

NORTHBROOK

MAY 2013



Celebrating Asian Cultures at Taste of Asia

Annual Event Celebrates Diverse Asian Cuisines and Cultures. Experience *Taste of Asia* on May 5.

The Northbrook Community Relations Commission invites all to enjoy enticing food and exciting activities during the “Taste of Asia” festival on Sunday, May 5 from 12:30 to 3:30pm at the North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road.

The free event will feature art and artifacts exhibitions, demonstrations, music, dance performances and a wide selection of delicious dishes to purchase and sample.

Bring your friends and family to enjoy an afternoon of entertainment and exhibits showcasing Asian culture.

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Northbrook Residents Continue to Save on Electricity Rates

The North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium (NSEAC) has secured electricity rates of 4.990 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for June 2013 through May 2014 billing cycles for residential and eligible small commercial customers for the second year of a three-year contract with MC Squared Energy Services (mc2).

ComEd recently announced that its residential rate for the same period will be 6.047 cents per kWh. The Consortium’s rate represents a modest 3% increase over the current Consortium rate of 4.836 cents/kWh, and results in savings of more than 17% when compared to ComEd’s new rates.

Since the program began in June 2012, the 70,000 residents and businesses of the consortium communities are projected to realize savings of over \$26 million off of ComEd rates. Specifically in Northbrook, residents are projected to save an average of over \$400 in the first 12 months. In total, Northbrook customers are projected to save over \$4.7 million in the period of June 2012 – May 2013.

New residents or those that may want to become a mc2 customer may call 888/808-7731 or register online at www.northshoreelectricityaggregation.com There are no fees to join or switch to mc2.

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MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Please note the Village Hall will be closed on Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day.

Taste of Asia

A Variety of Entertainment for the Whole Family

Enjoy entertainment and exhibits highlighting the diversity of Asian culture, including participants representing Bangladesh, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippines,



Thailand and Russia. There will be a variety of music offerings including Korean and Russian Children's Choirs, Japanese singing, a Filipino band, and a Thai instrument ensemble.

Artisans will offer Asian pottery, henna hand painting, colorful jewelry and artifacts, and Chinese painting demonstrations. Dance performances, and other activities will take place throughout the afternoon on

Sunday, May 5 from 12:30 to 3:30pm at the North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road. Visit www.northbrook.il.us/TasteofAsia for details. Questions? Call 847/664-4017.



Vehicle Stickers & Pet Licenses Available in June

Our easy to use renewal applications will be mailed to your home or business at the end of May.

All motor vehicles registered to a Northbrook address (residential or business) are required to have Village vehicle stickers. Only persons residing within the corporate limits of the Village are allowed to purchase a Northbrook vehicle sticker.

Your mailing should contain all vehicle and animal applications as applicable to each household or business. Carefully review the form and return both copies to the Village. If either your vehicle or pet information has changed, modifications may be made directly on the form. Your stickers/tags, along with your receipt, will be mailed to you promptly after June 1. Stickers must be displayed by midnight, June 30.

Persons living in unincorporated Northbrook must only purchase a Cook County vehicle sticker. These are available at the Northfield Township office, 847/724-8300.

New this Year! Support 4th of July and Receive a Special Vehicle Sticker

Residents will have an option to make a donation, minimum \$20 per sticker to help support Northbrook's 4th of July festivities. There are only 2,000 special vehicle stickers, so purchase yours early.



The standard vehicle sticker features a logo to remind drivers not to drive distracted. Every single time you take your eyes off the road or talk on the phone while you're driving - even for just a few seconds - you put yourself and others in danger.

Coffee with the Board



The Northbrook Village Board will host a Coffee with the Board on Saturday, June 1, from 9am to 11:30am, to coincide with the first day of vehicle sticker sales.

This meet-and-greet opportunity at the Village Hall, 1225 Cedar Lane, provides a venue for the public to speak with Village Board members and Village President Sandy Frum in an informal setting. Residents are invited to express opinions, ask questions and provide input on items of interest in the Village. Village staff will also be on hand to answer questions and sign up residents for Northbrook Notify.

Notes from Village President Sandy Frum



I wanted to begin this month's message with a sincere thank you, as I am pleased to have the privilege to serve as your Village President for the next four years. At the May 14 Village Board meeting I, along with Trustees Michael Scolaro, Todd Heller, Kathryn Ciesla and Village Clerk Debbie Ford, will officially be sworn in to office. On behalf of the Village Board, we look forward to continuing to serve the residents and business in Northbrook.

In my first term as Village President, my goals were to improve storm water management, update the Comprehensive Plan, and to renew the Village's focus on the downtown. These goals were achieved,

yet other critical decisions remain. We are now in the process of implementing the Stormwater Master Plan, revitalizing our Central Business District and making decisions about future developments, in addition to maintaining a balanced budget.

Northbrook's Fiscal Year begins May 1.

I am pleased to announce that the Village Board once again passed a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2013/14. A copy of our Annual Budget is available at www.northbrook.il.us/Budget Please see page 6 for more information.

The State of Illinois' ongoing fiscal crisis continues to threaten the Village's fiscal stability. The State has failed to make meaningful changes to our Police and Fire Pension benefits; they have suggested that our local sales tax be redistributed to other communities; they have attempted to raid the Distributive Fund to balance their budget. All these put great pressure on the local property tax. I will continue to educate and lobby our Legislators to protect our sources of revenue.

Business development relates directly to our financial security. We must continue to have a diverse tax base. Northbrook has a great diversity of business in our borders, more than most citizens realize. It's also important to consider Northbrook Court and our other retail centers as we plan for our downtown developments and our last few vacant parcels of property, particularly the northwest corner of Dundee and Skokie and the 1000 block of Skokie Blvd.

We must continue to approach development in a thorough, thoughtful way in order to guide the Board's decisions for our community now, as they will certainly impact our future.

Skokie Boulevard Development Projects.

770 Northshore

The developer of the proposed Mariano's and luxury apartment building at the northwest corner of Dundee Road and Skokie Boulevard has submitted a formal application, which is currently being reviewed for its completeness and compliance with Village regulations. Once staff's review of the application is complete, the date of the Plan Commission public hearing will be set. The very earliest the public hearing could occur would be early June.

1000 Skokie Boulevard

Walmart has been in contact with Village staff regarding its intent to submit a formal application for the property at 1000 Skokie Boulevard. As of the date of writing this story, Walmart has yet to submit an application.

Comments

It will be a busy four years as Northbrook continues to grow and prosper. Please visit www.northbrook.il.us or watch for updates in next month's newsletter. As always, your comments are welcomed, please send me an email at village@northbrook.il.us or call 847/664-4010.

Memorial Day in Northbrook

After the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, I, along with others, will be speaking at the traditional American Legion Memorial Day ceremony. Please join me to honor our local veterans and take part in this brief ceremony. I also encourage all Northbrook residents to fly your American Flag throughout the weekend. For details on this year's Memorial Day events see page 4.



Memorial Day Weekend Events

Don't Miss the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 27

Honor our local Veterans

The Northbrook Memorial Day Parade steps off from the corner of Cherry and Western at 10:30am and continues east on Cherry/Church to the Village Green. Bands from local schools will be marching and performing following the parade. All are encouraged to attend the traditional American Legion Memorial Day ceremony at the Village Green Park immediately following the parade.

Posting Flags on Veteran's Grave Sites

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, May 25 at 10am, for the Posting of Flags on Veteran's Grave sites at the Sacred Heart Cemetery on Lee Road, just north of Dundee Road. The posting of approximately 150 flags takes a few hours. All residents are welcome to participate and any organization that wants to *adopt* a cemetery is encouraged to do so. American Legion Post 791 has an ample supply of flags for this purpose. Please call 847/421-7892 for details.

Show Your Patriotism – Fly Your Flags All Weekend

Take a few minutes and display your flag. If you don't have a flag, purchase one from one of our local hardware stores!

Get Ready to Bid at the Police Auction on Saturday, May 11

The Northbrook Police Department will be conducting the annual auction of recovered and unclaimed property on Sat., May 11.

Unclaimed property recovered by the Police Department during the previous year will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. This year's property will include recovered bicycles, clothing and other miscellaneous items.



Viewing of the property will begin at 9:30am. Visitors should park in the rear lot of the Police Department and enter the basement through the east-side door. Winning bids may be purchased by cash or check with valid ID. Items must be removed immediately, as nothing can be stored for later pick up.

The auction will be held in the basement of the Northbrook Police Department, 1401 Landwehr Rd., at 10:00am.

Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics

Please consider sponsoring Northbrook Police Officers who will participate in the Torch Run on Sunday, June 10.

The Special Olympics mission remains as vital today as it did when the movement was founded in 1968. Through the power of sport, Special Olympics strives to create a better world by fostering the acceptance and inclusion of all people. One hundred percent of all donations go directly to the Illinois Special Olympics. All checks should be made payable to "Special Olympics Illinois" and mailed to the Northbrook Police Department, 1401 Landwehr Rd., Northbrook, IL 60062. If you have any questions regarding your participation on behalf of the Northbrook Police Department, contact Crime Analyst Mary Carlyon at 847/564-2060.



Construction Season Begins

Now that warmer weather is here, so is road construction both locally and regionally.

Below are highlights of Village projects and other regional construction projects scheduled this year.

Village of Northbrook Projects

The Village of Northbrook strives to maintain the Village's water, sewer, and surface infrastructure in a safe and stable condition. There are several projects scheduled for the 2013 "construction season" and web pages have been established for each of the projects to provide residents with current information on the status of these projects. Projects include Asphalt Street Resurfacing, Water Main Replacements, Concrete Street Rehabilitation, Stormwater Management Projects, including Ridge Road/Lee Road, Cedar Lane, Western Avenue/Oak Avenue and the Shermer Road Underpass.

Lake Cook Road and Waukegan Road

The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways will be reconstructing a portion of Lake Cook Road and Waukegan Road in 2013. Construction on Lake Cook Road will take place between Deer Lake Road and Carlise Avenue. Work on Waukegan Road will take place between the Edens Spur ramp to north of Lake Cook Road by the animal hospital in Deerfield. Construction is began in April and is expected to be completed by the end of October 2013.

Widening of Willow Road-Two Year Project

The Illinois Department of Transportation will be reconstructing a portion of Willow Road from approximately Waukegan Road to the Edens Expressway. The project includes widening the roadway and improving pedestrian safety through signalized crossings and widened sidewalks. Construction began in April and is expected to be completed by October 2014.

Shermer Road Rail Bridge Reconstruction Union Pacific Railroad

Following the train derailment and bridge collapse on July 4, 2012, Union Pacific Railroad has committed to having the bridge and roadway open to vehicular traffic by September 2014. Currently they are working toward completing construction ahead of schedule. Fabrication of the bridge structure is in progress and construction on site is expected to begin in early fall 2013.

Please visit www.northbrook.il.us/ConstructionProjects for more detailed information on construction projects in Northbrook.

Drivers are reminded not to use their cell phones in construction zones (or school zones) and to drive carefully. Remember: These short-term disruptions provide long term benefits to the community.

Residents Invited to the Village Hall to Kick-off Summer 2013

The Community Relations Commission will host a combined *Welcome to Northbrook* and *Flamingo Friday* event on Friday, May 17th from 5:30 to 7:00pm at the Village Hall.

Representatives from the Village, the Northbrook Library, the Northbrook Park District, the Northbrook Police and Fire Departments, and the North Suburban YMCA will be in attendance to help new and seasoned residents learn about services in the Village of Northbrook. Refreshments, including pizza and Dilly Bars, will be served.

Residents will also be encouraged to participate in the Community Relations Commission's popular Flamingo Friday "meet your neighbors" program featured below. Flamingo Friday participants will be able to pick up their neighborhood's plastic pink flamingo. For more information on Flamingo Friday call 847/664-4017 or visit www.northbrook.il.us/Flamingo



What Are Flamingo Fridays?

They are a way to connect with your neighbors in a completely casual atmosphere. Every Friday evening starting around 6pm, from Memorial Day through Labor Day, a neighborhood gathering will be held in someone's driveway, designated by a Pink Flamingo. The host provides the driveway. No effort needed! Everyone brings their own lawn chairs, beverages, kids, snacks, etc. Gatherings may last 30 minutes or a couple hours, depending on the group assembled on any given evening.

Village Board Approves Budget

At their regular meeting on April 16, 2013, the Village Board of Trustees approved the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2013/2014, which begins May 1, 2013.

Northbrook's local economy is steadily recovering. Sales tax revenue has exceeded the budget projections in 22 of the past 24 months. At the same time, residents and businesses are investing in their futures in Northbrook, as evidenced by an increase in building permits. Sky Harbor Business Park occupancy rates remain high, our retail businesses remain strong, new plans are being proposed for downtown retail space, two new Senior Housing Facilities are currently under construction and more senior housing is being proposed at Covenant Village as well as in the Sanders Road and Lake Cook Road area. In the next few months, the Village expects to see a formal development proposal for a Mariano's grocery store, 20,000 square feet of additional retail and a 10-story luxury apartment building for the vacant property at the corner of Dundee Road and Skokie Boulevard. We also expect a proposal for a Wal-Mart Supercenter at 1000 Skokie Boulevard. Whether or not these proposals are ultimately approved by the Village Board, it is clear that the business community continues to see Northbrook as an attractive place to grow and expand.

The total approved budget for Fiscal Year 2013/2014 is \$86,296,528, which represents a 1% decrease from the total budget approved for the previous fiscal year. The General Fund, which provides for the basic public service operations of the Village (Police, Fire and Public Works, Code Enforcement, Planning and Economic Development among others) accounts for 48% of the total budget and projects a surplus for next fiscal year of \$444,550.

The Fiscal Year 2013/2014 budget also includes capital projects of \$16.1 million to continue the Village Board's strong commitment to maintaining and improving our significant infrastructure assets. Significant projects included for this year include:

- Street maintenance - \$4.5 million
- Water distribution system improvements - \$3 million
- Water main replacement - \$2.2
- Storm water mitigation - \$1.68 million

Together, the Village Board and staff have responded to the realities of the last several years with policies and processes that have focused our efforts to meaningfully and appropriately address the short- and long-term financial health of our Village government. This careful management by the Village Board and staff has provided the flexibility to adjust our resources as necessary in order to meet the changing service needs of the community. Constraining costs without diminishing quality services, a steady growth in certain revenue streams, and strong legislative and management oversight keeps the Village in a strong and enviable position moving into the coming fiscal years.

If you have questions about the Village's budget, or the budget process please contact the Village Manager's Office or Jeff Rowitz, Director of Finance, at 847/272-5050. The budget is also available online at www.northbrook.il.us/budget.

Commission Vacancies – Looking for Volunteers

Residents are encouraged to participate in the governance of the Village of Northbrook. By serving on a Village Commission or Advisory Board, you can participate in planning the future of Northbrook.

Many of these commissions and boards are making recommendations that will greatly affect life in Northbrook. It is important that prospective members of our commissions and boards clearly understand the functions and responsibilities of membership before actively seeking appointment. A great deal of personal satisfaction, knowledge and experience may be gained through service to your community.

Attendance and Compensation

Commissioners are expected to diligently attend and participate in all meetings of the commission. All Commissioners serve without compensation, on a volunteer basis. Commissions typically meet monthly, in the evening. All applications will be kept on file for future consideration.

Current Vacancies

There are currently vacancies on the Community Relations Commission, the Youth Commission and the Bicycle Task Force. If you are interested in serving on one of these Commissions, please visit www.northbrook.il.us/CommissionApplications for details on how to apply.

Village Happenings

Forty years ago this year, the first cellphone call was made on a "brick" phone. **The Northbrook Historical Society current display honors communication devices and cameras of the past.** All are welcome to stop by and visit on Thursdays, 10am – 2pm and Sundays, 2pm – 4pm. It's fun for the younger generation to see our communications from the past. You may also find some treasures at the Historical Society Inn shop! Visit www.northbrookhistory.org.

Spring Pastel Portrait Workshop, May 4 and 5, 9am to 4pm. at the Village Green Center. Visit www.northbrookarts.org for full details.

The Northbrook Symphony presents the magnificent first symphony by the Austrian composer Franz Schmidt, along with works by Beethoven, Brahms and Schubert. The concert will be performed at 4pm, Sun., May 5, at The Sheely Center for Performing Arts GBN, 2300 Shermer Road. Pre-concert lecture with Mr. Jim Kendros, at 2:30pm. Encore at the NSO, a post-concert event/reception at the Northbrook Hilton Hotel. Please visit the NSO website for more details at www.TheNSO.org

Final performances of Freckleface – The Musical are on May 4 and May 11 at the Northbrook Theatre. Performances are at 10:30am and 1pm on Saturdays. For more information call 847/291-2367 or visit www.northbrooktheatre.org

Drake University String Ensemble, Sun., May 5, 2pm, Library MultiMedia Department – The Drake University String Ensemble consisting of 14 musicians will perform at the Library as part of their Midwest Tour.

Meet a Holocaust Survivor on Sun., May 5, 2pm, Library Auditorium. Local area resident Estelle Laughlin will share experiences from her recently published memoir, *Transcending Darkness: A Girl's Journey Out of the Holocaust*. Her memoir is a harrowing tale of destruction and loss, told from the perspective of a young girl.

SCORE Workshop: H.R. Issues that can Make or Break Your Business, Tues., May 7, 7pm, Library Pollak Room – Learn how to develop and implement consistent hiring and H.R. practices designed to attract and retain the very best employees. Presented by Jim Austgen, former Sr. Vice President of H.R. at Underwriters Laboratories. To register visit www.scorechicago.org, scroll to Library Workshops and click on the date to register.

The **Northbrook Community Art Associates** will tour the Chicago Mosaic School and Lillstreet Art Center on Wed., May 8 and Thurs., May 16. Call 847/564-2686 for transportation and lunch reservations. Non members welcome.

Great Ideas and Thinkers, Thursday, May 9, 23 and 30, 10 – 11:30am, Library Pollak Room – Focus on Russian history with Mark Gelfeld.

Financial Skills for Women, Thurs., May 9, 7pm, Library Pollak Room – Call 224/425-4328 to register.

May 12 is the last day for discounted pool passes. Visit www.nbparks.org or call 847/291-2995.

Fashion in the Age of Impressionism – Tues., May 14, 7pm, Library Auditorium – This program will complement the Art Institute's upcoming exhibition: "Impressionism, Fashion, and Modernity." This event is Co-sponsored by the Friends.

Using Public Relations to Get Visibility for your Business, Thurs., May 16, 7pm, Library Pollak Room This program will teach you how public relations can help you increase your business.

Teen Safe Driver Clinics will be held on May 19 and Sept. 23 for drivers age 16-19 years-o1d. The clinic is an opportunity to improve skills in a safe environment. Advanced registration required. For details visit www.audichicago.org

Volunteer Opportunity for archive assistant on Tuesday and Thursday, 10am to 4pm. Training is provided on-the-job by the volunteers and staff of the Morrison-Shearer Foundation, 401 Lee Street in Northbrook. For more information call 847/291-9161 or email info@morrisonshearerfoundation.org

Northbrook Community Nursery School is now enrolling for the 2013-14 school year. Programs for 18 mo. to 5 years including Parent/Tot. For an enrollment application Call 847/272-5430 or visit www.ncnckids.org.

Go fish! **The annual Kids' Fishing Derby** from the Northbrook Park District returns to Wood Oaks Green Park on Sat., May 18 from 10am-noon.

Springtime in Paris, Tuesday, May 21, 7pm, Library Auditorium – Chef Michael Maddox will prepare food. Samples and recipes will be provided. This event is Co-sponsored by the Friends.

Run or volunteer! The **13th Annual Lew Blond Memorial 5K Run/Walk, 1 Mile Run** will take place at 8am, Sat., June 1, at Maple School, 2370 Shermer Rd. The race is USTFA and CARA certified. Volunteers and sponsors are needed. Call 847/400-8900. Register at www.district30.org/lewlondrun.

Planning a party or outdoor celebration? Park District parks and shelters are available for rent. Visit www.nbparks.org for details or call 847/291-2980

Registration continues for Summer Camps and Workshops. The Northbrook Park District offers 10 weeks of high-quality camps, including specialty programs in art, drama, golf, hockey, ice skating and sports. Visit www.nbparks.org

Thursday night bicycle races begin on May 16 at the Ed Rudolph Velodrome in Meadowhill Park. All ages are invited to witness the thrill of high-speed cycling. Races begin at 7pm, and the spectator fee is \$2. Children under 12 are admitted free. Friday night races for amateurs begin on June 14.

A men's summer hockey league offers a 14-game season. The league begins with a mandatory meeting on May 20 at 7pm at the Northbrook Sports Center. For more information, call 847/291-2993.

The **Park Board of Commissioners** meets Wed., May 22 at 7pm at the Leisure Center, 3323 Walters Ave. Agendas online at www.nbparks.org in the About Us section, under Board of Commissioners.

The **Northbrook Park District Senior Center**, located at 3323 Walters Ave. offers a wide variety of programs, driver classes, day trips and other adventures for adults, age 55 and over. For more information please call 847/291-2988, visit on-line at www.nbparks.org, or stop by the Senior Center.

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

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. For information please call 847/412-7303.

The 4th Annual Youth Film Festival Call for Film and Video Entries! All students from Jr. High through college are encouraged to participate. Deadline is May 31. Call 847/664-4417 for full details. All chosen films and videos will be presented at the Festival on Mon., Jun. 10, at 7pm at the Northbrook Public Library.

Stop by the Village Gallery in the Village Hall Board Room to see beautiful watercolors by Northbrook Artist Marilyn Robinson in the Board Room and mixed media by Northbrook Artist Frank Jamora in the lobby display case.

From Our Gardens to Your's, The Northbrook Garden Club's Perennial Plant Sale will be held Friday and Saturday, May 17 and 18, Meadowhill Park Bike Chalet, one block west of Waukegan, on Maple, next to Northbrook Jr. High, Fri., noon to 4pm and Sat., 9am to 3pm. Perennial favorites from members' gardens. Experienced gardeners will be on hand to help you. Bountiful selection, reasonable prices. Serving Northbrook for over 60 years, the proceeds will fund educational programs, scholarships and community service projects. More information visit www.northbrookgardenclub.org.



THE VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK

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

Hours; Monday–Friday, 8:30am–4:30pm

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:

James A. Karagianis
A.C. Buehler
Michael W. Scolaro
Todd A. Heller
Kathryn L. Ciesla
Robert P. Israel

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

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Historian's Corner

presented by the Northbrook Historical Society

Northbrook's First Telephone

In Shermerville, the first phone was probably installed in the railroad station in the 1880s when a telephone was connected to the Chicago-Milwaukee Railroad line.

That phone was removed a few years later for lack of use. By 1905, there were 12 phone customers in Shermerville. Five customers were served on one-party lines and seven on four-party lines. Party lines mean that four customers shared the same line and anyone on that line could listen to the other customer's conversations. A few of the early numbers were: 0 for the Shermerville Fire Department; 3 for the Illinois Brick Company and 9 for Bartelme's Café in the Northfield Inn.

Peter Bellert, who opened a harness shop across the street from the Lorenz Wagon Shop in the late 1880s, eventually became manager of the telephone exchange.

During his time as manager, the switchboard was located in this home above the store. His daughter Katie operated the switchboard. When a call came in she would connect the caller to the phone number.

Northbrook phone calls were connected via operators and switchboards until the telephone company built a new building on Walters Avenue in the 1950s. On July 1, 1955, the direct dialing system went into effect. Northbrook was assigned the telephone exchange of Crestwood - 2, later it was shortened to CR-2 and now is 272. For many years this was the only telephone exchange in town.

It was just forty years ago in April that the first cell phone call was made in Time Square, New York using a "brick" phone. Recent events have highlighted the way mobile phones and Social Media have changed our lives.

Stop in the Museum to see the new exhibit featuring many outdated communication devices, including the first mobile radio used by the Northbrook Fire Department. Today, smart-phones take many of the photos and videos documenting our daily lives. Included in the Museum display are projectors and cameras from times past.

Katie Bellert at the switchboard in her family's parlor.

