

Village Views

WHEELING, ILLINOIS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2002

New Park Plan Under Development

Planning has begun for a new park at the Village's "gateway intersection" of Milwaukee Ave. and Dundee Rd. The proposal first surfaced at a board meeting on November 12.

The preliminary plan includes the intersection's northeast and northwest corners. In its present form, it features rocks, a waterfall and a fountain. A gazebo would become the focal point on the northeast corner. Cole Taylor Bank donated that property, the larger of the two parcels, for development as a community park. The land on the northwest corner is owned by the Village.

The plan envisions the use of flagstone rock for retention walls and other decorative applications. The rock has been used in other public areas, including the recently installed sign at Village Hall.

At a hearing on November 26, the Board of Trustees heard public comments on the park proposal. As a result of that hearing, the board approved the hiring of an engineer to explore the plan's technical feasibility and develop specifications for future construction.



A gazebo would become the focal point of the new park.

"We have looked at various proposals for that intersection," said Village President Greg Klatecki, "and this one appears promising. With input from residents of the Village, this park – whatever form it finally takes – will be the people's park."

If it, or a variation, is finally approved, preliminary work could lead to completion later this year. A target date has been tentatively set for July 4, 2002, depending on planning, engineering, construction and weather. (The rendering may be viewed at villagewheeling.com/coletaylor.html. This site is not affiliated with the Village.)

Emergency Notification System Installed

A new computer-based telephone system has gone into service, giving Village safety officials the capability to advise residents of emergencies in their neighborhoods. The "high-speed telephone notification system" can target areas down to individual blocks with pre-recorded messages.

Funded by a \$38,000 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice as awarded by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, the system will provide instant communication between officials and residents within an emergency zone. Once an area

has been defined by geographic mapping software, emergency officials can record a call to all homes in a predefined area. The system will continue dialing in the event of a busy signal or no answer.

"This system," said Corporal Tom Lorenz, who heads communications for the Wheeling Police Department, "can target specific areas to advise residents of such emergencies as a lost child, flooding, even road closings, in a certain part of town."

Lorenz said the system is an enhancement of a community-oriented police initiative called "VISION" (Very Important Scouts in Our Neighborhood), which is comprised of citizen volunteers working with the police department in crime detection and prevention.

"The system will, with VISION and Neighborhood Watch groups, improve the flow of information between residents and safety officials," Lorenz said.

Wheeling Police tested the system on November 25 to alert about 6,500 residents that fireworks would be fired during the annual Festival of Lights celebration at Village Hall. The police department credits the system for reducing to a handful the number of calls to 9-1-1 by concerned residents during the fireworks display. The system, known as "CityWatch," was manufactured and installed by Avtex, based in Minneapolis.

Wheeling is on the Web at www.vi.wheeling.il.us

Dancing INTO SPRING

Residents will start dancing into spring when Larry Bemben hits the downbeat for his Big Band Orchestra on February 16 at Chevy Chase Country Club. This annual ode to the coming season will begin when a cash bar opens next to the main ballroom at 7 p.m. Buffet dinner will be served from 7:30-9 p.m.

Tickets for the dance are \$35 and are on sale at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., and at Corus Bank, 125 N. McHenry Rd. Tickets also may be purchased by mail by sending payment and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Trustee Judy Abruscato, 125 W. Wayne Pl. Checks should be made payable to Village of Wheeling. Discover Card payments also are acceptable at Village Hall.

For more information, call Trustee Abruscato at 847-541-8783.



Here Comes Operation Snowfall

When the snow starts to fall, the Public Works Department activates its Snow and Ice Removal Plan. Exactly what happens under the plan depends on the amount of precipitation that has fallen, what's predicted to fall, the temperature, the expected duration of the storm, and moisture content.

Both plowing and salt-spreading operations help control winter road hazards, with Village crews spreading more salt at intersections and around curves. The effectiveness of salt depends on such factors as traffic volume, pavement type (concrete or asphalt), shade patterns and temperature. Salt is less effective when the temperature dips to 25 degrees (F) and may have no effect at all in very cold temperatures.

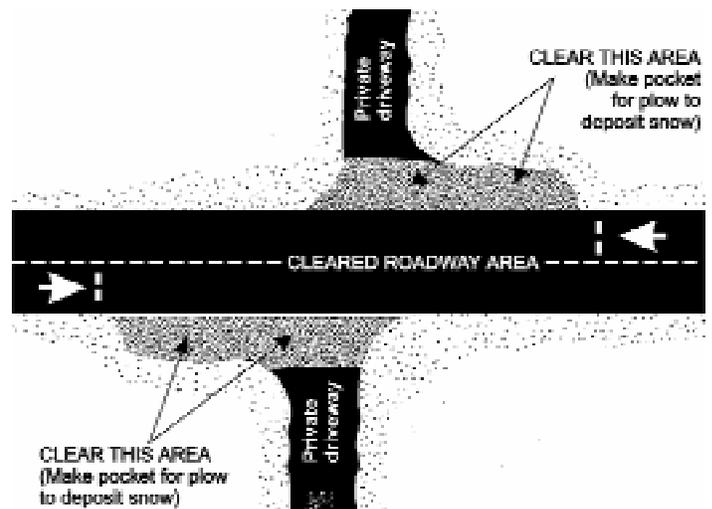
Snow Reminders

Please do not shovel or plow snow and ice onto any Village street or public sidewalk. Fire hydrants also must be kept unobstructed for safety.

Be sure to remind children playing in snow to keep well away from streets, which may be plowed at any time.

Parking bans go into effect when snow reaches a depth of two inches and until plowing is finished.

Removing snow and ice from sidewalks is the responsibility of every owner, occupant or anyone in charge of a building.



Don't miss the fun of Dancing into Spring, February 16, at Chevy Chase Country Club. Tickets are on sale at Village Hall.

Election Judges Sought

The Cook County Clerk's office is seeking registered voters to act as judges at the March 19 primary election.

Judges open polling places, certify that voters are registered and qualified to vote, demonstrate proper voting technique, explain election procedures to voters, and transmit the votes at the end of the day.

Judges are paid \$150 for their work, which includes a two-hour training session before the election, November 14.

For information call 312-603-0964 or 312-603-0965.

Community Calendar

Residents are invited to attend public meetings of the following Village boards and commissions. Most meet in the Village Hall Councilroom (unless otherwise noted).

Village Board — Every Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Plan Commission — 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 7 p.m.

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

Human Rights Commission — 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:15 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.

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

Fire and Police Commission — 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Finance and Administration offices.

Palwaukee Airport Commission — 3rd Wednesday of the month, Committee of the Whole meeting, 7 p.m., regular meeting, 8 p.m., Airport offices, 1020 South Plant Rd.

Economic Development Commission— 1st Tuesday of each month, 8 a.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.

Board of Ethics — 3rd Thursday of January, April, July and October, 7 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.

January

1— Village offices closed for New Year's holiday. Trash collection delayed one day.

9— Women's RAD program begins. Call 847-459-2990.

21— Martin Luther King Day.

February

1— Last day to purchase tickets at Village Hall for "Dancing into Spring." Call 847-541-8783

6— Citizens Police Academy 10-week course begins. Call 847-459-2990.

16— "Dancing into Spring," Chevy Chase Country Club, 7 p.m.

18— Presidents Day. Village offices closed.

24— "Passport to the World" Festival, 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Wheeling Park District, cosponsored by the Wheeling Human Rights Commission. 847-465-2940.

Village officials and staff join in wishing all Wheeling residents and their families a happy, healthy and prosperous 2002!

Residents Support Blood Drive

Wheeling Health Officer Mike Boyle praised Village residents for the strong turnout at the Board of Health blood drive, November 14, at Fire Station 24 on Dundee Rd. "We were very encouraged by the show of support," Boyle said. "In the wake of September 11, many people have a greater appreciation of why it's important to donate blood. They understand that they are making a valuable contribution."

The drive netted 60 units of blood, which were collected by LifeSource, distributor of blood and blood products to area hospitals. For information on upcoming blood drives, call the Wheeling Health Department at 847-459-2621.

SPEAK OUT

Communicate with Wheeling elected officials and administrators. Your advice, suggestions, questions and opinions are appreciated and **will receive response**. Please complete this form, detach and return to: Village Manager, Village of Wheeling, 255 W. Dundee Road, Wheeling, IL 60090.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

The Academy promotes understanding between citizens and the police through education."

Police Department Prepares for 2002 Citizens Police Academy

How do Wheeling police officers patrol the streets? How does an evidence technician operate? How often do officers qualify in the shooting range?

Those questions and many more will be answered during the eighth annual Citizens Police Academy, which begins February 6, 2002. The ten-week program will provide participants with first-hand information on topics ranging from how department units function to law enforcement and community policing.

"The Academy promotes understanding between citizens and the police through education," said Sgt. Terrie Wisnewski, who heads the Crime Prevention Unit. "We acquaint citizens with the role of law enforcement in the criminal justice system and provide insight into the operations of daily police work."

Academy instructors are drawn from department officers and personnel, who teach their own areas of expertise. The instructors have broad training and experience, and the officers bring street experience into the classroom.

The initial session will include an introduction, an orientation and the history and organization of the police department. In the weeks that follow, instructors will explain such units as Patrol, Traffic, Crime Prevention/Community Relations, DARE and Investigations. Law-enforcement issues to be covered span domestic violence, child abuse, use of force, major crimes and community policing.

Participating in the Academy requires a commitment of one night a week for the ten-week period. Classes are held one night a week from 7:00-9:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

At the end of the Academy participants will ride in a patrol car for one shift to experience first-hand what officers see and hear, and how they apply their training.

Any Village resident over the age of 21 may apply for the Academy. To apply, call or e-mail for an application. A printable application is available on the Forms and Permits page in the Reference Desk section of the Village Web site: (<http://www.vi.wheeling.il.us/ReferenceDesk/FormsAndPermits.htm#PoliceDepartmentForms>).

You will be notified if you are selected for the next session. There is no charge for the Academy.

New Fire Dispatch Center Opens

A new dispatch center has opened in Glenview to handle emergency fire and medical calls for the villages of Wheeling and Glenview. The partnership between the two villages developed out of a need to implement wireless 9-1-1 service and a desire to reduce costs associated with the Regional Emergency Dispatch Center.

Start-up costs associated with equipment installed in the two Wheeling fire stations and at the dispatch center were covered by a wireless surcharge fee that was implemented last spring. Ongoing costs also will be partially defrayed by the surcharge.

The agreement will last for at least three years and will renew automatically unless either community terminates it on 12 months' notice.

Fire Department Seeks Hydrant Buddies

The Wheeling Fire Department is looking for some buddies – hydrant buddies. In a move aimed at keeping fire hydrants clear of snow and debris during the winter months, the department is asking for help with its "Hydrant Buddy" program.

The department is asking students in the village's grade and middle schools to join the program. Volunteers will choose a fire hydrant near their homes. They will keep a three-foot circle open around the hydrant and a clear path to the street. Certificates will be presented to each Hydrant Buddy who keeps a fire hydrant clear. Young Hydrant Buddies may need adult supervision or help from an older sibling.

"Open access to fire hydrants is essential for firefighters to respond quickly to an emergency," said Fire Chief Keith MacIsaac. "During snowy weather, they have to search to find covered fire hydrants, which can cause delays in extinguishing a fire."

Each fire hydrant in the village is numbered and will be assigned to individual participants, who may sign up for more than one hydrant. "But please don't sign up for more than you can handle," MacIsaac cautioned.

Anyone interested in becoming a Hydrant Buddy can get more information and request applications from the Wheeling Fire Department at 847-459-2662.

The annual Festival of Lights celebration at Village Hall was punctuated by seasonal carols, fireworks, lights galore and, of course, Santa.



Festival

of Lights



Senior Center Asks Churches to Reach Out

The Pavilion Senior Center has enlisted the aid of local churches to help improve the quality of life for older people. At a recent meeting with Pavilion Social Worker Jan Christiansen, the leaders of four churches volunteered to recruit members of their congregations to reach out to those over age 65.

The clergymen will ask their congregations to provide one-time or occasional services, such as friendly visiting, escort transportation, grocery shopping, or contributing to a Giving Tree for seniors who need help. Christiansen will assess the

seniors in need and refer those people to the churches.

Christiansen pointed out that seniors now account for 13 percent of the population. "They're living longer and staying at home," she said.

The ministers represented Amazing Grace Fellowship, Calvary English Chapel, the Korean Christian Reformed Church, and the former Community Presbyterian Church.

For more information, call Jan Christiansen at 847-459-2670.



Bill Whitmer

“Whatever else may be going on with the national economy, interest in Wheeling remains high.”

Wheeling Businesses Expand Facilities, Staff

Recent business expansions have filled 164,000 square feet of existing space in Wheeling, with an additional 125,000 square feet under construction, Wheeling Economic Development Director Bill Whitmer announced. The expansions will create at least 144 jobs.

Block and Company, a supplier to the banking industry, has leased a 100,000-square-foot building at 311 Gilman St. to increase its warehousing capacity. The company needed the additional capability after rolling the manufacturing operations of Steelmaster/Lit-ning into former warehouse space in Block's main facility at 1111 S. Wheeling Rd. Block recently purchased Steelmaster/Lit-ning, of North Carolina, from Cardinal Brands Inc. The Gilman St. building had been vacant for nearly a year and a half after the Crate & Barrel housewares chain moved out. The broker for the deal was Ron Behm at Colliers, Bennett and Kahnweiler Inc.

Block manufactures cash drawers, key-control systems, currency counters and counterfeit detectors, among other products. The acquisition and subsequent expansion will add 24 jobs to the Block payroll. Block also maintains another facility, at 370 Alice St., where paper products are printed and warehoused by the company's MMF Industries unit.

North American Jet, a fixed-base operator at Palwaukee Airport, is constructing a 35,000 square-

foot building that will include a 25,000-square-foot hangar and 10,000 square feet of office space to serve an expanded customer base. The addition will more than double the size of the company's original Palwaukee installation, which was completed in November 1999. North American Jet provides aviation maintenance services at airports in Northern Illinois. The company, which operates a second facility in Kenosha, WI, also offers air charter services worldwide.

The Burrows Company has signed a three-year lease on a free-standing building at 301 Holbrook Dr. The 64,000-square-foot distribution center joins eight others operating in six states. Burrows provides products and services to the healthcare industry. The move adds an additional 20 employees to the roster at Burrows, which is headquartered at 230 W. Palatine Rd. Don Jaffe at Paine-Wetzel brokered the deal.

Wieland Metals, a distributor of fabricated steel products, is adding a 90,000 sq. ft. expansion to its existing plant at 567 Northgate Pkwy. The expansion has triggered a search for employees with a technical background.

“Whatever else may be going on with the national economy” said Whitmer, “interest in Wheeling remains high.”

In a related development, Inland Die Casting Corp. is currently adding 100 employees as part of a plant expansion that will include connecting buildings and making capital investments in equipment.

ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Welcome New Businesses

Fantastic Sales Corp. — Judy Federman, 602 S. Wheeling Rd., 847-537-8881, wholesale general merchandise

Leona's Pizzeria Inc. — Leon Tola, 43 W. Dundee Rd., 847-215-7396, restaurant

Mylin Incorporated — Ledner Cunningham, 550 Northgate Parkway, 847-279-0898, printing & mailing consulting

Sensible Metals — Mehmel & Emin Ozdemir, 200 Larkin Dr. #C, 847-465-8913, import & export

New Location

Central Machines Inc. — Gerhard Kendler, 300 N. Holbrook Dr., 847-808-1571, manufacturer of automated machinery

Erdatek Inc. — Eric Carré, 285 Messner Dr., 847-229-8192, research & development

Spring Interiors — Jerry Block, 325-C N. Milwaukee Ave., 847-808-1075, custom window coverings, bedding, carpet & upholstery

Wyndstone Specialty Products, LLC — Linda Buettner, 23G Egidi Dr. #B, 847-808-9487, distributor of heat transfer papers

Additional Location

Mark J. Ent. Inc. — Mark Jamroz, 189 S. Wheeling Rd., 847-215-8879, roofing, siding, gutter

The Burrows Co. — George J. Burrows, 301 Holbrook Dr., 847-537-7300, warehouse

New Owner

Hong Kong Chop Suey — Ju Sheng Liu, 48 W. Dundee Rd., 847-537-4808, Chinese carry-out restaurant

Randstad US LP dba BA Randstad — 542A W. Dundee Rd., 847-682-1400, temporary staffing services

Police Expand Defense Program to Kids

The Wheeling Police Department has expanded its Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) program to include elementary-school children. The new classes are an outgrowth of the two-year-old adult RAD course, in which 12-16 women students learn basic techniques to defend themselves in case they are attacked.

"We don't teach them to become martial artists," said Officer Dorann Swanson, one of the instructors, "but we do show them how to become more aware of their surroundings. They also learn a few basic moves to surprise and escape from an attacker."

Swanson estimates hundreds of women have gone through the adult program since its inception. "The participants have told us they're more confident they can defend themselves if need be. Just as important, they have a heightened sense of awareness about people around them in public places."

The four-week program is conducted throughout the year. It resumes on January 9 and will be held on four successive Wednesdays. The 12-hour course, taught by three officers and offered without charge to participants, is funded by a Department of Justice Local Law Enforcement Block Grant administered by the Judicial Advisory Board of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

The children's RAD program began this year with classes at Mark Twain and Field Elementary Schools. Classes are divided into a section for 5-7-year-olds and another for 8-10-year-old children. Both boys and girls are included.

"The children's program is aimed at preventing abduction and teaching kids basic safety skills," said Swanson. "The kids' program isn't as physical as the adult classes, although they do learn some physical know-how. Mostly we teach them to beware of friendly strangers and the tactics they use to lure children to go with them."

To register or obtain more information about the RAD women's or RAD kids' program, contact Officer Swanson at 847-459-2693.

"The children's program is aimed at preventing abduction and teaching kids basic safety skills."

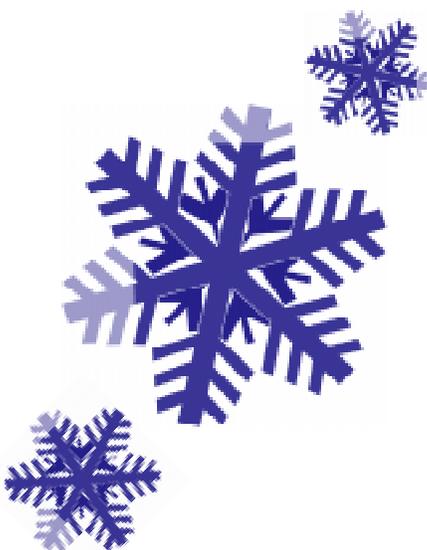
Wheeling Police Officers Greet Christmas Trains



Members of the Wheeling Police Department took their traveling railroad crossing safety exhibit to Chicago's Union Station in early December as part of METRA's fifth annual Safety Train event.

Led by Corporal Tom Lorenz (shown here with three young visitors excited by the department's motorized "PC" police car), the three-person team conducted railroad-safety classes featuring the Officer McGruff character popular with children.

Lorenz was joined by Sgt. John Teeavens and Evidence Property Officer Peter Rodgers, shown answering questions during one of the safety talks.



IDOT Lauds Safe Communities Coalition

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has bestowed its Excellence in Highway Safety Award on the Wheeling Police Department's Safe Communities Program. The award was presented at the annual Lifesaver Conference held in Springfield, IL.

IDOT recognized Wheeling police efforts in lowering traffic accident injuries, increasing safety belt usage and intensifying enforcement against drunk drivers. IDOT extolled a successful youth summit on alcohol and drug issues conducted last year and the Village's innovative pre-prom programs.

Tom Pilewski, who heads the Safe Communities Program, said, "This award goes to the entire community, not just police enforcement. Many of the education and awareness programs have been spearheaded by the Wheeling Fire Department, Wheeling Neighborhood Watch groups, and the Citizens Police

Academy Alumni Association."

Pilewski said businesses participated in community education activities by notifying employees about various traffic-safety programs throughout the year. Some businesses also joined in the annual pre-prom presentation at Wheeling High School staged by the Safe Communities Program and the Wheeling Fire Department.

"These programs are successful," he said, "because of the combined efforts of a broad-based coalition of 40 member organizations including government agencies, business groups, the schools, neighborhood groups, and the park district."

A new Safe Communities push began the weekend of November 24-25 with a series of roadside safety checks. That effort led into the beginning of National Drunk and Drugged Driver Prevention Month, which saw a month of aggressive enforcement against impaired driving.

Fire Department Receives Life Safety Award

The Residential Fire Safety Institute has named the Wheeling Fire Department as a recipient for the 2000 Life Safety Achievement Award. The recognition is based on three criteria:

- 1 Fire-prevention activities, such as codes, inspections, and enforcement.
- 2 An active public-education campaign including a mix of activities and broad population fire safety education.
- 3 No documented fire deaths during the past calendar year.

The Wheeling department, one of more than 1100 recognized nationwide, also received the award in 1998.

The Residential Fire Safety Institute is a partnership of the United States Fire Administration, State Fire Marshals and various fire and safety organizations.

Share the Spirit

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) in Arlington Heights would like to match you with a challenging and rewarding volunteer assignment. You qualify if you are at least 55 years old. Assignments will be as close to your home as possible. For information, call 847-228-1006.

VILLAGE OF WHEELING

255 WEST DUNDEE ROAD WHEELING, IL 60090
 847-459-2600 TDD 847-459-2987
 WEB SITE: WWW.VI.WHEELING.IL.US

Fire/Police/Paramedics

911

Non-emergency Fire	847-459-2662
Non-emergency Police	847-459-2632
Community Development	847-459-2620
Economic Development	847-459-2978
Pavilion Senior Center	847-459-2670
Public Works	847-459-2624
Water Billing	847-459-2607
Code Enforcement Hotline	847-459-CODE
Village President: Greg Klatecki	847-459-2988
Village Clerk: Elaine Simpson	847-541-8692
Village Manager: Craig Anderson	847-459-2617

Trustees

Judy Abruscato	847-541-8783	Michael Horcher	847-541-3276
Dean Argiris	847-808-8418	Patrick Horcher	847-419-1956
Robert Heer	847-541-4274	Trevor Lehmann	847-541-6700



Village Views is printed on 100% recycled paper.

PRSR-STD
 US POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT No. 053
 WHEELING, IL

CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT

Local Postal Patron
 Wheeling, IL 60090