again that the condition is just one part of who they are and doesn't define them or limit their abilities.

**Northbrook Chamber's  
One Delicious Night!  
Annual Auction & Taste  
of the North Shore  
Monday, October 21,  
5-7:30pm**

**Renaissance Chicago North  
Shore Hotel**

Enjoy a festival of flavors from 20+ local restaurants and gourmet food businesses as the Northbrook Chamber of Commerce presents its Annual Taste of the North Shore fundraiser. More information and tickets available at [bit.ly/TasteofNorthShore2024](https://bit.ly/TasteofNorthShore2024) or call the Chamber of Commerce office at (847) 498-5555.



**Halloween in Northbrook**

**Thursday, October 31**

Trick-or-treating hours in Northbrook are 4-8pm on Halloween (Thursday, October 31). If you would like to alert trick-or-treaters of your household's participation, download one of the Village's signs to display on your front door at [northbrook.il.us/Halloween](http://northbrook.il.us/Halloween).



**Halloween Pet Parade**

**Friday, October 25**

**5-6pm**

**Techny Prairie Park & Fields**

**Northbrook Park District**

Show off your amazing animal friends in this annual pet event! The pet parade will be followed by a costume contest, vendor fair, and leash friendly activities in the park. Register online at [nbparks.org](http://nbparks.org).

**Halloween 3K Fun Run**

**Friday, October 25**

**6pm-7:30pm**

**Techny Prairie Park & Fields**

**Northbrook Park District**

This autumn run through the Halloween course at Techny is the perfect way to get into the festive spirit! The 3K event is followed by a costume contest and post-race fun. Register online at [nbparks.org](http://nbparks.org).

**Block Party Application**

Block parties are a tradition throughout the Village bringing together friends, families, and neighbors for fun festivities right outside your front door. These events require a permit, and you can submit the Block Party application entirely online. Visit [northbrook.il.us/blockparty](http://northbrook.il.us/blockparty) to submit an application.

**Auto Payments for Water**

**Billing**

Water service is billed quarterly and the auto payment option allows you to set up auto payment directly from your bank account to pay your quarterly water bill. The payment agreement will remain in effect until you notify us to end it, or your water account is terminated. Enroll at [northbrook.il.us/autopay](http://northbrook.il.us/autopay). For questions, call (847) 664-4171 or email [water@northbrook.il.us](mailto:water@northbrook.il.us).

**Pumpkin Smash**

**Saturday, November 9**

**Noon-3pm**

**Northbrook Court (Northeast parking lot near Neiman Marcus)**

No longer need your Halloween pumpkin? Don't throw it in the trash bring them to the Village's Pumpkin Smash event. Community members can toss pumpkins for composting, play games, meet some creepy crawlers, and learn about the benefits of organic waste recycling. Painted pumpkins can be composted, but remember to take off any decorations before throwing your pumpkin in.

**Talk**

**Around**

**Town**



**Reminder: Northbrook's 9-Month Gas Leaf Blower Ban Starts In 2025**

Starting January 1, 2025, use of gas-powered leaf blowers will be banned during the summer and winter months when their efficacy is less needed to meet landscaping expectations. They will be allowed use in the months of April, October, and November. This allows a 4-week and 8-week window during spring and fall clean up to use gas powered leaf blowers. Battery powered or electric leaf blowers are encouraged during the 9-months when gas-powered alternatives are restricted. This decision comes as part of a broader initiative to reduce noise pollution and promote environmental sustainability within the community.

**BENEFITS**

1. Limits noise level in neighborhoods - When measured at 50 feet away, average decibel levels of battery-operated blowers range from 52-65, while gas-powered leaf blowers range from 60-83. A major difference between the sounds from gas vs. electric blowers is that gas-powered leaf blowers have a low frequency, which is more able to penetrate walls and windows compared to the higher frequency noise of electric blowers.
2. Decreases air pollutants - Workers who operate commercial equipment are frequently exposed to emissions from the equipment for several hours per day, multiple days per week during periods of use. Additionally, other members of the public, including children, may also encounter high levels of emissions from commercial landscape maintenance equipment. For instance, operating a gas-powered leaf blower for half an hour can produce emissions equivalent to driving a Ford F-150 pickup truck from Chicago to San Francisco and back!
3. Safer for wildlife and the environment - All leaf blowers blast insects, habitat and soil at hurricane-force winds (up to 220 mph) affecting birds and beneficial insects like butterflies and pollinators. The use of leaf blowers eliminates essential habitat, harms soil health and leads to erosion and stormwater runoff.

**NEXT STEPS**

The Village now requires landscapers to apply for an annual Contractor Business License at no cost. Residents should inform their landscapers about this change. Complaints, including the time and location of violations, can be filed via GoNorthbrook request page at [northbrook.il.us/Service-Requests](http://northbrook.il.us/Service-Requests). Starting January 1st, the Village will offer two incentive programs—one for residents and one for businesses—to help offset the cost of switching from gas-powered to eco-friendly options. Both programs will operate on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents are encouraged to discuss the benefits of battery-powered leaf blowers with their landscapers and prepare for the changes ahead. Together, the community can make significant strides toward sustainability and environmental responsibility.

# Northbrook Voice

Northbrook Information Association  
1225 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, IL 60062

CAR RT SORT  
Non Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Northbrook, IL  
Permit 1243

**p6-7 Crime Prevention Tips**  
**p9 LRS Services Information**

**Postal Customer  
Northbrook, IL 60062**

Village of Northbrook  
1225 Cedar Lane  
Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm  
[northbrook.il.us](http://northbrook.il.us)

Village Hall..... 847-272-5050  
Village Hall Fax..... 847-272-1892  
Police/Fire Emergency . 911  
Police Non-Emergency. 847-564-2060  
Fire Non-Emergency .... 847-272-2141  
Public Works..... 847-272-4711

#### **Village Officials**

Kathryn L. Ciesla ..... President  
A.C. Buehler III..... Village Clerk  
Cara Pavlicek ..... Village Manager

#### **Village Trustees**

Robert P. Israel	Heather E. Ross
Johannah K. Hebl	Daniel H. Pepoon
Joy U. Ebhomieien	Michelle Z. Kohler

Email [pr@northbrook.il.us](mailto:pr@northbrook.il.us) with questions  
and comments

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## News You Can Use

#### **Maintaining Obstruction-free Sidewalks**

When planting near the sidewalk, it is advised to choose trees that won't intrude on pedestrian paths once they mature. Opt for tall, narrow vegetation that thrive in our urban environment. Make sure to plant them at a safe distance from the sidewalk to ensure free passage for everyone. For more information visit [northbrook.il.us/sidewalks](http://northbrook.il.us/sidewalks) or call 847-272-4711.

#### **Subsidized Taxicab**

##### **Program**

The Village's Subsidized Taxicab Program offers residents of incorporated Northbrook who are 55 years or older or disabled, an affordable transportation option. The program utilizes an electronic swipe card (ESC) to offset the metered fare. At the beginning of each month, 16 ride subsidies are automatically loaded to the participant's ESC. Each ride subsidy has a value of \$5. Learn more at [northbrook.il.us/taxi](http://northbrook.il.us/taxi).

#### **Village Recognized for Fiscal Reporting for FY23**

The Village has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award and the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award (PAFR) for fiscal year 2023 (FY23). The GFOA Distinguished Budget Award recognizes high-quality budget documents, while the PAFR Award promotes accessible financial reporting for the general public. View the FY23 Popular Financial Report at [northbrook.il.us/PAFR](http://northbrook.il.us/PAFR).

#### **Apply for a Village Commission**

Are you interested in getting involved with local government? Help shape the future of Northbrook by applying for a commission! By joining a commission, you will take part in making recommendations and creating change in Northbrook. Appointments are on a volunteer basis. Learn more and fill out an application at [northbrook.il.us/board-Commission-Membership](http://northbrook.il.us/board-Commission-Membership).