

VILLAGE OF



BIG CITY ACCESS

SMALL TOWN CHARM

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



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& Events**

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Forest Park!**

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Police & PW**

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SERVING YOU

MAYOR

Anthony T. Calderone

VILLAGE

COMMISSIONERS

Rory Hoskins

Michael Curry

Mark S. Hosty

Martin Tellalian

VILLAGE CLERK

Vanessa Moritz



ON A MISSION

The statistics are staggering. Currently, more than 1 billion adults worldwide are overweight and an estimated 22 million children under age five are thought to be overweight. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, the number of overweight children in our country has doubled and overweight adolescents has tripled since 1980. Closer to home, Illinois ranks 4th worst in the U.S. in childhood obesity; in suburban Cook County, 63% of adults and 40% of children are overweight or obese. For the first time in our nation's history, children no longer have a life expectancy greater than their parents.

This is a problem not for "them" but for all of us. As we have done on many occasions, Forest Park is leading the way. Over 120 governmental entities submitted applications to the Cook County Department of Public Health hoping to secure a Model Communities grant to actively pursue avenues for a more active, more informed, healthier community. Forty proposals were accepted and Forest Park was one of them! Thanks to the strength of our proposal, only one other municipality garnered more grant funds than we did to forge ahead with a serious and solid plan to enable our residents to live longer, healthier lives. Collaborating with School District #91, our Park District and Community Garden of Forest Park, our "Live Healthy, Forest Park!" campaign has begun and we will not only raise awareness but show the way to active, wholesome living. Read more about this positive endeavor in this issue. We hope you and like-minded organizations will join us in our mission to play more, move more, nourish more and grow more in Forest Park!

Mayor, Village of Forest Park

FIRE EMERGENCY 911

Non-emergency 366-1234

POLICE EMERGENCY 911

Non-emergency 366-2425

Village of Forest Park
517 Desplaines Avenue
Forest Park, IL 60130
708-366-2323

e-mail: contact@forestpark.net

clerk's office

April 5: election day

Vote Village Clerk Vanessa Moritz reminds all Forest Park residents that the date of the Consolidated Election is Tuesday, April 5th, 2011.

While you can no longer register to vote in this election (deadline was March 8th), you are encouraged to register for future elections at the Village Clerk's Office in the Village Hall at 517 Desplaines, during regular business hours or call Clerk Moritz at 615-6202 for more information on accommodating any individuals with special needs who would like to register to vote.

For a sample ballot or any information related to the April 5 Consolidated Election, simply log on to www.voterinfonet.com.

A complete list of polling places is always published in the local newspaper, however, any resident with questions about registration, the election, polling hours or locations should also feel free to contact the Clerk's Office directly at 615-6202 or 366-2323.

Regular business hours at the Village Hall are Mondays from 8 am to 7 pm; Tuesdays thru Fridays, 8 am to 5 pm; closed on weekends.

GOT A Current License?

Licenses for businesses, liquor establishments, pets and the dog park must be renewed by April 30th. For more information, visit the Village website at www.forestpark.net or feel free to contact the Clerk's office directly at 366-2323.

Welcome **NEW** Businesses!

Two prominent, existing Forest Park businesses are expanding! Wal-Mart has announced a 25,000 square foot expansion, a renovated storefront with landscaping and a new parking lot. Louie's Grill is also expanding! Watch for a grand re-opening sometime in May.

The following new businesses have recently opened in the Village and we hope you will give them a Forest Park welcome by patronizing them whenever possible and sharing the good news with friends, family and co-workers: American Artworks Gallery, 7314 Madison, (www.americanartworksgallery.com),

original art for the home and body made in the U.S.A.; Desserts DuJour, 7440 Harrison Street (www.dessertsdujour.com) specializes in cheesecake, cupcakes, cakes and cookies; Edward D. Jones & Company, an investment management firm, 7213 Madison; Hibachi Grill and Supreme Buffet, 7610 Roosevelt (see the spotlight below); Nob's Towing, 35 S. Harlem (visit their Facebook page); and Subway, 7328 Madison Street (for a complete menu, store hours and more details visit www.subway.com).

Coming soon to Forest Park...In a few months, Fiorenza Ristorante will open at 7404 Madison and specialize in Northern Italian cuisine. Watch for the grand opening on the Village and Chamber websites!



HIBACHI GRILL & SUPREME BUFFET

The Village of Forest Park and the Forest Park Chamber of Commerce took part in the ribbon-cutting at Hibachi Grill & Supreme Buffet on January 24th. Located at 7610 W. Roosevelt Road in Forest Park, Hibachi boasts that it is the largest and most elegant Chinese, Japanese and

American restaurant, offering more than 280 items on the buffet plus a Hibachi section, where patrons can pick and choose to create their own menu and have it cooked at no additional charge. Rib-eye steak, salmon fish, butter shrimp, black pepper shrimp, crabmeat, cheese, General's Chicken and a variety of selections of sushi along with a large selection of salads, fruits and desserts are available. Hibachi proudly offers a 10% discount to seniors, military personnel and teachers. Open 7 days a week, the restaurant is located in the former Old Country Buffet building between the K-Mart and Ultra Foods stores. Private rooms are also available. Hours are Sunday through Thursday, 11 am to 10 pm; Friday and Saturday from 11 am to 10:30 pm. For more information, call 771-1688.

VILLAGE HALL HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Monday, May 30 • Monday, July 4 • Monday, September 5

OH YEAH!

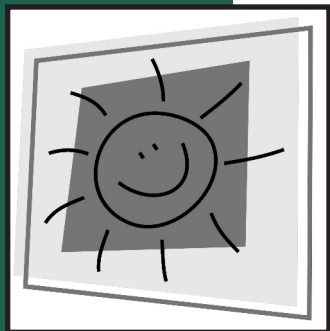
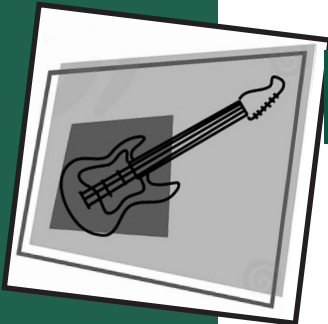
**INCREDIBLE
FOREST
PARK**

**save the dates:
BRING THE
FAMILY!**

EVENTS

**EVERY
FRIDAY!**

**Visit our NEW
LOCATION!**



farmers' market

Improve your health, the community and the environment every time you shop the Farmers' Market, which will be held EVERY Friday, 3:30 to 7:30 pm at the Forest Park Picnic Grove, 7824 Madison Street. Find organic meats, herbs, fruits, milk, eggs, cheeses, fresh vegetables, recipes...live it up right!

groovin' in the grove

Grab a blanket or bring your lawn chair, pack a picnic and spend the evening listening to the sounds of Jazz, Blues, Big Band and more. FREE Concerts will be held on Tuesdays, June 21, July 19 and August 16, 7 to 10 pm at the Forest Park Picnic Grove, 7824 Madison Street.

6th annual rib fest

There's still plenty of summer left for this special event! Be at the Forest Park Picnic Grove on Saturday, September 10! Don't miss the contestant rib sampling (nominal charge), music, fun for kids, food, beverages and much more. Winning ribbers receive cash prizes! Call 771-7737 for entry info!

www.forestpark.net • 771-7737

live well!!

PLAY MORE, NOURISH MORE, GROW MORE! OUR MISSION: LIVE HEALTHY, FOREST PARK!

Thanks to a Model Communities grant from the Cook County Department of Public Health, the **Live Healthy, Forest Park Campaign (LHFP)**, led by the

Village of Forest Park, is joining forces with School District

#91, the Park District of Forest Park, Community Garden and like-minded organizations to promote one goal: *community-wide healthy initiatives!*

Each entity will implement policies and programs that emphasize

physical activity, healthy eating

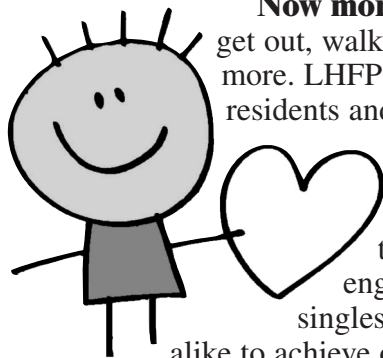
and obesity prevention to positively impact the health culture of the Forest Park community. The ultimate goal is to overcome the obesity epidemic and, at the same time, reduce the incidence of chronic diseases such as cardiovascular issues, stroke, Type II diabetes and even cancer.

Now more than ever. It's time to get out, walk more, bike more, grow more. LHFP aims to inspire our residents and all people to live all-around healthier and more active lives. The campaign encompasses the entire Village—engaging youth, elderly, singles, students and families alike to achieve optimal physical, social, emotional and dietary well-being.

Each partner has specific goals. For example, the Village and Park District will establish social walking groups; workplace wellness policies will be created; and more nutritious options will be made available at concessions, schools, at the Food Pantry and within all partner agencies while encouraging involvement from businesses and non-profits.

Joint Ventures. The Village and School District #91 have already implemented a community-wide education system called Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) to achieve social, emotional and academic success—in fact, Forest Park is the ONLY community nationally to implement PBIS community-wide!

The Community Garden provides fresh food options to the Food Pantry in two ways: 1) through dedicated garden plots and 2) donations from generous, reputable grocers throughout the year. Plus, Farmers' Market vendors are required to contribute fresh produce to the Food Pantry so that fresh food will be available for the underprivileged among us.



LIVE HEALTHY FOREST PARK!

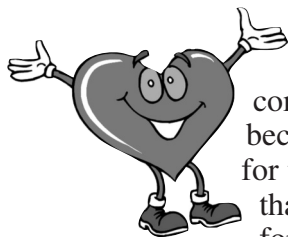
AMONG THE ACTIVITIES AND ADVANCES PLANNED

- ◆ Adopting a Healthy Schools Program.
- ◆ Promoting safe methods for non-motorized transportation, including increased signage and bike racks.
- ◆ Ensuring safety for physical activity in parks, playgrounds and throughout the community.
- ◆ Increasing awareness of healthy living through marketing, signage, education, advertising, social networking, a dedicated web page, public forums, events and incentives.
- ◆ Developing school gardens, demonstrations and education gardens and expanding the existing Farmers' Market to increase fresh food donations for the Food Pantry.
- ◆ Committing combined efforts to finding and designating a permanent Community Garden site for the Village.
- ◆ Decreasing the availability of unhealthy food and beverage choices while promoting healthy choices in the workplace, in restaurants, schools and throughout the Village of Forest Park.

to a CALL ACTION!

LEADERS COME TOGETHER TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORT PROVIDING THE TOOLS TO SUCCEED

Support for our grant application was strong! Letters from Cook County Commissioners Earlean Collins and Jeffrey Tobolski, the District #91 School Board, the Park District of Forest Park Board, Congressman Danny K. Davis, State Senator Kimberly Lightford, State Rep. and Assistant Majority Leader Karen Yarbrough applauded Village of Forest Park's effort to improve the longevity and quality of life for all of its residents.



"This is not a fad," stressed Mayor Anthony Calderone. "This is a commitment to our residents because we want the very best for them. We are a community that cares deeply and sincerely for our residents of all ages and

we will use every penny of this grant's funds to not only help our citizens but to create a model for other communities to follow," added the Mayor.

What exactly do we have in mind?

Here are a few more specific policy changes that will go a long way toward helping create a culture of health:

- ✓ Providing the Community Center's Food Pantry with a walk-in refrigerator that can house fresh, locally-grown fruits and vegetables for Food Pantry patrons.
- ✓ Changing vending machines so that they provide cold storage of healthy and fresh products such as fruit, yogurt and juices.
- ✓ Teaching children how to plant, sow,

harvest and ultimately sell (at the Farmers' Market) their fresh goods; developing the option of rooftop gardens within the School District or establishing on-site school gardens at one or more locations.

✓ Encouraging walking or biking to stores and restaurants by making carts with bags available. Individuals not only benefit from the exercise but Forest Park merchants will benefit from the increased non-motorized traffic.

✓ Working with the Chamber to reach out to its membership to purchase locally-grown produce or feature a locally-grown recipe of the week/month in their businesses or for the dedicated web page.

✓ Creating a sub-website for additional recipes, gardening tips and exercise plans.

✓ Adding bike racks and promoting our connection to the Prairie Path.



making better choices

EXPANDING EXISTING WELLNESS INITIATIVES

LHFP will help expand current healthy options, such as a Senior Walking Club partnership between the Park District and Community Center; a possible "Bike to the Pool" program in summer months; bringing the Park and the Community Garden together to offer "fresh" cooking classes; obtaining outdoor exercise equipment for public use; offering nutritious foods grown from schools and community gardens at future All-School Picnics and at community events and festivals. This is an exciting time and opportunity for all of us! For more information, feel free to call the Village at 366-2323 or visit the website at www.forestpark.net.

be active with us

FOREST PARK

calendar

HOWARD MOHR COMMUNITY
CENTER

seniors

SENIOR CLUB

Meets every Tuesday, 8:30 am to 1 pm. No membership fee. Transportation available.

SENIOR NEWSLETTER

Senior News is available the first Tuesday of even-numbered months and announces weekly trips and special events. Copies are available at the Center, Library and Village Hall.

SENIOR WEEKLY & EXTENDED TRIPS

The Center offers a trip every Wednesday to fun destinations such as theatres, sporting events, concerts, nature trips, etc. Extended trips are also offered throughout the year. Call the Center for updated info.

DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICE

The Community Center provides door-to-door bus service for seniors and disabled residents by appointment on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday throughout Forest Park and two miles outside Village borders. Appointments must be made at least 24 hours in advance and can be scheduled up to six weeks in advance. The bus is equipped with a wheelchair lift. Cost is \$1 one way, \$2 round trip. Note that Forest Park's dial-a-ride is NOT included in the State of Illinois' free rides for seniors initiative.

TAXI DISCOUNT COUPON BOOKS

Senior citizen taxi coupon books are available for purchase at the Center for Blue Cab. Cost is \$7.50 for \$10 in coupons and coupons are used instead of money when paying the fare.

EMERGENCY INFO CARDS

The Community Center has Emergency Information Cards on file which contain family and medical information in case of an unforeseen crisis. Cards can be filled out by any Forest Park resident. All information is kept confidential.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOANS

Crutches, walkers, canes, port-a-potties, wheelchairs and shower stools are available to any resident on a temporary loan basis.

PINOCHLE CLUB-BE A PLAYER!

Meet new people and play this exciting and challenging game of cards on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:30 am. No need to register and transportation is available by appointment.

GIVE A CENTER GIFT CERTIFICATE

Tired of the kids asking what you want for your birthday, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas...tell them you want a Gift Certificate that can be used toward any trip or program at the Community Center. Certificates are available in any dollar amount!

in may

CELEBRATING OUR VILLAGE SENIORS!

MAY IS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Forest Park, River Forest and Oak Park have proclaimed the week of May 6-13, 2011 as Celebrating Seniors Week. This week-long celebration will highlight and recognize the significant contributions older adults have made and continue to make to our communities. It's a time to celebrate! Call the Community Center at 771-7737 to learn more about the special events planned for seniors.

CELEBRATING SENIORS:

MAY 10, 1-3 PM

Join us for A Celebration of Life Workshop planned at the Howard Mohr Community Center. Artist and creativity expert Christine Milostan will share fun experiential activities that will get your creative juices flowing as you share and celebrate your life. Also enjoy making a special creation to take home. While there is no charge for this event, please call 771-7737 to make your reservation. Transportation available by appointment for Forest Park seniors.

for our fun-loving seniors!

SENIOR BINGO WITH LUNCH

Bingo is scheduled for April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28 and August 25. Lunch is available at Noon for a nominal cost with bingo following at 1 pm. Transportation is available. Registration is required for lunch only.

SENIOR AFTERNOON MOVIE

Join friends on Thursday afternoons to enjoy a recently-released movie with popcorn on these dates: April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14 and August 11. Movie begins at 1 pm and transportation is available. Registration required for transportation only.

SENIOR SQUARE AT SUMMERFEST

Mayor Anthony Calderone is sponsoring a great afternoon of bingo, entertainment and raffles at Summerfest on Saturday, June 4. Free transportation is available, on an appointment basis, to all Forest Park seniors. Call for details.

FEELING GOOD EXERCISE CLASS

Exercise for the mature adult covers a wide range of stretching and low-impact exercises along with some fun! Classes are held on Tuesdays, 1 to 1:45 pm through May 31. Classes will resume again in the Fall. Registration is not required.

calendar

HOWARD MOHR COMMUNITY
CENTER

youth

summer

clubhouse

32 years of summer fun!

Summer Clubhouse 2011 marks its 32nd year of serving the children of Forest Park!

Children entering grades K-7th will stay active and enjoy creative projects, free play, weekly field trips, structured games and exciting indoor and outdoor sports during the summer months. Swimming daily at the Forest Park Aquatic Center!

Clubhouse features a qualified, first-aid trained and State-licensed staff with many years of childcare experience.

Parents must provide lunch. Clubhouse is held at the Community Center, 7640 Jackson Boulevard.

The fun begins on June 6!

Hours are 6:30 am to 6 pm. Register early and feel free to call 771-7737 for all the details.

FOOD PANTRY

The Community Education Food Pantry, housed at the Center, is available to residents in need of emergency food on a temporary basis. Donations of non-perishable food items are accepted throughout the year.

RENT THE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT

The Community Center is available to residents for parties and special events. Call for availability and pricing.

PACE PASSES

Eleven ride passes for the cost of 10 are available at the Community Center for adult riders (\$15) and reduced fare for senior riders and students (\$7.50).

ADULT & YOUTH JOB CORP

Applications are available for adults and youth seeking daily employment such as babysitting, yard work, care for the elderly, cleaning, etc. Stop in the Center or call for details.

YOUTH REC & BASKETBALL EVERY WEDNESDAY

The Youth Rec Center is open every Wednesday, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Relax, listen to music, watch TV, play games and more. Get your game on with a structured game of Basketball and Dodgeball. Registration not required. Fee is just \$1 per child.

COMING UP IN AUGUST

Mom and dad, take the night off and let the kids stay at the Community Center on Friday night, August 19, for an overnight lock-in. There will be food, games, sports, music, movies, crafts and much more. Cost is \$18 per child; for children in grades 4-8. Space is limited. Fee must be paid in advance. Forest Park residents only!

Easter Eggstravaganza!

Saturday, April 16 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Event includes lunch, games, prizes, entertainment, a visit with the Easter Bunny (bring your camera to take photos), raffles and more. Cost is \$6 per child and \$3 per adult. Space is limited. Call for reservations and purchase tickets at the Community Center.

Boyz Nite. For boys only on Friday, April 22, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Basketball, football, video games, music, tournaments, raffle prizes, board games, food and refreshments are on the agenda. Registration required. Space is limited. Cost is \$10 per child.

Are you a Young Gourmet? Create delicious, kid-friendly entrees, appetizers and desserts. Wednesday, July 6, 13, 20 and 27. Fee is \$32 per child.

Let's Tye Dye. Friday, June 24, 1 pm. Bring anything—t-shirts, socks, shorts, old or new (cotton dyes best). Fee is \$6 per child; registration required.

free PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 11 AM

Representatives from the Center for Disability and Elder Law, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the legal rights of low-income seniors and persons with disabilities, will be at the Community Center. Volunteer attorneys, paralegals and law students throughout the Chicago legal community collaborate to provide clients with access to high-quality legal services they could not otherwise afford. Several attorneys will be on hand on April 12 to discuss various legal matters. These services are completely **FREE** of charge.

RULES OF THE ROAD CLASS MONDAY, APRIL 18, 9 TO 11 AM

The class is presented by a representative of the Secretary of State's office and is **FREE** to everyone, any age, to help applicants pass the Illinois driver's license renewal exam and prepare for the general written and road sign exam. Registration is not required.

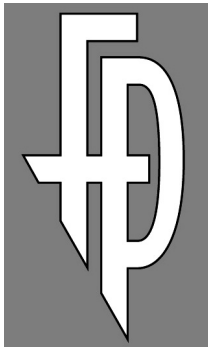
IT'S HIP! IT'S FREE! IT'S THE PLACE TO BE!

All Residents are Invited!

June Summerfest 2011

On behalf of the Forest Park Chamber of Commerce & Development, I would like to invite you to join us as a Residential Member. You are a vital part of the community and have so much to offer the Chamber! As a member, you will have the opportunity for involvement by volunteering or serving on a committee; get discounts at participating merchants and for event participation (St. Pat's Parade and Summerfest); and be invited to the Annual Meeting.

A non-profit organization, the Chamber is dedicated to the continued growth and revitalization of Forest Park's business districts as well as the enhancement of the quality of life for both residents and businesses. Visit our website at



www.exploreforestpark.com and download a membership application. Dues are a major source of revenue for the Chamber and play a significant role in allowing our organization to continue its work. Your support is greatly appreciated as we continue to work together as partners to make Forest Park an even better place to live, work, shop, dine and play. Call the Chamber office at 366-2543 if you have any questions.

~ Laurie Kokenes, Executive Director

Live music, good food and family fun make Forest Park's Summerfest the place you'll want to be on Friday, June 3 from 5 to 11 pm and Saturday, June 4, Noon to 10 pm. This FREE, hip festival all along Madison Street features live music, a food court starring local eateries, a beer garden, arts & crafts, a merchant sidewalk sale and much more. Entertainment at the children's

stage will delight the whole family and kids will want to be first in line for face painting, carnival games, pony rides and the giant slide. This event is a community favorite and one of the Chamber's biggest fundraisers! Keep an eye on www.summerfestfp.com for schedule updates. For information on participation and sponsorship, call the Chamber at 366-2543. (Photo by Chris Guillen)



PICK UP YOUR COPY AT CENTURIES AND SLEUTHS BOOKSTORE

Copies of local author Ken Knack's new Images of America history of **Forest Park** book are now available at Centuries and Sleuths Bookstore, 7419 Madison Street (771-7243) and also through amazon.com. Originally the site of an Indian village and burial ground, the town has also been home to an amusement park, a torpedo factory, a golf course, a racetrack, and a baseball stadium. "The blue-collar sibling to



says the book's description. Author Kenneth J. Knack was born and raised in Forest Park and continues to serve the Village as an Auxiliary Police Officer. Knack hopes to rekindle an interest in Forest Park's past in this 128-page book.

Know your local history!

neighbors Oak Park and River Forest has weathered many changes. Through it all, Forest Park has persevered, though much of its past has disappeared,"

2ND ANNUAL CRUISE NIGHTS!

Bring the kids to Madison Street! Admission is free! 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 6-9 pm, from June 14-August 23.

All makes welcome—Hot Rods, Classics, Muscle Cars, Corvettes—plus music, shopping, dining, 50/50 raffle, entertainment and theme nights! For more info or to sponsor this event, call 708-615-6203.



IN THE ♥ OF FOREST PARK



Triton College: Apply now for financial aid—we can help; Bring the family to see the Triton Troupers Circus

If you plan to enroll at Triton during the 2011-2012 academic year, you should begin your financial aid file as soon as possible. Triton's preferred filing date to complete financial aid files is April 15, 2011. Although applications continue to be accepted after this date for financial aid, filing by April 15 ensures that your file will be completed when classes begin. In order to be considered for financial assistance, students must complete and submit the following items to Triton's College Financial Aid Office.

- ✓ The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) must be completed and submitted to determine the student's eligibility for federal and state grants, Federal Stafford Loans and Federal Work Study. Students must apply at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Enter Triton's school code (001773) when asked where to have FAFSA info sent.

If students need assistance completing the FAFSA, they should bring their/their parents' most recent tax returns (1040, 1040A or 1040EZ, W-2s, and any schedules) and other necessary documents to the Student

Financial Aid Center in the Financial Aid Office and a staff member will guide the student through all the steps.

- ✓ The Triton College Financial Aid Data Form—available on the Web at www.triton.edu/finaidforms or at the Triton Financial Aid Office located in the Student Center, Room B-216W. This form is necessary to initiate a financial aid file.

- ✓ Students should contact their high school (or where they earned their GED) and request to have a final, official copy of their transcript sent to the Triton College Admission and Records Office, Student Center, Room B-216E, 2000 Fifth Ave., River Grove, IL 60171.

Also, review local and Triton College Foundation scholarships on the internet at www.triton.edu/finaid under Scholarships - Complete Listing.

For more info, contact the Triton Financial Aid Office-Student Center, Room B-216W, 456-0300, x3441; or the Admission Call Center - Student Center, Room B-216E, 456-0300, x3130. The Student Center (the B Building) is located on the west side of Triton's main campus.

Circus dates

Fun-seekers of all ages will enjoy the 40th Annual Triton Troupers Circus, performed at 7 pm, April 14-16, as well as a special 1 pm performance on Saturday, April 16, in the Robert M. Collins Center Gymnasium, located on the east side of the Triton College campus, 2000 Fifth Ave., River Grove.

Watch the acrobats, trapeze artists, clowns, jugglers, stunts and more! There are no live animals in this performance. Entertaining Triton's community for many years, the Triton Troupers Circus is a guaranteed good time. The cost of the show is \$6. For more information, call 456-0300, ext. 3383. Saturday afternoon's show will be interpreted for the hearing impaired by the Triton College Center for Access and Accommodative Services.

Circus & Pancake Breakfast

The RSVP of West Suburban Cook and Southern DuPage Counties at Triton is offering a day of entertainment for the whole family, including a pancake breakfast and Triton Troupers Circus special on Saturday, April 16 in the Robert M. Collins Center. The pancake breakfast will be open between 8 am and Noon in Room R-221 and, at 1 pm, the Troupers will dazzle all spectators.

A Circus Special combination ticket, for the circus and pancake breakfast, can be purchased for a discounted price of \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door.

Tickets can also be purchased separately for a cost of \$6 for the circus, and a \$4 donation will be accepted in advance or \$5 at the door for the pancake breakfast. For more information on the RSVP Pancake Breakfast and Circus Special, call 456-0300, ext. 3835 or 3603.

Forest Park Public Schools District 91: Junior & Senior Kindergarten Roundup Dates



Bring your child and meet the principal, teachers, health services staff, lunch and transportation personnel! Learn about the school and curriculum plus see the classrooms and the yellow school bus!

The Junior Kindergarten Roundup is for children 4 years old by September 1st, 2011 and the Senior Kindergarten Roundup is for children who are age 5 by September 1st, 2011.

Prospective students who live south of I-290 will need to attend the Roundup at Betsy Ross School on Wednesday, April 6, from 10 to 11 am or from 1 to 2 pm. Students who live north of I-290 need to attend the Garfield School Roundup on Thursday, April 7, 10 to 11 am or 1 to 2 pm.

Anyone with questions should call 708-366-6945.

senior FREEZE

from Cook County Commissioner
Jeffrey R. Tobolski, 16th District

Because of a new Illinois law, all senior citizen homeowners MUST re-apply for their annual Senior Exemption beginning this year. Forms are available through the Cook County Assessor's Office at 312-443-7550 (www.cookcountyassessor.com) or contact the Proviso Township Assessor's Office, 4565 W. Harrison Street in Hillside at 449-4304.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

To qualify for the 2010 Senior Freeze Exemption you must: be 65 years of age or older in 2010; have a total household income of no more than \$55,000 for 2009; have used the property as your principal place of residence on January 1, 2009 and January 1, 2010; own the property or have legal, equitable or leasehold interest in the property on January 1, 2009 and January 1, 2010; and be liable for the payment of 2009 and 2010 property taxes.

If your spouse died in 2010 or if you previously received this exemption and now reside in a nursing home, you may be eligible if the other requirements are met. Residents of co-op apartment buildings or co-op life care facilities may also qualify.

condominium OWNERS/BOARDS

The Villages of Oak Park and Forest Park are collaborating with the Oak Park Area Association of Realtors® to help condo property owners and boards learn how to make it easier for prospective buyers to buy and use conventional or FHA financing. Join the discussion on Wednesday, April 20, 7-9 pm, Oak Park Village Hall, 123 Madison Street; for more details, call 358-5411.

Crime-free multi-housing Plan

from the Forest Park Police Department

The Forest Park Police Department Crime Free Multi-Housing Program is designed to help residents, owners, and the managers of rental property keep drugs and other illegal activity off their property. This free program is honest and direct, solution-oriented and easy, yet effective in reducing the incident of crime, drugs, and gangs in rental property. Successfully developed at the Mesa, Arizona Police Department in 1992, the International Crime Free Multi-Housing Program has spread to nearly 2,000 cities in 44 U.S. states, five Canadian Provinces, Mexico, England, Finland, Japan, Russia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Afghanistan, and Puerto Rico. Three phases must be completed under the supervision of the Police Department. The development of the Crime Free Lease Addendum proved to be the backbone of the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program. This addendum to the lease agreement lists specific criminal acts that, if committed on the property, will result in the immediate termination of the resident's lease and has been upheld by the US Supreme Court.

There are three ways criminal activity comes into a rental community: 1) The criminal lives there, 2) they visit friends there, 3) or they come to the property to commit crimes. The Crime Free Multi-Housing Program addresses all three of these issues. By not renting to people with criminal intent, they not only reduce the likelihood of crime in the community, they also reduce the number of visitors who come to the property with criminal intent, i.e., to purchase drugs. *Story continues below.*

it's a three **Phase** program

Phase One is the completion of a four-hour class taught by the Forest Park Police Department with the goal of teaching rental property owners and managers ways to establish a stable tenant base, increase demand for rental units with a reputation for active management, lower maintenance and repair costs and improved safety for tenants and managers.

We belong to the
Village of Forest Park
**CRIME FREE
MULTI-HOUSING
PROGRAM**



"Keeping illegal activity
out of rental property."

To sign up for a class, visit www.forestparkpolice.net. Fill out the reservation form and mail it to: Crime-Free Multi-Housing Unit, Forest Park Police Department, 517 Desplaines Avenue, Forest Park, IL 60130 or contact Detective Mike O'Connor at

708-615-6254 for more details.

Phase Two will certify that the rental property has met security requirements for the residents' safety.

In Phase Three, a resident crime prevention meeting is conducted for full certification after which rental property owners/managers will be granted the use of the Crime-Free

Multi-Housing sign for the property and will be granted use of the logo for all of their advertisements.

The anticipated benefits of certification are reduced police calls for service, a more stable and safer resident base and the manager's reduced exposure to civil liability.

PUBLIC WORKS AT YOUR SERVICE

Bring Spring!

Before you know it winter will be far off in the distance. Spring means busy days for the Forest Park Public Works Department—flowers will be planted, trees will be trimmed and planted, potholes will continue to be filled and brush and branches will be picked up.

For pothole repairs or any service requests, contact Katie, Public Works Assistant, at 615-6212 or send an email to publicworks@forestpark.net, to place a work order.

Lights Out? If you find that your street light is out, please call so it can be fixed. If an alley light is out, however, please call

800-334-7661 as those lights belong to ComEd.

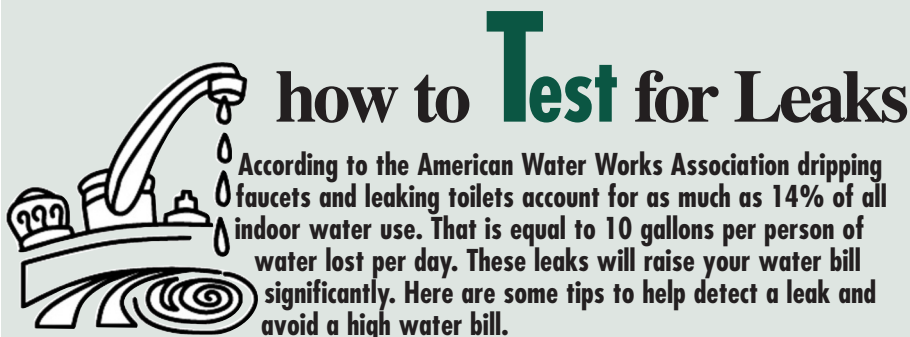
Parkway Trimming is done throughout the Spring, Summer and Fall months. Call to place a work order and allow at least 10 business days for crews to trim the trees, weather permitting. If the branches are higher than 28 feet, allow additional time for trimming. Your patience is appreciated—requests are handled as soon as possible! NOTE: When hiring a contractor for private tree trimming/removal, the contractor is responsible for removing all debris.

Tree Planting. To be placed on this Spring's list, call Katie at 615-6212. A variety of trees will be planted in April or early May. Visit www.forestpark.net, go to the Public Works page and choose the type of tree you prefer. Trees are limited so call soon!

Brush & Branch Pickup. Monday and Friday are the designated brush and branch pickup days. Place any brush or branches in the parkway (grassy area between the street and sidewalk). Residents of Harlem Avenue, please call to arrange for alley pickup.

Yard Waste pickup begins Thursday, April 7. Put yard waste in brown, biodegradable bags or a 32-gallon garbage can and mark the containers by using a yard waste sticker, available at Village Hall, or put a large red "X" on the container. Do NOT put grass clippings in the street! It only causes the sewers to back up.

The 50/50 Sidewalk Program allows property owners who have damaged/cracked sidewalks to have their sidewalks replaced at half the cost. To be added to the list, call by Friday, May 27 and note the number of squares requested for replacement when calling. Once the bidding process is complete and cost per square is calculated, the Village sends a letter stating when the program will begin and the total amount due. This amount must be paid in full before the program starts or work will not be performed at that address.



READ YOUR WATER METER

- Start by turning off all faucets and water-using appliances and make sure no one uses water during the testing period.
- Take a reading on your water meter; wait 30 minutes, then take a second reading. If the dial has moved, you have a LEAK!

CHECK FOR LEAKY TOILETS (The most common source of household leaks)

- Check toilets for leaks by placing a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If, after 15 minutes, the dye shows up in the bowl, the toilet has a leak.
- Leaky toilets can usually be repaired inexpensively by replacing the flapper.

CHECK FOR LEAKY FAUCETS (Sinks and Bathtubs)

- Replacing the rubber O-ring or washer inside the valve will usually fix the leak.

The Water Department works diligently to make sure that all records are in order. If you are a senior citizen who gets the Senior Exemption on your property tax bill, you are also entitled to senior water and garbage rates. Bring a copy of the second installment of your property taxes which shows the Senior Exemption to the Village Hall in order to ensure that you are getting the lower rate. If you have any questions at all, don't hesitate to contact the Water Department at 615-6268.



Published by the Village of
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www.forestpark.net



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@ the Park

PARK DISTRICT OF FOREST PARK

Park District of Forest Park offers a full range of fun and healthy programming for youth and adults. For any information about trips, events, leagues or classes, please call 708-366-7500, stop in at the office located at 7501 Harrison Street to pick up a current brochure or log on to the Park District website anytime at www.pdfp.org.

WE'RE GOING GREEN!

Starting with the Winter/Spring 2011 brochure cycle, the Park District of Forest Park stopped mailing brochures to each household. Residents will receive a postcard stating that the new brochure is available online and at various locations throughout the Village. The Summer 2011 brochure is expected to be available at the end of April.

EASTER FUN

Don't miss the Flashlight Egg Hunt on Friday, April 15 at 8 pm and the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 16 at 10 am.

NOT TOO EARLY FOR A POOL PASS

Early bird registration is April 4 to May 6. Taking advantage of this opportunity will save you \$10 on your passes! Pool rental applications for after-hours and Saturday/Sunday daytime birthday parties became available as of March 1. The fee for pool rental includes lifeguard staff, use of the pool, waterslides, sand-play lot, sprayground and concession area. Birthday parties include decorations, party attendant, hot dog/chips, pool admission and cake (optional). Payment must be made in full to reserve a date. Birthday parties and rentals must be booked at least one week in advance. Don't wait because dates fill up fast! For more details, call 366-7500.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Get the scoop on the Long Grove Chocolate Fest outing on Friday, April 29; or, reserve your space for the Family Garage Sale and Flea Market set for Saturday, April 30. Clean out your attic, cellar or garage and sell your treasures or come out and shop for bargains. Tables available on a first come, first served basis. Registration is required. Call 366-7500.

Forest Park Library



► www.fppl.org

Adult Programs. Register or stay up-to-date about the latest summer activities by visiting the Library website or call 366-7171.

STOP IN! Check out all the great additions made recently—from new chairs to expanded computer services! Renovations will be complete in early summer.

E-READER DEMO. Curious about downloading and reading books on a Barnes & Noble Nook, Sony

Reader or Apple iPad? Set up an appointment with a librarian to learn how these devices work and how to get great, new books in a digital format.

LAPTOP CHECK-OUT. Get online, print or use the Library's laptops for studying, working or exploring the internet!

BIKE SAFETY. April 20, 7 pm.

FICTION BOOK CLUB. April 28, 7 pm.

For Children/Teens. Register online or call 366-7171.

WEEKLY STORYTIMES. Through April 22, 10:30 am. Babies (0-2), Tuesdays; Toddlers (2-3), Mondays and Fridays; Preschoolers (3-5), Thursdays. No dates in May.

KIDS FITNESS FRIDAYS IN MAY. Look for a new, energy-boosting activity after school during National Physical Fitness Month, including a Wii Fit Challenge and a Kinect Dance-Off!

TWEEN INNER CIRCLE. Your forum to tell us what you want in the Library! Designed for ages 8-12. Monday, April 18 and Monday, May 23, at 4 pm.

SUMMER READING VOLUNTEER TRAINING. We need teens who love working with people and kids. Training starts in April. Call now for more information.

RUN SUPERSIZED! Show off your skills playing this fast-paced computer game for all to see with play projected on the big screen. Monday, May 9, 4 pm.