

Trustee Topics

The Village of Clarendon Hills, 1 North Prospect Avenue, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514 (630) 286-5400

December 2009

Message from the President and Board

December is upon us and as we head into the busy holiday season, I hope you will participate in the wonderful events that will take place within the Village. The annual Christmas Walk and Tree Lighting Ceremony sponsored by the Village of Clarendon Hills, Chamber of Commerce, and Park District, will be held on Friday, December 4th from 6:00 pm. to 9:00 p.m. This year, the Village has taken the initiative to plant a tree on the front lawn of the Village Hall that will serve as the annual holiday tree for many years to come.

This year at the Christmas Walk, a heated tent, Dickens caroling quartet, ice sculpture and Santa Claus will be among the entertainment for the night. Moreover, local merchants will once again be representing countries around the world while participating in the "Passport to Clarendon Hills". On December 24th, take part in and enjoy the breathtaking luminaria display benefiting the Infant Welfare Society.

While you celebrate the holidays this season, the Clarendon Hills Fire Department would like to encourage all residents to take an active role in fire prevention through the "Keep the Wreath Red" program. The purpose of this program is to remind residents and business owners of efforts that should be taken during the holiday season to prevent holiday fires. For holiday safety tips, please see the article contained within this issue of *Trustee Topics*. Remember to celebrate safely when decorating for the holidays!

Also this holiday season, the Village and Chamber of Commerce would like to remind residents to shop in Clarendon Hills and support our local businesses. Through The 3/50 Project, the Village and Chamber are hoping to spur the local economy and ensure the survival of our local businesses during these challenging economic times. Become a supporter of The 3/50 Project and our local economy by committing to spend \$50/month at Clarendon Hills businesses this holiday season.

Finally, we would like to wish Jennifer Johnsen, our Assistant to the Village Manager, the very best as she will be leaving the Village and has been appointed the Village Administrator for the Village of Berkeley. Good luck, Jennifer, we will miss you! Happy Holidays,

Thomas F. Karaba, Village President

Free Christmas Tree Pick-up

Free Christmas tree pick-up will be on Monday, January 4th and Monday, January 11th. No yard waste sticker will be required. Please remove all ornamentation, tinsel, and garland before placing your tree at the curb.

Annual Christmas Walk

Friday, December 4th

The annual Christmas Walk hosted by the Clarendon Hills Chamber of Commerce, the Clarendon Hills Park District, and the Village will be held on Friday, December 4th. The evening will begin with the 6th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:00 p.m. This year, the Village has decided to plant a Colorado Spruce on the front lawn of the Village Hall that will serve as the annual holiday tree. At only 14' tall, the tree is not nearly as large as past holiday trees but will prevent the Village from cutting down a mature evergreen each year. The tree will grow and serve the Village for many years to come. We appreciate your patience during this time and encourage you to support this important environmental project. Following the Tree Lighting Ceremony, refreshments will be served until 9:00 p.m. at the Village Hall and throughout the downtown businesses. Again this year, the event will feature a downtown heated tent with refreshments and activities, a Dickens caroling quartet, "Passport to Clarendon Hills," and a holiday ice sculpture. Remember, Santa arrives at 7:00 p.m. sharp in the Ken Sloan Triangle so don't be late!

Mark your calendars for Friday, December 4th and join your family, friends, and neighbors at this long-standing holiday tradition!

Holiday Safety Tips

Make sure you have a working smoke detector on every level of your home.

Choose a freshly cut tree. LIVE TREES NEED WATER! Check and refill water often.

Keep your tree away from heat sources, sparks, or flames.

Do not leave Christmas tree lights on while unattended.

Avoid accidents by using wire or cord to secure your tree to the wall or ceiling (this will prevent it from toppling over near small children or pets).

Check all light sets before use. Do not use damaged light sets or extension cords.

Avoid overloading electrical connections and use only Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approved lights on your tree. **DO NOT USE CANDLES.**

Promptly remove all discarded packages and wrappings from the home.

Never leave the house with candles burning.

Never leave children or pets unattended with a lit candle (the candle can easily be knocked over).

Never use candles near combustible materials such as curtains, drapes, bedding, and cabinets.



THE VILLAGE OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH AND 25TH
AND NEW YEAR'S DAY, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

ZBA/Plan Commission

ZBA/Plan Activity November 19

Workshop—impervious surface ratio regulations

Agenda for December 17

Workshop—impervious surface ratio regulations

Toy Express

Fire Department to be a Drop-Off

Toy Express is up and running again for the 20th year. Last year, toy express distributed toys and clothing to more than 2,500 underprivileged children in our community. Due to the downturn in the economy, the Toy Express Center anticipates receiving clothing and toy requests for more than 3,000 children and we need your help to fulfill these requests.

Once again, Clarendon Hills Fire Department will be a drop off location. Beginning December 1st, residents can drop off unwrapped toys at the Fire Station located at 316 Park Avenue. Residents with questions can contact Fire Prevention Officer Dave Godek at (630) 286-5434.

As in the past, we primarily rely upon LOVE Christian Clearing House, Hinsdale Community Services, Lifelink Head Start, DuPage County Women and Infant Care Centers, and local schools to identify families in need. However, if you are aware of any families who need assistance, please contact the Fire Department and we will direct you to the Toy Express Center. From all the Officers & Firefighters of Clarendon Hills Fire Department, we thank you again for your support and wish you a safe and happy holiday season

Burglary Prevention Council

10 Quick Security Tips

1. Keep all doors and windows closed and securely fastened. An open window or door is an open invitation for burglars. Thieves are also quick to spot weak locks that may be easily forced open. Doors should have deadbolt locks with a one inch throw and reinforced strike plate with three inch screws. All windows should have window locks.
2. Secure sliding glass doors. Place a metal rod or piece of plywood in the track and install vertical bolts.
3. Always lock the door to an attached garage. Don't rely on your automatic garage door opener for security.
4. Create the illusion that you are home by using timers on lights, radios and TVs. Making your residence appear occupied, even when no one is home, will deter criminals.
5. Keep the perimeter of your home well lit. Installing low voltage outdoor lighting is a cost-effective way to discourage intruders, as well as highlight a house.
6. Have a trusted neighbor collect mail and newspapers while you are away so delivered items do not accumulate. You can also ask a neighbor to park in your driveway or parking place to make it appear that you are present.
7. Keep some shades and blinds up and curtains open to maintain a normal, everyday appearance in your residence.
8. Never leave a message on your telephone answering machine telling people that you are away from home.
9. Keep shrubbery trimmed away from entrances and walkways.
10. Organize a community watch program to protect your neighborhood. An alert community is a safe community.

Village Board Actions, November

Passage of Ordinances: (1) authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement establishing the Northern Illinois Municipal Natural Gas Franchise Consortium; and (2) authorizing the sale of surplus court-awarded vehicles through eBay auction.

Authorization to: (1) issue a raffle license to Notre Dame Parish for a raffle to be held on November 20, 2009; (2) accept quotes from Fiber-Tel Corporation and Sentinel Tech, Inc. for the installation of fiber optic connectivity for Village buildings; and (3) approve a License Agreement between the Village and the Chamber of Commerce for the 2009 Christmas Walk.

Adoption of a Resolution: (1) approving an amendment to a Tower Lease Agreement between the Village and Nextel West Corporation.

NEW ON THE WEB WANT TO RECEIVE YOUR TRUSTEE TOPICS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?

To Register: **Visit the Village's website at
www.clarendonhills.us**

Please note that a printed copy of the newsletter will continue to be delivered to all residences in Clarendon Hills. Newsletters are delivered by postal route and therefore the Village cannot remove an individual address from the distribution list.

**For more information, contact Cheryl Pierce
at (630) 286-5401.**

911 Emergency Dispatch

Important Information for Special Needs Residents

Southwest Central 911 Emergency Dispatch is providing residents with a chance to report if they or a loved one are disabled or have special needs in order to ensure the most accurate and safe medical care in the case of an emergency.

Created in 1985, Southwest Central Dispatch (SWCD) serves as the Emergency Dispatch Center for multiple communities including Clarendon Hills. When 9-1-1 is dialed from a land based phone, the call is directed to the dispatch center assigned to that location. These calls include the calling party's name, address, and phone number. After the initial 9-1-1 call, the telecommunicator enters the information into a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System. Based on the location, SWCD is capable of recording special needs information for residents of the area served. Once the location is entered into the CAD System, the computer will alert the telecommunicator about the special needs information attached to the address. In the case of an emergency, responding units will be alerted if the information is relevant to the incident.

If you or a loved one have a disability or special needs, you can contact the Police Department at 286-5460 or the Fire Department at 286-5430 to report any disability or special needs information. This data is kept strictly confidential and will only be used to provide assistance to emergency medical and police responders.

Notes from the Clarendon Hills Library **7 North Prospect Avenue, 630-323-8188**

Christmas Walk – Friday, December 4th, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Mark your calendar for this annual community holiday kick-off event. Follow the luminaria to the North Pole (aka the Library!) where you may enjoy hot cider and cookies while you listen to the heavenly sounds of harpist Laura Fako Utley from 7:15 – 8:00. Children are invited to write and decorate letters to Santa and then place them in our special North Pole mailbox for speedy delivery. In the spirit of the season, there will be amnesty on all overdue fines on Clarendon Hills Library materials. The Friends of the Library will be giving away tote bags all evening, too.

Library Film Series continues with Great Movie Musicals

Meet Me in St. Louis – Tuesday, December 8th, 6:30 pm

Refreshments will be served. Call 630-323-8188 to register.

The Big Read



The Big Read 2010 title announced!

The Help by Kathryn Stockett is the selection for The Big Read beginning in March of 2010. The Clarendon Hills Library and nine other area libraries are planning a series of programs, films, and book discussions that relate to this uplifting story of the nascent civil rights movement in Jackson, Mississippi in the early 1960's. To stay up to date on all Big Read events, follow us on Twitter by logging on to twitter.com/bigread2010.

Musical Fun for Families: Singer Jeanie B - Tuesday,

December 8th 10:30 a.m.

Join singer Jeanie B! as she gets us up and moving with an interactive, uplifting, fun program! Register now at 630-323-8188.

R.E.A.D. to the Dogs – First Thursday of each month, 6:30-7:30 pm

Readers in K-5th grade may sign up for a 15-minute time slot to read to a trained therapy dog. Dogs and handlers are provided by the Hinsdale Humane Society.

December 3rd (register now)

Winter Storytimes for children will begin January 11th— details in next month's newsletter.

For the latest on all library news, become a fan of ours on Facebook and follow us on Twitter (twitter.com/CHLibrary).

Give a gift that will last forever

Yes, you could buy a sweater or a tie or even a video game, but where will it be in a year or two?

Give a gift that will show you place a high value on your library, and will last forever—a personalized commemorative paver brick for our Remembrance Garden.

Join the more than 100 generous folks who have purchased bricks to celebrate a wide variety of people and special events. Our garden has bricks commemorating golden birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and honoring special people.

Show the world your love of reading by supporting your library in this special way.

Look for the display right inside our front door for Commemorative Brick Order forms. We'll even give you a beautiful personalized Certificate of Appreciation suitable for framing. Happy Holidays from Your Library!

What They're Reading...Book Discussion Groups

The Game's Afoot Mystery Group

- No December meeting

- Monday, January 18th, 7 pm *The Bone Collector* by Jeffrey Deaver

Kay Carlson Book Group

- Wednesday, December 2nd, 10 am *Digging to America* by Anne Tyler

- Wednesday, January 6th, 10 am *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

Thursday Night Readers

- Thursday, December 10th, 7 pm *The Uncommon Reader* by Alan Bennett

- Thursday, January 14th, 7 pm *Lonesome Dove* by Larry McMurtry

New members are always welcome at our book groups.

Books are available for checkout approximately two weeks prior to each meeting.

Recent Gifts and Memorials

Thank you to . . .

- Glen & Barbara Ostdiek for funds to purchase the following books *Elegant Enigmas: the Art of Edward Gorey*, *Bubby's Brunch Cookbook* and *Ayn Rand and the World She Made*.
- Jerry Gura and the Amsted Industries Foundation for the books: *Windows on the World Complete Wine Course*, *Chicago: a Biography* by Dominic Pacyga and *An Uncommon History of Common Things*.
- Jim & Janet Kolzow for funds to purchase the book on audio *The Art of Happiness in a Troubled World* and the book *In Search of Bacchus: Wanderings in the Wonderful World of Wine Tourism*.
- Elizabeth Wilcox for her donation used to purchase *The True Gift: A Christmas Story*, by Patricia MacLachlan and *Louisa May Alcott: the Woman behind Little Women* by Harriet Reisen
- Robert Lawler for his gift used to purchase the book *What the Dog Saw: and Other Adventures* by Malcolm Gladwell.
- Suzette Hybert and the BP Fabric of America Fund for funding the purchase of the reference works *Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Africa and the Middle East*, *Facts About the Presidents* and the biography *In My Father's Shadow: a Daughter Remembers Orson Wells*.
- Dan and Jackie Frett for the book, *Uncle Bobby's Wedding*, given in honor of the marriage of Sean Frett and Greg McKay.

The following books have been added to the collection in memory of . . .

- Rosalie Rohozka, *A Rumpole Christmas* by John Mortimer, *The Gift: a Novel* by Cecelia Ahern and the reference work *Historical Fiction*.
- Lorraine "Lor" Bouse, *Amelia Earhart: the Thrill of It* and *Martha Stewart's Dinner at Home: 52 Quick Meals to Cook for Family & Friends*, have been purchased with a gift from Betty Place.
- Harriet Nelson, *The Letter and the Scroll: What Archaeology Tells us About the Bible*, *Crochet Workshop: The Complete Course for the Beginner to Intermediate Crocheter*, and the biographies *Abigail Adams* and *High Society: The life of Grace Kelly*.

Trustee Topics

December 2009

Village of Clarendon Hills
1 North Prospect Avenue
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Clarendon Hills,
Illinois 60514
Permit No. 45

Village President - Tom Karaba - Ext. 5420

Trustees

Allan Alongi - Ext. 5421
Edward Reid - Ext. 5422
Mary Williams - Ext. 5423
Paul Pedersen - Ext. 5424
Diane Cochran - Ext. 5425
Steve Wallace - Ext. 5426

Village Clerk - Dawn Tandle - Ext. 5403

CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT

POSTAL CUSTOMER
CLARENDON HILLS, IL 60514

December Meeting Schedule

- **Friday, December 4**
Tree Lighting/Christmas Walk 6:00 p.m.
- **Monday, December 7**
Village Board Meeting - cancelled
- **Tuesday, December 8**
Mosquito Abatement 7:00 p.m.
- **Monday, December 14**
Village Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Park District Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, December 17**
ZBA/Plan Commission 7:30 p.m.
- **Monday, December 21**
Village Board Meeting - cancelled
- **Thursday, December 24**
Village Offices Closed
- **Friday, December 25**
Village Offices Closed
- **Friday, January 1, 2010**
Village Offices Closed

December Agenda Matters

Please note that items listed below are the anticipated agenda items and are subject to change. The final agenda is confirmed the Friday prior to the Village Board meeting and is posted at the Village Hall and on the Village's website at www.clarendonhills.us.

Approval of a proclamation recognizing December 2009 as Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. **Village Board.** *Monday, December 14.*

Acceptance of the monthly treasurer's report for the month ending October 31, 2009. **Finance Committee** and **Village Board.** *Monday, December 14.*

Approval of the 2009 tax levy ordinance. **Finance Committee** and **Village Board.** Second consideration and passage, *Monday, December 14.*

Approval of ordinances for the 2009 special service area tax levies. **Finance Committee** and **Village Board.** Second consideration and passage, *Monday, December 14.*

Approval of ordinances approving an annexation agreement, annexation, rezoning to Office-Research District, and a consolidation plat - The Birches (214-56th Street). **Land Use Committee** and **Village Board.** Second consideration and passage, *Monday, December 14.*

Intergovernmental agreement between VOCH and DPC for full participation in the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program (IDDE). **Village Board** and **Public Services Committee.** *Monday, December 14th.*

Authorization to proceed with design engineering for IDOT Emergency Repair Program for Burlington, Golf and N. Prospect Avenue. **Village Board** and **Public Services Committee.** *Monday, December 14.*



Keep The Wreath Red

Fire Prevention At Home

The Clarendon Hills Fire Department once again will participate in a holiday fire safety campaign called "Keep the Wreath Red". During the Months of November, December and January, the Clarendon Hills Fire Department will display a large wreath affixed with red lights. The lights will remain red throughout the holiday season unless there is a fire in town that is related to a holiday decoration or display. For each occurrence of this nature, a white light will replace a red light. The Clarendon Hills Fire Department stresses the importance of holiday fire safety due to the large number of residential fires that occur during this time. For more information, contact Fire Prevention Officer Godek at 286-5430.

Village Phone Numbers

Village Manager - Robert M. Bahan
Director of Finance - Peg Hartnett
Director of Public Works - John W. Hays
Director of Community Development -
Michael J. Brown
Police Chief - L. Patrick Anderson
Fire Chief - Brian D. Leahy

Village Office: 630/286-5400
Finance: Press 2
Building: Press 3
Administration: Press 4
Current Village Information: Press 8
Fax: 630/286-5409
Public Works: 630/286-4750

Web Page: www.clarendonhills.us
Emergency: 9-1-1
Non-emergency:
Police: 630/286-5460
Fire: 630/286-5430
Park District: 630/323-2626

Business Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.