

# NORTHBROOK

APRIL 2016



## Don't Miss this Year's Earth & Arbor Day Celebration!

Saturday, April 16, 8:00am–noon, Rain or Shine on the Village Green

In addition to a variety of recycling opportunities listed on page 5, you'll find fresh ideas and cost effective ways to conserve energy, save money and help the environment at Northbrook's Earth & Arbor Day Celebration on Saturday, April 16.

The Earth & Arbor Day Expo will feature exhibitors promoting eco-friendly ideas to implement in your home or business. This will include renewable energy concepts, home weatherization, environmentally friendly products and information from local utility companies.

Participate in the Community Clean-up and compete for a prize! Details on page 5

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## Celebrate Diversity on Sunday, April 17

The Northbrook Community Relations Commission is sponsoring a Celebration of Cultures Faire.

This free family event will be held on Sunday, April 17, from noon to 2pm at the North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road. Take advantage of the opportunity to experience and appreciate the variety of cultural backgrounds of people living and working in the North Shore.

The celebration will include dancing, singing, cultural art, artifacts, and traditional costumes, as well as an opportunity to taste customary foods and talk to representatives of diverse cultures. You'll be inspired by the richness of the variety of ethnic backgrounds represented in our community as you learn about the different cultures.

For information contact: *Erik.Jensen@northbrook.il.us* or call 847/664-4017.

### The Mission of the Northbrook Community Relations Commission is:

*To foster and promote understanding, mutual respect, cooperation and positive relations between and among all residents of Northbrook to the end that a sense of shared community among residents is strengthened, the value of each individual is affirmed and the constitutional rights of all are realized.*

Details on page 5

### YARD WASTE PICK-UP

Yard waste pick-up has resumed. Visit [www.northbrook.il.us/Green](http://www.northbrook.il.us/Green) for details about where to purchase yard waste stickers for \$1.97 each.



# Business Briefs

## CLASS 6B INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Given the recent number of businesses requesting Village support of the Cook County Class 6b incentive, we thought we would share some information regarding the program.

### Why Have the Class 6b Incentive Program?

Prior to discussing the Class 6b Program, it's important to explain how property taxes are determined. A property owner's tax bill is determined as follows:

$$\text{Property Tax Obligation} = \text{Market Value} \times \text{Assessment Rate} \times \text{Total Property Tax Rate} \times \text{State Multiplier}$$

Classes of property have different *assessment rates*. In Cook County the assessment rate for commercial and industrial property is 25%, while that for residential property is assessed at 10%. It should be noted that the commercial and industrial assessment rates in Cook County are higher than all other counties in the State, including Lake County to our north. With all other things being equal, this higher assessment rate makes commercial and industrial property taxes in Cook County more expensive, thus putting Northbrook's commercial and industrial properties at a competitive disadvantage to similar properties in Lake County. Cook County established the Class 6b program to try to "level the playing field" to retain existing growing businesses and to attract new businesses.

### What is the Cook County Class 6b Classification Program?

The Cook County Class 6b program reduces the overall property tax bill for industrial, warehouse, and research and development facilities for a period of 12 years. Under the County program, these properties are assessed at 10% of market value for the first 10 years, 15% in the 11th year, and 20% in the 12th year. In year 13, the property is assessed at the normal assessment rate of 25% of market value.

Real estate is eligible to receive the County Class 6b incentive if it is used primarily for industrial, warehouse, or research and development activities, and is either: (a) new construction, (b) substantial rehabilitation, or (c) occupation of "abandoned"

property. When qualifying under the new construction or substantial rehabilitation category, the lower assessment rates apply to only the added market value resulting from the new construction or rehabilitation. If a property qualifies as "abandoned" (which means the building has been vacant and unused for a period of two years), the lower assessment rate would apply to the entire market value of the existing property.

To qualify for the incentive, a property owner must receive the Village Board's support and consent before filing their Class 6b application with Cook County.

### Village Procedures for Processing Class 6b Applications

In 2007, the Village Board adopted Resolution No. 07-R-48, "Establishing Eligibility Guidelines and Procedures for Review and Approval of Cook County Class 6B Classification Requests." When considering a Class 6b application, the Village Board considers the following general factors:

- Economic & Fiscal Impacts of the Business on the Community
- Conditions of the Existing Building/Site and Private Financial Contribution Compared to Public Assistance
- Quality of Jobs Created

The Village's general procedure for processing a County 6b tax incentive request provides impacted school districts as well as the Northbrook Park District and Library District with a 45-day time period to comment on the proposed request prior to the Board taking final action on the resolution of support. In the end, it is the Village Board's decision whether or not to support the Class 6b incentive for a particular property.

### The Village's Use of the Program

Since the program was first established, the Village Board has supported 18 Class 6b applications. The Village has used this Cook County program only when necessary to encourage industrial businesses to expand or to locate in the community.

## New Businesses

Northbrook welcomes the following new businesses to the community:

- Hair Cuttery** — 778 Skokie Boulevard
- Fuddruckers** — 776 Skokie Boulevard
- Exact Blade** — 813 Waukegan Road

If you know of other businesses that have recently opened, please forward their names and locations to [businessbriefs@northbrook.il.us](mailto:businessbriefs@northbrook.il.us), and we will list them in the next edition of Business Briefs.

If you have questions or suggestions about business development in Northbrook, please contact David Schoon, Economic Development Coordinator, at 847/664-4052 or [david.schoon@northbrook.il.us](mailto:david.schoon@northbrook.il.us)







# Notes from Village President Sandy Frum



This is the time of the year when we focus on the budget. For the Village of Northbrook, our fiscal year begins May 1, and although staff has been working on the numbers for months, the Board's in depth review takes place in March and April. We look back at the past year's experience, and forward to next year's projections.

When the Village Board adopted the FY 15/16 budget, we anticipated a surplus for the year of approximately \$225,000. Due to a number of factors, we now expect that surplus to be approximately \$2.6 million. Expenditures

came in significantly below our projections. Savings in salaries and benefits are due to turn over during the year. Temporary vacancies occur due to normal recruitment and new employees typically start at, or near, the low-end of the range for their position. With such a mild winter, we didn't need to spend as much on planned salt purchases and staff overtime. And finally, upgrades to our various municipal buildings were deferred until the upcoming year.

That surplus, along with the reserves we already have on hand, is more than we need. I am recommending to the Board that we transfer \$2.4 million to the Water Fund so that we can defer a water rate increase for at least two years. This would benefit the entire community.

As we look forward to FY 16/17, we remain focused on maintaining our public infrastructure and the quality of essential services. Among others, initiatives that will be considered are: a review of the existing Master Bike Plan in conjunction with the Park District; equipping and training police officers in the use of Narcan to intervene in opioid overdoses in the field at first response (the Fire Department already carries this); conducting a top- to- bottom review of the Police Department's use of force policy and hardware, including the issuance of Tasers department-wide; holding disaster preparedness training exercises; and updating the Northbrook Zoning Code and the Village Comprehensive Plan.

As an aside, while there has been much discussion about lead in the water supply lately, let me assure you that ours is safe. Please refer to the article on page 6.

## **FY 16/17 will be a busy year.**

That's on the expenditure side. What about revenues? Those assumptions are conservative; only 1.1% higher than estimated for the current year. Our sales tax receipts have come in lower than expected, and we are holding that number flat for FY 16/17. As is our practice, we have included permit fees for normal building activity and projects which have already been approved by the Village Board, but not for those which are in the pipeline.

You, Northbrook's residents and businesses, demand and deserve excellent public services. The proposed budget meets those expectations. It is conservative, responsible, and responsive. A copy of the proposed 2015/2016 Annual Village Budget is available for public inspection at [www.northbrook.il.us/Budget](http://www.northbrook.il.us/Budget), at the Northbrook Public Library, and at the Village Hall during business hours. Please plan on attending the Public Hearing to be held on April 12 at 7:30pm, and be part of the discussion. The meeting will be cablecast live on NCTV – Comcast Cable Channel 17, or watch it live or streamed “on demand” on our website at [www.northbrook.il.us](http://www.northbrook.il.us) – Just click on Meetings and Agendas on the right hand side of the page.

## **Village Events Not To Miss**

I invite all residents to advantage of the recycling opportunities at Northbrook's Earth & Arbor Day celebration on April 16 and get involved in the community clean-up, as well as attend the Green Expo to learn more about earth-friendly ideas and concepts.

On Sunday, April 17, the Community Relations Commission presents A Celebration of Cultures Faire at the North Suburban YMCA. You'll find details on these events on front page of this newsletter and on page 5. I hope to see you there.

## **Get Involved in Local Government**

By serving on a Village Commission or Advisory Board, you can participate in planning the future of Northbrook. There are two openings on the Senior Services Commission, which meets the second Thursday of every month at 7pm. If you are interested in applying, please visit [www.northbrook.il.us/commissioninfo](http://www.northbrook.il.us/commissioninfo) or call 847/664-4013.



Artwork by Judith Joseph



## Seniors, Their Families and Caregivers are Invited to Attend a Free Event

The *Excellence in Aging: Educate. Equip. Empower.* workshops will be presented on Sat., April 16 at the Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Avenue.

The event is free and open to the public.

In addition to workshops on topics from medical issues and reducing stress, to estate planning and new technology, Northbrook Police Chief Chuck Wernick and Northbrook Police Director of Counseling Services Nancy Vaccaro

will present a session on *Scams Against Seniors* and how to protect yourself against financial exploitation.

Resgistration for this event is required by April 8. Visit [www.northshore.org/seniors](http://www.northshore.org/seniors) or call 847/570-5020.

## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

### What is Child Abuse & Neglect?

Whether through action or failing to act, there are many forms of child maltreatment. Often the abuser is someone the child knows, such as a parent, relative, neighbor or friend of the family.

**Physical abuse** is a form of trauma that impacts a child's cognitive, physical, social and emotional development. Multiple stressors on a family can lead to anger and loss of control.

**Emotional Abuse** is the maltreatment of a child that may involve criticizing, insulting, yelling, swearing, rejecting or withholding love.

**Sexual Abuse** is any sexual activity with a child including exhibitionism, photographs or videos, pornography, prostitution, fondling, or rape.

**Neglect** is the failure to provide for a child's basic physical, emotional, medical or educational needs.

### What Can I Do?

**If you suspect abuse, please report it. Below are the numbers to call.**

Illinois Child Abuse Hotline  
800-25-ABUSE (800/252-2873)  
800/358-5117 (TTY)  
[www.illinois.gov/DCFS](http://www.illinois.gov/DCFS)

Northbrook Police Department  
911 Emergency

For additional information  
[www.preventchildabuseillinois.org](http://www.preventchildabuseillinois.org)

## Honoring our 9-1-1 Personnel

**Every day our residents, and those who travel through our Village, are able to get the care and protection they need in their most difficult moments due to the efforts of the Northbrook Police and RED Center Fire Telecommunicators.**

Public Safety Telecommunicators operate radio, telephone and computer aided communications systems utilizing state-

of-the-art technological techniques to ensure the safety of everyone in our community. Every hour of every day, Telecommunicators access, monitor and disseminate information of critical importance to police and fire personnel. Telecommunicators are the pivotal link between citizens and the police and fire departments. The Village will celebrate our Northbrook Telecommunicators by issuing

a proclamation from President Frum and the Village Board naming April 10 – 16 as Telecommunicators Week in Northbrook.

Please feel free to stop by the Northbrook Police Department, 1401 Landwehr Road, on Friday, April 15, between noon-1:30pm to visit the 9-1-1 Center. Refreshments will be served.

## Artwork by Northbrook Artists on Display

Support our local artists! The Northbrook Arts Commission, in collaboration with the Northbrook Public Library, is proud to present the 13th Annual Northbrook Originals Art Exhibit at the Northbrook Public Library, April 1 – May 31, featuring art by 50 Northbrook resident artists. The exhibit has a wide range of mediums including photography, oil, acrylic, watercolor and pastels. Stop by today!

For information about this exhibit, please contact [juliamiller1@comcast.net](mailto:juliamiller1@comcast.net) or see the exhibit on [www.northbrookarts.org](http://www.northbrookarts.org)



Artwork by Ken Call



# Earth & Arbor Day Activities

Pitch in and join the Community Clean-up at 8:30am and then stay for the Green Expo. A variety of exhibitors promoting Earth Friendly ideas and concepts to implement in your home or business will be featured. Take advantage of the Special Recycling Collection in the west commuter parking lot! See schedule below for details.

Clean-up teams will be assigned specific areas to collect debris and windblown trash. Clean-up volunteers should meet at Village Green Park, at the corner of Shermer and Meadow, at 8:30am to sign-up and receive supplies. Between 9am and noon, after the clean-up, the Northbrook Village Green will be bustling with excitement as everyone enjoys the exhibits, food and entertainment. For more information, please visit [www.northbrook.il.us/EarthDay](http://www.northbrook.il.us/EarthDay) or call 847/664-4017.

**Earth Day Sponsors:** Village of Northbrook, Northbrook Park District and Northfield Township Road District

## Earth & Arbor Day Schedule of Events for Saturday, April 16 Free Fun for Everyone on the Village Green from 8:30am to noon

### 8:30am:

- Registration for Clean-up Begins:  
Clean-up teams collect debris in designated areas

### 9:00am - noon:

- Free Tree Seedlings & a Chance to Win a Tree
- Tree Planting Ceremony at 11am on Village Green Park
- Environmental Exhibits highlighting new “green” services, products and ideas
- Children’s Activities including Pony Rides

*In six of the designated clean-up areas, look for the hidden 8x4” sign pictured below. If you find it during the clean-up, bring it back to the Village Green for the chance to win a prize!*



### Earth Day Recycling Opens at 8:30am

Recycling Drop-off at the **west side** commuter lot by the Northbrook METRA Station. Just drive-through and drop-off.

- Paint (Oil and Latex Only. Sorry, no thinners or solvents)
- Molded Styrofoam
- Tires
- Bicycles
- CFL, LED and Tube Fluorescent Bulbs
- Printer Cartridges
- Household Batteries
- Computers, TVs, & other Electronics
- New & Used Household Goods and Clothing to Donate
- Residential Document Shredding



## Celebration of Cultures Faire – Sunday, April 17

The recognition of a common humanity is the first step in the celebration of our differences — differences that inform our cultures, our values, our minds, and all our ways of being in the world. Community-based cultural events, such as the Celebration of Cultures Faire, bring people together in many ways to share their ideas, traditions and values. All are invited to attend the Faire on Sunday, April 17, from noon to 2pm at the North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road. Presented by the Northbrook Community Relations Commission. Visit [www.northbrook.il.us/Cultures](http://www.northbrook.il.us/Cultures) for more information.

## Northbrook's Water Supply

There has been a lot of coverage concerning lead levels in drinking water in other parts of the Country. The Village of Northbrook does ongoing sampling of our water supply and lead has not been detected.

**The Village of Northbrook does not have any water mains that are made of lead. However, it is important to know that older homes, constructed prior to mid-1950, may have private lead water services lines. A service line carries the water from the water main in the street to the water meter in the home. Also, homes built prior to 1987 may have plumbing fixtures which contain lead.**

Unlike some towns that have experienced problems, the Village has taken steps to reduce the number of lead services lines. The Village has required copper service lines since the late 1950s. The Village has been replacing the public portion of lead service lines (from the main to the shut-off valve) encountered during water main replacement programs since 1988. More recently, we have offered those properties with lead service lines the ability to utilize our contractor for pricing to replace the private line (from the shut-off valve to the home) at the property owner's cost. When encountered, the Village will perform lead tests prior

to disruption of service and again after the work is complete if the owner chooses not to replace the lead line. All test results are shared with the property owner.

For private construction, the Village has required the replacement of lead service lines with copper for properties being demolished since 1990 and for property remodeling since 1995. As an extra safety measure, the Village adds small amounts of food-grade Poly-orthophosphate, a USEPA approved corrosion control treatment to our water. The treatment is safe and is a common practice among municipal water suppliers. Poly-orthophosphate forms a thin coating on the interior of pipes throughout our system and helps to keep the water from any lead that may still exist in some private service lines.

If you have additional questions or are concerned about lead in your water, please contact the Public Works Department at 847/272-4711 and they will be able to assist.

## Electric Aggregation in Northbrook Understanding Options

Residents should be aware that representatives from Constellation/Integrus Energy Services will not call or visit their homes to discuss the Village's aggregation program.

However, solicitors from alternative suppliers may periodically visit homes and small businesses.

### **Update on the Electrical Aggregation Program and Notice on Alternative Electricity and Natural Gas Suppliers**

As you may recall, in June 2015 the Village's contract with MC Squared to provide power for the electrical aggregation program expired and all participating residents and small businesses were transitioned back to ComEd. This was due to the fact that MC Squared could not secure and guarantee pricing more favorable than ComEd's. At the time of the transition, the Village also entered into an agreement with Constellation/Integrus Energy which gave the Village the flexibility to monitor prices and lock-in a more favorable rate if one could be secured. To date, no such rate has been found and all customers in the aggregation program continue to receive their power directly from ComEd.



Over the last few months, the Village has received an increasing number of telephone calls from residents and small businesses who have been approached by alternative electricity and natural gas suppliers. Residents or small businesses wishing to sign contracts with these suppliers may do so and leave the program at any time for any reason. However, the Village encourages everyone to be sure to fully understand the terms and conditions of any contracts they sign and to not give their ComEd or Nicor account numbers to anyone unless they intend to sign up with a new supplier.

Residents or small businesses with questions regarding the electrical aggregation program can contact Village Hall at 847/664-4017 with any questions.

## Notifications for License Plate Renewal and Vehicle Emissions Testing

**Illinois vehicle owners will no longer receive license plate renewal registration reminders or emissions testing renewal notices in the mail.**

If you have signed up for email reminders for license plate renewal, the notice will include a statement as to your vehicle's status with the Vehicle Emission Inspection Law.

You can use the Secretary of State online tool at [www.ilsos.gov/regstatus](http://www.ilsos.gov/regstatus) to see whether your vehicle is due for emission testing. You may also contact the Illinois IEPA at 847/758-3400 or 800/635-2380 for assistance.

To sign up for email reminders for your license plate sticker renewal date, please visit [www.ilsos.gov/greenmail](http://www.ilsos.gov/greenmail)

To order a new license plate stickers online visit [www.ilsos.gov/LicenseRenewal](http://www.ilsos.gov/LicenseRenewal)

To get more information about the Vehicle Emission Testing Program and test station locations and hours, visit [www.illinoisairteam.com](http://www.illinoisairteam.com)



# Village Happenings

**April is '80s month at the Library!** Celebrate this iconic decade with a John Hughes film fest, Lifesize Clue, '80s themed crafts, and so much more. Visit [www.northbrook.info/80s](http://www.northbrook.info/80s) to see all '80s month events.

The Library will celebrate **National Poetry Month** with interactive poetry installations, a poetry party for kids, a lecture on essential Illinois poets, and more. A juried poetry event, co sponsored by the Northbrook Public Library and the Northbrook Arts Commission, will be presented on April 17 from 1pm-4pm.

The Library's **Spring Listening/Viewing Club** runs until May 31. Sign up, then enjoy award winning movies and music to earn chances to win raffle prizes and the Grand Prize giveaway.

The Library is **lighting it up blue for autism awareness** on Sat., April 2. Visit the library to learn about autism, make a craft, and more. Don't miss the building's blue lights that night!

The Library will show **Pixar's Inside Out** in a sensory-friendly setting on Sat., April 2 at 2pm. Sensory-friendly movies have quieter volume and turned-up lights, and children may move or talk during the film. All ages welcome.

**Northbrook Garden Club** discusses Dividing Plants and Plant Sale Preparation including Care of your Garden Perennials on Tues., April 5, 10am at Northbrook United Methodist Church, 1190 Western Ave. Open to the public. For details email [nbgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:nbgardenclub@gmail.com)

TEDxNorthbrookLibrary discusses "**The Power of Youth**" on Tues., April 5, at 7pm in the Pollak Room. Join us for three prerecorded TED Talks and a discussion to follow.

**Adult Softball Leagues** are forming! Men's 12", Men's 16" & Co-Rec 14" leagues are available. Register by Apr. 8. For more info, visit [www.nbparks.org](http://www.nbparks.org) or call 847/291-2980.

Internationally-acclaimed **violin and piano duo David Yonan and Susan Merdinger** will present highlights of their newest CD, Four Centuries, at the Library on Fri., April 8, at 7:30pm in the Auditorium.

**Vintage Marketplace Sale** will be held on April 8, from 8:30am - 3pm and April 9, 10am-2pm, at the North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Rd in Northfield. The sale will feature jewelry, china, glassware and more. To make a tax deductible donation of merchandise or for more information, call 847/784-6030.

Families can enjoy **Sunday afternoon swimming** at GBN beginning on April 10 from 2:45-4:15pm. The fee is \$3 per swimmer. Youth swim lessons available. Visit [www.nbparks.org](http://www.nbparks.org) or call 847/291-2995.

**Looking for a new job?** Learn how to stay ahead of the competition at The Secret to Landing Your Dream Job in a Digital Age on Tues., April 12, at 7pm in the Library's Pollak Room. Registration is required.

An **AARP driving program** on Apr. 11 & 12 can sharpen driving skills. The fee is \$15/AARP members, \$20/non-members. Call 847/291-2988 or stop by the Senior Center to register.

**Teens interested in volunteering** at the Library over the summer must sign up for one mandatory information meeting in early April. Call or visit the Library to register.

**Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook Spring Benefit** on Sat., April 16. Live Disco Music, Dinner, Silent Auction, Dancing at Chicago Hilton. For more tickets, call 847/724-2620 or visit [www.ysgn.org](http://www.ysgn.org)

**The batting cages at Techny Prairie Park and Fields** will swing open on Sat., Apr. 16, weather permitting. Helmets are required and provided at no charge. For more info & hours, call 847/291-2980.

On April 16 and 17, the Northbrook Theatre Jr. Company presents **Disney's Peter Pan JR** at 12:30 and 4pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance at the Box Office in the Leisure Center and \$12 at [www.nbparks.org](http://www.nbparks.org), or call 847/291-2995.

On Mon., April 18, youth, teens and adults can learn how to defend themselves with the **Brave Way Self-Defense System** from 6:30-8:30pm at the Leisure Center. The fee is \$29/residents and \$39/non. Call 847/291-2995 for more information.

**Enjoy a musical treat!** The talented Northbrook Community Choir will present two free spring concerts: Mon., April 18, at the Northbrook Public Library at 7:30pm and on Sun., Apr. 24, at the Northbrook Theatre at 7:30pm. Tickets are not needed. For more information, call 847/291-2995.

As a celebration of **Queen Elizabeth II's upcoming 90th birthday**, award-winning historian Barry Bradford explores her remarkable life. Tues., April 19, 7pm, Pollak Room of the Northbrook Public Library.

Fitness and fun combine on Fri., April 22, at Greenbriar Gym, when the Northbrook Park District offers **Zumba** from 7-8pm. All ages are welcome and advance registration is not required; the drop-in fee is \$5 per person.

**French pianist Audrey Abela** performs a Special Sunday Salon Concert at the Library on Sunday, April 24, at 2pm in the Auditorium. Abela will perform works by Bach, Corigliano, and Chopin.

Join business leaders and library director Kate Hall to discuss Jim Collins' management classic, **Good to Great**, at the Library's Up for Discussion on Thurs., April 28, 1pm. Registration is recommended.

Area businesses, non-profit groups and community organizations are encouraged to participate in the **Northbrook 4th of July Parade**. To enter the parade or for sponsorship opportunities, contact the Park District at 847/897-6119.

**The Northbrook Symphony** presents Royal Treasures from Saxony, Dresden, the "Jewel Box" of Europe with Joyce Stenzel, clarinet and Patricia Lee, harpsichord. The work is essentially two separate orchestras, including a total of six oboes, 4pm, Sun., May 15, at The Sheely Center for Performing Arts at GBN. Please visit [www.northbrooksymphony.org](http://www.northbrooksymphony.org) for more details. There will be a free pre-concert lecture for concert attendees given by Jim Kendros at 2:30pm.

**Calling All Bands!** Fri., May 3, is the deadline for local bands to apply to be part of Rock the Green, Battle of the North Shore Youth Bands on Fri., Jun. 3 from 6-9pm. For details, call 847/291-2995.

The **Youth Film Festival** will be held on Mon., June 13. Honoring the talents of young, local filmmakers, the festival will feature short films, created by regional students. Visit [www.northbrook.il.us/YouthFilmFest](http://www.northbrook.il.us/YouthFilmFest) for details. Entries due by May 31.

Interested in exploring neighborhood spring gardens for free? Attend the **Gardener of the North Shore** event on Sun., May 1, from 12-4pm. Northbrook residents, along with two others in nearby suburbs, will open their gardens to the public. For more details, visit [www.gardenersofthenorthshore.org](http://www.gardenersofthenorthshore.org)

The **Northbrook Park Board of Commissioners** will hold its monthly meeting on Wed., April 27, at 7pm at the Leisure Center, 3323 Walters Avenue. Agendas are posted at [www.nbparks.org](http://www.nbparks.org)

Save the date for a spectacle of skill. Tickets for the 47th annual **Northbrook-On-Ice** are on sale at the Northbrook Sports Center. The award-winning ice production offers four performances during Mother's Day weekend, May 6-8. Tickets are \$8-12; all ages are welcome. For more information, call 847/291-2993.

The Northbrook Park District is accepting registration for **Summer Camps and Workshops**. Camp information is online at [www.nbparks.org](http://www.nbparks.org).

The Northbrook Park District Senior Center at 3323 Walters Avenue offers a wide variety of **programs for adults age 55 and over** including Lunch and Learn, movies and more. For information and reservations, call 847/291-2988.

**How does your Garden Grow?** The Northbrook Historical Society is looking for Northbrook Gardeners to participate in the Garden Walk on Sun., June 26. Interested? Email [patkresq@msn.com](mailto:patkresq@msn.com)

**Summer Help Needed!** The Village of Northbrook has limited openings for outside laborers and office workers for the summer. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and starting pay is \$9.50 per hour. Visit [www.northbrook.il.us/jobs](http://www.northbrook.il.us/jobs) for application.

Stop by the Village Hall Board Room during business hours and visit the Village Gallery featuring beautiful paintings by **Northbrook Artist Daryl Dyer**.



## 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:**

James A. Karagianis  
A.C. Buehler  
Michael W. Scolaro  
Todd A. Heller  
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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

Hidden in Plain Sight - Right in Downtown Northbrook - A Memory of Shermerville



George Walter and George A. Kiest built and operated a hardware, grocery and dry goods store at what is now 1368 Shermer Road. We do not have a definite date when the building was built, but do know that George Kiest built his home on Shermer Road in 1890.

One of the village's first telephones, with the number Shermerville 2, was installed in the store when telephone service came to town in 1902.

The building and the partnership was bought out several different times before 1910, when William P. Melzer bought the building and moved his three-year-old meat market from the other end of town. In 1913, Melzer and William R. Landwehr formed a partnership. Landwehr operated the dry goods section while Melzer continued with the hardware, grocery, and meats. The Melzer family's living quarters were on the second floor of the frame building. Business was so good that in 1924 Landwehr moved his dry goods business across the street into his own building with living quarters above.

In 1926, Melzer demolished the one-story part of the old frame store and built a new two-story section. He then clad both portions with brick. Melzer Fine Foods Inc. went out of business in 1978 when the family retired. John Clark bought the building and moved his real estate business there. A few years later Clark made changes to the building exterior. The building was sold again in 1999 when Clark retired.

Currently it is home to several businesses including Bank Financial. What makes this building unique is that even today there is a clue to its previous life hidden in plain sight for all to see.



Visible from across the street is the peak of the original building's roof. The large decorative stone that graced the façade until the building was remodeled by John Clark is one of many stones scattered throughout the gardens at the Northbrook History Museum. Several of the old oak display cabinets inside the Museum are also from the Melzer store.

To learn more about Northbrook History visit [www.northbrookhistory.org](http://www.northbrookhistory.org)