From:	Village of Skokie
Sent:	Tuesday, November 1, 2022 4:16 PM
To:	Michael Aleksic
Subject:	November 1, 2022 SkokieNews

Members of the Skokie Police Department Met a Future Officer at Last Weekend's Trick-or-Treating in Downtown Skokie!

SkokieNews

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November 6 Pumpkin Recycling Collection

Pumpkins and Jack-O-Lanterns Wanted!

Bring your pumpkins to the dumpster that will be in the parking lot on the northwest corner of Oakton Street and Floral Avenue on Sunday, November 6, 2022 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Look for it across the street from the Skokie Farmers' Market! Participation is free.

Painted pumpkins are fine, but please remove ribbons, googly eyes or anything that isn't compostable.

Every pumpkin counts! Help us SMASH our record from last year when 3.1 tons of pumpkins were collected for composting!

Please Don't Park on Leaf Piles

The Skokie Fire Department reminds residents not to park your vehicle over leaf piles! Dry leaves are very flammable and the heat from your vehicle's engine or exhaust system can start a car fire.

Public Works crews will continue collecting leaves raked into piles at the curb through December, weather permitting, sweeping through each neighborhood every five to seven days. Please also avoid blocking storm drains or sewer inlets with leaf piles. Click here for more fire prevention information.

Skokie PD Installs ALPR Cameras

The Skokie Police Department will soon install 12 automated license plate reading (ALPR) cameras in strategic areas around the community to solve and reduce crime. The cameras will be used to help prevent and investigate crime by providing objective evidence, including license plate numbers and vehicle characteristics.

To proactively prevent crime from occurring, the cameras send a real-time alert to the Skokie Police Department when data from a stolen car or known wanted suspect from a state or national crime database is detected in the community. Data is only retained for thirty days and then permanently deleted. The cameras will be used to solve and reduce property and violent crime and will not be used for enforcement of minor traffic or parking violations.
"The ALPR system is one of the most important technology developments in many years, and it will greatly enhance the Skokie Police Department's ability to prevent and solve crime," said Police Chief Brian Baker. These cameras, purchased from Flock Safety with grant funds from the Cook County Urban Area Security Initiative, are used by thousands of law enforcement agencies in over 2,000 cities across 40 states.

Early Voting and Election Information

Click here to see info on early voting at the Skokie Courthouse and other sites for the November 8, 202 General Election, plus the Notice of Election, Specimen Ballots, Referenda Questions and Polling Place in both English and Spanish.

Click here for the early voting schedule at the Cook County Courthouse, 5200 Old Orchard Road. No early voting at Village Hall!

Click here for a complete list of Cook County early voting locations.

Village Board to Review

Environmental Sustainability Plan on November 14

The Skokie Village Board will hold a special meeting on Monday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m. to review and discuss the Village's next Environmental Sustainability Plan (ESP). The meeting is open to the public and will be held in the first floor Council Chambers at Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

ESP development began in May 2022, with involvement from a committee of community stakeholders led by Minneapolis-based environmental consulting firm paleBluedot, LLC. Hundreds of Skokie residents also took the time to participate in surveys as well as review and provide comments on the preliminary ESP released in late September.

At the November 14 special Village Board meeting, a revised ESP will be reviewed and discussed that reflects the extensive community comments on the initial draft. The Village Board also will consider recommendations from the Sustainable Environmental Advisory Commission that include eliminating twice-weekly refuse collection in favor of a single weekly refuse collection and providing enhanced options for compostable materials such as food, paper and other types of organic waste. The revised draft is currently under development and will be posted on the home page of the Village website by Thursday, November 10.

In addition, the ESP will be further reviewed and discussed at the regular Village Board meeting on November 21, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at Skokie Village Hall.

Village Receives Budget Award

The Village of Skokie is proud to announce that it has received the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR Award) for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2021. This is the first time that Skokie has received the PAFR award which encourages local governments to extract information from their annual comprehensive financial report to produce high-quality financial reports that are designed to be readily accessible and easily understandable to the general public and other interested parties without a background in public finance. Click here to view a copy of the FY21 PAFR along with the Village's annual budget and other financial reports.

This also marks the first time that the Village has received all three GFOA awards for financial reporting including the PAFR award, Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award, and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award!

Native American Heritage Month

Native American Heritage Month is observed throughout November to recognize the many achievements and contributions of Native Americans.

President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 “National American Indian Heritage Month.” Similar proclamations, under variants on the name (including “Native American Heritage Month” and “National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month”) have been issued each year since 1994.

Following are some good resources to learn more about the rich ancestry, traditions and achievements of Native Americans:

Library of Congress
National Archives
Mitchell Museum of the American Indian (in Evanston, Illinois)

Last Yard Waste Collection is Tomorrow!
Leaf Collection Continues into December

The final **yard waste** collection (plants material, small brush, etc.) will be on Wednesday, November 2. Click here for more information.

Leaf collection continues through December, weather permitting. Click here for more information on th Village's leaf collection program.

Last Call - Artistic Excellence Awards

The Skokie Fine Arts Commission invites individual and group nominations for the 2022 Artistic Excellence Awards. **The deadline is November 1, 2022.**

Click here **to see the online, interactive Artistic Excellence Award nomination form.**

Past recipients include the Skokie Theater, Skokie resident and author Ellen Blum Barish, the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band and more.

New! Building Permit How-To Videos

The Village recently created three new, short 'how-to' tutorial videos to guide residents and contractors through the building permit process.

Click on the links below to check out the videos:

- How to Create a Skokie Permits (BS&A) Account
- How to Apply for an Over-the-Counter Building Permit (for simple jobs/projects)
- How to Apply for a Building Permit (for more complex jobs/projects)

Click here for more information on the Village building permits.

2022 Downtown Skokie Trick-or-Treating
What a Success!

Downtown Skokie was the place to be on Saturday, October 29! A record-setting estimated 2,500 peopl visited over sixty Downtown businesses and local sponsor organizations who gave out over 30,000 pieces of candy and other surprises up and down Lincoln Avenue, Oakton, Brown and Warren Streets.

With 'Dueling DJ's" on either side of Oakton Street, a "New for 2022" festive balloon photo op, the popular Skokie Police COPS vehicle and the Soul Good Mobile Café as added attractions, this year's event was bigger and better than ever, thanks to the Skokie Chamber of Commerce and Industry, North Shore Community Bank & Trust, Print Xpress and the Village of Skokie as sponsors.

Special shout-out to the talented students at Skokie School District 69 Madison and Edison Elementary schools for their Halloween artwork that was proudly displayed in storefront windows. Many thanks to Skokie's own Jewel-Osco, Mariano's, Marketplace on Oakton Street, Target and Walmart Supercenter and neighboring Costco for donating so much candy handed out by Downtown Skokie merchants.

Please visit the Downtown Skokie Facebook page to check out more photos and videos from the event

Thanks, Skokie!

This summer, volunteers from the Village's Commission on Family Services and St. Paul Lutheran

Church spent time at the Skokie Farmers' Market each week gathering leftover produce from vendors.

In addition, on one Sunday each month, Skokie residents were asked to donate food, clothing and toiletries and bring items to the market. ***Thanks to your support this year, over 5,800 pounds of food was donated to the Niles Township Food Pantry and 235 large bags of clothing was provided to the Niles Township Clothing Closet!***

Thank you for helping Skokie families in need. Your generosity makes a difference in our community! Thanks also to the generous Skokie Farmers' Market vendors, including M&D Farms (pictured) who donate their surplus produce each week throughout the season.

These Kids Made Our Day!

These Niles West students recently spent a Saturday morning cleaning litter from Skokie's Channel Park and other areas of the community.
The Wolfpack Gives Back!

Liam and Josef, who love all things about refuse and recycling trucks, brought the Skokie Public Works Refuse Division crew some Halloween treats yesterday. Thanks, kids!

Here are Liam and Josef in the nifty recycling vehicle they made for their Skokie trick-or-treating adventures. We think they look very official in their vests and hats!

Skokie Farmers' Market

The Skokie Farmers' Market is excited to extend the season! Every Sunday through November 20, the market takes place from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the west parking lot at Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street. Be sure to check the Skokie Farmers' Market Facebook page for changes due to bad weather. No smoking or pets, please!

Here's what's going on this week:

- Music by Pierce Crask beginning at 10 a.m.
- Pumpking recycling across the street in the parking lot at Floral Avenue and Oakton Street (see lead article)

Click here to subscribe to the Skokie Farmers' Market weekly email. They're on Instagram, too!

November 10 CTA Virtual Budget Hearing

On November 10, 2022 at 6 p.m., the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), which includes the Skokie Swift Yellow Line, will hold a virtual public hearing on the agency's proposed FY2023 Budget.

Click here for more information on how to access the hearing, pre-register to make oral comments or submit written comments.

From Skokie HHS: Flu, RSV and COVID-19 Are Increasing

This fall, flu, COVID-19, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) are hitting families and children at increasing rates. Pediatric hospital units are filled with children diagnosed with RSV, COVID-19 hospitalizations are increasing, and flu illnesses and transmission are on the rise.

The Skokie Health and Human Services Department strongly recommends that Skokie residents get their flu vaccine and the bivalent COVID-19 vaccine. The predominant flu variant is currently the H3N2 variant – which **IS** covered by this year's flu vaccine. The Moderna Bivalent booster has added components to combat the most recent variants, including Omicron BA.4 and BA.5.

Please call Skokie HHS at 847/933-8252 today to schedule your annual flu shot. Please also visit Updates | Skokie, IL to schedule your Moderna Bivalent Booster today or visit www.vaccines.gov.

Medicare Information Sessions

The Skokie Public Library is hosting Medicare Open Enrollment appointments during the weeks of November 7 and 14. Trained health care counselors from Congresswoman Schakowsky's office and th Village of Skokie will meet with individuals for personalized Medicare plan comparisons.

Learn about your health insurance options and choose the plan that's right for you. Please call the library at 847/673-7774 to make an appointment.

Skokie's COVID-19 Information

- Click here for information on getting therapeutic medications to reduce your chances of severe illness from COVID-19 (in addition to vaccinations).
- Click here for information on COVID-19 vaccines for very young children ages six months to five years of age.
- Click here for information on vaccination safety for young children.
- The Village's COVID-19 data page is updated when new data is available from the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- Click here to see the Village's COVID-19 website for info on testing, symptoms and more.

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Email Us
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