President’s Message

With a little luck in winning grants, and a lot of generosity on the part of our residents, Northfielders will in time be able to access the Skokie Valley Trail (SVT) in Northfield and walk or ride it from Lake Bluff to Chicago.

Completion of Northfield’s portion of the SVT has been on the Village’s to-do list for over 20 years. Because federal funding is involved, building the trail involves three phases. We were able to embark on the first phase of the project – preliminary engineering of the trail – after working with Wilmette, Skokie, and Glenview, to obtain government funding to pay for most of the work. Following review of that feedback, which was substantial, the Village Board decided at its July meeting to locate its portion of the SVT along the ComEd and Union Pacific rights-of-way behind Happ Road.

Because the Village has since learned that the cost of using UP’s property is likely to be exorbitant, the Village is now looking at using ComEd land only. The Village is also working with the Villages of Glencoe and Northbrook to assess location of the northern end of the SVT in their communities from Tower Road to Voltz Road.

With regard to Phases II and III of the project, the Village has succeeded in obtaining at least partial grant funding and is awaiting word on more. The Phase II study is expected to be completed by 2021. Phase III, which is construction of the trail, will rely for the most part on the financial largesse of Northfield residents.

Meanwhile, the Village is moving forward with its plan to enhance the Northfield Nature Trail, located along the Village right-of-way behind Happ Road north of Willow Road. Over the next year, the Village will trim foliage along the trail and will remove approximately 130 dead standing trees. We will then post entry signs and will advertise the official opening of the trail. The end result will be a very pleasant and restorative walkway for all Northfielders.

Recently, the Village Board adopted a policy regulating the use of Village-owned rights-of-way, which requires anyone wishing to use Village property to demonstrate a compelling need for the use and completion of a formal licensing agreement. Learn more about this important policy on page 5.

Finally, school is back in session and our youngsters are once again traveling to and from school on bikes, scooters, and on foot. Please use an abundance of caution when travelling through the Village, especially before and after school hours.

Sincerely,
President Joan Frazier
Patriot Day
Wednesday, September 11

The community is invited to attend a short remembrance ceremony of the 18th anniversary of the events that occurred September 11, 2001. The ceremony will be held at the Fire-Rescue Facility located at 1800 Winnetka Road at 8:30 AM.

Village President Joan Frazier will speak briefly, followed by the tolling of the station bell in recognition of the time the south tower fell in New York. The tolling is a sign of honor and respect for the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives to save others.

Featured Artist: New Trier Students

This September and October, the Village Hall Art Gallery will be featuring art created by specially selected New Trier art students. Their work consists of drawings, mixed media, glass, photography, graphic design, and sculptures. You can view this unique art exhibit any time Village Hall 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.

Comprehensive Plan Update

The Village thanks everyone who has been involved throughout the planning process for Northfield’s new Comprehensive Plan- Vision Plan 2040. A Comprehensive Plan is a document that sets forth policies to be used by Village leaders for planning the future growth and development of the Village. The current Northfield Vision Plan was adopted in 1999 and since that time it has guided our community’s response to development proposals, infrastructure needs, and transportation initiatives.

Vision Plan 2040 will assess the existing conditions of the Village, identify future goals and objectives, and provide an action plan for achieving those ends. Subjects that have been studied in Vision Plan 2040 include the following:

- Land use and development
- Transportation and mobility
- Parks, open space, and environmental features
- Community facilities and infrastructure
- Community image and identity

This project has been a huge undertaking, and has been approached with a forward-thinking attitude and commitment to maintaining the family-oriented feeling that characterizes Northfield. The Village thanks those community members that served on the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, which will review the draft plan in September. It will then go to the Village Board for review in October, followed by a Community Open House. To learn more about the plan, visit www.northfieldil.org/VisionPlan.

Where Do Your Property Taxes Go?

Did you know that for every dollar you pay in property taxes, the Village receives approximately 11.6 cents? (Percentages vary slightly by township, school district, and park district)
September is National Preparedness Month, which provides an important annual reminder to prepare you and your family, should a disaster occur. This year’s theme is: “Prepared, Not Scared. Be Ready for Disasters.” Here are some tips on how to keep you and your family safe when disaster strikes:

- Know where to get important information.
  - Visit [www.Smart911.com](http://www.Smart911.com) to sign up for alerts and complete your Safety Profile. A Safety Profile allows individuals to link both home and work addresses to mobile phones and provide any additional information they would like first responders to be aware of, including medical conditions, pets in the home, vehicle details, and emergency contacts.
  - During an emergency, the Village’s homepage [www.northfieldil.org](http://www.northfieldil.org) is frequently updated with important information. Watch for a flashing “Alert” bar at the top of the page.

- Make emergency kits. Have one for home, one for the office, and one for your car. Include a backpack or duffel bag with a flashlight, non-perishable food, water, battery-powered radio, first aid kit, important medication, and more. For a full list of recommended items, visit [www.Ready.gov/Kit](http://www.Ready.gov/Kit).

- Have a communication plan. Your family might not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact each other. Keep a list of important phone numbers, and designate an out-of-town relative or friend for everyone to call in case local phone lines are jammed.

- Learn life-saving skills to protect your family and home. Taking the time to learn how to conduct CPR and first aid could be a literal life saver. Also, know how to take practical safety steps like shutting off your home’s water and gas lines.

- Check your insurance policies and coverage. Northfield is a member of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Community Rating System, which allows residents a 15% discount on new overland flooding policies or policy renewals. Contact your insurance carrier to discuss your policy and ensure you have adequate coverage should disaster strike.

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**Trick or Treating Times**

This year Trick or Treating will be held from 3:00-7:30 PM on Thursday, October 31. Be sure your kids stay safe this Halloween with these handy tips from the Police Department:

- Cross streets in the crosswalk or at corners
- Never enter anyone’s home
- Costumes should be made of bright or reflective materials
- Check treats before letting kids eat them
- Young Trick or Treaters should always be accompanied by an adult
- Make sure older children stay in a group and know their curfew

A pack of Northfield dinosaurs (Ted, Hayley, Ryan, and Keeley Garard) gear up for Trick or Treating!
The Northfield Fire Department reminds you that in a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. That’s why this year’s Fire Prevention Week theme: “Not every hero wears a cape. Plan and practice your escape!” is so important. It reinforces why every family needs to have a home fire escape plan. Make one using these helpful hints!

- Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Visit each room. Find two ways out.
- All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
- Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.
- Learn the emergency phone number for your fire department.
- Practice your home fire drill!

**Annual Fire-Rescue Pancake Breakfast and Open House**

The Fire-Rescue Department welcomes all residents and friends to its annual Pancake Breakfast and Open House to celebrate the conclusion of Fire Prevention Week! Stop by for a delicious breakfast, a tour of the Fire House, free blood pressure checks, and a number of fire safety displays. The event will be at the Fire Station at 1800 Winnetka Road on Saturday, October 12 from 8:00-11:00 AM.

**Short-Term Rentals are Prohibited**

Short-term dwelling rentals, such as those booked online, are prohibited Village-wide. The Northfield Zoning Code defines a Short Term Dwelling Rental as a single room, dwelling, or portion of a dwelling offered or advertised for rent or other consideration for a period of less than sixty (60) consecutive days. This prohibition is intended to preserve the quiet character of the community and protect neighboring property owners from disturbances that often occur with short term rentals.

**Deer Sightings:** If you see deer in your yard or neighborhood, please let us know by visiting www.northfieldil.org/request.
Get to Know a Northfielder

Northfield’s newest Police Officer, Jon Cwynar, grew up in the Portage Park neighborhood of Chicago with dreams of following in his Chicago Police Officer father’s footsteps. After receiving a degree from Northern Illinois University, he began applying for Police Departments across Chicagoland. While waiting to join a Department, he worked as a Personal Trainer at Lifetime Fitness. Jon was hired by the Round Lake Beach Police Department in 2016. He served as a Patrol Officer for one year before becoming a Special Operations Detective specializing in narcotics and gangs. Jon says his favorite part of being an Officer is interacting and building relationships with the community.

Jon and his fiancée Ajlana live in Chicago’s Sauganash neighborhood. He spends his spare time keeping active by running, biking, swimming, weightlifting, and going to the beach. Please join us in welcoming Jon to Northfield!

Right-of-Way Use

The Village Board has adopted a new policy regarding the public use of Village rights of ways. That policy states that anyone wishing to use Village property must demonstrate a compelling need and enter into a formal license agreement. As part of their review of license requests, the Board will consider the impact on surrounding properties with regard to storm water runoff, screening, noise, light intrusion, right of access, and liability. Licensees will be required to insure against and hold the Village harmless from any liability associated with the proposed private use. Driveways, mailboxes, and sprinkler systems are exempt from the licensing policy as long as they are installed in compliance with the Code. The policy is available for review at www.northfieldil.org/ROWPolicy.

Do you live adjacent to a Village-owned right-of-way? Disposal of trash or yard waste on Village-owned property impedes storm water drainage and is a violation of Village Code. If you have disposed of anything on the Village’s property, please remove it immediately. If you see someone dumping on the Village’s property, please let us know by calling (847) 784-3551.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

The Northfield Police Department reminds you that October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about what domestic violence looks like, the availability of services, and the very real costs to families and communities. Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship. It includes behaviors that physically harm, arouse fear, or prevent a partner from doing what they wish. Domestic violence affects millions, both women and men, of every race, religion, and socioeconomic status.

Domestic violence is an issue facing every community and it takes courage for a survivor to seek help. The Northfield Police Department and our Police Psychologist are available to assist Northfield families dealing with domestic violence. You can also call the 24-hour confidential National Domestic Violence Hotline at (800) 799-7233 or the North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic at (847) 737-4042 for confidential assistance.
**Northfield Road Reconstruction**

Despite delays, the reconstructing of Northfield Road from Winnetka Road to Willow Road is still scheduled to be completed this fall. Improvements include storm sewer upgrades, the removal and replacement of deteriorated roadway, curb and gutter, guardrail replacement, driveway aprons, sidewalks, and ADA ramps. This project is substantially funded through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Pedestrian and driveway access will be maintained where possible throughout the duration of the project. Work that impedes access will be coordinated, in advance, on a case-by-case basis. Some of the initial work will require the contractor to control traffic with flaggers, meaning travel through the area will be a little slower than normal.

Once the initial traffic control installation, traffic signal modifications, and storm sewer crossings are complete, the contractor will move into the first stage of the roadway construction. At this time, Northfield Road will be reduced to one-lane in the northbound direction from Winnetka Road to Willow Road. Detour signs will be placed to help guide motorists and maintain access to the businesses within the project limits. The contractor will make every effort to maintain local access throughout the different stages of work. Mariano’s will also be accessible from Happ Road at Orchard Lane.

If you have any questions or encounter any problems during the course of the work, please contact Engineer Brian Racine at (312) 292-0559.

**Street Patching**

This summer, the Village milled and patched pavement segments on a number of streets, including Alice Place, Earl Drive, East Circle, Elder Lane, Lagoon Avenue, Lagoon Lane, Latrobe Avenue, Lockwood Avenue, Meadowbrook Drive, Mount Pleasant Street, Norfolk Road, Old Willow Road, Riverside Drive, Sunset Drive, Thornwood Lane, Valley View Road, and Valley Way. Big thanks to residents on these streets for their patience and cooperation during patching!

**Water and Storm Sewer Improvements**

The Village has completed the installation of a large storm sewer along Jeffery Street north to the Willow Road right-of-way, and Jeffery Street has been paved. The sewer goes east towards Thackeray and is planned to discharge into the Willow Road storm sewer. The Village is awaiting final approval from IDOT to complete the last segment between Thackeray Street and Willow Road. An additional new storm sewer has been installed south of Bosworth Lane along Bristol Road to collect localized storm water.

Following a recent water main installation, Thackeray Lane from Bosworth to the south has been paved. The new water main replaces one that was installed in the 1920’s and had numerous breaks.
Help Protect our Waterways

Are you looking for a way to help the environment and your community? Join Go Green Northfield on September 7 (rain date September 14) as they install storm drain medallions throughout town. Storm drain medallions are markers that adhere to the curb of a storm drain to educate readers not to dump waste down storm drains, as they flow directly to the Middle Fork and Skokie Rivers. Many people are unaware that water from storm drains does not get filtered or treated before being released into these waterways. Dumping of any waste in storm drains is illegal per the Federal Clean Water Act and should be reported to the Village.

Because the project involves working with tools and adhesives, Go Green Northfield requests all volunteers be at least 12 years of age, with 12 and 13 year-old volunteers being accompanied by a responsible adult. There will be two shifts: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM and 2:00-4:00 PM. Both will meet at the coffee shop in Marianos before hitting the streets. Please RSVP to Betsy Kochvar at bkochvar@comcast.net. Thank you for helping prevent the pollution of our water!

Pumpkin Composting

Don’t throw away your pumpkins this fall, compost them! Plan on dropping your Halloween pumpkins at the Community Center November 1-15. This environment-friendly opportunity is presented by Go Green Northfield, the Northfield Park District, and the Village of Northfield.

Q&A with Linnea

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

Linnea O’Neill 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 what an “urban forest” is and how Northfield’s compares.

An urban forest is a broad term that describes communities’ parkway trees, wetlands, nature preserves, parks, and riverbanks. The Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CRTI) is a partnership dedicated to the protection, preservation, and enhancement of the urban forest of the Chicago region. The CRTI, USDA Forest Service, American Forests, and the University of Vermont recently mapped land cover of trees across the seven-county Chicago region, including Northfield. Their report found that Northfield has a canopy cover of 46% compared to the Cook County average of 28%. You can read the report and learn more about Northfield’s urban forest at www.northfieldil.org/green.

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!

Annual Parkway Tree Planting Program

SPRUCE up your parkway with a tree from the Village’s 50/50 Parkway Tree Program! Homeowners can choose from a selection of quality trees for parkway planting and the Village will pay 50% of the cost, which includes delivery, the cost of planting, and a one-year guarantee. Take advantage of this TREEmendous opportunity before the September 20 deadline. LOG onto www.northfieldil.org/trees for more information.

“Like” and “Follow” Go Green Northfield on Facebook for environmentally friendly tips and events!
Attorney Larry A. Davis co-founded the predecessor of The Davis Law Group, P.C. in 1982. Since its founding, the firm has been recognized throughout Illinois and across the country as a leading law firm in the areas of DUI defense, criminal defense, traffic defense, and driver's license reinstatement proceedings before the Illinois Secretary of State. The firm has also developed a professional license defense practice before the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation.

Larry is a widely recognized author and lecturer, and a co-drafter of the Illinois DUI law, Illinois Summary Suspension law, and Illinois driver's license laws. His work has been published in numerous law journals and his writings on DUI law have been cited by the Illinois Supreme Court. Larry is a co-author of the book “Defense of DUI,” and he has argued numerous cases before the Illinois Appellate Court and the Illinois Supreme Court.

His dedicated legal team includes three additional attorneys, Brandon Davis, Merrill Davis, and David Mennie, as well as three legal assistants. The team is comprised of both former prosecutors and career defense attorneys with extensive knowledge in their areas of practice. The Davis Law Group, P.C. provides a personalized approach to legal representation to ensure the best result for each client.

Their main office is located at 191 Waukegan Road #305 in Northfield and a second location is in Chicago’s River North neighborhood. For a free legal consultation, call them at (847) 390-8500.
Calendar of Events

**September**

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<td>2</td>
<td>VILLAGE HALL CLOSED</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Plan and Zoning Commission Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Architectural Commission Meeting</td>
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<td>Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Committee of the Whole Meeting</td>
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<td>Village Board Meeting</td>
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**October**

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<td>22</td>
<td>Comprehensive Plan Community Open House</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Police Pension Board</td>
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Northfield News

Published since 1976 by the Village of Northfield

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Trustee Todd Fowler  Trustee Charles Orth
Trustee John Goodwin  Trustee Thomas Terrill
Trustee Greg Lungmus  Trustee Tom Whittaker

Village Hall Hours: 8 AM - 4:30 PM M-F
www.northfieldil.org

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www.facebook.com/northfieldil  Twitter at @NorthfieldIL

Northfield Park District’s State Fair and Ribfest

Celebrate the beginning of fall at the annual Northfield Park District “State Fair” at Clarkson Park. Join family and friends for a fun evening on Saturday, September 7. There will be live music from 5:30-7:30 PM with Panic at the Costco and Running Still from 8:00-10:00 PM. There will be fireworks at 8:00 PM.

Kids will enjoy bounce houses, a balloonist, and airbrush tattoos from 4:30-7:30 PM and bingo inside Clarkson Lodge from 5:00-6:30 PM. Purchase Stormy’s Tavern & Grille ribs, pulled pork, hamburgers, hot dogs, and more at the Cavallari Pavilion. Beer, wine, and other beverages will also be sold.

Clarkson Park picnic tables will be available on a first come/first serve basis starting at 3:00 PM on Friday, September 6. Any items placed on tables or on the lawn before that time will be moved to the east side of Clarkson Lodge. Roping off of an area is not permitted. No vehicles are allowed to enter Clarkson Park without permission. Contact the Park District for details on obtaining a permit.

Local grillers and bakers are invited to enter the Steve Soler Northfield Ribfest and Pie Baking contests. All registrations will be taken at the event only. To participate, register inside Clarkson Lodge during State Fair and Ribfest by 5:30 PM. There is a $10 entry fee for ribs and no entry fee for pies. Registration will close at 5:30 PM. All pie entries are due to the judging table inside Clarkson Lodge by 6:00 PM. Rib entries are due inside Clarkson Lodge by 7:00 PM; pies and ribs that come in after these times will not be judged. See the Northfield Park District website for more details.

Many thanks to the event sponsors whose support helps the Northfield Park District bring you the State Fair: Park Partners Hofherr Meat Co., Nels Johnson Tree Care, Northview Bank & Trust, and Stormy’s Tavern and Grille; Music Sponsor Byline Bank; Ribfest Sponsor and Judge Hofherr Meat Co.; and Pie Contest Judge Three Tarts Bakery and Café.

Chamber Golf Outing

Join the Winnetka-Northfield and Highland Park Chambers of Commerce at the Annual Golf Outing and Networking Dinner on September 16 at the Glencoe Golf Club, 621 Westley Road. Bag drop is at 1:00 PM for a 2:00 PM shotgun start. Golfers play 18 holes in a scramble format with dinner, drinks, awards, and a raffle. Not a golfer? Join for the networking cocktail hour and dinner provided by Hell’s Kitchen Catering beginning at 5:30 PM. Call (847) 446-4451 or visit www.WinnetkaNorthfieldChamber.com to sign up.

Halloween “Boo Bash”

The Northfield Park District will hold a free “Boo Bash” party for children ages 3 to 8 years old on Friday, October 26 at the Northfield Community Center/Willow Park from 6:00-7:30 PM. Enjoy free carnival games, a balloon artist, crafts, and treat bags. There will also be a special outdoor ghoulish train ride! Children are encouraged to come in costume and must be accompanied by an adult. The event will take place rain or shine.

Northfield News