

# Village Views

Wheeling, Illinois

March ~ April ~ 2004

## Wheeling Police open Resource Center doors

Commander John Teevans admits that he had a few doubts about the building at 99 Wolf Road when the Village Board approved its purchase back in September. "Let's just say that more than a few modifications and improvements needed to be done," he said. However, after five months and a mammoth effort by police and public works employees and volunteers from the community the Neighborhood Resource Center is now officially open for business.

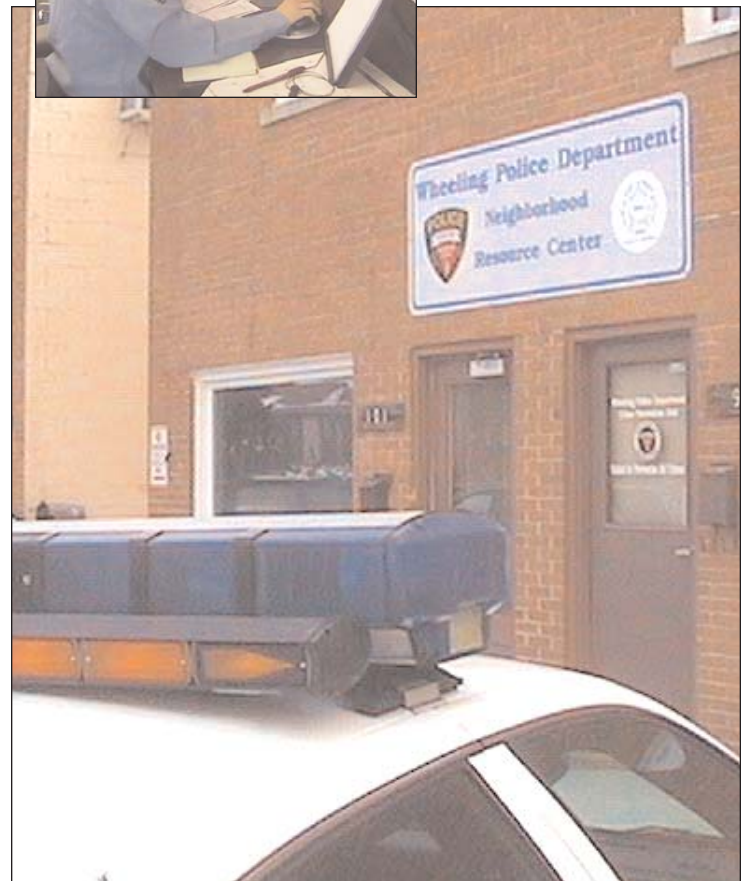
The renovated building houses the Crime Prevention and Social Services units as well as serves as a base for the bike patrol. The upstairs has been transformed into training and meeting rooms that will be utilized by neighborhood watch groups, Citizen Police Academy and Rape Aggression Defense programs, among others. In addition, the department's weight room was moved into the rear of the building allowing officers to pull up to the rear of the building and get in a workout on their lunch break or off-duty hours.

According to Sgt. Pete Panagakis, head of Crime Prevention, the department hopes to introduce new programs into the facility. "We're hoping to start youth and senior police academies in March," he stated. "We're also hoping to include child fingerprinting, child safety seat instruction and inspection, workplace violence prevention, burglary prevention and BASSET liquor license training for local restaurant employees."

The center is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Individuals with crime prevention issues or concerns are encouraged to stop by or call 847-459-2679.



Wheeling's new Police Resource Center, located at 99 Wolf Road, houses the Crime Prevention and Social Services Units.



The Village Board recently approved the purchase of a 70,000 square-foot warehouse at 233 W. Hintz Road that will become the new Public Works facility. According to Chuck Spratt, Director of Public Works, the transition should begin in late-summer and be complete by the end of the year. The new facility will house the entire Public Works fleet of vehicles and 50 employees.

# Fire Department offers spring fire safety tips

The arrival of spring usually brings with it the urge to clean up your home or business. This annual ritual also brings with it the unexpected risk of fire and injury if proper precautions are not taken. By following some basic safety tips, you can help to keep your home or business safe from fire, as well as avoid injury.

Do not pour snow blower fuel down the drain or sewer! Gasoline vapors can drift into your home, business, or other nearby buildings and cause an explosion. Pour the unused gasoline into the fuel tank of your car. It's safe to do, even if your gasoline is mixed with a small amount of engine oil.

Do not service lawn mowers, snow blowers, or motorcycles in a basement! Gasoline vapors are heavier than air and can be ignited by water heaters and clothes dryers. Only service these items outdoors and away from open flames and heat producing appliances.

When cleaning outside with power washers or running water, make sure all outside electrical appliances are protected and shut-off. If in doubt, turn off the associated circuit breaker before beginning your project. Failure to do so can result in electrocution!

When working outside on ladders, make sure the ladder is straight and firmly in contact with the ground to avoid falling. Use extreme caution when painting or cleaning around electrical service lines and keep aluminum ladders a minimum of 3 feet away to avoid electrocution!

Vacuum all smoke detectors and fire sprinkler heads. Do not paint over smoke detectors and fire sprinkler heads! The collection of dust and/or paint can delay or prevent the operation of these important fire safety tools. If your smoke detector is more than 10 years old (or if you don't know

how old it is), replace it with a new one. If your smoke detector is battery operated, when you change your clocks for spring, change your smoke detector batteries too!



Check the pressure gauge on your fire extinguishers. If the pressure gauge is not showing proper pressure in the fire extinguisher, have it professionally serviced or replace it. Businesses are required to annually have all fire extinguishers professionally serviced. If you need to buy a fire extinguisher, purchase units with an

“A”, “B”, and “C” rating since they can safely be used on a wide variety of fires.

Make sure your address numbers are visible both day and night and are not blocked by new growth from nearby bushes.

If a fire hydrant is in front of your home or business, please keep all landscaping a minimum of 15 feet away from the front and sides of the fire hydrant. Hidden fire hydrants result in delayed fire suppression and create additional risk to you, your family, or neighbors.

If a storm sewer is located in front of your home or business, please keep all landscaping debris off of the top grate. Failure to do so can cause heavy spring rains to not properly drain away subjecting your home or business to flooding.



## We're Glad You Are Here!

The Village routinely sends 'Welcome Packets' to new residents of Wheeling highlighting school districts, places of worship, garbage pickup and other tidbits of useful information that can make your transition into your new home less stressful. Occasionally we may miss someone, so if you are a new resident to Wheeling and have not yet received a welcome packet, please call us at 459-2600 to request that we mail one to you.

# Village recognized by GFOA for fiscal responsibility

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) recently awarded the Village of Wheeling with the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget. The award represents a significant achievement for Wheeling as it reflects the commitment of the Village Board and staff to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting. The recognition was for the Village's fiscal year that began May 1, 2003.

"We are obviously pleased and proud to be recognized by the GFOA for our efforts in creating and maintaining a fiscally responsible budget," said Mike Mondschain, Village Finance Director. "This is the 17th consecutive year the Village has been recognized and only four organizations throughout the entire state have received this award more consecutive years than Wheeling."

Wheeling had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation to be considered for the award. The GFOA determines how the overall budget serves as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide and communications device and must deem each component 'proficient.'

Since the inception of the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program in 1984, approximately 900 organizations have been honored. This awards program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.

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Mike Mondschain  
Finance Director

## *Village hosts blood drive, encourages donations*

The Village of Wheeling will be hosting a blood drive March 10, 2004 at the Fire Station on Dundee Road adjacent to the Village Hall. The drive will run from 2 to 7 p.m.

Recently I heard from a friend who received his 2 gallon donor pin from LifeSource. He told me, "You know how important I feel blood donation is, but it really hit home a little over a year ago when my wife needed 5 transfusions and more than 12 pints over the course of our daughters birth. Then, our daughter needed it off and on during her 6 month stay in the hospital. Thanks to those who donated, both are doing well today. In fact, the other day we were out shopping and happened upon a mobile blood drive and we both donated."

You may not truly realize it when you make your donation, but the blood you give today will be there to help save someone's life tomorrow. In

turn, if you ever require blood transfusions at some time in your life (and 50 percent of us will), it will be there for you because someone donated to save yours.

Appointments are greatly appreciated for our blood drive and aid us in anticipating the number of people that will attend so that LifeSource can properly staff the event. It also helps us prevent too many people from showing up at the same time which has created long wait times periodically in the past. If you are planning on coming to donate, but are not able to set an appointment, please call so that you can find out when the hours with the shorter waits will be. For appointments or to let us know that you will walk-in, please call Mike Boyle at (847) 459-2621 or e-mail him at [mboyle@vi.wheeling.il.us](mailto:mboyle@vi.wheeling.il.us).

We look forward to seeing you at our blood drive.

# Did You Know?

It is common knowledge that the Village President, Clerk and Board of Trustees are elected individuals entrusted with guiding the Village by voting yes or no on various issues. However, in addition to the eight elected positions, there are many volunteer commissions performing the 'behind-the-scenes' work enabling the Board to make the best decisions possible during Board meetings. **Did you know** that you can be involved with the future direction of your Village without running for office? Whether you are interested in future retail developments within Village boundaries or concerned about educating the public about health issues, there is probably an outlet for you to help enhance Wheeling. If you would like to become a commissioner, or want more information on various commissions, stop by Village Hall or call 847-255-2600.

Current openings exist on the Plan, Senior Citizen and Economic Development Commissions as well as the Board of Health and Police Pension Board. All interested individuals must fill out an application that is available at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

## Busy Season



Snow and fun may go hand-in-hand when referring to backyard snowball fights or skiing down the slopes, but the fun ceases when we're forced to drive in it. That's where the unsung heroes from Public Works come in. According to Jeff Kopper, Street Division Supervisor, more than 7,500 lane miles were plowed during seven full-scale plowing sessions and approximately 3,400,000 pounds or 1700 tons of salt were distributed on Village streets during 20 salting operations.....all before the middle of February. And of course freezing temps mean water main breaks, but Scott Lark and his guys in the Water Division ensured that each of the 18 breaks were repaired before you could say, "Honey, we don't have any water pressure!"

## Village Engineering Department updates project list

The Dundee Road Pedestrian Overpass is scheduled for rehabilitative work this summer. Inasmuch as this work is in the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) Right-of-Way for Dundee Road, this requires a permit from IDOT.

The scope of work for the permit includes replacing the superstructure and enhancements to the existing abutments. The new superstructure is called a "Weathering Steel Bowstring Truss. It is similar to the bridge over Lake-Cook Road at the Forest Preserve. The IDOT permit will authorize daily single lane closures along Dundee Rd. between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to work on the abutments. Also included will be authorization to close Dundee Rd. completely for the weekend on two separate occasions - one to remove the existing superstructure and one to place the new superstructure.

This work is scheduled to begin following the end of the school year, around the second week of June - completion is scheduled for late July/early August.





**Pavilion  
Senior Center**  
199 N. First St.  
847-459-2670

*The Wheeling Pavilion Center announces the following programs for area senior citizens in Wheeling and the nearby suburbs. Anyone 55-years-old or older is welcome to join the activities, volunteer to assist with them or share his or her talents with others.*

### **Wanted: Anniversary/Birthday Celebrants**

The Pavilion Senior Center is planning a very special third annual event for couples celebrating 50, 55, 60, 65 and 70 years of marriage anytime this year. Celebrants who were married between January 1 and December 31 1954, 1949, 1944, 1939 or 1934 will be honored along with anyone celebrating a 90th or 90+ birthday. This includes all precious diamond celebrants born 1914 or earlier.

We want to salute those who have weathered life's many storms and participated in the daily events of by-gone days. Anyone who can provide information about celebrants in either category is asked to call the Senior Pavilion Center at 847-459-2670.

### **St. Patrick's Day Celebration**

Celebrate the 'Wearin' of the Green' on the day that everyone becomes just a little bit Irish. The celebration begins at noon Thursday, March 11.

Enjoy a corned beef and cabbage lunch followed by the talents of Helen Donovan and the Musicmakers. Cost is \$9 for Pavilion Senior Members and \$14 for non-members/guests. Tickets are available at the center.

### **Income Tax Assistance**

Tax assistance is available Wednesdays, from March 3 through April 14. Appointments must be made and are on a first-come, first-served basis. You will need to bring all tax documents including a copy of your 2002 tax return as well as your Social Security card. Returns will be prepared free of charge for seniors who have low to moderate income not exceeding \$60,000 annually.

### **AARP Defensive Driving**

AARP Defensive Driving courses will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays, March 4 and 11 at the Pavilion Senior Center. Successful completion of this two-day course could make you eligible for rate reductions on your car insurance.

### **Senior Net Computer Classes**

Registration for the second session of Senior Net runs from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 10 at the Pavilion Senior Center. This popular program is offered to help adults 50 years and older learn computer skills in a friendly atmosphere. All participants must be members of Senior Net, the national program, which requires a \$40 annual fee. Classes include, *Computer Fundamentals, Introduction to Computers, Word Processing (MS Word), America On Line (AOL), Spreadsheet, Genealogy, Print Shop, Quicken and The Internet.*

## **Health Watch**— *Improving Your Quality of Life (Information courtesy of the Village of Wheeling Health Department)*

Spring has long been the time of year for annual cleaning projects around our homes. However, when it comes to safe food handling, everything that comes in contact with food must be kept clean all year long. Cleanliness is a major factor in preventing food-borne illness. Everything that touches food should be clean. The following are steps you can take to prevent food-borne illness by safely handling food in your home:

\*Always wash your hands with hot, soapy water before and after handling food.

\*If your hands have any kind of skin abrasion, cut or infection, cover the area with a clean bandage before handling or preparing food.

\*Thoroughly wash, with hot soapy water, all surfaces that come in contact with raw meat, poultry, seafood and eggs before

moving on to the next step in food preparation. Keep other surfaces such as faucets, counter tops and cutting boards clean.

\*When using a food thermometer, it is important to wash the probe after each use with hot, soapy water before reinserting it into a food.

\*Keep the refrigerator clean by wiping up spills immediately.

\*Keep pets, household cleaners and other chemicals away from food and surfaces used for food.

Because bacteria are everywhere, cleanliness is a major factor in preventing food-borne illness. By keeping everything clean that comes in contact with food you can be assured you are doing your best to fight bacteria in your kitchen.



Astor Place (left) and Prairie Park (right) are two of the residential developments that are currently under construction in Wheeling. The two developments consist of luxury townhomes and condos.



## Recent developments continue transformation of Village

Whether you've lived in Wheeling all of your life or are a recent move-in, it's easy to tell that Wheeling continues to evolve into a 'Community of Choice.' You've probably noticed the glistening new condos and townhomes along Route 83 and Milwaukee Avenue, but Wheeling has also welcomed numerous businesses to town over the last several months. FedEx Ground opened its doors on Wolf Road and Hospital Laundry Services expanded its services during the last year. Pete Miller's Seafood and Prime Steak made an outstanding addition to Restaurant Row. A new retail site, Northstar Plaza, (pictured below) on Milwaukee Avenue is slated to open its doors by early summer. Among the new residential sites that are currently under construction are Astor Place and Prairie Park (both pictured above) that feature luxury townhouses and condominiums. These are just a few examples of why 2004 will continue to bring new and exciting changes to our Village.



Pete Miller's assumed its place along Restaurant Row. It is not only renowned for its steaks and seafood, but for live jazz every weekend.



FedEx Ground and Hospital Laundry Services both opened their doors during the last several months and the new Northstar Plaza is scheduled for completion by this summer.



# News You Can Use

A 25 percent Senior Citizen Discount for garbage pick-up is available to households composed of one or two senior adults where at least one member of the household is at least 65-years-old and is the primary home occupant. Applications are available at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. A copy of your drivers license, state identification or birth certificate is required along with a copy of your most recent Waste Management bill. Copies of these documents can be made at Village Hall. If you have any questions, contact Dianne Anderson at 847-459-2960.

## Speak ou *T*

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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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*(Inquiries and responses may be used for publication in future issues of 'Village Views.')*

### 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.

## Regularly Scheduled Meetings

**Village Board -**  
Every Monday, 7:30 p.m.

**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 the month,  
7:15 p.m., south half of  
Village Hall lunchroom.

**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

**Palwaukee Airport Commission -**  
3rd Wednesday each month,  
Committee of the Whole, 7 p.m.;  
Regular meeting, 8 p.m., Airport  
Offices, 1020 S. Plant Road.

**Economic Development  
Commission -**  
1st Tuesday of the month, 7:30 a.m.,  
south half of Village Hall  
lunchroom

**Special Events Commission -**  
2nd Wednesday each month,  
7:30 p.m., south half of Village Hall  
lunchroom

# Timely Tidbits

## Sump Pump Headaches

On occasion, some Wheeling residents have experienced a sanitary sewer backup during periods of extremely heavy rainfall. The circumstances can be directly linked to illegal storm water sump pump connections discharging into the sanitary sewer.

In order to provide adequate sewer service to our users in Wheeling, and in keeping with the requirements of the Greater Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Village is requesting that storm water sump pump discharges connected to the sanitary sewer be removed immediately. Removal of this source of extraneous water has proven to be a major element in alleviating incidences of sanitary sewer backups.

The Public Works Sewer Division staff is currently conducting inspections of inside sump pump connections throughout the Village. To ensure that your pump connections comply with village ordinances, please call 459-2624 to schedule an inspection.

## Citizen's Police Academy

The Wheeling Police Department holds another Citizen's Police Academy March 3 through April 14. Class meets from 1 to 3:30 p.m. each Wednesday at the Police Department, 255 W. Dundee Road. The Academy is open to anyone over the age of 18 who lives or works in Wheeling. The intent is to acquaint citizens with law enforcement's role in the criminal justice system and provide increased understanding of the tasks police officers face in their daily work. Participants will also have the opportunity to ride along with a police officer during the officers regular tour of duty. Although there is no fee to participate, registration is necessary. For more information, call 847-459-2632.

Applications are available at the Police Department, Neighborhood Resource Center, Senior Pavilion or online at: [www.vi.wheeling.il.us](http://www.vi.wheeling.il.us) (All classes are taught by police personnel.)

## Scholarship opportunities

Applications are now being accepted for the 2004 Wheeling Community Scholarships. Candidates must be residents of Wheeling; a United States citizen or permanent resident; demonstrate financial need; be a first-time, continuing or returning student and take coursework at an approved Illinois educational institution. Additional information regarding the eligibility and selection criteria for the scholarship is included with the application. Applications are available at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee and on the Village's website at [www.vi.wheeling.il.us](http://www.vi.wheeling.il.us). Completed applications must be returned to Village Hall by 3 p.m. April 30, 2004.

The Prospect Heights Dollars for Scholars is offering a \$1,500 scholarship to a resident of Wheeling attending Wheeling High School who will be attending two or four year colleges or technical training/trade schools in the 2003-2004 school year.

Applicants must meet the following criteria: a.) Have been admitted to a post-secondary institution for the fall of 2004-2005 school year; b.) Demonstrate financial need; c.) Have a minimum grade point average of 3.9 on a 5.0 scale; d.) Show school/community involvement.

Applications and detailed instructions are available in the college counseling offices at Wheeling High School as well as the Prospect Heights and Indian Trails Public Libraries. Deadline for completed applications is March 15, 2004.

## Village of Wheeling

255 W. Dundee Road ~ Wheeling, IL 60090

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

[www.vi.wheeling.il.us](http://www.vi.wheeling.il.us)

### Fire/Police/Paramedics

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
Palwaukee Municipal Airport Noise Hotline	847-537-2580, ext. 159
Village President: Greg Klatecki	847-459-2988
Village Clerk: Elaine Simpson	847-541-8692
Village Manager: Wallace Douthwaite	847-459-2617

### Trustees

Judy Abruscato: 847-541-8783	Michael Horcher: 847-541-3276
Dean Argiris: 847-808-8418	Patrick Horcher: 847-331-4234
Robert Heer: 847-541-4274	Trevor Lehmann: 847-484-2424

### 911

PRSR-STD  
US POSTAGE  
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WHEELING, IL

## CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT

Local Postal Patron  
Wheeling, IL 60090