

Village Views

WHEELING, ILLINOIS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2000

Free Plane Rides Highlight Palwaukee Open House

Free plane rides, airport tours, exhibits and other activities will mark Palwaukee Airport's 6th Annual Open House, Saturday, September 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will be expanded to include the recently opened North American Jet facility.

Trolleys will make five stops around the airport. Visitors will tour the control tower, enjoy activities at Priester Aviation's Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Facilities, and explore corporate and media aircraft.

Free plane rides will take off and land at Priester. The 20-minute rides allow families to view the northwest suburbs from the air. Reservation slips will be required.

Helicopters and antique aircraft will be on display. Exhibitors include the Civil Air Patrol, Wheeling and Prospect Heights Police Departments, Wheeling Fire Department and the Chicagoland Circle Cutters (airplane model displays).

Complimentary food and refreshments will be served throughout the open house in the food tent, which will also be the location for a day-ending raffle. The Wheeling High School Jazz Ensemble will entertain. There is no admission charge.



Trustees Approve New Redevelopment District

The Village Board of Trustees voted unanimously to establish a new Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district as part of a long-term effort to revive Milwaukee Avenue, the village's de facto eastern border.

Known as the "South Milwaukee Avenue/Manchester Drive Area TIF Redevelopment Plan and Project," the area includes the soon-to-close Wheeling Nursery and properties directly across the street on Milwaukee Ave. The Board

"Is it our turn yet?"

Kids of all ages anxiously await free plane rides, a perennial favorite at Palwaukee's open house. Planes like those below will provide 20-minute air tours of the area, accommodating hundreds of families at the September 9 event.



envisions the property becoming the keystone for an infusion of new development that will revitalize the area and provide additional revenue for the Village.

"The Board envisions the property becoming the keystone for an infusion of new development that will revitalize the area"

According to the plan prepared by

the firm Kane, McKenna and Associates, Inc. describing the district, the intent is to:

- Anchor the south portion of the community with new, high quality land development;
- Improve the appearance of the area;
- Control consistent development;
- Upgrade the Village's flood and storm management efforts;
- Eliminate "inappropriate" land uses;
- Promote public access to the Des Plaines River.

Following state statutes, the village has conducted a step-by-step process that included public hearings and a determination that a number of properties within the zone are deteriorated or abandoned, have long-term vacancies, or otherwise do not meet current building codes. The

continued on page 5



“Proactive programs that combine the resources of residents and police make the Village safer for everyone and make more effective use of resources.”

New VISION Program Teams Academy Grads with Police Officers

The Wheeling Police Department has introduced an innovative new program that teams graduates of the Village’s Citizen Police Academy with patrol officers to help identify suspicious behavior.

Called VISION (Very Important Scouts In Our Neighborhood), the program brings extra eyes and ears to police work. Residents patrol the Village’s neighborhoods during certain times of the week. Using a cellular phone provided by the department, they can report suspicious or unusual behavior.

The program is funded by portions of a \$100,000 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant from the Cook County Board of Commissioners. The grant money will pay for volunteer field training, establish training parameters and further develop the program.

Sgt. Terrie Wisnewski, who organizes academy graduates into patrol teams and sets sched-

ules, believes that VISION will benefit all residents of the community.

“With a community the size of Wheeling, the police can’t be everywhere at once,” she said. “Specially trained residents who have the tools to identify criminal behavior can contact the police, who will dispatch officers to investigate.

“Proactive programs that combine the resources of residents and police make the Village safer for everyone and make more effective use of resources,” she added.

Sixteen program volunteers initially took part in a ride-along with officers, making observations and learning to identify questionable behavior.

Building on their training at the academy, residents have been making weekend patrols since June.

Anyone interested in joining the VISION program should call the Crime Prevention Unit at 459-2693.

The Citizen’s Police Academy begins again in January 2001.



This root beer stand stood on the corner of Milwaukee Ave. and Hintz Rd.. It began life in the 1930s as The Fountain Of Youth and offered “all you can drink for a nickel.” Hamburgers and ice cream were 15 cents.

By the time the interior photograph was taken, it had become Rich’s Place and switched from root beer to “real” beer.

1930s ‘Fountain of Youth’ offered local folks ‘All you can drink for a nickel.’



Motorcycle Cops: Hidden in Plain Sight

Wheeling Police Department has launched the first motorcycle patrols in the department's 100-year history. They began after the Village took delivery on two units as part of a special police program from the dealer, Woodstock Harley-Davidson.

The department leases the motorcycles for \$100 each. The only additional cost to the Village is for equipping them and training officers. The program calls for the dealer to exchange the motorcycles each year for two new units.

The motorcycle officers, Cpl. Mike Rompala and Jeremy Hoffman, have extensive motorcycle experience, a requirement for the positions. Both officers also received special police motorcycle training provided by the Northwestern Traffic Institute and Harley-Davidson. The motorcycles provide a "stealth approach" to traffic enforcement, able to go where no patrol car has gone before.

"We can use the growing network of Village foot paths to access places that most people don't associate with police patrols," said Rompala.

Neighborhood Celebrates National Family Night Out

Cpl. Michael Rompala, foreground, with Bicycle Patrol Officers Michael Kirby and Jeremy Hoffman, in the background, joined Wheeling residents celebrating National Night Out. The event is a community-outreach program, bringing neighbors together to meet with representatives of the Police and Fire Departments.

Cpl. Rompala sits astride one of two motorcycles the Police Department recently received as part of a special police program from a Harley Davidson dealer. The motorcycles are leased to the department for \$100 each. The only cost to the Village is for equipping the "bikes" and officer training.



"The motorcycles provide a 'stealth approach' to traffic enforcement, able to go where no patrol car has gone before."

The motorcycles also provide a low profile. Police can observe – and ticket – drivers who effectively don't see an officer on a motorcycle. "It's like being hidden in plain sight," Rompala added.

The cycles, valued at about \$18,000 each, are usable up to eight months a year. Only rain and snow keep them off the roads.

New Businesses

Alexter Technologies LLC—James P. Whelan, 830 Seton Court #6, 419-1507, distributor of electrical instruments

American Transfers Inc.—Silvia P. Miranda, 251 E. Dundee Rd., 537-6118, money transmitters

Block & Company Inc.—190 Messner & 333 Alice St., 537-7200, extra locations

Candlewood Suites—John Mareues, Mgr., 80 Capitol Dr., 520-1684, hotel

Discoteca Nuevo Mexico—Rigobeito Torres, 28 W. Dundee Rd., 520-1661, CDs, cassettes, movies

Family 1 Hour Dry Cleaners—Soon Myuk Kim, 23 W. Dundee Rd., 537-3577

Lynda's Babyland—Lynda Claver, 174 S. Wille, 520-5950, home day care

Quinlan & Fabish Music Co. Inc.—George Quinlan Sr., 773 W. Dundee Rd., 537-6770, retail musical instruments

New Owner
Advanced Wireless & Security—Richard Gregg Sr., 145 S. Milwaukee, 229-7007, retail cellular phones & security products for automobiles
American Spiral Manufacturing—Patrick J. Ludvigsen, 2068 Foster Ave., 483-9701, manufacturing of spiral pipe & fittings

Fruitful Yield—Al Powers, 39 Huntington Ln., 541-8118, retail health food

Housewalk Furniture Co.—Ronald L. Baker, 835 W. Dundee Rd., 229-2673, consignment furniture

Nail Tech 6—Van Le Dung, 275 E. Dundee Rd., 229-0437, nail salon

Oriental Market Place—Norman P. Nunag, 434 E. Dundee Rd., 459-0211

Ostap—Ilya I. Lubenskiy, 5. Milwaukee, 279-1217, book Store

Louis Glunz Wines Inc.—466-8 Diens Dr., 808-0860

Sands Inc. DBA Intl Mart—Satinder M. Sharmin, 541-9040, grocery, video

Taco Bell/KFC—Richard Cohn, 150 E. Dundee Rd., 215-2308

Chicago Bagel & Bialy Corp.—Harold Harkavy, 260 S. Milwaukee Ave., 459-9009, restaurant

Jordan Industrial Supply Co.—Spencer N. Jordan, 345 N. Wolf Rd., 520-5500, retail/wholesale hardware

Back-to-School Calls for Driver Awareness

As school buses, chauffeuring parents and children on bicycles take to the roads, traffic patterns change and driving habits should change accordingly. Traffic safety is especially critical in school zones. Traffic Officer Cpl. Mike Rompala provides some rules of the road for safety during school-commute periods.

Q *What's the most important thing to remember during school hours?*

A The speed limit is 20 mph whenever children are present. Speeding in a school zone results in a mandatory court appearance. Remember also that pedestrians have the right of way in any marked crosswalk.

Q *How about outside school zones?*

A Be alert and watch for children traveling to school or waiting at bus stops. They are unpredictable and sometimes forget about traffic. It's the driver's job to be alert for children and react defensively.

Q *How should drivers deal with school buses on the roads now?*

A Slow down and be prepared to stop when the yellow lights flash. When the lights flash red and the "stop" flag is out, the bus has stopped. Motorists in all directions must come to a complete stop a safe distance from the bus, and wait for the red lights to stop flashing before proceeding.

Q *If parents drive their children to school, do they have to take special precautions?*

A All drivers have the same responsibility pertaining to children and school traffic. But people who also have kids in the car need to remember that every child should be buckled in a child safety seat, a booster seat, or with a lap/shoulder belt if it fits properly. The back seat is the safest place for any child 12 years old and under. No matter how short the drive is, the kids still need to be buckled up.

Trustees Approve New... *continued from page 1*

law permits municipalities to encourage revitalization by using property taxes generated from the zone to make improvements, assemble property or incur other costs to stimulate added development. There is no tax impact on existing businesses and residences.

The final step in the process was completed when the Board enacted three new ordinances. The first approved the plan; the second designated the specific zone for inclusion in the district; and the third officially adopted tax-increment financing for the Village. A TIF district expires 23 years after approval, although local authorities may terminate it before then.

The board action creates Wheeling's second TIF district. The first, which expires in eight years, includes Milwaukee Ave. from Manchester Dr. to Strong Ave. Since it was established in 1985, the area has seen extensive demolition of dilapidated properties, the rise of new businesses and housing, and beautification efforts targeted at the Village's "gateway intersection" of Milwaukee Ave. and Dundee Rd.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q Whom should I call if water backs up in the street during a rainstorm?

A Call the Village immediately. Most likely, the storm basins in the street are either covered with debris or possibly obstructed with silt from normal street runoff. Public Works crews will clear any obstructions found.

Q Can a parkway tree be removed if its roots are obstructing my sanitary service line?

A A parkway tree may not be removed due to intrusion of tree roots in a private sanitary service line. Sanitary service lines, which have been intruded with tree roots, are considered defective and must be repaired. All costs relating to repairs and maintenance of private sanitary service lines are the responsibility of the property owner.

It Was a Blast!

Wheeling, Horizons Team Up To Improve Local Childcare

Wheeling Celebrates Fourth of July in Style



Balloons by the hundreds, burgers by the dozen, costumes, parade and fireworks punctuated 4th of July festivities at the Taste of Wheeling. Next year's celebration, already in the planning stage, will feature \$25,000 worth of pyrotechnics.

Board Okays Avalon Sienna Park

The Wheeling Board of Trustees has approved the construction of a park and playground in the Avalon Sienna subdivision.

The move came following discussions between the Village and area residents about the need for recreational space in the development.

Bordered on the north by heavily traveled Palatine Rd., on the west by Woodland Creek Apartments, and on the east by the Wisconsin Central Railroad, Avalon Sienna has limited access to other parks in the Village. The developer donated a total of \$108,500 that will be used to construct the play area.

Maintenance of the area will be the Village's responsibility. However, trustees strongly encouraged the residents to establish a Neighborhood Watch program. Construction will take place this fall.

Thanks to a \$25,000 grant from the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA), Wheeling has partnered with Horizons Children's Center to expand quality childcare throughout the Village.

Horizons will oversee a comprehensive training and education program to help home childcare providers meet state requirements, expand and improve quality childcare for lower income Wheeling families, and encourage Wheeling residents to become licensed childcare professionals. The training will help alleviate the shortage of childcare services in Wheeling.

According to Suzan Tash, Horizons executive director, the program will increase parents' childcare options.

"Parents need to have choices when it comes to childcare," Tash said. "We want to provide the children of Wheeling with an atmosphere conducive to promoting their individual social, emotional, intellectual and physical growth. The bottom line is the welfare of the children," she added.

Horizons will provide one or two weeks of training for childcare providers in areas such as nutrition, child development, and sanitation procedures. Training also centers on effective communication with parents.

Wheeling has only five licensed home childcare providers. The grant money will allow 10 new childcare centers to become licensed and certified by the state, while centers already licensed will be certified through Horizons to assure consistent quality care for the children enrolled in these programs.

Certified facilities will be listed as providers by the Daycare Action Council. Qualified low income families may receive vouchers for childcare through the Department of Human Services.





“The new fence replaces an uneven mix of chain link, wooden and other fences, providing an attractive, uniform appearance.”

Wheeling Builds Unique Fence On Elmhurst Road

What is thought to be one of the longest fences ever built by a municipality is being constructed on Elmhurst Rd. in Wheeling between Hintz and Dundee Rds. Two fences now line either side of the highway. Combined, the fence project is 5,963 feet long. The Public Works Department believes only state-built fences are longer.

The Village undertook the \$289,000 project as part of ongoing beautification efforts. The new fence replaces an uneven mix of chain link, wooden and other fences, providing an attractive, uniform appearance.

Shrubbery that was pruned during the 1998-99 reconstruction of Elmhurst Rd. will, when mature, provide a pleasing parkway appearance.

Erected by Fence Connection Inc., of Hanover Park, the fence is anchored by eight-inch posts sunk six feet into the ground. It was designed to provide an average height of 6-6½ feet above the level of the road pavement.

The fence is the first such project undertaken by the Village. Public Works expects the structure to last 25-30 years. Plans are under way to weather-protect the fence this fall.

Village Seminar to Train Landlords

Preventing blight and retaining satisfied tenants will be the subject of a half-day “Landlord Training for Crime and Drug-Free Rental Housing” scheduled for September 13, from 8 a.m. until noon at Hawthorne School, 200 Glendale St. Sponsored by the Village of Wheeling, the seminar will focus on crime

prevention, maintenance and legal issues.

Representatives from the Wheeling Police, Legal and Community Development Departments will discuss tenant screening, indications of possible criminal activity, lease addendums and evictions, apartment security, crime prevention through environmental design, and the Wheeling residential rental inspection ordinance.

The seminar was designed to help landlords improve their clientele, increase property values, reduce property damage, promote a sense of community for resi

continued next column

Commissioners Named

Twenty-seven members of the Village’s nine boards and commissions have been appointed or reappointed by Wheeling Board President Greg Klatecki. Members serve each body for varying terms.

Board of Ethics

Lynn M Nutoni, Ellen Anderson and **Rocco Malandrino** will join the Board of Ethics.

Economic Development

Newly appointed to Economic Development is **Kenneth D. Ross**. Returning for another term are **Frank D’Angelo, Bruce Taylor** and **William Bogenski**.

Police Pension

Glenn Hartman continues on the Police Pension Board.

Police and Fire

Michael J. Moran was named to the Police & Fire Commission.

Plan Commission

Plan Commissioners **Terry Steilen, Otis Hedlund** and **Dean Argiris** will continue in their present positions.

Board of Health

Reappointed to the Board of Health are **Ricki Reznick, Perry Wells** and **Jackie Goldberg**.

Human Rights

Newly appointed to the Human Rights Commission are **Henry Hackney Jr.** and **Ricardo Carranza**. Returning are **William J. Maloney** and **Gary Hittelman**.

Senior Citizens

Ida Hein, Virginia Isherwood, Karolyn Nance and **Mitchell Fox** were reappointed.

Zoning Board

Raymond Soto joins the Zoning Board of Appeals. **John McKechnan** and **Stu Shapiro** continue to serve.

Anyone interested in serving on a Wheeling board or commission should contact Chris Brady at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., or download an application from the Wheeling Website at www.vi.wheeling.il.us/referencedesk/formsandpermits.htm.

Community Calendar

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

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

Plan Commission — Second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 7 p.m.

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

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

Zoning Board of Appeals — Second Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.

Senior Citizens Commission — Third Monday of the month, 10 a.m., Pavilion Senior Center.

Fire and Police Commission — Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Fire Department Conference Room.

Palwaukee Airport Commission — Third 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 — First Tuesday of each month, 8 a.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.

Board of Ethics — Third Thursday of the month in January, April, July and October, 7 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.

Special Events Committee — Second Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., south half of Village Hall lunch room.

September

4- Labor Day, Village offices closed. Trash pickup delayed one day

8- Registration deadline for landlord training seminar

9- Open House, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Palwaukee Municipal Airport

9- Electronic equipment recycling, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Motorola Facility, 600 N. US Highway 45, Libertyville

13- Landlord training seminar, 8 a.m. - noon, Hawthorne School

October

8-14- Fire Prevention Week 2000

31- Halloween. Trick-or-treat hours: 3 - 7 p.m.

“Preventing blight and retaining satisfied tenants will be the subject of a half-day ‘Landlord Training for Crime and Drug-Free Rental Housing,’ September 13, from 8 a.m. until noon at Hawthorne School.”

dents, and establish a working relationship with the Village.

“We’re encouraging all owners of residential rental property in Wheeling to attend this training,” said Police Chief John Popadowski. “It’s a cooperative effort between the Village and landlords to reduce crime, improve safety and maintain their properties.

“Everyone will benefit – from property owners and tenants to Village departments and the community at large,” he added.

There is no cost for the seminar, but registration is required. For more information, call Officer Kate McNerny in the Crime Prevention Unit at 459-2693. The registration deadline is September 8.

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 _____

Comment _____

Deputy Fire Chief Retires After 33 Years

To sum up the contributions and achievements of former Deputy Fire Chief Ralph Perricone in a few words is no easy task, considering his 33 years of service. Before retiring this summer, Perricone was a major factor in the evolution of the Wheeling Fire Department from a small, all-volunteer group to the professional organization residents rely on today.



Picture a time when ambulance services were provided by local funeral homes and the Wheeling Fire Department was an all-volunteer group. That's when Perricone arrived.

Hired as the first full-time fire fighter three years later, Perricone helped create the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System, which provides mutual assistance for fire departments of neighboring communities. Today, that program covers more than 300 fire

departments in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

Perricone was successively promoted to lieutenant, captain and deputy chief. He has served as Incident Commander, responsible for running emergency calls, in community fire-safety and prevention programs and oversaw training certification. He even performed as a mechanic and, informally, department historian.

"Perricone was a major factor in the evolution of the Wheeling Fire Department"

Perricone saw the emergence of the 911 system, the addition of paramedic and ambulance units, and the growth of the department to 50 full-time paramedics and fire fighters.

"Ralph Perricone's years of service are a testament to his commitment to the Fire Department and the community it serves," said Fire Chief Keith MacIssac. "The department would not be where it is today without him."



Newly appointed Battalion Chief Richard Wydra is sworn in by Village Clerk Elaine Simpson, as Fire Chief Keith MacIssac (left) and Deputy Fire Chief Richard Theobald look on.

Filling The Void

In the wake of Ralph Perricone's retirement, Fire Chief Keith MacIssac announced a slate of promotions and personnel additions to keep the Wheeling Fire Department at full capacity.

Battalion Chief Richard Theobald has become the department's new deputy chief. A member of the department for 28 years, Theobald began as a fire fighter before being promoted to lieutenant and finally battalion chief.

Filling Theobald's former position is newly appointed Battalion Chief Richard Wydra. Serving Wheeling for 24 years, Wydra is a fully trained paramedic. As battalion chief, he serves as liaison between the department and Palwaukee Airport.

Nineteen-year veteran Lt. Joe Deppong, a paramedic, is responsible for overseeing the nine-member dive rescue team.

Wheeling's newest fire fighter is Daniel Murdock. A certified paramedic, Murdock comes to Wheeling from the Lincolnshire/Riverwoods Fire Protection District, where he served for two years.

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

Trustees

Judy Abruscato	541-8783	Trevor Lehmann	541-6700
Robert Heer	541-4274	William Spangenberg	520-1019
Patrick Horcher	419-1956	Wayne Wisinski	394-3432

BULK RATE
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT NO.
 053
 WHEELING, IL

CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT

Local Postal Patron
 Wheeling, IL 60090