



# new Skokie

December 2015 ■ NewSkokie - the award winning municipal information source

## Winter Weather Is Here, Be Prepared!

See below and pages two and three for everything you need to know to be prepared for snow this winter.

### Snow Removal Operations in Skokie

The Skokie Public Works Department is responsible for plowing 144 miles of streets throughout the community, clearing all alleys and plowing sidewalks in residential areas. The snow removal fleet includes approximately 35 plowing units (including refuse trucks fitted with plow blades when necessary), eight bombardiers, four tractors and other equipment necessary to safely and efficiently remove snow from the community.

The Village applies road salt to streets in the community in tandem with plowing, paying particular attention to salting intersections. The Public Works Department estimates that around 250 tons of salt are required to adequately cover streets maintained by the Village during a typical snow event. The Village purchases salt each year through a purchasing cooperative to ensure that the Village receives the best possible pricing for adequate salt supply. **See page three for important alternate-side parking information.**

### Garbage and Recycling Collection during Plowing

Depending on the amount of snow accumulation and the time of week when the snow falls, garbage collection is sometimes suspended so that the garbage collection trucks can be used for snow removal. It is rare for recycling collection to be suspended due to snow. Residents are reminded to make sure their refuse and recycling carts are accessible to collection crews. When refuse and recycling collection schedules are



deferred because of snow or dangerous temperatures, residents with curbside set out should leave toter carts in place until the materials have been collected. Changes to garbage and recycling collection because of winter storms or dangerous temperatures will be posted at [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org).

### Alley Plowing

The Village's Public Works crews plow alleys after a snowfall of six inches or more. Alley plowing operations often are completed during overnight hours.

### Sidewalk Snow Plowing

Skokie is one of only a very few communities that plows sidewalks in residential areas. Sidewalk snow plowing occurs after a snowfall of four inches or more. ■

*More snow information continued on pages two and three*

## Electrical Aggregation Update

### Who is Skokie's Current Electrical Supplier?

After several years of receiving lower-cost electricity from an alternate energy supplier, in spring 2015, the Village of Skokie began once again receiving electricity from Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) who currently supplies energy to all Skokie customers that have not entered into a separate, private contract with an alternate energy supplier.

Several years ago, in an effort to secure the lowest possible cost for electricity, the Village of Skokie and seven other area communities formed the North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium. From 2012 through spring 2015, Skokie and the other consortium member communities received electricity from MC Squared Energy Services. Customer bills still came

*Continued on page four*

### in this issue

- 4 Keep Sidewalks Clear
- 5 2016 Refuse/Recycling Schedule
- 7 Public Safety Notes
- 8 Village Board Action
- 9 Health Notes
- 10- Community Calendar
- 11



## Frequently Asked Questions about Alternate-side Parking

**Why does the Village use alternate-side parking after it snows?** The purpose of alternate-side parking is to clear Skokie streets from curb to curb to ensure that emergency vehicles have unrestricted access to all areas of the community. Safety is the number one goal of the alternate-side parking program.



**How can I know for sure if alternate-side parking is in effect?** There are numerous ways to learn if alternate-side parking is in effect:

- **Sign up for CodeRED text alerts at [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org)**
- Call the Village's 24-hour Snow Hotline at 847/675-SNOW (7669)
- Visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) and look for a notice on the home page
- Listen to 1660 AM Skokie Radio
- Sign up for *SkokieNews* at [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) to receive an email alert on the first morning that alternate-side parking is in effect
- Tune to SkokieVision cable and look for the crawl message (Channel 25 on RCN systems, Channel 17 on Comcast systems)
- Listen for the emergency siren that sounds at 7 a.m. to signal that the program is in effect from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. that day

**What are the penalties for parking on the wrong side of the street during alternate-side parking?** Vehicles that are not in compliance with alternate-side parking are subject to a \$50 citation. In

emergency situations, the Village will tow vehicles that are not in compliance. If your vehicle has been towed, call the Skokie Police Department at 847/982-5900 to find out the location of your vehicle.

**There is limited space on the street for vehicles during alternate-side parking. Is there anywhere else that I can park my car so that I don't receive a citation?** When alternate-side parking is in effect, the Village allows temporary parking in two Village-owned parking lots in the community:

- North Skokie Swift parking lot that is accessed off of Gross Point Road north of Dempster Street. Parking is allowed in the section of the lot closest to Gross Point Road.
- The municipal parking lot near Crafty Beaver on the north side of Oakton Street in Downtown Skokie.
- Skokie Swift parking lot on the northwest corner of Skokie Boulevard and Searle Parkway.

Parking restrictions in these parking lots are relaxed while alternate-side parking is in effect. Parking restrictions go back into effect at 6:01 p.m. on the last day of alternate-side parking.

**What if I'm out of town or sick and can't move my car to the correct side of the street?** Residents who will be out of town, are ill or otherwise unable to move their vehicle are encouraged to enlist the assistance of a friend or neighbor to move their car, or secure off-street parking until they are able to once again move their car to comply with alternate-side parking. All vehicles are required to comply with alternate-side parking from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. when the program is in effect.

**My friend/relative from out of town received a ticket for not complying with alternate-side parking. Since they didn't know about the parking restrictions, why did they receive a ticket?** All vehicles are expected to

comply with alternate-side parking. There are signs posted at the major entrances to the community alerting those entering the community that an alternate-side parking program goes into effect after a snowfall of two inches or greater.

**Why doesn't the Village have a sign on every block or at least in every neighborhood to alert the community to alternate-side parking restrictions?**

A total of 16 signs are posted at the major entrances to the community to alert passersby to the Village's alternate-side parking program, and the Village does not want to clutter the community with additional signs. Skokie has used alternate-side parking for many years, and program information is always included in *NewSkokie*, through *SkokieNews* and in a notice given with every vehicle sticker purchase. These ongoing notices and the multiple methods of communications outreach when alternate-side parking goes into effect provide ample means of learning about the program.

**I just shoveled and the plow came by and piled all of the snow in front of my driveway again. How can this be avoided?** Efficient snow plowing operations sometimes unintentionally result in snow being moved in front of driveways. One way to avoid this is to move snow to the left side when facing the driveway.

**Why did I receive a ticket for parking on the wrong side of the street at 5:55 p.m. when the street was already plowed?** Alternate-side parking is in full effect from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day it has been declared, and vehicles not in compliance between those hours are subject to penalties.

**My neighbor doesn't move their car and the street isn't adequately plowed. Can the police come and ticket their cars?** Concerns about non-compliance with alternate-side parking should be reported to the Police Department non-emergency number at 847/982-5900. ■



## Prepare for Alternate Side Parking in Skokie

### *Always in Effect for at Least Two Days after Snowfall of Two Inches or Greater*

The Village of Skokie would like to remind the community about alternate side parking that goes into effect from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week, when two inches or more of snow falls. The snow removal program is a minimum two-day operation. Here is how alternate-side parking works in Skokie:

- On even-numbered days of the month, after a snowfall of two

inches or more, all vehicles must be moved to the side of the street with even-numbered addresses between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

- On odd-numbered days of the month, after snowfall of two inches or more, all vehicles must be moved to the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Business owners, employees and customers are all subject to alternate-side parking restrictions.

By Village ordinance, business owners are responsible for clearing the snow from public sidewalks adjacent to their property. It is important to shovel a path for patrons to easily move from the street to the sidewalk without having to walk far in ice and snow. ■

## Keep Fire Hydrants Visible During Winter

Help keep you and your neighbors safe as winter snow starts to accumulate by taking responsibility for shoveling snow away from the fire hydrant near your home. It's best to clear at least a two-foot area of snow from around the hydrant. The Skokie Fire Department appreciates the community's help with this important safety measure as every second counts when responding to a fire emergency. ■

## Major Thoroughfares Under State and County Jurisdiction

Most major thoroughfares in Skokie are under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Transportation or Cook County. These entities are responsible for snow removal and pothole repairs. These streets include Church Street, Crawford Avenue, Golf Road, McCormick Boulevard, Old Orchard Road, Skokie Boulevard, Touhy Avenue, sections of Oakton Street and more. For a complete list, please visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org). ■



## Need Help Snow Shoveling?

The Skokie *TeenLink* program is a database list of teens who are available to shovel snow and do other outside yard work. The list is provided to Skokie residents upon request and provides contact information for Skokie teens including the name and address of the teen, days available, type of work they are willing to do and their expected rate of pay. Residents can receive the list by mail or email. This program becomes very popular and sought during the snow season. The resident is responsible for contacting the teen and for making financial and scheduling arrangements.

**Please contact the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8257 for more information.** ■



## Snow Operations Progression

In general, snow removal operations in Skokie progress as follows:

- Removal of snow from major thoroughfares over which the Village has jurisdiction (sections of Oakton Street and Niles Center Road, Main Street, Howard Street, Dempster Street, etc.);
- Removal of snow from streets and sidewalks around schools;
- Removal of snow from other community streets under Village jurisdiction;
- Removal of snow from alleys when snowfall is six inches or greater; and
- Removal of snow from public sidewalks in residential areas when snowfall is four inches or greater. ■

## Exempt Streets

Certain Village streets are exempt from alternate-side parking on Saturday, Sunday and some holidays. Visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org), Public Works section, Snow page, for a link to a list of exempt streets. ■



## Electricity Aggregation Update

*Continued from front page*

from ComEd, with the energy supply line item listing the alternate energy firm.

When the consortium's contract with MC Squared Energy Services ended earlier this year, a competitive bidding process sourced Constellation/Integrus Energy as the lowest-cost energy supplier and the consortium entered a two-year contract with the firm. A clause in the contract allows consortium communities to purchase energy from ComEd in the event that the utility's rates are lower than those

offered by Constellation/Integrus Energy. As ComEd's rates currently are lower than those offered by the

alternate energy supplier, Skokie residential and small business electricity supply accounts continue to receive

energy from ComEd. If rates from Constellation/Integrus Energy fall below those offered by ComEd, electrical supply will be transitioned to the alternate energy firm. Should this occur, Skokie residents will be notified and there will be no action required unless residents or small business owners want to 'opt out' of the electrical aggregation contract and enter a separate, private contract with a different energy supplier. For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at 847/933-8427. ■

### Beware of Door-to-Door Electricity Solicitors

The Village has received reports of door-to-door solicitors from alternate energy supply companies becoming very aggressive in their sales efforts and creating the appearance that they have been commissioned by the Village to secure resident customers. These claims are false. Any overly-aggressive sales tactics should be reported to the Police at 847/982-5900. The Village's alternate electricity supply program, as described in the preceding article, requires no action by Skokie residents or small businesses unless they want to opt-out of the program and enter a separate, private contract that they believe will provide a better rate for electricity. The Village will never send door-to-door solicitors throughout the community for sales purposes. ■

## Help Keep Sidewalks Clear for Walking

All year long, many residents enjoy leisurely walks through Skokie's beautiful tree-lined streets and there also are those for whom walking is a primary means of travel. For them, snow-packed sidewalks and cars blocking sidewalks are an ever-present problem that makes travelling by foot difficult. If you own property in Skokie, use the following guidelines to help keep your sidewalks safe for pedestrians:

- **Take a walk along your property from time to time** to experience it as your neighbors do.

- **Keep sidewalks clear of snow.** Although the Village plows sidewalks when snow accumulations exceed four inches, it often takes time to get to all sidewalks in Skokie as plowing streets and sidewalks near schools are of highest priority.
- **Trim back trees and shrubs** that grow over sidewalks. Winter is a good time to prune trees and shrubs as the plants are dormant. When trimming, clear vegetation a minimum of six inches from the edge of the sidewalk and seven feet over the sidewalk.

- **Don't park your car on the sidewalk.** Parked cars block the way of pedestrians and can damage the sidewalk causing cracks and uneven surface.
- **Repair cracked and/or heaved sidewalks.** The Village offers a 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement Program. For more information on this program, please contact the Skokie Engineering Division at 847/933-8231.

**For more information on clearing sidewalks, please contact the Skokie Property Standards Division at 847/933-8223. ■**

## Local Government Scholarship Available

Students who wish to be considered for the 2016 Skokie Excellence in Professional Government Management Scholarship must complete and submit a Scholarship Application and Personal Statement electronically to Oakton Community College (OCC) by March 31, 2016. Scholarship

details and the application are available on the OCC's website at [www.oakton.edu/scholarships](http://www.oakton.edu/scholarships).

Questions about the application process should be directed to Lauren Hackett, OCC Office of Student Financial Assistance, [lhackett@oakton.edu](mailto:lhackett@oakton.edu) or 847/635-2624. ■



## 2016 Holiday Refuse and Recycling Schedule

The Village offers a comprehensive refuse and recycling program for Skokie residents and businesses. It is estimated that Skokie PW crews will collect close to 18,000 tons of garbage in 2016. In addition, more than 5,000 tons of solid waste are expected to be diverted from landfills as a result of the Village's weekly recycling collection program.

A 95-gallon refuse container is provided to each single-family household for storage of up to 200 pounds of household refuse, with the exception of hazardous materials and construction debris. These items require special disposal. For more information on hazardous waste and construction debris disposal, please visit [www.skokie.org/RefuseRecycling.cfm](http://www.skokie.org/RefuseRecycling.cfm).

### Refuse Collection

#### Week of January 18, 2016 (Martin Luther King Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

#### Week of February 15, 2016 (President's Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

#### Week of May 30, 2016 (Memorial Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

#### Week of July 4, 2016 (Independence Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged

#### Week of September 5, 2016 (Labor Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

#### Week of November 21, 2016 (Thanksgiving)

Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, attempt to complete Thursday and Friday collections on Wednesday.

#### Week of December 19, 2016 (Christmas)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

#### Week of January 1, 2017 (New Year's Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

### Recycling Collection

#### Week of January 18, 2016 (Martin Luther King Day)

Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

#### Week of February 15, 2016 (President's Day)

Normal collection schedules remain in effect.

#### Week of May 30, 2016 (Memorial Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

#### Week of July 4, 2016 (Independence Day)

Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday and Friday collection on Thursday.

#### Week of September 5, 2016 (Labor Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

#### Week of November 21, 2016 (Thanksgiving)

Monday, Tuesday and Friday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday.

#### Week of December 19, 2016 (Christmas)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

#### Week of January 1, 2017 (New Year's Day)

Monday collection on Tuesday, Tuesday collection on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections unchanged.

**See page 10 for the 2015 winter holiday refuse and recycling collection schedule.**

## Skokie Holiday Light Recycling Program

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, Elgin Recycling and the Village are offering a free holiday light recycling. All holiday string lights and extension cords can be dropped off at Skokie Public Works, 9050 Gross Point Road, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., from December 1, 2015 through January 29, 2016.

Garland, live greens, wreaths or other

non-recyclables are not accepted in this program. Elgin Recycling is processing the material, [www.elginrecycling.com](http://www.elginrecycling.com).

Remember to remove holiday decorations and lighting early in the New Year. In accordance with the Village of Skokie adopted 2008 National Electric Code section 590.3 (B), temporary electric power and lighting installations shall be permitted

for a period not to exceed 90 days for holiday decorative lighting and similar purposes. Exterior holiday decorative lighting is a festive way to enjoy the holiday season. For more information, please contact the Property Standards Division at 847/933-8224.

For more information please contact the Public Works Department at 847/933-8427. ■



## Skokie Street Resurfacing Project Overview

In 2015, the Village of Skokie administered two street resurfacing projects encompassing a total of over four miles of roadway. The Village's current budget includes just over \$3 million for street resurfacing and patching.

The first street resurfacing project was completed in early summer 2015 and included the following streets:

- Lorel Avenue from Frontage Road to Foster Street
- Foster Street from Lorel Avenue to Lockwood Avenue
- Emerson Street from Long Avenue to Lockwood Avenue
- Lockwood Avenue from Dempster Street to Church Street
- Tamaroa Terrace from Sugar Loaf Lane to Samoset Trail
- Samoset Trail from Davis Street to Church Street
- Sugar Loaf Lane from Little Elm Bend to Samoset Trail
- Little Oak Path from Greenwood Street to Sugar Loaf Lane
- Karlov Avenue from Mulford Street to Oakton Street
- Keystone Avenue from Mulford Street to Oakton Street
- Kirk Street from Keeler Avenue to Crawford Avenue
- Culver Street/Lavergne Avenue Divertor Berm

The second street resurfacing project is complete and included the following street sections. This project was funded by Local Fuel Tax funds, Community Development Block Grant funds and funds generated by vehicle sticker purchases. Included in this project were the following streets:

- Carol Street from Lockwood Avenue to Gross Point Road
- Cleveland Street from Keating Avenue to Kilpatrick Avenue
- Karlov Avenue from Jarvis Avenue to Howard Street
- Kedvale Avenue from Jarvis Avenue to Howard Street
- Kilpatrick Avenue from Oakton Street to Main Street
- Lockwood Avenue from Gross Point Road to Dempster Street

Other large street sections were patched with the High Priority Patching Program. The County Department of Transportation and Highways has reconstructed Crawford Avenue south to Devon Avenue, including significant storm sewer and sidewalk improvements. As part of this project, Crawford Avenue south of Oakton Street was completed this year.

Alleys were reconstructed using a grant from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The new "green" alleys are permeable to help with storm water in the area. ■

## Yellow Line Resumed Operations on October 30

On Friday, October 30, the CTA Yellow Line resumed operations after a five-month service interruption. In late May, the Yellow Line was taken out of service after a section of track failed due to activities at a nearby construction site owned by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD). Extensive repairs were necessary to ensure passenger safety. The Village and CTA have partnered to continue free parking at the Dempster Street station through December 31, 2015.

Mayor George Van Dusen and other Village officials and

staff, along with other state, federal and transit officials and Downtown Skokie business leaders gathered at the Oakton Street station on the morning of October 30 to celebrate the service resumption. "Today is a great day for Skokie," said Mayor Van Dusen. "The cooperation between the Village, CTA and MWRD resulted in the most expeditious repair schedule possible to ensure safe operations. I appreciate the community's patience during this inconvenient service disruption, and also thank Skokie residents for continuing to shop and dine at Downtown Skokie and



*Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen speaking at the reopening of the Yellow Line on October 30.*

Dempster Street businesses that depend on commuters as customers. I hope that riders will resume using the Skokie Swift and that

ridership levels will quickly resume the record-breaking numbers experienced before the service interruption." ■



## Fire Safety for the Holidays

The winter holiday season is a prime time for residential fires caused by the increase in energy used to power lighting displays and Christmas trees, as well as energy used to prepare feasts and host friends and family in your home.

During this time, people are inadvertently exposed to greater risk of becoming the victim of a fire or electrical accident, such as shock and electrocution. Most of these accidents could be prevented by following these important safety tips.

1. Carefully inspect each electrical decoration. Cracked or frayed sockets, loose or bare wires and loose connections may cause a serious shock or start a fire.
2. Follow the use and care instructions that accompany electrical decorations.
3. Stapling or nailing through electrical wires or extension cords may damage the wire or insulation which could cause electrical shock or fire.
4. Turn off electrical light strings, candles and other decorations before leaving home or going to bed. Automatic timers are available for both indoor and outdoor applications.
5. Waterproof all electrical connections, and keep them elevated so that water won't drain into the connection and cause a shock or a short circuit.
6. Avoid overloading electrical outlets.
7. Use lights that are approved for safe use by an independent testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
8. Whenever possible, choose holiday decorations made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant materials.
9. Never leave a candle burning unattended.
10. Make sure candleholders are placed on a stable, heat-resistant surface.
11. Be sure chimney and fireplaces have been inspected and cleaned.
12. Do not leave a stove unattended. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States.
13. If a grease fire happens while cooking, turn off the burner and put a lid over the pan. Do not use water on the fire!
14. Know the location, type and purpose of your fire extinguisher.
15. Create and practice your escape plan in the event of an emergency. Make sure children know exactly what to do as you may not be able to reach them at the time of a fire.

**For more information on holiday safety tips, contact the Skokie Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/982-5340. ■**

## Skokie's CodeRED Emergency Notification System

The Village has an emergency telephone notification system to contact residents and businesses quickly in the case of an emergency. Through the CodeRED® system, the Village can send automated telephone messages quickly in the event of an emergency. The brief message will provide information on the emergency situation and any important instructions.

Most home and business phone numbers of Skokie properties have already been added to the system.

**Residents and businesses can visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) to register their cell phone numbers and email addresses to the CodeRED system. Residents without a computer should ask a friend or relative to visit the web site and add their numbers.** There is no fee for the service or for adding additional phone numbers.

The Village respects residents' privacy and only activates the system in true emergency situations, such as hazardous chemical spill or release, missing persons, evacuations, water system concerns, hazardous weather, security alerts, etc.

CodeRED® delivers messages to both answered phone lines and answering devices. The system allows the Village to phone the entire community in two to three hours and the system also can target smaller geographic areas within the community for alerts that don't apply to everyone, such as a water boil order in a specific neighborhood.

Anytime CodeRED® is used, the number displayed on the receiving phone caller ID will be 866/419-5000. This number also functions as a message repeat

feature. A resident can call this number back at anytime, and the last message delivered to the specific phone will play, along with the date and time of the message. Residents can save this phone number and name it CodeRED®, so that when an emergency message from the Village is received, CodeRED® will appear on the caller ID of the receiving phone.

**For more information on the CodeRED® system, please visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org). If you do not have access to a computer, please contact Communications Coordinator John Barkhoo at 847/982-5904 for assistance. ■**



The Village Board meets the first and third Mondays of each month, except in the case of a holiday. Meetings begin at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

**Watch Village Board Meetings live on SkokieVision Cable Television (Channel 25 on RCN systems, Channel 17 on Comcast systems). The Board Meetings also are re-broadcast at noon and 8 p.m. on the Thursday, Saturday and Tuesday following a Board Meeting.**

## Upcoming Public Meetings

All meetings are held at Village Hall (5127 Oakton Street).

Board of Trustees  
December 7, 21

Plan Commission  
December 3, 17

Appearance Commission  
December 9

Zoning Board of Appeals  
December 2, 16

## Village Board Action

The Village Board recently approved the conversion of the 8300 Block of Christiana Avenue to one-way going north. This block is a multi-unit residential area with a busy commercial property on Main Street to the north. As the street is narrow, historically, parking was only permitted on one side of the street to allow for two-way traffic. This contributed to a shortage in parking in the area. The one-way street will now allow for parking on both sides of the street. ■

## ¡Viva, Coming Together! Celebrating the Latino and Hispanic Cultures

Coming Together in Skokie and Niles Township is in its seventh year of exploring and sharing the diverse cultures of Skokie and neighboring communities. The focus will be on celebrating Latino and Hispanic cultures through the theme ¡Viva, Coming Together! The opening ceremony will be held on Sunday, January 31, 2016 at Niles West High School.

Coming Together is a community-wide celebration promoting literacy and exploring, in depth, a different culture each year. Through reading and discussing selected books and enjoying a host of cultural activities, community members come together to enjoy the rich diversity of Niles Township. Although the initiative spotlights a different culture each year, the intended audience is people from all backgrounds, especially people who may not be familiar with the featured culture.

Find more information on ¡Viva, Coming Together! at <http://comingtogether.in> and in the January 2016 edition of *NewSkokie*. ■

## 2016 CDBG Program

Each year under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides block grants to qualified local communities. Skokie anticipates receiving \$400,000 to \$450,000 in funding for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2016. These funds will be used for physical improvement projects, housing programs, limited social services and other activities that are consistent with local planning goals and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) regulations.

Eligible projects must meet national objectives by principally benefiting low- to moderate-income people in the community or aiding in the prevention and elimination of blighted conditions. All projects must be approved by HUD before funds are released.

The Village has scheduled three public hearings to solicit public input on the 2016-2017 CDBG Program. Information gathered at the hearings assists in formulating the Village's funding request to HUD. At the December 21 Village Board meeting, the current year's program progress will be reviewed and the 2016-2017 community development needs and objectives will be discussed. Project suggestions, comments and program recommendations that are solicited from Village staff, citizens and representatives of various social service agencies will be presented at the January 4, 2016, Village Board meeting. The Board will select the projects to be funded at the February 1, 2016, hearing. Village Board meetings begin at 8 p.m.

**For information on the CDBG Program, contact Planner/CDBG Administrator Carrie Haberstich at 847/933-8447. ■**

## Rethink Your Drink Campaign

Did you know that sugar-sweetened beverages are the number one source of added sugar in our diet and a major cause of obesity, especially among youth? Sweetened fruit juices, blended coffee beverages, colas and energy drinks all contain large amounts of sugar.

**NorthShore University HealthSystem** provided a substantial grant to the Skokie Health Department to raise

awareness about the negative health effects of too much sugar.

Be sure to read drink labels to check for added sugar and remember that the best drink for you is tap water. Bring a water bottle to school or work, pass up those sugary drinks and Rethink Your Drink!

**For more information please call the Health Department at 847/933-8252. ■**

**25  
Pounds**

**Drinking one soda a day can equal an extra 25 pounds of weight per year.**

**22  
Packets of Sugar**

**Sugar in a 20 oz. soda. You wouldn't eat 22 packs of sugar: why are you drinking them?**



**For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call the Health Department at 847/933-8252. ■**

## Pneumonia Shots for Adults Skokie Health Department Offers Two Pneumonia Shots for Adults

Two pneumonia vaccines are recommended for adults age 65 and older, and other adults with certain health conditions. Pneumonia is a serious infection of the lungs that is most common in the elderly, cigarette smokers and people with other conditions such as heart disease, liver disease and diabetes. The best way to prevent pneumonia is by getting vaccinated with both Prevnar 13 (PSV 13) and Pneumovax 23 (PPSV23). Having both pneumonia vaccines protects against the bacteria that cause the most serious illness in adults. The vaccines should be given one year apart.

## Rules for Feeding Birds and Wildlife in Skokie

Many people enjoy feeding birds and other wildlife, but these activities have the potential to attract unwanted pests such as skunks, insects and rats.

Follow these requirements from the Village Code to feed the birds while avoiding nuisances:

- Do not place food or seed directly on the ground.
- All food must be in either a hanging feeder or placed on a platform that contains the food.
- Platforms cannot be larger than 400 square inches (or 20 inches by 20 inches if square).
- Feeders and platforms should be at least five feet from property lines.
- Keep the area around feeders clean and neat.
- All uneaten food, seed shells and animal droppings must be swept up regularly.
- There is a maximum number of feeders allowed per property. Please refer to the Village Code Section 18-11 "Feeding wildlife or birds" for more details.

**Call the Health Department's Animal Control Division at 847/933-8484 for more information or if you have questions about feeding birds and wildlife. ■**



## CPR Schedule

Please call the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5340 for program information and schedule. Residents: \$20 refundable fee. Non-residents: \$20 non-refundable fee.

**There will not be a December 2015 CPR class.**

## Health Happenings

Unless otherwise noted, all clinics are held at the Health Department, 5127 Oakton Street. Clinics marked with an (\*) require advance registration. Proof of Skokie residency required for all clinics. For more information call 847/933-8252.

### Adult Vaccinations\*

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. Walk-in Clinic - Wednesday, December 9, 23 from 2 to 4 p.m. Call for vaccine fees.

### Child Vaccinations\*

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. Walk in - Wednesday, December 9, 23 from 2 to 4 p.m. \$5 fee.

### Well Child Clinic\*

Monday, December 14 from 9 a.m. to noon.

### Diabetes Screening\*

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$5 fee.

### Hearing Screening\*

Friday, December 18 from 9 a.m. to noon.

### Lipid Profile Screening\*

(Total Cholesterol, HDL, Triglycerides, LDL, Cholesterol/HDL Ratio) Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. \$15 fee

### Blood Pressure Screening

Walk-in clinics: Tuesdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays, December 2, 16 from 5 to 7 p.m.

### TB Skin Testing\*

Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. \$10 fee.

### Lead Screening\*

By appointment only. \$25 fee.

## Refuse & Recycling Collection Schedule

### Holiday Refuse Collection

*Week of December 21 (Christmas) and  
Week of December 28 (New Year's Day)*

Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday and Friday collection on Thursday.

### Recycling Collection

*Week of December 21 (Christmas) and  
Week of December 28 (New Year's Day)*

Monday and Tuesday collections unchanged, Thursday collection on Wednesday and Friday collection on Thursday.

*For more information please visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) or call the Skokie Public Works Department at 847/933-8427.*

## Human Services Activities

Unless otherwise noted, all events are located at Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street. Call 847/933-8208 for more information or to register. Please note that the Skokie Human Services Division is now located in Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

### Chess

Wednesdays and Fridays from 12 to 4 p.m., 5120 Galitz Street.

### Senior Health Insurance Program

Consultations available for new and existing Medicare beneficiaries to learn about their health care benefits. Selected dates, by appointment only.

### Rules of the Road

Review for driver's exam. Monday, December 7 from 9:15 a.m. to noon.

### German is Fun!

All German language speakers, from beginners to natives, are welcome. Thursdays, December 3, 17 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

### Conversational Yiddish

No fee/registration required. Everyone is welcome. Tuesdays, December 15, 22, 29 at 1:30 p.m., 5120 Galitz Street.

### Low Vision Support Group

Tuesday, December 8 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

### Skokie Senior Men's Group

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at Weber Park, 9300 Weber Park Place.

### Stamp Club

Wednesdays, December 2, 16 at 1:30 p.m., 5120 Galitz Street.

### FOCUS (For Optically Challenged Upbeat Sorts)

Wednesday, December 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

### Silver Sing-a-long

Monday, December 28 at 1:30 p.m., 5120 Galitz Street.

### Simple & Living Will/ Durable Power of Attorney

Program for low-income seniors. Fee charged by attorney.

### Family Caregiver Support Group

Hosted by North Shore Senior Center. Please contact Lauretta Hart at 847/424-5661 or [lhart@nssc.org](mailto:lhart@nssc.org) if you would like to attend. This group meets Wednesday, December 23 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

## Skokie Public Library

For more details on library events, visit [www.skokieliibrary.info](http://www.skokieliibrary.info).

### Knit and Crochet-a-Thon

Saturday, December 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

### Young Steinway Concert: Seri Lee, Cello, and Winston Michalak, Piano

Sunday, December 6 at 3 p.m.

### Increase Your Productivity with Evernote

Monday, December 7 at 7 p.m.

### Present Your Best Self at Your Next Job Interview

Thursday, December 10 at 7 p.m.

### Winter Family Craft: Gingerbread Houses

Sunday, December 13 at 1 p.m.

### Savvy Skokie Seniors

Thursday, December 17 at 11 a.m.

### The Interactive Polar Express

Friday, December 18 at 7 p.m.

### Library Closed December 24 and 25

### Wikis 101: Learn How Wikipedia and SkokieWiki Work

Wednesday, December 30 at 7 p.m.

### Library Closes at 5 p.m. on December 31

## North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie

Located at 9501 Skokie Boulevard. For performance dates and information visit [NorthShoreCenter.org](http://NorthShoreCenter.org) or call 847/673-6300.

### NBC's Last Comic Standing: Live Tour

*In the Center Theatre*  
Thursday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m.

### Chicago Gay Men's Chorus presents *Miracle on Thirty Funk Street*

*In the Center Theatre*  
Saturday, December 5 at 8 p.m.

### Salt Creek Ballet's *The Nutcracker*

*In the Center Theatre*  
Saturday, December 12 at 1 and 5 p.m. and Sunday,

December 13 at 2 p.m.

### You Can't Take It With You

*In the Northlight Theatre*  
Through December 13

### New Year's with E. Faye Butler

*in the Northlight Theatre*  
Thursday, December 31 at 8 p.m.

## Skokie Park District

For more information on Park District programs, call 847/674-1500 or visit [www.SkokieParks.org](http://www.SkokieParks.org).

### Devonshire Dance Holiday Spectacular

The Devonshire Dance Ensemble celebrates the holidays with a December performance. \$5 December 5 at 7 p.m. and December 6 at 3 p.m. Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Street.

### Santa's Hotline and Letters from Santa

Surprise your kids with a phone call or letter from Santa! Calls limited to 847, 224, 630, 312 and 773 area codes. Register by December 11. Forms can be found at [www.skokieparks.org/SantaForm.pdf](http://www.skokieparks.org/SantaForm.pdf)

### Breakfast with Santa

Join the Skokie Park District for a delicious pancake breakfast, entertainment and a raffle. Santa will be on hand to take pictures with your family. \$13 to 16. December 12 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

### Winter Program Registration Begins

On-line and walk-in registration begins for hundreds of Skokie Park District winter programs. December 15 for Skokie-residents, December 22 for non-residents.

### Ice Skating - Holiday Public Sessions

Lace up your skates and hit the ice with the whole family! The Skatium Ice Arena offers public skating sessions once or twice daily over the holidays. Fees \$4.50 to \$5.50; skate rental \$3. December 20 through January 2. Call 847/674-1500, ext. 2900 for times. Skatium Ice Arena, 9300 Weber Park Place.

### Itty Bitty New Year

The Exploritorium's family New Year bash with entertainment, art projects, games, a noon balloon drop and much more! December 31 from 10 a.m. to noon. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street.

## Niles Township Government

Niles Township Government provides many services including the ones below. Please visit <http://my.nilestownship.org> or call 847/673-9300 for more information.

### Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation

Residents and Business owners in Niles Township are encouraged to share holiday season joy by making a donation to the Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation.

### Niles Township Food Pantry Gift Drive

The Township also is collecting new, unwrapped toys for the children of food pantry clients. The ages of children receiving the gifts range from 0 to 17.

# Village of Skokie



[www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org)  
1660 AM Skokie  
Council/Manager  
Government Since  
1957

## Officials:

Mayor  
George Van Dusen  
Clerk  
Pramod C. Shah  
Trustees  
Michele L. Bromberg  
Karen Gray-Keeler  
Ralph Klein  
Randall E. Roberts  
Edie Sue Sutker  
Ilonka Ulrich

Manager  
John T. Lockerby

Counsel  
Michael M. Lorge

## Phone Numbers:

Emergency  
9-1-1  
Crime Tip Hotline  
847/933-TIPS (8477)  
Information  
847/673-0500  
Fire Non-Emergency  
847/982-5300  
Police Non-Emergency  
847/982-5900  
Citizens Assistance  
847/933-8480

## Departments

Village Hall  
847/673-0500  
Citizens Assistance  
847/933-8480  
Civil Engineering  
847/933-8231  
Clerk's Office  
847/933-8203  
Community  
Development  
847/933-8223  
Economic Development  
847/933-8446  
Planning  
847/933-8447  
Health Department/  
Personal Health  
847/933-8252  
Animal Control  
847/933-8484  
Environmental Health  
847/933-8484  
Human Services  
847/933-8208  
Public Works  
847/933-8427  
Signs and Street Lights  
847/933-8232  
Village Manager's Office  
847/933-8210  
Water Billing  
847/933-8418

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5127 Oakton Street  
Skokie, Illinois 60077

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## Downtown Skokie Holiday Fest and Candy Cane Walk

December 4 from 5 to 8 p.m.

### CELEBRATE

The celebration begins at event headquarters, located at the Skokie Heritage Museum, 8031 Floral Avenue. There will be live reindeer, elves, photos with Santa, carolers to set the mood and much more!

### CANDY CANE WALK

Beginning at 5 p.m. on December 4, guests will check-in at the Skokie Heritage Museum where donations of new winter accessories (hats, gloves, coats) toys or non-perishable food items for the Niles Township Food Pantry will be accepted. Visitors are encouraged to make a donation before receiving a "Candy Cane Walk" passport. The passport will list participating merchants in Downtown Skokie, where festive

candy canes will be available. At press time, participating merchants included Al's Cycle Shop (open until 7pm), Mini Man Monkey Brains & Nixie Gallery (providing children's games and crafts), Skokie Paint & Wallpaper, Village Inn Pizzeria and more to come!

### SHOP & DINE

Shop and dine in Downtown Skokie on Friday, December 4 and turn in receipts from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Skokie Heritage Museum. For every \$10 spent, you will receive a FREE drawing ticket for the chance to win awesome prizes include a Kindle Fire and gift certificates to Downtown Skokie businesses.

For more information on the  
**Holiday Fest and Candy Cane Walk**  
visit [www.downtownskokie.com](http://www.downtownskokie.com). ■

## Shop Local this Holiday Season

Skokie offers a variety of art, entertainment, dining and retail options. This holiday season, try shopping locally in Skokie not only to see what's new, but also to give a gift that will help support your community. For information about local entertainment venues, dining and retail outlets, visit:

- Downtown Skokie's website at [www.downtownskokie.com](http://www.downtownskokie.com);
- The Skokie Chamber of Commerce website at [www.skokiechamber.org](http://www.skokiechamber.org);
- The Chicago's North Shore Convention & Visitor's Bureau at [www.cnsccb.com](http://www.cnsccb.com);
- Like Shop Local Skokie at [www.facebook.com/ShopLocalSkokie](http://www.facebook.com/ShopLocalSkokie); and
- The Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie (IMODS) website at [www.downtownskokie.org](http://www.downtownskokie.org).

For more information visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org). ■

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