

Village Views

WHEELING, ILLINOIS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001

Coming Up: Holiday 'Festival of Lights'

The holiday season will get its official launch on November 25, when residents gather at Village Hall for the fifth annual "Festival of Lights" celebration. Plans are to mark the festivities with a fireworks display on the playing field next to Village Hall, depending on national events. The President, Board of Trustees, and Village staff invite all residents to attend the festival at 6 p.m.

"We're expanding the event this year," said Trustee Judy Abruscato, who heads the Special Events Committee. "The Holmes Junior High School Chorus will sing traditional holiday carols. And in recognition of Hanukkah, we're happy to have Rhonda Wehner presenting songs of the season from the Jewish tradition."

A continuing tradition will be the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus and the illumination of the Village's 75,000 light display. New holiday figures will be added to the carolers, sleigh and reindeer, red ribbons, and pine roping that have characterized previous displays. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served. Coloring books and glow necklaces will be available for the children.

Crews from the Public Works Department will hang banners bearing a holiday motif on light posts around the Village.

"The holiday season is especially important for us this year," Abruscato said. "It's a time for us to celebrate traditional festivities. But it's also a time for us to come together and appreciate the warmth and solidarity of our community."

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

Village Donates \$58,000 to Terrorist Victims

Residents and organizations in Wheeling have contributed \$58,682 to disaster-relief efforts under way on the East Coast. The donation drive, part of a joint effort between the Village and the Chamber of Commerce, is expected to continue through the end of this year.

The Swaminarayan Hindu Temple donated \$20,000. The Wheeling-Prospect Heights Chamber of Commerce has collected another \$20,000, including \$10,000 from Bill Stasek Chevrolet. The funds will be given to the American Red Cross. In addition, the Wheeling Firefighters Association collected \$10,000 during a recent boot drive.

The Wheeling Board of Trustees voted to send an additional \$860, collected during a candlelight vigil held at Village Hall on September 25, to the families of New York police and firefighters.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the local relief fund can send checks to Cole Taylor Bank, 350 East Dundee Rd., Wheeling, IL 60090. Checks should be made payable to the WPH Chamber Disaster Relief Fund.



More Donors Expected for Nov. 14 Blood Drive

The Wheeling Board of Health anticipates collecting 100 units of blood at its November 14 blood drive (2:30-8:30 p.m., Fire Station 24, next to Village Hall at 255 W. Dundee Rd.). This compares with 40 units donated during the July campaign.

Health Officer Mike Boyle attributed the anticipated increased donor turnout to widespread publicity about the rising need for blood due to the East Coast terrorist attacks. "For that reason," he said, "appointments are necessary to ensure that LifeSource, the blood collection agency, has the proper equipment and staff available."

For information and scheduling, please call the Wheeling Health Department at 847-459-2621.



Among the latest businesses to locate in the Village:

Leona's Pizzeria

Midland Paper

Panda Express

iF Gallery

Benihana of Tokyo.

Wheeling Grows As Business Attraction

Leona's Pizzeria is coming to Wheeling. So is Midland Paper. Panda Express just arrived. iF Gallery began selling furniture on Dundee Rd. in June. Benihana of Tokyo started operating around the same time. They are among the latest businesses to locate in the Village.

Economic Development Director Bill Whitmer said Leona's, a longtime Chicago fixture serving Italian food in five restaurants around the city, will prepare its menu in the former Korebel's Restaurant on Dundee Rd., which had been vacant since May 14.

Midland Paper, a distributor of fine printing papers, will move into the location at 101 E. Palatine Rd., formerly occupied by V-Tech Industries. Midland will warehouse and ship papers from the site. The company will shift its headquarters with 125 employees to Wheeling from a location it has outgrown in Elk Grove Village. Midland maintains nine facilities staffed by 220 employees around the U.S.

Panda Express, of Glendale, CA, opened its newest

store at 300 E. Dundee

Rd. Known for its "gourmet Chinese food," the outlet becomes one of 361 locations in the U.S., including 29 in Illinois. The restaurant features both dine-in and carry-out dishes. Panda bills itself as the "largest Chinese restaurant chain in the nation."

Benihana of Tokyo, headquartered in Miami, is now operating its 194-seat restaurant near the corner of Milwaukee Ave. and Dundee Rd. As part of the One Milwaukee Place complex, the restaurant is an anchor attraction for diners seeking familiar fare with an Asian accent. The restaurant offers a sushi bar and stir-fried dishes prepared table-side.

iF Gallery is a startup business for Ike Kim and Harrison Oh. They had been searching for a new location since closing their Chicago store last year. The two men operated an earlier outlet in Buffalo Grove. The store sells "medium to high end" furnishings in its 33,000-square-foot facility at 903 W. Dundee Rd.

"We welcome these businesses to the Village," Whitmer said. "They recognize that we want to help make them successful."

Dancing into Spring

February 16, 2002

7 p.m. - midnight

Chevy Chase Country Club, Main Ballroom

Cash bar opens at 7 p.m., Dinner 7:30-9 p.m.

Dance to the sounds of

Larry Bemben's Big Band Orchestra

Tickets are \$35 and available at Village Hall, 255 West Dundee Rd., and Corus Bank, 125 N. McHenry Rd.

For more information, contact
Trustee Judy Abruscato at 541-8783

To order, mail your payment along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Judy Abruscato, 125 W. Wayne Place. Checks should be made payable to Village of Wheeling. Discover Card accepted at Village Hall only.

Welcome New Businesses

Shtrani's Deli — Igor Shtrambrand, 341 E. Dundee Rd., 847-520-5248, deli & groceries

Midwest Display & Packaging Inc. — Mike Duda, 511 N. Wolf Rd., 847-394-0014, warehousing

Arcadia Deli Inc. — Zachar Melamed, 27 Huntington Ln., sale of food products, delicatessen

The Dollar Spot Inc. — Murat Chigirinsky, President, 538 W. Dundee Rd., 847-417-2440, retail sales of household goods

Gientronics — 1150 Willis, 847-520-6120, distributor of sump pumps

Good Earth Lighting — Marvin J. Feig, 122 Messner

Dr., 847-707-1133, lighting fixtures sales

Fundability Inc. — Lisa Ross, 140 W. Hintz Rd., 847-215-8400, fundraiser consultants

L&L Machining Inc. — Karl Lanol, 280 Camp McDonald Rd., 847-259-8068, CNC machining

New Owner

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

EV Corp. DBA Maytag Laundry — Easow Vargese, 200-204 McHenry Rd., 847-808-9274, laundromat

Jeffery Lanes — F. Phillip Puzzo, President, Jodi L. Ede, Secretary, 125 N. Wolf Rd., 847-537-5370, bowling center

Capital Improvements Wind Down

The Village of Wheeling has partially completed one of many major capital-improvement projects, while a second is targeted for completion in early November. The conclusion of the projects marks the end of the Village's major construction activities for 2001.

Dunhurst Paving Complete

The Public Works Department contracted with DuroPave Construction Company to complete paving in the Dunhurst subdivision.

Work had been delayed for some months due to contractor problems unrelated to DuroPave. Remaining trench materials were removed. The pavement restoration was completed on October 19.

November Targeted for Diversion Channel Completion

A project in its final stage involves the William Rogers Memorial Diversion Channel, which was begun in the spring. An additional inlet may be installed near Wolf Ct. to eliminate problems of

standing water.

It is expected that work, plus seeding and final grading of the channel, will be finished in November. The project will provide an outlet for water overflows associated with a 10-year flood.

Engineering plans are under way for the 2002 construction season, when 14,400 feet of water mains will be replaced in Dunhurst as one of the largest water-main projects undertaken by the Village.



Paint-A-Thon Targets Four Wheeling Homes

Sixty volunteers, working in four teams, spruced up four Wheeling homes during the annual September Paint-A-Thon.

The painters came from three agencies. The Village of Wheeling fielded a team of 10, while Omni Youth Services and the Learning House furnished the remainder. Work included painting trim, shutters, stairs, and, in one case, a roof. Deteriorated external columns also were replaced at two homes.

The Wheeling effort mirrored activities in nine other nearby suburbs, where 700 volunteers fanned out to paint 31 additional homes. Valspar Corp., a Wheeling-based, long-time supporter of the Paint-A-Thon, contributed 400 gallons of paint. Wa-Pa-Ghetti's Pizza donated food for the Wheeling teams.

The Paint-A-Thon helps older adults and disabled people keep up the appearance of their homes and remain in the community. During its 14-year history, the Community Paint-A-Thon has painted nearly 300 homes in the north and northwest suburbs.

Tell Us About Your Business

What's different in your work place? Employee pets curling up under work cubicles? Wall murals painted by talented employees? Unusual projects undertaken by staff?

We are preparing an article for a future issue of *Village Views* about Wheeling businesses where a special work environment contributes to an employee-friendly atmosphere. We want to know your story.

Write to us at *Village Views*, Village of Wheeling, 255 W. Dundee Rd., Wheeling, IL 60090. Or call Assistant Village Manager Jim Grabowski at 847/459-2605.

"The William Rogers Memorial Diversion Channel... was begun in the spring... It is expected that work, plus seeding and final grading of the channel, will be finished in November."

PALWAUKEE OPEN HOUSE

An estimated 3,000 area residents poked their noses into airplanes and helicopters at the seventh annual Palwaukee Airport open house in September. They also observed the air-traffic controllers at work, learned from educational displays and munched hamburgers and hot dogs. Many of the attendees took more than 300 free plane rides over Wheeling and nearby suburbs.



Police Department Grants Top \$200,000

The Wheeling Police Department recently received new and recurring grants totaling \$202,612 to fund special programs.

The Village's traffic enforcement and traffic education programs are partially funded by a Safe Communities Grant in the amount of a \$72,848 grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

The grant, matched by \$67,678 from the Village, provides for roadside safety checks; child safety-seat inspections; drunk and drug driving awareness programs at Wheeling High School; and school-zone enforcement issues.

The State of Illinois' Criminal Justice Information Authority awarded the department \$9,496 as part of its Juvenile Accountability Incentive. The money will pay for a part-time social worker to support juvenile justice initiatives.

"The objective of the program," said Commander Eric Larson, "is to keep at-risk kids out of trouble by providing for counseling services. The social worker will head that effort."

Wheeling's Project BADGE (Balanced Approach to Drug and Gang Elimination) is funded by a Local Law Enforcement Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Cook County awards the funds to 24 suburban communities, with Wheeling receiving \$51,969. The money pays for outreach programs to Wheeling youth, such as the annual PACT (Police and Children Together) Camp.

"The objective of the program is to keep at-risk kids out of trouble by providing for counseling services."

New Trailer Beefs Up Wheeling Safety-Seat Program

A new \$2,800 specialty trailer has been added to the Wheeling Police Department's Child Safety-Seat Inspection Program.

The trailer, donated by Bill Stasek Chevrolet, will be used to transport the program's extensive array of training materials that include 55 child safety seats and training manuals supplied by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Also part of the setup are an automobile bench seat and a captain's chair used to demonstrate the proper installation of the safety seats.

Previously, Stasek had supplied vehicles for the safety-seat inspections on an as-needed basis. The trailer can remain stocked, eliminating the need to load and unload the materials for each event. The dealership, which purchased the unit from a long-time supplier of truck beds, will continue to provide minivans to pull the trailer. Stasek also donated the signs and lettering that identify the vehicle.

"The Wheeling Police program spearheaded the inspection of more than 2,200 child seats in the last year."

The Wheeling Police program spearheaded the inspection of more than 2,200 child seats in the last year. Led by Corporal Michael Rompala and Officer Dorann Swanson, teams conduct car-seat checks at hospitals for prospective parents, at preschools and community events. Additionally, Rompala and Swanson teach a 32-hour NHTSA Child Passenger Safety Technician course at local police departments and colleges.

"We greatly appreciate Bill Stasek's generosity," said Rompala. "As a result, the process of conducting these events will become more streamlined and efficient."

Village Changes Permit, Ticketing Procedures

The Village of Wheeling has discontinued the sale of parking permits and debit cards at the Metra train station. All sales will be made at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd. To accommodate early commuters, the Finance Department will open at 5:30 a.m. the last two Tuesdays of each month. Parking passes are available during usual weekday business hours, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and 8 a.m.-7 p.m. on Wednesday.

Concurrently, the Village has installed a second machine in the Metra parking lot to accept the debit cards. The move came in an effort to ease parking procedures.

Palwaukee Begins Weekend Closings

Palwaukee Municipal Airport began reconstruction of its main runway on October 26, when it was closed to traffic for the weekend. The initial work, expected to take 3-4 weekends, involves the installation of storm-sewer pipes and electrical ducts across the runway.

It is anticipated construction will involve 26 weekend closings, which will be suspended for the winter, starting in November, and resume in early May 2002.

The work will encompass significant safety improvements, including reconstructing the runway, installing a grooved surface to prevent hydroplaning during inclement weather, and adding a new runway lighting system.

Also included in the project is the replacement of reflective runway guidance signs with lighted versions. The signs indicate the location of taxiways and runways and include so-called "distance-to-go" markers, which inform pilots how much runway remains upon landing.

Portions of the runway located within a flood plain will be raised three feet. The runway, which will remain the same length, will be widened to 150 feet from its current 100-foot width.

The Federal Aviation Administration is funding 90 percent of the project's \$9.6 million cost. Five percent, or \$480,849, comes from the Illinois Department of Transportation, with the remaining five percent contributed from Palwaukee construction funds. U.S. Senator Dick Durbin was instrumental in acquiring \$1.7 million of the total. There is no cost to the Village of Wheeling or the City of Prospect Heights, joint owners of the airport.

It has been 20 years since the runway last underwent major construction. Airport officials anticipate that the project will extend the runway's life another 20 years.

"The reason for the weekend closings," said Airport Manager Fred Stewart, "is to minimize the impact on Palwaukee users. Closing it for at least two months of continuous construction would cause significant dislocation to the businesses and others who use the airport and a corresponding negative effect on the regional economy."

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"Public Works fields 38 pieces of snow-removal equipment that is deployed on 65 miles of Village streets. The department also clears an additional 1.5 miles of Wheeling Township highways..."

Here Comes Winter

The Wheeling Public Works Department has stockpiled 500 tons of salt in preparation for winter snow. It is part of an 1,800-ton total budgeted for the snow season, which normally lasts from November until the end of March.

Last season, crews distributed 2,200 tons of road salt on municipal streets for snow and ice control. "The higher-than average use was due in part to the

record snowfall experienced in December 2000," the department said in its annual report on goals and accomplishments.

Public Works fields 38 pieces of snow-removal equipment that is deployed on 65 miles of Village streets. The department also clears an additional 1.5 miles of Wheeling Township highways, for which the township will reimburse the Village almost \$3,800.

Other local streets are the responsibility of either state or county agencies. The Illinois Department of Transportation (847-705-4222) plows Dundee Rd., Elmhurst Rd., Milwaukee Ave., McHenry Rd., Palatine Rd., Aptakisic Rd. and Wolf Rd. from Manchester Dr. north to Milwaukee Ave. and south of Marquardt Dr.

The Cook County Highway Department (847-827-1164) clears Lake-Cook Rd., Schoenbeck Rd., Hintz Rd., Camp McDonald Rd., Buffalo Grove Rd., Old Buffalo Grove Rd., and Wheeling Rd. south of Palatine Rd.

Two Village Department Heads Retire

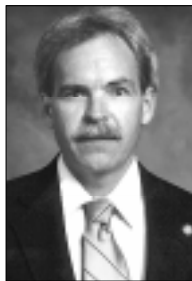


Mike Klitzke

The Village of Wheeling is saying good-bye to two veteran department heads. Community Development Director Michael J. Klitzke retired on October 17 after serving in that position for 14 years. Public Works Director Robert D. Gray, Jr., retired at the end of October.

Klitzke, who joined the Village in 1979 as senior engineer, spearheaded significant advances in local flood protection. A registered professional engineer and member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, Klitzke received numerous awards for his work in the field of floodplain management. He will become a consultant for the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Wisconsin.

Gray, a graduate civil engineer, joined the Wheeling Community Development Department in 1973 as Senior Engineer. He became Public Works Director five years later. He has overseen a far-reaching public works program from six divisions handling water, streets, and sewers, to engineering, a fleet of vehicles and maintenance of Village buildings and grounds. During Gray's watch, an extensive street-lighting program began, miles of storm sewers and water mains were upgraded, and dozens of streets and sidewalks were updated.



Bob Gray

Searches are under way for the Officials' replacements.

Mondschain Named New Finance Director

Michael Mondschain, an award-winning municipal finance executive, became Director of Finance for the Village of Wheeling on October 22.

Mondschain, 33, brings eight years' experience in municipal finance to the position. Previously, he was Assistant Director of Finance for the Village of Lombard. The Illinois Government Finance Officers Association has recognized him with its Distinguished Budget Award for budget preparation.

He was educated at Northern Illinois University, where he majored in political science and sociology. He later earned a Master of Public Administration degree at NIU, with an emphasis in fiscal administration. He also has taken courses in accounting.

Born in Tampa, FL, Mondschain has lived in the Chicago area since early childhood. Mondschain resided first in Lombard and later in Deerfield before moving with his wife, Melissa, to Wheeling in 2001.

Continued on page 7

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.

November

3 - Holiday Bazaar and Raffle, Pavilion Senior Center, 199 First St. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For information call 847-459-2670.

5 - Intergenerational Task Force Program, Indian Trails Public Library, 10 a.m.

14 - Blood Drive, Fire Station 24, next to Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., 2:30-8:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Board of Health.

22 & 23 - Thanksgiving holiday, Village offices closed. Trash pickup delayed one day.

25 - Festival of Lights, Village Hall, 6 p.m.

December

14 - Yard waste collection ends.

24 - Christmas Eve. Village offices open regular hours.

25 - Christmas. Village offices closed. Trash pickup delayed one day.

31 - New Year's Eve. Village offices open regular hours.

"The Wheeling Board of Health anticipates collecting 100 units of blood at its November 14 blood drive, 2:30-8:30 p.m. at Village Hall."

Monschain. . .

Continued from page 6

An avid exercise enthusiast, Monschain plays 12-inch softball and volleyball. He also participated in various foot races. He actively supports Habitat for Humanity, to which he has contributed and done volunteer work rehabilitating an apartment building in downtown Chicago.

"I entered government service because I'm interested in public policy," he said. "Municipal government is a great place to make a difference in the community."

Monschain replaces Robert Fialkowski, who resigned in June.

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 _____

Update: Boards & Commissions

Human Rights Commission Organizes for 2002

Wheeling's Human Rights Commission re-elected Bill Maloney as chairman and Gary Hittelman as secretary at the Commission's October 16 meeting. Members also elected Steve Boime vice chairman.

The Commissioners have plenty to work toward in the coming months, coordinating efforts for the Park District's "Passport to the World" festival. The event is set for February 10, 2002, at the Community Recreation Center, 333 W. Dundee Rd.

Toys for Tots Comes to Town

The Village of Wheeling and Bill Stasek Chevrolet will be drop-off points for the 2001 Toys for Tots program. Beginning November 1 and lasting through December 15, residents can drop off new toys in the collection bins at Village Hall and the car dealership. Used toys cannot be accepted. Please do not wrap toy donations.

Last year, with the help of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, the Toys for Tots campaign distributed 13.8 million toys to nearly 5.9 million needy children.

For more information, call Village Hall at 847/459-2600 or Bill Stasek Chevrolet at 847/537-7000, or visit the Wheeling Website at www.vi.wheeling.il.us.

Kimball Hill Begins Work on Astor Place

Kimball Hill Homes, of Rolling Meadows, has begun preliminary earth work on a 250-unit residential development on South



Milwaukee Ave. The development, known as Astor Place, is situated on 25 acres formerly occupied by Wheeling Nursery. An additional 2½ acres, fronting on Milwaukee Ave., has been set aside for commercial usage.

Astor Place will consist of 122 townhomes containing 2-3 bedrooms along the perimeter

Kimball Hill Homes has begun preliminary earth work on Astor Place, a 250-unit residential development on South Milwaukee Avenue.

of the property. Another 128 two-bedroom condominiums will be located in the center. Prices will start in the range of \$200,000-\$250,000.

The developer plans to install extensive landscaping and a 5-6-foot tall berm along the Milwaukee Ave. frontage to separate the housing from traffic. A single drive will serve the property.

Kimball Hill is noted for other residential developments in Rolling Meadows and Schaumburg. It estimates the Astor Place project will take two years to complete.

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



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