

NORTHBROOK

OCTOBER 2012



Open House at the Fire Department

In recognition of Fire Prevention Week, the Northbrook Fire Department will be hosting its 27th Annual Open House on Saturday, October 13

All are invited to the Open House at Fire Station #11, 740 Dundee Road, from 9am to noon on Saturday, October 13. The fire engines, aerial ladder truck, squad truck and ambulances will be on display for your viewing. Firefighters and Fire Prevention Inspectors will be available to answer questions that you may have.

Children will enjoy the free give-a-ways, including fire helmets, stickers, coloring books, and more.

This year's theme aims to educate how important it is to have a home fire escape plan that prepares your family to get out quickly when the smoke alarm sounds.

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Early Voting Begins October 22

The Northbrook Village Hall is once again an early voting site for registered voters.

Early Voting is available Monday – Saturday from 9am to 5pm, Monday, Oct. 22 through Saturday, Nov. 3.

Questions? Contact Village Clerk Debbie Ford at 847/664-4013.

Voter Registration

Tuesday, October 9, is the last day to register to vote for the November 6 election. The Village Hall is open for voter registration from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday-Friday. If you have a question about voter registration, call 312/603-0906. Those who register to vote after October 9 may do so during Grace Period Voting, which begins Oct. 10 through Nov. 3. For locations that offer this service visit www.cookcountyclerk.com, as it is not available at the Village Hall.

Voting By Mail

Voting by mail (*formerly Absentee Voting*) is a convenient way to cast your ballot. Any registered suburban Cook County voter that is unable to vote in person may vote by mail ballot. Call 312/603-0946, to request a mail ballot or download the mail ballot at www.cookcountyclerk.com. The last day to apply for a mail ballot is five days before the election.

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TRICK OR TREAT HOURS

Trick or Treat hours on Monday, October 31 are 3 to 7pm. Welcome Trick or Treaters by turning on your porch lights. See page 4 for details.



Business Briefs

Business Highlight: Bell Flavors and Fragrances

As a new series for the Business Briefs page, the Village will be highlighting a Northbrook business of which many residents may not be aware

Bell Flavors and Fragrances,

located at 500 Academy Drive, has called



Northbrook

home for over thirty-one years. This year, the company is celebrating 100 years of operation, having started as a flavor company in Chicago in 1912 and opening its doors in Northbrook in 1981.

Bell Flavors and Fragrances, with its world corporate headquarters based here in Northbrook, is the largest privately held flavor and fragrance company based in the United States, with a strong global presence in Mexico, South America, Canada, China and Germany. In 1981, Bell had 30 employees in Northbrook; today, this number has increased to over 175.

When one looks at the company's portfolio, it is amazing to see the number of consumer products with which Bell Flavors and Fragrances is involved — many of which are used daily in homes and businesses in Northbrook and around the world. From adding flavors to products to provide character and recognition to a specific food to adding fragrances to personal care products, laundry detergents and cleaners, Bell Flavors and Fragrances continues to be committed to improving upon its customers' day to day experiences and overall quality of life.

For more information visit Bell at www.bellff.com

Downtown Plan Implementation

The Village continues to work on implementing initial elements of the Downtown Plan presented to the Village Board of Trustees earlier this year

In August the Village Board directed staff to proceed with the following items:

- The Village will study zoning and development regulations to ensure they encourage the appropriate types of redevelopment in the downtown. The study is to commence this fall and findings to be presented in the spring of 2013.
- Staff will continue to assist downtown property owners and brokers with finding desirable retail and restaurant tenants for available downtown commercial space.
- During the FY13-14 budget process, staff will present a comprehensive streetscape maintenance program for the downtown. A long-term program for incorporating streetscape elements into the Village's five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) will also be presented.
- In the near future, staff will present the Village Board with a contract for

professional services to further study the creation of a regional stormwater facility behind the Village Hall that would facilitate the development of identified redevelopment sites in the downtown. If the study determines that a facility would be beneficial, a more detailed analysis will take place to see if amenities, such as recreational facilities, could also be incorporated into this area.

- Late this year the Board will discuss property maintenance enforcement policies in the downtown.
- Staff will continue efforts to educate the community regarding the opportunities and challenges of encouraging redevelopment in the downtown.

As Village continues to implement the downtown work program, look for more information on the Village's progress in upcoming issues of *Northbrook*.

New Businesses

Please welcome the following new businesses to Northbrook:

Chicago Car Loft 3670 Commercial	Halloween Express 307 Skokie Blvd.	Neel Tredz Spa Northbrook Court	Technoworld Northbrook Court
Clarks Shoes Northbrook Court	Hand Made Gifts Northbrook Court	North Shore Family Pet 300 Skokie Blvd.	Vapor Solutions Northbrook Court
Crisp-N-Clean Cleaners 1015 Waukegan Rd.	Helisphere Northbrook Court	Phantom Skinz Northbrook Court	Verizon 840 Willow Road
Dollar Tree 1965 Cherry Lane	LifeWave Institute 3113 Dundee Road	Rosati's Pizza 2833 Dundee Road	
Eye Design 3055 Dundee Road	Monita Italian Leather – Northbrook Court	Soothing Elements Wellness Spa – Northbrook Court	

If you have questions or suggestions about business development or know of a new business in Northbrook, please contact David Schoon, Economic Development Coordinator at 847/664-4052





Notes from Village President Sandy Frum



One positive outcome of our overly hot and dry summer is that it has allowed the construction process on various projects in the community to stay on or ahead of schedule. Dry weather always helps to keep projects moving forward, which helps to minimize the negative impacts of construction on residents, businesses and those who use our roadways.

In particular, construction on Techny Road has been moving forward with very few delays. The storm sewer installation on Techny Road was

completed in September and the associated installation of storm sewer on Pfungsten Road is planned to be completed by mid-October. While there is still a lot of work to do (roadway repaving, site restoration), we remain optimistic that the positive impact of the dry construction season will help to get Techny Road up and running (and open to two-way traffic) more quickly than originally planned. Thank you for your patience. Please keep an eye on the Village's website for important construction updates, and remember to travel slowly and carefully in construction zones.

Commuter Parking – New Payment Options on the Horizon

The Village is currently exploring the purchase of automated parking machines for the downtown commuter lots. The machines would allow commuters to pay for parking using numerous options including coins, cash, debit/credit cards and even by using a smart phone. These machines will also provide a receipt with payment. We expect this new equipment to offer greater convenience for those who utilize the commuter parking lots. Staff is currently reviewing proposals submitted by vendors and will be presenting a recommendation to the Village Board in the near future.

GO Request

Last month, we announced the launch of the Village's new, much enhanced service request system, GOREquest. If you haven't had the opportunity to download the GOREquest App (either iPhone or Android), I would encourage you to visit the Village's website at www.northbrook.il.us/GOApp to do so. This system

allows residents and businesses to contact the Village at your convenience, and track the progress of the request. You don't need a smart phone to use the system — simply visit the Village's website and enter your request on the online form. Of course, you can always call Village Hall at 847/272-5050 to request service as well.

Sustainability Plan Underway

Earlier this year, the Village and Park District partnered to jointly create a sustainability plan for the Northbrook community. The consultant that was selected to develop the plan, the Delta Institute, has been working on gathering community input for the plan. In September, an online survey sought feedback from numerous stakeholders in the community, and in October, two forums for public input are planned. The first will be held on October 3 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. This will begin with an overview presentation followed by several small group discussions in order to develop key action items and draft measurable goals. These discussions will be facilitated by a combination of project team members and Northbrook residents that have volunteered to assist. A follow up meeting is scheduled for October 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Leisure Center, 3323 Walters Avenue, and will revisit the findings and offer additional opportunities for input. I would encourage you to participate in these forums – they will provide invaluable input on the draft plan that both the Village Board and Park District Board will review later this year.

Our Website is Your Window to the Village!

A common theme among my communications to residents and businesses is that if you need/want to know something about community events, Village operations or finances, or are simply curious about Northbrook, the Village's website is the "window to the Village". The breadth of information that is provided at www.northbrook.il.us is tremendous. Stop by often!



Happy Halloween!

Monday, Oct. 31, is "Trick or Treat" day in Northbrook. Suggested trick or treat hours are 3pm to 7pm. To welcome trick-or-treaters, switch on your porch lights or any exterior lights.

Play it Safe on Halloween

Here are a few safety tips for parents to remind their trick or treaters:

- Walk in groups or with a trusted adult and stay on the sidewalks.
- Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you

- Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them.
- Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers. Eat only factory-wrapped treats.
- Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.
- Keep candle-lit jack-o'-lanterns and luminaries out of the reach of pets and small children, and never leave them unattended.
- Drivers are reminded to watch out for trick-or-treaters and to drive safely.

Trick or Treat for UNICEF

For many years, Halloween has been recognized as National UNICEF Day and children have shared the holiday for 62 years by Trick or Treating for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). UNICEF is helping millions to better health around the world by assisting governments to develop programs for control of disease, education, maternal and child care. Please welcome young people who carry the official UNICEF collection boxes. For more information contact Georgina Winters, Sr. Rep for the US Fund for UNICEF, at 847/498-0558.

Regulations Regarding Political Signs

The Village of Northbrook supports every citizen's right to free speech.

As election time approaches, we want to remind you of the regulations that are in place regarding the proper placement of political signs in the Village.

Political signs cannot be placed in the parkway, the publicly-owned area between the sidewalk and the road, but are allowed in your yard. They also cannot be placed in other public properties such as schools, parks or the commuter parking lot.



Each property can have one sign for each candidate or ballot issue position. If you have a corner lot, you can have one sign on each street frontage.

Individual signs cannot exceed six square feet in area.

Please make sure your signs are posted following these simple rules so that you can properly show support for the candidate of your choice. Removing illegal political signs is an extremely time consuming task for Village personnel and we ask for your cooperation. If you have questions regarding political signs, please contact the Development & Planning Services Department at 847/664-4055.

Fall is Here and the Leaves are Falling

Before you begin to rake your lawn, residents are reminded that there are three landscape disposal options: composting, mulching and collection. Collection reminders: Yard waste must be in bio-degradable bags with yard waste stickers attached or use a 32 gallon can marked "Yard Waste" and loop the sticker on the handle.

Stickers are \$2.05 each and are available from Veolia (847/272-4145), the Village Hall and Dominick's. Bags/Stickers are available at Northbrook Ace Hardware stores, Jewel, Red's Garden Center and Sunset. Ferraro Garden Spot sells bags only. Landscape waste pick-up runs through the end of November. For details visit www.northbrook.il.us/YardWaste



Village Board Highlights

Proclaimed

- October 7 - 13, as “Fire Prevention Week” in Northbrook.
- October 24-31, as UNICEF Collection Days in Northbrook.
- October as “Illinois Arts and Humanities Month” in Northbrook.

Recognized

- Northbrook Community Nursery School on their 60th Anniversary.

Amended

- The Northbrook Zoning Code concerning the expiration and renewal of authorized zoning variations.

Approved

- Disposal of six fleet vehicles, one confiscated vehicle and various automotive parts at the October 20 NWMC Auction in Mt. Prospect.
- A resolution concerning construction on State Highways and in State Rights-of-way.

Authorized

- Expenditure for the purchase of LifePak 15 Cardiac Monitor, \$24,475.
- Purchase Agreement for acquisition of fee simple title to property located at 2000 Illinois Road, \$40,000.
- Contract for Door Access System Upgrades at Northbrook Public Buildings, \$20,397.
- Agreement for Final Engineering Design of the FY 2012/13 Stormwater Improvements Projects.

What’s Playing? On NCTV Channel 17

Here is the schedule for Northbrook Community Television, Cable Channel 17.

7:00am & 3:00pm

Where Is Northbrook Now?

8:00am & 4:00pm

The Northbrook Historical Society presents a Historical Cemetery Walk

9:30am & 5:30pm

Spotlight on Northbrook Arts featuring Luthier John McHugh.

11:30am, 7:30pm & 11:30pm

Northbrook! The Video Newsletter

12:00pm, 8:00pm & 12:00am

Talk Around Town with Jack & Susan with Oakton Community College Senior Manager of Marketing Janet Spector Bishop.

12:30pm & 8:30pm, 12:30am

NCDAA FOCUS Danger! Toxic

Chemicals—an Inhalants Prevention Video

1:00pm & 9:00pm

NCDAA Parenting Series with Gale Dreas, LCSW; *Top 10 Tools For Parenting Your Teen.*



Fire Safety tips to Review with Everyone in Your Family

Northbrook’s firefighters are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention, protection, and education.

Fire safety is enhanced when family and friends actively join together with firefighters as a fire safety team. The reality is that when fire strikes, your home could be engulfed in smoke and flames in just a few minutes.

This year’s theme aims to educate the community on how important it is to have a home fire escape plan that prepares your family to think fast and get out quickly if the smoke alarm sounds. What if your first escape route is blocked by smoke or flames? That’s why having two ways out is such a key part of your plan.

The theme, *Have 2 Ways Out*, focuses on the importance of fire escape planning and practice and having working smoke alarms in your home. In recognition of Fire Prevention Week, the Northbrook Fire Department will be hosting the 27th annual Open House on Saturday, October 13, from 9am to noon at 740 Dundee Road.



10th Annual Juried Art Show Opens at the Library

Opening Reception, Friday, October 12, at 7:30pm

The Northbrook Public Library will celebrate its tenth year of annual juried art shows with the opening of *Journeys*, featured October 12 through November 30. A public preview and reception will start at 7:30pm on Fri., Oct. 12 at the Library. The opening event will include music, refreshments, viewer’s choice and the opportunity to speak with the artists. The 74 works chosen for the show include drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, ceramics, photography and mixed media.

Exhibit catalogs will be available throughout the Library and on its website at www.northbrook.info. Admission is free. For more information call 847/272-7074 or by email at artshow@northbrook.info

Sign Up for Parent University

Parents—Don't miss this once a year opportunity to attend the *Northbrook Citizens for Drug and Alcohol*



Awareness Parent University on Saturday, November 3 at GBN.

Only \$25 per person by Oct. 22 or \$30 per person after Oct. 22 or at the door.

The job of parents is indeed challenging. It is difficult

to know what to do and how to do it! Children do not come with manuals and it is difficult to be consistent in decisions regarding our children's behavior. The day begins with a Keynote presentation at 8:20am entitled "Parenting is Not for Wimps!!!"

Following the keynote by Char Wenc, there will be numerous workshops featuring a variety of professional speakers. Sign -up

"Becoming a parent is a gift, while parenting itself is a learned skill."

Char Wenc

early to make sure you get your first choice of Parent University classes.

For a full description of classes and the official registration form, as well as

information about free baby-sitting and CPDUs, please download the complete brochure at www.ncdaa.org or www.nbparks.org or pick up a brochure at the Village Hall, Northbrook Library, YMCA or the Park District or call 847/272-7870. Sign up today!

Session #1 9:30-10:40am

11 - **I LOVE YOU, AND THE ANSWER IS NO** - This session will identify the powerful parenting skills to set limits with consistency. *All*

12 - **TOP TIPS FOR QUIBBLING SIBS**
You will be given tools for lessening sibling rivalry and for strengthening your children's relationships with each other. *Preschool - 5*

13 - **REDUCING NEGATIVE EMOTIONS**
It is very important for children to learn how to recognize and to communicate their emotions. *All*

14 - **THE FOUR Rs OF PARENTING TEENS: ROCKIN'-TALKING, RESPONSIBILITY-TAKING, RULE-MAKING, AND RISK-TAKING**
The presentation will focus on how teens can accept themselves, be independent, and grow into responsible adults. *Grades 6 - 12*

15 - **DEMYSTIFYING EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING IN YOUNG CHILDREN: HOW TO PROMOTE AND FACILITATE HEALTHY GROWTH THROUGH PLAY** -
Learn about executive functioning skills in young children, what they look like in the preschool years, and how early childhood experiences can influence later development. *Preschool - 5*

Session #2 10:55am-12:05pm

21 - **I LOVE YOU, AND THE ANSWER IS NO**
Repeat of 11. *All*

22 - **"I WANT IT, BECAUSE I WANT IT" FACTOR: CHILDREN FEELING ENTITLED** - Learn how children interpret their environment, and why what parents do matters when it comes to raising appreciative children. *Preschool - 4*

23 - **GETTING IN ON THE GROUND FLOOR: TALKING ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA BEFORE YOUR CHILD IS ON FACEBOOK** - Setting smart boundaries, understanding how social media really works in young people's lives. *Grades 4-7*

24 - **ACTING OUT TEENAGERS: HOW TO CHANGE BAD BEHAVIOR** - This workshop will discuss what can be done to change bad behavior. *Grades 6 - 12*

25 - **WHAT I WISH YOU KNEW**
This powerful program features students and information to help recognize the signs of teen depression. *Grades 5 - 12*

26 - **A FRESH APPROACH TO THE STUBBORN BULLYING PROBLEM**
A different approach. *Grades 5 - 8*

27 - **SELF-ESTEEM: BUSTING MYTHS & BUILDING CONFIDENCE**
Learn how to encourage self worth and acceptance in your child while fostering competence and responsibility. *Grades 1 - 5*

Session #3 12:20-1:30

31 - **THE THINGS WE DO THAT SHAPE OUR CHILDREN AS TEENS AND ADULTS**
Five crucial areas will be addressed. *Grades 1 - 8*

32 - **GETTING IN ON THE GROUND FLOOR: TALKING ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA BEFORE YOUR CHILD IS ON FACEBOOK** - Repeat of 23. *Grades 4 - 7*

33 - **IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT: NURTURING & PURSUING TRUE HAPPINESS IN OUR CHILDREN**
Explore how we obtain true happiness. Hint: It is not about material possessions! Learn "happiness building blocks," and how to apply them to your family! *Preschool - 4*

34 - **A FRESH APPROACH TO THE STUBBORN BULLYING PROBLEM** -
Repeat of 26. *Grades 5 - 8*

35 - **THE BOUNCE-BACK CHILD: RAISING CONFIDENT AND SOCIALLY SMART CHILDREN WHO SURVIVE AND THRIVE** - Learn what you can do to foster your child's strengths and supports as a means of promoting resilience. *Gr. 2 - 5*

36 - **REDUCING NEGATIVE EMOTIONS**
It is important for children to learn how to recognize and communicate their emotions. You will learn how to recognize and reduce the three major negative emotions: anger, anxiety, and sadness. *All*

Village Happenings

The Northbrook Garden Club will hosts its first evening program, **"Bringing New Life to Old Gardens,"** Tues., Oct. 2 at 7pm, at the Northbrook Public Library.

Purdue Varsity Glee Club performs Sat., Oct. 6, 7:30pm at Christian Heritage Academy, 315 Waukegan Road, Glenview. Tickets \$20. Proceeds benefit Youth Services of Glenview-Northbrook. Call 847/724-2620 or visit www.youthservices-gn.org

Enjoy the **Sunday Fine Arts Fall Concert Season** at the Library –every Sunday in Oct. at 2pm.

Free pumpkin & decorating for kids from 9:30am to 12:30pm, Wed., Oct. 10 at the **Northbrook Farmers Market**, Cherry & Western. Children in costume receive an early Halloween treat.

It's not too late to sign up for the **Free Community Trivia Challenge**, Sat., Oct. 13 from 7 to 10pm at the North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Rd. Interested? Visit www.northbrook.il.us/Trivia or call 847/664-4032.

The **North Suburban Y** opens its doors to the public with a **free Grand Re-Opening Celebration** on Saturday, October 13. For details visit www.nsymca.org or call 847/272 7250.

Northbrook Autumnfest! Free Family Fun on Sat., Oct. 13 from 3-7pm at Meadowhill Park. Enjoy musical entertainment, the Talent Showdown, I-Spy Trail Ride, costume contest, pumpkin chuckin', a bonfire, games, food, and more. Get ready for the pumpkin-carving contest and the pumpkin-crushing dinosaur. Reds Garden Center is an event sponsor.

The **Northbrook Community Art Associates** will enjoy a guided tour of the Sanfilippo Estate in Barrington. It has the finest collection of automatic instruments, antiques, and artifacts on Oct. 16 or Oct. 18. Call 847/564-2686 for lunch and tour reservations. Non members welcome.

Goldilocks and the Three Bears opens at the Northbrook Theatre, on Sat., Oct. 20. Performances are on Saturdays at 10:30am and 1pm through November 24. Tickets \$8/\$10 online and at the door. Visit www.nbparks.org or call 847/291-2367.

Daisy's Girls: Juliette Low and 100 Years of Girl Scouting – Sat., Oct. 20 at 2pm, Library Auditorium – Actress Betsey Means portrays Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low, founder of the Girl Scouts. Program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the Northbrook Historical Society.

City of Ghosts – Tues., Oct. 23, 7pm, Library Auditorium – Professional magician and historian presents an evening of supernatural. *Program is suited for ages 12 and older.* Sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the Northbrook Historical Society.

The **Northbrook Park District Senior Center**, at 3323 Walters Avenue, offers a wide variety of programs for adults, age 55 and over. Enjoy fall trips, movies, lectures, computer classes and more. For details call 847/291-2988, or visit www.nbparks.org

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** Course provides citizens with the basic skills needed during a major disaster. Free classes for CERT training are held at the Northbrook Fire Department beginning the end of this month. Classes begin soon, phone 847/272-2141, ext. 7222, or contact david.crawford@northbrook.il.us

Get into the Halloween spirit at the YMCA's 5th Annual Spooky Halloween Party on Saturday, October 28 from 2 to 6pm. Party admission is free or \$10/family for non-members. Visit www.nsymca.org or call 847/272 7250.

The **Northbrook Park District will host a Holiday Bazaar** with gifts for all ages on November 1 and 2 at the Leisure Center. Vendors can rent an eight-foot table or space, starting at \$30. For more information, call the Senior Center at 847/291-2988.

Parent University Registration Short Form

For a full brochure and registration form with details on free childcare and CPDUs, visit www.nbparks.org to register on-line or download a complete registration brochure & form at www.ncdaa.org or call 847/272-7870.

Registration Fee (before Mon., Oct. 22) \$25.00 per person \$ _____

Registration Fee (after Oct. 22 or at the door) \$30.00 per person \$ _____

MAIL TO: NCDA A Parent University, 1710 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60062

Make checks payable to NCDA A

Name _____ Address _____

City - State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Email _____

Night Phone _____ Child's School _____

Workshop Selections-first-come, first-served. Every effort will be made to honor your choices. Indicate 1st & 2nd choices for each session.

Session		Code	Workshop Title
1	1st Choice		
	2nd Choice		

Session		Code	Workshop Title
2	1st Choice		
	2nd Choice		

Session		Code	Workshop Title
3	1st Choice		
	2nd Choice		

Yes, reserve space for Free Childcare! *First-come, first-served basis for children 3 yrs. to 5th grade, toilet trained only. In lieu of this short form, please fill out the full registration form available at www.ncdaa.org or sign up on-line at www.nbparks.org.*



THE VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK

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village@northbrook.il.us
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Hours; Monday–Friday, 8:30 am–4:30 pm

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

Village Officials:

President: Sandra E. Frum

Village Clerk: Debra J. Ford

Village Manager: Richard A. Nahrstadt

Village Trustees

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This newsletter is published ten times a year by the Northbrook Information Association

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Our new GORequest makes it easier than ever to contact the Village with your questions, concerns and compliments. Visit www.northbrook.il.us/GORequest or scan this QR Code for mobile access.

Historian's Corner

presented by the Northbrook Historical Society

Did you know that our Fire Department was founded prior to the Incorporation of the Village?

The Department began with a group of civic-minded men who wanted to provide fire protection for the community. Within a few months a hand-drawn, hand-operated pumper and hose were purchased and by April of that year a permanent volunteer fire department was in operation.

About 1912, the volunteers adopted a resolution calling for a public water system in the Village of Shermerville. By 1917, instead of using wells and cisterns, the department began to draw water from the 23 newly installed fire hydrants. Some of that original infrastructure is still in use.

In the early years, when the fire bell rang, volunteer firemen closed their businesses and grabbed whatever horses were in town

to hitch to the fire pumper. Later, after the first motorized truck was purchased, downtown merchants would still close their businesses to join other volunteers to fight a fire.



Fire apparatus on display in front of the Northbrook Fire Station in 1945. The building is now the Civic building and home to the Northbrook Chamber of Commerce.

It wasn't until 1964 that the first full-time fire fighters were hired to augment the volunteers. The paid department worked five days a week and the volunteers worked nights and weekends.

Four years later, the department became a full-time paid department. In 1973, the first ambulance was purchased and the Paramedic program was instituted.

In 1980, after 79 years of service to the community, the Volunteer Fire Department was dissolved by a vote of its members. The Village then instituted a paid-on-call system to provide extra personnel at fires and community outreach events.

Today, the Northbrook Fire Department has three fire stations staffed by well-trained professional fire fighters and paramedics who serve our Village with honor and distinction. October 7 to 13 is Fire Prevention Week.

Stop by the Fire Department Open House on October 13 to learn more about the Northbrook Fire Department.

See the front page for details.