

# Hoffman Estates Citizen

July-August 2024

## Design and Site Plan Approved for New Fire Station 21

The Village Board approved design, floor plans and a site plan for the construction of the new Fire Station #21 on May 13.



The Village has been working with FGM Architects and Camosy Construction since January on design details for the new Fire Station # 21, which was originally built in 1960 and identified for replacement in a Fire Station Location and Analysis Study that was conducted in 2022. The study was conducted to determine the future for aging Fire Stations #21 and #22 in Hoffman Estates. Station #21 is being rebuilt adjacent to its current location in Chino Park, which is already owned by the Village.

The Village's Capital Improvement Program for 2024 includes the new Fire Station #21 project, which will be funded by proceeds of a bond issuance that was completed

on June 5. With the sale of \$9 million in General Obligation Bonds for the project, the Village received a favorable 4 percent interest rate and was given an AA+/Stable long-term financial rating by S&P Global Ratings.

The basis of the favorable rating conducted by S&P cited historically positive budget results for the Village, underscored by strong fiscal management, conservative assumptions for key revenues and diligent monitoring of reserves. As part of their report, S&P reports that it is anticipated that the Village will maintain very strong reserve and liquidity positions going forward.

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# Historian's Notebook



By Pat Barch, Hoffman Estates Village Historian

## Village Receives Distinguished Budget Presentation Award



For the 16th consecutive year, the Village of Hoffman Estates has been awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its FY2024 Budget

by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). This award represents a significant achievement by the Village of Hoffman Estates and reflects the commitment of the Village Board and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

To receive the budget award, the Village had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. The guidelines are designed to assess how well the Village's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.

In addition to receiving the budget award, the Village's budget also received special recognition for the Long Range Operating Financial Plan section contained within the document. Special recognition occurs when all three reviewers give the highest possible score in a particular category.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 16,000 government finance professionals, with offices in Chicago and Washington, D.C.

This year our Village of Hoffman Estates celebrates its 65th anniversary of incorporation. The residents, on their third attempt at the polls, finally voted to incorporate on September 23, 1959.

I moved to Hoffman Estates in the spring of 1965, and it certainly looked different back then than it does today. All of the highways were two lane roads with gravel shoulders, and there were only stop signs at the intersections. There was no tollway yet. The tallest structure in town was the water tower located at the north east corner of Hoffman Plaza. The flashing red light at the very top of the tower was the first thing you'd see when returning from the city after a family get together. The fields on either side of many roads were filled with corn, and at night the only thing you would hear was crickets. It was also very dark. There were no street lights in the residential areas except for at major intersections, and there were no lights on the highways as yet. You could star gaze and watch meteor showers without the light pollution.

There were no drive-up fast food restaurants back in the mid-1960s. We had Jewel, National Tea, A&P, Grants Department Store, Snyder Drugs, Walgreens Drugs, the Golf Rose Bakery, Thunderbird Movie Theater, the Hoffman Bowling Alley, Hippo's Hot Dogs and the Fireside Roller Rink. Gas Stations were on two of the corners of Roselle and Higgins and three of the corners of Roselle and Golf. Several more gas stations were located at the Golf and Higgins intersection. Everything looked so different in the early days of incorporation.

There was no Woodfield back then. The closest large department stores were in downtown

Elgin. We would shop at the old Sears store there that still had its original creaky wooden floors. Another grocery store was in Roselle on Irving Park Road called Gorski's. Meat was never sold after 6 pm. We could buy wonderful honey candy at the Meineke's Honey Farm store on the southwest corner of Plum Grove and Golf.

There was a municipal building in the Hammerstein farm house that housed a combination of Village Hall, Police Department and Public Works. It was the center of village business. Water bills, auto stickers and traffic tickets could be paid there. There was no Post Office on Gannon Dr. because there was no Gannon Dr. There was a small post office satellite site in Hoffman Plaza. Earlier, the post office was only in Roselle. We had a zip code of 60172, which still exists in Roselle today.

There was no Hassell Road, only a gravel and dirt road that went west from Jones Rd., behind the Marshall Field Hunt Club and out to the gas station on the northeast corner of Barrington and Higgins Roads. The east end of Hillcrest Boulevard ended in a dirt and gravel road that took you out to Roselle Road. Rainy weather made travel on these roads difficult.

There was no Eisenhower Jr. High or Hoffman Estates High School. Hoffman Estates students attended Conant High School that opened in 1964.

Life in the small Village of Hoffman Estates looked very different back in 1965, nothing like it does in our 65th anniversary year of 2024.

Email Pat Barch at [eagle2064@comcast.net](mailto:eagle2064@comcast.net)

## City Hall Selfie Day is coming August 15

*Show your pride in local government institutions!*

Every year since 2016, the professional association Engaging Local Government Leaders (ELGL) has organized government employees, elected officials, members of the media, and community members to participate in City Hall Selfie Day. The concept is simple – take a selfie in front of your favorite local government building and post it on social media with the #CityHallSelfieDay hashtag.

Last year, over 1 million people showed off their community pride using the #CityHallSelfie tag on social media. So, for 2024, let's show off our love of Hoffman Estates with fun photos showcasing our community pride and help this ELGL event grow to greatness!





# Northwest Fourth-Fest Runs July 3 to July 7

Northwest Fourth-Fest, the region's largest free-admission Fourth of July celebration, returns to Hoffman Estates this summer! Hosted by the Village of Hoffman Estates and the Hoffman Estates Park District, Northwest Fourth-Fest kicks off at the NOW Arena, 5333 Prairie Stone Parkway, with the carnival running Wednesday, July 3 through Sunday, July 7.

## Festival Hours

- **Wednesday, July 3** - 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. (carnival only)
- **Thursday, July 4** - Noon to 11 p.m. (carnival only)
- **Friday, July 5** - Noon to 11 p.m. (full festival)
- **Saturday, July 6** - Noon to 11 p.m. (full festival)
- **Sunday, July 7** - Noon to 5 p.m. (carnival only)

In addition to the carnival and Bingo, the fest lineup for July 5 and July 6 features the very popular free Kids' Zone, presented by Wintrust, with a petting zoo, face painting, a balloon twister, inflatable slides, musical shows, and more. Entertainment on July 5 includes live music from Ken Dix starting at 5:30 p.m. and Wedding Banned starting at 8:30 p.m., with a break at 9:30 p.m. for a state-of-the-art drone light show. Entertainment on July 6 includes live music from Serendipity at 5:30 p.m. and 7th heaven at 8:30 p.m. with a break at 9:30 p.m. for the region's largest fireworks show, presented by Groot. With plenty of space on the festival grounds, there's not a bad seat in the house to enjoy the show!

## Parade

The Fourth of July Parade runs along Illinois Boulevard, stepping off at 9 a.m. on Thursday, July 4. This year's parade theme is "Harvesting Unity: Celebrating 65 Years of Hoffman Estates." The Parade Marshal this year is Hoffman Estates resident and WWII Veteran Bernard Bluestein, who recently received a Congressional Gold Medal related to his service in the Army.



## A Message from Mayor McLeod



Summer events have kicked off in Hoffman Estates, including the Summer Sounds on the Green concert series hosted by the Hoffman Estates Arts Commission and the Hoffman Estates Park District. Between Thursday night concert series at the Village Green amphitheater and additional weekend on the Hideaway Brew Garden stage, there is plenty of entertainment for everyone! Make this hidden gem a family tradition and join us this summer. Learn more about events and private party packages at the Hideaway online at [hideawaybrewgarden.com](http://hideawaybrewgarden.com).

Also coming up is the Village's largest festival, the fun-filled, Northwest Fourth-Fest complete with great food, live acts, carnival rides, a drone light show and fireworks. Details for the fest and the iconic Hoffman Estates 4th of July Parade can be found at [northwestfourthfest.com](http://northwestfourthfest.com). As always, residents are invited out to Illinois Blvd. on July 4 to enjoy the parade with family and friends. Step-off is at 9 a.m.; get there early for a great seat!

Coming up on July 24 is the Inaugural Hope for Hoffman Golf Tournament hosted by the Hoffman Estates Charitable Foundation. The event takes place at Bridges of Poplar Creek Golf Club and will support the Village's Health and Human Services Department for residents in need. For more information or to register, please call Jennifer Djordjevic at 847-781-2610 or email [jennifer.djordjevic@vohe.org](mailto:jennifer.djordjevic@vohe.org).

Also, mark your calendar for Shenanigans on the Green! On August 10, the Virginia Mary Hayter Village Green will come to life with a Celtic Marketplace, Irish dancers, Celtic themed food, children's activities and much more! New this year are the Corgi races. This free event starts at 1 p.m. and is open to the entire family!

As always, if you have questions or just want to drop a note to say hello, you can call me at 847-815-3842 or email [bill.mcleod@vohe.org](mailto:bill.mcleod@vohe.org).

*Bill McLeod*



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Sign up for eNews!  
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# Growing to Greenness!



## Annual Recycling Event

Hoffman Estates is hosting its free annual recycling drop-off and document destruction event on Saturday, August 24, from 9 a.m. to noon at Village Hall, 1900 Hassell Rd.



Residents should remain in their vehicles while attending this event, and workers will unload recyclables from vehicles. Paper documents should be contained in paper bags or small cardboard boxes – not in plastic bags. If a resident has a variety of materials to recycle, please keep them separated in the back of the vehicle to ensure items are recycled properly. Accepted items include textiles, medications and sharps, batteries, printer cartridges, and fluorescent light bulbs.

## Trees Can Become Stressed Too

Are your tree leaves starting to droop a bit? Does it look like autumn already as the tree leaves turn yellow/brown and perhaps even fall to the ground? These are common signs of a tree undergoing heat stress. Trees experiencing heat stress are more susceptible to pests, which cause even further tree decline. Avoid stress by providing the tree with deep watering (softening the top 10” of soil) during the hot summer weather to encourage the formation of long, deep roots.

### Tree Watering Tips:

- Avoid evaporation by watering in the early morning or, if necessary, in the early evening.
- Use a soaker hose or oscillating sprinkler to allow water to infiltrate the soil slowly for deeper watering. It may take a few sessions to loosen up over-dried soil.
- The area near the drip line (furthest extension of tree canopy) should be watered. This is where the root tips that bring moisture to the tree are located.
- Mature trees require deep watering twice a month in normal conditions.
- Newly planted trees require deep watering 1-2 times a week, contingent on precipitation received.
- In a drought situation, water more frequently, but be mindful of water use restrictions.

Trees contribute to better air quality, carbon storage, increased property values, energy savings and reduced storm water runoff. Trees beautify surroundings and bring the enjoyment of nature into your neighborhood. Be kind to your trees this summer and give them a drink of water!

### Paper Shredding

Only sensitive documents will be accepted, including medical records, bank statements and tax forms. Do not include magazines, greeting cards or newspapers, as these can be recycled curbside. Paper is cross-shredded on site. Residents are limited to six file-size boxes or grocery-size paper bags of documents. Plastic, metal clips and binders should be removed. Do not bring paper in plastic bags. Plastic is a contaminant, as are photos, slides and any non-paper item.

### Electronics Recycling

Remove electronics from plastic packaging and boxes before the event. Accepted electronic items include: cable and satellite receivers, cell phones and tablets, computers and computer equipment/components (e.g., cables, keyboards, monitors, etc.), fax machines, printers, scanners, MP3 players, TVs, video game consoles, video recorders/players, and Zip drives.

Items NOT accepted include: air conditioners, CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, humidifiers/dehumidifiers, lamps, microwaves, refrigerators and other large home appliances, speakers, stereos, and vacuum cleaners.

### Additional Services

In addition to electronics, the Village will be accepting these items for recycling:

- Textiles and small household goods through Simple Recycling (new or used clothing; boots and shoes; belts and ties; handbags; hats and gloves; toys; towels; sheets and blankets; small kitchen appliances; and more).
- Expired drugs/sharps
- Fluorescent and compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) light bulbs
- Batteries
- Printer cartridges
- Latex (water-based) paint:
  - Spray cans: \$2
  - Quarts: \$2.50
  - One-gallon containers: \$5
  - Five-gallon buckets: \$12

NOTE: flammable materials will not be accepted.

For more information about this recycling event and other sustainability programs, visit [hoffmanestates.org/green](http://hoffmanestates.org/green).



# Healthy Body, Healthy Mind ...

## News from Health and Human Services

Health and Human Services offers affordable physical and mental health services to the community. To schedule health screenings, preventative tests, affordable vaccines and tuberculosis testing, call 847-781-4850. Vaccination appointments can be made online at [portal.hoffmanestates.org](https://portal.hoffmanestates.org).

### Adult Services and Immunizations

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

### Cholesterol Screening

This FASTING test measures total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides and glucose levels. It requires a small drop of blood. Results are immediate, and include consultation with a nurse. The cost is \$22.

### Hemoglobin A1C Screening

The Hemoglobin A1C test is a simple finger stick to find out if you are at risk for or have diabetes by measuring your average blood sugar levels over the past three months. The test takes 6 minutes and the cost is only \$15.

### Children and Baby Clinics

Health and Human Services offers several vaccination clinics for children and babies. Please visit our website at [hoffmanestates.org/HHS](https://hoffmanestates.org/HHS) to learn about program requirements and our practice and philosophies.

### Vaccine Appointment Portal

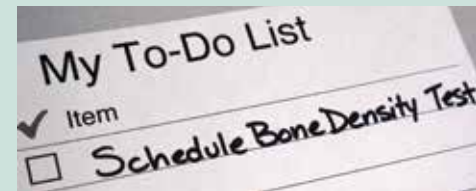
Visit our appointment scheduling portal at [portal.hoffmanestates.org](https://portal.hoffmanestates.org) to schedule vaccinations for babies, children and adults. Please take a picture of your child's vaccine record and upload where it is indicated in the portal.



### Bone Density Screening

Over 54 million Americans are living with osteoporosis, a condition where your bones become brittle and are more prone to fractures and breaks. This bone disease affects both women and men of all races and ethnic groups. Proper nutrition and exercise can help to prevent and treat osteoporosis.

The Village of Hoffman Estates is now offering appointments for bone density screenings. The screening uses measurements from your wrist or finger and takes less than five minutes. Call (847) 781-4850 to reserve your space at the Health and Human Services Department at Village Hall or at the Hoffman Estates Branch Library. More info at [niams.nih.gov/health-topics/osteoporosis](https://niams.nih.gov/health-topics/osteoporosis).

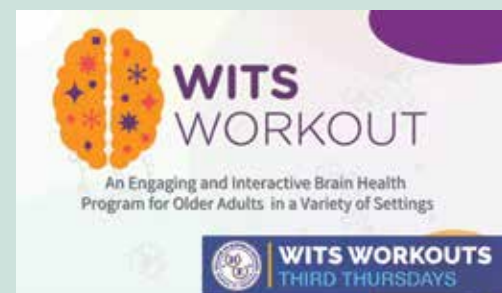


### Older Adults Invited: Wits Workout!

Our brains need exercise just like our bodies. Wits Workout is a new program in Hoffman Estates that was started by researchers at the University of Illinois to promote brain health and provide opportunities for older adults to engage intellectually with others. Older adults are invited to join us for a Wits Workout at Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month from 10 AM to noon, including upcoming sessions on July 18 and August 15. For more information, or to register, call Health and Human Services at 847-781-4850.

## Back to School Clinic

Set your student up for success by keeping their health a priority. Up-to-date vaccinations help protect them against certain diseases and from spreading severe illnesses in school. The State of Illinois requires specific immunizations for children and teens in kindergarten through 12th grade. Health and Human Services will host multiple back to school clinics for those who qualify (no insurance, Medicaid, or under-insured). Vaccine appointments can be made online at: [portal.hoffmanestates.org/Vaccine/ChildVaccine](https://portal.hoffmanestates.org/Vaccine/ChildVaccine).





# Where Does the Water Go?

## Free Drainage Advice

High levels of precipitation can contribute to localized drainage issues. The Engineering Division is available to assist residents with technical advice on solving nuisance drainage concerns.

Stormwater management systems are designed to convey stormwater to nearby waterways through storm sewers and surface swales. While it is common for high-intensity rainfall events to overburden storm sewers and cause temporary ponding in low areas, overland surface drainage paths are designed to ensure structures are protected from surface flooding.

To ensure that your house is protected, the Village recommends completing the following steps:

- Regularly check that the ground settlement adjacent to the home's foundation slopes away from structures toward the nearest side, front, or rear yard swale.
- Extend downspouts and sump pump discharges several feet from structures and direct them to the nearest drainage swale, but not closer than three feet to your property line.
- Do not block or obstruct drainage paths from upstream areas. Typically, drainage paths are located along property lines. Over time, these drainage paths may become blocked by gardens, sheds, or raised landscape features.

Drainage improvements normally involve grading and/or the installation of private storm sewer systems. Since this work usually requires a Village permit, Village staff can offer advice for residents to consider on how to proceed.

If you would like to take advantage of the free drainage investigation service, utilize one of the methods below:

- Click the "I Want To..." button on the homepage of the Village website, then click "Make a Request" and select "Drainage Issues."
- Contact the Engineering Division by phone at 847-252-5800 or by email at [construction@vohe.org](mailto:construction@vohe.org).

Please note that demand for this service is generally high, so allow for several weeks to schedule the drainage investigation.

The sanitary sewer is a system of underground pipes that carries wastewater from bathrooms, sinks, kitchens, and indoor drains to a wastewater treatment plant where it is filtered and treated before being discharged into a waterway.

The storm sewer is a system designed to carry rainfall runoff and other clean water sources only. Runoff is carried in underground pipes or open ditches, and then discharged - untreated - into local streams, rivers and other surface water bodies. Storm sewer inlets are typically found along curbs and other low-lying outdoor areas.

Disposal of chemicals or hazardous substances to the storm sewer system damages the environment. Motor oil, cleaners, paints and other common household items that get into storm drains can poison fish, birds, and other wildlife as well as pollute groundwater sources. In addition, grass clippings, leaves, litter and organic matter can clog storm drains and contribute to flooding.

Here are some things you can do to help maintain the storm sewer system and keep our environment clean:

- Do not pour ANYTHING into storm sewer drains.
- Keep storm sewer drains clear of leaves, grass clippings, sticks and litter.
- Scoop up after your pet and throw it away in the trash.
- Repair any leaks from your vehicle and recycle motor oil.
- Clean up spills – DO NOT wash them into storm drains.
- Minimize the use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides.

All of us benefit from clean water, and all of us have a role in getting and keeping our lakes, rivers, wetlands and groundwater clean. Report illegal dumping or spills by calling the Public Works Department at 847-490-6800 or emailing [publicworks@vohe.org](mailto:publicworks@vohe.org).

For more information on how the Village works to ensure water quality, visit [hoffmanestates.org/stormwater](http://hoffmanestates.org/stormwater).





# Applications Open for **Police and Teen First Responder** Academy Programs

## Citizen's Police Academy

The Hoffman Estates Police Department is pleased to announce they are offering the 33rd Annual Citizen's Police Academy in 2024. The Citizen's Police Academy will meet every Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 between September 3 and November 19. The academy will take place at the Police Department, 411 W. Higgins Road, and includes a tour of the Northwest Central Dispatch Center.

Citizen's Police Academy presentations will be made by:

- Firearms Instructors
- Problem Oriented Police/Crime Prevention Division
- Investigations
- Use of Force Instructors
- Evidence Technicians
- Traffic Section/DUI
- Tactical Unit/Gangs/Narcotics
- Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (N.I.P.A.S.) / S.W.A.T.

Applications are located on the Police Department's website at [hoffmanestates.org/police](http://hoffmanestates.org/police). Applicants must be at least 18-years-old. Questions should be directed to Sergeant Dan Donohue at 847-781-2866 or by email at [Daniel.Donohue@vohe.org](mailto:Daniel.Donohue@vohe.org).



## First Responder Academy for Teens

The Teen First Responder Academy will be held Thursday evenings this fall from 6 to 9 p.m. for 12 consecutive weeks starting September 5. This academy will be held at the Police Station, 411 W. Higgins Road and several Fire Stations in the Village. Applicants are required to be between 14 and 20 years old. Presentations include, but are not limited to:

- Fire apparatus explanations and demonstrations
- Evidence/crime scene processing
- Vehicle extrications
- Major crime investigations
- Fire hose pulls
- Gangs and narcotics
- Working a live fire
- NIPAS/SWAT functions
- Live action role play scenarios

Applicants must be residents of Hoffman Estates. Applications are located on the Police Department's website at [hoffmanestates.org/police](http://hoffmanestates.org/police) and are due by August 1, 2024. Direct questions to Cassidy Ortiz at 847-781-2873 or by email at [Cassidy.Ortiz@vohe.org](mailto:Cassidy.Ortiz@vohe.org) or Fire Lieutenant Kurt Lichtenberg at 847-843-4825 or email [Kurt.Lichtenberg@vohe.org](mailto:Kurt.Lichtenberg@vohe.org).

# Building Department Safety Alert: Stab-Lok Electrical Panels May Create Fire Risk

Homes built in Hoffman Estates between 1950 and 1980 might have had Stab-Lok electrical circuit breaker panels installed that may pose a safety risk, having been linked to numerous electrical fires due to faulty manufacturing and design.



These circuit breakers may fail to trip in response to an overcurrent or a short circuit, possibly causing a house fire, property damage, and/or personal injury.

How to verify if your home has Federal Pacific electrical panels:

1. Determine if your home was built in the mid 20th century, from 1950 to the 1980s.
2. Look for sticker or logos indicating Federal Pacific Electric Company, FPE or Federal Pacific on the electrical circuit breaker.
3. The circuit breakers will have the words 'Stab-Lok' on them.

Due to numerous reports of Stab-Lok panels leading to fires, insurance companies tend to opt out of coverage for these homes. Having this brand of electrical panel can also be a deterrent for potential buyers. Most home inspectors will flag the panel and recommend replacing it before a home sale can be completed.

The Building Department recommends that homeowners hire a licensed electrician to replace Stab-Lok brand electrical panels. The average replacement cost of an electrical panel is estimated to be between \$1,000 and \$3,000 depending on service and other factors. An electrical permit is required to be obtained for an electrical panel replacement. Please call the Village's Building Department at 847-781-2631 or email [buildingpermits@vohe.org](mailto:buildingpermits@vohe.org) with questions or concerns.

# Show your **Community Pride** Nominate a neighbor today!

The nomination deadline for the 25th annual Community Pride Recognition Awards is Friday Aug. 30. This program, sponsored by the Sustainability Commission, recognizes and honors three "best" landscaping categories:

- Detached single-family home
- Attached single-family home
- Neighborhood or homeowner's association

This program also recognizes beautiful properties that may incorporate "green" practices. If you see a neighbor using rain barrels, composting, incorporating nontoxic methods of pest and weed control, or other sustainable practices, let us know!

Photographs will be taken of areas viewable from the street in early September. For more information and an online nomination form, visit [hoffmanestates.org/sc](http://hoffmanestates.org/sc).



## Community Pride Recognition Award nomination form

I nominate the residence at: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner(s) name (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

"Green" landscape techniques (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood/homeowners association: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name and address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return to:

*Hoffman Estates Village Hall c/o Sustainability Commission  
1900 Hassell Road  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169*





**SUMMER  
SOUNDS  
ON THE GREEN  
2024**

The Summer Sounds on the Green concert series continues! This free, outdoor concert series is held at the Virginia Mary Hayter Village Green, 5510 Prairie Stone Pkwy., adjacent to the Now Arena in Hoffman Estates. Sponsored by the Arts Commission and the Hoffman Estates Park District, these free performances are perfect for anyone looking to enjoy good, family-friendly music in a relaxing setting. All Thursday evening performances begin at 7 p.m.

**SCHEDULE FOR THE REMAINDER OF SUMMER:**

JULY 11: MARIACHI UNIVERSITARIO

JULY 18: AMERICAN CASH

JULY 25: BOPOLOGY

AUGUST 1: BILLY ELTON

AUGUST 8: JOHNNY RUSSLER & THE BEACH BUM BAND

AUGUST 15: HEARTACHE TONIGHT

Bring a blanket or lawn chair to enjoy the shows! For more information, including directions and free parking details, call 847-252-5448, or visit [hoffmanestatesarts.com](http://hoffmanestatesarts.com). Shows will be canceled in the event of lightning.

## Shenanigans on the Green Returns to the Village Green for 2024

The Northwest Celtic Fest: Shenanigans on the Green is back outdoors for 2024. Join us on Saturday, August 10 from 1 to 11 p.m. for this fun cultural event where parking, entry, and kids' activities are free!

Festival activities include a Celtic Marketplace, whiskey tasting, birds of prey demonstration, live sword play demonstrations from the Chicago Sword Play Guild, a mini horse meet and greet from Soul Harbor, opportunities to meet with clans and learn about your Celtic ancestry, dancing and live music. Authentic Celtic fare and a variety of beer and other beverages will be available for purchase.

New this year, the Chicago Area Corgi Owners Group is hosting Corgi races from 3 to 5 p.m. Live festival

entertainment includes music and dancing by Ar Ais Aris, Rebecca McCarthy School of Dance, Mulligan Stew, The Academy of Irish Music, Baal Tinne, Thistle & Heather Highland Dancers, Dundee Scottish Pipe Band, Black Murray, Kennedy's Kitchen, Whiskey Mick, and Ken Dix's They Might Be Irish.

The Celtic Fest Commission is collecting non-perishable food items and winter clothing item donations at the event. "In addition to collecting non-perishable items, we are also looking ahead to the colder months," said Mayor McLeod. "Our grade school students are in need of warm hats, coats and gloves and we'd love to take your gently worn items to our local schools." All items can be brought to the fest and dropped off at the entrance.



The Virginia Mary Hayter Village Green is located at 5510 Prairie Stone Parkway, adjacent to the NOW Arena. Admittance and parking for Celtic Fest are free. Parking is available in the Tate & Lyle parking lot at 5450 Prairie Stone Parkway, which has a foot path leading to the Village Green.

For a complete schedule of events visit [hoffmanestates.org/celtic](http://hoffmanestates.org/celtic) or call 847-781-2610.

# Community briefs

## Seasonal brush drop-off program

Brush may be brought to the Public Works Fleet Maintenance Facility, 2405 Pembroke Ave., from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the following Saturdays: July 6, July 20, August 3, August 17, September 7, and September 21. This free program is for residential brush/branches only (no commercial loads), and proof of residency is required. For more information, call 847-490-6800.

## Upcoming programs for seniors

The Commission for Senior Citizens is hosting two fun events in July and August:

- Wednesday, July 17: annual summer Bingo and Ice Cream Social, 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$4, registration is required.
- Wednesday, August 21: summer luncheon with musical entertainment, noon at Village Hall. Cost is \$10, registration is required.

To register, call Hallie Karle at 847-781-2606 and send a check payable to “Village of Hoffman Estates” to 1900 Hassell Rd., Hoffman Estates, IL. Payment must be received before a reservation can be confirmed.

## Commission for People with Disabilities sponsoring carnival rides

The Fourth of July Commission and the Commission for People with Disabilities are pleased to sponsor free carnival rides for individuals with disabilities and their immediate family/caregivers at this year’s Northwest Fourth-Fest. This special opportunity will take place on Saturday, July 6, from 10 a.m. to noon at the NOW Arena. The event is open to any people with disabilities, their immediate family and caregivers. There is no cost for entry, and space is limited. Registration is required prior to admittance; register online at [northwestfourthfest.com/carnival](http://northwestfourthfest.com/carnival).



## Youth Commission hosting Reptile Show

The Youth Commission is hosting a free Reptile Show on Saturday, August 3 at 10 am at Village Hall for children and their grown-ups! To register for this fun, family-friendly show, call Hallie Karle at 847-781-2606.



## Save the date: French dinner and silent auction

The 26th Annual Soirée Culinare, sponsored by the Sister Cities Commission, will take place on Tuesday, October 15, at 5:30 p.m. at The Stonegate Banquet and Conference Centre, 2401 W. Higgins Road. This unique event features a French-inspired meal prepared Chef Jeff Howard, graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, Chef Pili Rios, Culinary Instructor at Harper College, and Executive Chef David Harding. Singer Claudia Hommel will entertain with the music of French cabaret singer Edith Piaf, and the evening will feature live and silent auctions. Look for more information in the next issue of the *Citizen*.

## Platzkonzert Germanfest returns September 6, 7 & 8

The Village’s annual Oktoberfest-themed Platzkonzert Germanfest will take place at the Virginia Mary Hayter Village Green on Friday, September 6 through Sunday, September 8. The event begins at 5 p.m. on Friday, September 6, with lively traditional music and authentic German cuisine. Activities on Saturday include a free Kinderplatz area for the kids, while adults can enjoy friendly competitions and live music all day (and into the night). Music and Kinderplatz activities will continue on Sunday until early evening. For a full schedule or to sign up to volunteer, visit [hoffmanestates.org/platz](http://hoffmanestates.org/platz).



## Clerk’s corner

Village Clerk Bev Romanoff recently announced her retirement from the Village Clerk’s office after over 17 years of dedicated public service. Clerk Romanoff’s final day in office was June 30, 2024.

As Village Clerk, Bev has served as the Village’s official record keeper, which includes transcribing Village Board meeting minutes, publishing ordinances passed by the Village Board, and fulfilling Freedom of Information Act requests. During her tenure, Bev improved internal processes for the licensing of all businesses in Hoffman Estates, the provision of welcome packets to new residents, and the processing of passport applications.



The Village thanks Bev for her service and wishes her the best of luck on her retirement!



# July & August calendar

All meetings are at Village Hall unless otherwise noted. For up-to-date information, visit [hoffmanestates.org/calendar](http://hoffmanestates.org/calendar).

**BPC:** Bridges of Poplar Creek Country Club  
**FS:** Hoffman Estates Fire Station #24, 5775 Beacon Pointe Dr.  
**NOW:** Now Arena, 5553 Prairie Stone Pkwy.  
**PD:** Police Department, 411 W. Higgins Rd.  
**PWF:** Public Works Fleet Maintenance, 2405 Pembroke Ave.

**SE:** Seascape Family Aquatic Center, 1300 Moon Lake Blvd.  
**SRP:** South Ridge Park (1450 Freeman Road)  
**VG:** Virginia Mary Hayter Village Green located adjacent to the NOW Arena (5510 Prairie Stone Parkway)  
**VP:** Vogeley Park, 650 W. Higgins Rd.

All meetings are at Village Hall unless otherwise noted. For up-to-date information, visit [hoffmanestates.org/calendar](http://hoffmanestates.org/calendar).

## July

### Monday, July 1

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.
- Platzkonzert Commission, 4 p.m.
- Village Board, 7 p.m.
- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.

### Tuesday, July 2

- Sustainability Commission, 6 p.m.

### Wednesday, July 3

- Utility Commission, 12 p.m.
- Northwest Fourth-Fest, 5 to 11 p.m., NOW
- Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

### Thursday, July 4

- 4th of July Parade, 9 a.m. along Illinois Blvd.
- Northwest Fourth-Fest, 12 to 11 p.m., NOW

### Friday, July 5

- Northwest Fourth-Fest, 12 to 11 p.m., NOW

### Saturday, July 6

- Commission for People With Disabilities Carnival Rides, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., NOW
- Northwest Fourth-Fest, 12 to 11 p.m., NOW
- Seasonal Branch/Brush Dropoff, 8 a.m., PWF

### \*Sunday, July 7

- Northwest Fourth-Fest, 12 to 5 p.m., NOW
- Veteran's Flag 18, Pfc. Robert M. Kissane, Army

### Monday, July 8

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.

### Tuesday, July 9

- Celtic Fest Commission, 4 p.m.
- Commission for Senior Citizens, 5:30 p.m.

### Thursday, July 11

- Fourth of July Commission, 4 p.m.
- Summer Sounds on the Green: Mariachi Universitario, VG, 7 p.m.

### Friday, July 12

- Children's Entertainment Series: Ben Tatar, VP, 10 a.m.

### Saturday, July 13

- Children's Entertainment Series: Jeanie B and the Jelly Beans, SRP, 12 p.m.

\*The flag-rotation ceremonies are 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 months. The Veterans' Memorial is located outside the Hoffman Estates Police Department at 411 W. Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169.

### \*Sunday, July 14

- Veteran's Flag 19, Cpl. Daniel Bobel, USMC, WWII

### Monday, July 15

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.
- Commission for People with Disabilities, 6 p.m.
- Village Board, 7 p.m.
- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.

### Tuesday, July 16

- Police Pension Board, 1 p.m.
- Fire and Police Commission, 6 p.m.

### Wednesday, July 17

- Commission for Senior Citizens Ice Cream Social, 1:30 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Sister Cities Commission, 7 p.m.

### Thursday, July 18

- Wits Workout, 10 a.m.
- Youth Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Summer Sounds on the Green: American Cash, VG, 7 p.m.

### Saturday, July 20

- Seasonal Branch/Brush Dropoff, 8 a.m., PWF

### \*Sunday, July 21

- Veteran's Flag 20, Cpl. Ryan J. Cummings, USMC, Iraq

### Monday, July 22

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.

### Tuesday, July 23

- Arts Commission, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, July 24

- Hope Fore Hoffman Golf Tournament, BPC, 10 a.m.

### Thursday, July 25

- Summer Sounds on the Green: Bopology, VG, 7 p.m.

### Friday, July 26

- Children's Entertainment Series: Miss Jamie, VP, 10 a.m.

### \*Sunday, July 28

- Veteran's Flag 21, T/5 Uhle F. Lachner, Army, WWII

- Veterans Memorial Commission, 1 p.m.

### Monday, July 29

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.

## August

### Thursday, August 1

- Summer Sounds on the Green: Billy Elton, VG, 7 p.m.

### Friday, August 2

- First Friday, 6:30 p.m.

### Saturday, August 3

- Seasonal Branch/Brush Dropoff, 8 a.m., PWF
- Youth Commission Reptile Show, 10 a.m.

### \*Sunday, August 4

- Veteran's Flag 22, Cpl. Peter J. Giannopoulos, USMC, Iraq

### Monday, August 5

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.
- Platzkonzert Commission, 4 p.m.
- Village Board, 7 p.m.
- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.

### Tuesday, August 6

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

### Wednesday, August 7

- Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

### Thursday, August 8

- Fourth of July Commission, 4 p.m.
- Summer Sounds on the Green: Johnny Russler & the Beach Bum Band, VG, 7 p.m.

### Friday, August 9

- Children's Entertainment Series: Scribble Monster, VP, 10 a.m.

### Saturday, August 10

- Shenanigans on the Green, VG, 1 p.m.

### \*Sunday, August 11

- Veteran's Flag 23, Pfc. Alan R. Ramsey, Army, Vietnam

### Monday, August 12

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.

### Tuesday, August 13

- Commission for Senior Citizens, 5:30 p.m.

### Thursday, August 15

- City Hall Selfie Day
- Wits Workout, 10 a.m.
- Youth Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Summer Sounds on the Green: Heartache Tonight, VG, 7 p.m.

### Saturday, August 17

- Seasonal Branch/Brush Dropoff, 8 a.m., PWF

### \*Sunday, August 18

- Veteran's Flag 24, PM2 James E. Sonnenberg, Navy, WWII

### Monday, August 19

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.
- Emerging Technology Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Commission for People with Disabilities, 6 p.m.
- Village Board, 7 p.m.
- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, August 21

- Commission for Senior Citizens Summer Luncheon, 12 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Sister Cities Commission, 7 p.m.

### Friday, August 23

- Children's Entertainment Series: Istvan and the Imaginary Band, VP, 10 a.m.

### Saturday, August 24

- Annual Recycling Event, 9 a.m.

### \*Sunday, August 25

- Veteran's Flag 25, AM3 Rudolph Britt, Navy, WWII

### Monday, August 26

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.

View Village website calendar for event updates and details!



Various photos courtesy Mona S. Morrison

## Celebrate National Night Out on August 6

The Hoffman Estates Police Department is throwing a going-away party for crime, and you're invited! Join us for the National Night Out Against Crime at the Police Department, 411 Higgins Rd., on Tuesday, August 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. to meet up with neighbors and Police Officers to celebrate our true sense of community.

National Night Out is celebrated across the country the first Tuesday in August each year, where communities and law enforcement agencies join forces to promote police-community partnerships, crime prevention, and neighborhood camaraderie. Join us to promote a safer, more caring place for our residents to live. Come out to enjoy food, drinks, and live music along with police personnel and local businesses owners, take tours of the Police Department and learn about our teen cadet and emergency management programs.

For more information about the National Night Out celebration, visit our website at [hoffmanestates.org/Police](http://hoffmanestates.org/Police) or call Sgt. Donohue at 847-781-2866.



## Village of Hoffman Estates

1900 Hassell Road  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

[hoffmanestates.org](http://hoffmanestates.org)

### Important phone numbers

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 J. Arnet  
Patrick Kinnane  
Karen V. Mills  
Anna Newell  
Gary J. Pilafas  
Gary G. Stanton

#### Village Clerk

Patty Richter

#### 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



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# Sponsors, Golfers Sought for Hoffman Estates Charitable Golf Tournament July 24

The Hoffman Estates Charitable Foundation, in partnership with sponsor Bell Works Chicagoland, is hosting the inaugural Hope Fore Hoffman golf tournament on Wednesday, July 24 at Bridges of Poplar Creek Country Club, with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Health and Human Services Department's Self-Help Fund, which supports free vaccination clinics, low-cost counseling, medical lending closets, health screenings, and more.

“We are excited about this new event and are asking community businesses to join us by purchasing a foursome or sponsoring a hole to support the fund,” said Mayor Bill McLeod. “Our goal is to raise \$25,000 to fully subsidize the Self-Help Fund this year. We can only do this with the support of our sponsors and golfers.”

Sponsorship packages and golf-only packages are available. Visit the Hope Fore Hoffman event page at [hope-fore-hoffman-golf-outing.eventlify.com](http://hope-fore-hoffman-golf-outing.eventlify.com) for details and to register.

