

SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 41/Number 8 December 2008/January 2009



Happy Holidays

Administration's Message

Dear Residents:

Another Holiday Season approaches and most of us are busy getting ready for Christmas and the New Year. Thanksgiving passed so quickly that it almost seems like a dream now looking back. Despite the hustle and bustle, if we try, we can find time to reflect on the highs and lows of the past year and renew our resolve to move forward and plan for a better year. Despite the Nation's sour economy and financial markets that can drag our spirits down, we have cause for optimism as the new year will bring a new president and at least the hope that things will get better. If there is anything that we Americans are good at, it is our eternal belief that no matter what the setback, we will endure and things will get better. Let me suggest that we all reflect on our blessings of family and community in 2008 and renew our spirit for 2009 to meet the challenges that will arise with the same sense of caring, acceptance and fairness that makes Indian Head Park special!

Along with the concerns of Village government, there are accomplishments. I am grateful for the opportunity of serving as your mayor and working along with **Trustees Debbie Anselmo, Brian Bailey, Anne Bermier, Carol Coleman, Norm Schnauer, and Matt Walsh, and Village Clerk Joe Consolo** on your behalf. Together, we have worked and learned in our endeavors to keep our Village progressing. Let me share some things with you concerning the achievements of the past year and goals for the New Year.

In 2008, we completed the first phase of renovation at the Heritage Center. The work completed there this Fall included a new roof, gutters, chimney repair and siding on the rear portion of the building which could not be installed until that addition was jacked up and anchored better to prevent damage from settling. If you stop by, you will see the new concrete walkway leading to the back door which was **donated** by IHP resident **Jack Yelnick** and his company. Thank you Jack for your dedication to our community! The building needs to be painted but that can not be done until the structural repairs are completed and budget permits. We hope to do more in 2009.

Improvements at Arrowhead Memorial Point (Wolf and

Plainfield Roads) are on hold until the Lyons Township Board of Trustees finalizes their plans for the disbursement of the Park Bond funds previously passed by the township residents. We have applied for a share of these funds to be used at the Heritage Center, Blackhawk Park and Arrowhead Memorial Point. However, this may not happen until later next year.

As you know, our full time police officers have chosen to be represented by the Metropolitan Alliance of Police for the purposes of collective bargaining.

At our meeting in November, the VBT approved an ordinance ratifying the Village's first collective-bargaining agreement with the police Union. I congratulate all the representatives on both sides for their hard work and spirit of cooperation in this matter.

We have a new Village Prosecutor in **Tom Brescia** who fills the position vacated by the **Honorable Patrick Rogers** who resigned following his election as judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County. Pat has been an outstanding prosecutor for us and has demonstrated the superlative legal skills and temperament that will serve him well as a judge. We will miss Pat but wish him well in his new assignment! Tom Brescia brings a wealth of 30 years of experience to the prosecutorial position and we are pleased to have him on our team! We also congratulate **Russell Hartigan**, legal counsel to the IHP Police and Fire Commission and Lyons Township Trustee who was recently appointed to fill Pat Rogers' shoes as our Township Supervisor. Where Pat Rogers has left some big shoes to fill, Russ is more than capable of filling them. We are pleased with his appointment and look forward to working with Russ and the Township Board in the future.

Winter is upon us as demonstrated by the early December snow falls and with that the snow covered streets and walks. Our Public Works employees **Bill, Pepe, Pete and Supt. Ed Santen** have been busy keeping our streets clear. Despite the steep increase in the price of salt and its relative scarcity at any price, the guys will do their best to keep the roads clear and safe. Please drive carefully when out in snowy weather!

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Finally, I ask that you remember those who are needy or in poor health and help in any way you can. To this end, I am pleased to report that our Village Attorneys at **Storino, Ramello and Durkin** will be making a contribution on our behalf to a charity of our choosing. For this purpose, I chose the **"Make-A-Wish" Foundation of America**. As you may know, the **Make-A-Wish Foundation** helps grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich their human experience with hope, strength and joy. We are grateful to our Village Attorneys for this donation on our behalf! Thank You!!

Likewise, please remember our men and women in uniform who will be away from home this Christmas. We ask for their protection and that they be returned home to us before the New Year is out!

In closing, as we enjoy another Holiday Season, on behalf of the VBT and the Village staff, I want to wish each of you a **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!** May Peace and Joy fill your entire Holiday Season! Let's strive to remember that

"Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone." ~ Charles Schulz (1922-2000), American cartoonist 'Peanuts'.

Happy Holidays!!

Richard S. Andrews, mayor

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees 7:30 p.m.:
Thursday, January 8, 2009

Planning and Zoning Commission 7:30 p.m.:
Tuesday, January 8, 2009

E-911 Board 6:30 p.m.:
No meeting scheduled at this time.

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at 201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

Smoke Signals

Newsletter Coordinator, Kathy Leach
(708) 246-7099, extension 101
kleach@indianheadpark-il.gov

Volume 41, Number 8

Circulation 2000

Smoke Signals is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

Deadline date for the next issue is January 14, 2009.

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

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Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and
Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Mayor: Richard S. Andrews

Trustees: Deborah A. Anselmo Carol Coleman
Brian T. Bailey Norman L. Schnauffer
Anne Bermier Matthew P. Walsh II

Village Clerk: Joseph V. Consolo

**Chief of Police/
Administrator:** Frank Alonzo, Jr.

Police Dept. Non-Emergency 246-4534
Emergency 9-1-1

Fire Dept. Non-Emergency 352-9229
Emergency 9-1-1

The advertisements and notices of privately sponsored events or activities contained in *Smoke Signals* are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Village of Indian Head Park, its officials or employees. The inclusion of a product advertisement or notice of a privately sponsored event or activity herein should not be construed as an endorsement by the Village of that product, event or activity.

Police Department Announcement

The Indian Head Park Police Department would like to make residents aware of some deceptive practices that are occurring in the area and neighboring communities. Please be alert when responding to telephone calls from individuals representing themselves as someone trying to help a family member and asking for a wire transfer of money to bank accounts in Canada as well as other countries. If you receive suspicious calls asking for money, please contact the Indian Head Park Police Department at (708) 246-4534 to speak with a police officer.

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Indian Head Park Woman's Club

The Indian Head Park Woman's Club will meet on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, at the Municipal Facility at 201 Acacia Drive. The club year will start off with a "White Elephant Game Night". Please bring two wrapped white elephant items for game night. Join in the fun with your friends. The meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m. and guests are always welcome. On Tuesday, February 17th, the meeting program will be "Health Maintenance and Healing" by Kevin Dobryznski, the Fitness Doctor. For further details, please contact Pat Martin at (708) 246-2583.



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Southwest Suburban Center on Aging

The Southwest Suburban Center on Aging is seeking volunteers to serve on the planning committee for the eighth annual Sports Ball Benefit Gala to be held on April 25, 2009. The fundraiser highlights the sports theme with the attendance of sports celebrities and a sports anchorperson who serves as emcee for the evening. The evening includes dinner, dancing to a live band and auctions.

Prospective committee members should contact Niki Chibucos, director of development and community relations at (708) 354-1323, extension 26.



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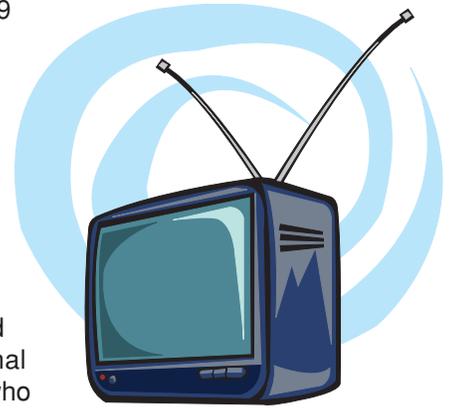
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Analog TVs Will Need Additional Equipment to Receive Over-the-air Television When the DTV Transition Ends

On February 17, 2009 all full power broadcast television stations in the United States will stop broadcasting on analog airwaves and begin broadcasting only in digital. Digital broadcasting will allow stations to offer improved picture, sound quality and additional channels. Consumers who rely on antennas (including outside antennas and rabbit ears) to receive over the air broadcast signals on TV sets having only analog tuners will need to obtain separate digital-to-analog set-up converter boxes to watch over the air TV before February 17, 2009. These boxes receive digital signals and convert them into analog format for display on analog TV's.



Analog sets connected to such converter boxes will display digital broadcasts, but not necessarily in the full, original digital quality. Up to March 31, 2009, all households will be eligible to request up to two coupons worth \$40 each, to be used toward the purchase of up to two, digital-to-analog converter boxes. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration is responsible for administering the coupon program. For further details, please visit the following Website: www.dtv2009.gov

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TEEPEE TOPICS

Congratulations to the following students from Indian Head Park on their academic achievements!:
 Pleasantdale School District #107 announced students from Indian Head Park who were named to the honor roll: Nicholas Piento, Cooper Hardy, Jaime Duncan, Alexis Gutierrez, Guinevere Nueva Espana, Mae Sophie. Nazareth Academy announced the following students from Indian Head Park who were named to the honor roll: Christina Marino, Nora O'Connell, Anthony Bartucci, Joseph Pellegrino, Colleen McCollom, Andrew Bartucci, Clare Bohne and Nicole Yu.

Our condolences to the families and friends of the following who recently passed away: Elmer Kucera, age 85, who served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Combat Infantry during WWII. He received three Purple Hearts, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the WWII Expeditionary Medal, the French Expeditionary Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge. Elmer worked for Illinois Bell for thirty years, he was a member of the VFW Post 2868 of Brookfield and the Robert Coulter American Legion Post of LaGrange.

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