



Administration Message

Dear Fellow Residents:

I have two main items to report to you this month. As you know, March 20th is the General Primary Election Day concerning the Village revenue referendum that is of utmost importance to the Village's future. Also, I have issued a proclamation concerning the establishment of a **Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial Day** and announced the plans for a permanent memorial for her. Here are the details.

Village Revenue Referendum

As you know, the Village has not raised its portion of your property tax bill for over 18 years. On March 20th, you will have an opportunity to approve or disapprove a request to exceed the property tax cap (PTELL) by \$350,000 to help village finances. There are many significant reasons for this request and they are covered in the Village Board minutes of December 8, 2011 (available on our website). Because we have paid off a road bond, Village property taxes this year are going down by about \$110,000. Therefore, if the revenue referendum is passed, the net increase above what Village

homeowners paid last year will be about \$240,000. **For a \$100,000 market value home** (per the assessor and not a realtor's or your own estimate about your home's value), **this net amount, before exemptions, will be about \$43.30. This is about 12 cents per day!**

The money will be used in the following ways and will relieve demands on the corporate general fund that would then open resources for the restoration, improvement, or implementation of other Village services that residents want:

- **Increased Police protection** (\$150,000) such as one more full-time officer, equipment, training, emergency communication with residents and neighborhood watch;
- **Repairs of Village streets** (\$100,000) including re-paving, curb repairs, and maintenance and the ability to pursue grant money requiring a Village co-pay;
- **Funds for payment of the Village debt** (\$100,000 per year) to protect our credit rating.

Fair Market Value	Estimated Increase	Offset from Bond Payoff	Net increase to homeowner (*before exemptions)	
\$100,000	\$63.15	\$19.85	\$43.30	estimated net increase*
\$150,000	\$94.72	\$29.77	\$64.95	estimated net increase*
\$200,000	\$126.29	\$39.69	\$86.60	estimated net increase*
\$250,000	\$157.86	\$49.61	\$108.25	estimated net increase*
\$300,000	\$189.44	\$59.54	\$129.90	estimated net increase*
\$350,000	\$221.01	\$69.46	\$151.55	estimated net increase*
\$400,000	\$252.58	\$79.38	\$173.20	estimated net increase*
\$450,000	\$284.15	\$89.31	\$194.85	estimated net increase*
\$500,000	\$315.73	\$99.23	\$216.50	estimated net increase*
\$600,000	\$378.87	\$119.07	\$259.80	estimated net increase*
\$700,000	\$442.02	\$138.92	\$303.10	estimated net increase*
\$800,000	\$505.16	\$158.76	\$346.40	estimated net increase*
\$900,000	\$568.31	\$178.61	\$389.70	estimated net increase*
\$1,000,000	\$631.45	\$198.46	\$432.99	estimated net increase*

The Referendum Questions

There are three separate questions that will be on the ballot. The first question concerns the PTELL tax cap and, if approved by the voters, grants authority to raise an additional

\$350,000 from property taxes in IHP. The second question concerns the Village's ability to levy taxes specifically for Police Protection. If approved, this will allow the Village to levy

Message continued from page 1

a tax for the specific purpose of Police protection and have money for the various needs to provide police protection to the Village. The third question concerns the Village's ability to levy taxes specifically to improve our streets. If approved, this will allow the Village to levy a tax for Street repaving, curb repairs, and general maintenance. These three questions and the supplemental statements are integrally related to each other and required by State law to be placed on the ballot.

Voters are free to vote yes or no to any one or all of these questions as they choose. To enable the Village Board to go forward in raising the new revenue for the purposes as described above, a favorable vote is required for all three questions. A negative vote as to the PTELL question will not allow the Village to raise any new revenue above the PTELL limit. A favorable vote to the PTELL question but a negative vote to one or both of the other questions would allow the Village to raise some but not all of the proposed \$350,000 new revenue sought because of State law limits on the corporate fund. Thus, to fully implement the proposal, YES votes are needed for all three questions. If approved, residents will not see this increase on their tax bills until the 2nd installment tax bill payable in the fall of 2013. Accordingly, the Village will not have this revenue at its disposal until then. The Village Board has unanimously voiced support for this proposal. Voters, however, may choose to vote NO to one or more of the questions as they deem appropriate.

Note that the foregoing is intended to explain the facts of the referendum and how it will affect a homeowner and the future quality of life in IHP. It is not to advocate for any choice. The decision belongs to the voters. Please vote, this a very significant and important issue for our community. If you have any questions, please check our website for further information about this Referendum!

Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial Day

At our Village Board of Trustees meeting on March 8th, I issued a proclamation (the text is located elsewhere in this newsletter) establishing April 2, 2012, and every April 2nd thereafter, as the **Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial Day**. To

commemorate this first such memorial day, I ask that all of us, wherever we are, **observe one minute of silence at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 2nd for Kelli** in memory of her. I know that her family will very much appreciate this show of support for them by remembering their beloved daughter.

Finally, as I stated previously, the Village intends to establish a permanent memorial for Kelli. Accordingly, with input from Kelli's family and in accordance with their wishes, I am happy to report that a memorial for Kelli consisting of a tree, a bench, and a boulder with a plaque in her memory will be installed at Sacajawea Park. Once the items have been purchased and installed, we will hold a dedication ceremony at that time. Hopefully, this will be in May or June. We will let you know when this is scheduled.

In closing, thanks to all of you who have expressed your appreciation and support to me and the Village Trustees as we move forward and tackle the financial challenges facing our Village. It means a lot to us!

Respectfully, Richard S. Andrews, mayor

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees: 7:30 p.m.:

Thursday, April 12, 2012
Thursday, May 10, 2012

Planning and Zoning Commission: 7:30 p.m.:

Tuesday, April 3, 2012

Fire and Police Commission: 7:00 p.m.

No meeting scheduled at this time.

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
(708) 246-3137

Volume 43, Number 10
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.

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525
(708) 246-3080
www.indianheadpark-il.gov

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. Schnauer
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.

Proclamation to Honor the Memory of Kelli Joy O'Laughlin (1997 to 2011)

Whereas, Kelli Joy O'Laughlin, life-long Indian Head Park resident, was born on April 2, 1997, to her parents John and Brenda O'Laughlin, and was the dear sister of Ryan (Melissa), Bridgette, and Daniel Douglas, and the proud aunt of Norah Grey Douglas; and

Whereas, Kelli Joy grew in mind, body, and spirit through the loving care of her parents, and nurturing spirit of her Indian Head Park neighbors; and

Whereas, Kelli Joy attended LaGrange Highlands School and Lyons Township High School where she was endeared to many friends, teachers, and classmates, and pursued her favorite subjects of math, science, and physical education; and

Whereas, Kelli Joy spent countless hours at play in Sacajawea Park and later pursued her love of tennis and running, and belonged to the Girl Scouts of America and the Oak Brook Racquet and Fitness Club; and

Whereas, Kelli Joy exhibited a vivacious personality, love of life, and concern for others as exemplified by her infectious joy and sparkling smile, and had dreams of using her God-given talents someday as a pediatrician or school teacher; and

Whereas, Kelli Joy was lost to us before she could achieve the promise of her life or reach the destiny of her potential;

Whereas, I, Richard S. Andrews, Mayor of the Village of Indian Head Park, in recognition that Kelli Joy has touched the residents of our community, and to commemorate her precious life and her vibrant spirit that remains with us, do hereby proclaim April 2, 2012, and every April 2nd hereafter, as "Kelli Joy O'Laughlin Memorial Day".

Dated this 8th day of March, 2012
Richard S. Andrews, Mayor
Village of Indian Head Park

Election Information

Please check your voter registration status at voterinfonet.com on the Cook County Clerk's Office Website for any polling place changes that may have resulted due to Cook County redistricting. The Cook County Clerk's Office has listed the following polling place addresses according to precincts in Indian Head Park for those that will be voting on election day, March 20, 2012:

Precinct 73 – Votes at the Wilshire Green Clubhouse at 115 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park.

Precinct 36 – Votes at the Pleasantdale Park District at 7425 Wolf Road, Burr Ridge.

Precinct 53 – Votes at the Pleasantdale Park District at 7425 Wolf Road, Burr Ridge.

Precinct 61 – Votes at The Acacia Association Clubhouse at 111 Cascade Drive.

Precinct 31 – Votes at the Village of Indian Head Park Municipal Facility at 201 Acacia Drive.



Arbor Day Proclamation

Whereas, In 1827 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our Village increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

Whereas, the Village of Indian Head Park has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree planting ways,

Now, Therefore I, Richard S. Andrews, Mayor of the Village of Indian Head Park, do hereby proclaim, April 27, 2012 as;

ARBOR DAY

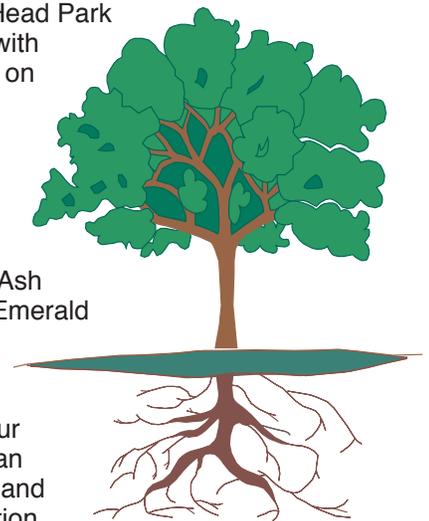
in the Village of Indian Head Park, and I urge all citizens to support efforts to care for our trees and woodlands and to support our Village's forestry program, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

Dated, this 8th day of March, 2012.

Arbor Day Announcement

The Village of Indian Head Park will celebrate Arbor Day with a tree planting ceremony on Friday, April 27, 2012, at 3:30 p.m. The event will be held at the Municipal Facility, 201 Acacia Drive. Public Works staff will demonstrate how to plan ahead to replace Ash trees that are subject to Emerald Ash Borer infestation. Tree seedlings will be distributed to those in attendance. Trees in our cities and towns help clean the air and conserve soil and water. Additional information regarding tree planting may be obtained on the National Arbor Day Foundation Website at: www.arborday.org



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Seasonal Storms



Although thunderstorms occur regularly in the summer, damaging lightning bolts are not restricted to sultry weather; lightning strikes somewhere on the surface of the earth about 100 times every second. There are at least 100,000 thunderstorms a year across the United States. Lightning can send a spectacular power surge along any

conductive line destroying everything in its path. The most likely scenario is not a direct lightning strike but rather a nearby strike on a transformer or piece of electrical equipment. If the surge is powerful enough, it travels instantaneously through wiring and telephone lines with the electrical force equivalent of a tidal wave. The surge enters your home via electrical, telephone, or cable lines, putting all connected equipment at risk. Even a slight surge can damage delicate modern electronics such as computers, stereo systems, scanners, and printers. The motherboard, the foundation of the computer where all the computer's components meet, is hooked into the power source making it especially susceptible to damage. If the surge is powerful enough, even computer chips and other components can be affected.

The way to protect your computer and other electronics from lightning is to use a good surge protector. A power strip, which is a simple strip of outlets, is not necessarily a surge protector. A surge protector may look like a simple strip of outlets, but it has built-in protection against power surges. A good surge protector is made up of a series of metal-oxide varistors or MOV's which shield the computer from abnormally high voltage. When your home receives voltage spikes of high intensity, the MOV's grab the current and push it away from the computer.

WHERE ARE THE FLOWERS?

Now that the Heritage Center Library properly reflects the pride and beauty of our village, can we all pitch in to help fill its grounds with trees, plants, and flowers?

Please donate some perennials from your yard or just one perennial plant or flat of flowers from a store.

We will do the work!

Are you able to donate an hour a week to water, plant, or weed?

No offer will be refused!

Let's make the Heritage Center the landmark of Indian Head Park.

Contact Susan Kiley for information:
(skiley@sbcglobal.net) or 708-606-2197

A good surge protector should offer four features:

1. The surge protector should cover lightning strikes. Some do not.
2. The surge protector should offer insurance to cover the loss of properly attached equipment.
3. If you have a regular modem, your surge protector should have an R-11 telephone jack where you can hook up your telephone line.
4. If you are using a cable modem, your surge protector should also accommodate your television/Internet cable.

Damage can occur regardless of whether the computer is on or off. While surge protectors offer protection for normal surges and nearby lightning strikes, nothing will protect your equipment from a direct lightning hit. During storms you can add further protection by unplugging your computer power supply and any telephone or cable line from the wall. Although it is not absolutely necessary to do this, unplugging your computer equipment during a severe storm may give you added piece of mind. Installing your surge protector is easy; just plug it into the wall and then connect your computer equipment to the protector. If you purchase a surge protector with a telephone or cable jack, run the telephone or cable line from the wall into the surge protector. The surge protector will come with an extra telephone or cable wire that you will then use to connect the surge protector to your computer or modem. Be sure to protect your computer with a quality surge protector. When that summer storm brings a damaging power surge, you'll have no need to worry because of the adequate protection you have installed for your equipment.



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TEEPEE TOPICS

The Village of Indian Head Park will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt again this year at Blackhawk Park on Cascade Drive on Saturday, April 7, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. Mark your calendars.

The Thomas Patrick Walls Company located in Indian Head Park was awarded the prestigious 2011 Angie's List Super Service Award, an honor bestowed annually to 5% of businesses rated on the nation's leading provider of consumer reviews.

The Thomas Patrick Walls Company is a full service general contracting firm that specializes in high quality kitchen, bathroom and basement remodeling as well as complete exterior renovations and additions. Please refer to the

Thomas Patrick Walls business advertisement published in the newsletter for further contact information or visit the Website: www.tpwconstruction.com

The following students from Indian Head Park were named to the honor roll at Pleasantdale Middle School: Alyssa Brillisour, Olivia Lata, Ceara Sheehan and Nicholas Piento.

Aging Care connections has announced that experienced, AARP-trained tax volunteers will be available at the LaGrange Village Hall, 53 S. LaGrange Road in LaGrange by appointment for those aged 60 plus who would like assistance preparing their tax returns. To schedule an appointment, please call (708) 354-1323 and speak with a representative from Aging Care Connections to find out more details.

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