



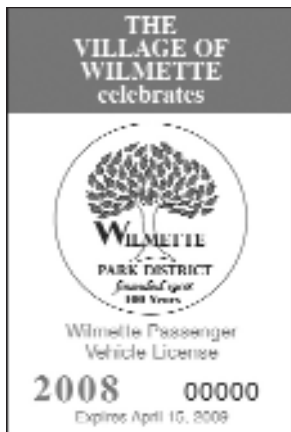
The Communicator

Village of Wilmette

www.wilmette.com

March | May 2008

2008 Village Vehicle Stickers Available for Purchase --- Must be Displayed by April 15



The 2008 Village sticker that commemorate the Park District's 100th anniversary is available for purchase beginning March 1 and must be displayed by April 15. Residents who currently have a Village vehicle sticker will be mailed an application, and upon receipt of a completed application along with payment, will receive a vehicle sticker by mail.

Residents who prefer to purchase a sticker in person at the Village Hall may do so during regular business hours (note change in Village office hours) and from 9 am to noon on the following Saturdays: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5 and 12.

-----continued on page 5

New Village Office Hours -- Effective March 3

Please note the new Village office hours at Village Hall

- 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
- 7:30 am - 2 pm Wednesday

Park District Hours at Village Hall remain:

- 8:30 am - 5 pm Monday through Friday



At Village Hall

Town Hall Meeting - August 23 Rain and Wind Storm

Many residents attended a special Town Hall Meeting on January 24 to hear from Village and Commonwealth Edison officials on the response to the devastating rain and wind storm that hit Wilmette on August 23, 2007, and to communicate concerns regarding excessive flooding and electrical power outages. The high winds caused downed power lines that resulted in loss of electricity to many homes and to the Village's Storm Water Pumping Station (SWPS).

-----continued on page 3

In this issue

	<i>Page</i>
Letter from Village President Christopher S. Canning	2
At Village Hall	3
ULI Panel Assesses Village Center	3
Village Board Approves 2008 Budget	3
Status of Key Commercial Development Projects	4
Community Events	5
French Market Opens April 26	5
Come to a Village Open House - May 4	5
Wilmette Historical Museum Spring Events	6
Health Beat	7
Clean and Green News	8
Anti-Idling Makes "Cents"	8
Village Collecting Old Athletic Shoes until May 1	8
Board Report	9
FYI	10
New Teen Driving Laws	10
Alive at 25 - New Defensive Driving Course	10
Tree Planting Applications Due March 21	11
Yard Waste Collection Guidelines	11
Did You Know	11



Letter from Village President Christopher S. Canning

With 2007 behind us and the challenges of 2008 upon us, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on a number of items that will impact the village in the coming year.

The most significant event of 2007 was the August 23rd storm. The Board members and I appreciated hearing from the residents who attended the Town Hall meeting. Many residents - myself included - suffered significant property damage and lengthy electrical power outages caused by the storm. We are proceeding as quickly as possible to install a back-up emergency generator at our Storm Water Pump Station (See related article on page 1). I will continue to meet with Commonwealth Edison officials and will monitor their pledge to our Village to address system deficiencies in key areas of the community.

As a result of the storm, the Village incurred approximately \$1.2 million in expenses that were not budgeted. Consequently, these large unplanned expenses caused us to dip into our financial reserves. Fortunately, due to our Village's superior financial condition, we were able to cover these expenses without the need to take emergency action. While it looks promising that the Village will receive reimbursement monies from the Federal Government, we do not know exactly how much we will receive nor do we know when we might receive it. With this in mind, the Village Board took the conservative step of deciding to defer or eliminate many expense items from the budget for the coming year. In the end, the 2008 budget totals \$67.8 million, which includes a modest 3.99% increase to the property tax levy.

If you use Sheridan Road at all, you know by now that the Sheridan Road improvement project is in full swing. We expect this improvement project to be finished in July 2009. I look forward to Sheridan Road becoming a safer, more functional and aesthetically pleasing roadway with new landscaping and street light and traffic signal enhancements. Until then, however, we appreciate your patience and understanding during this much needed construction project.

Last fall, the Urban Land Institute-- a non-profit education and research institution that focuses on the responsible use of land and in creating and sustaining thriving communities -- accepted Wilmette's application for a two day technical assistance panel to address the question of how to revitalize and reinvigorate the Village Center and West Village Center. As discussed more fully in the article on page 3, the panel provided the Village with expert analysis and strategies relative to improving the vitality of our downtown area. By expand-

ing the Village's retail and restaurant offerings, the Village will not only increase the vibrancy of our central business district but also increase the sales tax revenue generated from this area. A focus of the Village Board in the months ahead will be to develop the long-term master plan for the Village incorporating some of the panel's recommendations along with significant input from our residents.

A master plan will not be the Board's only focus this year. We will continue to remain a Village government that is committed to maintaining its fiscal strength. In light of the softening economy, the uncertain timing and amount of storm reimbursements, and escalating personnel, pension and benefits costs, we will be working diligently to maintain desirable Village services without significant increases in the property tax levy. As we keep a close watch on expenses, we will review the timing and amount of long-term infrastructure projects that are necessary for the continuation of the road program and other major capital projects.

The Village Board will also continue to recognize the importance of maintaining the character of our village, in particular our beautiful and diverse housing stock. When it comes to updating your homes, we have heard from you that our permitting and development process is challenging. The Village Board will work this year to see that the Zoning Ordinance allows residents and businesses the maximum flexibility to update their homes and places of business while protecting the health, safety, welfare and character of the community. We will look for ways to streamline our processes to enable quicker and more efficient, yet thorough, reviews and issuances of permits - both residential and commercial.

All of these plans can be achieved only by listening to and communicating with you, our residents and our businesses, and by understanding our shared values and focusing our actions on achieving results. We look forward to working with all of you to continue to keep our village one of the best places in our country to live.

Very truly yours,
Christopher S. Canning
Village President





At Village Hall

-----continued from page 1

In response to the storm and resident comments, the Village will continue to review and research ways to enhance Village efforts to minimize street and basement flooding incidents in the separated sewer area (west of Ridge Road), including an inspection program to identify illegal connections into the sanitary sewer system. Commonwealth Edison has pledged to upgrade equipment and feeder circuits that serve many of the neighborhoods hit hardest by the storm.

As reported in the last issue of the Communicator, prior to the storm the Village had initiated an emergency power study at the SWPS. The study recommended installing a back-up generator at a cost of \$1.4 million. Funds have been included in the 2008 budget and a generator will be installed as quickly as possible.

ULI Panel Assesses Village Center

At the request of the Village, a technical assistance panel from the Urban Land Institute (ULI) met on January 14 - 15, 2008, to create a plan to "revitalize and reinvigorate" Wilmette's Village Center and West Village Center. The ULI Technical Assistance Panel process involves a group of 15 - 18 real estate development experts, urban planning and design professionals, and community development leaders, who volunteer their time over an intense two-day period to hear from the community, to evaluate all of the available qualitative and quantitative information related to the community's vision and statement of need, and to brainstorm, plan and offer objective recommendations. The panel presented their findings at a videotaped public meeting which was held on Monday, February 11 and is being re-broadcast on WCTV - Channel 6.

In addition to the expertise on the panel, organizers sought critical input through roundtable discussions with community residents, business owners, and current and past Village leadership. The roundtable discussions were designed to elicit the full range of public opinion and stakeholder input. In summary, the panel affirmed the Village's belief that any redevelopment in the Village Center needs to be undertaken as part of a Master Plan. The panel was clear that a Master Plan did not mean starting from scratch. Rather a Master Plan was to build on the existing research, and define a direction that would guide the Village in all of its downtown redevelopment efforts moving forward.

The panel emphasized that the Master Plan would necessarily incorporate the feedback of residents, offer financing strategies and might involve revisions to zon-

ing ordinances. The panel also agreed that while the purview of the Master Plan should include the entire Village and West Village Centers, the first phase of redevelopment should focus on four key sites: Village Hall, Chase Bank, Metra Station Parking Lot, and the West Village Center block bordered by Green Bay Road, and Central, Park and Wilmette Avenues.

Emerald Ash Borer Update

The Village continues to monitor and remove emerald ash borer (EAB) infested ash trees as part of the Village's EAB Management Plan for Public Right-of-Way Trees. Reforestation efforts began in the fall of 2007 and will continue this spring and fall of 2008. Residents are reminded that removal permits are required for any ash tree removal that is conducted by the resident/contractor on private property. There is no fee associated with ash tree removals and the permit application is necessary for record keeping purposes. The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) has created the regulations necessary to allow for ash removal/pruning within the Village. Maintenance actions on ash trees within Wilmette are being restricted to only those contractors who have signed the EAB Compliance Agreement. Questions regarding the Emerald Ash Borer can be directed to the Forestry Division at 847-920-2955 or forestry@wilmette.com.

Village Board Approves 2008 Budget

The Village Board approved the 2008 budget at its November 27, 2007 meeting. The budget totals \$67.8 million of which \$19.7 million is set aside for capital projects. The budget maintains existing service levels, while continuing a commitment to addressing the Village's aged infrastructure. In approving the budget, the Board approved several reductions and deferrals, which resulted in a 3.99% increase to the property tax levy - the Village's portion of the total resident's overall property tax bill is expected to remain at approximately 11%.

The Village was challenged this year due, in large part, to the unexpected expense associated with the clean-up from the August 23 Storm. While it looks promising that the Village will receive reimbursement monies from the Federal Government for the \$1.2 million spent on storm clean-up, it is not known exactly how much the Village will receive nor when the Village might receive it. The Village Manager's budget transmittal letter, which summarizes key budget issues and budget initiatives, is available for review at www.wilmette.com.

At Village Hall

-----continued from page 3

Sheridan Road Improvement Project Underway

The Sheridan Road project is underway. For the past several weeks, the focus of construction work has been on underground utilities which includes installation of a new water main and water services, construction of storm sewer outfalls at the North Shore Channel and a new retaining wall by the Baha'i House of Worship. Major road reconstruction work will begin in March and will concentrate on reconstruction from Lake Avenue to Isabella Street. During the March-August time frame, traffic will be reduced to one lane northbound from Isabella Street to Lake Avenue. Two-way traffic will be maintained from Lake Avenue to 10th Street. Southbound traffic will be detoured from Sheridan Road to 4th Street and Isabella Street. Reconstruction from Lake Avenue to 10th Street is scheduled to begin in August, 2008.

For regular updates on the Sheridan Road project, residents are invited to sign up for the Wilmette E-newsletter by visiting the village website, www.wilmette.com and joining the mailing list found in the upper right hand corner of the homepage. Questions about the road project can be directed to the Engineering Department at 847-853-7660.

Burglary Prevention Tips

Residents are asked to call the police immediately if you see a suspicious person around a neighbors' home or a suspicious vehicle stopped or waiting in your alley. In several recent burglaries the offenders accessed the victim's property through the alley.

The most effective way of deterring a burglary is by making your home appear occupied. Leave lights on when you are not at home especially in the early evening hours. Do not leave newspapers stacked up on a front porch and if you have a home alarm system, ensure that it is activated and in good working order. Secure your valuables by locking your homes, automobiles, and garages. Many of the residential and automobile burglaries that occur each year in Wilmette are crimes of opportunity where no force was used to gain entry.

If you would like to receive crime alerts through your email, text pager, cell phone email, or a PDA device, you can register for the Silent Partner Alert System. To register go to the Silent Partner Alert System web site at <http://silentpartneralert.com>. There is no cost for the service. If you have any questions regarding Silent Partner Alert System, please contact the Police

Department's Community Relations Officer at 847-853-7555.

Welcome to New Businesses

The Village welcomes its newest businesses and thanks them for choosing Wilmette. The Village encourages all its residents to keep sales tax dollars in the Village by shopping at these and other local business establishments.

7-Eleven, 350 Ridge Road,
847-256-1924

The Fresh Market, 3232 Lake
Avenue, Edens Plaza, 847-251-4261

Jimmy Johns, 3520 Lake Avenue,
Coming Soon!

State Farm Insurance, 809 Ridge
Road, 847-256-8633



Status of Key Commercial Development Projects

Several commercial development projects are under construction or on the horizon. These projects present an exciting enhancement to the Village's businesses districts.

A ground breaking event for the *611 Green Bay Road* development is planned for later this spring. The five-story building will provide 15,000 square feet of additional retail space in the Village Center and 54 residential condominium units. Parking will be provided on the ground level for the retail space and below ground for the condominium units. The development will include environmentally conscious building design, class A commercial space and eight affordable condominium units. The condominium sales office is located just around the corner at 1221 Central. On March 6, the developer will hold an open house from 4 - 7 pm. For further information, please visit 611greenbayroad.com. Commercial tenants for the space have not yet been identified.

Construction began last October on the addition to the *Old Wilmette Depot Train Station* located at 1135 Wilmette Avenue. The addition will accommodate a new kitchen facility and restrooms on the first floor. The Village and the operator of The Noodle entered into a partnership to construct a new restaurant which will be a Latin-American themed restaurant called Depot Nuevo. For construction updates and restaurant information feel free to visit www.depotnuevo.com.



Community Events

Wilmette French Market Opens April 26

This year's French Market is just around the corner! The market will run every Saturday morning (8 am - 1 pm) from April 26 to October 25 in Wilmette's Village Center, just east of the Metra station. As in the past, the French Market will present a great selection of traditional farmer's market goods, like fruits, vegetables, flowers, cheeses, meats and breads from local and regional vendors. Please remember that for public health and public safety reasons, dogs are not permitted in the Market area.

May is Asian Heritage Month

The Community Relations Commission is once again co-sponsoring Asian Heritage Month in May. As we draw closer to May, be sure to check the Village's website at www.wilmette.com for program information.

Come to a Village Open House

Police Department Open House
710 Ridge Road, Wilmette
Sunday, May 4, 11 am - 2 pm



The entire family will have fun at the Police Department Open House. Take a tour of the Department and see the lock-up. Get a free mug shot of your children. Exhibits include Canine Unit presentations, the Secret Service Presidential Limo, Crime Lab, U.S. Coast Guard and more! Enjoy free hot dogs, chips and soft drinks. The Police Department is located at 710 Ridge Road, between Lake and Wilmette Avenues. For additional information, contact Susan Budd, Police Department Secretary, at 847-853-7553 or via email at budds@wilmette.com.

Wilmette Historical Museum Open House
609 Ridge Road, Wilmette
Sunday, May 4, 11 am - 2 pm

Bring the whole family to the Museum this year as we join forces with the Police Department for a family-friendly open house. Stop by the Museum before or after visiting the Police Department and step into the elegant former 1896 Gross Point Village Hall. You may have seen the Police Department's jail cells, now see the Museum's (which is over a hundred years old). All the Museum's exhibits will be open to the public and we'll have treats for the children as well as crafts and other activities.

Wilmette Artist's Spring Recital

3000 Glenview Road, Wilmette
Sunday, May 18, 3 pm

The Fine Arts Commission and the Park District are pleased to present the "Wilmette Artist's Spring Recital". The event will take place at the Wilmette Community Recreation Center Auditorium, 3000 Glenview Road. Admission is free. For more information, please call 847-920-9569.

NIPSTA -- Public Safety Awareness Day -- Fun for All Ages

NIPSTA Facility
2300 Patriot Boulevard, Glenview
Sunday, June 8, 11 am - 3 pm

The Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA), of which Wilmette is a member, hosts its first-ever public awareness event on Sunday, June 8 from 11 am to 3 pm at the NIPSTA Campus, located at 2300 Patriot Boulevard in Glenview. The NIPSTA Campus is home to a 20-acre training facility for police, fire, public works, and other emergency response personnel.

Participants of all ages may join the fun. Activities include a fire hose spray, squad car rides, search dog demonstrations, horse-mounted police, backhoe equipment operations, high-rise fire rescues, driver training simulators, crime scene evidence collection, touch-a-truck displays, and more. Food and beverage service is available on-site. Free parking is available across the street from the NIPSTA Campus entrance.

For more information call 847-998-8090 or visit www.NIPSTA.org.

2008 Village Vehicle Stickers Available for Purchase --- Must be Displayed by April 15

-----continued from page 1

The fee for passenger vehicles is \$75 and must be affixed to the front lower left hand corner (driver's side) of the windshield. Any vehicle registered to a Wilmette address must display a valid sticker, which includes vehicles registered to a Wilmette address that are driven by children who attend school away from home. Vehicles not displaying a 2008 sticker after April 15 risk receiving a citation from the Police Department.

Community Events

Wilmette Celebrates May Bike Month

Once again, Wilmette will be joining communities across the country in celebration of May as National Bike Month. Many residents have already noticed the presence of signs throughout the Village indicating bicycle routes to various local destinations. Maps of the Village-wide bicycle route system are available at the Village Hall. Village residents are encouraged to incorporate bicycling into all of your routine Village destinations. There are bike racks conveniently located throughout the Village Center and other shopping districts for easy bike parking. You will save money, help the environment and get some exercise at the same time. For more information on Bike Month activities in Wilmette, please visit www.wilmette.com/bicycle.

Wilmette Historical Museum

Spring Events, 609 Ridge Road, Open 1 - 4:30 pm,
Sunday through Thursday

2008 Spring Housewalk

Sunday, May 18, 1 - 5 pm

Tickets: \$40 Members; \$45 Non-Members; \$25 Students (HS or College)



History has always played a key role in our choice of homes, and this year is no different. Your Housewalk ticket will get you into several incredible homes including a virtually untouched Art Deco lakefront estate from the 1930s, a stunning transformation of an 1870s home and a newly added private club. For more information on the Spring Housewalk, contact the Historical Museum at 847-853-7713.

History Book Club

New in 2008, the History Book Club is for history buffs that enjoy reading about past figures and events. The club will meet one evening each month at the Museum. For further information about upcoming dates and book selections, visit the Museum's website, www.wilmettehistory.org or call 847-853-7666.

Local History Lecture Series

Local history by local residents!

Admission is free for Museum members

\$5 for non-members

Join us for an ongoing five part series at the Museum exploring the history of Wilmette. The series features illustrated lectures followed by discussion. Upcoming lectures dates are listed below:

- ◆ *The Founding and Development of Wilmette and Gross Point*, presented by Joe Hinkel

Sunday, March 9, 2 - 3 pm

- ◆ *Wilmette in the First Three Decades of the 20th Century*, presented by Gary Poole
Sunday, April 13, 2 pm - 3 pm

Museum Exhibit Openings

Sunday, April 6, 2 pm

Admission is free

Wilmette in Wartime

Our first-floor gallery exhibit will share stories of Wilmette and the North Shore in wartime, from the Civil War through World War II.

Over the Top: Fashions of the Great War Era, 1914-1919

Experience fashion's lost era, when hobble skirts, funnel collars, and "war crinolines" were all the rage, creating bizarre silhouettes that would never occur again.

Lost Wilmette

Learn the fate of once familiar buildings that have vanished from Wilmette's landscape. From the Henry Gage house to the Benjamin Marshall mansion; the exhibit features photos and architectural fragments.

Guided Tour of the Sisters of Christian Charity Museum

Tuesday, April 22, 2 pm

Admission free for Museum members

\$5 for non-members

The Sisters of Christian Charity have lived and worked at Mallinckrodt and now at Wilmette's Sacred Heart Convent since 1916. Learn about their fascinating history and see some of the artifacts that they have saved from Mallinckrodt's interior. Advance reservations are required and can be made by calling the Museum, 847-853-7666.

Nancy Horan Is
Featured Author on
May 4 and 5



Join your neighbors in exploring the Wilmette Public Library's 2008 *One Book, Everybody Reads* selection, *Loving Frank*, by Nancy Horan. The author will speak at the Library on Sunday, May 4, and Monday, May 5. Both events begin at 1:30 pm.

Visit www.wilmettelibrary.info/onebook for details on these and other related events.



Health Beat

Free Vision and Hearing Testing for Preschool Children.

On Saturday, March 8, the Health

Department will provide free vision and hearing testing for all Wilmette preschool children (age 3 - 5) at the Mikaelian Education Center, located at 615 Locust Road. The testing is held in cooperation with School District #39. Advanced registration is required and will be held at the Mikaelian Education Center from 9 am to noon on Thursday, March 6 and Friday, March 7. To ensure that a child does not have a vision or hearing problem that could interfere with their ability to learn, parents are advised to have their preschoolers tested before they enter school.

Cholesterol and Glucose Screening. The Health Department is offering a Lipid Profile and Glucose screening for residents on the following Wednesdays, March 19, and May 21 from 9 - 11 am in the Training Room of the Village Hall. This screening is by appointment only and requires a 12 hour fast. The Lipid Profile includes tests for total cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, triglycerides, and HDL/LDL ratio. The glucose screening is for the detection of diabetes. The test requires blood to be drawn from the arm and the results are sent in the mail within 48 hours. The cost is \$20.

CPR Course Offered. A CPR course for residents will be offered at the Village Hall on Monday, March 24 and on Thursday, May 8 from 6:30 - 9:30 pm. There is a fee of \$20 for class materials payable prior to the class.

Free Adult Hearing Tests. The Health Department, in cooperation with the Audiology Clinic of Northwestern University, will offer hearing screening tests for adults on Friday, May 16 at the Village Hall from 8:30 am to noon. Appointments are required. The cost is \$5.

Blood Pressure Check. High blood pressure can be dangerous. Have your blood pressure checked on Tuesday, 3 - 4:30 pm in the Health Department office located on the second floor of the Village Hall. No appointment is necessary.

To register or make an appointment for any of the programs noted above, please contact Health Nurse Dianne Bader at 847-853-7507 or baderd@wilmette.com.

Gasoline Powered Leaf Blower Banned May 15 - September 30

Residents are reminded that the use of gasoline powered leaf blowers is banned from May 15 - September 30 with the exceptions of golf courses, public parks, park district land, and gutter cleaning.

2008

Village Meetings

(Meetings held at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated)

MARCH

Mon., March 3	7:30 pm	Appearance Review Cmsn.
Tues., March 4	7 pm	Community Relations Cmsn.
	7:30 pm	Plan Commission
Wed., March 5	7:30 pm	Historic Preserv. Cmsn.
	7:30 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
Fri., March 7	7 pm	Housing Commission
Mon., March 10	7 pm	Youth Commission
	7:30 pm	Park Board
Tues., March 11	7:30 pm	Village Board of Trustees
Wed., March 12	7 pm	Fire & Police Commission
	7:30 pm	Transportation Commission
Thurs., March 13	7:30 pm	Business Dev. Adv. Group
Mon., March 17	7:30 pm	Appearance Review Cmsn
Tues., March 18	7:30 pm	Village Board of Trustees
Wed., March 19	7:30 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
Mon., March 24	7:30 pm	Fine Arts Commission
	7:30 pm	Cmsn. for Persons w/Disabilities

APRIL

Tues., April 1	7 pm	Senior Resources Commission
	7 pm	Plan Commission
	7:30 pm	Community Relations Cmsn.
Wed., April 2	7:30 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
	7:30 pm	Historic Preservation Cmsn.
Fri., April 4	7 am	Housing Commission
Mon., April 7	7:30 pm	Appearance Review Cmsn.
Tues., April 8	7:30 pm	Village Board of Trustees
Wed., April 9	7 pm	Fire & Police Commission
	7 pm	Transportation Commission
Thurs., April 10	6 pm	Business Dev. Advisory Group
Mon., April 14	7 pm	Youth Commission
	7:30 pm	Park Board
Wed., April 16	7:30 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
Mon., April 21	7:30 pm	Appearance Review Cmsn.
Tues., April 22	7:30 pm	Village Board of Trustees
Wed., April 23	7 pm	Board of Health
Mon., April 28	7:30 pm	Fine Arts Commission
	7:30 pm	Cmsn. for Persons w/Disabilities

MAY

Fri., May 2	7 am	Housing Commission
Mon., May 5	7:30 pm	Appearance Review Cmsn.
Tues., May 6	7 pm	Senior Resources Commission
	7 pm	Plan Commission
	7:30 pm	Community Relations Cmsn.
Wed., May 7	7:30 pm	Historic Preserv. Cmsn
	7:30 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
Thurs., May 8	6 pm	Business Dev. Advisory Group
Mon., May 12	7 pm	Youth Commission
	7:30 pm	Park Board

-----continued on page 11



Clean and Green News

Anti-Idling Makes "Cents"

One small change in your driving habits can improve air quality and reduce global warming and put extra money in your pocket. According to the University of Michigan's Automotive Research Center, idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting the engine and could increase your vehicle operating costs. For the environment, the benefits begin even sooner.

Therefore this spring, the Village is partnering with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Clean Air Counts Program, School District 39, the Park District, local businesses and civic organizations to launch an Idling Reduction Campaign. What does that mean? It means that all drivers are asked to consider turning their engines off rather than allowing them to idle. Signs will be posted in places where it may be advantageous to turn our cars off - in school waiting lines, park district program pick up spots and at the Metra and CTA stations.

Idling seems harmless, but it isn't. In urbanized areas cars are the single largest contributor to ozone, which is harmful to our health. Increasingly, cancers, asthma and other respiratory diseases are being linked with poor air quality. In fact, the EPA estimates that toxins emitted by vehicles account for half of all air-borne pollutants linked to cancer and asthma is the third leading cause of hospitalization among children under the age of 15. By making a conscious effort to reduce idling, we all can reduce air pollution by thousands of pounds in our communities and protect ourselves and our children from unhealthy air. Please consider turning your car off and help reduce global warming.



Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drug Disposal Program

Second Tuesday of Every Month
Collection Hours: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm

Recycle your unused and expired prescription medications, including cough syrup and eye drops, and unused and expired over-the-counter medications to the Health Department, located on the second floor of Village Hall.

Place liquid medication in a sealed plastic bag. Do

not bring institutional or business waste, non-prescription liquids, latex gloves, medication with alcohol in it, or household chemical waste. Medications are to be in the original container with labels to identify contents. However, the patient's name may be blackened out or removed.

For your safety and the safety of our environment, it is important to dispose of unused medications in a proper manner. Many pharmaceutical drugs discarded in the garbage or flushed in the commode pass through the treatment process unchanged. For more information, contact Health Nurse Dianne Bader at 847-853-7507 or baderd@wilmette.com.

Village Collecting Worn Out Athletic Shoes through May 1



Recycle your old athletic shoes and help kids have a place to play sports. The Village and Park District in cooperation with SWANCC are collecting worn-out athletic shoes for Nike's Reuse-A-Shoe program. Drop off old athletic shoes at Village Hall, 1200 Wilmette Ave., or the Community Recreation Center, 3000 Glenview Road, through May 1.

Compact Fluorescent Bulb Recycling Program

Second Tuesday of Every Month
Collection Hours: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm

Residents can recycle used compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) at the Health Department, located on the second floor of Village Hall. On a trial basis, the Village will also accept 4 foot long fluorescent bulbs. Please place CFLs in zip-lock baggies for extra protection.

Compact fluorescent bulbs produce the same amount of light as regular bulbs, using 2/3 less energy while lasting 10 times as long. However, they do contain a small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing and therefore need to be disposed of in an appropriate fashion.

For more information, contact Village Health Nurse Dianne Bader at 847-853-7507 or baderd@wilmette.com.



Board Report

Following are key actions approved by the Village Board during the months of December 2007 and January and February 2008:

Approved:

- Contract in an amount not to exceed \$33,802 with Hutchinson Design Group,
- Ltd., Barrington, IL for engineering services associated with the Water Plant roof rebuild project.
- Contract extension in the amount of \$79,163.04 with Complete Cleaning Company, Wood Dale, IL for custodial services at various Village facilities.
- Temporary Use Permit #2008-TU-03 to locate a temporary storage structure (Portable On Demand Storage unit) at the home at 2639 Marian Lane from January 2 to April 30, 2008.
- Contract in an amount not to exceed \$21,150 with E.T.M., Inc. Merrillville, IN for emergency repairs to Storm Water Pumping Station pump.
- Contract in an amount not to exceed \$30,726.43 with Cummins NPower, LLC, Hodgkins, IL for water plant generator repairs.
- Purchase in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 with L3 Communications, Boonton, NJ for the replacement of squad in-car video camera units.
- Five-year agreement with Bensidoun USA to permit the operation of a French Market in the Metra Station parking lot.
- Contract in an amount not to exceed \$20,500 with Elliott Dudnik and Associates, Evanston, IL for improvements and repairs to the Water Plant and Storm Water Pumping Station.
- Contract extension in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 with Dominic Fiordiroso Construction Company, Inc., East Dundee, IL for the 2008 Water Valve Installation Program.
- Contract extension in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 with Gem Construction Company, Inc., Wood Dale, IL for the 2008 Sidewalk Maintenance Program.
- Contract extension in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 with Midwest Brick Paving, Inc., Antioch, IL for 2008 Brick Street Repair Program.
- Contract extension in an amount not to exceed \$127,000 with Chicagoland Paving Contractors, Inc., Lake Zurich, IL for the Alley Maintenance Program.
- Contract in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 with DiPaolo Company, Inc., Glenview, IL for emergency

roadway repairs on Sheridan Road.

Granted variations to:

- 317 Ridge Road to permit the construction of a three story mixed use building.
- 1010 12th Street to permit the replacement of a one car detached garage in the rear yard.
911 Michigan Avenue to allow the reconfiguration of an existing parking lot and the construction of an addition.
- 200 Golf Terrace to permit the retention of a new single family home.
- 1229 Maple Avenue to permit the construction of a one story addition.
- 3035 Wilmette Avenue for a lot separation resulting in two lots.
- 801-805 Harvard Street for a lot separation resulting in two lots.
- 423 Ninth Street to permit the construction of a one and two story addition.
- 933 Linden Avenue to permit the construction of a two car detached garage.
- 1024 Lake Avenue, Trinity United Methodist Church to permit the replacement of an existing ground sign.
- 1126 Central Avenue, Gilson's restaurant, to permit window and awning signs.
- 725 Ridge Road, The Frameworks for additional items on awning valance.
- 1625 Sheridan Road for a special use to allow for the installation of personal wireless antenna on an existing condominium building.
- 1215 Green Bay Road to permit the construction of a two story mixed use building with a Thai restaurant on the first level.
- 2000 Birchwood Avenue to permit the reconstruction of an attic wall and roof and the construction of a one story porch.
- 1166 Wilmette Avenue for a personal service special use for a beauty salon.

Adopted:

- Ordinance #2007-O-94 permitting the sale of beer and wine at the Wilmette Theater, 1122 Central Avenue.
- Ordinance #2007-O-95 permitting Gilson's to receive a Class C liquor license.

-----continued on page 11



Medicare Requires Patient Signatures

As of January 1, 2008, all patients transported to area hospitals by a Fire Department ambulance will be asked to sign an Ambulance Signature Form. Medicare is requiring emergency medical service (EMS) providers to obtain a signature from a patient at the time of service in order to bill Medicare directly. In the event that a signature and/ or an acceptable alternative are not obtained at the time of service, the patient will be billed until the signature is obtained. If the patient is physically or mentally incapable of signing, the ambulance crew will first try to get a signature from an authorized signer or second, provide a signed statement, date and time the patient was taken to the receiving facility and signature from the facility that received the patient.

New Teen Driving Laws

The Police Department reminds parents and new drivers of the Illinois Graduated Drivers Licensing Program (GDL) changes which went into effect January 1, 2008. These new provisions, along with the involvement of parents, will assist teens with gaining the experience they need for a lifetime of safe and responsible driving.

New Provisions:

- Changes the nighttime driving restrictions from 11 pm to 10 pm on Sunday - Thursday and from midnight to 11 pm on Friday and Saturday (exemptions for work and school sanctioned activities still apply);
- Double the period (from 6 months to 12 months) that a new driver may have a maximum of one unrelated teen passenger (exempts siblings);
- Ticket drivers AND passengers age 15 - 20 who violate the passenger restriction law.
- Cell phone use is prohibited for persons under age 19 except in the case of an emergency to contact a law enforcement agency, health care provider, or emergency services agency.
- Parents may view their teen's (under age 18) driving record for free through the Secretary of State's website.
- A person under age 21 will receive a three-month driver's license suspension for any court supervision for possession, consumption, purchase or receipt of alcohol.

For a list of additional provisions or other information, please visit the Illinois Secretary of State's website at cyberdriveillinois.com or call 312-814-2905.

Alive at 25 - New Defensive Driving Course

The Police Department is offering a new course called Alive at 25 for new drivers. This is a National Safety Council program that is taught by certified instructors from the Police Department. "Wilmette is among the first communities in Illinois to offer this program, which we believe may significantly improve new driver safety in Wilmette," said Chief George Carpenter. Students attend one Saturday morning session from 8 am - 12:30 pm. The cost is \$50. To obtain future class dates, register for a class, or for more information, please call 847-853-7553. For further information about the program, visit www.aliveat25.us.

Obtain a Block Party Permit Electronically

Planning a block party? Block parties are a very popular event in Wilmette. In fact, last year there were 86 block parties. However, before you block off your street you must obtain a permit (no charge) from the Police Department. As always, you can stop by the Police Department at 710 Ridge Road to obtain a permit. To make it even easier, you may also obtain a permit electronically by going to www.wilmette.com/police. You can even request barricades and ask a Police Officer to visit your party. If you have any questions, or need assistance, please contact Susan Budd at the Police Department at 847-853-7553 or budds@wilmette.com.

2008 Parkway Tree Pruning Program

The Parkway Tree Pruning Program is underway. In 2008, the contractor will be pruning in the eastern portion of the Village and will work their way west towards Green Bay Road. Trees that are greater than or equal to seven inches in diameter are being pruned by the Village's contractor, Winkler's Tree Service. Public Works Department crews are pruning trees that are less than seven inches in diameter in the area between Ridge Road and Locust, Road from the north to south Village boundaries. Parkway trees are pruned to assure proper clearance heights of 14 feet over the street and eight feet over sidewalks, as well as to improve tree canopy structure. Village parkway trees are on a seven-year pruning cycle.



Tree Planting Applications Due March 21

This spring, residents can have a tree planted on their parkway as part of the Village's Cooperative Tree Planting Program by submitting an application by March 21. Benefits of participation in the shared-cost, cooperative planting program include selection of tree species, and choice of tree size to be planted. Applications and descriptions and locations of the available tree species are available at Village Hall or from the Village's web-site, www.wilmette.com. Five tree species measuring 2 or 2.5 inches in caliper are available. Further questions regarding the program can be directed to the Forestry Division at 847-853-7587 or forestry@wilmette.com.

Yard Waste Collection Guidelines

The Village's yard waste material collection program resumes on April 7 and continues through November 25. Examples of yard waste include: shrub trimmings, grass clippings, leaves, twigs and garden waste. Details of the program are presented below.

- The collection day for residents living west of Ridge Road is Monday. Residents living east of Ridge Road will receive service on Tuesday.
- Only materials in biodegradable yard waste bags or in properly tied bundles with non-plastic rope or string and an official Village yard waste sticker affixed will be collected. Branch bundles must be less than four feet in length, contain branches up to three inches in diameter, be wrapped with a natural twine, and weigh 40 lbs or less.
- Yard waste bags are available for purchase at local Jewel Food stores, hardware stores and garden shops. Yard waste stickers cost \$2.25 and are available at Village Hall and area stores.
- Yard waste should be placed at the curb or in the alley for pickup no earlier than 6 pm on the day before scheduled pickup, and no later than 7 am on the day of collection.
- Residents have the option of renting a 95-gallon container for yard waste material from the Village's refuse contractor, Veolia Environmental Services, by calling 847-251-8759. The annual fee is \$21. Three yard waste stickers must be attached per collection.

Did You Know....

....Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting the engine and could increase your vehicle operating costs.

....Frequent restarting has little impact on the car battery or starter.

....An idling vehicle emits 20 times more pollution than one traveling 32 miles per hour.

....Idling a medium-duty gasoline vehicle for five minutes each day can emit as much as 30 pounds of harmful pollutants and 300 pounds of carbon dioxide in a year.

....Reducing idling can decrease your fuel consumption by 4 - 5 percent.

....Idling for 2 minutes is equivalent to driving one mile.

....The EPA recommends that you turn off your car if you plan to idle for more than 30 seconds.

Source: Metropolitan Mayors Caucus - Clean Air Counts, University of Michigan Automotive Research Center

Village Meetings

-----continued from page 7

Tues., May 13	7:30 pm	Village Board of Trustees
Wed., May 14	7 pm	Fire & Police Commission
	7 pm	Transportation Commission
Mon., May 19	7:30 pm	Appearance Review Cmsn.
Wed., May 21.	7:30 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
Mon., May 26	7:30 pm	Cmsn. for Persons w/Disabilities
	7:30 pm	Fine Arts Commission
Tues., May 27	7:30 pm	Village Board of Trustees

Board Report

-----continued from page 9

- Resolution #2008-R-4 granting authority to file with the Cook County Property Tax Board of Appeals an objection to the property tax reassessment appeal file by Nunilo Rubio concerning 1140 Michigan Avenue, for Assessment Year 2006.
- Resolution #2008-R-10 authorizing the Village Manager to approve competitive electricity purchasing agreements.

Important Contacts

Fire/Police Emergency 9-1-1

Fire Department

fire@wilmette.com
Administration 251-1101
Fire Prevention Bureau 853-7693

Museum

museum@wilmette.com
853-7666

Police Department

police@wilmette.com
Administration 256-1200
Animal Control Officer 256-1200
Community Relations 853-7555
Records and Citations 853-7548
Social Worker 853-7566
Traffic Coordinator 853-7567

Public Works Department

pubworks@wilmette.com
General 853-7500
Forestry 853-7600
Refuse, Recycling & Yard Waste 853-7626
Sewer and Water 853-7588
Street Signs 853-7586
Snow Storm Hot Line 853-7500
Streets 853-7591
Street Lighting 853-7590
After Hour Emergency 256-1200

Other

Park District 256-6100
Library 256-5025
Comcast 1-866-594-1234
SBC 1-800-244-4444
NICOR Gas 1-888-642-6748
Commonwealth Edison 1-800-334-7661
Veolia Environmental Services (formerly ONYX) 251-8759

Village Hall 251-2700

admin@wilmette.com
Business Licenses 853-7603
Comm. Development 853-7550
Dispute Mediation 853-7502
Engineering 853-7660
Finance 853-7609
vehicle stickers, real estate transfer tax
Health Nurse 853-7507
Health Sanitarian 853-7508
Law 853-7504
Personnel 853-7510
Village Clerk 853-7511
Water Billing 853-7620
Wilwork 853-7608

Water Plant

General 853-7535
Meter Shop 853-7537

Village Board

President
Christopher S. Canning 256-4228
canningc@wilmette.com

Trustees

Mike Basil 920-9044
mwbasil@wilmette.com
John Levin 251-3712
levinj@wilmette.com
Karen Spillers 256-7515
spillersk@wilmette.com
Alan Swanson 853-8524
swansona@wilmette.com
Mari Terman 251-6383
termanm@wilmette.com
Lali Watt 251-0374
trusteelw@gmail.com

Village Manager

Mike Earl 853-7509
earlm@wilmette.com

Village Listening Post

The purpose of the *Listening Post* is to provide residents with an additional way to communicate with the Village. The Village Board and Department Head staff will listen to your advice and suggestions, and respond to your questions. Using the space below, mail your inquiries to: Village Manager's Office, 1200 Wilmette Avenue. 60091.

November through May, the *Listening Post* will be held on the first Saturday of every month at the Park District Community Center, 3000 Old Glenview Road. The next *Listening Post* is March 1, 10 am - noon.

As a resident of the Village, I would like the Village to know that _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____



Please note that the 7 digit numbers are in 847 area code.

The Village of Wilmette

1200 Wilmette Avenue . Wilmette, Illinois . 60091

Web Site: www.wilmette.com

New Business Hours effective March 3:

7:30 am - 4:30 pm: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

7:30 am - 2 pm: Wednesday

PRESORT STD.
CR. RT PRESORT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
WILMETTE, IL 60091
PERMIT NO. 26

Local Postal Customer
Wilmette, IL 60091