

# VILLAGE OF GOLF NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2010

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## VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS

Held the second Monday of the month at 7pm in the Village Hall

- ◆ December 13
- ◆ January 10
- ◆ February 14
- ◆ March 14
- ◆ April 11

## LETTER FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

As we move into winter, the following summarizes some of our activities and accomplishments since the last newsletter in July:

- Completion of the Metra Bridge Replacement Project
- Removal of dying Ash trees and planting of new trees
- Completion of storm sewer project for Orchard Lane
- Transition of two new Village Board Members
- Transition of Zoning Board Members
- Patching of streets
- Completion of Metra advertising sign relocation
- Study of increased noise and vibrations from trains
- Skunk Control Discussions
- WGA parking lot expansion request
- Glenview Club fireworks display coordination
- Foreclosure issues
- Tax levy
- Issues with building permit fees

The above will be discussed in more detail in this newsletter. Since the last newsletter, the only major event has been the water main break on Overlook Drive. After the street patching this summer, the roads are in good shape and we do not anticipate any new infrastructure projects in the near term.

Going into the winter, are our key focus areas are:

- \* Continue records management process and cleaning out old Village records
- \* Creation of long term financial plan
- \* WGA parking lot expansion request
- \* Building permit fee and service review
- \* Replacement of faded/rusty street signs

Please do not hesitate to e-mail me with questions, ideas, and concerns. As we move into the holidays, I wish you the best. Happy New Year !!!

Sincerely, Jerry Daus

[j.daus@villageofgolf.us](mailto:j.daus@villageofgolf.us) or 847-724-4744

## BOARD MEMBER TRANSITIONS

In September, Dan Williams and Kevin Ridley joined the Village Board. Dan is replacing Mike Ryan as our new Finance and Administration trustee. One of Mike's key accomplishments was implementing a records management policy and purging boxes and boxes, of no longer needed records. As you can imagine this has been an extremely time consuming process.

Kevin is replacing Scott Gross as our Emergency Services Trustee. Scott served on the Board almost 6 years and did a tremendous job of coordinating with the Police Department. Scott also created our emergency services/homeland security plan and established our Code Red System for communicating with the Village in case of an emergency.

Many thanks go to Mike and Scott for their volunteer commitment to our Village and Board.

## WINTER SNOW PLOWING AND SHOVELING

The Village of Glenview will be plowing and salting our streets again this year. Our goal is to have the streets plowed before the start of morning rush hour. For residents with sidewalks in front of their homes, the Village requests that the sidewalks be shoveled in a timely manner. This makes it much safer for the residents traveling on foot.



If you are using a private contractor for snow removal, please inform them not to push snow on to adjacent public sidewalks and to be aware of boulders that may line the streets.

The Golf Civic Association's directory has a listing of all residents who are willing to shovel snow as a service.

## BUILDING PERMITS AND FEES

About a year ago, the Village changed the permit fee schedule in order to ensure that the Village breaks even on the costs associated with administering and performing the permit work. For some permits such as roofs, patios, and driveways, this has resulted in much higher permit fees. Even with the higher fees, the Village is not breaking even due to the number of inspections currently required. We are re-evaluating the level of service/inspections necessary and will update the fee structure in the near future.

Also, in the past year, there have been a significant number of projects started without obtaining building permits. The Village cannot be tolerant on this issue and is strictly enforcing the minimum \$500 fine. The Village web-site has a summary document of when a permit is required. We are adding a new link to the home page to make sure that it is easy to find. This summary is also appended to this newsletter on page 8.

**VOLUNTEERING IS THE ULTIMATE EXERCISE IN DEMOCRACY. YOU VOTE IN ELECTIONS ONCE A YEAR, BUT WHEN YOU VOLUNTEER, YOU VOTE EVERY DAY ABOUT THE KIND OF COMMUNITY YOU WANT TO LIVE IN.**

*BY MARJORIE MOORE*

## GLENVIEW CLUB FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Over Labor Day Weekend, the Glenview Club put on a magnificent fireworks display for its members. Because of the proximity to the Village homes, the display was in view of many residents' backyards. This may become an annual event, and we will notify the residents if the fireworks will occur again next year.



## METRA UPDATE

### *Bridge Project*

The Metra Bridge Replacement Project was completed over the summer. This included installing a fence beginning at Golf Road and ending at the Metra station. Metra also re-graded along the tracks to ensure that no water inside the fence flows into the Park or properties along the tracks. The landscaping along the Park was started in the fall and should be completed in the Spring. This will include the area just south of the current Metra lot (which was cleared by the Glenview Park District).

As part of this project, Metra paid for the re-painting of the Metra Train Station.

### *Advertising Signs*

Also, the advertising signs were moved to their agreed upon locations by the Village. There are now no signs facing the Village. The advertising company who owns the signs provided several Arborvitae trees to help hide the signs from the Village.

### *Train Noise and Vibration Issues*

Many residents living near the train tracks have noticed increase noise and vibration from the freight trains. Several residents are working with the Village and Metra to look into this issue. There are federal regulations regarding the amount of noise and vibration for properties within 250 feet of the tracks. Our key next step is getting Metra to agree to a noise and vibration study.



## COMMUNICATING WITH THE VILLAGE GOVERNMENT

As you are aware, our Village Board and President are volunteer roles. We volunteer our time doing the best we can to ensure the Village is a well maintained and a safe place to live. We try to ensure our Village services are above average at the lowest possible cost. However, there are cases when something may not be accomplished in a timely manner or seem to be neglected. Over the summer the Village was threatened with a law suit and received a disparaging anonymous note regarding the pot holes on Overlook.

In both cases a simple e-mail with a question or requesting an update on an issue would have received a response with an explanation. For example, in the case of the potholes, the delay was caused by the construction workers strike. The e-mail addresses of the Village Government are on the Village web-site. Please do not hesitate to send an e-mail with any questions or concerns.

## VILLAGE FINANCE AND THE TAX LEVY

The late arrival of our property taxes has caused a cash flow issue in making our December bond and fire payments. Normally the property tax bills come out in October and by now, we would have received enough tax revenue to pay these December bills. As discussed in the last newsletter, the Village established a \$250,000 line of credit in anticipation of late property tax bills. The Village has withdrawn \$150,000 on this line of credit and anticipates having it fully paid back in January.



At the December Board meeting, the Village Board will pass the 2010 Tax Levy. Based upon a preliminary budget for 2011-2012, the Village Board has agreed to a 4% increase in the tax levy. The following summarizes the reason for this increase:

- ◆ Based upon a cost benefit analysis on ownership of our Police cars, the Village will be replacing a Police Car when it is 4 years old. With two Police cars, this means purchasing a new car on average of every two years. To properly save equally each year, \$13,000 needs to be added to the capital reserves. This amount was \$5,500 previously.
- ◆ Due to all the road and sewer improvement projects, our capital reserves are now depleted. This tax levy increase includes adding \$25,000 to our capital reserves.
- ◆ We anticipate 3% to 4% increases in our core services such as garbage collection, fire, and police.

As the majority of the tax levy increase is for our capital reserves and police car reserves, we see this as a onetime occurrence. Unless there is something unexpected next year, we are anticipating a much lower increase in the future. The increase would only impact the Village portion, which approximately 25%, of each resident's tax bill.

## EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE—SIGN-UP!

All of our residents should have received a message from the Village of Glenview inviting us to add our phone numbers and email addresses to its Code Red™ Emergency Notification System. This system allows municipalities to instantly send out critical emergency messages (such as evacuation notices or missing child alerts) to the phone numbers and email addresses of any portion of an affected community. Due to our close relationship with Glenview in the area of emergency services, Glenview has agreed to include Golf residents in its system and to notify us of any emergencies that might affect us. Your Golf village officials also can use this system to notify Golf residents of any emergency situations that only affect our Village, such as downed trees blocking access to a portion of the Village.

If you have not already done so, please go to the Village of Glenview website ([www.glenview.il.us](http://www.glenview.il.us)), click on the link "Sign Up for Our Emergency Notification System" on the right side of the home page under "Useful Links," and enter all of your contact information so that you receive any important notices. You can be assured that the information you enter will not be shared with anyone, but remain protected and secure within only the Code Red™ database. If you do not have internet access, we recommend you work with a family member or friend who does. In addition, you can always call (847) 901-6082 and Glenview staff will assist you. If you have any questions or concerns about this new system, please contact Kevin Ridley, Trustee of Emergency Services

## WGA REQUEST FOR PARKING LOT EXPANSION

In the last newsletter, we discussed the WGA request for expanding their parking lot. To summarize, several years ago the Western Golf Association (WGA) expanded their building. Due to this growth, they do not have enough parking spaces for their employees. They also have unused interior space they would like to complete and hire additional employees. Until Avon closed, WGA employees were having to park along Briar Road due to the lack of spaces in their parking lot. They have permission to use the Avon lot until the end of 2010.

Metra has agreed to allow the current Metra lot to be expanded to the south along the tracks as long as one half of the spaces are dedicated to Metra parking. The WGA is preparing a high level plan for this space. We anticipate a request for an expansion of a total of 25 – 30 parking spaces. Here is the process for this WGA request:

- The Village Board is preparing a list of questions and requirements the WGA would have to follow or answer in order for the Board to consider this request. We will also create list of pro's/con's.
- At an upcoming Board meeting, the WGA will present their plan and receive feedback.
- If the Board determines that the WGA proposal is worth considering, then a public meeting will be scheduled for the WGA to present their plan to the residents.

Based upon the response, there may be a Village vote.

Please understand that nothing will move forward without input and feedback from the Village residents. Our goal is to make an informed decision by Spring time.

## ORCHARD LANE STORM SEWER PROJECT

Earlier this fall, a new storm sewer line was installed along the backyard properties of several Orchard Lane residents. The Golf properties border Glenview properties that are at a higher elevation. There has been a long term problem of water flowing from Glenview onto the Orchard Lane properties – especially more recently because of tear downs and home expansions. In heavy storms, the Glenview water floods the adjacent Golf yards as well as the properties on the other side of Orchard Lane. Because Orchard Lane has no storm sewer system, there is no way for the residents to drain this water from their properties. The new sewer line will capture water coming from Glenview and allow the Golf residents along this line to drain water from their properties.

## FORECLOSURES

The Village Board has approved an ordinance and process for dealing with foreclosures. The intent is to make sure the Village is reimbursed for all expenses related to a foreclosed property. This includes maintenance of the property, ensuring the property is safe and secure, and any other services required. There are currently two Golf properties in foreclosure.



## TREES AND PARKWAYS

As was mentioned in the last Newsletter, the Emerald Ash Borer has invaded the Village of Golf. Over the summer, over 25 more trees were removed from our parkways. In October, trustee Pam Maga organized a tree planting day in which over 35 new trees were planted on Village parkways. A big thanks goes to Pam and all the Villagers who volunteered their time. Another round of Ash trees will be removed next summer and we plan to have another tree planting next fall.

## SKUNK CONTROL—BY MARY HOWE

This year the Village of Golf has been overrun by skunks. With the assistance of the Village of Glenview Animal Control Officer, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources District Wildlife Biologist, and the University of Illinois Extension Service, we have come up with the following suggestions. The Village is working on a village-wide program to address some of these issues.

- ◆ Eliminate areas where skunks den
- ◆ Reduce or eliminate food sources
- ◆ Use grub control
- ◆ Do not use Japanese beetle traps



### **GOT SKUNKS?**

Potential den sites are overgrown shrubbery, stumps, under porches, decks, playhouses, and sheds, in rock piles, wood piles, and dry drainage tiles. Close off all openings under sheds, playhouses, decks, and porches with ¼-inch hardware cloth, fasten securely, and bury the wire to 6-inches in depth as skunks will dig to get into a desirable den space. Vents and drainage tiles should be covered with hardware cloth. All firewood needs to be stacked tightly and should be under a fully enclosed cover. Overgrown shrubbery should be cut back.

To reduce food sources, fallen fruit under trees should be removed frequently. No pet food should be left outside. Garbage cans should have tight fitting lids. No food items or table scraps should be put in compost piles unless the compost is in an animal proof container.

The favorite food of skunks in this area is lawn grubs. Grubs are the immature life stage of tan chafer, May, June, and Japanese beetles. Skunks dig for beetles in lawns leaving conical holes 2 to 5 inches across and about as deep. Lawns that are fertilized and watered throughout the summer tend to have more grubs and provide good feeding areas for skunks. There are several effective grub control products on the market. There are also inoculants called milky spore that can be used in conjunction with grub control for several years. After several years use, your lawn will be inoculated against grubs and grub control may be discontinued. John Fulton, U of I Extension-County Extension Director recommends the products Mach 2, Cruiser, and Merit (follow all product directions carefully). The Cruiser product is a nematode and is considered environmentally safe. We are investigating a grub control program for the Village next summer.

Japanese beetle traps use a pheromone to attract beetles. These traps can attract beetles to a large area. Use of Japanese beetle traps can increase the number of beetles in the Village and therefore increase the number of grubs for the skunks to eat. The most effective manner of beetle control is grub control.

Although it is legal for an IDNR licensed wildlife control company to trap skunks, trapping skunks is very difficult. The Glenview Animal Control Officer describes skunks as being more like cats than raccoons, smart and trap adverse. As I and several of your neighbors can attest, trapping will lead to catching everything but skunks, including raccoons, squirrels, chipmunks, foxes, etc. Since wildlife control services charge for the traps and charge for removing any and all animals, this is both an ineffective and expensive alternative.

## SKUNK CONTROL (CON'T)

**If your pet is sprayed by a skunk**, the following home remedy is reported to be effective. Mix 1 quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide, ¼ cup baking soda and 1 teaspoon liquid dish detergent. Do not add water. When these ingredients are mixed, the mixture is unstable and cannot be bottled or stored. Apply avoiding eyes then rinse with water. Due to the peroxide in the mixture, this remedy may lighten fur or hair. Also, a professional wildlife control operator or veterinarian may be able to supply the chemical neutroleum-alpha along with instructions for its use.

The Village continues to work on resolving this issue and will provide updates on our progress. The Village of Golf thanks the Glenview Police and Illinois Department of Natural Resources for their assistance.

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TRANSITIONS

The Village Board would like to thank the following residents for their service over the last several years on the Zoning Board of Appeals:

Gloria Sylvester

Dave Benjamin

Carol Edwards

Dan Williams and John Gallagher are current members of the Zoning Board and will remain on the board. Dan Williams will continue as chair.

The new board members include:

- Chris Paxson—3 year term
- Megan Miller—5 year term
- Andy Goldberg—5 year term

## POLICE HOLIDAY FUND

Don't forget to say "thank you" to our police officers for a job well done by contributing to the Golf Police Holiday Fund.

Please make your check payable to the  
**Golf Police Holiday Fund**, and mail it to:

Kevin Ridley, Trustee for the Police  
P.O. Box 144,  
Golf, Illinois 60029

You can save a stamp and drop your envelope in the box on the door to our Village meeting room in the WGA building.

**Thank you!**



For the protection of the property owner, the neighbors and the Village, Golf requires property owners to apply for permits prior to the commencement of work on the property. When a Permit is requested, the Village checks to make sure that the work proposed is permissible under the existing Building Codes and Zoning Ordinances in affect. The Village Building Department will provide you with assistance and information upon request. The Property Owner is responsible for seeing that the required Permit is obtained from the Village for the work proposed on their property. **The Permit must be applied for and issued prior to the Contractors starting work.** If a Permit is not obtained; the work will be stopped until a Permit is issued, a surcharge will be added to the cost of the Building Permit and work performed without a Permit may be subject to removal at the Inspector's or Building Commissioner's determination.

The Building Department reserves the right to review and require a Permit for any proposed work that does not fit into any of the following categories or is renovation/alteration/addition work in excess of \$1000.00 value. If you are contemplating any work that is not specified below, please contact the Village Building Commissioner at 847-998-8852. The following require Permits in Golf:

### **General-**

Any new Building  
Any new addition to an existing building  
Any alteration to a structure  
Structural repairs due to a fire or deterioration

### **Site Work-**

Central Air conditioning  
Driveways-new/replacement, walks and patios  
Fences  
Ramps for wheel chairs  
Sheds (Accessory Buildings over 100 s.f.)  
Swimming pools, hot tubs and spas

### **Concrete Flat work-**

Courts-Tennis, basketball, etc..  
Driveways, walks and patios  
Footings, foundations walls, slabs and stairs  
Piers for Decks/Porches

### **Masonry-**

Chimneys, Fireplaces and hearth (new)  
Walls

### **Metals, Chimneys, Flues-**

Structural steel framing,  
Flues  
Railings

### **Carpentry-**

Cabinets (Kitchen, Bath, etc.. not replaced in kind)  
Carports & Garages  
Decks & Stairs, Stairways & Porches (open/enclosed)  
Doors (change in size and location)  
Framing (removal/new construction of floors, walls, roofs)  
Skylights  
Windows (change in size/location, not in kind to Code)

### **Plumbing/Mechanical-**

Bath, Tub/Shower replacement  
Boilers, heating units, gas services  
Cleanouts/sewer repair  
Drain tile (exterior/interior)  
Garbage Disposal Units  
Hot tubs, Jacuzzi, spas  
Lawn irrigation/sprinkler system  
Interior piping/ductwork changes  
Sewerage disposal systems/Service changes  
Sump pumps/ejector systems (not repair/replace)  
Swimming Pools  
Water Service changes

### **Electrical-**

Outlets or lights, including interior/exterior  
Rewiring/relocation of electrical devices  
Panel Change  
Service-new or upgrade  
Smoke Detectors, directly wired, new

### **Roofs-**

Roofs (new and repair over 100 sq.ft.)

### **Demolition-**

Detached Garage (requires Cook Co. Permit)  
Interior Demolition-Walls, floors, ceilings  
Structural Demolition

### **Special/Miscellaneous-**

Elevators/wheelchair lifts  
Insulation-Sprayed in/Blown in  
Satellite Dishes +19" and larger  
Signs  
Tents  
Trailers (construction, sales, etc.)  
Exterior Standby Generators

### **No Permit is required for the following:**

*Gutters/Downspouts, Playground swing sets, Portable Room Heaters, Replacing existing Hearth, Residential Driveway Seal coating, Residential Landscaping-no grade changes, Tuck pointing, Wall coverings/Painting, Water Heater (replacement only), Window air conditioners*

## VILLAGE COMMUNICATION

Our intention is to use e-mail as our primary vehicle of communication. We request that rather than call the village hall, please send any questions, issues, or complaints in an e-mail to either the trustee e-mail address on the last page of this newsletter and on our Village web-site or [j.daus@villageofgolf.us](mailto:j.daus@villageofgolf.us). The more detail you provide, the quicker we will be able to get your question or issue answered. If you do not have an access to the Internet, please continue to call the Village Hall or a Village trustee.

We also are sending any announcements or notifications out via e-mail. The Village newsletters will be e-mailed and posted on the web-site. This will save on postal costs and administration.

John Benson has volunteered to be a our webmaster and has done an outstanding job of putting together our web-site. Please take a minute to review. Over the next few months we will be adding new content, so please continue to check it out. The web address is [www.villageofgolf.us](http://www.villageofgolf.us)

The Village of Golf is a “Home Rule” community governed by the Illinois constitution and its Village ordinances (you can read our village ordinances, including our building code, at [www.sterlingcodifiers.com/Golf,IL](http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/Golf,IL). The Village has long had a volunteer government (trustees and the Village president receive \$1 per year and the Village Clerk and Treasurer receive a modest monthly stipend).

The Village Board of Trustees meets on the second Monday of each month at the Village Hall. Agendas are posted on the website and on the bulletin boards at the Post Office and around the Village. The six Trustees function like department heads with one taking on responsibility for a different aspect of Village government including the Emergency Services Department, Administrative Department, Public Buildings and Grounds Department, Financial Department, Water Department, Sanitation Department and Streets & Sidewalks Department. You can see the specific, current assignments in the table below.

We also have a part-time Village Administrator who handles much of the day-to-day work of your Village government. You can contact Bob Der Avedisian at [administrator@villageofgolf.us](mailto:administrator@villageofgolf.us) or give him a call at 847-998-8852.

## VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Position	Person	E-mail address	Responsibilities
President	Jerry Daus	<a href="mailto:j.daus@villageofgolf.us">j.daus@villageofgolf.us</a>	Liaison, leadership
Trustee	Kevin Ridley	<a href="mailto:k.ridley@villageofgolf.us">k.ridley@villageofgolf.us</a>	Emergency services
Trustee	Bob Walker	<a href="mailto:b.walker@villageofgolf.us">b.walker@villageofgolf.us</a>	Streets, sanitation
Trustee	Mary Howe	<a href="mailto:m.howe@villageofgolf.us">m.howe@villageofgolf.us</a>	Utilities
Trustee	Dan Williams	<a href="mailto:d.williams@villageofgolf.us">d.williams@villageofgolf.us</a>	Finance & admin
Trustee	Lis Williams	<a href="mailto:l.williams@villageofgolf.us">l.williams@villageofgolf.us</a>	Building & zoning
Trustee	Pam Maga	<a href="mailto:p.maga@villageofgolf.us">p.maga@villageofgolf.us</a>	Public buildings & grounds
Treasurer	Cindy Hackl	<a href="mailto:c.hackl@villageofgolf.us">c.hackl@villageofgolf.us</a>	Accounting
Clerk	Ann Erie	<a href="mailto:a.erie@villageofgolf.us">a.erie@villageofgolf.us</a>	Village clerk
Building Commissioner	Brett Karson	<a href="mailto:bldgcomm@villageofgolf.us">bldgcomm@villageofgolf.us</a>	Buildings

THIS LISTING CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE—[WWW.VILLAGEOFGOLF.US](http://WWW.VILLAGEOFGOLF.US)