



InverNews

The Village With A Heritage

Winter/Spring 2007

Going Away for Spring Break? Protect Your Home by Signing Up for Police Department's Vacation Watch Before You Go

The Village of Inverness and the Barrington-Inverness Police Department together are reminding residents to file a "Vacation House Watch" request before leaving town for a spring break vacation. The forms are available on the Village of Barrington website at www.barrington-il.gov, as well as at the Barrington Public Safety Building, 400 N. Northwest Highway, or the Inverness Village Hall.

"History has shown that home burglaries tend to increase around this time of year as many go out of town and leave their houses unoccupied," said Police Chief Jeff Lawler. "The Barrington-Inverness Police Department will make routine checks on your house while you are away. All you have to do is fill out the request. This is an easy step to take to ensure that your home is being watched while you are away."

Here are additional tips to keep your home safe while you are out of town:

- ▲ Arrange with a neighbor to pick up your mail and newspapers so they don't pile up, or notify your news carrier and the post office to discontinue deliveries.
- ▲ Have someone check daily to remove throwaway papers and circulars from your doorway and yard.
- ▲ If you do not have an alarm system in your house, store small valuables and extra cash in a safety deposit box.
- ▲ Turn down the volume control on the bottom of your telephone and answering machine so it cannot be heard from outside.
- ▲ Close and lock all windows and sliding doors. Make sure that a "Charley bar" is secure on sliding doors, and that all screens or storm windows are locked or fastened.
- ▲ Put window shades in normal daytime position and make sure all main floor drapes, shades and curtains are arranged so that neighbors and police

- can see into your house.
- ▲ If you are leaving a car or other vehicle in your driveway, make sure it is locked.
- ▲ Set the electrical timer to turn some lights on and off during the evening hours.
- ▲ Lock your garage door.
- ▲ Make sure the last person out locks the door. Take a walk around the outside of the house before you leave. Check the doors and windows.
- ▲ Leave a key with a neighbor or relative. Make sure you have their phone number.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer James McNamee at (847) 304-3300.



Three Village of Inverness Trustee Seats On April 17 Ballot

Inverness residents will elect three people to the Village Board in the upcoming Consolidated Election.

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

The last day to register to vote for the April 17, 2007 Consolidated Election is **Tuesday, March 20, 2007**. Individuals may register anywhere in the State of Illinois that offers voter registration (i.e. Village/City Halls, Township Halls, County Offices). Two forms of identification are required showing the applicant's name and current address (i.e. driver's license, checkbook, piece of mail, utility bill, etc.). To confirm that you are a registered voter or to inquire about grace period registration, visit www.voterinfonet.com or call the Cook County Election Department at (312) 603-0906.

EARLY VOTING:

(no reason or excuse needed) Monday, March 26th through Thursday, April 12th
Registered voters in *(continued on page 3)*

Calendar of Events

March

- 13 Village Board
- 19 Zoning Board
- 20 Plan Commission

April

- 10 Village Board
- 16 Zoning Board
- 24 Plan Commission

May

- 8 Village Board
- 15 Zoning Board
- 21 Plan Commission

Jack Tatoes



Dear Residents,

Veterans Memorial update: Progress is continuing on this much-anticipated project, and I am pleased to report that we are now close to finalizing construction specifications. The recent near blizzard conditions notwithstanding, we are looking forward to breaking ground on the Memorial in the coming weeks.

Inverness residents have been incredibly generous in supporting this endeavor, but if you would like to make a contribution, it is not too late. Checks should be made payable to the

Village of Inverness, with "Veterans Memorial" written on the memo line. Donations are fully tax deductible.

Congratulations to the Garden Club of Inverness which is celebrating its 65th anniversary this year. This active group of volunteers has enhanced our community over the years by planting and weeding in public spaces throughout the Village. Garden Club members have provided both the funds and the manpower for beautiful plantings at Maggie Rogers Park and North and South Parks. Other community projects have benefitted from the cooperative talents of Garden Club members, the Inverness Park District and the Brownie Troop from Marion Jordan School.

The Garden Club's annual fundraiser, a gala holiday luncheon, provides funds for both its community involvement projects and scholarships for those pursuing an education in environmental studies-related fields at the college or post-graduate level. Over the past six years, the Garden Club of Inverness has awarded an impressive \$19,500 in scholarships.

Guests and new members are always welcome at the Garden Club of Inverness' monthly meetings. Call Judy Larson at (847) 358-8994, or Camille Husby at (847) 991-5034 for information.

I recently enjoyed the opportunity to tour the new **Holy Family Academy** in Inverness, where a total of 114 students are enrolled in grades K-5.

The kindergartners were full of questions, including, "What is your favorite color?" and "Why isn't Pluto a planet anymore?" My visit with the students renewed my appreciation for teachers and the patience and dedication they bring to their jobs every day.

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature of Jack Tatoes.

Jack Tatoes, Mayor



Catching up with the kids: Mayor Jack Tatoes was surrounded by inquisitive kindergartners on his recent visit to Holy Family Academy. Principal Dr. Gretchen Ludwig and teachers Cheryl Russo and Kristie Carlson are also pictured.

Carbon Monoxide -- 'The Silent Killer' New State Law Requires CO Detectors Near Sleeping Areas in Homes

A new state law effective January 1, 2007 requires that all dwelling units within the State of Illinois have working carbon monoxide detectors. Public Act 094-0741 defines a dwelling unit as a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation, and includes a single family residence, duplexes, townhomes, apartments, hotels and motels. Each living unit in a mixed building must by law have a CO detector.

All dwelling units must be equipped with at least one approved carbon monoxide alarm within 15 feet of each room used for sleeping purposes. This may require multiple detectors for your home. The carbon monoxide alarm can be combined with smoke detecting devices, provided each unit has a different sounding alarm.

These types of detectors that meet the legal requirements:

1. Battery powered
- 2 Plug-in with battery backup
3. Direct-wired into the building's electrical system with battery backup.

The owner of the property must supply and install all required alarms. If you own or rent, installation of a CO detector is the landlord's responsibility. If the detector is going to be hard-wired, a building permit may be required. Call the Palatine Rural Fire Protection District at (847) 991-8700 for information on the act, or go to www.prfpd.org.

A copy of the act is available at www.ilga.gov

Three Trustees to be Elected April 17

(continued from page 1)

suburban Cook County can vote early from Monday, March 26, 2007 through Thursday, April 12, 2007 at any one of 32 early voting sites located throughout suburban Cook County, as well as downtown Chicago. These early voting sites have been selected by Cook County officials, and unfortunately the Inverness Village Hall is not one of them. The three closest locations are the village halls in Hoffman Estates and Palatine, and the Rolling Meadows courthouse. Visit www.voterinfonet.com for a complete listing of early voting sites.

Early voting will be conducted on touch screens that store every ballot style in the county, permitting any voter in suburban Cook County to vote at any location. Early voters must show a current government-issued photo ID (Illinois driver's license, a State ID, or a passport).

IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING (a reason is required)

In-Person Absentee Voting will take place from Friday, April 13, 2007 through Monday, April 16, 2007 only at the Cook County Clerk's five suburban offices and their downtown office.

ABSENTEE VOTING THROUGH THE MAIL (must have a reason to vote early)

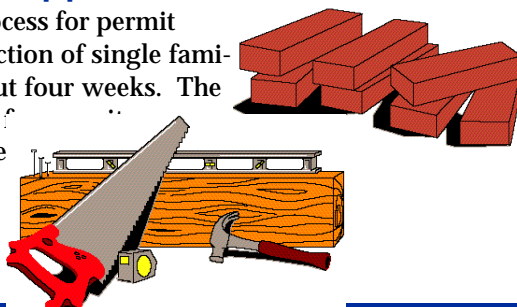
If you prefer to vote absentee by mail, or if you have children away at school who wish to vote absentee, you may download an application for an absentee ballot at www.voterinfonet.com.

Spring is in the Air (Almost) And So Are Thoughts of Home Improvements

If you are planning a home improvement project that involves new construction or remodeling, you will need to obtain a permit application from the Building Department. If you have questions or need assistance in filling out the application, you'll find answers to your questions at the Village of Inverness Building Department. Contact the Building Department at (847) 358-7960; hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For your convenience, the Village's Building Code can also be viewed online at www.villageofinverness.org under the links section.

A Word to the Wise: Allow Enough Time for Permit Review and Approval

The review and approval process for permit applications for new construction of single family homes typically takes about four weeks. The review and approval process for applications for all other type of construction/remodeling projects typically takes about two weeks.



In order to obtain a building permit, you'll need:

- ▲ A completed application.
- ▲ Two plats of survey, one of which must be an original.
- ▲ Three sets of architectural plans stamped and sealed by a state licensed architect or structural engineer for a single family home.
- ▲ Two sets of architectural plans stamped and sealed by a state licensed architect or structural engineer for all other types of construction.

Depending on the type of construction or remodeling, you may also need:

- ▲ Septic layout
- ▲ Septic contractor's license
- ▲ Plumber's letter of intent
- ▲ Plumber's license
- ▲ Roofer's license
- ▲ Homeowners' Association letter of approval.

Conserving Water Will Extend the Life of Your Septic System -- And Save Money, Too!

If you are one of the many Inverness residents who has a septic system, you should be aware that one of the leading causes of premature septic system failure is excessive water going down the drain and into the septic system. Conserving water is an easy way to extend the life of your septic system. You can conserve water (and save money, too) by following these simple suggestions:

- ▲ Test for a leaking toilet by adding food color to the tank. If any color appears in the bowl after 30 minutes, your toilet is leaking. Leaking toilets can waste thousands of gallons of water a day. (Note: Be sure to flush as soon as the food coloring test is complete, since food coloring may stain the tank.)
- ▲ Use water-conserving plumbing fixtures and water flow restrictors on sinks and showers. Typically, bathroom facilities constitute nearly 75% of household water usage.
- ▲ Run your dishwasher and washing machine only when you have a full load. Set the water level for the size of the load.
- ▲ Take short showers instead of a bath. Baths can use 30 to 50 gallons of water. Showers use five gallons of water per minute; less if a flow restrictor is installed.
- ▲ Store drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting the tap run every time you want a glass of cold water. It takes longer to get cool water from your tap than it does to get hot water.
- ▲ Make the most of water. Never put water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden.
- ▲ Avoid using the garbage disposal. Disposals use a great deal of water and necessitate frequent tank pumping. Add your garbage to the trash instead of putting it down the garbage disposal.

I Did Not Sign Up for That!



We all get junk mail. Somehow it finds you, even follows you when you move or change jobs. Most of it typically gets tossed or put in the recycling bin with no more than a glance.

Recycling is a good choice for these pestering pieces of correspondence. A better choice, however, is to prevent this junk mail from arriving in the first place. Many natural resources are wasted by creating this mail that is not even touched.

The Direct Marketing Association's (DMA) [\1"regform"](http://www.dmaconsumers.org/cgi/offmailinglist) Mail Preference Service (MPS) can get you off of these junk mail lists for five years. After this five year period passes, you are free to sign up again for the next five years. When you register for MPS, your name will be placed on the "do not send" list.

The DMA only gives names out to companies to take your name off their lists. This service is for residential mail only. There are two ways to register for the Mail Preference Service -- a mail-in option or an on-line option.

- ▲ DMA: www.dmaconsumers.org
- ▲ Do-it-yourself: www.obviously.com/junkmail/
- ▲ Privacy Rights Clearinghouse: www.privacyrights.org/fs/fs4-junk.htm
- ▲ Stop the Junk Mail: www.stopjunk.com/index.html

The concept of 'reduce' is not generating waste in the first place. Recycling is good, but not making the waste in the first place is even better than recycling. Start from the source. Prevent mail from coming in the first place.



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Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

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Diane C. Steichen Clerk

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