



Streamwood Community News

November/December 2020



36th Annual Luminaria

We will have

Luminaria this year, but it will be different than what we are used to. On Friday, December 4 at 6:30 pm, volunteers will help bring the holiday spirit to Streamwood by lining the medians on Park Boulevard with lighted luminaria.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions for large gatherings, there will not be an official tree lighting ceremony or visit with Santa at Village Hall. We do, however, encourage you to take a walk through Veterans Memorial over the holiday season and enjoy the thousands of colorful lights on the trees with your family.

If you and your family would like to help assemble or light luminaria, contact the Village at 630-736-3801 or mayor@streamwood.org. Following safety guidelines, we cannot allow more than 2 people to assemble bags at the same time. We will also have to limit the number of people setting up the islands with luminaria. Facial coverings will be required. While it will be a little different, we are happy to be able to light up the candles this year.



2020 Garden Contest Winners

With nearly 40 entries received, we are very impressed with the quality of gardeners in Streamwood! Judging criteria included: general neatness and appeal, natural or formal layout, use of color, variety of plants, creative use of garden hardware or art, and sustainable features.

The Golden Trowels went to:

Porch, Balcony or Container Garden — Tammy Shaeffer

Vegetable/Herb Garden — Jakub Stawinski

Perennial Garden — Zofia Konopka

Senior Garden — Maryann Jensen

Outdoor Oasis — Chris Schneider

Shade Garden — Diane Shogren

It is wonderful to see homeowners take such pride in their yards. Neighborhoods are greatly enhanced by greening efforts such as these! Additional photos of each winning garden are posted on our website.



**Porch, Balcony
or Container Garden**
Tammy Shaeffer



Vegetable/Herb Garden
Jakub Stawinski



Perennial Garden
Zofia Konopka



Senior Garden
Maryann Jensen



Outdoor Oasis
Chris Schneider



Shade Garden
Diane Shogren

Village of Streamwood President, Village Clerk Board of Trustees



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Kittie L. Kopitke
Village Clerk

Village Board News

Car Seat Program Donation

In September, representatives from the Kiwanis Club of Streamwood presented a check to both the Police and Fire Departments for our Car Seat Safety Program.



Holiday Lights Recycling Program

As you begin to decorate for the holidays and discover strands of lights that no longer work — please don't throw them in the trash! The Village of Streamwood will again partner with Elgin Recycling to recycle them.

The program will run from Wednesday, November 4 through Friday, February 5. You can recycle old lights at four (4) convenient locations: Village Hall, Public Works, Poplar Creek Library, and Park Place Recreation Center. Lights accepted include mini-lights, Italian lights, C7 and C9 lights, rope lights, and LED lights. Extension cords are also accepted. Simply place old, broken, and no longer used lights, cords, and strands in the designated containers.



Fire Station #31 Progresses Nicely

Construction activity continues at the brand NEW Station #31! All utilities have been connected. The logo stone on the front of the building is in place. Work continues on installation of the windows and doors in an effort to enclose the building before winter. This project remains on schedule with an estimated completion date of March, 2021!

Bathroom Exhaust Fan Can be a Fire Hazard

Although you may not think about it frequently, your bathroom exhaust fan is like any other electrical appliance. And like others, these exhaust fans can pose a fire risk if they aren't cleaned and maintained on a regular basis. Fans, over time, build up dust and lint which can cause the motor to overheat and ignite the lint and other debris inside the fan housing, causing a fire that will extend into the ceiling and areas above. There have been fires with the exhaust fans as the cause in Streamwood. Please check yours to see if it is time for a cleaning!



September E-Waste Event

Our E-Waste Event in September was a huge success! We normally have roughly 300 cars drive through our annual drop off for shredding, e-waste or prescription drugs. This event saw nearly 700 cars! We appreciated everyone's patience as we held our first contactless event. The results were equally impressive: 44,000 lbs. of e-waste collected, over 200 boxes of shredding, and 80 lbs. of prescription drugs.

Village Board News

Holiday Helping

Helping one another is the hallmark of the upcoming holiday season. While we may not be able to gather as we are used to, we can still give thanks and help neighbors. We have a few options to get you involved and help others: we are hosting our annual Holiday Helping event — this program helps families who have fallen on hard times to make the upcoming holidays a little brighter. The event will look different this year. On Saturday, December 12, instead of going shopping, children will be given a wrapped present, gift card and treat bag from firefighters and police officers in a no-contact exchange. Even Santa will be socially-distanced, offering holiday greetings from afar. Last year, we helped 102 children from 38 families. We know more families are struggling this year and could use your help. Please consider making a donation to this very worthy mission. Please contact President Roth at mayor@streamwood.org or visit www.streamwood.org for more information.



Shop Local

Instead of boosting online sales and profits for large corporations outside of Streamwood, it is more important than ever to support local, independently owned businesses. Please shop locally for all of your gifts and certificates for services. Local businesses are counting on all of us — let's show them how much they mean to our community!

Goals and Objectives Adopted

The Village Board adopted the 2021 Goals and Objectives at the October 1 Board meeting. The annual Goals and Objectives provide a blueprint for staff to utilize as they create the budget for 2021, as the goals determine key priorities for the community. Maintaining balanced budgets and services are ongoing priorities. 2021 focus goals included the continued implementation of our Comprehensive Plan. Specific projects include the completion of Fire Station # 31, expansion of the Public Works facility, the development of bike paths, a bridge across Route 59, and improved economic development and beautification efforts.

Village President's Message



One of the most difficult parts of living in these troubled times is our inability to gather together. It's a necessary precaution of course. We all understand that. But, knowing why a particular action is necessary does not wholly remove the pain of acting in a way that is contrary to our instinctual need to interact with our friends and family as much as we can. This is especially the case for me as we approach one of the days on which the Streamwood community has traditionally gathered together to honor and celebrate the men and women who have served our nation so remarkably well: Veterans Day.

The turnout at the Veterans Memorial every Veterans Day has been a constant source of pride and wonder throughout my tenure as Village President. It has always been a moment when our Village came together in recognition of the service, sacrifice and dedication we rely upon to keep our nation safe and free. Giving up that opportunity to come together in the same location to celebrate Veterans Day 2020 is surely as disappointing to you as it is to me. But, having no choice in the matter, our obligation is clear. If we cannot gather in person, we must continue to come together in spirit — now more than ever. On November 11, 2020, take a private moment to reflect on the sacrifices and the successes that have defined the service of countless veterans. If you believe in a Higher Power, it would be a good time to ask for a blessing or two aimed in our veterans' direction.

If we are temporarily denied the ceremonies, we must not discard the sentiments. Veterans Day is important and acknowledging our veterans' unselfish service is the most important part of Veterans Day. Let's continue to honor them in our particular, individual private ways until we can once again celebrate their service in the kind of public ceremonies that have so long been a part of Streamwood. Same place: Veterans Memorial. Same date: November 11, 2021. See you there.

This is also the time of year where planning would be in full force for all of the annual holiday events. However, due to the pandemic, most of these events have been canceled because of current guidelines for large public gatherings. The decision to cancel these annual traditions is not made lightly and is certainly a disappointment. While the IDPH and the CDC might make additional changes to current restrictions — positive or negative — it takes months to plan these events, so the determination to cancel needed to be made now.

We have worked hard to figure out what we could continue, even if modified. I am happy to announce Luminaria will still light the length of Park Boulevard on Friday, December 4, for its 36th year! The candles will light the night as a sign of peace and hope. Although there will be no official tree lighting ceremony or gathering at Village Hall, the trees of Veterans Memorial will still be lit with thousands of twinkling lights. I encourage you to take a walk through the Memorial over the holiday season and enjoy the lights with your family. Please see page 1 for more details about Luminaria.

Although the holidays will be celebrated in unique ways this year, I encourage you to find joy in whatever you do. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff, we wish you and your family a very happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

Sincerely,

Billie D. Roth, Village President

Village News

New Water Meter Reading System

The Village Board approved a contract with Water Resources, Inc. for



the installation and operation of our water meter reading system. The transmission unit reads the water meter and remotely transfers data to the Finance Department at Village Hall. The upgraded units offer Public Works more information for customer service requests including leak detection and backflow warnings to help minimize billing errors, or detect problems before they arise.

The project will take roughly one year to install new units for all of our customers. Water account holders will receive an appointment request from Water Resources, Inc. sometime over the next several months. Please schedule an installation as soon as practical so this important infrastructure improvement can be completed. If you have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to call the Public Works Water Department at 630-736-3850.



Do You Own Residential Rental Property?

Please know that all residential rental properties must be licensed by the Village. Renewal letters for currently licensed property will be sent out in early November and are due by Thursday, December 31. For more information on the Village's residential rental licensing program please visit our website at www.streamwood.org or call the Community Development Department at 630-736-3843.

Kittie's Korner

Village Clerk Kittie Kopitke

Reminders for Pet Owners from the Village Code

- **Only three (3) animals (except for new litters) are allowed in a single household.** No residence shall maintain or house more than three (3) animals with the exception of a new litter up to the age of four (4) months. This may not apply to caged birds or aquatic and caged amphibian animals solely as pets.
- **All pets on property other than that of its owner shall be under control and on a leash.** No household domesticated animals shall be allowed on the streets of the Village of Streamwood or in public places or upon property other than that of its owner, unless under the control of the owner and kept on a suitable, dependable leash or tether.
- **Pet owners are responsible for cleaning up after their animals.** The owner of every animal shall be responsible for the removal of any excreta deposited by the animal(s) on public streets, walks, recreation areas or private property. At no time shall any person allow animal excreta to accumulate on any property within the Village so as to become a public health nuisance.



Voter Registration

On-line voter registration, additional information, find your "home" precinct for election day voting, or to check your current registration, please visit the Cook County Election website at www.cookcountyclerk.com.

Did Your Polling Place Move?

Cook County has moved many Election Day polling places. If you are planning to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3 please double-check the location of your polling place. Many have been moved due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Visit www.cookcountyclerk.com to check your polling place location.

Holiday Trash Collection

Not sure how the upcoming holidays affect your trash pickup? Here's what you need to know:

- Thanksgiving – Thursday and Friday collection will be one day later
- Christmas Day – Friday collection will be one day later
- New Year's Day – Friday collection will be one day later

Questions? Please call Advanced Disposal at 630-587-8282.



New Year's Eve Holiday Hours

On Thursday, December 31, Village Hall will be open from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

Winter Parking Rules Start December 1

Vehicles in residential driveways may block the sidewalk or parkway from December 1 through the end of February. As the weather changes, please remember parking is prohibited on Village streets after a 2" or greater snowfall, until streets are fully plowed.

Community News

Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Do you decorate your home for the holidays? Or, do you wait for a neighbor's special display? Considering entering yourself or others in the 2020 Holiday Home Decorating Contest!

Complete the **entry form on page 8** and return to Village Hall no later than November 25. Judging will take place the weekend of December 4-6. Participants are asked to leave their holiday lights on from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm for judging.



This contest is free and open to all residents of Streamwood. A committee of judges will select three (3) winners: Merry & Bright, Most Traditional, and Most Whimsical. The winners will receive an ornament, certificate, and gift card at a January Village Board meeting. A photo of the winners' displays will be on our website and in our January newsletter. Good luck!



Kids Virtual Gingerbread House Contest

Hey kids, join the fun and create a one-of-a-kind gingerbread fire or police station to celebrate our first responders! You can make your gingerbread from scratch, use a pre-made kit or even build with graham crackers—the construction of the house is up to you! You must be a Streamwood resident between the ages of 5-17 to participate. Each gingerbread house must be up to 90% edible and will be judged by police officers and fire fighters on originality/creativity, difficulty, use of materials, precision/neatness, and overall appearance.

To participate, complete the entry form found at www.streamwood.org (under News & Announcements) and submit 4 digital photos (front, back, right side, and left side of your gingerbread house— 1 photo must include YOU with your creation.)

There will be 1 winner per age category— each winner will receive a gift card, an ornament, and certificate. Photos will also be posted on the Village website and in the newsletter. The entry deadline is Wednesday, December 9, 2020. Please see entry form for additional details.



Government Partner News



Hanover Township

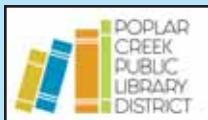
www.hanover-township.org



Applications Now Accepted for Hanover Township Holiday Programs

Hanover Township families facing financial hardship can now apply for the annual December Holiday Sponsor-a-Family and Toy Drive Programs. Residents can visit www.hanover-township.org to complete an application. A Spanish registration form is also available for bilingual families. Applications will be accepted through Wednesday, December 16. Once a form is completed, Township staff will contact the resident for more information. Required documents for the application process include a valid ID, a utility bill dated within the last 30 days, birth certificate for children 0-15 years old or medical card showing child's name and birth date, and proof of income covering the last 30 days prior to the date of the application. Additional items may be requested to determine eligibility.

Those wishing to sponsor-a-family this holiday season can call the Hanover Township Astor Avenue Community Center at 630-540-9085 or email holidays@hanover-township.org. Donations of new, unwrapped toys can also be dropped off at any Township office.



Poplar Creek Public Library

www.pclib.org



Family Concert Series: Nomad String Quartet (In-library and online)

Join us on Sunday, November 15, at 2:00 pm, for Nomad String Quartet, young musicians from Kazakhstan and Venezuela,

playing a traditional repertoire of chamber music. Registration is required as seating in-house is limited. To watch from home, join us online on our Facebook page the day of the performance; no registration necessary! NOTE: Social distancing measures will be in place and masks will be required for the in-library concert.

Winter Reading Challenge - Read, Relax, Repeat!

Sign up for our Winter Reading Challenge (December 14-January 8) and earn prizes for reading! Be sure to stop by the Main Library on Sunday, December 13, from 2:00-4:00 pm for our Winter Reading Kick-off event. This FREE event, which will be held outdoors, will have live reindeer, strolling carolers, a hot chocolate station, games, and more! No registration necessary. NOTE: Social distancing measures will be in place and CDC guidelines will be followed; masks required.



Streamwood Park District

www.SPDCARES.com

Winter Program Guide

The guide, covering the months of December-February, will be available online in digital form at www.streamwoodparks.org on Friday, November 20, with registration opening on Saturday, December 5.

Young Rembrandts Cartooning Classes

This class combines a hands-on teaching method with light-hearted subject matter that engages children in their sense of humor and their vivid imaginations. Children will illustrate and personify inanimate objects, and draw exciting characters. Winter classes begin November 3. (Tuesdays, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm; R/NR: \$78/\$98)

Chilled Palette Painting Classes (Youth and Adult)

Canvas, painting supplies, and artistic guidance are supplied. If classes are required to go virtual, then supplies will need to be picked up from Park Place Family Recreation Center. Each class has a special theme. Check out the full list of Chilled Palette themes and class schedules online at www.streamwoodparks.org.

Girls Basketball League (Girls 3rd – 8th Grade)

The season consists of 10 games, with gameplay beginning in January. Register online or in-person. Registration deadline is November 21.

Breakfast with Santa

On Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 am–10:30 am, bring your family out to enjoy some breakfast basics with Santa. There will be coloring, crafts, goodies, and photo opportunities with the big guy himself. Proper social distancing guidelines will be followed. Each attending family member must register. Registration deadline is November 25. (R/NR: \$12/\$18)

Grinch Goo-Tastic Slime Lab

On Wednesday, December 9, from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm, have the “slime” of your life creating seasonal slime with a Grinch-inspired theme. The concoction lab will include all Christmas colors, and other goodies to mix in. Participants will go home with the slime they made, along with another prize. Fee: \$27



Gail Borden Library

www.gailborden.info

Organizing & Parenting Solutions to Pandemic Problems

Join professional organizer Jennifer Barnes at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, November 17, and learn how to best organize your home to provide healthy and efficient workspaces for adults and kids. Register for this virtual program at www.gailborden.info/register.

Fantastic Space Discoveries: The Search for Planet 9

Go on a virtual quest to discover whether our Solar System has another massive planet beyond Neptune on Thursday, November 12 at 7:00 pm. The program presenter will be Jim Kovak of the Chicago Society for Space Studies. Register at www.gailborden.info/register.

Best Picture Books of the Year with Miss Katie

Join Miss Katie on Wednesday, December 2, at 6:30 pm, for book talks highlighting “The Best of the Best” picture books from 2020’s publishing crop! This is also a great opportunity to discover holiday gifts for little ones. Simply join us on Facebook Live at www.bit.ly/gbplFBLV.

John Measner Magic Show

Add a touch of magic to your season with a virtual performance by magician and illusionist John Measner with help from a few of his animal assistants. This special holiday program will take place on Monday, December 21, at 10:00 am. Register at www.gailborden.info/register.



School District U-46

Administrative Changes

Krystal Thomas moved from Elgin High to the role of principal for DREAM Academy. Mrs. Thomas is an advocate for all students and is strong at building systems of support in order to ensure student success.

Jamie Crosen, who had been principal of Larkin High, has returned to U-46 as the new principal for Elgin High. Mr. Crosen's strengths are in building relationships and developing collaborative teacher teams to work toward a common vision in order to support student growth and achievement.

Mitchell Briesemeister was selected as the new Director of Educational Pathways. Mr. Briesemeister recently served as the Director of Career and Technical Education for the School District of Beloit in Wisconsin.

DARE Continues – Online!

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) is focused on teaching students how to make good life choices. While the program still offers preventative education on the dangers of drugs, it also is centered on helping students understand that decision making has consequences, and good decisions have positive consequences. The program also works toward improving self-esteem and combatting bullying including cyberbullying.

When schools closed at spring break in March, our DARE Officers wouldn't let the pandemic stop them. They immediately took to Zoom and continued to offer DARE programming to our 1st and 5th grade students. During the summer, DARE Officers Ed Polaski and Tom Sparks helped with the food distribution program at U-46 schools, as well as a focused early childhood program at Kiddie Korner Park. As the new school year started, DARE Officers were ready! They have continued to offer the program online as part of the school's remote curriculum.

As students slowly return to the classroom, the DARE Officers were ready to continue this important program in person. Whether in-person or online, the Village appreciates the support U-46 offers to allow our police officers to engage with our students in this positive program.



KEEP MOVING FORWARD

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elgin.edu/brightchoice
Spring classes begin January 19.



Village of Streamwood

301 E. Irving Park Road
Streamwood, IL 60107
(630) 736-3800 | (630) 736-3798 (TDD-hearing impaired only)
www.streamwood.org
Cable TV Government Access Channel - WOW Channel 24 | Comcast Channel 17

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60107
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Village President | mayor@streamwood.org

Billie D. Roth | (630) 736-3801

Board of Trustees | trustee@streamwood.org

Michael Baumer William Carlson James Cecille
William Harper Larry Schmidt Mary Thon

Village Clerk | clerk@streamwood.org

Kittie L. Kopitke | (630) 736-3806

Village Manager | manager@streamwood.org

Sharon Caddigan | (630) 736-3832

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Village Departments

Fire - Chris Clark, Chief | (630) 736-3650 | fire@streamwood.org

Police - Daryl Syre, Chief | (630) 736-3700 | police@streamwood.org

Community Development - John Peterson, Director | (630) 736-3843 | communitydevelopment@streamwood.org

Finance - Josh Peacock, Director | (630) 736-3800 | finance@streamwood.org

IT - Victor Ambroziak, Director | (630) 736-3855 | it@streamwood.org

Public Works - Matt Mann, Director | (630) 736-3850 | public_works@streamwood.org

Village Hall Hours:

Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm, Thursdays 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Village Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 4 Holiday lights recycling begins (page 2)
- 5 Village Board meeting 7:00 pm
- 11 Village offices closed – Veterans Day
- 19 Village Board meeting 7:00 pm
- 25 Holiday Home Decorating Contest entries due
- 26-27 Village offices closed – Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 1 Winter parking rules begin (page 4)
- 3 Village Board meeting 7:00 pm
- 4 Luminaria on Park Blvd (page 1) 6:30 pm
- 9 Kids Virtual Gingerbread House Contest entries due (page 5)
- 11 Holiday Home Decorating Contest winners announced
- 15 Yard waste pick-up ends
- 15 Kids Virtual Gingerbread House Contest winners announced
- 17 Village Board meeting 7:00 pm
- 24-25 Village offices closed – Christmas
- 31 Village offices close – New Year's Eve 4:30 pm



Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Please select **ONE (1)** of the categories:

- Most Traditional
- Merry & Bright
- Most Whimsical

Please submit this form to Village Hall **no later than**
Wednesday, November 25

Drop off/mail: 301 E Irving Park Road, Streamwood

Email: mayor@streamwood.org

Fax: 630-837-0242