



NEWS

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General Primary Election Asks You to Nominate Candidates for Governor, State Senate, House Seats, and More on Feb. 2

On February 2, 2010, voters will be asked to nominate candidates for State Senate, House of Representatives, Attorney General, State Treasurer and Comptroller as well as various County offices and Judgeships to be elected in November. Residents who intend to vote in the Primary Election and have moved, married, changed their name or turned 18 years of age, should register to vote prior to January 5. Grace Period registration and voting will run Jan. 6-26 and Early Voting in person will be conducted from Jan. 11-28. More information on early voting locations will be provided as it becomes available.

Absentee ballot applications will be accepted beginning Dec. 24, 2009. To cut down on costs, the Election Dept. has consolidated some precincts. In Northfield, Precinct 61 has been consolidated with Precinct 37 and residents from both will vote at the Northfield Community Church. For voter information, visit www.voterinfont.com.

Holiday Schedule for Waste Pick Up and Village Hall

The holiday schedule for garbage and recycling pick ups will be as follows: Nov. 26 (Thurs.), Thanksgiving Day - pick ups will be on Friday, Nov. 27. For Christmas Eve and New Years Eve, pick ups are as usual. The Village Hall will be closed Nov. 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving and Dec. 24, 25 and Jan. 1 for the holidays.

President's Briefing

From Village President Fred Gougler

Dear Residents,

As noted in our last Northfield News, I want to take the opportunity in this edition to discuss in greater detail the critical financial issues that are impacting our community. These remain challenging economic times for all of us and, while there appears to be a light at the end of the tunnel, that light remains dim and, for many, too far away. Our Village is not alone in facing these challenges yet it is during times such as these that I am reminded of what makes Northfield such a special place to live. Despite our challenges, I remain optimistic and grateful. I remain optimistic because instead of deferring or ignoring these complex issues, the Village Board is committed to addressing them head on with the purpose of resolving them. I hope you will take a few minutes to read the summary of the Long Range Financial Planning Subcommittee which follows on Page 2. I also remain grateful to you, the residents of this Village, because nothing can be accomplished without your participation and support. Whether it is serving on a Village Board or Commission, the Willow Road Community Advisory Group or countless other activities, we are grateful to you for your many contributions and hours of service to the community. Together with the Village Board and staff, I want to wish each of you a happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful holiday season.

Before we get into the important financial considerations, I want to highlight for a moment the progress made addressing critical floodwater issues that impacted Northfield one short year ago. First, as you know, Cook County Commissioner Gregg Goslin and the County's Director of Planning and Development Allen Mellis attended the August 2009 Board meeting along with the Village's consulting Engineer from Gewalt Hamilton. The County reported to the Board and the community on exactly what modifications were made to the Willow Road Dam in the Skokie Lagoons as well as the results of the study done after the changes to determine the impact of the modifications and their relation to the flooding. As was reported at that meeting, the new configuration did not increase the downstream water elevation for either the 10 or 100 year flood events. A separate Village-wide stormwater study and report completed by our Engineer at about the same time pointed out areas the Village could address to better handle the flow of water from major rainfalls. Some of the specific initiatives the Village has taken to address this important issue include: --Public Works completed 100% of the storm water projects identified in the stormwater report as in-house maintenance projects. (Cont'd on Page 2)

*Wishing You Joy and Happiness
during the Holidays and New Year*

President's Briefing *(Cont'd)*

--Working with the Cook County Highway Department, Public Works was successful in clearing the long standing blockage at Winnetka and Dickens Roads and has continued working with Cook County on a longer more permanent repair solution for this area.

--The Village was successful in working with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC) to clear many of the river blockages from Winnetka Avenue going south which has already resulted in a substantial drop in the river elevation.

--The Village was also successful in working with our State Representative Beth Coulson to secure \$200,000 in the State's capital bill for storm water improvements.

--In addition, we have begun working with Winnetka on joint storm water projects that could benefit the eastern sections of our community.

The Impact of "the Perfect Financial Storm" on Village Finances

The Board's primary focus in 2009 has been on Village finances. To study all Village finances in greater detail, I appointed a Long Range Financial Planning Sub-Committee with Trustee Jack Chapin as Chair and Trustees Brian Kozminski and George Warga as members. A second sub-committee headed by Trustee Terry Gottlieb studied personnel compensation and benefits. The Finance Sub-Committee considered projected revenues and expenses for the next five years based on the Village's history. This year's recession has had a major impact on all of us personally, on the community's businesses and of course, on Village finances. However, as noted by the Long Range Financial Planning Sub-Committee Chair, some of the issues have been brewing for some time and this year's "perfect financial storm" heightened the severity of some of the Village's financial issues. As noted in the Sub-Committee's final report presented to the Board and the community at the October 20 Board meeting, there have been signs that the Village was heading toward some tougher financial times back in 2005. However, the severity of the current economic downturn has acerbated those issues and it has become clear that Village revenues are not keeping up with expenses.

Like most of us who wrestle with this type of issue, your response might be "cut back." The Village has been doing that since the voters of the community turned down the two referendums in 2005 which asked for increases in property and sales taxes. The increase in property tax was recommended to cover the cost of changing how the Village staffed the Fire-Rescue Department. For many years, Northfield was one of the few Fire-Rescue Departments that continued with a "paid on call" system where no one except the Fire Chief, who is also our Public Works Director, staffed the Fire Department full time. All others "came when called." In 2005, the Village felt its population had grown to the point where it was important to increase response time by having Fire-Rescue personnel on duty 24/7. While the Village still did not hire full time fire personnel, it went to a system that

scheduled part time fire-rescue personnel to be on duty at the fire station on specific days and times. The additional cost to switch to this type of coverage was approximately \$300,000 and was the least expensive of the solutions the Village could have selected to improve response time. Since the voters did not approve the referendums, every year since 2005, the Village has been reducing costs in every Department by eliminating budget items, reducing personnel through attrition, combining jobs and not filling positions and making ends meet by tapping into reserve funds when necessary. At about this same time, the Board approved reducing the level of reserves to just six months of General Funds - enough to provide a safety net to deal with unexpected contingencies.

Revenues - Where the Village Gets Money

One of the major areas of our finances that the Sub-Committee studied is "revenues" or where the Village gets its money to operate. During this economic recession, revenues have been greatly impacted. The Village budget depends on revenues from property taxes and sales taxes. Because the Village is a non home rule community, it is bound by State laws that cap property taxes to a maximum of 5% or the CPI, whichever is less. With the current state of the economy, the CPI that property taxes will be based on for the next fiscal year beginning May 1, 2010, is 0.1%. This means that most residents will see an approximate increase of \$1.00 on \$10,000 of property taxes for the Village's portion of the tax bill. New properties and those with improvements might experience a slightly higher increase. This basically equates to no increase in property tax. At the same time, consider that during the height of this tough economic time, it was reported that car sales were down 30 to 40% and other businesses in the community including food sales, restaurants, clothing retailers and others saw business slow dramatically or come to a standstill. All of this impacts sales tax revenues the Village uses to operate.

The Sub-Committee reports the following very real and sobering statistics on actual Illinois revenues for the first seven months of 2009:

--Illinois Municipal Sales Tax is down 9.8% from the same period in 2008

--Illinois Municipal Income Tax is down 15.6% from the same period in 2008, and

--Illinois Municipal Use Tax is down 7.0%.

In past years, some residents have asked, "What happened to all our money?" They recall the days when IBM was located in Northfield and provided abundant revenue from the sale of computers as well as when the Mystik Tape property was donated to the Village and then sold to a developer and the Village was "flush" with money. However, it is also important to remember what the Village did with that money. It contributed \$1.5 million toward building the Northfield Community Center; it gave water rebates of \$50 per quarter to every homeowner (except those on wells) between 1993 and 1998 which totaled \$2 million; it temporarily

(Cont'd on Page 3)

President's Briefing (Cont')

discontinued vehicle stickers for seven years; it constructed a new Fire-Rescue and Public Works facility and upgraded the Village Hall to comply with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA); it upgraded the Library and Post Office building, and there were no property tax increases in 1997 and 1998.

Expenses - Where Money Goes

When it came to "expenses," the Sub-Committee found that some factors that impact the Village budget and finances are not within the control of the Village such as unfunded State mandates that are paid for by municipalities including State requirements for funding Police pensions. In addition, since the Village is primarily a service business, 70% of its operating budget goes to pay for staff - police, fire-rescue, public works, building and development, finance and administration.

As the Long Range Financial Planning Sub-Committee considered expenses over the past five years, they found the average annual increase to be 5.59%. However, as noted above, some of the increases are for things outside the Village's control. Because the stock market and financial industry experienced such a tremendous jolt over the past couple of years, investments that fund pensions have been greatly impacted just as individual accounts have. In addition, as noted above, State mandates require that pensions be funded at certain levels. The Committee reported that ten years ago, the Village paid \$153,540 into the Village Police Pension Fund and the fund was 90% funded. This year, the Village will pay \$782,663 into the same fund and it will only be 50% funded. Due to the fall of the market, the Village will be required to increase pension payments between 10% and 18% per year for the foreseeable future. Being a non home rule community, with the CPI limiting our revenue growth from taxes and other sources, the Sub-Committee reported that the Village is on a predictable path to insolvency.

Committee to Study Potential Financial Solutions

While the Long Range Financial Planning Sub-Committee has fulfilled its original charter to review the Village's finances and the trends over the next five years, I have asked that their charter be expanded and they take the next step and develop possible solutions to keep the Village solvent.

One of the major differences between Northfield and other communities that are faced with the same kinds of financial issues regarding funding pensions, loss of revenues and how to balance budgets while providing services their communities need and/or want is that they have a larger pool of options from which to solve their problems because they are home rule. Being a home rule community means that certain mandates do not apply, sales taxes can be raised if needed, real estate transfer taxes can be imposed, the Village can license various types of businesses and charge fees that non home rule communities cannot and, yes, it can raise property taxes. However, communities that have this flexibility use it

wisely and the residents of the communities trust the Board they elect not to abuse the power given them. There are few municipalities in the area that have not seen that the benefits of being home rule help them more than hinder them. Without this flexibility, Northfield operates with fewer options and the ones it does have take a lot longer to implement with no guarantee they will be successful.

When the Long Range Financial Planning Sub-Committee began their meetings to consider possible solutions not already implemented, some of their considerations included:

- Consider referendums to raise sales taxes and/or property taxes above the CPI.
- Look at all the fees and fines the Village is permitted under non-home rule realizing that to make any kind of impact, increases would have to be significant and cover a broad range of services.
- Look more closely at capital replacement items and roll more purchases into the future.
- Review all Village services and continue to eliminate or scale back on them realizing that since the Village has been doing this since 2005, new cuts in services would be deep ones. The Committee has determined that due to the large and increasing pension obligations, the Village cannot cut its way to a balanced budget while maintaining current service levels.
- Consider a home rule referendum.
- Consider expanding shared costs with other Villages beyond what is currently being done as well as outsourcing some activities and selling assets.

The changes required of the Village have been thrust on it by market forces beyond its control. The community has a very narrow range of available solutions due to being a non home rule municipality, State mandates and the community's inability to find ways of dealing with shortages other than budget cuts and fewer staff, creating "the Perfect Financial Storm." Again, as reported in the Long Range Financial Planning Sub-Committee's report, "each year since the community rejected the prior referendums in 2005, the Board and staff have implemented cost cutting measures targeted to make ends meet. Staff reductions have been made and jobs left vacant following retirements."

When the Sub-Committee completes its new task of considering the possible options and which ones will truly be most effective in keeping the Village from further depleting its reserves, they will again present their findings to the Village Board. We hope that as many residents as possible will take time to attend meetings, read information and ask questions about the Village's financial future so that you can help make the necessary decisions to ensure the changes made are the ones you want for the community.

To read the complete report of the Long Range Financial Planning Sub-Committee, visit the Village website, www.northfieldil.org.

In appreciation of all those elected and appointed who donate their time to serve our community

In every community, there is a dedicated group of residents who take time away from their families and careers to volunteer to serve in local government on Village Boards, Commissions and special Committees. As the end of the year nears, it is a good time to honor those who have served and those who continue to represent residents of the community. On behalf of all Northfield residents and Village staff, we extend our sincere appreciation to the following residents and those who have worked on behalf of the community for their contributions.

Fred Gougler, **President**

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John (Jack) N. Chapin, Jr., **Trustee**

Joan Frazier, **Trustee**

Terry J. Gottlieb, **Trustee**

Brian Kozminski, **Trustee**

Fred Teichert, **Trustee**

George Warga, **Trustee**

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Donald Klein

Brian K. Kozminski, Trustee

Barbara Moore

Sean O'Grady

Margaret Parcels

Village Center Task Force

Terry Gottlieb, Chair, Vill. Trustee

John Birkinbine, (former Village Pres.)

Evan Karnes (former Trustee)

Pat Karr, Arch. Comm. Chair

Bob Lopatin (VC property owner)

Ruth Lucchesi (former Trustee)

Blair Robinson (former Trustee)

Bill Vaselopulos, P&Z Comm., Chair

George Warga, Village Trustee

Willow Rd. Steering Committee

John L. Birkinbine

Peter Fischer, School Dist. 29

Robert Hayward, Chair, T&T Comm.

Stacy Sigman, Village Mgr.

Scott Turban, Park District

Willow Rd. Community Advisory Group (CAG) and Alternates

John Birkinbine/Anne Peterson

Hallie Bodman/Jack Bodman

Dan deLoys/Sydney Clark

Ted Greene/Patrick O'Donoghue

Robert Hayward/Brian Kozminski

Steve Hirsch/Juli Blunt

John Kemper/Pat Doherty

Peggy Kozminski/Melissa Bianucci

Buggie O'Grady/Kate Regett

Phoebe Raymond/Sean O'Grady

Stacy Sigman/Chief William Lustig

Scott Turban/Theresa Snyder

Don Whiteman/Brian Moran

IDOT Begins Willow Road Context Sensitive Solution Process with November 5 Meeting for the Community Advisory Group

Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is set to take the first step in the two year long Context Sensitive Solution process by holding a meeting November 5 at 6:00 p.m. at New Trier West High School in Northfield. The communities of Northfield, Glenview, Northbrook and Winnetka have identified stakeholders from various groups within their communities to represent them on the Community Advisory Group (CAG). As the independent Lakota Study did in 2007, IDOT will hold a series of meetings to discuss the stakeholder's concerns and opinions about how Willow Road should be constructed to achieve greater movement of traffic yet provide for the safety and well being of children who cross Willow Road to get to schools, Park District facilities on both sides of Willow Road as well as the environmental impact of the roadway. Each of the communities provided IDOT with a list of residents who represent various organizations within the community and who should be included on the CAG. From Northfield's list, IDOT selected 13 members and 13 alternate members who will attend meetings when a regular member is unavailable. Northfield will be represented by Traffic and Transportation Chair Robert Hayward, former Village President John Birkinbine, Village Manager Stacy Sigman, Park District Board member Scott Turban, School Board member Phoebe Raymond as well as other residents in the community. Among Northfield's alternates are Police Chief Bill Lustig and Board Trustee Brian Kozminski. Northbrook will be represented by four people, Glenview by four and Winnetka by two.

Over the years, IDOT has been changing its transportation philosophy to encompass both connectivity and quality of life for communities. It defines Context Sensitive Solution as "an inter-disciplinary approach that seeks effective multimodal transportation solutions by working with stakeholders to develop, build and maintain cost-effective transportation facilities which fit into and reflect the project's surrounds--its "context." By using early, frequent and meaningful communication with stakeholders or CAG members and a flexible and creative approach to design, the resulting projects should improve safety and mobility for the traveling public while seeking to preserve and enhance the scenic, economic, historic and natural qualities of the settings through which they pass."

Northfield continues to support the three lane concept for Willow Road that was developed over the course of almost two years of meetings between IDOT, Village staff, Board members and residents of the community. Phase I and II Engineering was agreed to and paid for by IDOT before they stopped work on the project. The estimated cost for the three lane plan was approximately \$6 million versus the projected cost for the four lane plan which has been quoted by Senator Schoenberg as costing \$25 million.

To keep abreast on the Community Advisory Group meetings and other meetings regarding Willow Road, visit the Village website, www.northfieldil.org and click on the "Keeping Up on Willow Road" icon on the right side of the home page.

Important Holiday Reminders from Police and Fire-Rescue

- Never leave lit candles unattended or let children or pets play near them.
- When attending holiday get-togethers and family parties, have a designated driver, call a taxi or stay over if you will be drinking alcohol that puts you over the legal limit of 0.08 (approx. 2 drinks for 100-139 lbs., 3 drinks for 140-189 lbs, 4 drinks for 190-230 lbs.)
- Parents of minors are reminded that providing alcohol to a person under 21 years of age is a Class A misdemeanor that carries consequences that could include fines and imprisonment. Always monitor parties of children at your home and be sure a parent will be present when children party at other friends' homes.

Village Board Meeting Schedule for the Year 2010

(3rd Tuesday of month)

Board Meetings

January 19

February 16

March 16

April 20

May 18

June 15

July 20

August 17

September 21

October 19

(No Nov. meeting)

December 6*

(* First Monday to adopt tax levy.

Fee/Fine Increases Will Impact Parking, Building Permits and Other Services

Beginning Jan. 1, 2010, various Village fees, fines and permits will increase to reflect changes in the consumer price index, market conditions and staff costs. Increases will impact fines for some parking violations and dog control issues, license fees for some businesses, plan review and ambulance service fees. For a complete list of all Village fees, please refer to the Municipal Code on the Village website, www.northfieldil.org, Appendix D, Fee and Bond Amounts.

Water and Sewer Rate Increases Proposed for Improvements to System

In 2008, a sub-committee of the Village was created to review the Village's capital needs and sources of funding. They recommended a series of water and sewer rate increases to insure the Village's water and sewer funds were adequately funded in order to keep up with the growing infrastructure and maintenance demands. To make the needed improvements to the system, effective May 1, 2010, the base water rate will increase from \$4.14 per 100 cubic feet of water to \$4.40 and the sanitary sewer rate will rise from \$1.38 to \$1.51 per 100 cubic feet of water. The minimum quarterly water and sewer rate based on 1,100 cubic feet will go from \$60.72 to \$65.01.

Snow Removal - Who to Call

The Village of Northfield is not responsible for plowing the following State and County roads. Please call the appropriate office.

Illinois Dept. of Transportation (847-705-4612 or 847-705-4226)

- Willow Road
- Waukegan Road
- Edens Expressway
- Hibbard (Willow south to Illinois)

Cook County Highway Dept. (847-827-1164)

- Sunset Ridge Road
- Wagner Road (south of Willow)
- Winnetka Road
- West Frontage Road
- East Frontage Road
- Happ Road (south from Willow to Illinois)
- Orchard Lane (between West Frontage and South Happ Road)
- Linder Avenue (north of Orchard)
- Orchard Lane (between East Frontage and Linder Avenue)

Numbers to Know

Village of Northfield Public Works (Snow Removal)

1800 Winnetka Road
847-441-3810

Police Department 350 Walnut

Emergency: 911

Non-emergency: 847-446-2131

Fire-Rescue

1800 Winnetka Road

Emergency: 911

Non-emergency (24 hr.):

847-446-2131

8:00 am - 4:00 pm M-F:

847-441-3800

(Calls after regular working hours should be made to 847-446-2131 or **911** for emergencies.)

How the Village Handles Snow & Ice

The Public Works Department uses its Snow and Ice Control Plan to handle winter's unpredictable weather so roads and critical sidewalks remain passable. As part of their Plan, the Department is put on alert after receiving advance notice of storms from local weather forecasters. The Police Department, which is on the street 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, also keeps Public Works advised of conditions and changing weather. The Public Works crew has 1 salt and 8 plow routes and handles snow falls of varying duration with different approaches. For snow falls of short duration or approximately 2 to 6 inches of accumulation, crews will attempt to remove snow prior to rush hour, when possible, from 3 to 4 a.m. or 2 to 3 p.m. to assure safe driving conditions. During average snowfalls, the Village's streets and parking lots are cleared and salted in approximately 4 hours. If the forecast indicates long periods of snow and large amounts of accumulation, crews plow in intervals to prevent snow from accumulating beyond safe driving conditions. After routes are plowed, all major Village streets, intersections and slippery spots on roadways are salted. Sidewalks in the central business district and along primary routes to local schools (parts of Happ Road, Wagner Road, Sunset Ridge Road, also Old Willow Road, Bosworth, Lagoon between Winnetka and Willow, Winnetka Road from Hibbard west and Willow Road west to Edgewood and east to the Village limits) are also plowed as part of the snow removal plan. Village crews clear Village streets only. Residents on private streets in the Village are responsible for independently contracting for snow removal. Willow and Waukegan Roads and the Edens Highway interchanges are plowed by the State. Winnetka, Wagner, Sunset Ridge, South Happ, and Frontage Roads are plowed by Cook County Highway Department. Residents who need information or help about plowing their street, should contact the Public Works Dept., 847-441-3810, or the appropriate Highway Department listed on this page.

Safe Driving Tips for Winter Travel

When driving in snow, freezing rain and windy conditions:

- Take a safe but less traveled route - fewer vehicles can lower risk.
- Drive slower than normal and increase your following distance.
- If you start to skid, ease your foot off the accelerator or brake (braking may increase skid), then steer in the direction of the skid.
- After skidding stops, put your foot gently on the accelerator and steer in the direction you want to go.
- Carry a "travel rescue kit" including cell phone, booster cables and road flares, flashlight, traction aids, ice scraper and snow brush, blankets, boots, extra clothing, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, water and snacks.

If you get stranded:

- Place a flare a safe distance from each end of your vehicle or tie a bright cloth to the antenna or door handle then stay in your vehicle and wait for help (unblock exhaust pipe of any snow).
- Wrap yourself in blankets and run the heater for a few minutes every hour (keep window open a crack).

Important Snow Reminders

- Remember not to shovel or plow snow into public streets.
- Make sure fire hydrants in front of your home are clear of snow and visible.
- Mound snow to the right of the driveway (looking from house) to prevent plows from pushing snow back into the driveway.
- Report mailboxes damaged or downed by snowplows (on Village streets) to the Public Works Department, 847-441-3810. Mailboxes damaged on County roads should be reported to Cook County Hwy. Dept. and those on State roads to IDOT. Call the numbers listed on this page.

Senior Services and Information

Grants Aid Eligible Seniors and Disabled Who Need Financial Help to Live in the Community

Applications are now available for grants to be awarded in 2010 to Northfield seniors who need help with living costs and want to apply. For the 2010 grant year, the total Senior Assistance grant amount is \$1,500 for those meeting the requirements. Applications can be picked up at the North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, the Northfield Branch Library, 1785 Orchard, or the Village Hall, 361 Happ Road. Applications are also available by mail upon request - call 847-446-9200. To be eligible for a grant, resident applicants must be 62 years of age or older (age 60 if disabled), have resided in Northfield for at least the immediate preceding 3 years (for 50% grant) or immediate preceding 5 years or 10 years cumulatively as an adult (for 100% grant), have a gross income of not more than \$20,000 (\$25,000 or lower for couples), and have total assets not exceeding \$60,000 (exclusive of home, property within the household and motor vehicles). Applicant information is kept confidential and reviewed only by the Senior Center social worker determining eligibility. **Applications must be returned to the North Shore Senior Center by Dec. 31, 2009 to be eligible for 2010 funding.**

Donations Only Source of Revenue for Senior Grants

Since the Senior Assistance Fund was established in 1989, many annual grants have been distributed to Northfield Seniors in need of financial assistance. The Social Services Department of the North Shore Senior Center donates its time to evaluate and administer the program while the Friends of Northfield Foundation oversees distribution of the grants. A recent profile of residents receiving assistance indicates that recipients were between 70 and 79 years old, have lived in town from 8 to 18 years, had an income between \$11,000 and \$24,000 and allowable assets as low as \$606. This grant program continues through the generous donations of residents and friends with 100% of all contributions used to help Northfield seniors stay in the community. To donate, make checks payable to **Friends of Northfield Foundation and specify, "Senior Assistance Fund"** and mail to P.O. Box 8045, Northfield, IL 60093. Your contributions are tax deductible.

Special Program Provides Public Safety Responders with Vital Information on Residents with Special Needs

In August 2009, the Illinois Premise Alert Program (PAP) Act became effective in Illinois. This safety program supports individuals living with disabilities and special needs by providing public safety responders with vital information prior to arrival at the specific address. The Program is a database of individuals with special needs that is kept in the Computer Aided Dispatch database and maintained by our Police Department at the request of families, caregivers or individuals with disabilities or special needs. The Program allows families to voluntarily notify the Northfield Police Dept., which is responsible for dispatching police, fire, ambulance and other first responders, about the person's special circumstances free of any charge. The Program will assist the Northfield Police in identifying individuals who have special needs enabling emergency responding units to have additional information at their disposal before arrival. The Northfield Police Dept. has developed a Special Needs Awareness Profile that individuals, parents, guardians and/or caregivers can complete about the special needs person at the address provided that will be stored in the database. This form meets the Illinois State requirements for the Premise Alert Program. If you would like to participate in the Program, please complete the form available on the Village website, www.northfieldil.org, under Police Department, "Special Awareness and Premise Alert Program Profile," and mail or bring the form to the Police Dept., 350 Walnut Avenue, Northfield, IL 60093. If you have any questions, contact Sgt. Tom Jones or Police Communications Supervisor Lorene Boyes, 847-446-2131.

Low Income Program Helps Residents Pay Utility Costs

Eligible low-income households that need help paying for home energy costs, can apply for assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) which provides an annual credit paid directly to the utility company. The amount of the grant is determined by income, household size and fuel type. To be eligible, the family gross income (before deductions) for the 30 days prior to application cannot exceed \$1,300 for one person, \$1,750 for two, etc. These amounts may change after Jan. 1. Applications from residents in New Trier and Northfield Twps. are being taken by appointment at the North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road. The person filing the application must be 18 years or older, head of household and the customer of record on utility bills. If the applicant is a family member or friend, they must bring a signed letter of authorization from the person applying. To make an appointment, call 847-784-6040.



Who to Call for Power Loss and Other Problems

For electrical outages (no lights, or other electricity):

ComEd: 1-800-334-7661

To report a natural gas odor:

NICOR Gas: 1-888-642-6748

For downed telephone lines or dead phones:

AT&T: 1-888-611-4466 (repair)

For Cable TV service/problems:

Comcast Cable: 1-866-594-1234

For waste/recycling pick-ups:

Waste Management: 1-800-796-9696

For water/sewer problems:

Public Works Dept.: 847-441-3810

Community Events

Have Breakfast with Santa at Clarkson Park on Dec. 5

Children ages 1 and up are invited to have breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Clarkson Park. Let Santa know about your holiday wishes. The fire will be roaring and a story will be read plus there will be treats and a goodie bag for all. \$8 for children ages one and up/\$10 for adults.

Enjoy Pancake Breakfast at St. Philip the Apostle Sun., Dec. 6

All you can eat pancakes, sausage and juice/coffee at St. Philip the Apostle Pancake Breakfast held at the gym, 1980 Old Willow Rd. on Dec. 6 from 7:30 am to Noon. Tickets: \$6; children age 3 and under free. Come for food, hand-made gifts, bake sale and Santa's Workshop. Remember to bring your camera for photos with Santa!

How to Recycle or Dispose of Live Trees and Wreaths

Waste Management will pick up bare Christmas trees (not bagged) at the curb on Mon., Jan. 4 and Mon., Jan. 11. The Park District in conjunction with Glenwood Tree Service will recycle residents' "formerly fresh" Christmas trees that are unbagged, completely free of ornaments, tinsel and other decorative materials. Drop them off in the southeast corner only of the Community Center parking lot off Wagner Rd. between Dec. 26 and Jan. 7. No trees accepted after Jan. 7. Recycled trees will be chipped for mulch. For information regarding the recycled mulch, contact Glenwood Tree, 847-459-0200.

Support Local Businesses - Shop Northfield for Great Food, Gifts and Services

The Chamber of Commerce invites shoppers of all ages to get into the holiday spirit by shopping downtown Northfield where "uncommon" gifts and individual service can be found. Discover unique treasures. Make it a day and stop for lunch or dinner at one of the Village Center restaurants or get ready for your get-togethers with goods from specialty shops and our large well-stocked food store. Gift certificates from local hair salons, spas, restaurants and other shops are great to give! Select decorations at the hardware store or special home furnishing stores. Support your community by shopping locally!

Local Organizations Where Your Donations Help

Additional organizations that are accepting donations for worthwhile programs that benefit Northfield and area residents include:

Northfield Parks Foundation
c/o Northview Bank & Trust
P.O. Box 8078
Northfield, IL 60093

United Way of the North Shore
Winnetka-Northfield Chapter
540 W. Frontage Rd., Ste. 3040
Northfield, IL 60093

Calendar of Events

Call the Village Hall for the location of the meeting you want to attend and agendas.

Nov. 9 & Dec. 14 - Architectural Commission Mtgs. - 7:00 p.m.

No Nov. Board Mtg.; Dec. 7 - Truth in Taxation/Village Board Mtg. - 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 16 - Traffic & Transportation Comm. Mtg. - 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 4 - Plan and Zoning Commission Mtg. - 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 5 - Zoning Board of Appeals Mtg. - 7:00 p.m.

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President, Fred Gougler

Trustee John N. Chapin, Jr.	Trustee Joan Frazier
Trustee Terry J. Gottlieb	Trustee Brian Kozminski
Trustee Fred Teichert	Trustee George Warga

Village Hall Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday
847-446-9200 or 446-7131/TDD; Dial 911 for Emergencies.
Cable Ch. 6, AT&T 99 or www.northfieldil.org for Village News

Resident Input on Deer

The Village President and Board of Trustees provide this opportunity for your **comments/concerns regarding Deer in your area**. Please include your name, address and telephone number so a response can be provided.

Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____

Forward inquiries to Stacy Sigman, Village Manager, Village Hall, 361 Happ Road, Northfield, IL 60093