

# SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 41/Number 6 September/October 2008



## Administration's Message

Dear Residents:

As you read this, our beautiful summer has ended and autumn has begun. Our children of all ages have returned to school and our routines have changed to accommodate the new demands placed on our lives. We are settling in to meet the new but familiar challenges that the coming months will bring. Just as we face these matters at home, your Village Administration continues to address the challenges of our larger family known as "community". Here is what has been going on.

At the September 11th VBT meeting, we took time to remember the victims of the **9-11-01** attack on America. Across our country, in our public places, individual homes, and personal thoughts, Americans remembered the innocent thousands, First Responders, and the families of those who died that awful and sad day. Those who died were called upon to sacrifice on our behalf, knowingly or not, in the name of freedom and the values for which our Nation stands. It has been said, correctly in my estimation, that Freedom is not free. Sometime, somewhere, someone has paid the price for it. As predicted in the **9-11** aftermath, America is recovering and continues to persevere. We should enjoy the freedom that our enemies seek to destroy and always remember what happened on **9-11** and the people who died in the attack that day. **NEVER FORGET!**

The third installment of the impact fee was received as promised by **Mr. Pat Taylor** of Dartmoor Homes. As you know, Dartmoor is the developer of Timber Trails of Western Springs. Mr. Taylor has generously granted \$500,000 to the Village to be paid in five annual installments that began in 2006. On behalf of the entire Village, I express our appreciation to Mr. Taylor and Dartmoor Homes for this generosity.

As a result of concerns raised by our residents whose children attend the LaGrange Highlands school and the cooperation of the County, Township, and Village governments and the School District, a temporary cross walk will be (or has been) created on Wolf Road at the vicinity of the driveway entrance to the Heritage Center. Because there is no bus service to the Highlands School, this will allow children walking to school to cross safely under the supervision of a crossing-guard to the east side of Wolf Road and use the sidewalk on that side to continue to school. The plan, ultimately, is to install a sidewalk from Hiawatha to Plainfield Road in the County owned right of way on the west side of Wolf and eliminate this temporary crossing. Payment of the cost for the sidewalk is yet to be determined and will possibly be shared

by the Township and the School District but will not involve Village funds. Your VBT and I welcome and support this safety enhancement for our school children. In the meantime, drive carefully and watch out for the children as they use this temporary crossing!

Shortly, if not already commenced, work will begin at the Heritage Center to replace the roof shingles and rain gutters and to make repairs to the chimney. A contract has been signed to authorize this work which will begin as soon as the weather and contractor allow. As everyone who visits there or drives by notices, the building is in need of work including a good paint job. Painting before structural repairs are made would not be a prudent use of funds.

Your patience with the pace of the renovations is appreciated. The beauty of the Heritage Center is not how it looks outside. The beauty of the Heritage Center is in the books and docents inside and the Village-wide community support of this historic treasure.

In August, the VBT passed our 2008-2009 Village budget. The budget as planned would result in a surplus of a few hundred dollars. Since then, we have learned that not only has the cost of road salt for use this winter tripled from about \$40 per ton to \$120 per ton but also that it is scarce on the market. Even though we are long-standing customers, our supplier so far can only promise about 1/10th of our annual need. We have salt on hand but find ourselves in the same position as every other municipality in vying for limited supplies and sky-rocketing prices. We are working on it!

We are involved in collective-bargaining for the first time in Village history with the Union that represents our full-time police officers. The negotiations are moving along. However, this matter is not without costs heretofore never encountered by the Village and will have an impact on the budget.

Similarly, the VBT has reached a settlement regarding a lawsuit concerning the installation of a fence for a special needs child. As mayor, I understand that there are strong emotions on both sides of the matter. I think that the settlement that was reached is a fair and reasonable accommodation of the special needs of the child and a consistent enforcement of our zoning code prohibition on fences in general. No matter what side of the fence you are on, (pardon the pun!), litigation is a serious and often unpleasant undertaking. The fact that the parties in this matter were able to reach an agreement sooner rather than later is a benefit to

*continued on page 2*

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both sides and all interests. The court matter is resolved. I ask that those directly affected by this matter put their differences behind them and move forward, as the Village will do, with dignity and understanding.

As you can surmise, the above matters will have a definite impact on our budget. Like everyone faced with costs rising faster than incomes, the Village is faced with similar challenges. To meet these challenges, the VBT will be looking to cut costs and enhance our revenues. I ask for your patience, understanding and support as we tackle these issues.

Now, on a personal note, I am privileged to announce the following recent re-appointments to the Planning and Zoning Commission: **Mike Lopez** and **Earl O'Malley**. Also, I would like to extend our congratulations to **Frank Alonzo** on his first anniversary as our Chief of Police and Administration. Frank has proven to be a valuable asset to the Village Administration and Police Department and to me personally. We all appreciate his hard work.

**Save the date!** The annual Village **Halloween Party** (see Announcement in this issue) will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday, **October 25th** from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Also, the annual **Book Sale** will be held at the Heritage Center on Saturday **October 18th** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Our thanks to Jane Kuhn and all the docents who make this event possible. Please stop by and check out the book bargains.

Finally, as I noted above, autumn is here and the Fall Leaf Pick-up Program will begin before too long. Please see the insert concerning the dates the pick-up will be made on your street. As we continue to move forward, have a good school year! Let's hope for a mild winter, and to all pleasant memories of this summer past! *"The things we did last summer, I'll remember all winter long!"* (Sammy Cahn, U.S. songwriter, 1913-1993). Remember, school is open, drive carefully, and watch out for children on their way to school!

Best Regards,

Richard S. Andrews, Mayor

## Scheduled Meeting Dates

**Village Board of Trustees 7:30 p.m.:**

Thursday, October 9, 2008

**Planning and Zoning Commission 7:30 p.m.:**

Tuesday, October 7, 2008

**E-911 Board 6:30 p.m.:**

No meeting scheduled at this time.

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at 201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

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### Smoke Signals

Newsletter Coordinator, Kathy Leach  
(708) 246-7099, extension 101  
kleach@indianheadpark-il.gov

### Volume 41, Number 6

Circulation 2000

*Smoke Signals* is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

**Deadline date for the next issue is November 10, 2008.**

[www.indianheadpark-il.gov](http://www.indianheadpark-il.gov)

### VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525  
(708) 246-3080  
[www.indianheadpark-il.gov](http://www.indianheadpark-il.gov)

#### Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and  
Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

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Richard S. Andrews

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Brian T. Bailey Norman L. Schnauer  
Anne Bermier Matthew P. Walsh II

#### Village Clerk:

Joseph V. Consolo

#### Chief of Police/ Administrator:

Frank Alonzo, Jr.

#### Police Dept.

Non-Emergency 246-4534  
**Emergency 9-1-1**

#### Fire Dept.

Non-Emergency 352-9229  
**Emergency 9-1-1**

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## Aging Well to Host Flu Clinic

The Aging Well team of Western Springs/Indian Head Park will host a flu shot clinic on Thursday, October 9, 2008 from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Grand Avenue Community Center (gym) 4211 Grand Avenue in Western Springs. Flu shots will be available for \$28.00 or Medicare Part B accepted. Sign up is required to reserve a flu shot. Please call (708) 354-1323 x19 to sign up. Dominick's Pharmacists will administer the flu shots. They will also have Pneumonia Shots and Zostavax (Shingles) shots available.



communities in greater Lyons Township. These teams are composed of volunteers who work together to address the needs of older adults in their communities. Projects vary and include health fairs, distribution of the File of Life and cell phones for 911 emergency use, community health clinics, community forums, and more. For more information on this event or about how you can participate on an Aging Well Community Action Team, please call Mike Doepke at (708)783-1220.

This event is open to seniors in all surrounding communities. Refreshments will be served. There will be various resource information for older adults available as well. This event is sponsored by Aging Well, a community partnership that was started in 2001. The project's goal is to work with communities to create an environment in which people can age well. Aging Well Community Action Teams exist in many

Aging Well is an integral part of Community Partnerships for Older Adults (CPFOA). CPFOA is a national program funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to help communities develop leadership, innovative solutions, and options to meet the needs of older adults over the long term. Aging Well is funded locally by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, The Chicago Community Trust, Community Memorial Foundation and the Township of Lyons.

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## TEEPEE TOPICS

Congratulations to the following students from Indian Head Park for their academic achievements!

Chara Dubin was named to the dean's list for two semesters in the pre-pharmacy doctoral program at Purdue University in West Lafayette. Coleen LaCaria was named to the dean's list at Benedictine University in Lisle. The following students from Indian Head Park also received academic honors at the College of DuPage: Jacqueline Dukes, Kristina Gervyte, Deborah Powers, Sarah Rehmer and Deborah Warf. Nora O'Connell, Colleen McCollom, Anthony Bartucci and Joseph Pellegrino were named to the honor roll at Nazareth Academy in LaGrange Park. Davis D'Angelo was named to the dean's list at Grinnell College in Iowa. John Durso received a Bachelor's Degree in communication/media studies at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb.

The Forest Preserve District of Cook County and the I & M Canal National Heritage Corridor Civic Center Authority will host "A River Thru History". Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 11th and Sunday October 12th to attend this event at Columbia Woods in Willow Springs. Step back 200 years into America's past. A variety of events will take place on each day including food, entertainment, music, crafts, canoe races, games and more! For further details including admission fees, please call (708) 937-0009 or visit the following website: [ariverthruhistory.com](http://ariverthruhistory.com)

Our condolences to the families and friends of the following who recently passed away: Kathleen J. Teune, age 58. Kathleen was a quality management supervisor for Adventist Healthcare at Home, a Department of Hinsdale Hospital.

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