

Village Views

Wheeling, IL



September/October/2006

Village offices will be closed
Monday, September 4
for Labor Day.

Westin North Shore prepares for grand opening

One of the most anticipated grand openings in the history of Wheeling is scheduled for October 12, 2006 - nearly four months ahead of schedule. The Westin Chicago North Shore in Wheeling will cut the ribbon that officially opens the doors to the 400+ room hotel in a ceremony that day.

“It’s unbelievable that in less than 18 months from the ground breaking ceremony that they are opening; it’s really a dream come true,” said Greg Klatecki, Village President.

Besides the 411 luxury rooms, the hotel will also feature more than 35,000 square feet of meeting/banquet area, signature restaurants from the Cinatare Restaurant Group and a meat and dairy kosher kitchen.

Besides the obvious change in the skyline, the property is expected to produce the equivalent of about 1,000 permanent full-time positions.



In addition, the hotel and retail complex is expected to generate more than \$100 million in real estate taxes, hotel taxes, sales taxes and telecommunications taxes over the next 22 years.

“We are simply thrilled to be here,” said Ron Tarson, General Manager. “From the restaurants to the rooms, this is a magnificent structure and we can’t wait to show off everything we have to offer.”



Renderings show the Ravinia Ballroom, the largest on the North Shore, an executive meeting room and one of the 411 luxury rooms within the Westin.



Trick-or-Treat hours for all
goblins, ghosts and ghouls
are 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesday,
October 31.

Wheeling police chief retires after 38 years

Police Chief John Popadowski shut his office door for the last time as a law enforcement professional August 18 after 38 years on the job.

Popadowski started his police career at 21 in 1968 in the Evanston Police Department. He worked his way through the ranks to become a commander in that department. In 1995, he retired from the Evanston department to become Wheeling's deputy police chief. He was named acting chief in 1997, and was appointed chief a year later.

Village Manager Wally Douthwaite said it will not be easy to replace Popadowski. "If he's not the best police chief I've worked with, he's up there," Douthwaite said. "He's an outstanding pro, well-respected by his subordinates and a good team player. He's an all-around good, professional cop."

As a young officer, Popadowski never envisioned becoming the chief of any department, because he

enjoyed working the streets.

"I found it rewarding -- having the opportunity and ability to help people," he said. "I thought it was great to catch the bad guy. It was something I kept wanting to do."

Among the many changes Popadowski saw throughout his career was the increased use in technology and increased interaction between the community the department.

Popadowski said he has no grand plans for retirement, but will take some time off for himself to visit friends out West and ride his new Harley-Davidson.

"I've had a great ride, but I'm leaving the department in great hands," Popadowski said. "Looking back, I wouldn't change a thing."

Douthwaite named Deputy Chief John Stone as acting police chief.

If the Gates are Down Don't Go Around

Railroad Crossing Safety will become a year-long focus for the Wheeling Police Department thanks to a grant the Department has received from the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). Funding for the grant will be administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation. The Public Education and Enforcement Research Program or PEERS grant will provide financial support to conduct enforcement initiatives at the rail crossings over Dundee and Hintz Roads and at the Wheeling Metra Commuter Rail Station through June of 2007. These initiatives will also be coordinated with the National "Operation Lifesaver" campaign.

The Police Department will also utilize part of the grant for education projects directed at both vehicular and pedestrian commuters to create greater awareness for safety issues related to rail crossings. Additional educational projects are being planned for school aged children in classroom presentations, at various community events regularly attended by Wheeling youth and as part of driver education classes in the high school. Residents will see flyers, banners, news stories, and promotional items distributed throughout the year to reinforce rail crossing safety.

According to Corporal Thomas Lorenz of the Wheeling Police Department, hundreds of lives are lost across the country each year as a result of rail crossing violations. "We hope to bring this safety message to every resident in Wheeling and every commuter who passes through the Village," Lorenz said. Current Illinois Laws allow fines up to \$500 for violating railroad crossing gates.

Fire Department offers flu prevention tips; plans annual 'drive-thru' shot clinic

With the arrival of fall comes the beginning of flu season. Each year, approximately 5% to 20% of the population gets the flu, more than 200,000 individuals are hospitalized because of it, and approximately 36,000 individuals die as a result of complications brought on by the flu. Individuals 65 and older, children between the ages of 6 months to 24 months, pregnant women, and individuals with chronic health care issue (ex. diabetes) are at high risk for serious complications due to the flu. By taking a few simple precautions, you can minimize your risk of catching or experiencing complications due to the flu.

Get a flu vaccination every year. The best time of the year to get a flu vaccination is in the fall.

The Village of Wheeling offers a 'drive-thru' flu clinic on:
Saturday, October 14, 2006 at the Main Fire Station, 255 W. Dundee Road. From 10 a.m. until noon, the flu clinic will be limited to Wheeling residents only. From noon to 2:00 p.m., the flu clinic will be open to everyone. The cost for this year's flu shots is \$25 (cash or non-HMO Medicare Part B only. No credit cards or checks will be accepted). For those individuals aged 65 and over, pneumonia vaccines are also available at the flu clinic for an additional \$40 (cash only). As part of the 'drive-thru' flu clinic, individuals will have the opportunity to have their blood pressure taken and their vehicle tires properly inflated.

The Wheeling Senior Center offers a flu clinic on:
Thursday, November 9, 2006 at the Senior Center, 199 North First Street from 9 a.m. to noon. This flu clinic is restricted to senior citizens. The cost for flu shots and pneumonia vaccinations are the same as those charged for the 'drive-thru' flu clinic listed above.

Wash your hands regularly throughout the day with warm water and soap. Work the soap into a lather for a minimum of 30 seconds paying attention to finger nails, between fingers, and the back of the hands. Wash your hands before and after eating, using the restroom, after touching common work surfaces, sneezing or blowing your nose, and after being around ill people. If you are not routinely around soap and water, carry alcohol-based, waterless hand cleaners in your purse, briefcase, backpack, glove compartment, or gym bag.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth as much as possible. Germs that collect on our hands are easily transmitted through these routes into our bodies.

Get regular exercise, 8 hours of sleep daily, and eat nutritionally balanced meals. This will help to maintain a healthy immune system and will aid in fighting off the effects of the flu.

If you have the flu, stay home! Do not go to work, school, church, run errands, or go shopping. Rest will help your body to fight off the effects of the flu and will minimize the potential of other individuals from catching the flu from you.

When you sneeze, cover your nose and mouth and blow you nose into a tissue. Immediately discard your tissue into a waste container.

Consult with a personal physician if flu symptoms continue for more than several days, progressively become worse over several days or vomiting/diarrhea is resulting in severe dehydration. In rare cases, your physician may prescribe the use of anti-viral medications to treat the flu. Since the flu is a virus, it is not treated with antibiotics unless there are secondary health issues involved.

PW Dartment outlines fall leaf disposal program

With the onset of the fall season, the Public Works Department reminds residents not to deposit leaves into streets and gutters. Leaves intentionally raked into streets/gutters have a clear and immediate detrimental effect on the Village's storm sewer system.

As we are all aware, rainfall during the fall season in our area is standard. Leaves deposited into streets/gutters will inevitably result in – during periods of even relatively minor rainfall – clogged storm sewer inlets and subsequent localized flooding. Correcting such problems takes significant man-hours and results in substantial added costs.

The Village's contract with Waste Management provides for alternative methods by which residents may dispose of leaves and other forms of landscape waste. In addition to paper landscape waste bags, residents may use plastic or metal refuse cans – the latter, of course, being emptied and returned to the resident for future use. Instead of the ongoing expense relating to the purchase of paper landscape waste bags, residents may wish to make a one-time investment into one or more plastic and/or metal refuse cans for this use. Wheeling is one of only a few communities where such a disposal method is available. Moreover, the Village eliminated the requirement of residents to purchase “stickers” for each bag/can of landscape waste disposed. Again, the intent of the Village was to provide a program offering the greatest ease and least amount of inconvenience to its residents.

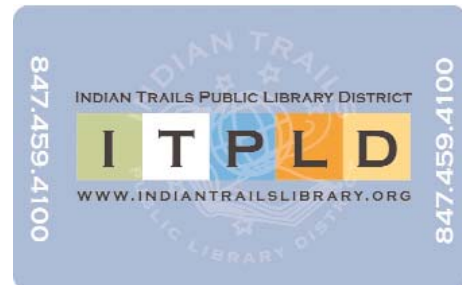


Be a 'Crime-Free' VIP

Congratulations to the VIP Apartment complex on the recent completion of training that made them a Crime Free Multi Housing (CFMH) complex. The Crime Free Multi-Housing Program is a, state-of-the-art, crime prevention program designed to reduce crime, drugs, and gangs on apartment properties. The program consists of three phases that must be completed under the supervision of the local police department. Property managers can become individually certified after completing training in each phase and the property becomes certified upon successful completion of all three phases.

Make a Key Connection @ Indian Trails Public Library

The Indian Trails Library District recently unveiled its brand new periwinkle blue library card that has an attached key tag and to go with it. Throughout September, they will be handing out 500 free key chains to the first 500 patrons who get new library cards or trade in their old library cards. The key tag is great because you need never leave home again without your library card. For details call (847) 459-4100 or visit www.indiantrailslibrary.org.





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

The Pavilion Senior Center in Wheeling announces the following program that will be offered to area senior citizens. Anyone 55-years or older is welcome to join the activities or volunteer services to assist or share talents with others.

Flea Market - Rummage Sale

The Annual Flea Market and Rummage Sale is scheduled for two days, Friday and Saturday, September 8 & 9 at the Pavilion Senior Center, 199 N. First Street. (Thursday, September 7th, the senior center will be closed due to time needed to set up for this event.) It's now time to get rid of all those things you never use! We are still accepting your treasures for the affair. You may bring them daily between now and September 7th. A light lunch may be purchased to increase your shopping time. Friends, relatives and neighbors of surrounding communities are invited to shop for treasures (old and new) to your heart's content. Make a day or two of it!

Community Paint-A-Thon

The Community Paint-A-Thon is a unique partnership designed to paint the exteriors of homes owned and occupied by persons with limited financial resources, who are at least 60-years-of-age or older, or those who have a permanent disability and unable to do the work themselves. This project utilized the support of many volunteers and community organizations to complete the task on one day which is scheduled for Saturday, September 9, 2006.

Volunteers are needed! If any individual or company would like to volunteer to paint for the event, contact the Volunteer Center at Northwest Suburban Chicago at 847-228-1320. Both skilled and unskilled painters are welcome to participate. Help is needed to allow this wonderful program to continue to serve our senior and disabled residents who are so appreciative of a helping hand and a fresh coat of paint!

B-I-N-G-O.....and lunch.

Bring your friends and lucky charms for a delightful afternoon of lunch and bingo Tuesday, September 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Pavilion Senior Center. A delicious lunch will be served and prizes awarded to the winners. Code: 2934 - Cost: \$10.

Down the stretch they come.....

Bring your lucky charms and friends as we travel to Hawthorne Race Track from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. September 7. Enjoy an all-inclusive package that includes club house admission, live racing program, reserved seating, winner's circle photo, lunch and round trip transportation. Code: 2936 - Cost: \$45.

Drive safe, drive wise

AARP volunteer, Om Johari, will be conducting a Driver Safety class at the Pavilion on Wednesdays, September 20 and 27th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Upon completion of this class you may be eligible for a discount on the liability portion of your car insurance. Participants must attend both classes to be eligible. Fee is \$10. Call 847-459-2670 for reservations.

Rotary birthday celebration

The Wheeling Rotarians will entertain the Pavilion Seniors with their annual birthday party on Friday, September 22nd at noon. A luncheon catered by Market Square and Bingo with fantastic prizes will be the order of the day. There is no charge for this event, but only members of the senior center may attend and they must be registered by September 19. Get your free ticket now as this popular event fills up fast.

Commission Fall Forum

The Commission Fall Forum is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18. The subject will be "Transportation" with representatives from Pace, Wheeling Township and Trustee Ken Brady speaking. Call for more information.

Jaycees Octoberfest

The annual Octoberfest Celebration planned by the Wheeling Jaycees at the Pavilion Senior Center will take place on Saturday, October 21st. No fee. Members of the Pavilion may register at the senior center to receive your ticket and set up your table of friends prior to October 13th.



Thank You!

Abel RV Center

Candlewood Suites

Corus Bank

Indeck Power

Optimum Health Clinic

Smith Family Construction, Inc.

Suburgan Surgical

On behalf of the Village of Wheeling, thanks to everyone for their hard work in putting on Freedom Fest 2006. More than 20,000 people enjoyed the food, music and activities over the July 3-4 event. While it would be difficult to thank every individual, we would like to thank our sponsors. Without their continued support this event would not be possible.

Community Blood Drive Success Story

According to the Board of Health, July's community blood drive was a great success with 50 attendees donating more than 40 units of blood. "We'd like to thank everyone who took time out of their schedules to contribute to the drive," said Beverly Slaby, Health Officer. The following restaurants also contributed to the drive: Bob Chinn's Crabhouse, Wa-Pa-Ghetti's Pizza, Pete Miller's Seafood and Prime Steak, The Original Granny's and Don Roth's Blackhawk. A special thanks goes to Dave Vogel and St. Joseph the Worker Church for helping promote the event. We hope to see you at the next drive scheduled for November 8 at Village Hall.

Proposed Smoking Ordinance

The Wheeling Board of Health is in the process of preparing a smoking ordinance that will be brought before the Village of Wheeling Board of Trustees for review. It is anticipated that this ordinance will be adopted prior to March 5, 2007, the date the new Cook County ordinance goes into affect. Discussion concerning the drafting of this ordinance is on the agenda for the 7 p.m. September 26, 2006 Board of Health meeting at Village Hall. There will be time allotted for public comments for those in attendance. For more information on the proposed ordinance, contact Beverly Slaby, Health Officer, at 847-459-2621 or by e-mail at bslaby@vi.wheeling.il.us.



News You Can Use

Early Voting will take place from Monday, October 16 through Thursday November 2, for the November 7, 2006 General Election. Early voting will only be offered at certain locations. **THERE WILL BE NO EARLY VOTING OR IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING IN THE VILLAGE OF WHEELING.** In-person absentee voting will not be conducted at the Early Voting sites. In-person absentee will only be conducted at the Cook County Clerk's office in downtown Chicago from Thursday November 2 to Friday, November 6, 2006.

There will be a total of 32 sites for early and in-person absentee voting. Please check the Village of Wheeling website for the locations. The list of locations should be posted by October 1, 2006

Handicap parking fines raised

Effective in January of this year, the State of Illinois increased the handicapped parking minimum fine from \$100 to \$250. A new minimum \$250 fine became effective in January 2006 for motorists who park illegally in handicapped spaces in public and private lots. Signs must be updated by property owners to reflect the change. Spot checks show plenty of signs with the old \$100 fine, and some signs still show \$50 fines. Be advised that property owners with outdated signs can be fined up to \$250 for each day of non-compliance by the State's Attorney General Office. There are several sign companies in the Yellow Pages where property owners may purchase a reflective sticker that can be placed over the old sign to show the correct penalty.



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 Board of Directors -
3rd Wednesday each month, 6:30
p.m., Airport Offices, 1020 S.
Plant Road.

Police Department participates in community awareness programs; invites public to ‘Halloween Open House’

Wheeling’s 16th annual National Night Out celebration took place in various neighborhoods August 1. Since its inception, National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

The following neighborhoods participated with stellar results: Lexington, Whippletree, Dunhurst, Sunset Ridge and Tahoe Village/Malibu. Each neighborhood had a local celebration and formulated its own theme for the event. For the first time, neighborhoods were judged on their theme, team spirit and crime prevention-related games. Although it was a close contest, the Dunhurst Subdivision eked out a win in the coveted “National Night Out Best Neighborhood” competition this year. The Dunhurst subdivision’s theme was “Light Up Wheeling” and their efforts were rewarded by the tremendous success of their event. They will receive a gift as well as a sign to be posted in their neighborhood recognizing them for their outstanding work this year. The gift was donated by the



Wheeling Target store, longtime supporters of National Night Out. The National Night Out celebration takes place the 1st Tuesday of every August.

The Wheeling Police Department will be hosting its annual Halloween Open House at the Wheeling Police Department Resource Center located at 99 N. Wolf Rd. on Saturday, October 28th, 2006 from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

The Open House is a chance to get to meet the Police Officers, Fire Personnel and Village Employees that work right in your neighborhood. There will be refreshments, activities for the kids and a raffle for valuable prizes! Please come and visit us in your scariest Halloween costume!

Village of Wheeling
 255 W. Dundee Road ~ Wheeling, IL 60090
 847-459-2600 ~ TDD 847-459-2987
 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	847-403-4467
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
<i>Village President:</i> Greg Klatecki	847-459-2988
<i>Village Clerk:</i> Elaine Simpson	847-541-8692
<i>Village Manager:</i> F. Wallace Douthwaite	847-459-2617
Trustees	
Judy Abruscato: 847-541-8783	Robert Heer: 847-541-4274
Dean Argiris: 847-845-6990	Michael Horcher: 847-541-3276
Ken Brady: 847-537-8642	Patrick Horcher: 847-331-4234

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