

# Wheeling Illustrated

## Spring?

PW Department says not so fast ..... *Page 8*

Finance Department outlines  
2008 budget ..... *Page 3*



# State of the Village - 2007

In a word, 2007 was all about momentum. We started the year by opening Claim Jumper Restaurant and the \$18M Schwind Crossings retail development adjacent to Target that features Staples, TGI Friday's, Chipotle, Potbelly's and other retail stores. However, 2007 was not just a year for retail development as Prairie Park continued its next phases and townhome projects Willow Place and Millbrook Pointe celebrated groundbreakings during the year. Also, new office and medical buildings opened their doors on Milwaukee Avenue - all projects that our Community Development Department guided to fruition.

The Village itself added to the development trend by selling \$40 million in bonds to pay for the new Village Hall, two fire stations and expansion of the Public Works facility - only one indicator of the village's strong financial condition. Our Finance Department received the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Financial Reporting and Distinguished Budget Award in 2007 for the 24th year in a row.

The departments that you see on the streets more - Public Works, Police and Fire - had banner years as well. In addition to designing, managing and supervising more than \$4 million in Capital Improvement Plan projects, our Public Works Department still performed flawlessly in maintaining more than \$120 million in village property, buildings and infrastructure. A few of the projects that highlighted 2007 include the ongoing Water Main Replacement Program, the continuing Sidewalk Construction Program and the '2007 American Public Works Association Project of the Year for under \$2

*Continued on Page 3*



Christine Brady, Deputy Village Clerk, and Elaine Simpson, Village Clerk

# The Clerk's Corner

Spring is just around the corner which means it is time to get to know your neighbors and other residents in the Village. Here are some activities you can get involved in.

**Wheeling Garden Club** is a great place to learn about gardening, hear guest speakers and be part of the annual plant sale in addition to other activities. The garden club meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Masonic Temple located at Milwaukee and Dundee. For further information please contact Christine Brady at 847-537-8642.

**Wheeling Historical Society** is part of preserving the Village's present for future generations. The Society has monthly meetings with speakers, opens the museum up during warmer weather and organizes Lollypop Lane for the children and young at heart among many other activities. The Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chamber Park in the Community Church. For further information please contact Elaine Simpson at 847-541-8692.

**Wheeling Senior Center** is open to any resident over the age of 55. There are discussion groups, computer training courses, exercise classes and much, much more. This is an opportunity to meet people with shared experiences and concerns.

**The Wheeling Senior Commission** addresses the needs and interests of all Village residents over the age of 55 and is here to help you. According to Village code, the Commission serves "as an advisory body to the Village President, Board of Trustees and the Village Manager, with respect to the general welfare of senior citizens in the village." Questions or concerns should be directed to the Commission's chairperson, Pat Maziarka (847-537-4784).

## Voter Registration

If you are not registered to vote and would like to register you can do this at the Village Hall during regular business hours. In the event you can't do this please call Elaine Simpson at (847) 541-8692 and arrange to fill out a Voter Registration form at your convenience. Voter Registration is open until October 7, 2008. It always closes thirty days prior to an election. We also have College Student and Medical applications available. These may be filled out and returned to the Cook County Clerk's office so that during elections, ballots may be sent for early voting.



Judy Abruscato



Dean Argiris



Ken Brady



Bob Heer



Mike Horcher



Pat Horcher



Elaine Simpson



## Finance Department Outlines 2008 Budget

In December of last year, the Village Board approved the Fiscal Year 2008 budget which totals \$92,043,181. Of that amount, \$50,909,434 is budgeted for operating costs such as salaries and benefits, commodities and contractual services and \$42,692,928 is budgeted for capital improvement projects and capital equipment. Residents who are unfamiliar with the Village's budget often want to know where the Village's money comes from and what it is spent on. The following information will hopefully answer many of those questions.

### Where Does the Money Come From?

The Village receives the majority of its operating revenue from five primary sources. These consist of the following: **Sales Tax, Property Tax, Water and Sewer Fees, Income Tax and Telecommunications Tax.** The following chart provides a comprehensive look at where the Village's revenue comes from including those sources previously mentioned.

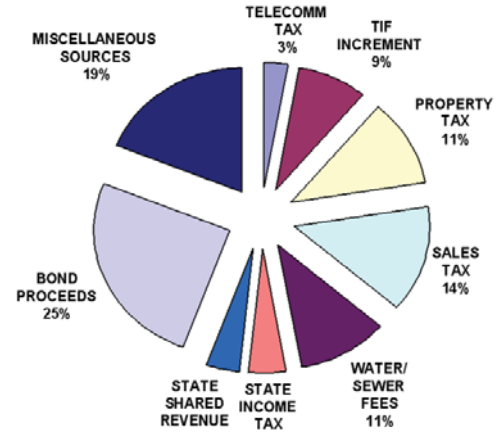
### Where Does the Money Go?

The Village's operating budget consists of the General Fund, Water and Sewer Fund and Emergency 911 Fund. The majority of the dollars budgeted in these funds are spent on salaries and benefits, commodities and contractual services related to police and fire activities and public works programs (e.g. street maintenance, snow removal, etc.). Funds are also spent on the engineering, community development, senior services, finance and administrative departments. The chart below shows how this money is allocated among the Village's departments.

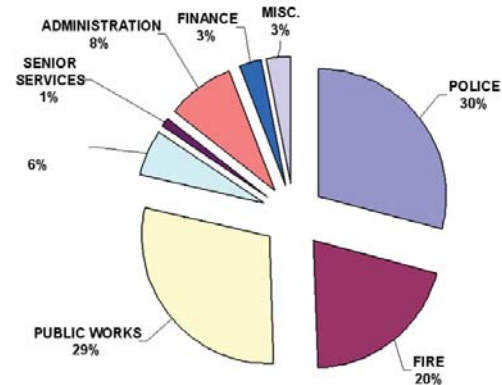
The 2008 budget also includes several capital improvement projects which reflect the Village Board's commitment to maintaining and improving Village infrastructure and equipment. The 2008 capital improvement budget includes \$37,460,668 for street improvements, building construction, water and sewer system improvements and other projects scheduled to begin or be completed this year.

The final 2008 budget document is available on the Village's website. If you would like more information on the budget, please contact Michael Mondschain, the Village's Finance Director, at 847-459-2604.

REVENUE BY SOURCE - ALL FUNDS



OPERATING EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT



## From Page One ----- State of the Village - 2007

million', the Cornell Avenue Dam Rehabilitation Project.

Our men and women in blue proved once again why they are one of the finest police forces in the country by meeting CALEA mandates that added 110 standard operating procedures to the already stringent requirements necessary for CALEA accreditation. The department underwent an expansive reorganization that created a Special Operation Unit that resulted in additional patrols and an increased police presence on our streets which all leads to a safer Wheeling and lower crime rate.

The Fire Department responded to more than 4,100 emergency calls, up 8.3% from 2006. The department, with assistance from the senior center, conducted three drive thru Pharmaceutical and Sharps Collections that resulted in the collection of thousands of outdated pharmaceuticals and sharps. And, for the fifth year in a row, a drive thru flu shot clinic was conducted for resident seniors and handicapped individuals.

As you can see, and echoing the mass media marketing campaign featured on WBBM radio and in 'Chicago', 'North Shore' and 'Crain's' magazines, 'Life is Good in Wheeling'. And, with the addition of Cooper's Hawk Winery and Restaurant, the Tilted Kilt and the long-anticipated Super Dawg to our 'Restaurant Row,' 2008 is shaping up to be a very good year indeed.

Then, acting Village President Judy Abruscato delivered the 'State of the Village Address' at the annual Wheeling/Prospect Heights Chamber of Commerce function on February 5. Trustee Pat Horcher took over as acting Village President on January 24 and will serve as acting Village President through September 12.

"I look forward to working with my fellow Board members and staff on keeping the momentum going during my eight-month tenure as acting village president," said Pat Horcher. "2008 is already shaping up to be an exciting year."







## Make Yourself Invisible to Identity Thieves

Ever wonder how and why you get those endless credit card offers and phone calls from telemarketers and companies offering you everything under the sun at the best possible price? The information these companies obtain and use has nothing to do with the highly promoted “do not call lists.” The information these companies obtain and use is from public domain information gathered from a variety of sources including public records, utility companies and real estate records.

The most widely used free public information database is [www.zabasearch.com](http://www.zabasearch.com). Zabasearch was created in 2005 by Nick Matzorkis and Robert Zakari who worked for the pay-by-use company US Search. Matzorkis and Zakari left US Search and started Zabasearch, believing advertisers would compensate their company to advertise their products, while Zabasearch merely posts and consolidates specific information on individuals that is already available for free, but is located in many different places.

A review of Zabasearch reveals one can find information on almost anyone who has not contacted Zabasearch to request their information removed. The information reveals a person's name, address, date of birth and telephone number.



Ok, now after reading this article and checking the website and seeing your information is available, how do you

limit your exposure and remove your name? To remove your name, follow this procedure:

Make a request in writing to the following address:

Zabatools  
P.O. Box 45210  
Omaha, NE 68145

\*Specify whether you want to add, delete or edit your Zaba entry

\*List all names you use and the names listed in the letter

\*List address of record

\*Date of birth listed

\*Phone number listed

\*List an E-mail for correspondence

\*Sign and date your letter

A letter containing the above information must be sent to Zabasearch for each individual listed. After Zabasearch has processed your request they will notify you via E-mail of the action taken.

## Feral Feline Project in Wheeling

Kittens! Kittens! Kittens! Spring is right around the corner and so is kitten season. Every year shelters and Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) organizations are flooded with phone calls and emails about citizens discovering kittens on their property. The truth be told, shelters will be overwhelmed with kittens and will have to turn most of them away. We are asking all the residents not to wait for them to mate. If you are feeding stray and/or feral (wild) outdoor cats and kittens, it is your care-taking duty to have them spayed and neutered and we would like to help.



We are Feral Feline Project, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to humanely reducing the outdoor cat population by applying TNR. Millions of feral and domesticated cats are euthanized each year due to lack of shelter space and not being adoptable. TNR is a safe and humane way of limiting the litters of kittens born in the wild and reducing the population of feral cats. We can rent safe and humane traps while easily instructing you on how to use them. Once the cats are in the traps they are brought to a participating local veterinarian to be spayed/neutered and vaccinated, then safely returned to their colony. This program is beneficial because permanent removal of these cats causes new stray and feral cats that have not been spayed/neutered or vaccinated to take over this area and repopulate the colony. Please contact us for more information (847) 800-0095 (leave a message) or visit our website at [feralfelineproject.googlepages.com](http://feralfelineproject.googlepages.com).

Your support enables us to continue with our TNR program and save the lives of countless cats and kittens. Your donation is tax-deductible and is applied 100% to our TNR program. We would like to thank everyone who donated in the past.

Donations can be mailed to:  
Feral Feline Project  
PO Box 1  
Wheeling, IL 60090

*Feral Feline Project is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization and is not affiliated nor receives any donations or benefits from local, state or municipal governments.*

# HEALTH CORNER

...brought to you by the Wheeling Board of Health

## Blood Drive and Bone Marrow Registration

Every year more than 30,000 people are diagnosed with life-threatening blood diseases such as leukemia, lymphoma and inherited diseases. Many can be cured with a marrow or blood stem cell transplant but they need matching donors. You could be the one a patient needs. You'll never know unless you join the National Bone Marrow Donor Program Registry. If you would like a pamphlet regarding information on the bone marrow registration program, please call 847-229-4768 to request one be mailed to you. Blood donors of all types are needed. If all eligible people would donate, there would never be a blood shortage.

The Village of Wheeling and the Wheeling Board of Health will be hosting a Blood Drive and Bone Marrow Registration on March 12, 2008 at the Fire Station on Dundee Road adjacent to the Village Hall. The drive will run from 1:30pm until 7pm. **THERE WILL BE NO CHARGE TO REGISTER FOR THE BONE MARROW DONOR PROGRAM.**

We request you make an appointment if possible. Appointments start at 2pm. To schedule an appointment, please call Health Officer Beverly Slaby at (847) 229-4768. You can also e-mail your information to [bslaby@wheelingil.gov](mailto:bslaby@wheelingil.gov). If someone is unable to commit to a specific time, walk-ins are always welcomed.

## Public Works Department Receives Award

Through the American Public Works Association (APWA) Suburban Branch, the Village of Wheeling was awarded Project of the Year, Emergency Construction/Repair (less than \$2M) for its Cornell Avenue Dam Rehabilitation Project. The award was presented on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 in Addison, Illinois and accepted by Jon Sfondilis, Assistant Village Manager; Anthony Stavros, Director of Public Works; Timothy Merrihew, Capital Projects & Design Division Manager and Steve Morris, Utility Superintendent. The Village's award winning project, along with other APWA branch winners in the same category, has been submitted to compete at the APWA Chicago Metro Chapter level. Winners from the Chicago Metro Chapter level will then compete at the National level. Congratulations Village of Wheeling and good luck at the Chicago Metro Chapter competition!

The Public Works Department, Capital Projects and Design Division, has been working with the Village Attorney and an engineering consultant in the final design and permitting for Phase I of the Buffalo Creek Streambank Stabilization Project. This project has been slated to begin construction this Spring with a projected completion of Phase I in the Fall.

## Think Spring and Start Planning Your Rain Garden

A rain garden is a shallow depression planted with perennials and located to intercept rain water flowing from downspouts and drainage-ways (see pictures below). Many types of perennials can be used, but native plants usually work the best because they are adapted to the local environment. Rain gardens can be virtually any size and shape. They protect downstream properties from flooding and erosion by reducing peak storm water runoff rates and volumes. In addition rain gardens absorb pollutants, sustain wildlife and beautify neighborhoods.



## Annual Hydrant Flushing

The Village of Wheeling's Utility Division will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the Village during the months of April and May.

Hydrant flushing is scheduled to begin on April 27th, weather permitting, between the hours of 6am and 3pm and will continue through May 15th until all the portions of the water distribution system have been completed. Flushing is an important preventative maintenance process and is undertaken to remove particulate matter and corrosion from the system. Residents may notice a slightly lower pressure and discoloration of their water throughout the duration of the program; however, the water will be completely safe to drink. Residents are advised to check the color of the water before beginning laundry to prevent any staining. Signs will be posted throughout the Village while hydrant flushing is underway.

Should any resident have concerns regarding the flushing program, they may contact the Department of Public Works at 847-229-4600, or Steve Morris, Utility Superintendent at 847-229-4809, weekdays between 7am to 3pm.





199 N. First St. \* 847-459-2670

Pavilion Senior Center is Wheeling's activity center for active adults age 55+. Access a complete listing of all our programs/activities on the village's website in Our Community/Senior Services.

## AARP Tax Assistance Continues Through April 9th



AARP will be at the Pavilion on Wednesdays for assistance with tax filing through April 9th. Trained volunteers will assist Seniors with low to moderate income, not exceeding \$60,000 annually. Please call (847) 459-2670 to schedule an appointment.

## Telephone Reassurance

The Pavilion offers a telephone reassurance program for those 55+. Staff and volunteers call in the morning to check on you. If they do not reach you, they follow up to make sure everything is all right. If you know of someone who might be in need of this beneficial service please let them know. This service is free. For more information please contact Jan Christiansen at 847-459-2670.

## Snow Removal for Village Seniors

As a public service the NJROTC (Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps) in conjunction with the Pavilion Senior Center will be offering snow shoveling for Seniors within the Village of Wheeling. This service is for low income seniors that are unable to do snow removal themselves. If your annual income is less than \$35,000, you are 55 years or better and you are not able to shovel your driveway yourself please contact the Pavilion at (847) 459-2670. Space is limited. The cadets will shovel within 24 hours after a 2" or more snow fall. There is no fee for this service.

Pavilion Senior Center in cooperation with Harper College and the Wheeling Park District are pleased to present these programs. Please register at the Park District or the Pavilion.

### The Orphan Train

Tuesday March 3, 2008

1:00-2:30pm

Fee: \$5

Join Becky Higgins for a compelling look at this little known historical event.

### Introduction to Tea

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

6:00-9:00p.m.

Fee: \$10

Learn about the different types of tea. Take home a bag of loose leaf tea.



## WHEELING PARK DISTRICT PROGRAMS FOR ALL SENIORS

Register at the Pavilion or the Park District

### CASINO TRIP

Motor coach transportation to New Buffalo, Michigan; buffet, casino entry and five dollar coin rebate. Code 5900, Thursday, 3/27, 9:30 AM, Fee \$35

### WHITE FENCE FARM LUNCH AND SHOW

Chicken luncheon and showing of "A Star is Born." Code 6030, Thursday 4/17, 11 AM-4 PM, Fee \$60

### CHICAGOLAND FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW WITH LUNCHEON

Rosemont show featuring gardens, exhibitors, workshops and educational sessions. Code 6029, Thursday, 3/13, 9:30 AM-3PM, Fee \$55





## Yard Waste Collections

Waste Management, Inc. will begin collecting yard waste on April 1, 2008. Yard waste will be collected on regular scheduled collection days. Collections (except Christmas trees) are not provided to condominiums and townhome units.



Yard waste must be placed in biodegradable Kraft paper bags or in a container clearly marked with a red "X" around the body of the container.

Bags and/or containers cannot be larger than 33 gallons and over 45 pounds in weight. There is no limit to the number of paper bags or containers.

Bundled brush is also collected. Brush must be bundled and tied with biodegradable twine, or string, that is no longer than 4 feet in length, 2 feet in diameter and weighing no greater than 45 pounds, with no individual branch being greater than 3 feet in diameter. There is no limit to the number of bundled brush.

## Village Extends Office Hours

As an added convenience for residents and contractors, the Community Development Department and Finance Department office support staff has extended office hours Monday through Friday to 7am until 5pm. Please note that the Community Development Department has now moved to the Public Works building at 233 W Hintz Road.

Speak  
Out

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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This is your opportunity to communicate with Wheeling elected officials and administrators. Your advice, suggestions, questions and opinions are appreciated and will receive a response if desired. Please complete this form, detach and return to:

Village Manager  
 Village of Wheeling  
 255 W. Dundee Road  
 Wheeling, IL 60090

## Regularly Scheduled Meetings

### ATTEND PUBLIC MEETINGS

Residents are invited to attend public meetings of Village Boards and Commissions. Most meet in the Village Hall Councilroom unless otherwise noted here.

**Village Board -**  
 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month, 7:30 p.m.

**Village Board Workshop-**  
 3rd Monday of the month

**Plan Commission -**  
 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month, 7 p.m.

**Board of Health -**  
 4th Tuesday, every other month, 7 p.m.

**Human Rights Commission -**  
 1st Tuesday of every fourth month, 7:15 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunchroom.  
 Jan. 2, May 1, Sept. 4

**Senior Citizens Commission -**  
 3rd Monday of the month, 10 a.m., south half of Village Hall lunchroom

**Fire and Police Commission -**  
 3rd Wednesday of the Month, 2 p.m., Fire Department Training Room

**Chicago Executive Airport-**  
 3rd Wednesday each month, 6:30 p.m., Airport Offices, 1020 S. Plant Road.

**Chicago Executive Airport PACE Committee**  
 Last Thursday of each month 7pm, Airport Offices 1020 S. Plant Rd

**Beat Meetings -**  
 East Meeting will be the 2nd Wednesday of each month.  
 West Meeting will be the 4th Wednesday of each month.



# Pay Your Water Bill Online

We're happy to announce the rollout of a new addition to The Village of Wheeling's website. It is our new eGovPlus System. Wheeling's eGovPlus allows residents and businesses to pay their utility bill with a credit card over the Internet. The goal is to provide an option that is more convenient for your busy schedules. This is another example of how the Village of Wheeling is always looking for new ways to provide better service to our residents and businesses. In addition to paying your bill, eGovPlus also offers you the option to display your payment history. We encourage you to go online and create an account in eGovPlus whether or not you plan to pay your future bills using this new option; with an account you can look at your payment history at anytime. In the future, we plan to add the option to also pay permits through eGovPlus. To use our eGovPlus System please visit our website at [www.wheelingil.gov](http://www.wheelingil.gov) and you should be able to find a link for it on the home page, under the 'What's New' section. You can also find it by navigating to Village Services, Finance and Administration and selecting Water & Sewer Billing from the top menu. We offer you several options for paying your utility bill and they are:

## 1. Mail your water payment:

When mailing your payment, the Village must receive your payment in the mail by the date it is due, regardless of when the payment is postmarked.

## 2. Drop Box:

Pay your bill by dropping your payment in the water bill drop box (in the circular drive) in front of Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

## 3. Pay in Person at Village Hall:

Pay your water bill in person at the Finance Department during normal business hours:

Mon- Fri. 7am-5pm

Closed Saturday and Sunday

Front Counter payment options: Cash, Check, Credit Cards.

## 4. Direct Withdrawal:

The Village offers direct withdrawal from your checking account for payment of water and sewer bills. You can download and print the form needed for direct withdrawal from our website at [www.wheelingil.gov](http://www.wheelingil.gov). All the information you need is on the application. Simply fill in the form, and mail it to the Village of Wheeling. If you have any questions, please call the Finance Department at (847)459-2607.

## 5. Credit Card:

Pay your bill over the Internet by using your credit card through our new eGovPlus System at [www.wheelingil.gov](http://www.wheelingil.gov).

**Please note:** At this time our eGov system does not allow for the "auto-pay" feature. We will work to incorporate this into future versions of the software. Currently, we only accept one-time payments.



## No Parking During Snow Falls

Even though we are longing for spring, the worst winter for snow and ice since 1978 lingers on. The Village reminds all residents that parking is prohibited on streets following a 2" or greater snowfall. Streets that are crowded with cars are virtually impossible to plow either effectively or without the potential for accidents. To date, Public Works crews have conducted 10 total plow runs and 31 salt runs, spreading more than 3,200 tons of salt for the season. And, in what has been dubbed the year of the 'Salt Famine,' the Village is reporting that salt supplies are in high demand for the entire state, meaning streets are likely to be more hazardous during a snow storm.

Thank you for your support.

*Village of Wheeling*

255 W. Dundee Road ~ Wheeling, IL 60090

847-459-2600 ~ TDD 847-459-2987

[www.wheelingil.gov](http://www.wheelingil.gov)

### Fire/Police/Paramedics

Non-emergency Fire	847-459-2662
Non-emergency Police	847-459-2632
Community Development	847-459-2620
Economic Development	847-229-4719
Pavilion Senior Center	847-459-2670
Public Works	847-229-4600
Water Billing	847-459-2607
Code Enforcement Hotline	847-459-CODE
Chicago Executive Airport Noise Hotline	847-537-2580, ext. 159
Acting Village President Patrick Horcher	847-331-4234
Village Clerk Elaine Simpson	847-541-8692
Village Manager Mark Rooney	847-459-2606

### 911

PRSR-STD

US POSTAGE  
PAID

PERMIT NO. 053  
WHEELING, IL

CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT

Local Postal Patron  
Wheeling, IL 60090

### Trustees

Robert Heer: 847-541-4274	Michael Horcher: 847-541-3276
Dean Argiris: 847-845-6990	Patrick Horcher: 847-331-4234
Ken Brady: 847-537-8642	Judy Abruscato: 847-541-8783