A Note from President Frazier

The majority of phone calls made to 911 are placed from cell phones. When the call is made, the operator who answers knows only the number you are calling from, and has only a very general idea of your location. In an emergency situation, this lack of information can have serious consequences.

A new innovative service called Smart911 has been created to address this situation. It is especially important for those who may require special or enhanced care in the event of an emergency. An individual who decides to participate in this program creates a Smart911 Safety Profile at [www.Smart911.com](http://www.Smart911.com), or on a Smart911 app available on the Apple Store and Google Play. Smart911 allows you to create a Safety Profile for your household that includes any information you want first responders to know in the event of an emergency. You can link both your home and work addresses to your mobile phone. You can also provide any additional information including medical conditions, emergency contacts, vehicle details, or pets in your home. In addition, you may choose to receive location-based emergency alerts from the 911 system. This program is entirely voluntary and if you enroll you can decide which details you would like to include in your profile.

When a Northfield resident using Smart911 makes an emergency call, his or her Safety Profile is automatically displayed to the 911 operator. This allows the operator to quickly send the right response team to the correct location. The first responders arrive already knowing about any special medical condition you may have. Your Safety Profile goes with you when you travel, allowing first responders across the country who use the Smart911 system to immediately send the right response team to your location in the event of a call to 911.

Smart911 is private and secure, is only used by emergency responders, and the information you provide is made available to the 911 system only in the event of an emergency call. If you believe you would benefit by enrollment, I encourage you to consider creating a Safety Profile with this new program.

For more information, visit [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com).

Sincerely,
President Joan Frazier
What is Smart911?

Smart911 is a service that allows residents to create a free Safety Profile for their household that includes any information they want 9-1-1 and first responders to have in the event of an emergency. Then, when anyone in that household dials 9-1-1 from a phone associated with their Safety Profile, their profile is immediately displayed to the 9-1-1 call taker providing additional information that can be used to facilitate the proper response to the proper location. At a time when seconds count, Smart911 provides details that could impact response the second an emergency call is placed, which could be the difference between life and death.

How does Smart911 work?

What individuals create...

What 9-1-1 call takers see...

How can I sign up?

You can sign up for Smart911 at www.smart911.com or download the Smart911 App on the Apple Store or Google Play and create a Safety Profile for your household to give 9-1-1 valuable information about yourself, family members, your home, pets and even vehicles that will display automatically on the 9-1-1 call taker’s screen when you make an emergency call. It’s private and secure and you control what information is in your profile. These details can save seconds or even minutes during an emergency.
How does Smart911 Help?

Medical Conditions
For individuals who are affected by epilepsy, diabetes, Alzheimer's, allergies, mental health or other medical conditions, Smart911 can inform responders of their condition as well as medications and emergency contacts.

Seniors & Elderly Care
For seniors, a Safety Profile can provide peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, 9-1-1 would have details on their home and medical needs. For caretakers, they can be assured that if the person they care for needs to dial 9-1-1 when they are alone, their details are available and the caretaker can be listed as an emergency contact.

General Emergencies
For all individuals, there is always the risk of unplanned accidents or events. Whether in a vehicle or in your home, even the most basic details such as the address association with a mobile phone can be available to 9-1-1 and response teams to send help fast.

Physical Disabilities
For those who have a physical disability or mobility restrictions, it is vital for responders to know about the person, their disability, and what type of assistance or special equipment they may need to evacuate their home or receive transport.

Pets and Service Animals
For individuals with pets or other animals, your Safety Profile can alert police to their presence when entering your home and Fire crews can be aware of exactly how many people and pets need to be evacuated from your home. For owners of a service animal, you can alert responders that your animal needs to be transported with you.
The Village of Northfield

Vision Plan 2040

Don’t forget to vote on April 2! Northfield residents will be voting to fill three Village Trustee vacancies.

Upcoming Workshop to Review Proposed Budget

The Village Board invites all residents to join in reviewing the proposed 2019-2020 fiscal year budget. The Budget Workshop is March 5 at 6:00 PM at Village Hall. If further discussion is needed, a second meeting will be held in the same location on March 7 at 6:00 PM.

At the Budget Workshop, the proposed budget will be discussed, as well as a review of the current 2018-2019 fiscal year budget, which will end on April 30. The proposed budget is available for review at Village Hall or at www.northfieldil.org/budget.

Vision Plan 2040 Workshop

Over the past several months, the Village has been hard at work developing a new comprehensive plan, Vision Plan 2040. The community is invited to participate in the next step of this important planning process, a Subareas Visioning Workshop on April 4 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the North Shore Senior Center (161 Northfield Road).

By participating in the workshop, you can help answer questions like, “How should we prioritize bikes, pedestrians, and automobiles in the Village Center?” or, “How can the Northfield Road corridor better transition and connect to the Downtown?” By joining us and sharing your thoughts, you can help craft the vision for the future of Northfield!

Vision Plan 2040 will address a variety of topics, including community-wide plans for land use and development, transportation, parks and open space, community facilities, infrastructure, and resiliency. By analyzing community consensus, community vision, existing conditions, and future potentials, Vision Plan 2040 will guide Village leaders to make substantive decisions for the community. It will serve as a road map into the future by guiding policy decisions and helping the community achieve its long-term objectives. You can stay active and aware of the project by visiting www.northfieldil.org/visionplan.

Keep Sidewalks Clear

Did you know that it is illegal to park any part of your vehicle on a public sidewalk? Even if your private driveway requires you to drive over a sidewalk, you cannot park your vehicle in your driveway with any part of the vehicle extending over the sidewalk. This is dangerous and illegal because your vehicle may be impeding the ability of pedestrians, those with strollers, cyclists, runners, or people in wheelchairs to travel safely on the sidewalk.

Student Art Gallery Installation

March is Youth Art Month, and the Village is excited to celebrate by featuring Sunset Ridge and Middlefork students! Beginning March 1, the lobby of Village Hall will be covered in over 100 pieces of student-created art.

Youth Art Month emphasizes the value of art education for all children, encourages support for quality school art programs, and provides a forum for recognizing skills developed through visual arts experiences that are not possible in other curriculum subjects.

Please stop by to view the art any time Village Hall (361 Happ Road) is open, Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM-4:30 PM. If you have any ideas or suggestions on how to bring art to our community, please send them to mdefeo@northfieldil.org.
Community Events Sign

The Village maintains the community events sign at the corner of Happ Road and Willow Road for local not-for-profit organizations to post their event information. If you are interested in reserving a space for your organization, you can find the application by visiting www.northfieldil.org/sign.

Get to Know a Northfielder

Steve Gutierrez grew up on the north side of Chicago. Following his interest in public service, he attended Augustana College to study Political Science. While there, he took a class taught by the local Village Manager focused on city management. Steve found the issues that his instructor worked on to be interesting and that a career in municipal government would allow him to have the greatest direct impact on people’s daily lives. After graduating from Augustana, he attended Northern Illinois University for his Masters in Public Administration.

Steve became Northfield’s Community Development Director in 2011, and brings 28 years of experience working in the fields of community development and public management. He says the most rewarding aspect of his work is the tangible positive impact the Village can have on the quality of new buildings, businesses, and development, and how this enhances Northfield’s built environment and tax base. He also enjoys the diversity of issues he sees daily and the level of interaction he has with community members and elected officials.

Steve and his wife Shari live in Glen Ellyn, and they have four children. Steve is very involved with his church, enjoys spending time with his family and friends, loves helping people, and usually can be found fixing something.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

On April 27, the Northfield Police Department will host its seventh National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Residents can bring unneeded prescriptions to the Police Department (350 Walnut Street) from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM for safe disposal. **Please note that needles, syringes, creams, and liquids cannot be accepted.**

This event aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing drugs, while also educating about the potential for abuse of medications. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs (including dangerous opioids) are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

The Environmental Protection Agency discourages flushing unneeded prescriptions and over-the-counter drugs down the toilet or drain unless the label or accompanying patient information specifically instructs you to do so. This keeps medicines from entering our waterways and harming the environment and drinking water.

Fire Department Technology Grant

The safety of hundreds of thousands of residents and firefighters on the North Shore and beyond will be improved as a result of a $1.4 million grant awarded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

This funding will provide 16 local Fire Departments with upgraded radio equipment ensuring compatibility and facilitating improved cooperation among law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, and other local, state and federal first responders. The grant will also allow the Departments to implement Motorola’s APX system, which allows for real-time tracking of first responders, helping dispatch resources efficiently and saving time during emergencies.

The $1,440,218 grant will be shared by the Departments in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Division 3, a partnership of suburban Fire Departments and the Regional Emergency Dispatch Center that serve Chicago’s north and northwest suburbs. The Northfield Fire Department’s portion of the grant request is $84,247, of which the Village will provide a 10% match.
Deer Sightings

If you see deer in your yard or neighborhood, please let us know by visiting www.northfieldil.org/request.

Village-Wide Clean Up Day

Residents can dispose of old or unused items during Village-Wide Clean Up Day, Saturday April 27. All items must be at the curb by 7:00 AM. No hazardous waste, construction debris, landscape waste, or appliances will be picked up. If you would like to dispose of appliances, contact Waste Management at (800)796-9696 to arrange for a special pickup.

As winter weather wraps up, continue being good neighbors by shoveling your sidewalks. Your neighbors thank you!

New Car Seat Law

Effective January 2019, children younger than two years old must ride in a rear-facing car seat. The only exception is if the child is taller than 40 inches or weighs more than 40 pounds.

This law originates from a recommendation by the Academy of Pediatrics and studies indicating that children under two are 75% less likely to be severely injured in a crash if they are riding rear-facing. Parents violating this new state law can face a $75 fine for a first offense, while second offenses can cost up to $200.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 73% of child restraint systems are not used properly. The Police Department has certified safety seat installers who are happy to teach how to properly install these at no cost to residents. For more information about installation or to schedule an appointment with a certified safety seat installer, call (847) 446-2131 ext. 2, Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Yard Waste Collection Season Begins

Waste Management’s first yard waste pickup of the season will be April 1, with the final pickup on December 2. Yard waste collection is an optional service and subscriptions roll over from year to year. This service is available to residents for $100.81 for the 2019 season.

Paper leaf bags or garbage-type containers clearly marked “yard waste” can be used. There is no limit to the number of yard waste bags or containers residents can put at the curb for collection. Acceptable materials include grass clippings, leaves, garden materials, and branches up to two inches in diameter and four feet in length. Branches set out for collection must be tied with string made of natural fibers.

Do not put yard waste in unmarked recycling or garbage containers or in plastic bags— it will NOT be picked up. To subscribe to yard waste service, call Waste Management at (800)796-9696 or visit www.wm.com.

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GETTING THINGS DONE!

Sewer Televising
This winter, the Village cleaned and closed-circuit televised 8,500 feet of sanitary and storm sewers. This is done every few years to identify lines that are in need of repair, which helps the Public Works Department proactively repair and slip line before pipes become damaged past the point of repair.

Reduced Insurance Premiums Continue
Due to the hard work of the Community Development Department, Northfield was recently recertified in the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Community Rating System. The Village’s continued certification allows residents a 15% discount on new overland flooding policies or policy renewals through the National Flood Insurance Program.

The recertification process requires an extensive report on the Village’s ongoing flood hazard mitigation efforts. Contact your insurance carrier to discuss your policy or for more information about the National Flood Insurance Program and the Community Rating System, visit www.floodsmart.gov.

Fire-Rescue Department Upgraded
The Village is excited to announce that Northfield’s Fire-Rescue Department was recently upgraded to a Class 3 Department by the Insurance Services Office (ISO). Fire Departments across the country are rated by ISO on how well-equipped they are to put out fires in their community. Departments are rated on a scale of 1-10, with one being the best. Of the over 43,000 Departments that are rated, only 5,000 have achieved a Class 3 rating or higher.

The comprehensive assessment reviews:
• The staffing levels and training of the Department
• The water system, including the prevalence of fire hydrants, pipe sizes, and how much water is available for putting out fires
• Emergency communications systems
• Community outreach, including fire prevention and safety courses

This upgrade is a huge accomplishment and is due in large part to the recent improvements to the water system, including increasing the size and number of water mains under Willow Road. The score is provided to insurance companies who use it as a factor in personal and commercial property insurance rates.

Pollinator Garden Progress
This winter, the Village treated and removed the overgrowth of invasive species and poison ivy in preparation of the new pollinator garden along the North Branch of the Chicago River at the north-west corner of Winnetka and Northfield Roads.

In the early spring, a second round of herbicide will be applied to the growth. All herbicides used are approved for use in wetland habitats and will have no ill effects on the nearby water and wildlife. Later in the spring, the dead growth will be removed and seeds will be planted.

The Village looks forward to maintaining this long-term project, as a lush pollinator garden can take a few years to establish. This project is being partially funded by a ComEd Green Region grant.
Curbside Composting Program

Do you want to become more environmentally friendly, but don’t know where to start? Try the curbside composting program! Composting is the natural process of recycling organic waste and is the most ecologically friendly way to dispose of food scraps. Composting reduces greenhouse gases, diverts materials from landfills, and creates a valuable nutrient-rich soil amendment.

Waste Management offers a voluntary subscription-based curbside composting program to all Northfield homes. Compost pickup runs every Monday during the yard waste season from April 1 through December 2. Collected compostable materials are combined with yard waste and are taken to the same facility for disposal; however, unlike yard waste, compostable material must be put into a Waste Management cart due to Health Department regulations and animal concerns.

Food scraps that are put loosely into your cart may attract unwanted pests. Paper bags or newspaper are most commonly used to wrap scraps. All clean paper products (cups, plates, napkins, etc.) should continue to be disposed of in your recycling cart. Paper products that have food remnants on them (pizza boxes, used paper towels, etc.) cannot be recycled and should instead be composted.

Compost program participants have priority access to free compost for their gardens twice a year. To enroll in the program and request a cart, contact Waste Management at (800) 796-9696. For other questions, contact the Village at (847)784-3554.

Q&A with Linnea

A regular column featuring our go-to horticulturist answering your burning questions about plants!

Linnea O’Neil has served as the Village’s Planner since 2000, and is a landscape architect, certified urban planner, and Openlands TreeKeeper. Linnea often receives questions from residents about their neighbor’s trees. Some of the common questions are:

- **Who owns this tree?** Check your plat of survey to determine on whose property the tree is located. The Village can help with locating plats but does not survey properties.
- **My neighbor’s tree hangs over my property line. Whose responsibility is it to trim?** If a tree extends over a property line, each property owner may trim the portion of the tree that extends over their property. We advise giving your neighbor a heads-up that you’ll be trimming, and having major pruning done by a professional.
- **A branch of my neighbor’s tree fell into my yard and is lying across the fence. Whose responsibility is it to remove this limb?** Neighbors should work together on their respective properties to clean up the debris.
- **I’m concerned that my neighbor’s tree is dead and could fall on my garage, house, or fence. What should I do?** Always talk to your neighbor first to voice your concern. If that isn’t effective, complete the Tree Nuisance form on the Village website.

Have a question about plants that you’d like answered? Send it to loneill@northfieldil.org, and we may feature it in our next newsletter!
This February, Michael Poupko, former director and teacher at the North Shore Music Institute, opened a new school and live music agency. The mission of Our Music Institute (OMI) is simple: “Our Community, Our Music and Our Education.”

Our Music Institute offers top-notch music and music technology instruction and lessons for all ages and levels in both group and one-on-one settings. Classes in voice, piano, guitar, ukulele, bass, drums, violin, viola, cello, and songwriting are available. They also offer classes and lessons for DJs, EDM production and mixing, and home studio recording (Pro Tools, Logic, and Ableton). In addition, they can assist with audition preparation for high school and college musical theater students.

Michael also plans to introduce new classes, including the Music Together class that will serve families with children under the age of five, Let’s Play will serve children ages 5-8, Maui to Motown is a ukulele club for adults, DJ School, and the ABC's of EDM that will appeal to teens and young adults.

“You can learn a lot from the Internet but music is about community and human interaction,” according to Michael. “We don’t serve the community; we are a part of it.” As the former director of Northfield’s North Shore Music Institute, Michael has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Winnetka-Northfield Chamber of Commerce and a partner to the Winnetka and Northfield Park Districts as well as the New Trier Extension Program.

Our Music Institute is located at 400 Central Avenue and can be reached at (847)386-6765 or www.OurMusicInstitute.com.
**March**

4  Plan and Zoning Commission Meeting  7:00 PM
5  Budget Workshop  6:00 PM
6  Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting  CANCELLED
7  Budget Workshop (if Necessary)  6:00 PM
11 Architectural Commission Meeting  7:00 PM
11 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee  7:00 PM
19 Committee of the Whole Meeting  5:30 PM
19 Village Board Meeting  7:00 PM

**April**

1  Plan and Zoning Commission Meeting  7:00 PM
3  Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting  7:00 PM
4  Comprehensive Plan Public Workshop  7:00 PM
8  Architectural Commission Meeting  7:00 PM
16 Committee of the Whole Meeting  5:30 PM
16 Village Board Meeting  7:00 PM
25 Police Pension Board  5:00 PM

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**Recognition Lunch**

The Winnetka-Northfield Chamber of Commerce will hold their 43rd Annual Recognition Lunch on April 10 at 11:00 AM at the Winnetka Community House. All are invited to attend the event, which recognizes outstanding area residents, community leaders, business members, and volunteers. There will be networking, a fashion show, awards, and a silent auction. Tickets may be purchased at www.winnetkanorthfieldchamber.com.

**Eggstravaganza at Clarkson Park**

Bring your basket and join in the fun April 20 at the annual Eggstravaganza at Clarkson Park! Airbrush tattoos and pictures with the Bunny will be from 10:30-11:00 AM with the egg hunt beginning at 11:00 AM sharp. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at the Community Center.

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**Have a Fun-Filled Summer at a Northfield Park District Camp**

The Northfield Park District offers several camps for children ages three years through 8th grade. Their flexible camp programs let you choose the schedule that works best for your family. Select your number of weeks, full or half day, and days of the week. The Counselor in Training program is open to those entering 6th through 10th grade. Camp runs June 10 through August 9. Take advantage of early-bird pricing until March 31. The Camp Guide is available at www.northfieldparks.org.

**Camp Counselor Positions Available**

The Northfield Park District is hiring camp counselors that are at least 15 years of age. Do you like kids? Gain valuable work experience in a fun environment. Applications are available at www.northfieldparks.org and at the Northfield Community Center.

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**Stay Connected with the Village!**

[www.facebook.com/northfieldil](http://www.facebook.com/northfieldil)  Twitter at @NorthfieldIL