



United City of Yorkville Illinois

County Seat of Kendall County
800 Game Farm Road
Yorkville, Illinois 60560

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
YORKVILLE, IL
NO. 19

City Hall

Phone: 630.553.4350,
Fax: 630.553.7575

United City of Yorkville elected officials

Mayor

Valerie Burd

City Clerk

Jackie Milschewski

Ward I

Jason Leslie
Wally Werderich

Ward II

Gary Golinski
Arden Joseph Plocher

Ward III

Marty Munns
Robyn Sutcliff

Ward IV

Rose Spears
Joe Besco

City Treasurer

William Powell

If you are unsure of which Ward you reside in, please call City Hall at 630.553.4350

City Hall is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The **Police Department** office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Offices are closed weekends and holidays.

The United City of Yorkville newsletter is published quarterly. Questions or comments can be directed to Glory Spies at 630.553.8564 or e-mail at gspies@yorkville.il.us

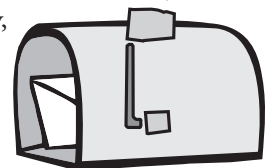
ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

Foreclosure Prevention Seminar

The United City of Yorkville will be conducting a Foreclosure Prevention Seminar on Saturday, February 23 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Yorkville Public Library, 902 Game Farm Road. This seminar will offer panel presentations, foreclosure intervention guidelines, how to manage your credit, understanding legal matters surrounding foreclosure and more. For information call 630.553.4350.

Up-to-the-minute Yorkville news as it happens! E-mail alerts—Sign Up Today!

The United City of Yorkville now has the ability to alert you to city news as soon as it happens via e-mail. If you would like an e-mail alert sent to your home or office, subscribe by going to the city's Web site at www.yorkville.il.us. E-mail alerts from the City of Yorkville are broken down into four announcements: Emergency, general, police department and public works. Sign up for one, two, three or all four. For more information contact 630.553.8564 or sign up today!





Winter 2008

HIGHLIGHTS...

Pages 2-3

Come to Order
Hanging Basket Program
City Hall Office Hours
Resident Letters

Pages 4-5

2008 Event Calendar
Holiday Under the Stars

Page 6

Community Development
Comprehensive Plan
Update
Planning Consortium
Update

Page 7

Parks and Recreation News
Park Receives Award
Park Open Houses

Pages 8-9

Utility Billing
Veolia Services
Winter Ordinances

Pages 10-11

IEPA Compliant
Building, Safety & Zoning
Gawne Lane
Improvements

Pages 12-14

Community Services

Page 15

Police Department News

Mayor's Message

From Mayor Valerie Burd.

Many residents have been asking me, "What is going on at Countryside?" For residents who lived here when the mall was built in the 1970s, it's especially troubling to see the 18 acres of gravel that today occupies what was once this well-liked mall. Well, the developer of the property, **Tri-Land**, has presented its plans to both the city's **Plan Commission**, and the **City Council**, and they are receiving rave reviews.

I've attended a lot of meetings over the last 10 years. It is unusual to have members of the audience clap when a developer gets done speaking, but that has been the response so far for plans for the new lifestyle center at Countryside. Tri-Land, which says it is hoping to begin construction in 2008, has stepped up to the challenge I gave them of creating a beautiful new lifestyle center akin to Geneva Commons. I wanted a green-designed mall. I asked for "something special" because this is a prime retail spot, one of the focal points for our city.

Offering both retail and office space, and possibly a new hotel, the plan they created includes five buildings separated by wide boulevards of green space, and underground parking to minimize paved areas. Instead of a "big box" store and a wide expanse of parking lot, the design now includes fountains, benches, green roofs, energy-efficient lighting, permeable pavers, rain gardens, and other elements of green design that will make this a hallmark project for not only the City of Yorkville, but all of Kendall County. It will also make this mall a destination location for our whole area, and bring back the pride and sense of community that the former Countryside Mall brought to Yorkville.

This location was formerly given a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) incentive that froze the money local taxing bodies would receive from this property at the 2005 level. Any increased real estate tax money above the 2005 level generated



by development at Countryside would be used to pay for bonds issued for this project. A total of \$500,000 of TIF money has been used so far to level the old buildings, but without new development, there is no tax money available to help pay off the bonds. The remaining balance of the original bonds available for reimbursement is \$2.9 million.

As mayor of Yorkville, I am not in favor of imposing any more TIFs on our local taxing bodies. We have three TIFs in place now – one for the downtown, one for the industrial park on the city's south side, and this one at Countryside. I would like to keep this incentive at Countryside in place because as soon as this development occurs, it will benefit not only the developer, but also the city and the other taxing bodies. Fields of gravel do not bring in tax revenue.

In March of 2008, the former TIF will run out without development occurring. For this project to go forward, the city has to amend its former TIF agreement with Tri-Land that required a "big box" to one that allows this new model with smaller, more attractive storefronts. It is important that the City Council amend this agreement, not only because we need the development to pay for the bonds, but also because this developer is bringing us something unique. It will be up to city staff, and the City Council to ensure that Tri-Land delivers on its promise to us to add all of these wonderful enhancements.

I hope this new mall will become a model for all future commercial development in Yorkville. I am excited by the way Tri-Land met the challenge. I hope you will be too.



**Please Pull Out and
Save the Recycling
Insert located in the
center of this newsletter.**

Come to Order...

City Council and committee meetings are open to the public. For meeting locations call 630.553.4350.

Administration – Second Thursday evening of each month, 7 p.m.

City Council Meetings – Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, 7 p.m.

Fire and Police Commission – Meetings are held quarterly. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 23, 2008.

Economic Development Committee – Third Thursday evening of each month, 7 p.m.

Human Resource Commission – The third Wednesday evening of each month, 6 p.m.

Library Board – The second Monday evening of each month, 7 p.m.

Park Board – The second Thursday evening of each month, 7 p.m.

Plan Commission – Meetings are held on the second Wednesday evening of each month at 7 p.m.

Public Safety Committee – The fourth Thursday evening of each month, 6 p.m.

Public Works – The first Thursday evening of each month, 7 p.m.

Police Pension Board – Meetings are held quarterly. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 12, 5 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals – First Wednesday evening of each month, 7 p.m.

City Hall will be closed the following holidays:

Monday, January 21 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Monday, February 18 in observance of President's Day and Friday, March 21 in observance of Good Friday.

Yorkville Garden Club seeks sponsors for hanging flower baskets

The Yorkville Garden Club is currently seeking additional sponsors for its **2008 Basket Beautification Program**. Club members **Nancy Kolowski** and **Cheryl Durland**, with the aid of the city's Public Works **Director Eric Dhuse**, implemented this great community project. Every spring, summer, and fall the baskets beautify lamp posts in the city's downtown area, in addition to Town Square Park. The club is currently seeking sponsors for this year's baskets.

The club would like to give a sincere thank you to the following 2008 sponsors: **Carol Batton, Castle Bank, Castle Insurance Services, Chicago Advertising & Marketing, Ground Effects, Dale Henricksen Family, Law Offices of Dallas Ingemunson, Kendall County Record, Kendall Printing, Kolowski Family, Law Offices of Daniel J. Kramer, Martin Plumbing, Masonic Lodge/Bldg., Mr D's Building & Remodeling, Old Second-Yorkville, St. Joseph's Cabinetry and Designs, South Bridge Gourmet Coffee, Total Image Limousine, Yorkville Garden**



Yorkville's downtown benefits from new community project with the Yorkville Garden Club's new Hanging Basket program.

Club, Yorkville Women's Club.

Membership in the Garden Club is open to all those interested in learning about different aspects of gardening and are willing to participate in various club activities. The club meets on the first Thursday of each

month (with some exceptions). Meetings are held in the meeting room at 215 Hillcrest Ave., Yorkville. Each month the club offers a program of interest to

gardeners. In addition members are active in various activities including protecting the environment, civic beautification activities, scholarship fundraising, and maintaining planters in the city's parks and downtown area. Dues are \$10 per year.

For membership information call 1.630.553.0851 or 1.630.553.1968 or e-mail info@yorkvillegardenclub.org

CITY HALL DEPARTMENTS AND CONTACTS

City Hall	630.553.4350	Community Relations	630.553.8564
Mayor's Office		Engineering	630.553.8545
Administration		Finance	630.553.8534
Clerk's Office		Parks and Recreation	630.553.4357
Building & Safety	630.553.8545	Police Department	630.553.4340
Community Development	630.553.8532	Public Works	630.553.4370
		Yorkville Public Library	630.553.4354

OFFICE HOURS:

City Hall:

Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation:

Mon. & Wed., 9 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Tues. & Thurs., Noon – 8:30 p.m.

Fri., 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sat., 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sun., 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Police Department:

Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Yorkville Public Library:

Mon. – Thurs., 9 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Fri., 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sat., 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sun., 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

From our Residents-Letters You Submitted

Mayor Valerie Burd and the United City of Yorkville thank you for your submissions!

Christopher Sharp of Yorkville sent in the following letter:

Dear Mayor Burd:

I saw in the Beacon Newspaper that you planned to start an environmental committee with the purpose of trying to make Yorkville more green. I think that such a committee or group is a good idea and hope that it works out.

I do hope that this group will try to reduce pollution through promotion of energy conservation and recycling and the use of renewable energy resources in our community. This could be done by recognizing individuals, groups, and businesses in our community who are involved in such activities. Recognition of do gooders who are doing the right thing can be just one way to move citizens in the right direction.

The environmental committee could take the names of nominees, interview people and make the recommendations to you and the rest of the city council. Awards could then be given at a City Council meeting, at a special dinner or other event. Names could also be released to the local media and their names be placed on a plaque or special list.

Some of the things that the environmental committee should look at are how much people recycle, conserve energy, use energy efficient light bulbs, use E-85 fuel, use bio-diesel fuel, own or operate an electric car, own or use a hydrogen fueled vehicle, own and use energy efficient appliances, own and use a solar hot water heater, own and use solar photovotic panels, commute to work by walking or riding a bicycle, help in river or community clean ups, use renewable energy resources, get involved in land conservation, get involved in water conservation, organic gardening, composting of yard waste, researching environmental problems and more.

I hope that this idea does not sound to far out and will be of some use.

And from Mrs. Weiffenbach's second grade class:

Dear Mr. Miller,

We're learning about what is called a bay. A bay is a small body of water. Bristol Bay is in Alaska. For Bristol Bay, why is this subdivision called Bristol Bay when there is no water? Thank you.

Yorkville's Community Development Director Travis Miller answers:

Dear Mrs. Weiffenbach's Class,

Thank you for your interest in the naming of the Bristol Bay Subdivision and for writing to me with your question of why this subdivision is called **Bristol Bay** when there is no water. Until I received your letter, I was not aware of a bay in Alaska with the name Bristol Bay. This is a very interesting fact, however, I don't believe this is where the name Bristol Bay came from.

Centex Homes is the developer of Bristol Bay and responsible for creating the name 'Bristol Bay' for this subdivision. The town of Bristol is very close to the Bristol Bay Subdivision and I believe this is how Centex Homes came up with the first part of the name, "Bristol".

To explain the second part of the name, "Bay", I suspect this due to a large water area planned for the southern part of the Bristol Bay subdivision that has not yet been built. Usually, when new neighborhoods are created, they occur over time and not necessarily all at once. The Bristol Bay subdivision's neighborhoods that are north of Galena Road were the first neighborhoods to be built. There are future neighborhoods planned for the area south of Galena Road and there will be a large body of water included in this area. I have included a map showing all of Bristol Bay that will be constructed in the future. As you will see on the map, there is a large body of water south of Neighborhood 10 and 11 labeled 'Regional Detention' and will be around 170 acres in size when this is completed. Therefore, I suspect the name "Bay" came from Centex Homes' plan to construct this large body of water.

Thank you again for your research on this topic and for your interest in the naming of the Bristol Bay subdivision. If you have any other questions or need any other information please feel free to write to me in the future.

City audit meets deadline date

The United City of Yorkville has filed its year-end April 30, 2007 audit by the required state mandated date of Tuesday, Oct. 30.

According to **Susan Mika**, the city's finance director, this year the city did not have to apply for an extension. The fact that the city has met the required deadline is significant. "It shows the state and our investors that we are diligent, and completing our reports in a timely manner to show up-to-date financial data for the city," Mika explained.

Auditors Wolf & Company LLP issued their report to Mika on October 16. Mika presented the Yorkville City Council with a detailed copy of the audit at the October 23 City Council.

Items audited include the financial statements of the city's governmental activities; business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information. Mika says showing our investors that we are diligent in providing timely information is one thing but there are more advantages to filing by the deadline.

"Now that the audit has been filed and completed, the city can focus on future planning and our day-to-day operations," Mika said. "We can now move forward in planning the upcoming budget revision process as well as focusing on next year's fiscal budget."

Mika sees being on a natural business cycle as the biggest advantage to filing the audit by the deadline. As a result, Mike said it would allow her time to focus on long-term projections, cross training of staff and more efficient processing.

UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE 2008 COMMUNITY EVENTS

Check out all these great 2008 events going on all year long. Save this page for a quick reference guide to all community events, entertainment and celebrations in the United City of Yorkville. More information is available by contacting 1.630.553.4357, 1.630.553.8564 or www.yorkville.il.us. (Dates, times, and locations of events subject to change.)

Art in City Hall Jan. - Dec. 2008

Enjoy art in the United City of Yorkville City Hall Council Chambers, 800 Game Farm Road. Viewing hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Free.

Golf Outing

Friday, May 2, 11 a.m.

Join the Yorkville Parks & Recreation department for an afternoon of golf, lunch, and evening dining at Blackberry Oaks Golf Course, 2245 Kennedy Road, Bristol. Fee.

Community Appreciation Day

Saturday, May 10, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

The United City of Yorkville honors all community volunteers in Riverfront Bicentennial Park, Rt. 47 and E. Hydraulic. Mayor Valerie Burd invites all volunteers for an afternoon of music, entertainment, food, children's games and family activities. Free.



Movies in the Park

June - September, Dusk

Locations, times and dates vary. Movies begin at dusk. Please check the Parks and Recreation brochure for dates, locations and titles of movies. Free.

11th Annual Music Under the Stars June - August, 2nd & 4th Friday evenings, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Come dance and sing the night away at Town Square Park, Route 47 and Main Street. Free.

Yorkville Farmers Market Saturday mornings, June - October, 8 a.m. - noon

Find fresh fruits, vegetables, honey, plants, crafts and more at Yorkville's Farmers' Market at Town Square Park, Route 47 and Main Street. Free.

Walter Payton Sweetness Run 8K & 5K Race

Saturday, June 14, Registration begins 6:30 a.m.; Race 8 a.m.

Join the Payton family for the third annual Kendall County Sweetness Run. Race starts at the Yorkville High School, 797 Game Farm Road. Registration is available online at www.payton34.com or call 1.847.605.0034. Free.

Promenade of the Arts Fine Arts Festival

Friday, June 27, 4 - 8 p.m. & Saturday, June 28, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The third annual Fine Arts Festival showcases area artists at Town Square Park. View original works of art, and enjoy food, music, & fun! Free.

Annual 4th of July Celebration

Friday, July 4, Parade begins at 9 a.m.

Games, food, music, fireworks and a parade make a full day of festivities. Parade begins at the Yorkville High School, 797 Game Farm Road and proceeds down Somonauk.

Games, music and more follow the parade in Town Square Park, Rt. 47 and Main Street. More information is available by contacting the Bristol-Kendall Fire Protection District at 1.630.553.6186. Free.

Theater in the Park

Saturdays, July 19 & 26

Join the United City of Yorkville & the Fox Country Players for free theatrical performances at Riverfront Bicentennial Park, Rt. 47 and E. Hydraulic. Performances at 5:00 & 6:30 p.m. Don't miss the music before and in-between performances. Free.

25th annual National Night Out Tuesday, Aug. 5, 6 - 8 p.m.

Join the Yorkville Police Department & Citizens Police Academy Alumni in a unique crime & drug prevention event at Beecher Community Park, 908 Game Farm Road. Demonstrations, food, fun and children's activities. Free.

16th Annual Hometown Days Festival

Friday, Aug. 29 - Sunday, Aug. 31

Three days of nightly entertainment, carnival rides, magic shows & much more at Beecher Community Park, 908 Game Farm Road. Fee is \$2 after 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Halloween Trick-or-Treat Walk

Saturday, Oct. 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Pumpkin carving contest, sweet surprises, and lots of fun. Sponsored by the Yorkville Area Chamber of Commerce. More information is available by calling 1.630.553.6853. Free.

Halloween Egg Hunt

Saturday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m.

Join Yorkville Parks & Recreation for a new twist on an old favorite at Town Square Park, Rt. 47 and Main Street. Bring a flashlight & container for your eggs. Free.

2nd Annual Holiday Under the Stars

Friday, Dec. 5, 5 - 9 p.m.

Get into the holiday spirit with events to warm your heart at Town Square Park, Rt. 47 and Main Street. Carriage rides, musical performances, a visit from you-know-who, and much more! Join the United City of Yorkville for a little holiday harmony and a whole lot of fun. Free.



Community Events

Holiday Under the Stars' first year a huge success!

For its first year, **Holiday Under the Stars**, a new city tradition, drew more crowds than Yorkville staff, residents, or volunteers could ever imagine!

Mayor Valerie Burd lit the tree, houses were glowing, holiday music filled the air, and the smell of roasting chestnuts warmed spirits. People lined up for the United City of Yorkville's first ever holiday event, making the season feel jollier than ever.

While the **Yorkville Big Band** rocked out in holiday style at **Parkview Middle School**, families rode on the carriage rides, took turns ice skating and warmed up in the heating tent all night long.



The Plano Victorian Lamplight singers wowed the crowd as they caroled through the park.



Kids got to pet reindeer and meet Mrs. Claus.

Kids also got a chance to see live reindeer and ice carving later that night. While the unexpectedly huge turnout made for a bit of a wait to see **Santa**, kids waited excitedly to get the chance to tell **St. Nick** what they wanted for Christmas.

"We're very excited that our event had such a great turnout," said **Glory Spies, Community Relations officer**. "This means next year it will only be bigger and better."

Yorkville residents looking for some fun this winter season weren't the only ones who benefited from Holiday Under the Stars. Through the sale of luminaries before and during the event, the United City of Yorkville and its generous luminary sponsors were able to raise approximately \$2,000 for the **Kendall County Food Pantry's "Hop on the Bus"** program.

The main festival sponsors included **Earthmover Credit Union, Provena Mercy Medical Center,**

Old Second Bank, the Plocher Family, Caterpillar, Inc. and Edward Hospital & Health Services. Other sponsors included **SEC Group, Inc., Yorkville Hill Landscaping, Inc., New Life Church, Rush-Copley Medical Center, The National Bank, Home Town Hello, Dr. Timothy J. Clare - Orthodontics, Sawmill Pizza, Sommers Carpet Care, Inc., Art Townsend, Jacob's Well, Kendall County Record, Yorkville Prairie Times** and the **Yorkville High School Dance Team.**

Many Yorkville area organizations volunteered their time and energy to get this much-anticipated event on its feet, including **Jacob's Well** church, which provided make-and-take ornaments for kids in the heated tent.

"Thank you to everyone who donated your time and resources to make this event a success," said Spies. "We couldn't have done it without you."



One little girl tells Santa what to bring for Christmas.



Mayor Valerie Burd (right) lit the tree, a new addition and tradition to Town Square Park.



Yorkville residents braved the cold with smiles and good cheer at this year's Polar Express.



Community Development

Yorkville citizens and groups comprise Comprehensive Plan Committee

The city's **Plan Commission** formed the **Comprehensive Plan Citizen Advisory Committee** in October for the purpose of updating the city's Comprehensive Plan. The first meeting was held on Nov. 14, 2007 and marked a six-month process for updating the current Comprehensive Plan. The Citizens Advisory Committee is currently meeting each month at the Yorkville Public Library to discuss various chapters of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan Update. The general public is encouraged to attend two open houses held on Tuesday, March 4 and Tuesday, June 3 to review and comment on the work and progress completed by the committee. Locations and times for the open houses will be announced at a later date.

Below is a list of past and future meeting dates along with the topic of each meeting:

- Nov. 14** Kickoff meeting & demographic/economic background information
- Dec. 20** Environmental/natural resource background information
- Jan. 17** Infrastructure (transportation, sewer, water, digital)
- Feb. 21** Community facilities (schools, parks, governmental buildings)
- Mar. 4** Open house for general public
- Mar. 20** Commercial and industrial land use (Economic Development)
- Apr. 17** Residential land use (housing)
- May 15** Plan finalization and recommendation to Plan Commission
- June 3** Open house for general public

Members of the Yorkville Plan Commission and the Yorkville City Council nominated all Citizen Advisory Committee participants. Those participating on the committee are listed below along with the constituency group that they are representing.

Ron Kalina	Ward 1	Natural Resource
George Gilson	Ward 1	Realtor
Fred Du Sell	Ward 2	Retail/Business
Art Prochaska	Ward 3	Yorkville Parks and Recreation
Mary Unterbrunner	Ward 3	Yorkville Library Board
Peter Newton	Ward 4	Yorkville Police Department
Jim Ratos	Ward 4	Jason Pettit
Jake Cooper	Agriculture	Kendall Co. Planning, Building & Zoning

Brent Ekwinski	Banking/Financial	Kendall Co. Highway Engineer
Richard Scheffrahn	Engineering	School Board #115
Nancy Wilson	Healthcare	YBSD
Rich Guerard	Home Builder	Fox Metro
Clayton Marker	Land Developer	BKFD
Kathy Jones	Industry	YEDC

Updates and progress on the Comprehensive Plan are available at http://www.yorkville.il.us/depts_commDev_CompPlan.cfm, along with the Reference Materials Web page which will be updated monthly. To follow the work of the Citizen Advisory Committee go to http://www.yorkville.il.us/depts_commDev_CompPlan_2008Ref.cfm.

Also, if you have any questions feel free to contact Stephanie Boettcher, senior planner, at 630.553.8549 or sboettcher@yorkville.il.us.

Kendall County Planning Consortium Update

The third meeting of the **Kendall County Planning Consortium** was held on Nov. 15, at the Yorkville Public Library. Those in attendance represented the **United City of Yorkville, Big Rock, Village of Minooka, Village of Plattville, Village of Oswego, Village of Millington, and Kendall County.**

Stephanie Sheetz and **Dan Lobbes** from the **Conservation Foundation** gave a presentation on Conservation Easements.

Conservation easements are legal agreements between a landowner and a public agency or non-profit conservation group, such as the Conservation Foundation, that permanently restricts the amount and type of development on a property. Conservation easements are designed to protect larger areas of habitat and the "natural value" of the land. A community's Plan Commission can play an important role in the evaluation of the appropriateness of this tool for the specific areas of the community, along with educating residents about conservation easements and the importance of conserving land.

The next Kendall County Planning Consortium meeting will be on Thursday, January 24, 2008 with a presentation on historic preservation. Please visit the United City of Yorkville Web site at http://www.yorkville.il.us/gov_mtgs_minutes.cfm to view the agenda and meeting minutes of previous and upcoming meetings. Also, please contact Annette Williams, administrative assistant, at (630) 553-8532 or at awilliams@yorkville.il.us with any questions or comments regarding the Planning Consortium.

Parks and Recreation News for You

Hiding Spot Park wins top award from IPRA

Congratulations to the United City of Yorkville's Parks and Recreation Department. **Hiding Spot Park** received **Illinois Park and Recreation Association's (IPRA) Outstanding Facility and Parks Award**. This award recognizes public agencies for their exceptional and unique achievements in design and development. Our submission scored the most points in the Division II applications from the State of Illinois.

This music-themed park, located at the intersection of Park and Freemont Streets, has been the talk of the town (and neighboring towns) this summer! Over 100 community volunteers installed the playground. Park Designer, Laura Haake commented, "I think receiving this award exemplifies our creative thinking and community participation for a unique park accomplishment in Yorkville."

The park received a sizable contribution of play equipment from **GameTime, Inc.**, a nationally known manufacturer of playground structures, saving the city thousands of dollars. In exchange, GameTime used the playground as a marketing opportunity to introduce their new line of play equipment.

"We are thankful to all volunteers, sponsors, staff, and city officials who helped make this happen," said **Dave Mogle, director of Parks and Recreation**. "Special thanks is due to **Scott Sleezer, superintendent of Parks** and to **Laura Haake** for initially discovering this outstanding opportunity to partner with GameTime."



Drums, bongos or both—children at Yorkville's new Hiding Spot Park have found the perfect rhythm. The newly renovated park recently captured the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association's (IPRA) Outstanding Facility and Parks Award.

Park parties in your neighborhood

Park Open Houses were a new event hosted by the Parks and Recreation Department to bring the residents out to their parks for a night of fun and games. This year the dinosaur-themed park in **Raintree, Stepping Stones Park** in Grande Reserve, **Cannonball Park** in Kylan's Ridge, and **Heartland Circle Park** in Heartland Circle were the hot spots. Hot dogs were grilled while children enjoyed the bounce house, bean bag toss games, winning small prizes, and watching a movie on the inflatable screen. Open houses are scheduled next year for **Rotary Park, Fox Hill East, Autumn Creek** and **Sunflower Park**. Watch the Parks and Recreation Department's spring catalog for the specific dates of next year's events!

What's all the construction about?

Next year the **Parks Department** will be opening three new parks! All of these

projects are currently under various stages of construction.

A five-acre transportation themed park in the **Autumn Creek** development includes a gas station themed shelter with pumps for children to fill up, a playground with nets and planes for ages 5-12, play equipment including a truck and sand buggy for ages 2-5, swings for both age groups, a mini skate park, working traffic lights, road way signage, and pavement markings so children can easily learn and practice the rules of the road. There is also a hill for sledding, imaginative play and exercising.

In the **Prairie Meadows** development, **Riemenschneider Park** is fire fighter themed and pays tribute to all of the volunteer fire fighters of the **Bristol Kendall Fire Protection District (BKFPD)**. This park has been named after the Riemenschneider family who currently reside in Yorkville. Several of the Riemenschneider family members have served on the department since the inception of BKFPD, one member alone has served over 50 years. A monument at the center of the park with a walk of honor is being

built through donations to the BKFPD. If you would like to contribute or purchase a brick, please contact **Matt Seng** at mseng@bristolkendallfire.com or 630.553.6188.

The equipment for Riemenschneider Park includes a playground for ages 2-5 and one for ages 5-12, swings for both age groups, a fire department themed shelter, and Yorkville's first spray elements. Children can have fun and get wet at the same time! A safety walk teaches children about fire safety, and a walking trail and baseball field keeps both children and adults active.

A train-themed park in **Whispering Meadows** also includes two playgrounds, one for ages 2-5 and one for ages 5-12 with a tunnel connecting the play spaces. The age 5-12 playground is wheel chair accessible and a depot shelter provides a great picnic location. Yorkville's first BMX track is located in the park and provides a course for non-motorized bikes. A walking trail and a baseball field provide additional active recreational opportunities. A caboose, dating back to 1967, from the Burlington Northern Railroad, completes the train theme.

From the Water Department

The United City of Yorkville utility bills (water, sewer maintenance, garbage and wastewater treatment) are sent to every residential and business unit within the city limits on or about the first of the following months: January, March, May, July, September, and November. Fox Metro bills wastewater treatment for Grande Reserve.

The water meter reads are taken at the beginning of each month and billed at the end of each month. For example, reads taken at the beginning of October will be billed on October 31 for August and September water usage. If you do not receive your bill, please call City Hall at 630.553.4350 to obtain the balance due and due date information that you will need in order to make your payment. Please keep in mind that if you move, you will need to call for a final meter reading due to the lag time in the meter reading/billing process.

Senior Citizen Discount Rate:

A qualified senior citizen (age 65 or older) bi-monthly refuse fee is \$1 for a single-family or duplex unit per utility billing cycle. Proof of age is required. For information, call 630.553.4350.

Explanation of YSBD charges:

The United City of Yorkville bills and collects the Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District's (YSBD) "user charges" for wastewater treatment.

To meet the stricter standards mandated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), and to provide service to the area, the YSBD has borrowed \$9 million from the State of Illinois Revolving Loan Program. Loan monies pay for the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant located at 304 River St. The YSBD also has an existing debt incurred in 1991 of \$3.5 million. The dedicated source of revenue format is a requirement of the

IEPA to assure the low-interest loan is paid back over a 20-year period.

The "user charges" are as follows: \$1.10 per 100 Cu. Ft. of flow, providing that the user pay a minimum bi-monthly fee of \$76.11 of which \$25.45 is dedicated to Debt Service for the repayment of the IEPA Act Loan. The debt service fee is \$25.45 and \$50.66 is for operation and maintenance. The total is \$76.11. Please note: If a customer uses 6,920 or more cubic feet of water, the fee would be calculated at \$1.10 per 100 cubic feet.

UTILITY BILLING RATES

The minimum utility bill for a two-month period is \$127.91.

The minimum utility bill for senior citizens for a two-month period is \$107.05.

Water Rates:

Bi-monthly minimum charge: Up to 350 Cu. Ft. – \$11.94. \$2.17 per 100 Cu. Ft.* thereafter

Sewer Maintenance Fee:

Residential, Commercial, Industrial, and Government \$18/60 days per unit

Refuse Fee:

\$21.86/60 days per single-family or duplex unit

Senior Discount Refuse Fee:

\$1/60 days – per single family or duplex unit (age 65 or older)

YSBD Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District:

Residential, Commercial, Industrial, and Government (treatment of wastewater) – 0-6919 Cu. Ft.: \$76.11 minimum fee. Over 6919 Cu. Ft.: \$1.10 per 100 Cu. Ft.*
*1 Cubic foot = 7.48 gallons

Please note that the Yorkville Bristol Sanitary District does not discount for pool filling or watering. The flat fee of \$76.11 is for up to 6,919 Cu. Ft. Any usage over 6,919 will be billed at \$1.10 per Cu. Ft.



Grande Reserve utility billing:

The Grande Reserve utility billing will be the same charges for water, sewer, and refuse. Fox Metro will be the sanitary district for Grande Reserve and will do their own billing from reads provided to them from our meter reads. The rates are as follows: \$5.25 minimum for 350 Cu. Ft. usage then \$2 per 1,000 gallons (134 Cu. Ft.) For example, 1,000 Cu. Ft. usage = \$15.

A minimum utility bill from the United City of Yorkville to Grande Reserve residents will be: \$51.80. (Note: This will not include Fox Metro Sanitary District charges as they will be billing for their services)

A minimum utility bill from the United City of Yorkville to seniors 65 and older is \$30.94. (This does not include Fox Metro Sanitary charges).

The Fox Metro Sanitary District billing for filling pools and watering sod that services Grande Reserve is as follows:

- Fox Metro will adjust the bill if you have either filled a pool or watered new sod. This is not an automatic adjustment. For information, call Fox Metro at 630.301.6881.
- New accounts will be billed at approximately \$4.50 per person, per month (approximately \$24-\$26 per month).

For more information, contact Fox Metro at 630.301.6881.

5 EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL

1. By Mail

You can mail your bill by the payment date to the United City of Yorkville at 800 Game Farm Road, Yorkville, IL 60560.

2. Walk In

You can walk into the City Hall offices between 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. before the payment date and pay your bill by cash or check at 800 Game Farm Road, Yorkville, IL.

3. Drop Box

An after hours drop box is available for your convenience. The box is located under the flagpole before you enter City Hall. You can drop your bill in the drop box at your convenience before the payment date.

4. Direct Debit Payment

Direct debit payment is auto-deducted from your checking or savings account on the day the bill is due. Applications are available at City Hall or on the city's Web site at www.yorkville.il.us. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to City Hall: **Attn: Judy Dyon, Utility Billing Clerk**, United City of Yorkville, 800 Game Farm Road, Yorkville, IL 60560. More information is available by calling 630.553.8522.

5. E-Pay

This Internet Payment program is available through the State of Illinois to Yorkville residents. Payments can be made with a variety of credit cards including Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover and E-check. A user fee of \$3.50 per transaction is added to the payment amount for the convenience of Internet service; however, this fee is not charged or collected by the city. For more information about the E-Pay program you can go to the city's Web site at www.yorkville.il.us or call City Hall at 630.553.4350.

Winter ordinances remind residents of snow shoveling and parking prohibitions

As winter approaches, residents should be aware of the city's snow shoveling ordinance and parking prohibitions in the event of snowfall.

Please remember that when shoveling it is unlawful to deposit snow on to city streets when removing snow from driveways and sidewalks. Violation of the ordinance may result in a \$50 fine per occurrence.

When shoveling your driveway or walkway, if there is a fire hydrant in front of your house, please take the time to shovel the area around the hydrant. We appreciate your effort in helping us keep the city's property clear of snow during the winter months.

Parking on city streets in the United city of Yorkville is prohibited except for emergency vehicles during emergencies, after a snowfall of more than two inches. In addition, residents are reminded that parking is prohibited on any City street after a two-inch snowfall for 24 hours after the snowfall has ended. Please note that the City has the right to tow any illegally parked vehicle and to assess to the owner or driver of the vehicle any and all reasonable towing charges as billed to the City.

Snowbird Policy

If you are away this winter...the City's **Snowbird Policy** lets you waive your utility charges for water, sewer and refuse in your absence. You must be absent from your residence for a period of 60 consecutive days.

If you wish to have your water shut off at the curb box during your vacancy, you will be charged a \$25 shut off fee that must be paid prior to the shut off date.

The Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District wastewater treatment charge of \$76.11 per unit will be reduced to the debt service loan portion of the current rate of \$25.45.

The operation and maintenance fee will be waived.

Please note that it is your responsibility to inform the City of your return.

An application form is available on the City's Web site at www.yorkville.il.us or by contacting City Hall at 630.553.4350. The application form can be mailed to City Hall at 800 Game Farm Road, Yorkville, IL 60560 or faxed to 630.553.7575.

Veolia Environmental Services

The United City of Yorkville contracts refuse service with Veolia Environmental Services. The current refuse rate is \$10.93 per month. The senior citizen discount is 50¢ per month (\$1.00 per billing cycle).

Under the city's refuse agreement with Veolia Environmental Services, each residence is allowed to put out one 65-gallon Veolia Environmental refuse cart (green), one 65-gallon recycling cart (blue), and one large household item on the regular pick up day only (such as a couch, chair, or mattress) to be collected weekly without a pre-paid sticker. Carts are provided by Veolia Environmental Services. Residents may exchange their 65-gallon refuse cart for 95-gallon refuse cart at an additional cost of \$5.00 per month billed directly to the residents by Veolia.

If you are missed on your regular pick up day, contact Veolia Environmental Services at 630.587.8282. Veolia Environmental Services office hours are Monday through Friday; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Additional information is available on their Web site at www.OnyxWasteServices.com. A direct link to the United City of Yorkville refuse information via Veolia Environmental Services is available there.

Additional Guidelines

Additional refuse containers may not exceed 32-gallons in size or 50 pounds in weight. Carpeting is considered a bulk item, however, it must be cut and rolled into 4-foot lengths. Each roll must be tied and not weigh more than 50 pounds. Up to 4 bulk rolls will be accepted as one bulk

continued on page 10

item. Construction materials, large automotive parts, tires, white goods, hazardous wastes and materials from floods, fires, and evictions will not be accepted during weekly collection.

Use caution when disposing of baby wipes

The city's Public Works department is asking all residents to refrain from disposing baby wipes through the city's sewer system. Television commercials and the product's packaging label states that baby wipes are biodegradable. Though this is the manufacturer's claim, this product is not disposable and caution must be used when disposing of baby wipes.

In order to prevent serious problems in the future, the Public Works department is asking all residents to refrain from disposing baby wipes through the city's sewer system particularly flushing them down the toilet. The product is getting clogged and may cause a serious problem in the future by backing up into your home.

Just a brief reminder:

Christmas Tree Collection

Veolia Environmental Services will collect Christmas trees free of charge during the first two weeks in January. Please place your tree on the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your designated collection day. Questions can be directed to Veolia at 630.587.8282.

Please clear the way...

When shoveling snow this winter, please clear the way for our meter readers. Thank you for your cooperation.

Contact the city's Public Works Department at 630.553.4370 with any additional questions or for more information.

City's water now compliant with IEPA standards

The United City of Yorkville is now radium compliant. As mandated by the IEPA, we are required to print the information listed below for one year after compliance. If you have a question, please call the city's Public Works Department at 630.553.4370.

The United City of Yorkville public water system has levels of gross alpha and combined radium above drinking water standards.

Our water system has violated a drinking standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminant. Quarterly samples taken over the past year show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for gross alpha and combined radium. The standard for gross alpha is 15 pico curies per liter (pCiL) and 5 pico curies of combined radium. The average level of gross alpha is 33 pCiL and combined radium over the past year was 19 pCiL per liter.

Q. What should I do? You do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled water) supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

Q. What does this mean? This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing radium-226 or radium-228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Q. What happened? What is being done? The United City of Yorkville has designed and constructed Ion Exchange Treatment Facilities, which will remove the radium below the 5 pico curies per liter level. The treatment plant is currently online.

Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. The United City of Yorkville Public Water System ID #0930250 is sending this notice to you.

For more information, contact Joe Moore at 630.553.4370 or write to 800 Game Farm Road, Yorkville, IL 60560. Distributed January 2008 by the United City of Yorkville.

Mailbox Policy

The City of Yorkville's mailbox policy covers only mailboxes struck by city snow plows or trucks. For the full Ordinance please see our Web site or call Public Works at 553-4370.

Do you know what ward you are in? Ward map available on city's Web site

The United City of Yorkville is divided into four individual wards.

If you do not know what ward you reside in, you can check the city's Web site at www.yorkville.il.us and go to "Maps" on the top of the page. A current ward map is located on this page. To request a paper copy, please call City Hall at 630.553.4350.

From Building, Safety and Zoning

The United City of Yorkville **Department of Building Safety and Zoning** is ready to help when you have a project to complete. Whether you are a homeowner or a contractor when questions arise please call 1.630.553.8545 before you begin your project. In addition to building permits, Building Safety and Zoning is responsible for zoning reviews of all plans including commercial, residential, industrial and miscellaneous permits, performs both building and property standard inspections, meets with homeowners to discuss pre-construction questions and options and meets with new builders and contractors to discuss project and city expectations as it pertains to the building code.

Heating your home this winter

Your home's heating unit needs periodic attention. During the winter months it is especially important to have it inspected annually by a heating contractor. In addition, for efficient operation change

Public Works News

your furnace filter regularly. Questions can be directed to the city's Department of Building Safety and Zoning.

Permit FAQs—Do I need a permit?

Permits are required for virtually every enhancement to your home including the addition of a swimming pool, shed, and basement remodeling. If you have a question on whether you need a permit for a home improvement, please contact the Department of Building Safety before you begin your project. They will determine if your project requires a permit and help you complete the necessary paperwork.

What you can do if you observe a violation

It is impossible for our building inspectors to be present every time a violation occurs. Although our staff does their best to monitor sites, we encourage residents to notify the Department of Building Safety if a violation is in progress. Appropriate action will be taken when a violation or complaint occurs.

Did you Know?

The City of Yorkville now has the ability to communicate messages via the water bill. Please look at the bottom of your bill for important up-to-date information each billing cycle.

Refuse Pick-up Schedule:

Weekly Veolia Environmental refuse pick-up is as follows:

Monday – Cornerstone, Greenbriar, Prairie Gardens, Sunflower Estates, south of the river and east of Rt. 47.

Tuesday – Country Hills, Crooked Creek, Fox Highlands, Raintree Village, Wildwood, Windett Ridge and south of Rt. 126 and east of Rt. 47

Wednesday – Bristol Bay, Caledonia, Cimmeron Ridge, Countryside Center, Fox Hill, Kyn's, River's Edge, White Oak Estates, Whispering Meadows, and west of Rt. 47 down to Elizabeth Street excluding Greenbriar

Thursday – Autumn Creek, Blackberry Creek, Cannonball Estates, Grande Reserve, Prairie Meadows and east of Rt. 47 and north of Rt. 34

Friday – Heartland, Longford Lakes, north of the river south of Rt. 34 and east of Rt. 47

All refuse should be placed out for collection by 6:00 a.m. on the designated collection day. Veolia Environmental Services have co-collect trucks that accommodate both refuse and recycling items and are not combining recycling with refuse.

A \$1.00 pre-paid sticker is required for each bag or 32-gallon container outside the cart. Pre-paid refuse stickers are sold at the following locations: Ace Hardware, 9620 Rt. 34, Yorkville; Jewel-Osco, 234 Veterans Parkway, Yorkville; Pride Pantry, 302 Bridge Street, Yorkville; United City of Yorkville City Hall, 800 Game Farm Road, Yorkville.

Veolia will observe the following holidays: **New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.** Please note that service will be delayed one day following any of the holidays listed above.

From our Engineering Department...

CITY COMPLETES GAWNE LANE IMPROVEMENTS

The United City of Yorkville recently completed both watermain and roadway improvements on Gawne Lane. As a part of the project, a new watermain was installed south of Main Street and extends down Worsley Street and turns east toward Bruell Street. The new watermain was put in to replace the previous smaller watermain that was servicing several homeowners on Gawne Lane. Services for these homes have been reconnected to the new watermain.

As part of the Bruell lift station project in 2005, the city obtained an easement along the north side of Gawne Lane. Under the terms of this agreement the city agreed to construct a road along the south frontage of the Bruell lift station site and also construct a watermain along Gawne Lane.

The watermain project was extended to include Worsley Street since the area west of Gawne Lane did not have access to city water service. Worsley Street was resurfaced as a part of the project. The completed project also allows those homes on Gawne Lane that are not currently in the city's boundaries to have water hook-ups available to them should they choose to annex to the city in the future.



Top: Gawne Lane during construction.

Bottom: The completed project.

Community Organizations, Services and Events

There are many services, programs, events and activities that are offered locally by numerous organizations. In order to keep the community informed the following is an updated listing. If you have any questions or would like additional details regarding any listed service, please do not hesitate to call the number listed; or, contact: **Rose Spears, Alderwoman/Ward 4, Liaison, Senior Services providers Advisory Council, Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging Phone: 630.553.8371; or, RSPEARS@YORKVILLE.IL.US**

Rover Rescue—Pet Services for Kendall County Seniors

Rover Rescue is developing a pilot program to provide pet assistance to Kendall County seniors by offering **free** pet supplies for dogs, cats, fish and birds. The supplies may include food, toys, beds, cages, collars, and leashes depending on the supplier's availability of products. This pilot program will first be offered to Meals-on-Wheels participants; with the intent of expanding services to additional Kendall County senior citizens.

Rover Rescue is a locally based not-for-profit all breed dog rescue group. The group's dogs are rescued from high kill shelters in Illinois and Indiana and placed in foster or permanent homes. Additional information is available on the Rover Rescue Web site at www.roverrescue.org.

Volunteers for this pilot program will be needed to deliver the pet food and supplies. Please volunteer to join this dedication organization, Rover Rescue, in assisting the senior citizens of Kendall County.

A wait list will be compiled for additional seniors that would desire pet food and/or supplies for their beloved pets. Please contact Rose Spears at 1.630.553.8371 or rspears@yorkville.il.us to be placed on the list.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF KENDALL COUNTY

Contact: Ed Dixon, Kendall County Superintendent, 1.630.553.8354 or edixon@co.kendall.il.us

Important Notice to all Veterans **“VETERANS IMPROVED PENSION”**

If you are a veteran who served at least 90 days, one of which was during one or more of the eligibility periods listed below, you are eligible for a VA pension. Surviving spouses may also be eligible.

- You do not have to be service-connected
- You do not have to have retired from the military
- You do not have to actually have been in combat
- You simply have to meet the income and net worthy criteria.

Eligibility Periods:

- **World War II**—December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946
- **Korean War**—June 27, 1950 through January 31, 1955
- **Vietnam War**—August 5, 1964 (February 28, 1961 for veterans who served “in country” before August, 1964) through May 7, 1995
- **Gulf War**—August 2, 1990, through a date to be set by law of Presidential Proclamation

Levels:

There are three levels to the Improved Pension program:

1. Basic Pension: The basic pension does not require that you be physically disabled.

- A single veteran is eligible for \$10,929 per year
- A veteran with a dependent is eligible for \$14,313 per year
- A surviving spouse is eligible for \$7,329 per year
- A surviving spouse with a dependent is eligible for \$9,595 per year

2. Housebound: A veteran or surviving spouse whose physical limitations require a certain level of regular assistance with their daily routine may be eligible to receive housebound benefits.

- A single veteran is eligible for \$13,356 per year

- A veteran with a dependent is eligible for \$16,740 per year
- A surviving spouse is eligible for \$8,957 per year
- A surviving spouse with a dependent is eligible for \$11,219 per year

3. Aid & Attendance: Aid and Attendance is the highest level of Improved Pension available to any United States Military veteran (or his surviving spouse) who meets the service, financial and physical criteria.

- A single veteran is eligible for \$18,234 per year
- A veteran with a dependent is eligible for \$21,615 per year
- A surviving spouse is eligible for \$11,715 per year
- A surviving spouse with a dependent is eligible for \$13,976 per year

Financial Criteria: The VA must determine that your net worth is such that it will probably not support you through the remainder of your life. The VA does not include primary residence or vehicles when determining net worth.

Countable income: By definition it is the amount of income (the amounts differ in each level) a veteran or surviving spouse received each year, AFTER deducting all non-reimbursed, recurring health care expenses. This includes assisted living costs, home health care, insurance and Medicare premiums, on-going pharmacy costs and more. If you have a dependent, their health care costs can also be used to reduce your countable income. (The spousal income must also be added into the equation.)

RUSH-COPLEY PROGRAMMING

Rush-Copley will be offering new programming in conjunction with Senior Services Associates. Everyone is welcome to attend. The following programs will be conducted at the Yorkville Senior Services Associates, Inc. located at the Beecher Community Building, 908 Game Farm

continued on page 13

Community Organizations, Services and Events

Road, Yorkville. Call 1.630.553-5777 for additional information.

Pneumonia: 10:00-11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 10, 2008. Join **Dr. Mazima Mustafa, MD**, internist with Aurora Internal Medicine, for an informative discussion on pneumonia. Dr. Mustafa will discuss common symptoms, treatment options, causes, and risk factors associated with pneumonia, and much more.

Sleep As We Grow Older: 10:00-11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 24, 2008. Join **Dr. Jon Doud, M.D., FCCP**, from the Midwest Center for Sleep Disorders as he discusses sleep as it relates to health and disease. There will be an overview of sleep disorders that become more prevalent as we grow older.

SENIOR SERVICES ASSOCIATES, INC. (SSA)

Senior Services Associates, Inc. (SSA) offers numerous state and federal programs for individuals 60+. The Yorkville Senior Services Associates, Inc. is located at the Beecher Building, 908 Game Farm Road, Yorkville. Call 1.630.553.5777 for additional information on any listed service, program, event or activity.

SSA - SERVICES OFFERED:

Volunteers Needed - Senior Companion Program

Can you make room in your life for someone new? This is a program that builds friendship. The program connects eligible seniors (residents of Kendall County, 60 or older) with carefully screened volunteers to provide needed support through many life transitions. For additional information on qualifications to become a volunteer; or, if you are interested in participating in this program or would like to refer someone who would like a friendly visit from a volunteer once a week, contact **Patty Strahan** at 1.630.553.5777.

Case Management Services:

Case managers assess the need for care and development of an overall plan of care and follow-up to assure that you or your loved

one is receiving the service needed. Case managers will also assist with obtaining home delivered nutritional meals; in-home services (e.g., housekeeping, maintenance, personal care); energy assistance; outreach to the homebound to assist with applying for benefits; information and referral; financial assistance; transportation to grocery stores, doctor appointments; and free legal services. Call **Penny** at 1.630.553.5777

Nursing Home Ombudsman Services

A Long Term Care **Ombudsman** is an advocate who seeks to resolve complaints on behalf of people who receive long term care services. This program is designed to assist residents of long term care facilities and their families by developing family councils; advocating for resident rights under state and federal laws; investigate complaints and abuse allegations; provide consultation on how to choose a nursing home; as well as privacy rights. This Illinois Department on Aging Program strives to protect and promote the rights and quality of life for those who reside in long term care facilities. For additional information, contact Penny at SSA 630.553.5777.

Prairie State Legal Services, Inc.

Prairie State Legal Services offers legal services to persons aged 60 or older who have serious civil legal problems and need legal assistance to solve them. These services may include: government income benefits (social security, SSI, food stamps); health related benefits (Medicare, Medicaid, Circuit Breaker, home health care, SeniorCare, health insurance); future decision-making (guardianships, powers of attorney), housing rights (renters' rights, mortgage foreclosure, property tax relief); and, personal rights (protection from abuse, neglect, age discrimination). Call SSA at 1.630.553.5777 to schedule an appointment.

CONGREGATE MEAL PROGRAM – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Kendall County Congregate Meal Program – Home Delivered Meals. Community Nutrition Network (CNN)

needs volunteer drivers to deliver meals to senior citizens and frail individuals residing in Yorkville and Plano. Assigned routes take approximately one-half hour beginning at 11:00 a.m. Individuals may volunteer to deliver meals daily, once a week, twice a week, or once a month to fit your schedule. Please contact Louise at 630.553.2316.

KENDALL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Kendall County Health Department's **Transitions** program has offered counseling, caregiver support, education and assistance in accessing resources for seniors and their families since 1997. Through the fiscal support of the senior tax levy and the **Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging (NEIL AAA)**, services are offered at low or no cost to clients. The goal of the program is to provide support to seniors as they adjust to the transitions that aging brings, addressing the physical and emotional issues that occur when facing changes in health, support systems and loss of friends or a spouse. Strength-based counseling is an "experience counts" form of therapy in which clients are encouraged to use what they have learned in life to address their latest "transition." Support groups are also available to caregivers and a men's group offers an opportunity for structure, new relationships and a chance to "gather around the water cooler" again.

Contact **Keith Bielema**, Transitions program coordinator at 1.630.553.9100, ext. 8028 for additional information or registration.

Caregiver Support Group

A caregiver can be anyone—a spouse, parent, adult, child, sibling or friend. Do you help an elderly person shop, provide transportation to appointments, assist with bill payments, or prepare meals? Caring for a loved one can be fulfilling – yet exhausting and stressful. The goal of this support group is to provide support, intervention and education to address the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual

continued on page 14

Community Organizations, Services and Events

needs of caregivers throughout Kendall County. The **Caregiver Support Group** meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Kendall County Health Department, 811 W. John Street, Yorkville, IL 60560.

Kendall County Older Men's Group:

Seeking all Kendall County men 60+ years of age. Have you recently retired? Are you dealing with a little extra time on your hands? Do you have questions regarding your spouse and/or other family members? Are you looking to keep both mind and body busy? If you answered YES to any of these questions, please join us. The group meets on Wednesdays from 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Elder Friendly Community Planning Summit

Mark your calendars! The third annual Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging (NEIL AAA) and Kendall County Senior Providers summit on **Creating Elder-Friendly Communities** will be held from 8:30 a.m.-Noon, Wednesday, April 16, 2008 at Trinity Church United Methodist, Rt. 47 and Boomer Lane.

Topics will include Kendall County's current and future demographic trends; assessing the community's elder-readiness; creating elder-friendly communities for today's and tomorrow's older Americans; transportation; baby boomer styles; social services agencies; caregivers; and, discussions regarding county, municipality and

townships working together to develop an elder friendly community.

Kendall County Food Pantry— Volunteers and donations needed

Once again, the winter season has arrived. The **Kendall County Food Pantry** serves over 100 families on a regular basis. In order to assist those less fortunate than us, we would like to encourage you to donate blankets, bath towels, dish towels, bed linens, sugar, oil, juices, peanut butter, jelly, ketchup, canned meat products, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, detergents (dish/laundry) and personal items (deodorants, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, etc.).

The Kendall Food Pantry is located in the Farm Bureau Building, 111 E. Van Emmon. Much needed donations can be dropped off from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Mondays. **Please remember the many individuals that are less fortunate.**

Contact: Jeaness Medin, Pantry Coordinator, at 1.630.553.7259 to volunteer.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRY

Cross Lutheran Church and School has begun a new outreach program called "**Angel Food Ministries.**" This ministry allows anyone to purchase a box of food for half of the grocery store prices. Angel Food's groceries cost \$25 per unit and contain enough food to assist in feeding a family of four for one week, or a single

senior for almost a month. The food is the same high quality you would purchase at the grocery store and is valued between \$48 and \$75. There are no income limits or pre-qualifications.

The menu changes each month and menus will be available online at the **Caring Hands Thrift Shop** in Yorkville and the **Loving Arms Childcare Center** in Oswego. The number of units purchased is not limited. Orders may be placed at Caring Hands Thrift Shop and must be paid in full when ordering. Link cards are an accepted form of payment. Credit cards are not accepted. Additional monthly specials are offered and may be ordered when purchasing the \$25 monthly unit. On distribution day, orders must be picked up at Cross Lutheran's North Campus located in the Loving Arms Childcare Center, 7481 Mill Road in Oswego.

Volunteers are needed to assist with reminder telephone calls; loading and unloading the trucks; set-up at Cross' North Campus; clerical help to check in customers and assist order placement; greeters to aid traffic flow; help in distributing the food; and assist carrying orders to customers' vehicles. For additional information or to volunteer please call or e-mail Pastor Erik Gauss at 1.630.553.7335 ext. 107; or, egauss@hiscross.org or Larry Ulrich at 1.630.551.3374, or larry.Ulrich@ni.icms.org.

Yorkville Police Department News

NEW! Help is a Phone Call Away

Senior citizens and the disabled in Kendall County now have assurance that if anything were to happen to them—someone would come to their aid. With the assistance of a new program that provides daily wellness checks via an automated telephone system, individuals in the county's nine-township area can feel safer.

The **Well-Being Check Assistance** program, says Barry Groesch, administrative sergeant for the Yorkville Police Department, "was a program that **Chief (Harold) Martin** wanted to see happen." Groesch, said that "It was a good fit for us and for the Triad. We had great support from the Triad and the Kendall County state's attorney's office."

The program provides daily-automated telephone calls free of charge to those individuals who fill out the application



form. Once logged into the system, based on frequency requested by the applicant, a warm, friendly voice calls and addresses you by name.

continued on page 15

Yorkville Police Department News

All of the equipment is being housed and serviced through the Yorkville Police Department.

The Kendall County Triad and the Yorkville Police Department are offering this service at no cost to township residents age 55 and older, or disabled residents. If you live in the following townships: Big Grove, Bristol, Fox, Kendall, Lisbon, Little Rock, Na-Au-Say, Oswego or Seward you are eligible to participate.

Applications are currently being accepted and are available by downloading a form from the United City of Yorkville's Web site at www.yorkville.il.us. Applications are also available by contacting Kendall County Triad at 630.553.5777. Additional questions can be directed to Sergeant Barry Groesch at 630.553.8511.

NEW! Citizen Radar Patrol Program

The Yorkville Police Department is currently implementing a **Citizen Radar Patrol Program** in efforts to combat residential speeding within city limits. According to **Sergeant Dave Delaney**, of the Yorkville Police department, the program is comprised of volunteers who want to take a proactive approach to traffic violations. "Citizens are trained to use police issued radar equipment, then monitor the speed of vehicles on their streets," Delaney explained.

Working in groups of two, volunteers are trained to log the speeding vehicles by their license plate, time of day, direction of travel, street location and the speed of the vehicle. One volunteer logs the data of the vehicle while the other operates the radar gun.

Citizen Radar Patrol activity sheets, which are used during the observation period, are then returned to the Yorkville Police Department Traffic Unit. Registered owners of the vehicles are determined through the Illinois Secretary of State's office. Vehicle information is recorded and a letter is sent to the owner of the vehicle.

"The letter is intended to serve as a reminder to citizens to observe traffic laws and drive accordingly," said Delaney. The letter lets individuals know the date, time, location and speed of the vehicle committing the violation.

"The purpose of this type of patrolling is to gather information on speed and other violations within the city's neighborhoods," commented Delaney.

The program is currently seeking volunteers. As a volunteer of the Citizen Radar Patrol you must be 21 years of age and a resident of the United City of Yorkville. Interested citizens are encouraged to contact Sergeant Dave Delaney at 630.553.8451 for additional information.

TASER Provides Safer Results

The United City of Yorkville Police Department purchased and has been using a TASER X26 since November 2006. This piece of equipment, though at first appearance may be intimidating, is utilized to provide our police personnel with a less lethal option when having to overcome force in the field.

Another reason for purchasing a TASER, says police officer Dave Delaney, "is to reduce the possibility of serious injuries or death."

According to Delaney, the TASER X26 model is currently issued to all Yorkville police department supervisors and is designed to give officers more options when forced to overcome resistance by combative or dangerous persons and reduces the risk of serious injuries to both officers and suspects.

The TASER X26 is a conductive energy device that uses an air cartridge to fire two probes up to a distance of 21 feet. Upon contact, the weapon transmits a five-second electrical signal to the probes, resulting in an instant, temporary loss of the suspect's neuromuscular control and coordination without any long lasting effects or injuries.



Currently only supervisors who have gone through specific training classes have been issued the TASER. Strict precautionary measures are also in place including rigorous reporting and accountability safeguards that track and investigate when and how the TASER has been used. In addition, the TASER is equipped with a camera system that records its use. The TASER cam offers increased accountability—not only for officers but for the people they arrest. With the use of the TASER Cam, every potential TASER X26 deployment can be recorded with video even in low lighting conditions. The TASER Cam system records video footage for up to 90 minutes.

The word "TASER," says Delaney, originated from a Tom Swift adventure book, part of a ghost written series of books about a boy inventor that ran from 1910 through the 1970s and stands for "Thomas A. Swift Electric Rifle." Jack Cover, a NASA scientist, invented and patented the electronic stun gun in 1974, naming it for the invention he recalled from his childhood reading.