

Hickory Hills Herald

PROUD AND PROGRESSIVE

October 2023



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City Clerk

Joseph Stachnik

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Mayor's Message

The City Council is excited once again to provide our residents with this periodic newsletter to keep everyone better informed of City events and general happenings in our community. We hope you all enjoy the republication of the Hickory Hills Herald! You also may stay updated in between newsletters by visiting the City website at <https://hickoryhillsil.org> or follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofHickoryHills>

Upcoming Community Events

In this edition of the Hickory Hills Herald you will find information about the October 28th Howl Through the Hills 5K event which supports the Hickory Palos Sertoma Club, an organization that has assisted area residents with hearing loss since 1970. You can register online for the race at <http://hickoryhills.org/race> or stop by the clerk's office for an application.

Knowing 988 Can Save A Life

Sometimes the weight of life's challenges can seem too much. Emotional concerns can grow into a crisis and sometimes people don't know where to go for help. 988 is the phone number where anyone can reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. It's available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. People can call or text and know that there is someone on the other end of the line who will respond and offer help.

The people answering the calls are trained professionals who provide callers with tips on how to get through the moments before a crisis, cope during a crisis, and help explain what to do after. 988 centers have a wealth of resources and ways of helping to support individuals who might otherwise feel like they're alone. 988LifeLine.org.

Mayor Mike



Comments From Your City Clerk, Joe Stachnik

As we welcome Fall, we look forward to the City's Children's Halloween Party, the Annual 5K Walk/Run, the annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Lights of Hickory Hills Contest. Please read more information regarding these events and the departmental reminders/updates in our newsletter.

Below are Dates to Remember:

- October 31st** (Tuesday) – Trick or Treating hours are 3 PM to 7 PM
- November 5th** (Sunday) – The next *Blood Drive* at the Community Center.
- November 23rd** (Thursday) and 24th (Friday) – The Clerk's Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday.
- November 30th** (Thursday) – Last day for yard waste and brush pick up. Additional "yard waste" stickers are available at the Clerk's office at no charge.

Just a reminder, the City Clerk's office provides free notary services, and we sell postage stamps for your convenience. If you are age 65 or older, please register with the Clerk's office since you may be eligible for savings on your water bill.

The City Clerk's office issues Temporary Disabled Parking Placards for periods up to 90 days. As mandated by state law, these 90-day placards may be renewed once. The fee for a placard is \$2.00. Forms are available in the City Clerk's office.

School is Back in Session

I want to highlight two specific traffic laws concerning schools. First, when approaching a marked school crossing zone between 7 AM and 4 PM, on days when school is in operation and when school children are present, a driver must stop all wireless phone communications, reduce his or her speed to 20 MPH and yield to any children or adults in the crosswalk area. Second, you must stop before meeting or overtaking a school bus loading or unloading passengers on a two-lane roadway. You do not need to stop if you are traveling in the opposite direction of the bus on a four-lane roadway, but you should drive with caution. Please drive safely.

Savor the beautiful Fall weather... the color changing foliage is the last smile of nature before the cold. We like to think of it as nature's grand finale.

Stay Safe and Let's Enjoy the City Events!
City Clerk **Joe Stachnik**



Debbie Ferrero – Second Ward Alderman

With Fall fast approaching, so are some great events that the City is sponsoring. I hope you will be able to attend some or all these fun activities.

October 28th (Saturday) The **Howl Thru the Hills 5K Run/Walk** will be held at City Hall. This is a great family event that is held in the morning, with the race kicking off at 9:00 AM. Register early at <http://hickoryhills.org/race>.

Later that afternoon from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM,

The Hills Chamber along with the City will be hosting the **Annual Halloween Party** in the parking lot of City Hall. There will be a horse drawn hayride, get your picture taken, magician and face painting. Don't forget all the treats you'll get from Trunk & Treat and maybe play a few tricks on someone.

November 21st (Tuesday) The annual **Christmas Tree Lighting**. This event takes place at City Hall starting at 6:30 PM, until the countdown to turn on all the City's lighted decorations. Come on out and sip some hot chocolate and see Santa.

December 9th (Saturday) The **Children's Christmas Party** hosted by the City and the Park district will be held at Krueger Park from 12:45 PM to 2:45 PM. Santa will be here to take photos along with special festivities.

December 12th (Tuesday) The **Lights of Hickory Hills Contest**. No need to register! Just have your lights on by 6:00 PM, you just may win a prize. The City Aldermen will be driving around all the wards to judge the decorations. Let's light up the City for the Holiday Season!

Just a reminder – for all those who walk your dogs, please clean up after them. Nowadays you see more and more residents walking around our City. Let's make their walk enjoyable also by cleaning up after your pets.

Reminder from the Building Department

Fall is just around the corner. Permits are needed for sheds, pools, patios, driveways, decks, roofs, fences, remodeling jobs, electrical upgrades, pods and new construction. A permit is needed regarding the trimming and removal of trees on the parkway. All contractors doing work within the City must be licensed with the City. Just call the Building Department at 708-237-4140 between 8:30-4:30 and Marilyn will be happy to help and advise you with your permit needs and check if your contractor is licensed. Remember construction hours are 7a.m. - 7p.m. Monday through Saturday. No Sundays or Holidays. Enjoy the Holidays and stay safe & healthy.

Public Works News

Clean Waterways

As we move into the Fall season, meteorologists are predicting we will have above average precipitation. Precipitation can include rain, hail and snow. It either soaks into the soil or drains off a water-resistant surface to the storm sewer system. Water runoff flows from our yards, driveways, streets and parking lots into a storm drain picking up debris, sediment and chemical pollutants along the way.

There are a lot of easy ways to help keep our water clean such as cleaning up after pets, not over fertilizing, disposing of household waste properly and recycling your yard waste. Grass clippings, leaves, fertilizer and pet waste in the yard often ends up washing down to the storm drain, creating a clog. These clogs can cause flooding of roads as well as ice buildup during colder weather. Please do not blow your grass and leaves into the street or drainage ways. We all have a role to play for clean waterways. Let's work together!

Tree Management

The City has long recognized the importance of trees and their contributions to the aesthetic, economic and environmental integrity of the surrounding area. In 2022, the City adopted a tree preservation ordinance, part of this ordinance requires a tree permit for right-of-way tree activities such as removals, planting and pruning. This is a great tool to help protect and manage our communities' trees. Please contact our fantastic Building Department for assistance with this process and any of your other permit needs.

The City actively provides new parkway trees throughout town where there is no current tree canopy. The intention of this program is to provide diversity of quality shade trees with-in the right of way, at no cost to the resident. Please call Public Works at 708-598-7855 for details and to be placed on the first come, first served list.

Brush Pick-up ends the last week of November. Branches must be neatly stacked with all cut ends facing curb. No root balls, stumps or other landscape debris will be picked up. Contractors/professionals must remove all materials from their services.

Sewer Backups

Just a reminder that if you have a sanitary sewer backup at your home, please contact the Public Works Department first. We will check the City's sanitary sewer lines before you contact a plumbing company. All sewer repairs that require excavation must obtain a permit before work can commence.

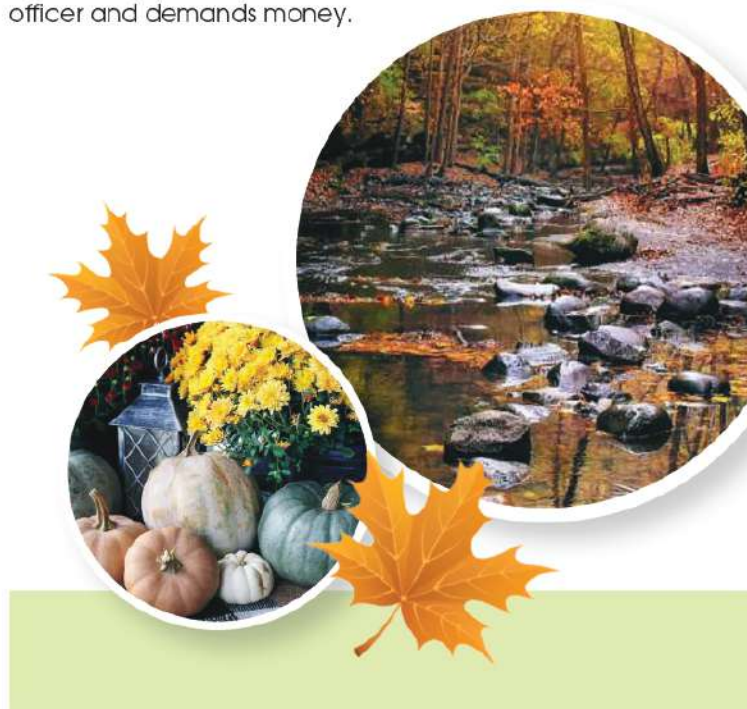
Please call Public Works at 708-598-7855 if you have any questions or need more information on the above news.

Police Department News

Theft, Forgery & Identity Theft

Hickory Hills and surrounding suburbs have recently seen an increase in Theft, Forgery, and Identity Theft cases pertaining to checks being stolen from out-bound mailboxes. Thieves are removing mailed bills containing checks from residential mailboxes and curbside US Postal Service mailboxes. The stolen checks are subsequently being altered by changing the amounts and payee. Everyone is being encouraged to monitor your banking statements and to consider direct payment options. If you need to mail a check, please consider entering the Post Office to drop off your envelope.

Law Enforcement agencies across the country, including the Hickory Hills Police Department, have been taking reports from residents that have been contacted by criminals via telephone posing as law enforcement officers. The criminals attempt to convince the intended victim that their family member had been involved in an incident in which they were arrested and need bond money. The criminals request the intended victim to retrieve cash or gift cards and provide it to them for bond for their family member. The criminals will arrange to have someone physically take possession of the cash from them. Criminals are typically conducting this scam from overseas or out-of-state. Law Enforcement agencies do not take cash for bond from residences nor do they take gift cards for bond. Residents are encouraged to contact the Hickory Hills Police Department if there is a question of legitimacy of a call they receive in which someone identifies themselves as a law enforcement officer and demands money.



City of Hickory Hills

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Hickory Hills, IL 60457-1700

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Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457

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HICKORY HILLS PARK DISTRICT UPCOMING EVENTS

October 9

Holi- "Day Off" Krew

While you are at work and your kids are off school, enroll them in a program that is sure to keep them busy. 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Krueger Park. Ages: 5 - 12 Years \$42 Resident; \$47 Non-Resident

October 21

Garage Sale / Craft & Vendor Show

Krueger Park Rec. Center
9100 S. 88th Ave
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
To prevent conflict of interest, please provide craft or vendor type when registering. \$23 Resident; \$28 Non-Resident \$5 additional table in your space Admission free

October 26

House Decorating Contest - Hickory Hills Residents

All you need to do is call the park office by October 22 at (708)598-1233 to enter the contest. On the evening of October 26, the judges will view the entries. Prizes will be awarded for First, Second and Third place.

October 28

Halloween Egg Hunt & Costume Parade

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Krueger Park Soccer Field
Ages: 2 - 13 years
Fee: \$9 Resident; \$11 Non-Resident

November 3

Taste of Hickory Hills

Join us for our 1st ever food tasting of local restaurants in Hickory Hills, Palos Hills, and other local establishments. Evening includes tasting portions, refreshments, and dessert. 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center All Age (under 14 years must be accompanied by an adult) \$10 Resident; \$7 Resident (5-12 years) \$12 Non-Resident; \$9 Non-Resident (5-12 years)

November 10, 21, 22 Holi- "Day Off" Krew

While you are at work and your kids are off school enroll them in a program that is sure to keep them busy. 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center. Ages: 5 - 12 Years \$42 Resident; \$47 Non-Resident (Daily)

September - May

Kindergarten Kids' Place

Need full day care and your child only has half day pre-school or Kindergarten? We can help Monday - Friday 8:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$85 Resident \$90 Non-Resident (Weekly) 11:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. \$106 Resident \$111 Non-Resident (Weekly) www.hhparkdistrict.org

December 2

Grand Bingo

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center
Come for a chance to win fabulous prizes & a chance to win the "Grand prize". Lunch will be served. Ages: 21 years & up \$23 Resident; \$25 Non-Resident

December 9

Children's Christmas Party

1:00 p.m. Krueger Park Rec. Center
FREE to Hickory Hills Residents Only

October 3, Tuesday

Lake Geneva Fall Boat Tour

October 13, Friday

Four Winds

October 20, Friday

Bottle & Boitega Painting

Nov. 16 Thursday

Shot Glasses & Spirits

Dec. 6 Wednesday

The Four "C" Notes Holiday show & Lunch - Henry

Jacob Mansion
All trips depart Krueger Park Rec. Center, 9100 S. 88th Ave Senior Luncheons (50 years & up) 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. \$10 Resident; \$13 Non-Resident

Sept. 19 Tuesday

Hawaiian Luncheon

October 17, Tuesday

Sports Team Luncheon

Nov. 21 Tuesday

Gobble, Gobble, Gobble Luncheon

Dec. 19 Tuesday

Holiday Season Luncheon

All Luncheons are at Krueger Park Rec. Center, 9100 S. 88th Ave
For more information call 708-599-1233 or visit www.hhparkdistrict.org

Committees and Chairman

Finance, Alderman Kman
Public Safety, Alderman Fonte
Public Works, Alderman Zimmerman
Building/Facilities, Alderman McHugh
Laws & Ordinances, Alderman Puffill
Chamber/Business Development, Alderman Waight
Community Affairs, Alderman Ferrero
Health & Environmental Control/Recycling, Alderman Makropoulos

Aldermen

Mike McHugh Ward 1
Brian Waight Ward 1
Deborah Ferrero Ward 2
Patrick Puffill Ward 2
Brian Fonte Ward 3
Henry Kman Ward 3
Steve Makropoulos Ward 4
Scott Zimmerman Ward 4

