



# The Messenger

The Village of Calumet Park's Quarterly Newsletter



## A Message from Mayor Ronald Denson



Pictured left to right: Trustee Earl Duffin, Trustee Dorothy Price, Trustee Ronald Brown, Trustee Cynthia Potts, Mayor Ronald Denson, Village Clerk Omara Fonseca, Trustee Norman Edwards and Trustee Carl Hampton, Sr.

### Happy Fall Everyone!

As Mayor of the Village of Calumet Park I have a tremendous responsibility to the residents of this great village. When I was elected to this position I understood that I cannot do all of this without a team. The Elected Officials of Calumet Park are an incredible team and they are always working for you.

As a Village we have accomplished so much: Improving village-wide programs, creating new programs, filing and receiving much needed grants to update the village's infrastructure and always working to promote economic development. The Elected Officials are always working alongside our Department Heads to help set goals and opportunities for the residents of Calumet Park.

I am proud of the work that has been accomplished and we are not finished yet. We will always work as a team to continue to make the Village of Calumet Park

**"THE PLACE TO BE"**

***Mayor Ronald Denson***



# A Message from Calumet Park Police Department



Chief Christopher Fletcher • Deputy Chief Ernest Mobley

12409 S. Throop Street • Calumet Park, IL 60827

## COP ON A ROOFTOP

At the beginning of the summer, the Calumet Park Police Department participated in the annual “Cop on a Rooftop” for the Special Olympics, which took place at the Dunkin Donuts located on 1400 W. 127<sup>th</sup> St. Our officers, along with Chief Fletcher and Deputy Chief Mobley were on the roof of the Dunkin Donuts soliciting donations from customers. Everyone involved enjoyed the experience and it enabled the citizens of Calumet Park to interact positively with the police officers who protect them. The event was a success and we were able to obtain \$5,000.00 in donations.

In August, we participated in the Village’s Annual Community Festival. The event was an astounding success and our officers truly enjoyed bonding with each and every child and citizen that attended.

## NEW ADDITIONS

On September 9, 2024, we have welcomed a new police officer to the Department. Officer Jacob Price began the Chicago Police Academy on that date and is now in the process of completing a grueling 25 weeks of training. Officer Price is the first of our new hires that was taken from the Police Entrance Exam that was given in April of this year. Congratulations Officer Price and good luck.

## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

With the approaching weather change and holidays, we ask everyone to stay aware of your surroundings at all times, and follow the safety tips below:

1. Do not open your door to everyone that rings your doorbell. Make sure you know who it is or if you don’t know them inquire the reason they’re at your door and do not open your door until their identity is verified to your satisfaction, if not, do not open the door.
2. Always keep your doors locked. ***Especially*** the back door and all garage doors (*warm weather attracts criminals who look for unlocked doors*).
3. Ask The Calumet Park Police Department for a vacation watch (*notify the Police Department prior to your vacation*)
4. Stop mail and/or newspaper delivery for the duration of your trip.
5. Set lighting timers in your home while away.
6. Don’t post your vacation plans on social media and don’t post any photos until you’re back.

**Chief Christopher Fletcher**

**Calumet Park Police**

**BE IN THE KNOW...**

**SENIOR CAPS MEETINGS** held in Wisdom Village at 6pm every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month

**CAPS MEETINGS** held in Recreation Center at 6pm every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month

CALL 911 for all emergencies, Police Assistance, and Medical Assistance

Call the NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER 708-926-7345 for Tow Releases, Police Reports, and all Non-Emergency Questions



Fall 2024



# CALUMET PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION MONTH



Dear Residents,

As Fire Prevention Month begins, I'd like to take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of fire safety in our community. This month, we'll be focusing on fire prevention strategies and education to help protect you and your loved ones.

Here are some key reminders to ensure your safety:

- 1. Check Your Smoke Alarms** – Ensure all smoke alarms are functioning properly. Replace batteries if needed and test them regularly.
- 2. Create an Escape Plan** – Work with your family to develop and practice an emergency escape plan, so everyone knows what to do in case of a fire.
- 3. Fire Extinguishers** – Ensure you have at least one fire extinguisher in your home and know how to use it.
- 4. Avoid Overloading Circuits** – Be mindful of electrical outlets and appliances to avoid overloading circuits, which can cause fires.
- 5. Candle Safety** – Never leave candles unattended and place them on stable surfaces away from flammable materials.

Throughout the month, we'll be sharing more tips and hosting community events, so stay tuned for opportunities to get involved and learn more about fire prevention.

Thank you for your commitment to keeping our community safe. Let's work together to prevent fires and protect our homes.

Stay safe,

John Votteler  
Fire Chief  
Calumet Park Fire Department

"Smoke detectors  
save lives,  
including pets!!!!"

**Que**  
The Fire Dog 🐾







# A MESSAGE FROM CALCOMM 9-1-1 DISPATCH CENTER




## Did You Know?

- That nationwide, over 240 million 9-1-1 calls are made annually?
  - That the very first 9-1-1 call was made on February 16, 1968?
  - That you can text your emergency situation silently to 9-1-1?
- 


9-1-1 began as an easy number to dial and remember in the event of an emergency. By the end of 1976, (our nation's bi-centennial year) only 17% of the population had 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) services. In fact, it wasn't until 1987 that 50% of the U.S. population had the number 9-1-1 to contact police, fire and emergency medical services for urgent help. Today over 98% of locations in the United States and Canada have 9-1-1 Emergency Communication Centers.



Through the years, 9-1-1 has improved its capabilities from just a three-digit number to dial, to enhancement of automatic number and location information provided to the 9-1-1 Telecommunicator. With the development and incorporation of Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) data is automatically generated into a call for service screen and allows the 9-1-1 personnel to refer to any premise alerts, review previous call history, obtain specific location instructions or information, provide names and vehicles associated with the address, as well as particular cautions for the safety and wellbeing of first responders.



Today's Next Generation technologies allow cellular callers to be tracked on an enhanced mapping system, allow for 9-1-1 to text "silent" calling, and in the very near future, the ability to send photos and video captures to the 9-1-1 Center. These features are also available to businesses which use Voice-Over-IP phone systems. In addition, 9-1-1 calls can be conferenced in with valuable services such as language interpreters, poison control centers, County, State and Federal agencies as well as being transferred to other 9-1-1 jurisdictions and emergency communications centers.



# A MESSAGE FROM PUBLIC WORKS

*Director Marci Smith*

*12310 S Ashland Ave., Calumet Park, IL 60827*

*Telephone (708) 926-7414 • Fax (708) 926-7439*

## *Village Beautification Should Begin on Your Block*

Fall is here! With Fall comes leaves and dead trees.

Residents are reminded to place yard waste in approved disposable bags by your garbage receptacles for refuse pick up. Please remember that it is against Village ordinance #02-804 to place leaves and other yard waste (including branches and bushes) by curbs, blown or raked into the streets, which can result in tickets/fines. Each year we are getting more severe rain and storms, by following the above referenced ordinance this will help to avoid flooding caused by blocked sewer covers. Residents can help protect their property by removing debris from sewer covers while they perform maintenance on their lawns.

Also, please keep in mind that it is the home/property owner's responsibility to cut and maintain ALL areas of their property. This includes along fence lines, parkways AND behind the property/Alley areas. Along with the above mentioned ordinance, the following ordinances will also be closely monitored:

- Ordinance # 94-629 (high grass and weeds/garbage in the alley)
- Ordinance # 82-389 (accumulation of waste or rubbish)

As mentioned, it is against Village ordinance to place your branches and bushes in the alley. In order for these items to be picked up by the GARBAGE Company, branches must be cut in lengths of less than four (4) feet and must be bundled and tied together weighing less than 45 pounds.

Contact Republic Services at (708) 385-8252 for all large item disposals. You can call them to set up "special pickup" of large items such as couches, dressers, furniture, etc.



# **A MESSAGE FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

## **BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARTIN CORONA**

**12409 South Throop Street**

**Calumet Park, IL 60827**

**Telephone: 708-389-0857**

**[buildingdepartment@calumetparkvillage.org](mailto:buildingdepartment@calumetparkvillage.org)**

## **Why Regular Home Maintenance is Important...**

### **Up Keep**

The best way to keep the value of your property up is to maintain it well. Most buyers look for houses that don't require major upkeep for at least a few years. So, the better you maintain your home, the better return you'll get for your investment. Without proper care, however, your home will deteriorate – quickly losing value.

As cracks form in your foundation and paint peels, you will be left paying large sums of money in repairs to get the return you need. With regular maintenance, however, you can receive the money you desire, with the added curb appeal. Your properly maintained house will have an increased chance to see above market value!

### **Save Money**

Dryers cause more than 15,000 fire every year, resulting in nearly \$75 million in property damage. For many, regular cleaning could have easily prevented any danger. While this is an extreme example, it shows the importance of preventative maintenance.

Rather than spending thousands of dollars on repairs and insurance fees, catch the small issues early! Spending a few thousand dollars to replace the roof is better than paying for the damages when it collapsed into the home.

### **Reduce Energy Consumption**

To avoid the waste of energy, check your home's windows and doors for gaps and cracks that may cause drafts. Test your appliances and cooling/heating systems to make sure they are operating at optimum efficiency.

### **Reduce Your Stress**

Create a list of tasks that may seem endless and overwhelming, but regular home maintenance will minimize the list. Then you can have a peace of mind and confidence in your home's safety, comfort, and value. PLUS, when you need unexpected home repairs, they'll be less than they could **have been.**

**Breast**

**Cancer  
Awareness**

**CP**  
**Fall 2024**

The Calumet Park · Parks + Recreation Department Presents Our

# Annual Halloween Bash

Join us at the Recreation Center, 12426 S Loomis St Calumet Park, IL 60827

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2024

**2:30-4PM** Bouncy Houses  
+ Arts & Crafts in the Computer Lab

**4:30-6PM** Haunted House  
(Geared mostly toward kids)

Geared for Ages 5 – 12

Questions? Give Us a Call  
at 708-597-3535

CPPRD

# ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVENT

Presented by Mayor Denson and the Village of Calumet Park!

Put on your PJ's and join us

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>  
1PM TO 4PM ★ 12426 S LOOMIS ST

PICTURES WITH SANTA ★ SKATING ★ HOT CHOCOLATE BAR

Don't forget to wear your favorite pajamas!

+ THE ANNUAL TOY GIVEAWAY

Powered by the Calumet Park Fire Department  
and Calumet Park Police Department



Must have registered with the Fire Department to participate!

Mayor Ronald Denson and The Village of Calumet Park Presents the

# ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE

## LIGHTING CEREMONY

Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

5pm-7pm

Calumet Parks & Recreation Center

12426 S Loomis St

Calumet Park, IL 60827

Come Enjoy Some Light Snacks & Hot Chocolate With Family & Friends

# 10<sup>TH</sup> Annual Community Fest





# Calumet Park Church Alliance Men's Retreat September 6 - 8, 2024



The Calumet Park Church Alliance which Christ Life Redeeming, Church of God, Harris Temple, enjoyed a Men's Retreat Lake, IN. Mayor Ronald Denson and speakers from the Churches revolving Courageous" – Joshua 1:9. Chaplain Ross continue. This was so clearly experienced met before and we found all had one thing blessing". We thank everyone who Men's Retreat 2025.



is made up of the following churches: Community Covenant Church and New weekend at Cedar Lake Ministries in Cedar Chaplain Joseph Ross set up a schedule of around the theme of "Be Strong and said of the event, "Let brotherly love at the retreat. Most of the men have never in common: WE LOVE GOD and it is a participated. We are looking forward to

*Mayor Ronald Denson*

*and the Village of Calumet Park*

*Invites you to the*

*9<sup>th</sup> Annual*

*Senior and Veterans Holiday Party*

Saturday, December 7, 2024

10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Village of Calumet Park – Parks & Recreation Center

12426 S Loomis, Calumet Park, IL 60827

Please R.S.V.P. by November 29, 2024, to Angela Doranski at  
708-926-7406 or [adoranski@calumetparkvillage.org](mailto:adoranski@calumetparkvillage.org)



Fall 2024



# YOUR FALL COMMUNITY CALENDAR 2024

Please mark these important dates on your calendar.

October 10, 2024

**BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY**

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October 10, 2024

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

6:00 p.m.

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October 24, 2024

**CITIZEN CONCERN MEETING**

5:30 p.m.

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October 24, 2024

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

6:00 p.m.

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October 31, 2024

**HALLOWEEN**

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November 11, 2024

**VETERAN'S DAY**

**VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED**

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November 14, 2024

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

6:00 p.m.

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November 29, 2024

**THANKSGIVING**

**VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED**

*Breast*

Cancer

Awareness

November 29, 2024  
**DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING**  
VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED

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December 7, 2024  
**PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY**

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December 12, 2024  
**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
6:00 p.m.

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December 24, 2024  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**

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December 25, 2024  
**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED

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December 26, 2024  
**CITIZEN'S CONCERN MEETING**  
5:30 p.m.  
(Subject to Cancellation)

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December 26, 2024  
**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
6:00 p.m.  
(Subject to Cancellation)

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December 31, 2024  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**

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January 1, 2025  
**NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED



*Breast*  
Cancer  
Awareness



# *The Messenger*

The Village of Calumet Park's Quarterly Newsletter



## *The Place to Be*

**Ronald Denson**  
*Mayor*

**Omara Fonseca**  
*Village Clerk*

**Teri Raney**  
*Village Administrator*

**CALUMET PARK TRUSTEES**

**CALUMET PARK DEPT. HEADS**

**Dorothy P. Wiggins**

**Earl Duffin**

**Chief Christopher Fletcher**  
*Police Department*

**Chief John Votteler**  
*Fire Department*

**Cynthia M. Potts**

**Norman Edwards**

**Director Jonathan Shaw**  
*Parks & Recreation*

**Director Marci Smith**  
*Public Works*

**Carl Hampton, Sr.**

**Ronald Brown**

**Commissioner Martin**  
*Corona*  
*Building Department*

**Ernest Mobley**  
*Interim Director*  
*CalComm*

**Ariana Strong, Editor & Designer**

### *Important Numbers*

- Police and Fire .....9-1-1
- Fire Non-Emergency..... (708) 385-0550
- Police Non-Emergency..... (708) 385-6862
- Parking Administrator ..... (708) 926-7346
- Clerk's Office..... (708) 389-0850
- Library ..... (708) 385-5768
- Public Works ..... (708) 926-7370
- Recreation Center ..... (708) 597-3535
- Water Department ..... (708) 388-1415
- Building Department ..... (708) 389-0850
- Senior Citizens Center ..... (708) 388-6606



THE VILLAGE OF  
**CALUMET PARK**

**12409 SOUTH THROOP STREET**

**CALUMET PARK, IL 60827**

[www.calumetparkvillage.org](http://www.calumetparkvillage.org)