

NORTHBROOK

MAY 2014



Northbrook Residents Continue to Save on Electricity Rates

The North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium (NSEAC) has secured electricity rates of 6.688 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for June 2014 through May 2015 billing cycles for residential and eligible small commercial customers for the final year of a three-year contract with MC Squared Energy Services (mc²).

ComEd's estimated residential rate for the same period is 7.63 cents per kWh, representing an estimated savings to customers of more than 12%. The Consortium's price increase from the current rate is due to the significant rise in the price of capacity effective June 1, 2014. Capacity is the cost of generating electricity to meet demand during peak times.

Since the program began in June 2012, the 70,000 residents and businesses of the consortium communities have realized savings of over \$32 million off of ComEd electricity supply rates. During this time, the average consortium customer has saved more than \$463 on electricity against current ComEd rates.

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.

Celebrating Asian Cultures at Taste of Asia

Annual Event Celebrates Diverse Asian Cuisines and Cultures. Experience *Taste of Asia* on Sunday, May 18

The Northbrook Community Relations Commission invites all to enjoy enticing food and exciting activities during the "Taste of Asia" festival on Sunday, May 18 from 12:30 to 4pm 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.

continued on page 2

Inside

Village Vehicle Stickers	2	Construction Season Begins	5
Flamingo Fridays & New Residents ..	4	Special Olympic Torch Run.....	5
Memorial Day Weekend Events.....	4	Village Budget Approved.....	6
Fire Hydrant Testing	5	Village Happenings.....	7

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Please note the Village Hall will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

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.

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. This year's 4th of July theme, Celebrating Historic Moments, is in honor of the Northbrook Historical Society's 40th Anniversary.



The 2014 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.

Celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month - Sunday, May 18 from 12:30 to 4pm

A Variety of Entertainment for the Whole Family at the North Suburban YMCA

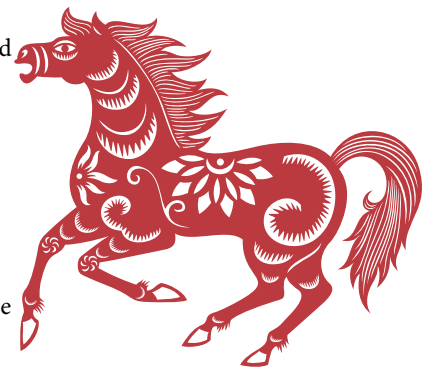
Enjoy entertainment and exhibits highlighting the diversity of Asian cultures and cuisines in Northbrook including participants representing Bangladesh, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand and Russian. There will be a variety of music and dance offerings including Chinese Tai Chi dances, Tahitian/Polynesian dances, Indian Bollywood remix, a Filipino band and a Taiwanese choir. Artisans will offer Asian arts, henna hand painting, colorful jewelry and artifacts.



New events and activities this Year!

Come and enjoy the demonstrations of Japanese Ikebana, Chinese brush painting and Martial Arts. Also new are hands-on activities for children including Chinese lantern making and Japanese Origami folding, and a tour of various Asian countries via video.

All the activities will take place throughout the afternoon on Sunday, May 18 from 12:30 to 4 pm at the North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road. Visit www.northbrook.il.us/TasteofAsia for details. Questions? Call 847/664-4417.



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.

Current Vacancies

There are currently vacancies on the xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxCommission, the xxxxxxxCommission and the xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxIf you are interested in serving on one of these Commissions, please visit www.northbrook.il.us/CommissionApplications for details on how to apply. Commissions typically meet monthly, in the evening. All applications will be kept on file for future consideration.

Notes from Village President Sandy Frum



Odit blation sequis maximperferi temque non rem re dit aut delendi taspit occullam invendi corum eosam, quunt molesti animint ibusdantis eicid que serfero recuptiis et amenis rem aborepe voluptatibus niatem autatem quis aut et eaquosam alibus earchitaqui quod etur sit, nisquibus vera cusciasperum que eatur? Quiamendanto eatenec ullestest, cus.

May 1 Marks the Beginning of Northbrook's Fiscal Year

I am pleased to announce that the Village Board once again passed a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2014/15. A copy of our Annual

Budget is available at www.northbrook.il.us/Budget Please see page 6 for more information.

Skokie Boulevard Development Projects.

The Village Board will soon consider the final plan approval documents for the NorthShore 770 project at Dundee Road and Skokie Boulevard, which consists of 8/9-story, 347-unit luxury apartment building and a Mariano's anchored shopping area.

Senior Living Developments

Construction continues to proceed on three senior living/assisted living facilities in the community: North Shore Place at Sunset Ridge & Skokie Boulevard; The Lodge, Phase 2 at Founders and Kamp drives; and Covenant Village along Techny Road.

Air Traffic Noise Over the Village of Northbrook

Village staff members have fielded complaints in the past month regarding increased air traffic noise over the Village of Northbrook. Air traffic over the Village is entirely regulated by the FAA, however noise complaints related to air traffic must be submitted to the local airport authority perceived to be the source of the air traffic noise. Chicago Executive Airport, located just to the West of the Village, offers a noise complaint hotline which can be utilized to submit a complaint regarding air traffic that appears to be stemming from air craft departing or arriving at their airport. Chicago O'Hare Airport offers an online noise complaint form which can be submitted and will be reviewed by the City of Chicago Department of Aviation for tracking purposes only. The

form can be found at <http://www.flychicago.com/OHare/EN/AboutUs/NoiseManagement/NoiseComplaints/Noise-Complaints.aspx>. POST ON WEB WITH URL<<<<<<<<

Talk Around Town Fades to Black After 20 Years

I wanted to congratulate Jack Coombe and Susan Carrington for hosting and producing Northbrook Community Television's longest running cable television show, Talk Around Town for the past 20 years. I had the pleasure to be their last guest interviewed on the program in April. Jack and Susan, together as a team, became a voice of the community as we all learned more about our friends and neighbors in Northbrook. Having interviewed over 200 guests, on about that many shows, Talk Around Town not only provided a vehicle to learn more about those who live in our community, but it also provided a venue for those who may have otherwise not been heard. Jack and Susan's interviews shared the stories of local individuals representing non-profits, government and organizations, as well as elected officials and yes, even some celebrities! Tune into NCTV- Cable Channel 17 at noon, 8pm or midnight, to see Talk Around Town.

Memorial Day in Northbrook

After the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26, 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.

Comments

As always, your comments are welcomed, please send me an email at village@northbrook.il.us or call 847/664-4010.



Memorial Day Weekend Events

Don't Miss the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 26

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 about an hour. 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 847/373-4391 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! On Memorial Day, the flag should be hung at half-staff until noon, when it should be raised to the top of the staff. Please take a moment to remember the men and women who died serving in the United States Armed Forces, the reason we celebrate Memorial Day each year.

Residents Invited to the Village Hall to Kick-off Summer 2014

The Community Relations Commission will host a combined *Welcome to Northbrook* and *Flamingo Friday* event on Friday, May 16 from 5:30 to 7:00pm at the Village Hall.

The annual Flamingo Fridays and Welcome to Northbrook lawn party is scheduled just in time of kick-off summer fun. 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 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.



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 2014 "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, Sanitary Sewer Replacement, and Stormwater Management Projects, including the Cherry Lane Underpass, Shermer Road Overflow Sewer, and Shermer Road Underpass projects identified in the Master Stormwater Management Plan.

Widening of Willow Road-Two Year Project – Illinois Department of Transportation

The Illinois Department of Transportation will be continuing the reconstruction of 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 2013 and is expected to be completed by October 2014.

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

Shermer Road Rail Bridge Reconstruction Union Pacific Railroad

Following the train derailment and bridge collapse on July 4, 2012, Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) has committed to installing a new bridge and reopening the road to vehicular traffic. Fabrication of the bridge structure is has been completed and the UPRR is now working to finish storm sewer and roadway rehabilitation. It is anticipated that Shermer Road will be reopened in late spring/early summer, ahead of the original September schedule.



Sanders Road Resurfacing – Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways

This summer Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDoTH) will be resurfacing Sanders Road between Mission Hills Drive and Lake Cook Road. As a part of the project, the temporary traffic signal at the intersection of Sanders Road and Lindenwood Lane will be replaced with a permanent traffic signal, improving performance and aesthetics of the intersection.

Annual Fire Hydrant Testing Program Begins

The Fire Department will begin its annual hydrant testing program in mid-May and continue through the summer. Hydrant maintenance work will be on weekdays between the hours of 8am and 3pm.

When hydrant maintenance is being done in your area, it may cause some discoloration/rust in your water.

While this discoloration is harmless for drinking, it may stain your laundry. Let your faucets run with cold water until the water is clear.

If the water discoloration continues, call Northbrook Public Works Department at 847/272-4711.



Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics

Please consider sponsoring Northbrook Police Officers who will participate in the Torch Run on Sunday, June 8

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.

Village Board Approves Budget

At their regular meeting on April 8, 2014, the Village Board of Trustees approved the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2014/2015, which begins May 1, 2014. The total approved budget for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 is \$90,994,914, which represents a 3.9% increase 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. The approved budget projects a General Fund surplus for next fiscal year of \$282,930 and achieves the Village Board's goal of abating the \$260,000 corporate property tax increase approved in December 2013.

Two years ago, the Village introduced an expanded two-year budget for the General Fund to further assist the Village Board in the discussion of the Village's fiscal policy. Total General Fund operating expenses for the current budget are within ½% of our projections at this time last year.

The two year operating budget and the Village's five-year Capital Improvement Plan provide the basis for meaningful planning and the capacity to adjust our resource allocations as necessary in order to meet the changing service needs of the community. Through this careful planning and analysis, the Village Board has increased their commitment to maintaining and improving the Village's significant infrastructure assets. The Village maintains 270 lane miles of asphalt and concrete streets, 170 miles of water mains, 127 miles of sanitary sewers, and 123 miles of storm sewers. The Village has invested more than \$220 million in our municipal infrastructure. Proactive annual maintenance is required in order to protect our significant investment and avoid costly failures in the future. Significant capital projects for the coming year include:

- Street maintenance - \$3.1 million
- Water distribution system improvements - \$ 2.1 million
- Water main replacement - \$3.7 million
- Storm water mitigation - \$3.2 million
- Sanitary sewer maintenance and replacement – \$2.5 million

Water Fund

In Fiscal Year 2008/2009, the Village developed a financial plan to maintain the viability and strength of the Village's water system. That plan concluded that a rate increase of \$0.82/1,000 gallons would be needed in Fiscal Year 2014/2015 to sustain the operations and maintenance

of the water system and fund necessary capital projects. While we had hoped to delay the need for this increase, the combined factors of reduced water use by the community and needed system improvements to the Water Plant, West Side Reservoir, and Lake Front Pump Station will require implementation of this increase on May 1, 2014.

Sanitary Sewer Fund

To maintain the fiscal health of this fund and provide the level of funding needed to support operations, capital improvements, and debt service, a rate increase is needed in Fiscal Year 2014/2015. Due to reduced water usage by the community and the need to replace the Skokie Boulevard sewer, a rate increase of \$0.25/1,000 gallons is needed in Fiscal Year 2014/2015. The replacement of the sanitary main on Skokie Boulevard is necessary to accommodate the planned and future developments along the Skokie Boulevard corridor. These developments will improve the Village's overall tax base. The last increase to the sanitary rate was in 2004.

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. There is a reason Northbrook is one of only five communities in Illinois to carry triple-A ratings from both Standard and Poor's and Moody's. 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.

Questions?

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

Village Happenings

The Library's May **Parisian Salon Concert** welcomes singer, composer and pianist, Anastasia Royal and guitarist, Andrew Kremer who will join forces in Duo A2 for a program of pieces by Brahms, Santoro, Brouwer, Piazzola and Royal on May 2 at 7:30pm in the MultiMedia Department, 3rd floor.

Youth Services of Glenview Northbrook will host its inaugural **Spring Boutique and Zumba Class Fundraiser** on May 3 at 3080 West Lake Ave., Glenview. The Spring Boutique will be held from 10am-3pm and the Zumba from 10:30-11:30am. A \$10 donation for Zumba participants is appreciated. Visit www.ysgn.org for more information.

The **New Tradition Chorus** will perform music from a variety of styles and eras on May 3 at 2pm and 7:30pm and May 4 at 2pm, at the Watson Auditorium in Glenview. Visit www.newtradition.org or call 800/746-9246 for tickets.

Final performances of **The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley** are May 3 and 10 at the Northbrook Theatre. Tickets are available at 847/291-2367.

Library summer volunteer information meeting for grades 9-12 (as of Fall 2014). May 4 at 3pm in the Youth Services Department, 2nd floor.

Calling All Bands! May 5 is the deadline to apply for Rock the Green, Battle of the North Shore Youth Bands. The annual showcase and competition takes place on June 6 from 6-9pm at Village Green Park. For info call 847/291-2995.

My Child has Autism: Now What? Join *Autism Speaks* for a Town Hall "parent to parent" meeting, May 6, 7-8:30pm, at Wood Oaks Junior High School, 1250 Sanders Rd. To RSVP, call 224/567-8573.

The **Northbrook Police Department's K-9 unit** will be featured at a Senior Center program on May 8 from 12-2:30pm at the Leisure Center. Adults can visit with a police dog that serves as a partner for local officers. A catered lunch will be provided by The Wealshire. The fee is \$6/res. and \$9/non-res. Call 847/291-2988 or sign up at the Senior Center.

Tickets are still available for the 45th annual **Northbrook-On-Ice** at the Sports Center with four performances May 9-11. Call 847/291-2995.

Register now for the **14th Annual Lew Blond Memorial 5K Run/Walk**, 1 Mile Run being held May 10, 8am, at Maple School. USATF/CARA certified For more information, contact Maple School 847/400-8900.

An **AARP driving program** will be held on May 12 and 13. The two-day program runs from 9am-1pm at the Leisure Center. The fee is \$15/AARP members and \$20/non-members. Call 847/291-2988 or stop by the Senior Center to register.

Join **Park District Grounds Operation Manager**, Michael Brouillard, as he shares tips on how to make your yard look its best on May 15 at 1pm at the Northbrook Leisure Center Little Theater.

Registration continues for **Summer Camps and Workshops**. The Park District offers high-quality camps for tots through teens. For more information, visit www.nbparks.org or call 847/291-2995.

Thursday night bicycle races begin on May 15 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 amateur riders** begin on June 13.

New Location: The Northbrook Garden Club's Perennial Plant Sale will be held May 16, 12-4pm and May 17, 9am-4pm, at the Village Green Center, 1810 Walters Ave. Experienced gardeners will be on hand to answer your questions. For more info, visit www.northbrookgardenclub.org.

The **Northbrook Community Choir** will perform on May 17 at 7pm at the Northbrook Theatre, 3323 Walters Ave. Reserved seats are \$10-12 and available at the Leisure Center Box Office, at www.northbrooktheatre.org or 847/291-2367.

An introduction to the **Library's new 3D printer** will be offered on May 19 at 7pm in the Youth Services Activity Room, 2nd floor. Topics will include how objects are made, what software must be used to generate the proper files and how residents can have their files printed by the Library. No registration required.

Dr. Mary Ann Mathias of Northwestern Hospital will be speaking about **Diseases of the Eye: Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention** on May 21, 6pm, at Covenant Village, 2155 Pfingsten Rd. To RSVP for this free event, call 847/863-0558.

Self-Defense Training on May 21 for teens and adults. The Brave Way Self-Defense System combines easy-to-learn techniques and hands-on instruction from 6:30-8:30pm at the Leisure Center. The fee is \$29/res. and \$39/non-res. For more information, visit www.nbparks.org or call 847/291-2995.

The **Northbrook Sports Center Pool** will open for the 2014 season during Memorial Day weekend. Visit www.nbparks.org for information about pool parties, special events, classes and private lessons.

Buckle up for Safety Town, a nine-day program that begins on May 27 for children who are 4-6 years old. Children learn the importance of safety through songs, games and fun activities at the Leisure Center. Sessions are from 10am-12pm and 1-3pm. For details, visit www.nbparks.org or call 847/291-2995.

Join the **Adult Summer Reading Club** and earn video coupons and weekly raffles chances for every five books you read. The theme is Summer Shorts: Novels and Stories. Program starts June 1. Register in the Reader Services Department, 3rd floor.

Stop by the **Village Gallery** in the Village Hall Board Room to see beautiful artwork by Northbrook Artist Erin Kaya in the Board Room.

Fizz! Boom! Read! The Library is bursting with fun and experiment with all things science this summer. Join the Summer Reading Club and read books for fun – and to earn great prizes! Program starts June 1. Register in the Youth Services Department, 2nd floor.

Be sure to mark your calendar for **Opening Day of the Northbrook Farmers Market** on June 18. The market will run Wednesdays through Oct. 8, 7am-1pm in the parking lot of Meadow Plaza, Cherry Ln. and Meadow Rd. For information, visit www.NorthbrookFarmersMarket.org.

The Northbrook Historical Society current display: **Revealing Ourselves: Underwear Exposed** at the Northbrook and History Museum. All are welcome to stop by and visit on Thursdays, 10am – 2pm and Sundays, 2pm – 4pm.. You may also find some treasures at the Historical Society Inn shop! Visit www.northbrookhistory.org.

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.

The **Park Board of Commissioners** will hold its monthly meeting on May 28 at 7pm in the Little Theatre of the Leisure Center, 3323 Walters Ave. The public is welcome to attend. Agendas are posted 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. Call 847/291-2988, visit www.nbparks.org or stop by the Senior Center for more information.

The **North Shore Chamber Music Festival** will take place on June 4, 6 and 7 at the Village Presbyterian Church, 1300 Shermer Rd. Boasting a roster of classical music's top performers, NSCMF has been called an "inspired summer event not to be missed" for Chicagoans and travelers alike. For more information and tickets, please call 847/370-3984 or visit www.nscmf.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

Editor:

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

Northbrook Information Association
1225 Cedar Lane
Northbrook, IL 60062

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

POSTAL CUSTOMER
Northbrook, IL 60062



Like us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/NorthbrookIllinois



Historian's Corner

presented by the Northbrook Historical Society

Our Urban Forests and change

It's true! Northbrook is a Village filled with trees, yet it was not always that way.

When the land was surveyed before settlement, the surveyors recorded vast open prairies with just a few groves of trees. The land east of Waukegan Road was heavily wooded; some areas there were forests and others just groves of trees. When the land for Somme Woods was purchased by the Forest Preserve District in 1921, it was mostly fertile farmland with groves of trees, according to the land survey. Today, those groves nestle among other trees planted by the Forest Preserve District nearly a century ago. Unfortunately, among them, too, are junk or volunteer trees and invasive species.

The first effort to add parkway trees to our landscape was a joint effort between the Northbrook Civic Association and the WPA. In 1934, they planted Elm trees along the streets. As new subdivisions were built on farm land barren of trees, builders and new homeowners added to the wealth of trees. It took generations to build our urban forests.

In 1976, as part of the United States Bi-Centennial Celebration, the Civic Foundation joined the Village in a cost-sharing tree planting program. This was the fourth such tree planting effort by Civic. The Village continues the program today.

Through time, the landscape changed and what we remember is not necessarily how it always was. We are saddened by the loss of the trees through storms, disease or pests that destroy what took years to grow. The loss of mature Elm and most recently Ash trees changed our landscape.

How do you remember the corner of Skokie Boulevard and Dundee Road?

As it is today, or as it was before when it was filled with junk trees and overgrowth. Some assumed that the greenbelt was always there. Soon, the 770 project at the corner of Dundee Road and Skokie Boulevard will receive final approval. When it is completed, just like other developments that have gone before, it will supply another view of the landscape to add to our memory bank and the historical record of our Village.

Here is what that corner looked like in 1929 when it contained an orchard – just one of many orchards and flower farms scattered throughout the town.

This 1926 view shows the North Shore Skokie Valley station as it was being built. The station was built where the parking area to the west of A.W. Zengler Cleaners is now. Behind the new station and to the right is the farm house and orchard stretching toward Skokie Boulevard.

