

Hoffman Estates Citizen

September 2021

News from the Village of Hoffman Estates

Platzkonzert Germanfest returns for its 15th year

The Platzkonzert offers residents of every background an exciting weekend with free admission, free entertainment and a play area for the children - the Kinderplatz!



The fest will take place rain or shine at the Virginia Mary Hayter Village Green, just north of the NOW Arena. Enjoy authentic German music and beer on Friday, September 10, from 5 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, September 11, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Sunday, September 12, from noon to 6 p.m.

This year, the event will feature fireworks on Friday night at 8:30 p.m.! The Kinderplatz will offer free children's activities from noon to 5 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. In partnership with the Hoffman Estates Park District, Kinderplatz will feature arts and crafts, an obstacle course bounce house and much more.

True to the Platzkonzert name, a full line-up of music is planned over the three-day fest.

The on-site Hideaway Brew Garden will feature a selection of German craft beer and food options, and don't forget to ask about a commemorative mug! View German engineering on display at the Audi of Hoffman Estates car exhibit. Contests will take place Saturday, including the hilarious beer stein carry and stein hoisting!

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Village wins economic development award

In late July, the Village was honored as Municipality of the Year by the Illinois Real Estate Journal. The award recognizes the economic progress in the Village over the past year. Major projects include the Bell Works “metroburbs” redevelopment of the former AT&T campus and a new 200,000 square foot Microsoft data center in development on Lakewood Boulevard. The Village also focused on infill projects, including new gas stations and convenience stores in the Barrington Square Town Center and Hoffman Village Shopping Center. “Bricks and mortar” retail is alive and well in Hoffman Estates, as evidenced by the addition of Burlington and Dollar Tree in the Prairie Stone Crossing Shopping Center in the 59-90 Entertainment District. The Village was also recognized for its participation in local development organizations, such as the workforce development-focused Golden Corridor Advanced Manufacturing Partnership and Next Level Northwest, which supports small business development.



The award was accepted on behalf of the Village by Economic Development Director Kevin Kramer (left) and Village Manager Eric Palm (right). The Village was selected from a group of four finalist communities by the judges, a panel of distinguished real estate professionals.

Hoffman Estates continues to “Grow to Greatness” through its support of innovative development initiatives. Many thanks to the Illinois Real Estate Journal for the recognition!

Historian’s notebook

By Pat Barch, Hoffman Estates Village Historian

When questions about a specific part of town send me on a research mission, it usually results in a Historian’s Notebook column! Readers who live north of the Tollway have asked why I haven’t written much about their area. Well, I’m glad they asked, because it gave me an opportunity to learn more about ‘up north’ and share with my readers.

In the 1960s, the Village of Hoffman Estates was in an annexation dispute with surrounding communities over the fate of land north of the Tollway (I-90). The villages of South Barrington, Barrington Hills and Inverness were suing Hoffman Estates, contending that the Village could not annex land across the Tollway. The back-and-forth in the courts meant that the planned Howie in the Hills develop-

ment (southeast of Palatine & Huntington Roads) was in, and then out of, Hoffman Estates. The Howie in the Hills project eventually failed, and the large tract of land that was planned for development was purchased by other developers.

The final Illinois Supreme Court decision came down on Jan 22, 1964, stating that the Village of Hoffman Estates could indeed annex land north of the Tollway. This allowed Allister Construction to begin the Westbury subdivision in the early 1970s, since building in Hoffman Estates allowed for clear rules and regulations for their building project.

They built the Westbury subdivision in four sections, with homes ranging in price from the Acadia at \$55,990 to the Elmwood priced at \$67,990.

Other models were the Fairfax, Briarcliff, Clairmont and Deerpath. These large, affordable homes attracted many of the families moving to the area to work at Motorola.

Westbury is located south of Palatine Road near the Jewel Rose Shopping Center, and Westbury Lake was developed as drainage for the area. Early maps show that the lake location was not a natural lake but a low lying, possible wetland area. Allister Construction named it Westbury Lake, along with the adjacent park. I haven’t yet completed my research on how many homes are located in Westbury, but one thing is certain. There’s always more to learn about ‘up north’ in Hoffman Estates!

Email Pat Barch at eagle2064@comcast.net.

Soirée Culinaire French dinner and silent auction

Join the Sister Cities Commission on Thursday, October 28, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Bridges of Poplar Creek Country Club, 1400 Poplar Creek Drive, for the 23rd annual ‘Soirée Culinaire – Discovering French Delicacies.’ This year’s exciting culinary experience includes a four-course, French-inspired, plated meal and a silent auction. There will also be tastings of fine wines and a regional liqueur from the Village’s sister city, Angoulême, France. The cost is \$50 per person. Reservations will be accepted until Wednesday, October 20. For ticket information, call Debbie at 847-781-2611. Bon appétit!



Floodplain information and services

Flooding can happen to anyone. Even if you have never experienced flooding, there is still the possibility it could happen. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) identify areas at high risk of flooding; these areas are called the “floodplain.” FIRMs are prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Cook and Kane counties to identify flood zones and help determine flood insurance rates. The Village can assist homeowners, renters and business owners in determining the likelihood your home or business is located in a floodplain, in addition to your flood insurance options. Even if you do not live near a creek, wetland or body of water - a flooding risk may still exist.

The Village offers a floodplain map information service that’s free to anyone interested in obtaining information regarding the Village’s FIRMs. Available information includes:

- **Whether a property is in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and if there is a requirement to purchase flood insurance**
- **Flood insurance rating information such as FIRM flood zone, panel number, suffix, panel date and regulatory base flood elevation**
- **A map of the property with the flood zone overlaid**
- **Additional flood map information including floodways and regulatory requirements for development in a floodway**
- **Problems not shown on the FIRM such as local drainage issues or potential flooding sources**
- **Information regarding wetland and open space areas within the Village and regulations prohibiting development**

The goal of the floodplain map information service is to educate the community about the potential flood risk on a designated property; to improve floodplain management; and to provide information about steps that can be taken to reduce losses as a result of potential flooding events.

For any property, there are two types of insurance policies available that deal with damage due to water: a flood insurance policy and a homeowners/business insurance policy. For insurance purposes, “water damage” is considered to occur when water damages your home or business before the water comes in contact with the ground. Generally, “flood damage” is caused by water that has been on the ground at some point before damaging property. Flood damage to your home or business can be insured only with a flood insurance policy - no other insurance will cover this type of damage. Renters, homeowners and business owners can purchase a separate flood insurance policy at a reduced rate for all properties, whether they are in a floodplain or not.

The good news is that because the Village is part of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), residents and businesses receive flood insurance premium discounts. If your property is in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), policies will automatically receive a 20% discount. All other policies outside of the SFHA will automatically receive a 10% discount.

To find out if you’re in an area at high risk of flooding, contact the Engineering Division to determine if a property is within a designated flood hazard area. To obtain your floodplain status, please call Shelley Walenga at 847-252-5805 or email shelley.walenga@vohe.org. The FIRM panels are also available for review at Village Hall or online at the easy-to-use FEMA Map Service Center website at <http://msc.fema.gov>. You can also visit <http://FloodSmart.gov> to learn more about flood insurance.



A message from Mayor McLeod

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the September 11 attacks on the United States. The attacks caused more than just the physical loss of life, buildings and material possessions; they also marked us on the inside in profound ways. The thousands of people who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, were loved by friends, family and co-workers. The morning of the attack, those who perished walked out of their homes, flats, apartments, dorms and hotel rooms with dreams and high hopes for a better day. By mid-morning, they were taken from us in the most final way possible. Because of that day, parents buried their children, and children buried their parents. And we, as a country, were stripped of the unique contributions and immense talent the victims had yet to share. Who is to say all that we have lost? I do not propose to guess the magnitude of even one life lost – and what that means to us as people, as a culture and as a community. I do know that we will never forget this day. What the attackers thought they took from us is instead overwhelmed by the light of love and remembrance. Although we are unable to share a full list of victims, we remember them all. Please visit page 4 for information on the Village’s 9/11 Ceremony. It will look a bit different this year, but we hope you will take a moment to join us outdoors in remembrance.



I also want to take a moment to honor the life of former Trustee, William (Bill) A. Palmer. Bill served with distinction from 1979 to 1987, and he also served on the Village’s Plan Commission after his service on the Village Board. He loved his family and Hoffman Estates and lived here until the time of his passing on July 19, 2021. Bill would always make the tough votes. He voted in favor of bringing Lake Michigan water to our Village. He served at a time of great expansion of business and residents. He believed, in the words of Edmund Burke, “A representative owes people his industry and his best judgement.” There is no doubt he will be sorely missed!

Bill McLeod



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Community briefs



A resident drops off brush.

September dates for seasonal brush drop-off

Brush may be brought to the Public Works Fleet Maintenance Facility, 2405 Pembroke Avenue from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 4 and on Saturday, September 18. This free program, which ends this month, accepts residential brush/branches only (no commercial loads), and proof of residency is required. For more information, call 847-490-6800.

Emergency assistance programs

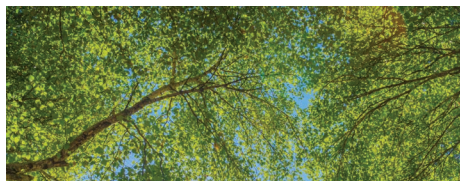
Health and Human Services is a volunteer service extension site for the Salvation Army program. Through this program, HHS provides Salvation Army Emergency Assistance services to Hoffman Estates' residents in need. This fund provides limited financial support to families who have an unexpected emergency or hardship, such as insufficient funds for rent or a past due utility bill. With the COVID-19 pandemic, assistance applications are offered for those who have been impacted and are experiencing financial hardship. Village staff meets with each client for approximately 45 minutes to assess the need for additional services and to provide referrals. To learn more about program requirements or to request an application, please contact 847-781-4850.



Substance addiction awareness

Addictions to substances can be an uphill battle without the support of loved ones. Family members and loved ones need to be aware of how to identify substance abuse, and how to support those who may need treatment. Outside of the observed use of a substance, additional signs of addiction can include: frequently missing obligations for work, school or home; mood or behavioral shifts; decline in personal hygiene; and

changes in energy (extreme sluggishness or hyperactivity). When expressing concerns to a loved one, ensure that a specific future time is arranged to discuss the matter, and be sure to emphasize your care and compassion for them. Establishing a dialogue is essential, and it is never too early to intervene. If you suspect a loved one is abusing substances, please refer them to a mental health professional specializing in addiction. For referrals, please contact the Village of Hoffman Estates Health and Human Services at 847-781-4850. You can also visit this website for additional guidance: <https://drugfree.org/article/want-help-adult-family-member-friend-drug-alcohol-problem-7-suggestions/>.



Protect our urban canopy by watering trees

Trees provide many benefits, and we need your help to care for the Village's urban canopy. While summer may be winding down, hot days and a lack of precipitation in early fall can still cause trees to suffer from stress and decline. Please water in the early morning or in the late afternoon/evening to provide the most benefit (and to comply with the Village's watering ban, which is in effect from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily from May through September). Residents are encouraged to contact Public Works at 847-490-6800 with any tree questions; the Village has arborists on staff to assist you.



Save the date: Fire Department open houses

October 9: Firehouse 23
1300 Westbury Lane

October 16: Firehouse 24
5775 Beacon Point Drive

October 23: Firehouse 21
225 Flagstaff Lane

Doors open at 1 p.m., and each event runs until 4 p.m.



September 11 commemoration ceremony

Please join the Mayor and Village Board for a brief memorial service to mark the passage of two decades since the day that changed us forever. Everyone is welcome to this 9/11 ceremony conducted by the Veterans Commission. The ceremony will take place outdoors at 11 a.m. at the Veterans' Memorial in front of the Hoffman Estates Police Department (411 W. Higgins Road).

Counseling services

Health and Human Services offers professional counseling services to residents. Counseling can improve an individual's life by reducing stress, working through change and increasing satisfaction related to work, school and relationships. Services are available for individuals, couples and families. Fees are affordable for all households and are provided on a sliding scale based on household income. Call 847-781-4850 for information.

Welcome new businesses!

Freedom Title Corporation
2000 Center Drive #C217-218

Platinum Home Mortgage Corporation, 2000
Center Drive #C209



DPG Family Law
2300 N. Barrington Road #400

Sunglass Hut at Cabela's
5225 Prairie Stone Parkway

Signature Medical Group Inc.
1585 N. Barrington Road #306

Micron Technology Inc.
2300 N. Barrington Road #491

Easy Compliance Solutions Inc.
2200 Stonington Avenue #240

Vera RCM Inc.
2500 W. Higgins Road #1105

Healthy body, healthy mind ... news from Health and Human Services

Health and Human Services offers health screenings, vaccines and preventative tests for both adults and children. Call 847-781-4850 to schedule!

Adult services and immunizations

Health and Human Services offers health screenings and preventative tests.

- Blood pressure and pulse check: free!
- Diabetes (blood sugar): \$2
- Hemoglobin (anemia): \$3

Cholesterol screening: Do you know if your cholesterol is high?

High cholesterol can cause serious heart disease. It is one of the most common health risks, affecting nearly 102 million adults in the United States. High cholesterol has no signs or symptoms, but plaque build-up can cause blockages of the arteries, leading to a heart attack or stroke.

The American Heart Association recommends that all adults ages 20 and older do the following to manage cholesterol:

- Check your cholesterol levels every four to six years, or more often if your doctor recommends it.
- Change your diet and lifestyle to help improve your cholesterol levels as needed.
- Control your cholesterol; talk with your doctor about risk factors and how to improve your cholesterol.

September is National Cholesterol Education Month. HHS is offering a full panel cholesterol, glucose and hemoglobin screening for just \$21. Results are immedi-

ate, and the test includes a consultation with a nurse.

Hemoglobin A1C screening

The hemoglobin A1C test is a simple finger stick to find out if you have diabetes or are at risk of developing diabetes. The test takes six minutes and the cost is \$15. To schedule an appointment, call 847-781-4850.

Children and Baby Clinics

Health and Human Services offers children's and baby's vaccination clinics, which use outstanding infection control policies that follow safety guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control, the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. These measures help to ensure the health of patients and protect employees.

Individual appointment times are offered for each child, with the following precautions:

- Appointments are staggered to promote social distancing.
- A COVID-19 questionnaire must be answered by each individual.
- Temperature checks are done prior to appointment time.
- Face coverings/masks are required for anyone over the age of 2.
- Only one parent per child while inside the office is encouraged.
- Additional hand-sanitizing stations are available throughout the office for client use.
- All immunizations will be discussed with families by nurses during a phone call before appointments.

- Credit card payments (if necessary) will be completed over the phone.
- Staff members are required to wear additional PPE.

For any questions about this important service, call 847-781-4850. Information regarding clinics will also be updated on the Health and Human Services website at: www.hoffmanestates.org/clinics. To request an appointment, complete two forms on the website and email them, along with immunization records, to hhs@hoffmanestates.org.



National Suicide Prevention Month

In recent years, there has been increasing acknowledgement of the important role mental health plays in overall wellness. Depression is one of the leading causes of disability, and suicide is the second leading cause of death among 15- to 29-year-olds, according to the World Health Organization. September is National Suicide Prevention Month. All month, mental health advocates, prevention organizations, survivors, allies and community members unite to promote suicide prevention awareness. Join the Youth Commission as we bring awareness to mental health and suicide prevention with our Mental Health Kit Giveaway Drive. On Saturday, September 25, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., stop by the Village Hall parking lot to pick up your kit, which includes information on mental health resources and plenty of fun giveaways to promote relaxation, creativity and stress relief. Kits will be geared for people of all ages, and supplies are limited, so please sign up to be placed on the list to receive a kit at 847-781-4850. Let's come together as a community of support and hope! If you or someone you know is struggling, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can help. Please call 800-273-TALK (8255).



By Bev Romanoff
Hoffman Estates Village Clerk

Clerk's corner

There's no place like home! Support our local businesses by shopping, eating at and visiting them. To find a listing of all Hoffman Estates businesses, visit our website and view the Business Directory. You may be surprised at all that the Village has to offer!

Contact the Village Clerk's office at 847-781-2625 or email the Clerk at bev.romanoff@hoffmanestates.org.

Share the road with motorcycles

As the seasons change, motorcycle riders are taking to the road to enjoy cooler weather and the striking colors of fall. Together, drivers and riders can make roads safe for everyone by following these motorcycle safety tips. When we share the road, we share the responsibility to keep each other safe.



Motorcycle riding safety tips:

1. Wear a helmet! Helmets are the best defense against serious brain injury in the event of an accident.
2. Get comfortable with your motorcycle. Learn how it handles and familiarize yourself with controls.
3. Enroll in a motorcycle safety course. Visit www.msf-usa.org for more information.
4. Check your bike before every ride.
5. Ride defensively. Don't assume you can be seen by drivers on the road.
6. Obey the rules of the road. Follow all lane markings, posted signs and speed limits.
7. Check the weather.
8. Don't drink and drive.

Motorcycle safety tips for car/truck drivers:

1. Beware of blind spots.
2. Slow down behind motorcycles.
3. Don't tailgate. Leave room between you and a motorcycle.
4. Use turn signals.
5. Dim your headlights. High beams are more blinding for motorcyclists, so it's important to be sure to dim them when you pass them on the roads at night.
6. Be careful taking left turns. Left turns can be particularly dangerous due to blind spots.
7. Don't drink and drive.

Happy motoring!

Branch pickup resumes September 20

Hoffman Estates' free curbside branch pickup fall program will begin the week of Monday, September 20. This program is for residents covered by the Village refuse collection contract. Routes and dates have been established for various sections of the community.

Only one collection pass will be made for each street. Do not ask for exceptions. Do not park in front of branches placed for collection.

If branches are too large, are mixed with unacceptable materials or have not been prepared properly, they will **not** be picked up.

Public Works crews **WILL** accept:

- Tree branches no larger than 8 inches in diameter or 10 feet in length
- Shrub trimmings and similar brush
- Branches from willow trees if separated from other materials

Public Works crews **WILL NOT** accept:

- Tree trunks, stumps or root balls
- Firewood
- Railroad ties or landscape timbers
- Grass clippings, leaves, sod, plants or yard waste

Visit www.hoffmanestates.org/branchpickup for more information.

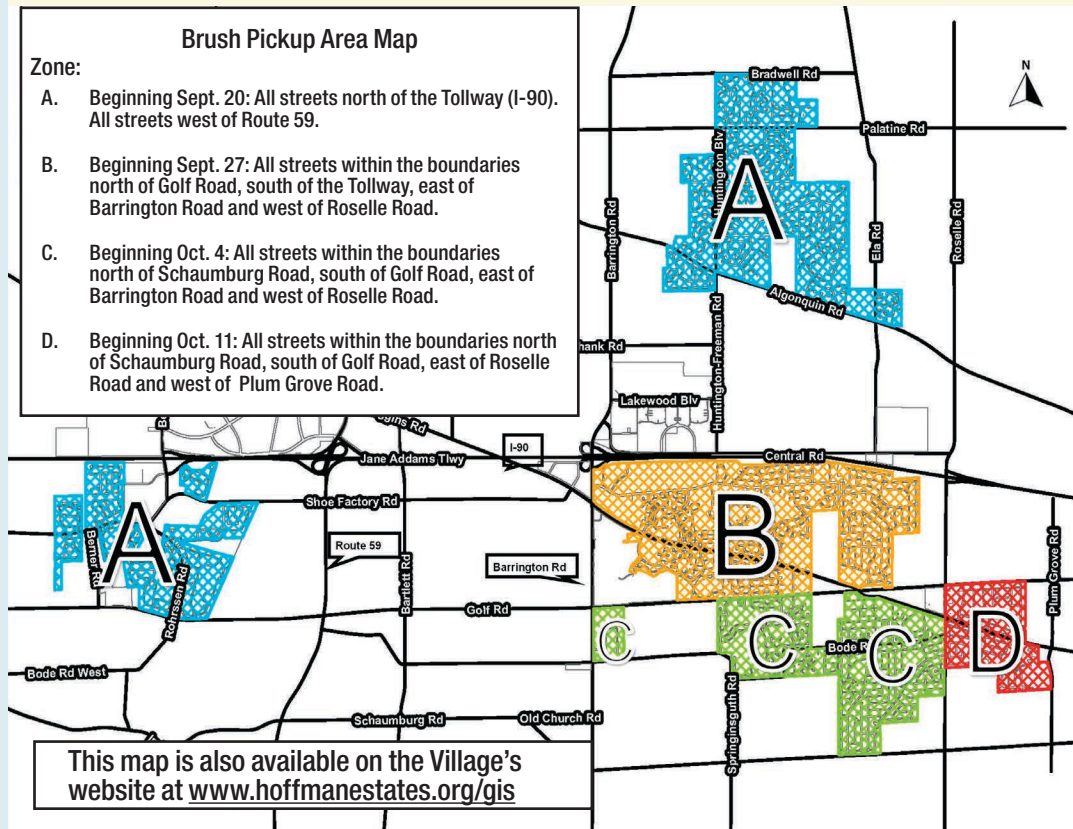
On the first date of pickup listed for your area, neatly stack branches at curbside by 7 a.m.

DO NOT:

- Tie branches in bundles or place in any container
- Allow branches to protrude into the street or block sidewalks
- Stack branches around street signs, street lights, mailboxes or directly in front of parkway trees

While supplies last, free woodchips will be available to residents at the Village's Fleet Maintenance Facility, 2405 Pembroke Ave., during daylight hours **after 3 p.m.**, Monday through Friday, and during daylight hours on weekends. Please bring your own containers.

If you have any questions or want to find out about free large truckload deliveries of wood chips, contact the Public Works Department at 847-490-6800.



September calendar



All meetings are at Village Hall unless otherwise noted. For up-to-date information, visit www.hoffmanestates.org/calendar.

Wednesday, September 1

- Economic Development Commission, 2 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m.

Thursday, September 2

- Summer Sounds on the Green - Final Say, 7 p.m. at Village Green

*Sunday, September 5

- Veteran's Flag 50: Stephen J. Topolski, Army, WWII

Monday, September 6

- Village Hall Closed - Labor Day

Tuesday, September 7

- Celtic Fest Commission, 4 p.m.
- Sustainability Commission, 6 p.m.
- Cultural Awareness Commission, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, September 9

- Fourth of July Commission, 4 p.m.

Friday, September 10

- Platzkonzert Germanfest, 5 p.m. at Village Green

Saturday, September 11

- Transition Summit, 9 a.m. Virtual
- 9/11 Ceremony, 11 a.m. at Veterans Memorial
- Platzkonzert Germanfest, 11 a.m. at Village Green

*Sunday, September 12

- Veteran's Flag 51: James F. Farrell, Jr., USMC
- Platzkonzert Germanfest, 12 p.m. at Village Green

Monday, September 13

- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.
- Village Board Meeting, immediately following Standing Committee Meetings

Wednesday, September 15

- Sister Cities Commission, 7 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m.

Thursday, September 16

- Youth Commission, 6:30 p.m.

*Sunday, September 19

- Veteran's Flag 52: Joseph Palacz, Army, WWI

Monday, September 20

- Commission for People with Disabilities, 6 p.m.
- Village Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 22

- Celebrations Commission, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 25

- Mental Health Kit Giveaway Drive, 11 a.m. at Village Hall Parking Lot

*Sunday, September 26

- Veteran's Flag 53: Emilio Hernandez, USAF, Iraq
- Greve Cemetery Tour, 1 p.m.

Monday, September 27

- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, September 28

- Arts Commission, 6 p.m.

Village Board meetings are held on the **first and third Monday** of each month at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Chambers, unless otherwise noted.

The **General Administration and Personnel; Planning, Building and Zoning;** and **Transportation and Road Improvement** committee meetings are held on the **second Monday** of each month at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Chambers, unless otherwise noted.

The **Finance; Public Health and Safety;** and **Public Works and Utilities** committee meetings are held on the **fourth Monday** of each month at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Chambers, unless otherwise noted.

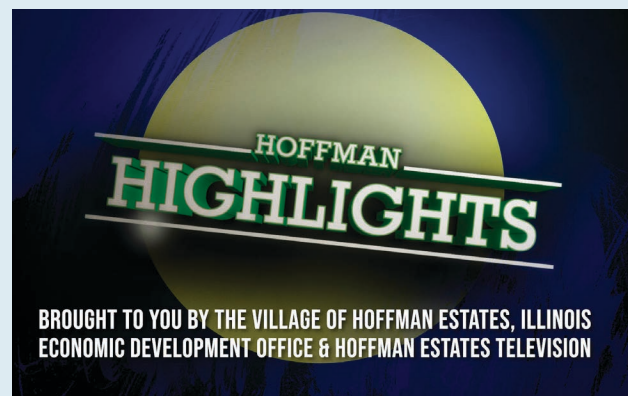
Platzkonzert Germanfest returns

[continued from front page]



Parking will be available in the lot east of the venue, off of Pratum Avenue, in front of the Tate & Lyle building. Handicapped parking and shuttle service will be provided. Limited parking will also be available on Prairie Stone Parkway.

Please visit the Village website for the full schedule of events at www.hoffmanestates.org/platz. For details call the Platzkonzert Hotline at 847-252-5446.



Hoffman Highlights!

Check out the next episode of Hoffman Highlights, where we visit The Club at Prairie Stone, The Hideaway Brew Garden and the Holiday Inn Express. The Club is an amazing fitness center operated by the Hoffman Estates Park District. Open at 5:30 a.m., the center recently renovated 15,000 square feet of space that will make you want to work out! Take in a concert at the Hideaway Brew Garden; this outdoor entertainment venue is a gem, complete with unique craft beers, tasty tacos and great live music! At the end of the night, you can book a stay at the new Holiday Inn Express and Suites nearby. Relax in the elegant rooms or make a splash in their indoor heated pool!

Find the latest and previous Hoffman Highlights at www.youtube.com/HoffmanEstatesIL.

**The flag-rotation ceremony is held at the Veterans' Memorial every Sunday at 1 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Those wishing to make a donation for the perpetual maintenance of the Memorial may do so at the Village Hall, or by mailing a check to the Veterans' Memorial c/o the Village of Hoffman Estates, 1900 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169. The casket flags of deceased veterans listed on the calendar above will be flying at the Veterans' Memorial in the coming month. The Veterans' Memorial is located outside the Hoffman Estates Police Department at 411 W. Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169.*

The Village of Hoffman Estates

1900 Hassell Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
www.hoffmanestates.org



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Main 847-882-9100
Police and Fire 911
Police Administration . . . 847-781-2800
Fire Administration 847-843-4825
Public Works 847-490-6800
Health and
Human Services. 847-781-4850
Event Hotline 847-252-5443

Village officials

Mayor

William D. McLeod

Trustees

Karen V. Mills
Anna Newell
Gary J. Pilafas
Gary G. Stanton
Michael Gaeta
Karen J. Arnet

Village Clerk

Bev Romanoff

Village Manager

Eric J. Palm

Municipal facilities

*Visit our website for
online services.*

Village Hall

1900 Hassell Road

Police Department

411 W. Higgins Road

Fire Administration

1900 Hassell Road

Fire Station 21 — Carl W. Selke

225 Flagstaff Lane

Fire Station 22 — Michael J. O'Malley

1700 Moon Lake Boulevard

Fire Station 23 — Richard G. Cordova

1300 Westbury Drive

Fire Station 24 — Jerome Danowski

5775 Beacon Pointe Drive

Susan H. Kenley-Rupnow

Public Works Center

2305 Pembroke Avenue

Printed on recycled paper

Village welcomes new police and fire chiefs

The past few months have been busy for the Village's public safety departments! The Mayor and Village Board recently swore in the Village's new fire chief and police chief.

Fire Chief Alan Wax joined the Village in early July. Chief Wax comes to Hoffman Estates after serving as chief of the Des Plaines (2009-2019) and Highland Park (2004-2009) fire departments. He began his career with the Highland Park Fire Department in 1980 and brings more than 40 years' experience to the role. According to Village Manager Eric Palm, "Chief Wax's vast experience and leadership as a fire chief is exactly what the organization needs to mentor the future leaders of our department."

Police Chief Kasia Cawley was officially appointed to the role in mid-July, after

serving as Acting Chief since November 2020. Chief Cawley is a 21-year veteran of the Hoffman Estates Police Department. She has moved steadily through the ranks, receiving promotions to Sergeant in 2013, Section Commander in 2016, Bureau Commander in 2017 and Assistant Chief in 2018. As Mayor William D. McLeod stated, "Chief Cawley is a highly-skilled police professional who is ideally suited to be the Village's next police chief. Her focus on customer service and mentoring will continue to build the department and foster positive, constructive relations with the community."

Congratulations to Chief Wax and Chief Cawley!



Fire Chief Alan Wax (center, left)



Mayor McLeod swears in Police Chief Kasia Cawley