



Inside this Issue:

- 18th Annual Veteran
- Vehicle stickers
- Community Calendar

## From the President's Desk...



Please remember that our children are back in school. Drive carefully around all school zones, stop at all stop signs and remember do not ever pass a stopped school bus. Passing a School Bus when the stop arm is activated could result in drivers license suspension. We want to protect our children, and keep them safe.

The staff at the Assessor's Office is at your service. On Thursday, November 29, 2007: Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Brendan Houlihan and Proviso Township Assessor Michael Corrigan will be hosting an outreach program for filing real estate tax appeals for assessed valuation. The meeting will be held at 6:30 pm in the Westchester Village Hall Board Room. If you have questions about your tax bill, if you feel you are over assessed or if you need help with paperwork for the Cook County Board of Appeals or Board of Review, contact Proviso Township Assessors Office at 708-343-1313. Even if you missed the appeal deadline, you may still file with the Cook County Board of Review.

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday November 4 or before you retire on Saturday November 3. Also, you are encouraged to change the battery in each smoke detector in your home at the same time.

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual visit to the State Capitol in Springfield will be in May, 2008. The tour will be hosted by Senator Dan Cronin. A definite date will be forthcoming. The trip will include meet and greet with elected officials, special tours and a great tour of the Abraham Lincoln Museum. This trip is sponsored by the Westchester Chamber of Commerce. As always, we are anticipating a full bus, so plan ahead. For information call Bill Ernst 708-343-4300.

Please remember to bring your old flags to the Village Hall. Cub Scout Pack 73, chartered by the Westchester Community Church will again be having a flag burning ceremony (date to be determined later). The Cub Scouts do a great job and we always look forward to working with this great organization.

The 10 acres that were approved as part of the Westchester Golf and Saddle Club have been purchased by the Cook County Forest Preserve District for the purpose of expanding the Wolf Road Prairie. The Village is analyzing the impact of the counties decision to acquire the additional property for expansion of the existing prairie.

The following street improvements are to be completed in the spring/summer of 2008: Bristol Avenue between Cermak Frontage and Canterbury, Bristol Avenue between Derby and Roosevelt, Dover Street between Westchester Blvd and Suffolk, Dover Street between Suffolk and Gardner, Balmoral Avenue between Mannheim Road and Canterbury Street, Roosevelt Road Enhancement ITEP Grant (Beautification Project).



With Halloween quickly approaching the Westchester Police Department would like to remind all parents to instruct their children to stop only at houses that are well-lit and never enter a stranger's home



Recommended trick or treat times 3pm -7pm.



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## OCTOBER 2007

**Monday, October 1- Friday, October 5: Village of Westchester branch pick up program.**

**Fridays in October:** Read to the Dogs. Children can read their favorite stories to real dogs at the Library. 4-5 pm. Youth department- 562-3573

**Thursday, October 4:** Pet Blessing, Divine Providence Gym, 2:30 pm. All Welcome.

**Friday, October 5:** Westchester Community Church Fish & Chicken Fry. 4:30-7:30 p.m. Call 865-1282 for more information.

**Friday, October 5:** Westchester Library closed until noon for staff training.

**Friday, October 5:** Divine Providence Clothing Resale. Receiving items only, 8:30-11 and 3-7. Presale: 7:00 pm

**Saturday, October 6:** Divine Providence Children's Clothing and Toy Resale. 8 am to 2 pm.

**Saturday, October 6:** Westchester Community Church. Scrapbooking Days: 8 am to 11 pm. Advanced registration required. Call the church office for more information: 865-1282

**Tuesday, October 9: Village Board Meeting,** Westchester Village Hall, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

### **Secretary of State Jesse White's Mobile Driver Services Facility**

Friday, October 12, 2007, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Westchester Village Hall, Community Room

Event is hosted by Angelo Luciano. Available services: Vision screenings, written exams, duplicate or corrected license, driver license renewal, identification cards, license plate renewal stickers; (CDL and road tests not available). Those wanting to secure an ID card for the first time will need to present three pieces of identification: Social Security card, a birth certificate and piece of mail showing current address.

**Friday, October 12:** Divine Providence Walk-a-Thon. Walkers and vehicles will process around the neighborhood.

**Saturday, October 13:** Village Blood Drive. Community Center, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 16:** History of Riverview Park. Westchester Library 7 pm. Everyone is invited to this popular lecture, but please register in advance.

### **Westchester Flu Shot Program**

Wednesday, October 24, 2007, 10 am to 1 pm  
Call 345-0020 for MANDATORY appointment time  
Dominick's Pharmacy Flu Clinic  
Flu shots: \$28.00 Pneumonia: \$40.00  
Dominick's will bill Medicare Part B participants

**Wednesday, October 17:** LaGrange Area Department of Special Education (LADSE) celebrates its proud past as it recognizes 50 years of serving students with disabilities. Dinner at LaGrange Country Club on October 17. Tickets are \$35, Advance reservations are required. Call Peg Bell at 482-1155.

**Friday, October 19:** St. Martin DePorres Clothes Drive, Divine Infant School, 2:30 -7:00 p.m. Contact 865-8071 for more information.

**Saturday, October 20:** St. Martin DePorres Clothes Drive, Divine Infant School, 9:00 -7:00 p.m. Contact 865-8071 for more information.

**Saturday, October 20:** Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Triton College NW Parking Lot 8am -3pm. For details contact 708-453-9100 or [www.westcook.org](http://www.westcook.org).

**Sunday, October 21:** Harvest of Crafts, Westchester Community Church, 9:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m.

**Sunday, October 21:** Westchester Community Image Council Work Day. Check website to confirm times and locations: [www.westchestercic.org](http://www.westchestercic.org).

**Tuesday, October 23:** Family Drop-in Storytime, for children and parents. Westchester Library, 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 23: Village Board Meeting,** Westchester Village Hall, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 24:** Band Concert, Westchester Middle School, 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 24:** Westchester Aging Well team event at the La Grange Movie Theater, 10 am. Movie title to be determined. There is a \$2 fee for this event. Registration is required by calling (708)354-1323 x19.

**Friday, October 26:** Fall Fun Fair, Westchester Intermediate School, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Saturday, October 27:** Harvest of Crafts, Westchester Community Church, 9:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m.

**Saturday, October 27:** Wolf Road Prairie, Indian Summer Cookout, Tom Hintz-Superintendent of Jubilee College State Park, Prairie House 4 pm-dusk.

**Saturday, October 27:** Wine tasting hosted by Westchester Community Image Council. Epicurean Restaurant, 7:00 p.m. For more information visit: [www.westchestercic.org](http://www.westchestercic.org). or call Alice 409-0508

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR



**Sunday, October 28:** Deadline for Library "Write a Book Contest" Details available at schools and Library.

## NOVEMBER

**Monday, Nov. 5-Friday, Nov. 9:** Village of Westchester branch pick up program.

**Friday, November 2:** Westchester Community Church Fish & Chicken Fry, 4:30-7:30. Call 865-1282 for more information.

**Sunday, November 4:** Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 a.m. "Fall Back"

**Thursday, November 8:** 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Choral Performance, Westchester Intermediate School. 7:00 p.m.

**Monday, November 12:** Village Blood Drive. LifeSource coach parked outside Westchester Community Church, Bond & Westchester Blvd. 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, November 17:** Divine Infant "Aisle of Gifts" Craft Show. Call 865-8071 for more information.

**Sunday, November 18:** Westchester Community Image Council Work Day. Check website to confirm times and locations: [www.westchestercic.org](http://www.westchestercic.org).

**Sunday, November 18:** Awards Ceremony for winners of Library Write-A-Book contest. 1:30 p.m.

**Sunday, November 18:** Wolf Road Prairie, "Barging on the I & M Canal" Re-enactors Jim Carr and Carol Donohue. Prairie House 2:00-4:00 p.m.

**Thursday, November 22:** Village offices closed Thursday, November 22-Friday, November 23. Library closed Thursday.

**Tuesday, November 27:** Family Drop-in storytime. For children and parents. Westchester Library 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, November 28:** Winter Choral Concert at Westchester Middle School, 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, November 29:** Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Brendan Houlihan and Proviso Township Assessor Michael Corrigan will be hosting an outreach program for filing real estate tax appeals for assessed valuation. 6:30 p.m. Westchester Village Hall Board Room.

## DECEMBER

**Sunday, December 2:** Wolf Road Prairie, "An Authentic German Christmas" Patricia Reeves-German Teacher and Researcher. Prairie House 1:00-3:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 5:** Winter Band Concert at Westchester Middle School, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, December 7:** Westchester Community Church Fish & Chicken Fry. 4:30-7:30. Call 865-1282 for more information.

**Friday, December 7:** Westchester Library closed until noon for staff training.

**Thursday, December 13:** Holiday Choral Concert at Westchester Intermediate School, 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 18:** Westchester Middle School Band and Chorus Performance at Yorktown Mall-tentative.

**Wednesday, December 19:** Winter Band Concert at Westchester Intermediate School, 7:30 p.m.

**Monday-Tuesday, December 24-25:** Library closed for holidays.

**Tuesday, December 25:** Village offices closed for holiday.

## **Garbage Notes...**

By now you have all received your new blue recycling bin or toter. All of your recyclable items can be placed in these receptacles: paper, aluminum, glass, etc. If you have not received a new blue can, call public works at 345-0041.



## **Garbage day changes:**

If your garbage day is Thursday, November 22nd (Thanksgiving Day) your trash will be picked up on Friday, Friday, November 23rd, will be picked up on Saturday.

December 24th is regular pick up; December 25, Christmas Day will be picked up on December 26th.

# 18TH ANNUAL WESTCHESTER VETERUN

Sunday, November 11, 2007

**CARA'S BEST RACE IN 2004, 2005 & 2006!**

Health Walk, 5K and 10K Run. Flat fast course. Hot dogs available at the end of the race for all you health nuts!

**Awards:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards for 5 & 10K race for male and female in each age group. \$ 250 cash for 1st place male/female in 5 & 10K races. Special awards for 1st place Westchester resident. Exciting post race raffle!

**Directions:** From Chicago: Take 290 west to Mannheim road south to 22nd street, turn west (right) to Mayfair avenue, turn south (left) to Mayfair Park. From Interstate: From 294, exit Ogden avenue. Go east to Wolf Road turn north (left) and proceed to 31st Street, turn east (right) on 31st to Mayfair and proceed north (left) to Mayfair Park.

**Parking:** Please park in designated areas only around Mayfair Park and Divine Providence Church. Please have consideration for those attending 7:30 and 9:30 morning mass. Follow the signs or park in residential streets off the race course.

Visit : [www.westchesterchamber.org](http://www.westchesterchamber.org) for more information or to register online.



**Sunday, November 11, 2007**  
**Westchester Veterans Day**

**8:30 am**  
**Mayfair Community Center**

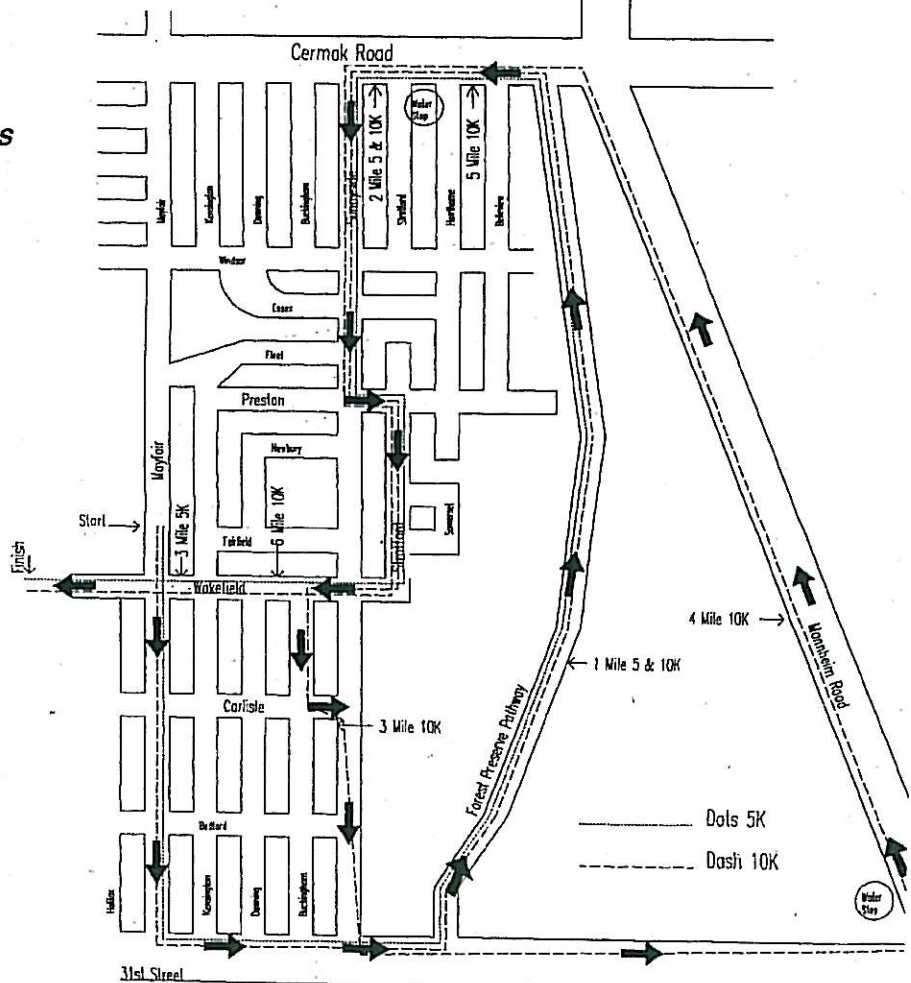
*Dear Westchester Residents:*

*The 18th Annual Veterun will be held on Sunday, November 11th at 9 am. Please note the map showing routes and streets utilized during the Run. Parking restrictions and street closures will be in effect for as short a time as possible, between the hours of 7 am and 11 am.*

*Be advised that your street may be inaccessible at some time Sunday morning and please plan accordingly. Proudly display your American flag along the route, and come out and cheer on the runners! We appreciate your consideration and cooperation during another great Westchester event.*

*Sincerely,  
Village of Westchester  
Westchester Chamber of Commerce  
Westchester Park District*

## Veterans Day Road Race



# FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

## The time is now to plan and practice it – home fire escape

Many people and families follow a series of items on a schedule or a to-do list to keep things running smoothly. Sound familiar? There is one item that should get top billing on everyone's list - plan and practice a home fire escape. This item should be marked "must-do now!"

Everyone thinks that tragedies like home fires happen in other communities and to other people. That's probably what the people affected by the 381,000 home fires that occurred in the United States in 2005 thought too, before it happened to them. Unlike many things that can get postponed for a day or two with little consequence, planning and practicing your home fire escape simply isn't one of them.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 3,030 were killed in those fires – that's one person every three hours. Does preparing for escape still sound like something that can be put off for another day?

As well as being prepared to escape a fire, it is equally important to be vigilant about preventing one from happening in the first place. Many times there is something that you can do, like paying attention to what you are cooking, for example. Cooking is the number one cause of home fires and unattended cooking is the leading cause. The next time you have dinner on the stove and think about leaving the room, think again.

If a fire occurs you need to be prepared to escape from it! If you have not taken the time to plan and practice your home fire escape plan, you are not alone – nationally studies show that only 23% of households have. This is something that can literally mean the difference between surviving a fire or being the victim of one.

Here's what you need to do right now:

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home and have one inside each sleep room and outside of each sleeping area.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Develop a fire escape plan that identifies two ways out of each room and a family meeting place outside.
- Make sure your plan allows for any specific needs in your household. If everyone knows what to do, everyone can get out quickly.
- Practice using the plan, at least twice a year. If everyone knows that everyone else is ready to exit quickly, no one will lose precious time trying to help someone who doesn't need help.

Some children and adults may not awaken to the sound of the smoke alarm. They may need help to wake up.

This October 7-13 is Fire Prevention Week, and this year's theme is Practice Your Escape Plan. What better time to remind Westchester residents that the time is now to make a fire escape plan and practice it? There is also an opportunity individuals and communities to join together to promote fire safety and be a part of The Great American Fire Drill. For more information visit [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org) or [www.sparky.org](http://www.sparky.org).



In the event of a storm, we can lose electricity. If all of the telephones in your home are cordless, you will also lose phone service. It is good idea is to keep a corded phone available in case of a prolonged outage or emergency.

## Does this affect you?

### Ordinance 07-1734

Effective June 26, 2007 all commercial structures are required to be connected wirelessly to the Village's 9-1-1 center. Further information can be obtained by calling Greg Hribal at 345-0060.



# BUILDING DEPARTMENT

## Selling your building?

Effective October 1, 2007

The **COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROGRAM** requires all buildings sold within Westchester to obtain a Certificate of Compliance prior to closing. An initial inspection shall be made to determine compliance. If violations are discovered, the owner or any agent of the owner will be notified of such violations. Upon repair or correction of the violations, a re-inspection shall be made to confirm compliance. A Certificate of Compliance will be available within forty-eight (48) hours following the inspection or re-inspection. Upon presentation of the Certificate of Compliance, the Village will affix a stamp upon the original deed or document of transfer.

To schedule a Compliance Inspection, an APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE INSPECTION must be presented along with the appropriate fee to the Building Department. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE INSPECTION forms are available at the Building Department or online at [www.westchester-il.org](http://www.westchester-il.org). Telephone appointments will no longer be accepted.

The fees associated with the Compliance Inspection Program are as follows:

◆ Condominium units and single-family units:	\$125.00
◆ Two-family or three-family dwelling unit buildings:	\$175.00
◆ Buildings with four or more dwelling units:	\$225.00
◆ Commercial and Industrial buildings:	\$300.00 minimum \$0.10 per square foot.

### AS IS or TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE of COMPLIANCE:

In the event that all Code violations are not abated and a Certificate of Compliance is not issued prior to closing, an owner may transfer property upon issuance of a Temporary Certificate of Compliance upon completion of the following:

1. Written conformation on the part of the buyer certifying to the Village that said buyer has assumed the obligation to abate all violations within the time frame specified by the Building Commissioner. AFFIDAVIT FOR TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE form is available at the Building Department or online at [www.westchester-il.org](http://www.westchester-il.org).
2. Based upon the violations listed, the Village shall assign a dollar amount to be deposited with the Village into an escrow account for the purpose of ensuring the building is brought into compliance. The value of the escrow shall be determined by the Building Commissioner who will base the escrow amount on current pricing publications. If the property owner fails to abate all violations within the time frame specified, the property owner shall forfeit the entire escrow amount.
3. Upon re-inspection, if all violations have been abated, the Village shall issue a Certificate of Compliance.
4. The Village shall upon issuance of the Certificate of Compliance, retain an Administrative Fee of two hundred dollars (\$200.00). The Administrative Fee shall be deducted from the amount placed in escrow with the Village.

# PUBLIC WORKS



## Branch pick up:

As a reminder the final branch pickup for this year will be the week of November 5-9, 2007.

Please note: Any residents on alleys that have brush behind their houses or have been storing it in their yards, please bring it out to the street so we can pick it up before branch pickup ends. Branch pickup will resume April 2008.

Please note that the last pick-up day for yard waste by Waste Management will be November 30, 2007.

Parkway repairs due to Village Water Department excavations will be done weather permitting this season and continued in the spring 2008.

**Parkway Tree:** Interested in a new parkway tree? Call Public Works now at 708-345-0041 to register for our shared cost parkway tree program. Planting begins April 2008.

## Water Department reminders:

- ◆ Please try to keep the drains in the street free of debris so that the fall rains don't wash the debris into the storm sewers.
- ◆ As the cooler weather approaches, remember to turn off your outside water spigots in the basement to prevent pipes from cracking or freezing during the winter months.
- ◆ All plumbers working in the Village of Westchester need a State or City of Chicago Plumbers license, a contractor's license from the Building Department plus a certificate of insurance. A permit is required to assure codes are met and an inspection from the Plumbing Inspector is necessary.
- ◆ For new plumbing construction-residential or commercial-or for residents doing any plumbing remodeling themselves or by a plumbing contractor-Please call John Fecarotta, Plumbing Inspector, at 345-0041 to verify codes and materials to be used.
- ◆ Residents are advised to contact the Water Department at 345-0041 before signing a contract with a plumber to rod out the sanitary line. Our department will check to make sure the problem is not in our sanitary lines.
- ◆ As always, if residents see an unusual amount of water in the streets or parkways please call 345-0041 or 345-0060(after hours police non-emergency number) to report it so we can check it out immediately. This could be a possible main break.
- ◆ **Adopt a fire hydrant-keep a hydrant clean....** As the snow season approaches, please remember to keep the fire hydrants clean and free of snow so that the Fire Department can obtain easy access to them in case of emergency.

## Falling Leaves...

Summer seems to fly by faster every year! As we move into fall we are wrapping up our street repairs so we can move into leaf season. Even though we will be using the street vacuum to clean the curbs we ask you to NOT rake leaves into the streets, as this clogs the sewers.



## Snow Removal

Please help us do our job more efficiently by observing these simple rules:

1. Place your garbage cans and bins BEHIND the curb line and NOT in the street as this makes us plow around them and we can't clean to the curb.
2. Observe the NO PARKING and SNOW ROUTE signs and remove your automobile from the street until the snow has been cleared. THESE PARKING SIGNS WILL BE ENFORCED THIS WINTER! Avoid a ticket and remember that every car left parked causes three car lengths of street to be unplowed!
3. Do not throw or blow snow back into the street once it has been plowed! This can cause a dangerous situation and accidents due to slick spots on an otherwise clear street.

**Village of Westchester**

VILLAGE PRESIDENT  
Paul Gattuso

VILLAGE CLERK  
Kathryn Hayes

**TRUSTEES**

Barbara Bailey            Neil Boyle  
Bill Buikema            Patrick Casey  
Rick Fox                 Richard L. Ryan

VILLAGE MANAGER  
Carl Goldsmith



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**POSTAL CUSTOMER**

**WESTCHESTER, IL 60154**

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**MUNICIPAL NEWS**

**VEHICLE STICKERS GO ON SALE DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>.**

Newly-acquired vehicles must be licensed within thirty (30) days of purchase. If vehicle stickers are not properly displayed by February 15, 2008 the owner is subject to a fine, in addition to fees being doubled.

<b><u>VEHICLE</u></b>	<b><u>FEE (2/15)</u></b>	<b><u>FEE (2/16)</u></b>
<b>Auto</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>
<b>Motorcycle</b>	<b>\$32.00</b>	<b>\$64.00</b>
<b>Truck (B Plate)</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>	<b>\$120.00</b>
<b>Truck (C Plate)</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>	<b>\$140.00</b>
<b>Il. Disabled Plate</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>

Seniors: \$20.00 to residents age 65 by 2/15/08. One per person.

Dog Tags are \$3 until February 28, 2008 and \$4 beginning March 1. Cat tags are \$4. Newly-acquired dogs and cats must be licensed within 30 days after receiving their first rabies vaccine. Rabies certification must be presented upon registration.

The Village Hall will be open for your convenience on Saturday February 2 & 9, 9 am to noon. Village Hall office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 am. To 5 pm.

**AFTER-HOURS PAYMENTS**

Use the drop box in the lobby of the Village Hall, located in the main lobby just to the left of the doorway into the Village offices after hours.

**BILLING LATE FEES**

Water and garbage fees are billed quarterly by section. If you do not receive the bill because of a post office error, you are still subject to late fees. Bills not paid by 5 pm on the due date will be charged a late fee.

**Water Rate Increase**

Ordinance 07-1743 increases the water rate from \$3.86/thousand gallons to \$4.60/thousand gallons. The increase was required in order to do repairs and improvements to the water system. The Village water fund has been operating with a deficit partly due to the fact that increases from the City of Chicago have not been passed on to the residents. Residents will see the increase starting with their January 2008 water bills.