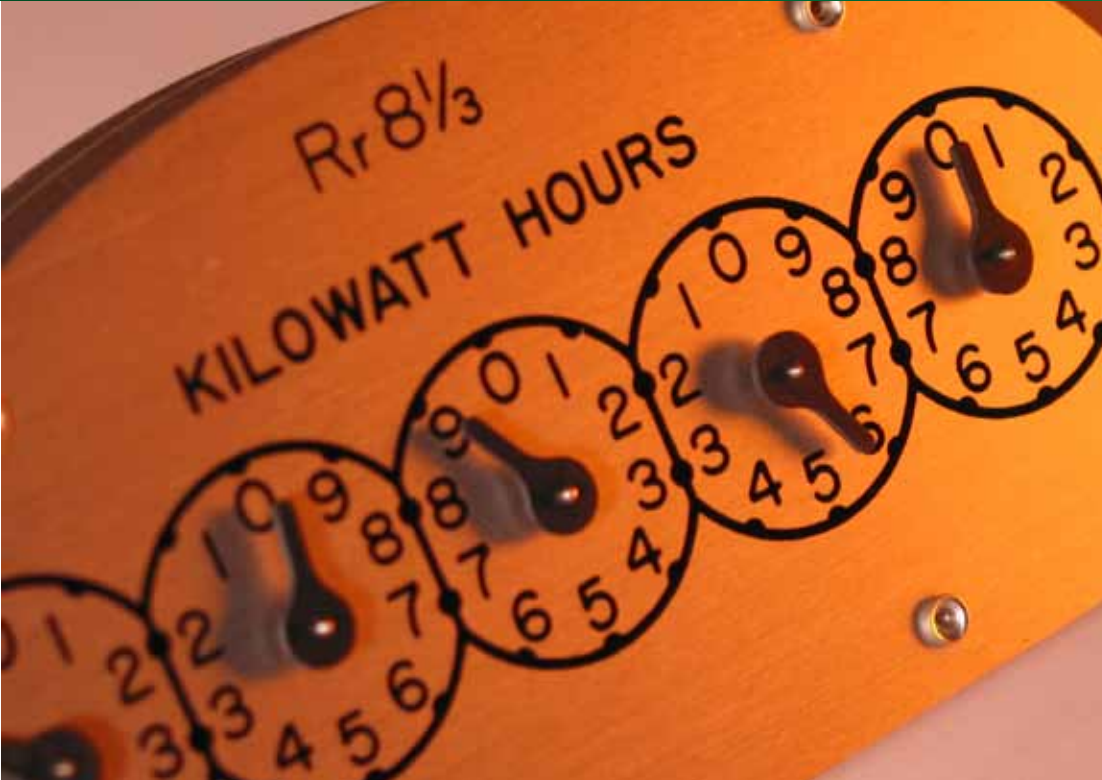


# NORTHBROOK

MARCH 2012



## Early Voting at the Village Hall

Early voting runs through Thursday, March 15. Early voting hours are Mon.- Sat., 9:00am to 5:00pm.

### Do you Know Where to Vote on Tuesday, March 20?

Please note your precinct may have changed. Due to redistricting, voters may have a new precinct and/or polling location. For details visit [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com) Visit our website at [www.northbrook.il.us/PrecinctMap](http://www.northbrook.il.us/PrecinctMap) to view the Cook County Precinct Map for Northbrook.

### Vote by Mail

Voting by mail is a convenient way to cast your ballot. Any registered suburban Cook County voter may apply for a mail ballot. It is no longer necessary to provide a reason for absentee voting. To obtain an application to vote by mail, visit the website below or call 312/603-0946.

To check your registration or for details about grace period registration, visit [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com) or call 312/603-0900.

If you have any questions contact Village Clerk Debbie Ford at [debbie.ford@northbrook.il.us](mailto:debbie.ford@northbrook.il.us) or 847/664-4013.

## Electrical Aggregation

As a homeowner or small business owner, you may be wondering what the term electrical aggregation refers to, and how it may or may not impact you.

### March 20 Referendum Question

Since Electrical Aggregation is a referendum question on the March 20 Ballot, the following Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will help you better understand what it means for consumers.

### What is electrical aggregation?

Electric aggregation combines the retail electric loads of customers, so the community can leverage the buying power of thousands of residents and small businesses. Public Act 096-0176 (2009) allows municipalities to arrange for the provision of electricity to residential and

*continued on page 2*

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**CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS,  
CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES  
Spring forward on March 11  
and remember to change the  
batteries in your smoke alarms.**

# Electrical Aggregation FAQs

Continued from page 1

small commercial retail customers by alternative electric suppliers (i.e. suppliers other than ComEd).

Under the new law, the Village may seek bids for the provision of aggregate electricity supply services to these customers, in hopes that the selected rate will be lower than the standard rate offered by ComEd.

## What is the referendum on the March 20, 2012 election ballot?

Voters will be asked:

*“Shall the Village of Northbrook have the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such a program?”*

Should the Referendum pass, the Village will then seek competitive bids utilizing the **North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium** (a joint purchasing cooperative consisting of eight communities: Northbrook, along with Deerfield, Glencoe, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, Lake Forest, Park Ridge and Skokie) in an effort to obtain bids that would secure a lower electricity rate for residents and small commercial users.

Once a contract is approved, the Village will work with ComEd and the new provider to ensure that all individuals eligible for the new rate are automatically transferred to the new supplier unless they have previously opted out. If the Referendum does not pass, the Village of Northbrook will not be able to participate in the Consortium’s joint purchase.

## Will there be a public information process?

The Village will provide information through its normal communication outlets including the Village website, newsletter and Facebook page. In addition, the Village will host public hearings regarding the draft *Plan of Governance and Operation (POGO)* for the aggregation process. The POGO can be found at [www.northbrook.il.us/ElectricalAggregation](http://www.northbrook.il.us/ElectricalAggregation). The next public hearing will be held on March 13 at 7:30pm as a part of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

## Are all residential units in the community eligible?

All residential customers would be eligible (except those receiving ComEd’s Residential Space Heat Rate; those participating in hourly pricing programs; and those with existing supply contracts with an Alternative Supplier) unless they choose to opt out of the Village’s bidding process.

## I have a small business – does this impact me?

It may. The Act designates that residents and small commercial retail customers are eligible for aggregation. Small commercial retail customers have been defined as having a peak demand of less than 100kW.

## What component of the electrical bill will aggregation effect?

Aggregation addresses only one of the three components of an electricity bill. The three components are supply (where the power comes from), transmission (getting the supply from its point of

origin or from the high voltage grid), and distribution (getting the electricity from the substation to the consumer’s meter). Aggregation concerns only the supply component, which is typically at least 50% of the electricity bill. The transmission and distribution parts of the bill will be unaffected by aggregation.

## Will there be any difference or disruption in service because of aggregation?

No, there will be no disruption in service. The only difference will be that the energy received will be from a different supplier at lower rates. ComEd would continue to deliver energy to homes and businesses. Customers would also continue to receive a ComEd bill and utilize ComEd payment options such as Budget Billing and Automatic Payment. Any outages or requests for service would continue to be directed to ComEd. This process does not impact ComEd’s commitments to the Village to improve their system and to deal with reliability issues.

*Aggregation concerns only the supply component of your bill, which is typically at least 50% of the electricity bill. The transmission and distribution parts of the bill will be unaffected by aggregation.*

For more information, please contact Assistant Village Manager Philip Kiraly ([philip.kiraly@northbrook.il.us](mailto:philip.kiraly@northbrook.il.us)) at 847/664-4012 or Management Analyst Kendal Maltas ([kendal.maltas@northbrook.il.us](mailto:kendal.maltas@northbrook.il.us)) at 847/664-4017.





# Notes from Village President Sandy Frum



Last month the Village Board began its' review of the Downtown Plan Steering Committee's recommendations regarding the Draft Downtown Plan, a copy can be found on the Village website at [www.northbrook.il.us/DowntownPlan](http://www.northbrook.il.us/DowntownPlan).

I look forward to further discussions among the Village Board and commissions and the community as we seek to facilitate viable improvements in our downtown.

On behalf of the Village Board, we would like to thank the members of the

Downtown Plan Steering Committee for their tireless efforts to help the staff and consultant team formulate a new plan for the Downtown based on their shared vision. We would also like to thank the many members of the public that demonstrated their interest in the community by participating in the many outreach efforts throughout the planning process.

### **Village Budget for Fiscal Year 2012/13**

Those interested in the Village's budget process are encouraged to attend a meeting on Sat., March 3 at 9:00am at the Village Hall, when the Village Board will be discussing the draft budget for the 2012/13 fiscal year. Draft budget books and the workshop agenda are available for review at the Village Hall or at the Northbrook Library Reference Desk during business hours, and are posted on the Village's website. In addition to this Budget Workshop, there will be a Public Hearing on the Village Budget in April. Look for more information in the next issue of the Village newsletter or visit [www.northbrook.il.us](http://www.northbrook.il.us).

### **Severe Weather Preparedness and Northbrook Notify**

As part of your severe weather preparedness "toolkit" make sure you sign-up for Northbrook Notify, the Village's community communications tool. Signing up is easy. I encourage every household and business in Northbrook to sign up for two reasons. First, the system enables you to sign up a cell phone number so we can contact you in emergency situations whether you are at home or away. Second, the system includes a feature

to sign up an email address for non-emergency communications ranging from meeting agendas and road closures to special events and special reports. Please visit [www.northbrook.il.us](http://www.northbrook.il.us) today. For more information on Severe Weather Preparedness see page 6.

### **Our New Water Tower is Fully Operating**

In February, our new water tower was filled to its operating level and the old water tower was taken offline and emptied. Pressure relief valves that have been placed on fire hydrants to help prevent water main breaks will remain in use during March while water pressure in the distribution system continues to stabilize with the operation of the new water tower. However, if you see water coming up from the pavement, the parkway, or if you notice significant amounts of water running/ice build-up in the gutter of your street, it could be a water main break. If you believe there is a main break, please contact the Public Works Department at 847/272-4711 between 7am and 3pm or the Police Department at 847/564-2060 between the hours of 3pm and 7am.

### **Electrical Aggregation on the March 20 Ballot**

I encourage you to avail yourself of information related to electrical aggregation and to understand the Referendum question on the March 20 ballot. Please see page 2 for a list of Frequently Asked Questions or visit [www.northbrook.il.us/ElectricalAggregation](http://www.northbrook.il.us/ElectricalAggregation).

### **Comments?**

As always, your comments are welcomed, please send me an email at [village@northbrook.il.us](mailto:village@northbrook.il.us) or call the Village's General Government Department at 847/664-4010.



## Skunks Around Northbrook

The Village encourages residents who encounter a skunk den on their property to call Northbrook's Animal Control Officer at 847/664-4470. Residents will be given information on how to keep skunks out of their yard, as well as contact information for local wildlife trapping contractors to remove nuisance animals from their property. For more information, please visit [www.northbrook.il.us/Skunks](http://www.northbrook.il.us/Skunks)

*Northbrook residents may have noticed an increase in skunk activity in their neighborhoods.*



## A Tip from the Northbrook Police

The Northbrook Police Department has noticed a rise in the use of *skimming devices*. A *skimming device* is an attachment that thieves put on ATM's to steal information. Often appearing as part of the ATM the device is a faceplate that goes over the area you would normally insert your ATM card. The skimmer "reads" the information on the

magnetic strip of your ATM card, and your transaction proceeds normally. However, the skimmer has taken your information and a nearby hidden camera has recorded your PIN. If your ATM looks different than usual, give the faceplate a tug. Skimming devices come off easily. If you encounter a skimming device please call 911.

## Earth & Arbor Day

**Saturday, April 21, 9:30am-2pm, Rain or Shine, on the Village Green**

The Village of Northbrook, the Environmental Quality Commission and the Northbrook Park District remind you to save the date for the Earth/Arbor Day Celebration! Start Organizing Your Earth Day Team by gathering your friends, family, organization members and scout troops to help clean up Northbrook.

We are also looking for groups and businesses to showcase environmentally friendly products and ideas at our Earth and Arbor Day Expo. Please contact Dan Kaup, Assistant to the Village Manager at [dan.kaup@northbrook.il.us](mailto:dan.kaup@northbrook.il.us) or call 847/664-4016 for more information. Look for more event details in next month's newsletter.



# Village Board Highlights

## Recognized

- The life saving efforts of Dr. Stephen Valfer.
- Members of Hadassah for their 100th Anniversary.

## Amended

- Annual Fee Ordinance to increase Class A and Decrease Class E Liquor Licenses.

## Authorized

- Annual Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Program funding appropriation for various residential streets, \$1,000,000.

- Purchase of 20 Computers and related equipment for use in all Public Safety Vehicles, \$118,900.
- Contract for the West Fork North Branch Chicago River Bank Stabilization Project, \$4,000.

## Approved

- Third amendment to the Lake-Cook Corridor Agreement and the termination of the 1987 Red Roof Inn Agreement.
- Permit for a wall sign at 1324 Shermer Road, Edible Arrangements.

- Annexation Agreement by and between the Village of Northbrook and the Northbrook Park District annexing and zoning 180 Anets Drive.
- Permit for a single family home renovation in the Village Green Overlay District, 1199 Shermer Road.
- Special Permit to allow the operation of a Child Day Care Service Facility, Wyspa Dzieci Learning Center, 755 Huehl Road.

## What's Playing? On NCTV Channel 17

Here is the schedule for Northbrook Community Television, in March:

7:30am & 3:30pm

*What to do When the Siren Sounds* – Severe Weather safety preparedness.

8am & 4pm

*Youth Quiz Show* – Presented by the Northbrook Youth Commission featuring local Jr. High Schools competing in this fun “game show” style quiz bowl.

9:30am & 5:30pm

*Spotlight on Northbrook Arts* – Terry O. Luc interviews Bonnie LeCat

10am & 6pm

*The Parade of the Century* – Featuring 100 fire trucks, both old and new, from across the country.

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

*Northbrook! The Video Newsletter*

12 & 8pm & 12am

*Talk Around Town with Jack & Susan* Jack and Susan interview 4th of July Committee chairs Shari Bergstein and Sharon Latek.

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

*NCDA FOCUS Young Drivers: The High Risk Years*

1pm & 9pm

*Parenting Is Hard Work!* – An educational lecture on successful parenting skills hosted by Bob Leece.

## Watch Village Officials in Action!

Most Village Board and Plan Commission meetings are streamed live on our website at [www.northbrook.il.us](http://www.northbrook.il.us) and cablecast on Northbrook Community Television – Cable Channel 17. AT&T U-Verse subscribers can tune to channel 99 and search Northbrook. All cablecast meetings are also archived on-line. Watch a meeting on line, visit [www.northbrook.il.us](http://www.northbrook.il.us) and click on “Meetings and Agendas”



## The Northbrook 4th of July Association Needs You!

Make a commitment to the community and volunteer to help plan the 4th of July in Northbrook. There are a variety of committees that need your help. Meet some wonderful neighbors and be a part of our community tradition.

Visit [www.northbrookjuly4th.org](http://www.northbrookjuly4th.org) or come to a meeting on Wed., March 21, 7pm at Fire Station 11, 740 Dundee Rd.

For information contact [info@northbrookjuly4th.org](mailto:info@northbrookjuly4th.org) or leave a message at 847/272-1963.

# Severe Weather Preparedness

Every year lives are threatened or lost and property is destroyed by severe weather events.

There are a variety of severe weather hazards that affect Illinois, including thunderstorms and tornadoes. Tornadoes pose the greatest severe weather risk to residents of Illinois. An average of 27 tornadoes occur in the state every year. Severe thunderstorms can also produce very damaging winds. They can cause significant structural damage to buildings, especially weaker structures.



## Know the Terms Used to Describe a Tornado or Severe Thunderstorm Threat:

- **WATCH** – A tornado or severe thunderstorm is possible. Watch the sky and listen to the radio or television for more information. Be prepared to take shelter.
- **WARNING** – A tornado or severe thunderstorm has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. For a tornado or severe thunderstorm warning, take shelter immediately, turn on a battery-operated radio or television, and wait for the “all clear” announcement by authorities.

## What You Should Know About the Outdoor Warning Siren System



*Northbrook has an outdoor siren warning system installed throughout the community. The system consists of a series of sirens strategically located and is intended to provide warning of impending danger. It is possible that you may only hear the sirens if you are outside.*

### Warning System Activation

The system is designed to notify the community by Alert Warning and Attack Warning signals. The signals are standardized for outdoor warning devices by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### Alert Warning

An Alert Warning signal is a 3 to 5 minute steady siren. This signal is used during a severe weather emergencies in the event of a tornado or funnel cloud sighting. The reporting area includes a ten-mile perimeter around the Village. The Alert Warning signal shall indicate to all persons to “immediately seek shelter, turn on your radio or television, and listen for essential emergency information.” Please note, severe weather watches are reports of weather conditions in which tornadoes could occur. The warning system is not activated for severe weather watches.

### Attack Warning

An Attack Warning signal is a 3 to 5 minute wavering siren. This signal means that an actual attack against the United States has been detected and that the Federal Emergency Broadcast System has been activated. According to federal government guidelines, “this signal will be used for no other purpose and will have no other meaning.”

### Reactivation

Once it is activated, the warning sirens will not be reactivated for the same incident. The warning sirens will be reactivated only for new, confirmed incidents.

### All Clear

In keeping with established policies, the Village of Northbrook will not issue the all clear announcement for any Alert or Attack signals. Please monitor commercial radio and television for further information as well as the Village website at [www.northbrook.il.us](http://www.northbrook.il.us).

# Village Happenings

**56th Annual Village Pancake Festival**, Sat., Mar. 3, 7:30am-2pm, at the Village Presbyterian Church at Shermer and Church. All you can eat for \$8, \$4 for children & under 5 free. Entertainment, door prizes, and more! Proceeds support Bernie's Book Bank and Northbrook Youth.

**South America's Greatest Hits** – Sat., Mar. 3, 2pm. World traveler and storyteller Bill Helmuth leads an exciting tour of South America at the Northbrook Library.

The Maple PTO is teaming up with USM-e to host an **Electronic Recycling Drop-off Event**, on Sat., Mar. 3, 8am to 2pm at Maple School, 2370 Shermer Rd. A list of acceptable donations is available at [www.district30.k12.il.us](http://www.district30.k12.il.us)

**Marketing: The Engine that Powers Your Business** – Tues., Mar. 6, 7 p.m. David Kirshner, Chair of Score Chicago, presents strategic utilization of pricing, promotion, product planning distribution and the Internet. Call 312/353-4540 to register.

**Oscar Scores: Winners and Losers** – Thurs., Mar. 8, 7pm. Journalist Dorothy Andries explores the most memorable (and forgettable) tunes that have won Academy Awards, as well as some worthy and influential scores that didn't win. Program co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

**Experience a grand and memorable concert** on Sat., Mar. 10, with world-renowned composer and conductor Dr. John Leavitt. **The Northbrook Community Choir**, a program of the Northbrook Park District, is hosting the concert at 7:30pm in the Regina Dominican H. S. Auditorium in Wilmette. Four other local choirs also will participate. Grants from the Northbrook Arts Commission and Illinois Arts Council provide partial funding for the event. Tickets \$8/advance and \$10/door. Call 847/291-2367.

**2 Piano/4 Hand Concert Series**, Sunday afternoons, Mar. 11, 18, and 25 at 2pm. Check the March Library newsletter for more information on musicians and repertoire. Concert series is sponsored by the Northbrook Arts Commission.

**Fame - The Musical**, will rock the Northbrook Theatre on Mar. 11, 17 and 18, presented by the Northbrook Theatre Children's Company. Show times are 12:30 and 4pm. Tickets at [northbrooktheatre.org](http://northbrooktheatre.org) or 847/291-2367. Seats \$8/advance or \$10 online/door.

**Interested in meeting new people?** Come to a **Northbrook Civic** meeting on Mon., Mar. 12, at 8pm, at 2002 Walters Ave. Featured speaker is Jessica Steinberg, a resident who founded [giveablegiggles.org](http://giveablegiggles.org). Visit [www.northbrookcivic.com](http://www.northbrookcivic.com) for info.

An **AARP driving program** on March 12 and 13 from 9am-1pm can guide adults toward safer driving habits. Drivers who complete the two-day course may qualify for insurance discount. The fee is \$12/AARP members, \$14/non-members. For reservations, call 847/291-2988 or visit [nbparks.org](http://nbparks.org).

**Life and Times of Eleanor Roosevelt**, Tues., Mar. 13, 7pm. Solo historical dramatist Roberta Randall portrays Eleanor Roosevelt. Program is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the Northbrook Historical Society.

The **Northbrook Community Art Associates** will present a lecture at the Chicago Art Institute on the evolution of castles and cathedrals from the Romanesque to Gothic periods. Transportation, lecture, lunch, and tour are included with the reservation for Wed., Mar. 14, 9:45am-3:45pm. Call 847/564-1051.

The **Northbrook Symphony Orchestra** presents **"Symphonic Scandinavia,"** a concert featuring a pairing of two thrilling, life-affirming works by two 19th century Scandinavian masters. Sun., Mar. 25, 4pm, at the GBN Sheely Center. Free pre-concert lecture starts at 2:30pm. For info and tickets visit [www.northbrooksymphony.org](http://www.northbrooksymphony.org) or call 847/272-0755.

**Treasures, Trinkets and One-of-a-Kind Finds**, at the North Shore Senior Center Spring Sale, Fri., Mar. 30, 8:30am-3pm and Sat., Mar. 31, 8:30am-noon, at 161 Northfield Rd., Northfield. Free antique appraisals on Fri. For more info or to make a merchandise donation, call 847/784-6000. Proceeds benefit North Shore Senior Center.

A **Parkinson's Support Group** for person's with Parkinson's, their care-partners, caregivers, and families, meets from 10am to noon at Covenant Village, on the second and fourth Monday of the month. Call 847/509-0927 to register.

**Northbrook Community Garden, Inc.**, awards organic garden plots to Northbrook residents behind the Village Hall or at Crestwood Place. Email [brianbrucesr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brianbrucesr@sbcglobal.net) or call 847/498-5008 to be placed on a waiting list.

A **Memory Loss Support Group** for families and caregivers dealing with Alzheimer's and other dementias meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm at Covenant Village of Northbrook, 2625 Techny Road, Northbrook. Call 847/412-7303 for information.

**Attention Northbrook residents! Become part of the Northbrook Historical Society**, The Keepers of the Stories. Contact Membership/Volunteer Director at 847/272-4960.

The **Northbrook Woman's Club Foundation** offers **scholarships to Northbrook residents** who are graduating from high school or who are current college/technical school students. Applications are at the guidance office of GBN and seniors can apply through their Naviance account.

The **Northbrook Woman's Club** will meet at noon on Thurs., April 5 at the Northbrook Park District Sports Center, 1730 Pflugsten Rd. The meeting will feature Kellie O'Brien from English Gardens Limited. A light lunch will be served. Call 847/559-8997 for reservations.

The **Chicago Curling Club** offers a variety of events and opportunities. Call 847/564-9877 or visit [www.curlingchicago.org](http://www.curlingchicago.org)

The **Northbrook Nurses Club** has **scholarships** available to Northbrook residents enrolled in an accredited school of nursing. Call 847/564-4866..

The **Cancer Wellness Center**, 215 Revere Dr., offers free programs and services for anyone impacted by cancer. Call 847/509-9595 or visit us online at [www.thecancerwellnesscenter.org](http://www.thecancerwellnesscenter.org)

Register now for **Y Summer Camp**. Download the complete camp guide at [www.nsymca.org](http://www.nsymca.org) and start planning today.

Stop by the Village Hall during business hours and visit the **Village Art Gallery** featuring the paintings by Northbrook Artist Alan Friedlander and Ceramics by YMCA Young Artists will be in the Art Display Case.

**Free Blood Pressure Testing** at all three Fire Stations, every Sat. 9am - noon.

**Save the Date! This year's "Art in the Park – A Northbrook Fine Arts Festival"** will be held July 14 and 15 on the Village Green! Interested in volunteering? Please contact Kendal Maltas at [kendal.maltas@northbrook.il.us](mailto:kendal.maltas@northbrook.il.us)



## THE VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK

www.northbrook.il.us  
village@northbrook.il.us  
1225 Cedar Lane  
Northbrook, IL 60062

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

**Editor:**

Cheryl Fayne-dePersio  
cheryl.fayne@northbrook.il.us

Northbrook Information Association  
1225 Cedar Lane  
Northbrook, IL 60062

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# Historian's Corner

presented by the Northbrook Historical Society

Just 27 of the homes and businesses built in the Village prior to 1901 are still standing. Eighteen of the structures have a plaque giving the date they appeared on the tax rolls. Four of these pre-1901 buildings are in plain sight on Shermer Road in downtown Northbrook. Another is "hidden" inside a brick building.

The first of the Shermer Road buildings is the Kiest home built circa 1892 at the corner of Shermer and Church Street. The blue Queen Anne house at 1351 Shermer was built circa 1894. Across the street, the building housing the Landmark Inn looks nothing like the original built circa 1885 to house Otto Funke's saloon.



The Landmark Inn circa 1885

The last of the four Shermer Road frame buildings began as a store built circa 1892. In the late 1920s it was clad in brick when a large addition to the store was built. Can you guess which brick building houses a building inside? (See photo on the right.)

The building originally located at the corner of Waukegan and Shermer was moved to the Village Green Park in 1975. Built circa 1894, it served as an overnight stop on the two-day trip from Chicago to Milwaukee. In 1901, the Frank Bartelme family purchased the Inn and established Bartelme's Northfield Inn. A dance pavilion, restaurant, picnic area, and bowling alleys added to its popularity.

The Inn closed its doors in 1973. Now, it is home to the Northbrook Historical Museum at 1776 Walters Ave.

The Bank Financial building wraps around the 1892 Kiest/Melzer Store. The wall along the parking lot is part of the original building. Depending on your viewing angle, you can still see the original roof peeking out above the brick façade.

