

**DOWNTOWN  
ORLAND PARK**  
Highlights Inside

Village of

# ORLAND PARK PUBLIC

Mayor Daniel J. McLaughlin  
Village Clerk David P. Maher

Trustee Kathleen M. Fenton  
Trustee Brad S. O'Halloran  
Trustee James V. Dodge, Jr.  
Trustee Edward G. Schussler, III  
Trustee Patricia A. Gira  
Trustee Carole Griffin Ruzich

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Village Manager



# 2012

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# MAYOR DANIEL J. McLAUGHLIN

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Village of Orland Park, Illinois



@VillageOrlandPk



VillageofOrlandPark

### Economic Improvement

We have very good news to share on the village's economic front. As the nation continues to recover from the economic recession, the village's economy has been steadily improving over the last few years.

The numbers for this year in comparison to 2009 show a marked improvement. Commercial investment in the village in 2009 totaled \$11,957,088 while the same number for this year thus far is \$96,363,232, an increase of more than 700 percent.

The same holds true for residential investment. In 2009, residential investment in the village totaled \$14,690,165 and we're already at \$31,190,613 before the close of 2012, an increase of more than 100 percent. Orland Park continues to be the location of choice for residents and businesses.

### Jobs Creation

National companies continue to choose Orland Park as an ideal Midwest location for their businesses, bringing more jobs for area residents. New buildings create new construction jobs and once the businesses open, area residents are hired to staff these businesses.

According to our Development Services Department, Dave & Busters, now open on Orland



Square Drive, brought more than 200 jobs, 180 of which are full-time. Berkot's Super Foods, at 159th and Wolf Road, created 50 jobs, 20 of which are full-time. The opening of Whole Foods Market at 153rd and LaGrange Road created 150 jobs, 105 of which are full-time. And, Flaherty & Collins's *Ninety 7 Fifty On The Park* residential development created 130 full-time

construction jobs with this number increasing once the buildings are under roof.

We're excited with the opening of Cheesecake

Factory in Orland Square and the residential housing development, Thomas Place, on Harlem Avenue. Both of these developments have created additional jobs.

### Winning Intersection

The intersection improvements at 143rd and LaGrange have been recognized by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois.

#### HONORING ORLAND PARK VETERANS PHOTO DISPLAY

Frederick T. Owens Village Hall  
Photos of all Orland Park Veterans welcomed.  
See page 17 for details.

#### FOREVER REMEMBER YOUR VETERAN

Orland Park Veterans Memorial  
Ara Pace - Place of Peace  
Living or deceased. Need not be Orland Park residents.  
Cost and details available by calling 708/403-6203.

V-3, one of the village's contractors for the project, submitted the project for the 42nd Annual Engineering Excellence

Awards and is being honored with a Special Achievement Award from the council. V-3 has shared some of the photos from the awards packet and those can be found in the center section of this edition of the newsletter.



*Mayor Dan McLaughlin presented a Community Pride Award to Orland Park's Mark Sivak of Boy Scout Troop 385, recognizing his reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. Nationwide, just four percent of Boy Scouts achieve Eagle and six percent of Girl Scouts receive the Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouts.*

## A+ Again

Transparency in government has been the buzz word of 2012 as local government entities work to make things as open as possible with the communities they serve. The Village of Orland Park was the first community in the State of Illinois to receive a perfect score on the transparency index created by the Illinois Policy Institute, an outside government watch group. We are proud to again have received an A+ rating from the Illinois Policy Institute, further demonstrating the community's accessibility to local government. For more information about the village's transparency in government, visit the village's website at [www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us) and click on the Citizens Information Center on the left margin.

## Open Lands of Orland Park

Read about the village's Open Lands Commission's latest acquisition in

Trustee Fenton's column. Thank you to everyone who supports this group's fundraising efforts to buy and forever preserve open space in the village.

Since it was first created in the mid-1990s, the Open Lands Commission has purchased and saved nearly 300 acres of open space in the village. Thank you to everyone

who has helped with this group's fundraising efforts to buy open areas before they're gone.

## Cultural Events

Congratulations to the village's Arts Commission for yet another outstanding cultural event. On November 3, the commission hosted "Dance Chicago" at the Performing Arts Center at Carl Sandburg High School. The capacity crowd enjoyed the variety of dance groups and we appreciate all that the Arts Commission does to create cultural opportunities within the community.

## Tax Rebate

The Village Board members and I voted to bring the program back this year because of the village's strong financial position. We are pleased to have been able to rebate a portion of the property taxes you pay to the village for eight of the last 11 years. All applications and documents must be submitted by 5 p.m. on December 14, 2012.

## New Businesses

We have welcomed a number of new businesses to Orland Park since the last edition of the newsletter. See the full list on page 22.

## Special Event Sponsors

Thank you to the many corporate sponsors that help make the village's many special events possible. The Village of Orland Park prides itself on offering high quality entertainment for residents of all ages and we're thrilled to have so many people help to make this possible. You will see a list of these generous individuals and companies on page 23.

## Happy New Year

As we look forward to 2013, we do so knowing that the Village of Orland Park is on solid financial ground because of careful planning and conscientious leadership. Like each of you, the Village Board members and I all chose to live and raise our families here and we are very pleased that Orland Park is one of the premier communities in the state and in the Midwest --- something of which we can all be very proud.

# VILLAGE CLERK DAVID P. MAHER

## Post Election

It's always exciting to see the number of young people who come in to register to vote before a Presidential Election.

We publicized heavily on how those who would be 18 on or before Election Day could register and our message reached the young adults of the area. We had a number of newly or about to turn 18 year olds come in so they could participate in their first Presidential Elections. Congratulations to all of you and may you exercise your new right to vote throughout adulthood.

Young adults were a fraction of the groups who visited the Village Clerk's Office to register. We had many new residents, newlyweds and even some people who had never registered or voted and were now in their 50s and wanted to exercise their privilege.

The Clerk's Office passed out hundreds of Vote by Mail

Applications. These were requested mostly by those who are homebound, college students away at school and residents who move to warmer temperatures during the cold months.

It was exciting to help so very many residents proudly exercise their rights.

## Next Election

The next election is April 9, 2013 and will include local and school board positions. The last day to register for this election is tentatively March 12, 2013.

You can find a lot of interesting voting information on the Cook County Clerk's Office website at [www.voterinfonet.com](http://www.voterinfonet.com). It includes past election results, interesting details from the Illinois State Board of Elections and it's a great voting information resource.

## Tax Rebate

The Village Hall has been abuzz with the Tax Rebate Program since it opened on October 29. The Village Board is excited to offer three ways for eligible village residents to apply --- online, via paper copy or in person at the Village Hall.

The Village Clerk's Office is happy to help with the process, being the "go to" place for residents who don't use computers and those who are having a hard time filing their applications. The Clerk's Office staff have helped hundreds of village residents and we're very happy to provide one-on-one service for the many people who have visited our office. If you're having trouble applying for the rebate, stop in at the Clerk's Office. We're happy to help. All applications must be in by 5 p.m. on December 14, 2012.

## Clerk's Services

Most of you know that all of the election information comes out of the Clerk's Office and this is where you register to vote or request a Vote By Mail Application.

The Village Clerk's Office is the village's official librarian as we record and prepare the minutes for all of the Village Board

and committee meetings. Our staff prepares the committee and board agendas and issues public notices. We also offer other helpful services. You can apply for passports in the Clerk's Office and have your passport picture taken. Appointments can be made by calling 403-6188.



Village Clerk David Maher have your passport picture taken.

Free emergency medical identification bracelets are available, enabling police and fire personnel to quickly access emergency medical information if they're responding to a call to help you.

The Clerk's Office also offers the Police Department's Rapid Recovery Bracelets. This is an electronic tracking system that will locate a resident who might have Alzheimer's, Autism or other special needs. Participants wear a personalized wristband that constantly emits a tracking signal. When caregivers notify the Police Department of a missing person, a search and rescue team responds and uses the mobile tracking system. The cost and further details are available by calling 708/403-6188.

The village's Office of Public Information, which comes under Trustee Dodge's Communication & Technology Committee, is also in the Clerk's Office area, being the village's primary source of news and information. Public Information oversees the village's cable channels, social media outlets, village publications, news releases and basically gets the word out to all of you so that you know about the many wonderful things that the Village of Orland Park offers.



## Open Lands Pebble Creek

Mayor McLaughlin first proposed the Open Lands Program in 1995 to preserve natural areas and those with unique

Trustee Kathleen Fenton heritage qualities in the village. We wanted to preserve open spaces in our community before they were gone. Over the last 17 years, more than 276 acres of land has been purchased and preserved in Orland Park. I am honored to be the Village Board's liaison to the Open Lands Commission, being able to see firsthand all that this group does to save open areas in the village.

The newest Open Lands purchase is the Pebble Creek property located on the east side of LaGrange Road, just north of the Metra bridge at 141st Street. This 3.3 acre former landscape nursery includes a 3,030 square foot building and a small parking lot. Initial work will include cleaning the site and restoring the native plants and wildlife communities. The Open Lands Commission is formulating a long term vision that will include a master plan to guide the future restoration of native communities and utilization of the facilities. Some initial ideas include the development of trails, overlooks, bird observation areas, interpretive and informational displays and signs and possibly a small nature center.

The Pebble Creek parcel is part of the "Green Triangle," an area bound by Southwest Highway, LaGrange Road and 135th Street.

The Open Lands Program has targeted this area for protection because of its sensitive and distinctive natural features and its proximity to Cook County's McGinnis Slough on the other side of LaGrange Road. The "Green Triangle" already encompasses Open Lands's 135th Street Wetlands, acquired in 2003 and the O'Malley parcels acquired in 2011. The Pebble Creek is a great addition to an important natural area of the village.

## Orland Park Development

The Village of Orland Park continues to be the location of choice for new businesses and developments. We are happy to welcome the following businesses to Orland Park.

## Bonefish Grill

The first Bonefish Grill opened its doors in St. Petersburg, Florida on January 15, 2000. The company now has locations throughout the southeast and northeastern coasts. Orland Park, Illinois is one of its newest. The Village Board recently approved the construction of a 5,200 square foot Bonefish Grill Restaurant to be located at 15537 South LaGrange Road, on the last remaining Lowe's Subdivision outlot along the LaGrange Road Commercial Corridor.

## Buona Beef

Buona Beef is located throughout the Chicago area. The chain began in 1981 with a few Buonavolanto family recipes, including the company's Italian beef sandwich recipe. Recipes brought from Naples and perfected in the old Italian neighborhood of Chicago now include a full carry out and catering menu.

The company's Orland Park location is currently under construction at the corner of 131st Street and LaGrange Road. This 4000 square foot restaurant, with drive through service and catering, is expected to open in early 2013.

## McDonald's

McDonald's has petitioned for the construction of a new restaurant along 179th Street. McDonald's will demolish the existing building, which was the former location of the Blockbuster Video Store.

## Marquette Bank

Marquette Bank is re-developing the southeast corner of 143rd Street and LaGrange Road. The Village Board approved the company's re-development plans for the area, which include the construction of a new bank building with future outlots that will be built on later.

## Additional Information

For more information about development projects and opportunities in the Village of Orland Park, visit the Business and Development area of the village's website, [www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us).

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

*The newest acquisition of the village's Open Lands Commission is the Pebble Creek property on the east side of LaGrange Road, just north of 141st Street.*



# TRUSTEE BRAD S. O'HALLORAN

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

## Property Tax Rebate Underway

The Village of Orland Park is pleased to be in a strong financial position, allowing the village to once again offer the residential Property Tax Rebate Program.

The program was suspended during the village's 2009 fiscal year due to the impact of the nationwide economic downturn on the village's revenue sources and the village's desire to remain fiscally conservative in economically trying times. Prior to its suspension, the total amount rebated to residents through this program amounted to approximately \$27.6 million.

The board has authorized a total rebate of \$2.5 million. This amount is a rebate of the 2011 property taxes paid to the village by residents in 2012. When the village last offered the rebate, the rebate amount each household received was determined by the equalized assessed value of the home in

which the applicant was currently living. This year's rebate will be evenly divided among eligible residents whose submitted applications are approved.

The 2012 program began on October 29 with the launching of the village's tax rebate website, [www.optaxrebate.com](http://www.optaxrebate.com), and the availability of both printed and electronic formats of the application. Village residents have been provided a variety of methods to choose from when submitting their application.

During past rebates, an on-line application method was not available and the board is pleased to be able to offer another application method to make the process as convenient as possible for village residents. Residents can apply online at [www.optaxrebate.com](http://www.optaxrebate.com). This application method is completely electronic, as all required documentation is also submitted in electronic format at the time of application.

Residents can also visit [www.optaxrebate.com](http://www.optaxrebate.com) to download printed applications and bring the completed application, and all required documentation, to the Village Hall or send the application in the mail.

Residents are also able to bring required documentation to the Village Hall and village staff will electronically submit their application and required documentation for them.

As of mid-November, when this publication went to press, thousands of village residents had submitted their applications online. In addition, several hundred residents had submitted their applications with the assistance of staff at the Village Hall and thousands more had completed and delivered their

applications in person or via mail to the Village Hall.

Along with the required application, eligible residents must include copies of their second installment 2011

property tax bill, a valid driver's license reflecting the address of the property for which they are applying and a current utility bill reflecting the address of the



Trustee Brad O'Halloran

property for which they are applying. Those applying online can scan and upload copies of these documents or take a picture of them with a cell phone or tablet. Residents are encouraged to set their scanner to ensure that the file is not too large to submit electronically. Photo quality settings produce larger files.

If a resident includes their water billing account number on the application, they do not have to provide a copy of a recent utility bill.

Questions may be directed to the village's Tax Rebate Hotline at 708/403-3086. All completed applications with the required documents must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 14, 2012. Checks will be mailed to residents in mid-March 2013.

**Happy Holidays!**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**  
**Friday, December 14, 2012 at 5pm**  
**APPLY ONLINE**

[www.optaxrebate.com](http://www.optaxrebate.com)

**PAPER APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

**Frederick T. Owens Village Hall**

14700 South Ravinia Avenue

**Recreation Administration**

14600 South Ravinia Avenue

**Village Sportsplex**

11351 West 159th Street

**Orland Park Public Library**

14800 South Ravinia Avenue



Trustee James Dodge

## Tax Rebate

The village's Property Tax Rebate Program is well underway, having begun on Monday, October 29. We tried to make it as

easy as possible for residents, enabling those who are familiar with computers to apply online and those who need help with their applications to come to the Village Hall for assistance.

There are three ways to apply for the tax rebate --- online; by downloading a paper form from [www.optaxrebate.com](http://www.optaxrebate.com); or completing a paper form at the Village Hall and having village staff help submit the application.

We've received very nice responses from residents who appreciate the return of the rebate and who are grateful for the staff help provided at the Village Hall. Remember that all completed applications and documents must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 14, 2012.

## Technology

This was the first time the village has invited residents to apply for the rebates online and it appears that many residents are taking advantage of this service. We had a few issues with people not being able to upload their documents to the site. More often than not, this was because the file settings were too high on their home scanners. If you're going to scan and upload your documents, be sure that the file size is not too big. You don't need photo quality settings to scan and upload your paperwork. You simply need clear copies that can be submitted with your completed application.

We also heard from residents who were trying to apply online from their places of

employment. They weren't able to because of their companies' firewalls but were able to apply from home.

The village's Recreation Department will use its online program registration for a second season with the Winter Program Guide having arrived at the end of November. This too is another service for residents, giving you the option to complete village related forms from the comfort of your own homes, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## Communication

The Village of Orland Park uses every means possible to communicate with you, the residents and business people of the community. We issue news releases to the local media, post on media websites and post on the village's website to make everyone aware of all that's happening in the village.

The village's Office of Public Information oversees the village wide use of social media and maintains the village's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/VillageofOrlandPark](http://www.facebook.com/VillageofOrlandPark). When you visit the village's page, be sure to click LIKE so you're notified when new information is posted. When you LIKE a page, it doesn't give the agency access to your page. It simply adds those posts to your news feed so you can see what's happening. The village's Facebook page is updated daily so if you want to know what's happening in town, give it a LIKE. If you want to search for it while on Facebook, look for "Village of Orland Park, Illinois."

You can follow the Village of Orland Park on Twitter @VillageOrlandPk. We tweet reminders of upcoming events, deadlines and programs of interest to the community, again doing all that we can to keep you informed.

Not-for-profit Orland Park based community groups are invited to submit their event information to the Office of Public Information for it to be posted on the village's Facebook page, helping you reach the public.

Schools in Orland Park, scout troops, civic clubs, youth groups and the like are invited to send details to [publicinfooffice@orland-park.il.us](mailto:publicinfooffice@orland-park.il.us) so it can be posted on the village's Facebook page and on the village's

community bulletin board on cable television.

## Cable TV

The use of cable television is another means by which we communicate. Comcast cable subscribers can find the village's programming on Channel 4 while those with A T & T U-Verse can choose "Orland Park" from the menu on Channel 99. Those who don't have cable can find the village's programming on our YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.com/VillageofOrlandPark](http://www.youtube.com/VillageofOrlandPark).

The village's new show, "Village of Orland Park In-Focus," airs regularly on Channel 4 and includes lots of information of interest to residents. We also have shorter programming covering many of the village's events and programs.

As you may have seen this past fall, we were pleased to air many of the Orland Park Pioneer Football Games. The Pioneers hired a professional videographer to shoot the games. Orland Park based youth groups (sports and others) are welcomed to submit programming for Channel 4. Those produced by a professional videographer are preferred. If you'd like more information, contact the village's Office of Public Information at [publicinfooffice@orland-park.il.us](mailto:publicinfooffice@orland-park.il.us).



# TRUSTEE EDWARD G. SCHUSSLER

PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE CHAIR

## 34th Annual Spelling Bee

Before I highlight what's happening in Public Works, I publicly congratulate Dr. Bill Smith, Orland Park's own spellmaster, and his spelling bee helpers. On October 27th, I was honored to serve as a judge for Orland Park's 34th Annual Community Spelling Bee, having served as one of the event's first judges 34 years ago and a few more times since then.

This year's contest brought more than 100 competitors and we're looking forward to hosting the 35th anniversary bee at the Civic Center next year on October 20, 2013.

## METRA Bridge

The new METRA bridge over LaGrange Road was recently completed and trains are now using it. Demolition of the old bridge and cleanup work around the train station will continue as weather permits. The new pedestrian bridge over LaGrange Road will be completed and opened in the spring.

## LaGrange Road

Two major road projects are scheduled to

begin in 2013. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is currently in the final stages of design and land acquisition for the 6.5 mile LaGrange Road Widening Project from 179th Street to 131st Street.

IDOT is planning on a March, 2013 bid opening with anticipated construction in June, 2013. The project will include additional through lanes in each direction as well as more turn lanes at different intersections throughout the corridor. The intent is to build the northbound lanes, followed by the southbound lanes.

Two lanes of traffic in each direction will be maintained throughout the duration of the project. The Village of Orland Park and IDOT are coordinating landscape enhancements within the village. Some include decorative street lighting, brick paver sidewalk areas, high visibility decorative cross walks, monument signs, electrical outlets for holiday lighting and irrigation. These enhancements are similar to what was included with the 143rd and LaGrange Road improvements.

IDOT's public relations staff and the Village of Orland Park will provide updated project information on IDOT's website in the coming months. A link will be provided from the village's website.

IDOT is also currently in the final stages of design and land acquisition for the 159th Street Widening Project. The project extends from I-355 to Ravinia Avenue. This project is tentatively scheduled for a mid to late 2013 bid opening; however, this will be determined by land acquisition.

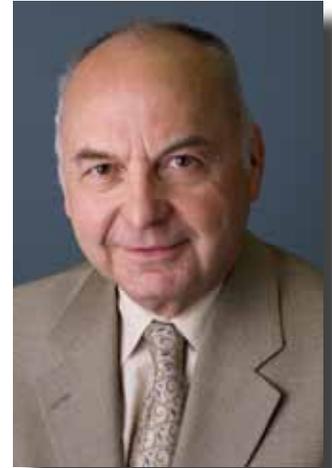
The project includes widening 159th Street to two through lanes of traffic in each direction as well as adding turn lanes at various intersections. At least one lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained throughout construction. The Village of Orland Park has requested that IDOT consider various improvements to the corridor such as additional turn lanes, median openings and multi-use paths.

## DuraPatcher Pothole Patcher

The Village of Orland Park recently purchased the DuraPatcher Pothold Patcher, a new piece of equipment to help the Public Works Department with its ongoing pothole battle. With the start of the winter season, cold weather is one of the largest contributors to the formation of potholes.

Water permeates beneath the asphalt pavement layer beginning a freeze and thaw cycle that creates an unstable surface.

Traffic movement over these areas breaks the pavement, eventually creating a void or pothole.



Trustee Ed Schussler

In the past, cold patch was the best solution; however, this product could not bond to the existing pavement and would get pulled out of the hole as traffic passed over the patch. Field demonstrations were performed to identify which methods were available to provide a more permanent repair. Public Works crews have been learning the operation of the new equipment. We anticipate that repeat calls will be significantly reduced and/or eliminated with this system. Residents wanting to see how the system works can view it at [www.DuraPatcher.com](http://www.DuraPatcher.com).

## Report Potholes

To report a pothole in the Village of Orland Park, please call 708/403-5010 or sign onto the village's website at [www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us). A link to the Public Works Department's pothole reporting option appears on the opening page. Callers are asked to give their names, addresses and phone numbers as well as the locations of the potholes, including the nearest cross streets. If the pothole is not within the village's jurisdiction, Public Works will notify the responsible agency, the township, county or state.

## Shop Orland Park

Please shop Orland Park for all of your holiday needs. Support the home team and our many wonderful local businesses. And, from my family to yours, I send our best wishes for a great holiday season.

*Thank you Village Engineer Kurt Corrigan, P.E.*



Trustee Patricia Gira

## Civic Center Open House

Thank you to everyone who attended the October 23rd Civic Center Open House.

This was truly a cooperative effort between the village, the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce and the Civic Center Authority to let the community see the many potential uses for the Civic Center.

As the Village Board's liaison to the Civic Center Authority, I was happy to be a part of the effort to invite people to see the Civic Center like they've never seen it before. We had hundreds come through, many who had never been to the Civic Center and are now considering the facility for their next party or business gathering. If you're looking for a great place for a holiday party, consider the Civic Center.

## Online Registration

The village's Recreation Department began its online registration with the fall 2012 programs and it's been a great success with many residents being able to register from the comfort of their own homes.

Contact the Recreation Department for online access information for program registration. Send an email to [orlandrecreation@orland-park.il.us](mailto:orlandrecreation@orland-park.il.us) or call the department at 708/403-7275 or 708/645-7529.

The Recreation Department's Winter Program Guide is available for online viewing. Village residents may register for winter programs beginning Friday, December 7 while non-residents may register beginning Wednesday, December 19.

## "A Christmas Carol"

The village's Orland Park Theatre Troupe is busily rehearsing for its holiday show, "A Christmas Carol," adapted by L. Don Swartz. Everyone is invited to see this seasonal classic right here in Orland Park at the Civic Center. Performances are December 14 and 15 at 7:30 p.m. with a Sunday afternoon matinee on December 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets are currently on sale at the Recreation Administration Building, 14600 South Ravinia. For more information, call the Recreation Department at 708/403-PARK.

Speaking of performances, the village's Orland Park Comedy Improv Team performs on select Friday nights at the Old Village Hall, 14413 Beacon Avenue. An adult oriented show, Improv features some of the funniest people from the area. Call the department for dates and details and enjoy some great comedy close to home!

## Winter Wonderland

The Village of Orland Park prides itself on offering outdoor recreational activities throughout the year. The village's Winter Wonderland at Centennial Park has proven just how much Orland Park residents enjoy outdoor winter activities.

The village's outdoor ice rink opened for the season a few weeks ago and offers ice skating every day, weather permitting, from sunrise until 9 p.m. Visit the Recreation Department's area of the village website at [www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us) for warming house hours,

skate rental fees and other equipment. For more information 708/403-PARK.

The village will again offer its Campfire Nights each Saturday from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. through March 4, weather permitting. Enjoy some time skating on the ice rink and warm up at the adjacent campfire for a beautiful Orland Park winter evening.

## Winter Fun

See the Recreation Department's Winter Program Guide for details about the many upcoming special events in 2012 and into 2013. And, be sure to note the dates and times of the many Winter Follies the village has planned, all for your enjoyment at the Centennial Park ice rink.

Have a fun-filled holiday season, Orland Park!



# TRUSTEE CAROLE GRIFFIN RUZICH

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR

## Prevent Ruse Burglaries

“Ruse burglary” is a term used by police to describe burglaries that occur when criminals attempt to distract a person or people from their home so that an accomplice can enter from another door and steal cash, jewelry and other items.

If a solicitor comes to your residence, prior to answering the door, attempt to locate and remember what kind of vehicle he or she is driving (make, model, color, type). Further, make a mental note of the person’s attire and physical characteristics. If you do choose to speak with a solicitor or utility worker, be sure the other doors in your home are locked and/or attended.

The Orland Park Police Department reminds residents to not to allow strangers access to their yards, homes or garages and to call 9-1-1

to report suspicious people asking for access to their homes.

Perpetrators of recent ruse burglaries in Orland Park have used the following excuses to get into residents’ homes:

- Inquiries about the homeowner’s water supply or pressure
- Informing the homeowner there is an electrical problem
- Offers to repair gutters/fences or tree trimming and landscaping
- Blacktop/driveway repair
- False statements about problems at the neighbor’s house
- Inquiries about homes for sale in the neighborhood
- Looking to buy a home in area and wants to see your lot line

You have every right to demand to see identification for those who claim to be village or utility company workers.

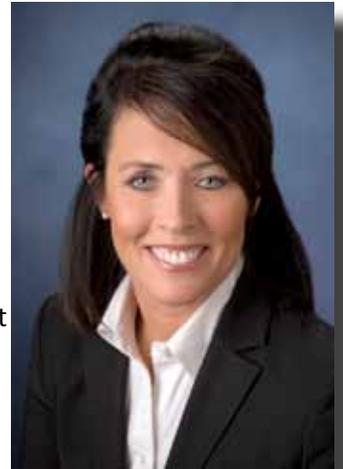
- You can refuse to accompany strangers to your backyard unless you are absolutely positive it is legitimate.
- You can refuse strangers access to your home.
- You can call the police if a stranger seems suspicious.
- You can check with neighbors to learn about activity in your neighborhood.

## What You Can Do

- Be aware that ruse burglaries have occurred in Orland Park and be sure your neighbors know too.
- Check on elderly neighbors to make sure they are safe.
- Do not open the door for people you don’t know.
- Try to get a description of a vehicle or license plate number if possible.
- Call 9-1-1 to report any suspicious person(s) or activity.

## Holiday Safety

The holiday season is upon us in Orland Park and the Police Department has compiled the list of safety tips below so that



Trustee Carole Griffin Ruzich

everyone can enjoy a safe, memory-filled holiday season. Keeping in mind that not everyone shares the joys of the holidays and would like nothing more than to steal what you’ve purchased will help keep your gifts and money safe.

## Keep Your Home Safe

If you are traveling this holiday season, invest in an automatic timer for the lights in your home. Ask a neighbor to keep an eye on your home, shovel the snow and park in the driveway every once in a while. Don’t forget to have your mail and newspaper deliveries stopped. A pile of newspapers in your driveway is a sure sign that no one’s home.

Remind family members to never, ever post on Facebook or other social media that your family is on vacation. Post the photos when you return!

## An Evening Out

If you’re going out, leave some lights on and leave a radio or television on so it sounds like someone’s home. Be especially cautious with locking doors and windows when you leave --- even if it’s just for a few minutes. Don’t display holiday gifts where they can be seen from the outside. *continued on page 22*

# downtown

ORLAND PARK



***Preserving Orland Park's past and shaping its future***

*Aerial photos courtesy of V3 Construction Group*

# DOWNTOWN ORLAND PARK

## Old Orland Historic District

**D**owntown Orland Park includes the historic heart of the village, the Old Orland Historic District. The oldest neighborhood in Orland Park, this area boasts a picturesque turn-of-the-century collection of small shops, attractive houses and two buildings on the National Register of Historic Places.



Early residents

walked the streets of Old Orland, visiting the General Store, the saloon or the local meat market, visiting with neighbors along the way.

Directly across from the Beacon Avenue entrance to Old Orland is Crescent Park with an old fashioned water tower reminiscent of the village's early water tower.

This access way from the village's historic district to the Main Street area demonstrates

the importance of the village's history in the planning of Downtown Orland Park.



In 1834, the region now known as Orland Township was known as York Precinct, as organized by the Northwest Ordinance of 1787. York Precinct lies southwest of Chicago. The first known settler in the Orland Township area was Henry Taylor, who was here for two years

from 1834 to 1836 before moving west. By 1850, the township had grown to nearly 560 residents. It was during this same year that the township was first organized by law.

Transportation was key in the development of Orland Park. The railroad tracks running through the village were the completion of a line running from St. Louis to Chicago. Power for construction was provided by horse drawn equipment. The railroad was completed in 1879 and in 1880, the train depot, called Sedgewick, was built. The current Lake Sedgewick in Orland Park's Centennial Park is named for the original train depot. The train's arrival was the catalyst for trade, enabling farmers to sell their goods in Chicago. Before the train, Orland Park farmers would carry their produce to Lockport, a crucial port on the Illinois-Michigan Canal.

In 1880, 20 acres lying in triangular form were platted for Colonel Fawcett Plum, a Civil War veteran who lived in Chicago. The subdivision was named Sedgewick, after the railroad station. This name was soon changed to Orland, after the township, as requested by the residents of the area. The "Park" was added later. The original of the name "Orland" is not known. The township was to be "bounded on the north by Palos, the east by Bremen, on the south and west by Frankfort and Homer Township of Will County."

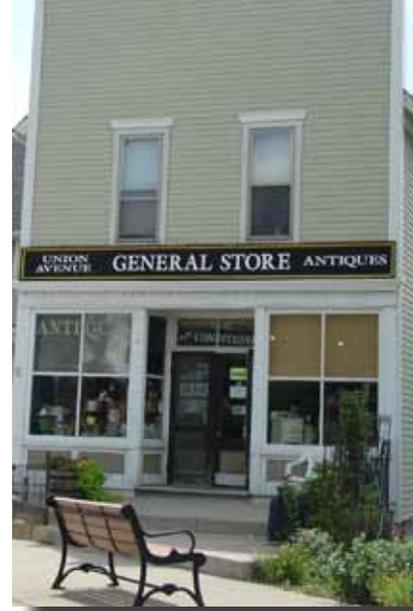
John Humphrey lived on a farm on 151st Street. He bought land east of the railroad and had it platted three months after the Plum subdivision. Humphrey, who was a lawyer in Chicago, was elected state representative in 1879. In 1886, he

was elected to the State Senate. The senator's district included all of the surrounding Chicago, from Chicago Heights to Wilmette. Humphrey is credited with having the village incorporated as a municipality in the State of Illinois in 1892. That same

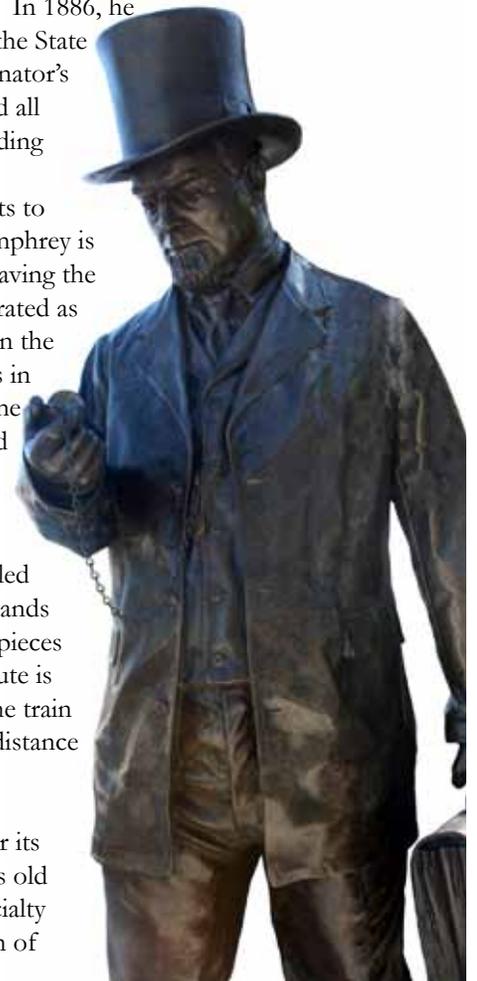
year, he was elected Village President (Mayor) and served until his death in 1914.

In November, 2007, Mayor McLaughlin and Trustees Fenton, O'Halloran and Schussler unveiled the bronze sculpture of Mayor Humphrey that stands at the 143rd Street train station. One of the first pieces in the village's Art In The Park Program, the statute is yards away from where Mayor Humphrey took the train downtown to his law offices and within walking distance of the Humphrey family home.

Old Orland is known throughout the Midwest for its collection of antique and specialty shops. With its old town charm, the area will continue to attract specialty shops, cafes and stores adding to the preservation of Orland Park's original downtown.



Before the train, Orland Park farmers would carry their produce to Lockport, a crucial port on the Illinois-Michigan Canal.



# Orland Park Crossing & the Civic Corridor

Orland Park Crossing, located at the newly renovated intersection of 143rd Street and LaGrange Road, is one of the few malls in the southwest suburbs where discriminating shoppers will find exclusive fashion and specialty shops.

This part of Downtown Orland Park includes national retailers, boutique shops, specialty stores and restaurants all in one location.

Tenants include clothiers, service retailers and those specializing in home décor.

With the spring opening of the pedestrian bridge at 141st Street and LaGrange Road, Orland Park Crossing will be easily accessible by those visiting Downtown Orland Park.



The creation of the Ravinia Avenue Civic Corridor dates back to 1983 when the Orland Park Police Department moved to its newly constructed building at 14600 South Ravinia Avenue. A state-of-the-art facility for its time, Orland Park's Police Station drew attention from law enforcement peers from throughout the region. This building now houses the Recreation Administration offices.

Part of the Ravinia Avenue Civic Corridor is located on land that was once part of Mayor John Humphrey's original family farm. The award-winning Orland Park Village Center includes the aforementioned recreation building and the Franklin E. Loebe Recreation Center which now houses the village's Pre-School Program.

The Village Center also includes the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, the Orland Park Civic Center, dedicated to the memory of William R. Vogel and the village's outdoor amphitheater.

When it debuted in 1989, the Orland Park Village Center hosted visitors from throughout the world who wanted to see the innovative architecture.

Traveling the boulevard like Ravinia Avenue south, the Orland Township Administration Building is located at 14807 South Ravinia with the Orland Park Public Library's state-of-the-art facility at 14921 South Ravinia.



The national award winning Orland Park Police Department is located at 15100 South Ravinia Avenue with the administrative offices for the Orland Fire Protection District being located across the street at 9788 West 151st Street.

Orland Park Crossing and the many government buildings along the Ravinia Avenue Civic Corridor add to the pedestrian friendly element of Downtown Orland Park, offering easy access to nearby retail and government.



# DOWNTOWN ORLAND PARK

## Main Street

The Main Street area of Downtown Orland Park combines luxury residential, retail and commercial uses where people can live, shop, stroll, dine and be entertained. The neighborhood's proximity to other downtown areas, including Orland Park Crossing, the civic corridor, the Old Orland Historic District and the bordering forest preserves makes it one of the most desirable places in Orland Park.

Anchored by the beautiful 143rd Street train station, Main Street enjoys easy access to downtown Chicago via the SouthWest Service Line.

offers nearly 300 luxury residences for lease atop commercial/retail space on almost four acres.

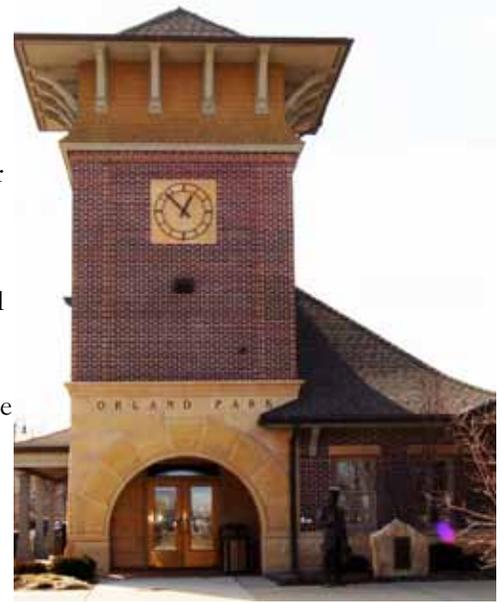
Residential buildings will face 143rd and Main Streets. Those along Crescent Park will include first floor amenity and commercial space with residential dwellings above. A multi-story covered parking deck will provide secure access for residents as well as some public parking areas. Many of the residents will enjoy spectacular views of the Cook County Forest Preserve and McGinnis Slough.

An independent market research study indicated that nothing of this caliber exists in the entire south suburban area. Shifting its focus toward this distinct demand, Orland

Park is uniquely positioned to take advantage of the market shift and housing trend. The village owned property in the downtown Main Street area is a perfect match for this use with its proximity to commuter rail service and major highways.

Creating a sense of place is the foundation of long-term community planning and creating a high quality place to live for a market that is under served in this region illustrates the best use for this site.

Since construction began, a number prospective commercial and residential tenants have signed on or expressed interest in locating



Crescent Park, at the area's center, provides open gathering space and is connected to other green spaces via miles of bicycle trails winding their way through Orland Park and the surrounding forest preserves.

Phase I of Main Street in Downtown Orland Park is Flaherty & Collins's *Ninety 7 Fifty On The Park* and

in *Ninety 7 Fifty On The Park*.

The village has retained HSA Commercial Real Estate Company to market future phases of the commercial areas. It was this company that revived Orland Park Place Mall into the success that it is today.

Visit [www.downtownop.com](http://www.downtownop.com) and click on the Main Street area to view the camera feed that is historically documenting the construction. See past and current pictures of the construction site on a daily basis. Those interested in the luxury apartment complex can visit [www.ninety7fifty.com](http://www.ninety7fifty.com).

Downtown Orland Park with its unique blend of residential, retail and open space in a transit-oriented development is a triple win for the Village of Orland Park – enhancing property values in the entire area, strengthening the local economy and preserving Orland Park's standing as one of the most desirable communities in the nation in which to live, work and play.

downtown  
ORLAND PARK  
Main Street

*This is the third in a three part series describing the Orland Park leaders for whom the Village Center Complex buildings are named, sharing these men's roles in the village's 120 year history.*

## Orland Park's Centennial Mayor

In 1992, Orland Park's population was less than 40,000. That year, the Village Board created its Centennial Commission to oversee the 100th anniversary of the village. The commission was chaired by Mayor Fred Owens, Village Clerk Jim Dodge and Trustee Bill Vogel.



*The late Mayor Fred Owens spoke at the September 22, 1988 ground breaking ceremony for the Village Center, standing in front of the frame for the building that would be one day bear his name. (Regional Publishing Photo)*

In early May, the celebration was saddened when Mayor Owens died after a brief battle with cancer. Village buildings were draped in purple bunting and flags throughout the community flew at half staff.

Village offices were closed for business on the day of his funeral. The funeral procession passed the Village Hall, traveling beneath the crossed towers of the Orland Fire Protection District.

Owens was first elected Village Trustee in 1979 and was re-elected in 1983. He was elected mayor in 1985 and was re-elected in 1989. On May 3, 1992, the tenth mayor in the 100 year history of the Village of Orland Park passed away at the age of 54, having been diagnosed with kidney cancer just five months before.

Owens lived doing what he loved most. As an elected official, he enjoyed helping the constituents he was elected to serve. An educator for more than 30 years, Owens brought his love for history and government to life in the classroom.

A Chicago teacher, Owens taught at Hubbard High School on Chicago's south side. He also served as Director of Legislative Research for the State Office of Education and as assistant superintendent of Cook County Schools. Owens was a proud native of St. Sabina Parish on Chicago's south side, an alumnus of Leo High School, Northern Illinois and Chicago State Universities.

The Owens family moved to Orland Park in 1972 and Owens's civic involvement began shortly thereafter. He was elected to the Orland School District 135 School Board in 1974, served as president of the Silver Lake West Homeowners Association and founded and chaired the United Homeowners' Council of Orland Park. He served on the Orland Township Youth Commission and was a volunteer umpire for the Orland Youth Association.

In 1983, Owens spearheaded efforts to professionalize village government, advocating approval of a referendum creating the village manager form of government. Having witnessed the start of the village's tremendous growth in the 1970s, Owens knew the daily operations were too much for part-time elected officials and were best trusted to a public administration professional. Village voters approved the village manager form of government during the 1983 municipal elections. It was shortly thereafter that Owens and the Village Board endorsed the hiring of Orland Park's first village planner, wanting the elected officials to have the insight of a professional planner as they carefully guided the village's future.

Owens is credited with helping to bring Lake Michigan Water to Orland Park in 1985, wanting to eliminate the village's dependence on well water.

An avid historian and high school history teacher, Owens was instrumental in creating the village's Old Orland Historic District guidelines to help preserve the historic character of the village's original downtown. The Historic Preservation Review Commission was created to oversee the preservation of the community's original buildings.

Owens was a volunteer tour guide for the Orland Historical Society, leading groups to Chicago and points of interest throughout the region. In 1987, it was his love for history that saved the Twin Tower Sanctuary of the former United Methodist Church on West Avenue. When the pastor at the time wanted to destroy the 1898 structure to build a parking lot, Owens strongly voiced his opposition at the Village Board meeting at the Beacon Avenue Village Hall. Referring to the church, the pastor told the mayor, "If you want it, you can have it," to which Owens responded, "If it would fit in my trunk, I'd take it home tonight."

Owens created the Old Orland Heritage Foundation, a separate third party group charged with overseeing the restoration of the church. The volunteer members worked tirelessly for years and re-dedicated the 104 year old church on May 3, 2002, which coincidentally was the tenth anniversary of Owens's death.

*continued on page 23*



# ORLAND PARK CIVIC CENTER

## Civic Center Showcased

On October 23, the community saw the Orland Park Civic Center as it has never been seen before. The Village of Orland Park, the Orland Park Civic Center and the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce co-hosted an open house, showcasing the facility's many uses for private and corporate events.

Whether it's a holiday party, family reunion, wedding reception, fundraiser, corporate function or private event --- the Orland Park Civic Center can accommodate all types of gatherings.

"Hundreds of people came to see the Civic Center transformed to show its many possibilities," said Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin. "Local businesses helped make the event possible, being a part of the open house and helping people see the building's many potential uses," the mayor said.

Special Looks by debi Ross

transformed the Civic Center, creating vignettes of potential building uses. Formally Modern Tuxedos, Melka Landscaping & Design, Wehmeier Photography and Rental Max of Orland

Park showed how their companies can make every event a magical memory.

"The Orland Park Civic Center is a very versatile building and we're grateful to the chamber and many local businesses that helped make the open house possible," said Trustee Pat Gira who is the Village Board liaison to the Civic Center Authority.

"The open house was a great way for the community to see the many possibilities for the building --- corporate events, family parties, community group functions --- any type of gathering," Gira said.

Participating vendors included Café Gaston, Cooper's Hawk Restaurant, Grand Audiovisual Services, Inc., Granite City Food & Brewery, Orland Park Bakery, Palermo's and Papa Joe's.



*The Village of Orland Park, the Orland Park Civic Center and the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce co-hosted a pre-holiday open house to showcase the many uses for the Civic Center.*



*The adjacent Outdoor Amphitheater, in the award winning Village Center Complex, was transformed into a setting for an outdoor ceremony.*



*Special Looks by debi Ross transformed the Civic Center, creating vignettes of potential building uses.*

The Orland Park Civic Center is part of the award winning Orland Park Village Center Complex. The building is dedicated to the late Village Trustee William R. Vogel with the building's annex named in memory of the late State Representative Jane Barnes.

The Wi-Fi equipped facility includes four key areas. The building's Exhibition Room is a spacious, column free area that comfortably seats up to 225 guests

for dinner and 400 for meetings, training and seminars. Its adjacent Grand Hall is an open area perfectly suited for exhibits, buffets or receiving lines.

The Jane Barnes Annex, at the south end of the building seats 125 guests for dinner or provides meeting space for 25 to 200. The dividable annex can accommodate two smaller gatherings. The Outdoor Terrace is an open air balcony overlooking a scenic reflecting pond and the village's outdoor amphitheater.

The Civic Center is located at 14750 South Ravinia Avenue. Further information is available by calling 708/403-6200 or visiting [www.orlandparkciviccenter.com](http://www.orlandparkciviccenter.com).

# VETERANS COMMISSION



*It is with great pride that the Village of Orland Park salutes and thanks the men and women listed below as they bravely serve our great nation.*

## SERVING OVERSEAS

**Ken Juhl • Sean Kaspar • Gabriele Miseviciute**

To have your loved one's name added to this quarterly list, email the information to [gblummer@orland-park.il.us](mailto:gblummer@orland-park.il.us) or fax the information to 708/403-6204. Families are invited to submit their loved ones' military photos for the village's Hometown Heroes Board in the lobby of the Village Hall. Call Gail at 708/403-6203 for details.

## Military Family Support

The Village of Orland Park's Military Family Support group is open to anyone with a loved one serving in the military. The group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 South Ravinia Avenue. For more information, call 403-6203.

## Military Care Packages

The Frederick T. Owens Village Hall and the village's Sportsplex continue to serve as drop off locations for Operation Support Our Troops America

in Naperville. Items collected are included in care packages that are sent to deployed troops. Everyone is invited to contribute care package items, individuals, families, scout troops, church groups, civic organizations, etc. Needed care package items include medicated powder, breath mints, cough drops, crossword puzzles, dental floss, disposable razors, eye drops, fly paper, fly swatters, freezer bags, hand sanitizer, insect repellent, lip balm, moisture cream, multi-vitamins, pens, shave cream, sun block, flushable wipes, tooth brushes, travel size toothpaste tubes, vacuum-sealed foods, white tube sox and more.

## Operation Welcome Home

The village's Veterans Commission continues to offer services to help welcome home Orland Park men and women returning from military deployments, in cooperation with the Orland Park Police Department



*Mayor Dan McLaughlin reads the names of the 18 veterans that were added to the village's memorial wall for Veterans Day.*

and the Orland Fire Protection District. Contact Veterans Commission Secretary Gail Blummer at 708/403-6203 as soon as you know when your loved one will be returning to Orland Park.

## Forever Remember

Each Memorial and Veterans Day Mayor Dan McLaughlin announces the names of veterans that have been added to the granite wall surrounding Orland Park's Veterans' Memorial, "Ara Pace ~ Place of Peace."

The \$250 cost to add a veteran's name covers the cost of engraving and maintenance of the village's memorial. For more information, call Village of Orland Park Veterans' Commission Secretary Gail Blummer at (708) 403-6203. April 28, 2013 is the last day to add a veteran's name for the ceremony planned for Memorial Day, May 27, 2013.

## Honoring Vets

All Orland Park veterans are invited to submit their military photos for the village's "Honoring Orland Park Veterans" photo display in the lobby of the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall.

Photos must be 4 x 6 and should include the veteran's name, branch and years of service. Photos cannot be returned so families should scan or copy photos. Forms are available at the information desk in the lobby of the Village Hall.



# RECREATION & PARKS

## Kevin Hertz Memorial Playground Re-Dedicated

When it debuted during the village's 1992 Centennial Celebration, the Kevin Hertz Memorial Playground was one

of the area's first accessible playgrounds for children of all abilities.

The Village of Orland Park hosted a ribbon cutting and re-dedication ceremony for the newly remodeled Kevin Hertz Memorial Playground on October 6. The playground is located near the concession stands in the village's Centennial Park, at 15600 West Avenue.

Originally constructed in 1992, the playground is dedicated to the memory of an Orland Park child who was born with spina bifida. Kevin Hertz died in 1990, at the age of 11.

"The Kevin Hertz Memorial Playground has been a wonderful addition to the village's park system for the last 20 years," said Mayor Dan McLaughlin.

"It forever remembers a little boy who was always smiling and it enables individuals with special needs to enjoy a beautiful playground," the mayor said.

This past September, the village's Parks Department completely renovated the playground. New equipment includes a rubberized play surface, making it easier for all children to maneuver. The newly renovated park was designed with a ball playing theme matching nearby baseball fields.

"This is a very special occasion for the Village of Orland Park," said Trustee Pat Gira, chair of the village's Recreation and Parks Committee.

"It's hard to believe that it's been 20 years since we all gathered to remember Kevin when we first dedicated the playground," said Gira,

who was on the village's Recreation and Parks

Advisory Board when the playground was dedicated. "It's nice to remember him again and celebrate the playground being refurbished," she said.

The new play area includes two separate play structures, one that is 100 percent handicapped accessible and the second being nearly 80 percent accessible.



The village's Kevin Hertz Memorial Playground debuted in 1992 when Centennial Park opened. Dedicated to the memory of young Kevin Hertz, the refurbished playground was re-dedicated on October 6.



The new play area includes two separate play structures, one that is 100 percent handicapped accessible and the second being nearly 80 percent accessible.

"We offer the most sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone who initially

supported this 'accessible to all' playground," said Mary Kay Hertz, Kevin's mother. "It is truly wonderful that Kevin's memory has been kept alive as the play area is improved with its mobility friendly surface and state of the art equipment," she added.

Further information about the playground is available by calling the village's Parks Department at 708/403-6219.

## OPTT Hosts

### "Annie" Auditions

The Village of Orland Park Theatre Troupe will hold auditions for its spring musical, "Annie," on Sunday, January 20 and Monday, January 21. Those ages six and older are invited to audition and must sing six measures of a prepared piece from the



show, be dressed to learn and perform a dance and read from the script. A very large ensemble show, "Annie" calls for up to 50 children and more than 20 adults.

Auditions for children, primarily girls, will be held on January 20 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Orland Park's Old Village Hall, 14413 South Beacon Avenue. Adults are invited to audition from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on January 20 and January 21, also at the Old Village Hall. If necessary, call backs will be held January 22. Once cast, participants must pay a \$35 registration fee.

Rehearsals will be Sunday afternoons and Monday and Thursday evenings, February 3 through April 25. Performances are April 26-28 at the Carl Sandburg High School Performing Arts Center.

"Annie" is a Broadway musical based on the Harold Gray comic strip, "Little Orphan Annie," by permission of The Tribune Media Services, Inc. The book was written by Thomas Meehan with music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Martin Charnin.

The original Broadway production, directed by Martin Charnin opened in 1977 and ran for nearly six years, winning a Tony Award for best musical. It was presented on Broadway by Mike Nichols, produced by Irwin Meyer, Stephen R. Friedman and Lewis Allen. It was originally produced by The Goodspeed Opera House, Michael P. Price, executive director. Further information is available by calling 708/403-PARK.

## Recycle Holiday Lights Through February 1

Area residents are invited to recycle no longer needed Christmas lights and extension cords. The Village of Orland Park's Smart Living Team is collecting lights and cords at three village locations.

Acme Refining is working in cooperation with the village and will process all materials in the United States. Plastics will be used for fuel and the copper in the pieces will go to a smelter.

No longer needed holiday lights and extension cords will be accepted through February 1, 2013 and may be dropped



off at the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue; Recreation

Administration, 14600 South Ravinia Avenue; and at the Village Sportsplex, 11351 West 159th Street.

Residents receive no reimbursement for lights and cords. For more information, call the Rec Department at 403-7275 or visit [www.smartlivingop.com](http://www.smartlivingop.com).



**Saturday, January 29, 2013**  
**Public Tasting - 2pm - \$5 Cup**  
**Orland Park Civic Center**

## Winter Wonderland at Centennial Park

Each winter, the village's Centennial Park is transformed into a winter wonderland full of seasonal fun for residents of all ages.

The Centennial Park Ice Rink is open daily from sunrise to 9 p.m. The rink will be closed during resurfacing.

### WARMING HOUSE

Mon-Fri  
4 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Saturday  
10 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Sunday  
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Rental skates are available in sizes youth 10 to adult 13. There is no charge to rent a helmet. A photo ID is required for all rentals (Recreation Department ID or driver's license required). Children age eight and younger must wear helmets. Those age nine and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

Additional information can be found in the Recreation Department area of the village's website at [www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us). Current rink information is available by calling the village's recorded Weather Hotline at 708/403-6290.



## Top Ten Snow Tips

- 1. Village ordinance prohibits parking on village streets once two inches of snow have fallen.**
- 2. Parked vehicles must be kept off of the streets for ten hours after it has stopped snowing.**
- 3. When clearing the driveway, residents should place snow on either side of the drive, on the lawn and never in a recently plowed street.**
- 4. Residents should keep garbage cans and recycle bins from rolling into the street on garbage pick up day.**
- 5. Designate curbs and mailboxes with free stakes available from the Public Works Department.**
- 6. Digging from the street, clear out fire hydrants near your home so that fire personnel can easily access them.**
- 7. Do not clear your driveway at the curblines until the snowplow driver has made his last curb pass in front of your residence.**
- 8. Be patient. Every storm is different with many variables. Streets may need to be plowed more than once.**
- 9. Communicate with the Public Works Department. Report any ice formations on the street so that they can be salted. Clear the snow from storm sewers in front of your home so melting snow can easily drain, preventing ice patches.**
- 10. Keep Mailboxes Clear. To ensure mail delivery, residents must clear the snow from around mailboxes after the streets have been plowed. Mailboxes should be kept in good repair and be placed at least one foot behind the curb to avoid damage.**

## Village Bus Service Marks 32 Years

The Village of Orland Park's Dial-A-Ride Bus Service began serving the community in the summer of 1980, providing transportation for residents who are unable to drive. The service continues to operate Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The bus service is available to all residents of the



Village of Orland Park and the Village of Orland Hills. A ride can be scheduled to destinations

in either community. The service area does not extend into any other community or unincorporated areas of the township.

To accommodate as many passengers as possible, reservations are only accepted 24 hours in advance. Advance multiple ride scheduling may be allowed only for medical reasons-provided there is a reservation available.

Reservations may only be made by calling the Dial-A-Ride dispatcher at 403-6355 24 hours in advance. Appointments may be made Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Reservations are scheduled on a first come, first served basis. Riders are encouraged to call early in the morning the day before needing the bus. All passengers under 12 years of age must be accompanied by parent, adult or legal guardian.

All fares must be in exact change only. The bus drivers are not permitted to provide change. The fare must be paid when boarding. Return trips are paid for at the time of pick up to the return destination. Requests for same day rides will be accepted by the dispatcher only when scheduling permits.

To ensure the comfort and convenience of all passengers, smoking on the bus is prohibited. Consuming food and beverages on the bus is not permitted. Only one round trip is allowed per day. Multiple destinations are not permitted.

All rides must be scheduled with the dispatcher. Drivers are not allowed to alter or modify the route schedules to accommodate additional rides, time alterations, or to change a scheduled destination. Carry-on packages (limit of 2) must be secured on the bus. Oversized items are not allowed. Drivers are not allowed to move packages on or off the bus.

*continued next page*

## Bus Service contd

Call the dispatcher to cancel unneeded rides as soon as possible. Riders missing their rides will forfeit additional rides that have been scheduled.

## Reminders for Riders

Riders should be ready when the bus arrives. The drivers have many trips to complete each day and delays are difficult to make up.

The village's bus service is not intended to serve as an ambulance or medi-van for medical treatment. Discuss transportation options with your health care provider. Wheelchair bound or other riders needing special assistance should notify the dispatcher when scheduling their ride.

The village's bus service is not intended to provide transportation to places of employment. Because of scheduling variations, arrival and departure times cannot be guaranteed. Allow additional time during inclement weather. Pick up locations must provide safe access for the bus and for riders to board the vehicle.

Busses are not allowed on private property nor may they use private driveways. All boarding must be from the public roadway or parking area designed for that purpose. Current fares and additional information about the Village of Orland Park Bus Service information is available by calling 708/403-6355.

## Orland Township Senior Transportation

Orland Township, a separate government entity from the village, offers transportation for township seniors. For more information, call Orland Township at 708/403-4222.

## Keep Fire Hydrants Clear

If firefighters can see hydrants when responding to a house fire, they can access it quicker. Adopt the fire hydrants near your home and be sure that they're accessible at all times.

When it snows, dig a path to the hydrant from the street. Then, dig out around the hydrant so it's accessible in an emergency.



## Prevent Winter Weather Freeze Ups

Winter is just around the corner and with it comes below freezing temperatures. Take some preventative steps to avoid costly and aggravating problems.

Hoses and other connections should be removed from outside spigots. Owners of homes that do not have "frost proof" outside spigots should, if possible, shut off the water supply to the spigot and then open it outside, allowing it to drain.

Homeowners with lawn sprinkling systems should shut off the water supply and have the system drained or blown out. If your sprinkling system is equipped with an external RPZ (Reduce Pressure Zone Backflow Device), it should be removed, the water drained from it and stored in a heated area for winter.

When the temperatures become extreme enough, some underground service lines, interior water lines and waste water lines can freeze. During extreme cold snaps, check to make sure pipes that are near exterior walls in crawl spaces and basements are protected from drafts.

It may help to leave a small trickle of water running at a kitchen and/or bathroom faucet to prevent freeze-ups. Also, to protect them, you may want to add some biodegradable anti-freeze to floor drains in unheated areas.



*continued from page 10*

## **Safe Shopping**

Distracted shoppers are a thief's best friend. Remain alert and be aware of what's happening around you. Park in a well lighted area and be sure to lock your vehicle, close the windows and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk of your car. Never leave anything of value visible in your vehicle --- purses, electronics, packages, etc.

Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay by check or a credit card whenever possible. You can deter pickpockets and purse snatchers by not over burdening yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry your purse close to your body and not dangling by the straps. Put your wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket. If shopping with children, teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.

## **Protect Your Vehicle**

Packages left out in the open in your car make it a prime target for thieves. The old cliché, "out of sight, out of mind," applies here. Do not leave anything of value visible in your vehicle.

Always lock your vehicle and store all items out of sight. Breaking into an empty car isn't worth a thief's time. However, anything left in plain view --- from holiday gifts to spare change, sunglasses, CDs, cell phones or brief cases --- may tempt a thief.

Prevent your vehicle from being stolen by always locking the car and using anti-theft devices.

And, although it may be cold outside, never leave your unattended vehicle running outside of your home or a store --- even if it's only for a minute.

## **After the Gifts**

Burglars know that many households have new and oftentimes expensive items in their homes after the holidays --- especially computers, stereos, televisions, cameras and other electronics.

All too often, residents make it easy for burglars to figure out which homes to target by putting the boxes from the expensive gifts out in the garbage. Avoid becoming an easy target for post-holiday burglars by not leaving boxes for new electronics and other items. Break down any boxes you are throwing away and put the pieces in garbage bags or directly into your recycle container. You may want to keep the boxes for some of your new electronics for safe storage, shipping or moving in the future. Keep the broken down boxes inside of the garage until the evening before your garbage pick up. Burglars have been known to look inside garbage cans for evidence of expensive holiday gifts. If you see someone suspicious snooping around your garbage or your neighbor's, call the Police Department's non-emergency number at 349-4111. If you see a burglary in progress, dial 9-1-1.

## **Holiday Inventory**

The holidays are a good time to update or create a home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items, including descriptions and serial numbers. If your home is burglarized, having a detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file. Make sure things like TVs, VCRs, stereo equipment, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment and power tools are on the list.

## **Strangers At The Door**

Criminals oftentimes pose as couriers delivering gifts. And, it's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of others' generosity by going door to door asking for donations for fictitious charities. Ask for identification and how the funds will be used. If you're not satisfied, don't give them anything. Help a charitable organization that you know and like.

## **Pedestrian Safety At Crosswalks Remains Priority**

The primary mission of the Orland Park Police Department is public safety. Among its goals and objectives for 2012, the department chose increasing pedestrian safety at crosswalks within the village as a viable way to enhance pedestrian safety.

This initiative was first presented in a past issue of the "Orland Park Public." During the month of July, digital signage was set up at two separate crosswalks, warning motorists of the crosswalk laws. In mid-August, the Police Department conducted enforcement actions at two locations within the village. During these two campaigns, 57 citations were issued to motorists who failed to yield to a pedestrian in the crosswalk. These citations were issued at the same two crosswalks where the department had advertised the law for a month. Drivers that are found guilty of these violations are subject to a minimum fine of \$500.00. The Orland Park Police Department will remain vigilant on these violations and conduct additional crosswalk enforcement details. The department recently purchased a number of additional crosswalk signs which will be erected in early 2013.

## Seniors Fill Coffee To See WGN TV's Baumgarten



A capacity crowd filled the Orland Park Civic Center for Mayor McLaughlin's Fall Senior Coffee for which WGN TV's Robin Baumgarten was the guest speaker. Baumgarten spoke about working in Chicago media and took questions from the audience.

### 2012 VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK SPECIAL EVENT SPONSORS

98.3 WCCQ • Aileen S. Andrew Foundation • Athletex Physical Therapy  
Brannigan Chiropractic Center • Central Credit Union of Illinois  
Christopher B. Burke Engineering • Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant  
Fifth Third Bank • ING Financial Partners  
Intellect Learning Center • Joe Rizza of Orland Park • Massage Envy  
Mayor Daniel J. McLaughlin  
Midwest Environmental Medicine • MPI Media Group • Orland Park Bank & Trust  
Orland Park Prairie • Product Dynamics • Rasmussen College  
Regus • Servpro of Orland Park • Spaceco, Inc. • Speer Financial, Inc.  
The Horton Group The Maids • U.S. Cellular • Vein Clinics of America  
Volkswagen of Orland Park • Whole Foods Market

## Centennial Mayor continued from page 15

Owens didn't live to see the completion of the gem of the village's park system, Centennial Park and its aquatic center. He always wanted a community pool for Orland Park and was part of the early 1990s Village Board that facilitated the purchase of the property that would become Centennial Park. When he was dying, Owens had his brother drive him to the parking lot of the Palos Primary Care Center so he could see the development of Centennial Park and the village's long awaited community pool that he knew he wouldn't live to see completed. The pool was dedicated a month after Owens died.

Shortly after Owens created the village's Veterans Commission, plans were developed to construct a veterans' memorial for the community, which unfortunately never materialized while Owens was alive. Mayor Dan McLaughlin continued the village's quest for a memorial and the village's Ara Pace – Place of Peace, designed by world renowned sculptor Virginio Ferrari, was dedicated on Veterans Day, 1995. A bench at the village's memorial bears Owens's name in honor of the late mayor.

After his death, the Village Board voted to name the Village Hall in Owens's memory as he was mayor during the Village Board's quest to build a suitable municipal complex for the growing community. Since its November, 1989 debut, the Orland Park Village Center has drawn visitors from around the world and has been honored with distinguished architectural awards.

When he died during the village's 1992 Centennial Celebration, Owens left behind his wife of 32 years, Sally, his three daughters and their families. Nearly 10,000 people attended his wake and several hundred attended the funeral mass at St. Michael Church. Mayor Owens is buried at the historical St. Michael Cemetery at 159th Street and Will-Cook Road.

Owens's grave includes a picture of the building that bears his name and his quote, "If I'm ever to leave a mark, I want to be remembered for the role I played in shaping one of the most dynamic communities in the state --- Orland Park."

**Orland Park Bank & Trust**  
15330 LaGrange Road  
**Howey Industries**  
111535 183rd Place #103  
**Saver's**  
15625 94th Avenue  
**Radchem Products**  
10730 143rd Street  
**Johnny B's BBQ, Inc.**  
1000 Orland Square Dr  
**Dr. Sheryl Beekman**  
9721 165th Street  
**Bombshell Boutique**  
9031 151st Street  
**Justice & Brothers**  
150 Orland Park Place  
**The Nile Restaurant**  
9328 159th Street  
**Foxhead**  
818 Orland Square Dr  
**Flip Flop Shops**  
808 Orland Square Dr  
**Allure Salon**  
14484 John Humphrey  
**Kay's Old Orland Marketplace**  
14316 Beacon Avenue  
**Sweet Candy, LLC**  
272 Orland Square Dr  
**Save the Children**  
200 Orland Square Dr  
**My Baby Bump Ltd.**  
15010 Ravinia Avenue  
**Mias Communication**  
2000 Orland Square Dr  
**EKO Salon & Spa**  
11124 179th Street  
**Stompeez Slippers**  
1000 Orland Square Dr.  
**The Room Place**  
14920 LaGrange Road  
**Stormguard**  
15255 94th Avenue  
**Skyn, Inc.**  
18058 Wolf Road  
**Orland Elite Dental**  
10763 163rd Place  
**Go Style**  
2000 Orland Square Dr  
**Hauter Bros., Inc.**  
14475 John Humphrey  
**OCP Auto Recon LLC**  
2 Orland Square Drive  
**Dry Goods**  
716 Orland Square Dr  
**UP Wireless**  
200 Orland Square Drive  
**Dave & Busters**  
49 Orland Square Drive

**Helisphere**  
1000 Orland Square Dr  
**Almasi Bakery**  
17845 Wolf Road  
**Kris Kringle Haus**  
14934 LaGrange Road



**Q Spa**  
14490 Lagrange Road  
**Dr. Naseer Rustom**  
10 Orland Square Dr  
**Titlemax of Illinois**  
14450 LaGrange Road

## VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov 12-March 4 Every Wednesday Evening	Winter Wonderland Ice Rink at Centennial Park Bingo at the Civic Center
December 6	Military Family Support Group at Civic Center
December 8	Santa's Pit Stop at Sportsplex
December 13	Winter Follies at Centennial Park
December 14	Tax Rebate Applications Due
December 14-16	"A Christmas Carol" at Civic Center
December 26	Winter Break Sports Camps at Sportsplex
January 3	Military Family Support Group at Civic Center
January 10	Winter Follies at Centennial Park
January 12	Sports Collectibles Show at Civic Center
January 14	Deadline for Sportsplex Weight Loss Challenge
January 19	Chilly Willie Chili Challenge
January 20-21	Auditions for Orland Park Theatre Troupe's "Annie"
January 24	Winter Follies at Centennial Park
January 25	Comedy Improv Team at Old Village Hall
January 27	Sports Collectibles Show at Civic Center
February 3	Cinderella's Ball at Cultural Center
February 7	Military Family Support Group at Centennial Park
February 8	Junior High Valentine's Dance at Loebe Center
February 9	Sports Collectibles Show at Civic Center
February 14	Winter Follies at Centennial Park
February 21	Chefs' Auction at Orland Chateau
February 22	Comedy Improv Team at Old Village Hall
February 24	Sports Collectibles Show at Civic Center
March 7	Military Family Support Group at Civic Center
March 9	Duathlon at Village Sportsplex
March 9	Sports Collectibles Show at Civic Center
March 12	Voter Registration Closes (tentative)
March 16	Comic Book Show at Civic Center
March 17	Sports Collectibles Show at Civic Center
March 23	Special Recreation Garage Sale at Civic Center
March 25	Spring Break Sports Camps at Sportsplex
March 29	Comedy Improv Team at Old Village Hall

## VILLAGE FACILITIES

### FREDERICK T. OWENS VILLAGE HALL

14700 South Ravinia Avenue  
708/403-6100

Monday-Friday • 8am -5pm  
Cashier • Open until 7pm 1st & 3rd Mon  
[www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us)

### ORLAND PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

15100 South Ravinia Avenue  
708/349-4111 (non-emergency)  
DIAL 9-1-1 FOR POLICE, FIRE OR  
AMBULANCE SERVICE IN THE  
VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK.

### RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Recreation Administration  
14600 South Ravinia Avenue  
708/403-PARK  
Franklin E. Loebe Recreation Center  
14650 South Ravinia Avenue  
Village of Orland Park Sportsplex  
11351 West 159th Street  
708/645-PLAY  
Cultural Arts Center  
14750 Park Lane  
708/349-1402  
Robert Davidson Center  
14700 Park Lane  
708/403-6361  
Inclement Weather Hotline  
708/403-6290

Call for field conditions and to learn if outdoor practices,  
games and programs are canceled or  
changed because of inclement weather.

### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

15655 South Ravinia Avenue  
708/403-6350  
PACE Bus Service  
708/403-6355

### ORLAND PARK CIVIC CENTER

William R. Vogel Memorial  
14750 South Ravinia Avenue  
708/403-6200

Illinois Secretary of State  
**SATELLITE**

### DRIVER'S LICENSE FACILITY

Board Room of the Village Hall  
1-800-252-8980  
Monday through Friday • 9am to 5pm  
Address/Name Changes • Vision Tests  
State Identification Cards • Plate Stickers

Information included here is subject to change.

Call 708/403-6140 for more information.

Details appear on the village's website at [www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us).

This publication may reach addresses not within the Village of Orland Park.

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