

MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFF

COPY: VILLAGE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DEPARTMENT HEADS

FROM: Richard Nahrstadt, Village Manager

DATE: May 3, 2013

RE: STAFF BRIEFING

WEEK OF APRIL 29, 2013

STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY

On Wednesday, May 1, the Village held the 56th Annual Student Government Day. This Northbrook tradition provides students with a taste of the day-to-day operations of local government and offers a behind the scenes view of how the Village, Library and Park District conduct business. This year, thirty-four 8th grade students participated from each middle school that serves Northbrook (with the exception of Solomon Schechter Day School as they were on a trip to Israel).



The students spent the morning shadowing their “counterpart”, either a professional staff member or elected official from the Village of Northbrook, the Park District or Library. In the evening, the students participated in a mock Village Board meeting. This year’s problem asked the students to consider residential bee keeping. Following student staff presentations and discussion, the student Board of Trustees voted 5-2 in favor of allowing bee keeping at a community apiary, but not at residential properties.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

The Community Relations Commission held a regular meeting on Thursday. The Interfaith Sunday event, which was held on April 21, was reviewed. All and all, it was felt to be a great success. For the next event, which will be held in 2015, several suggestions were provided: providing each participating House of Worship with a banner, moving the welcome/kick-off to a House of Worship on the far Northwest side of town to increase visitation, and providing further outreach to outside communities to participate. Commissioner Goldsher noted that she will be stepping down as the liaison to the Clergy Association so this position will need to be filled by another Commissioner. The Taste of Asia event is this Sunday, May 5 from 12:30pm to 3:30pm at the North Suburban YMCA. It should be a great event with a lot of programming focused on the youth. The Welcome to Northbrook/Flamingo Fridays Kick-Off event will be on Friday, May 17 from 5:30 to 7pm in front of the Village Hall. Pizza, popcorn, and Dilly Bars will be provided.

In light of the recent tragedy at GBN, as well as those that occurred over the course of last summer, the Commission would like to develop a community forum in order to address some of the needs or concerns of the Youth, as well as adults, in our community. A subcommittee will meet to further plan on Thursday, May 16 at 7pm.

Both James Hyun and Bob Lozaro were thanked for their dedication and service to the CRC, as well as the community as a whole, and they were wished the best of luck in their future endeavors. The next meeting of the Commission will be on Thursday, June 6.

ARTS COMMISSION

The Arts Commission met on Thursday, May 2. The Commissioners discussed details about the July 13 & 14 Art in the Park event, including the need for volunteers to assist during the event. An Arts Commission Subcommittee will meet on Monday, May 6 at 10:30am to discuss details of a youth art activity for Art in the Park. The Commissioners are also exploring options to host a Yoga Class just prior to the Art Show on Sunday, July 14.

It was noted that the April Arts Workshop was a success with 17 artists participating and a \$1,400 profit. There are still openings for Spring Pastel Portrait Workshop, May 4 & 5, from 9am to 4pm, at the Village Green Center. The cost is \$125. For information about arts events and workshops visit www.northbrookarts.org. The Commissioners expressed their appreciation of the Park District's donation of the Village Green Center for the workshops. The Commissioners approved \$200 for prize money for the Youth Commission's Youth Film Fest; \$270 to fund cash prizes for the YMCA's Jr. High Juried Art Show in November; \$450 for a partial sponsorship of the Legacy Girls for the Historical Society's Shermerfest in September; and \$1,500 for Rock the Green – Battle of the North Shore Youth Bands on June 7. The next Arts Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, June 6 at 7pm.

1000 SKOKIE BOULEVARD – WALMART APPLICATION FILED

On April 29, Walmart submitted its zoning and subdivision relief application for the property at 1000 Skokie Boulevard. Over the next three weeks, Village staff will be reviewing the application for its completeness and compliance with Village regulations. Once staff has finished its review, staff will determine if the application is ready for a public hearing before the Plan Commission. The earliest possible date for a Public Hearing would be June 18, 2013. Public Hearing notices will be posted on line at www.northbrook.il.us and reminders sent via Northbrook Notify.

POLICE OFFICER MEMORIAL CELEBRATION

Chief Wernick and representatives from both Police unions, Investigations and Patrol, attended celebrations this week in Springfield in honor of National Police Week. This annual event is attended by thousands of law enforcement personnel to honor fellow Officers who have given their lives in the performance of their duties. The Department's motor unit, represented by Officer Tom Fiedler, rode the department's motorcycle in the motorcade. The ceremonies included a morning church service, a state ceremony held on the Capitol grounds and the playing of taps. National and county celebrations will be held later in May.



FIRE DEPARTMENT DIVERS ASSIST IN SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILD IN DES PLAINES RIVER NEAR MAYWOOD

On May 1, the Cook County Sheriff and City of Maywood requested mutual aid assistance with the search for a missing one-year-old boy, allegedly murdered and thrown into the Des Plaines River by his mother and boyfriend late last month. MABAS Division 3 Divers, including Northbrook's Bob Gangloff, along with divers from Wilmette, Des Plaines, and Evanston were sent to the scene with the Division 3 boat package and Northbrook's Dive Rescue 10 to conduct a detailed search of key areas targeted by cadaver dogs and areas left after the flooding.

MABAS Dive Teams from Division 1, 3, and 24, a Chicago Police Department helicopter, search dogs and others, extensively searched the area from I-290 north to Lake Street with no signs/evidence of the missing child. After all areas had been searched, and further review of any potential key target areas discussed, the teams agreed to halt any further searches at this time until more information becomes available. Sheriff Tom Dart and the City of Maywood were appreciative of the efforts of all that assisted.

ILLINOIS BONE AND JOINT INSTITUTE INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM AT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Throughout April, Orthopedic Surgeons and Physical Therapists presented an educational program to firefighters and paramedics including classroom and workout sessions. The focus was on anatomy and physiology of commonly injured joints including the spine, knee and shoulder. The types of injury were analyzed in class, then proper strengthening and fitness techniques were taught and demonstrated in the workout facility. Funding for the strength and conditioning program was provided by a shared grant from IRMA.



ANNUAL ASPHALT STREET RESURFACING PROGRAM

Work relating to the annual asphalt street resurfacing program continued this week with the Village's contractor, Curran Contracting, beginning to remove pavement throughout the Northbrook Estates portion of Area 1 (see photo). The contractor is installing temporary driveway ramps where necessary to ensure that residents retain access throughout the duration of the project. Once the pavement removal is complete, the contractor will begin laying the first layer of asphalt. Residents in the Northbrook Estates area were hand delivered a notification informing them of the upcoming work. This notification was also placed on the *Construction Projects* page of the Village website (www.northbrook.il.us/ConstructionProjects).

As a part of the annual asphalt rehabilitation program, the Public Works Department identifies streets that have experienced localized deterioration, but do not warrant complete replacement of the pavement. Patching these streets is a cost effective method for extending the useful life of the roadway. Over the past week, Curran Contracting has also worked to patch various streets throughout the Village. This portion of the project will continue through the next week.



SPRING PARKWAY TREE PLANTING

In the coming weeks, the Public Works Department will begin its spring parkway tree-planting program. The Village will be planting 357 new trees, which include 229 Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) replacement trees, 46 trees for residents participating in the cost share program, 71 trees to replace those that were lost due to utility excavation or other right-of-way work, and 11 trees to replace those removed during private construction. Planting locations are marked with a wooden stake in the parkway.



Public Works crews have been preparing for this work since last fall by removing dead or dying trees, including over 200 trees infested with EAB. Once the parkway trees are removed, the Village’s contractor, Accurate Tree Services, grinds the stumps and a Public Works crew cleans the area and restores the parkway with soil and grass seed. The photo depicts the parkway after the stump has been removed, but before restoration is completed. In addition to removing trees and restoring the parkway with black dirt and seed, staff works hand in hand with residents to select the type of tree that best fits the location on the parkway and the homeowner’s preferences.

This year’s parkway tree planting program is partially being funded by a \$15,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for the reforestation of trees lost to the EAB. This grant will pay for approximately 54 of the 229 EAB replacement trees. On a similar note, earlier this week the Village received payment from the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus in the amount of \$20,000 for the EAB reforestation portion of last spring’s parkway tree planting program.

NORTHFIELD UNION CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS

The Northfield Union Cemetery is one of two cemeteries maintained by the Village and the Public Works Department has been actively working to improve its appearance. Over the past year, the road traveling through the cemetery was repaired and a fence was installed to help separate the cemetery from Dundee Road. This week, shrubs were planted along the fence (see photo) and 19 new trees will be installed later this month as part of the spring planting program. Upon completion of the improvements, staff will work to advertise the cemetery in an effort to sell plots, of which approximately 80% are available. Proceeds from the sale of the plots are used to fund ongoing maintenance of the cemeteries.



WEEK OF MAY 6, 2013

SUN.	5/5	12:30-3:30pm	TASTE OF ASIA EVENT - YMCA, 2705 Techny Road
MON.	5/6		No Meetings
TUES.	5/7	7:30 p.m.	Plan Commission - Board Room
WED.	5/8	9:00 a.m.	Firefighters Pension Board - Shermer Study
		7:00 p.m.	Bicycle Task Force - Cancelled & Rescheduled to 5-22
THURS.	5/9	5:30 p.m.	Architectural Control Commission - Terrace Room
		7:00 p.m.	Sr. Services Commission – Crestwood Place
FRI.	5/10		No Meetings
SAT.	5/11		
SUN.	5/12		Mother’s Day