

Discover

NEWS FROM NORTH CHICAGO

FALL 2016

PARA OBTENER ESTE BOLETÍN EN ESPAÑOL, LLAME AL 847-596-8624

From the desk of Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr.



As we enter the Fall Season, we look back onto a busy and productive year. It is my pleasure to review a sample of some of the accomplishments since our last newsletter.

First, thank you to all who participated in our 11th Annual Community Days Festival. The

three days provides an opportunity for us to foster community pride, strengthen relationships and showcase the city. Our 5K Color Run included participants from all over the country including Massachusetts and Minnesota. In-state participants traveled from Elgin, Highland Park, Hinsdale and other areas to run or walk side-by-side with our community on the streets of North Chicago. Following this, many runners stayed to enjoy the other festival events and vendors. I hope you enjoyed this special event; plans have already begun for the 12th Annual Community Days Festival.

Our Cleansweep Taskforce has inventoried all vacant and abandoned buildings in the city. We've worked with all property owners to bring the buildings into a safe condition. Some owners chose to voluntarily demolish their unsafe buildings; others brought their buildings up to code. But we still have a lot to do. Owners who refuse to maintain their properties run the risk of having the derelict building demolished. The city will continue its system to identify at-risk properties and proactively address the situation. Blighted properties bring down property values and decrease quality of life. Early intervention is important and stimulates revitalization.

Construction approval has been granted to O'Reilly Auto Parts and this project should be completed early 2017. Our signature development, Sheridan Crossing, is continuing to move forward with plans for a hotel, restaurant and the National Museum of the American Sailor.

Our new Chief of Police, Richard Wilson, initiated policies and plans for improving the police force. We also appointed new members to our Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. They quickly got to work and promoted four officers to sergeant and one sergeant to lieutenant. This will strengthen the leadership of our department and assist with succession planning.

Soon we will complete a full redesign of the city's website – NorthChicago.org – following best practices for usability and government transparency. Our North Chicago CONNECT initiative will also soon have a web presence.

In September, our city council approved the comprehensive plan. This plan replaces the one that was adopted in 1996. It has earned the support of our community and our stakeholders. It puts our vision on paper and provides guidance for what the city will look like in the future. The comprehensive plan is the first step as we complete our agenda for a smarter, data-driven government, a stronger community, and increased opportunities for North Chicagoans.

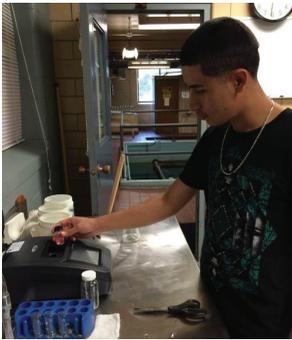
Please know that my commitment to our city is unwavering. Please visit or call to discuss any issues related to the city. I look forward to hearing from you.

Leon Rockingham, Jr.

Summer Youth Employment Program-connecting youth to careers

Every summer the City of North Chicago hosts 20 energetic North Chicago Community High School (NCCHS) students as participants in Lake County Workforce Development's Summer Youth Employment Program. This summer, the City of North Chicago expanded its program to include unique hands-on work experience to four additional NCHS students through the Operator in Training

(OIT) Program and summer internship opportunities with the North Chicago Fire Department. "Being able to provide our youth with paid, practical experience and to give them an opportunity to learn more about in demand careers such as a Water Plant Operator or a Firefighter/Paramedic will be invaluable in helping to shape their future," said Mayor Rockingham.



The "Operator in Training" pathway (OIT) allowed students interested in the water treatment industry to sit for the licensure examination prior to having the required hands-on experience associated with each license type (Class A, B, C & D). Each OIT student was paired with a drinking water industry mentor in an effort to increase success and provide real-time industry trends. "This was a pilot project with the hopes of duplicating it in other areas throughout the county," said Darrell A. King with the Illinois Section American Water Works Association.



The North Chicago Fire Department welcomed two NCCHS Career Pathway students who plan to pursue careers as a firefighter/paramedic. Throughout the six week program, both students attended regular fire department training with full time staff which included topics like Emergency Medical Services, CPR training, Triage Review, EMS Pediatric Trauma, Relay Pumping, Firefighting, Aerial Master Stream Quick Water/Transitional Forward/Reverse Lays and hose testing.

Green Bay water storage tank

Plans are being prepared to improve the water storage tank on Green Bay Road to better circulate the water within the tank, and to add booster pumps and stand-by power at the tank. This is a great project as it provides the City with the ability to make use of the full 4 million gallons stored within the tank, and during a significant power outage, the City will have water.

The project is currently in the preliminary design stage. Final design should be completed in January 2017 and construction should begin in spring/summer of 2017.

Atkinson Road improvements

Utility and roadway improvements are being constructed on Atkinson Road, located west of the Waukegan Road intersection. This work is being funded and constructed by the developer of the Green Oaks senior living and commercial development at the southwest corner of Atkinson and Waukegan Road. The contractor has installed the storm sewer system, is excavating the roadway widening and installing curbs. The project is nearing completion.

2015/2016 water main replacement nearing completion

This project consists of replacing deteriorated water mains on segments of 18th Street, 18th Place, Dugdale, Argonne, Natoma, Glenn, Sherman and 25th Street. Since the water main is located under the existing roadway, these streets will be resurfaced as part of the replacement project. Segments of the following streets will be milled and resurfaced: 15th Street, 17th Street, Lakeside and Park Avenue as part of this project.

To date the contractor has installed new water mains and water services on 18th Street, 18th Place, Dugdale, Argonne and Natoma. It is anticipated that these segments of roadway will be repaved by October and the remaining work should be completed in November 2016.

We appreciate your cooperation and patience during the construction of these improvements.

City completes its comprehensive plan

After more than two years of research, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), in conjunction with the City of North Chicago, is completing its work on a new Comprehensive Plan for the City of North Chicago which outlines the community's vision for its future and provides a roadmap to realizing that vision. In addition to providing a well-defined framework for the community's development and investment goals, the Plan seeks to explore and promote new opportunities to address changing community trends and further serves as a guide for elected officials, municipal staff, community residents, business owners, and

potential investors, allowing them to make informal administrative, investment and implementation choices. More important, with the adoption of the new Plan, the City is able to reach out to businesses, developers and investors to encourage their involvement in new development opportunities, and to pursue federal, state and regional grants for public infrastructure improvements consistent with the recommendations of the Plan.

Copies of the Comprehensive Plan are available for review in the Economic and Community Development office. This project was funded by a CMAP Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Grant.

Vacant Building Project focuses on neighborhood revitalization

In March 2016, the City of North Chicago launched two initiatives, Project Landlord and Blight Busting, to combat vacant and blighted properties within the City. The projects continue to focus on spurring revitalization, improving neighborhoods, stabilizing property values and creating a safe environment. These programs also establish a higher level of accountability for property owners to comply with city ordinances and property maintenance codes relating to vacant buildings. Since the launch of these initiatives, the City has seen an increase in owner registration and property maintenance compliance

over 2015. Moreover, the City has seen a rise in collected monies owed and improved clarity of local ordinances. Safebuilt inspectors are continuing their work to verify the vacant or abandoned properties, notify owners, seek compliance with property maintenance regulations and, if necessary, pursue court action to obtain compliance or demolition of the structure. One of the greatest successes of the vacant building program is that through new community partnerships and strategies, 142 properties are now occupied and an additional 19 properties have active permits.

Trick-or-Treat hours

Sunday, October 30, 2016
from 2:00-5:00 p.m.



North Chicago hosts first Pet Microchip Clinic in Lake County



In July, the City of North Chicago hosted the first area Pet Microchip Clinic which received an overwhelming response from residents throughout Lake County. Within an hour-and-a-half, 125 free Microchips, as well as free parvo/Distemper shots, flea and tick medicine, collars & leashes, food and other community resources had been distributed. The event was made possible through various sponsorships from surrounding organizations. In addition to organization sponsorships, the City has also received many individual donations of food, water, and supplies. More than 35 volunteers were also on hand to assist participants and sponsors.

Drug drop box lets locals dispose of unwanted, expired medication

The North Chicago Police Department has installed a permanent drop box for unwanted or expired prescription drugs. The drop box will be accessible to the public during normal business hours, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The drop box was provided by Save a Star and Live4Lali as part of the newly formed North Chicago Counts coalition for a drug free community. The organization hopes to provide “citizens a secure and environmentally responsible option to dispose of unused prescription

drugs, thus preventing their potential diversion and abuse.” Prescription drug abuse is one of the fastest-growing forms of substance abuse, and addiction to powerful pain relievers is also fueling more heroin use. Area residents wishing to utilize the medication drop box are asked to place all medications in sealed, non-breakable containers and to not include any sharp objects – referred to as “sharps” in the release – such as syringes or lancets, or any other item that could cause injury to staff servicing the drop box.

National Night Out



The North Chicago Police Department participated in the annual National Night Out event on Tuesday August 2, 2016. National Night Out is a yearlong community building campaign that is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness, generate support for participation in local anticrime programs, and strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.



North Chicago Fire Department presented with Flight for Life Scene Call of the Year Award

The Flight For Life Scene Call of the Year Award recognized the response of the North Chicago Fire Department for exhibiting exemplary scene management, interagency cooperation, and patient care. The call involved a semi-truck versus small SUV. Extrication of the patient from the vehicle took nearly 1-½ hours and was extremely complicated due to extensive vehicle damage. All personnel involved displayed the teamwork, professionalism and decision-making skills that were necessary to make a difference for this patient. It was their ongoing training and expertise that enabled them to recognize the patient's injuries required air medical transport. "Without the team work of the North Chicago Fire, Police and Telecommunications, Knollwood, Libertyville, and Great Lakes Fire Departments and Northern



Illinois Flight for Life, the outcome of this incident could have been very different," said North Chicago Fire Chief Dell Urban. "I am confident that because of the actions of our firefighters a life was saved."

Citizens' Police Academy

The fall session of Citizens' Police Academy began on September 22, 2016. The City of North Chicago Citizens' Police Academy is an 11-week program designed to give participants a working knowledge of the police department.

The goal is to create improved understanding, clearer communications and stronger partnerships between the citizens and the police. The Citizens' Police Academy is offered every fall and spring. For more information please visit www.NorthChicago.org.

Fire Prevention Campaign

The North Chicago Fire Department in Association with the American Red Cross is in your neighborhood conducting a Home Fire Prevention Campaign which began on September 24, 2016.

If you would like to receive a FREE 10-year Lithium Ion Battery Operated Smoke Alarm installed in your home, please contact the Fire Department by calling 847-596-8782 or via email at firedepartment@northchicago.org.

Fire Department Personnel impacting lives on and off duty



On August 27, 2016, North Chicago Fire Department personnel delivered donations collected to benefit Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago which provides high quality, family-centered care to more than 170,000 children each year.

What is Zika?

If you've read the headlines over the past few months, you've probably heard about the Zika virus. Zika is a virus that is primarily spread by mosquitoes, though it can also be sexually transmitted. In order to prevent the spread of ZIKA and other mosquito-related viruses, the City of North Chicago has several prevention programs in place to control mosquito larvae in their breeding sites to prevent the development of adult mosquitoes.

The City's mosquito control program begins in May and continues through September which covers

potential breeding areas within the City - retention ponds, drainage ditches, wetlands or low areas that tend to hold water. Additionally, the City's road side catch basins and inlets are treated. The "Mosquito Hotline" is the citizen response system to help residents report standing water or stagnant unkempt swimming pools, answer questions about mosquito control. The "Mosquito Hotline" can be reached toll-free at (800) 942-2555. For more information and tips about Zika prevention, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/>.

Important City messages are sent via telephone; sign up to stay informed

Blackboard Connect automated messages are sent to every land and cellular phone line within the city's database to alert constituents of important matters.

Residents and business owners are encouraged to register for Blackboard Connect on the City's website. Visit NorthChicago.org to register today!

2016 Senior Citizen Hall of Fame inductees



The City honored three exceptional citizens with the Senior Citizen Hall of Fame Award. To be considered for this award, candidates must be at least 70 years of age and residents of the City for 50 years or more. Nomination forms are available online at NorthChicago.org or at the Mayor's Office. Congratulations to this year's recipients — Evelyn Alexander, Herbert/Lovie Geater, and Bernie Samasko.

Save the date:
Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony
Monday, November 28, 2016 6:00 P.M.



north Chicago **COMMUNITY DAYS** MUSIC • FOOD • FUN August 5-7, 2016



Thanks for an amazing 11th annual Community Days. Thank you sponsors: Allendale Association, Abbott Fund, AirOn Inc, First Midwest Bank, Gorter Family Foundation, Rosalind Franklin University, North Chicago Community Bank, The Mulch Center, P&G,

Trotter and Associates, Discover, CDW, Wells Fargo, Walgreens, Great Lakes Credit Union, Lake County Visitor's Bureau and Uline. Save the date: First weekend in August, 2017.



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NORTH CHICAGO PUBLIC SAFETY FAIR

**Presented by Alderman Bonny Mayfield
Public Safety Committee Chairman**

Saturday, October 8

**North Chicago Fire Department
1850 Lewis Avenue
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Public Safety Fair Contacts

Alderman Bonny Mayfield, 2nd Ward, 224-944-1025
Chief Urban, North Chicago Fire Dept., 847-596-8780
Chief Wilson, North Chicago Police Dept., 847-596-8710



**Children's Activities •
Extrication Demonstrations • CPR
Station • New Squad Cars • K-9 Unit
• New Ambulance • Public Safety
Awareness Booths • Giveaways •
Free Blood Pressure Checks**



CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO

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Kenneth Robinson / Treasurer

Ernest Fisher / 1st Ward Alderman

Bonny Mayfield / 2nd Ward Alderman

Carl Evans / 3rd Ward Alderman

Bobby Allen / 4th Ward Alderman

Torrance A. Markham, Sr. / 5th Ward Alderman

Bob Runnels / 6th Ward Alderman

Kathy January / 7th Ward Alderman

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| Emergency | 911 |
| General | 847-596-8600 |
| Mayor's Office | 847-596-8610 |
| Clerk | 847-596-8682 |
| Police Department | 847-596-8700 |
| Payment Center | 847-596-8635 |
| Economic and Community Development | 847-596-8650 |
| Human Resources | 847-596-8645 |
| Engineer | 847-596-8676 |
| Treasurer | 847-596-8628 |
| Fire Department | 847-596-8780 |
| Water Billing | 847-596-8626 |
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