



# South Holland TODAY

NEWSLETTER FROM THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND

APRIL / MAY 2014

*Signs of  
Spring!*

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Lord, keep me  
in the spirit  
of prayer.

**South Holland Ministerial Association**

**Mayor's  
PRAYER Breakfast**

in conjunction with National Day of Prayer

**May 1, 2014**

**Spirit of God Fellowship**

16350 South State Street, South Holland, IL

7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

**Featuring:**

Don A. De Graff, *Mayor of South Holland*  
Sarah VanDrunen, *Christian Performing Artist*

Keynote Address by  
Rev. Bill Reed, *Evangelical Free Church in America*

**\$5.00 (at the door)**

For additional information, please call 708.474.4043



# MEMORIAL DAY

## PARADE – REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY



### **EXPERIENCE MEMORIAL DAY IN SOUTH HOLLAND**

**PARADE** ..... 11 a.m., South Park Avenue (170th Street to 160th Place)

**REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY** ..... 1 p.m., Veterans Memorial Park

**HOME RUN DERBY** ..... 2 p.m., Veterans Memorial Park Ball Field

**LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL**

**ALL-STAR GAMES** ..... Immediately following the Home Run Derby

# New South Holland Police Station gets helping hand from community groups!

The village extends a big “Thank You” to the **South Holland Lions Club**, **Citizen Police Academy alumni** and the participants in the **Cook County Sheriff’s Work Alternative Program** who helped with demolition work at the new police station.



*Citizens Police Academy alumni assist in the demolition at the new police station.*



*South Holland Lions member Roger Bonnema helped with removal of old work stations.*

## Help us . . . .

# TAKE A BITE OUT OF GRIME



*Residents assist with trash pick up at Gouwens Park during 2013's Take a Bite Out of Grime event.*

The 19th annual **Take a Bite Out of Grime** will start at 8:30 a.m., **Saturday, May 10**, at the **South Holland Community Center, 501 E. 170th St.**

Join the mayor, clerk and trustees as they form teams to clean up designated sites along major roadways and riverbanks.

There will be a tree planting in honor of **Arbor Day** before the cleanup begins. Afterwards, there will be lunch at 11:30 a.m.

To volunteer, call the **Community Center** at **708-331-2940**, or sign up at the village's website at **[www.southholland.org](http://www.southholland.org)**.



# SOUTH HOLLAND HAPPENINGS



## MARKETPLACE RETURNS

The annual Town Center Marketplace will be held again this year from noon to 6 p.m. every Friday from June 27 through Oct. 3 at the northeast corner of 162nd Street and South Park Avenue.

**Zeldenrust Farm Market** will return this year providing locally grown fresh vegetables and fruits. Zeldenrust's honey recently placed second in a competition hosted in 2013 by The Morton Arboretum. New this year are **Fulcrum Farm's** fresh chicken, duck and quail eggs, and **Auntie Vee's** cupcakes, cookies and pies.

The village is currently accepting farmers market applications for farmers and food vendors only. If interested, call Mary Ann Thornton at 708-210-2918.

## Artists needed

The South Holland Artists Gallery Committee is looking for local artists to participate in the **2014 Artists Gallery**, scheduled August 27 – 30 at the South Holland Community Center. To learn more about how to participate in the gallery, call Mary Ann Thornton at 708-210-2918.

## Electronics Recycling

During the Take a Bite Out of Grime event on May 10th, there will also be Electronics Recycling from noon-3 p.m. at the South Holland Public Library, 16250 Wausau Ave., West Parking Lot.

Accepted for recycling will be: televisions, PC and Apple computers, moni-

tors, printers and other peripherals, fax machines and cellphones. Also accepted will be durable medical equipment such as canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, standers, and therapeutic equipment.

## 'Taste of Laren'

Laren Montessori School will hold its seventh annual **Taste of Laren** from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at Calvary Community Church gymnasium, 16341 South Park Ave.

There will be food and entertainment from around the world with delicious tastes and performances from Latin America, Asia, Italy, Africa, the Caribbean and America. There will be a raffle with tickets \$2 each or six for \$10.

Admission for those 10 and older will be

\$2. Children under 10 will be free. Food tickets will be \$1 each or 25 tickets for \$20 when purchased by May 9.

To purchase tickets in advance, please call 708-339-4274 or stop by the Laren Montessori School Office at 425 E. 164th St. in South Holland.

For information, visit [www.larenmontessori.org](http://www.larenmontessori.org).

## Mayor's Coffee

Mayor Don De Graff will hold his next quarterly **Coffee with the Mayor** at 7:30 a.m. June 10 at the South Holland Community Center, 501 E. 170th St.

The Coffee provides an informal opportunity for residents to meet with the Mayor and other Village officials to ask questions and share comments and concerns.

## VILLAGE LICENSES AND PERMITS

### South Holland 2014-15 Vehicle Stickers

**AVAILABLE MAY 1 – MUST BE DISPLAYED BY JULY 1**

- **STICKERS PURCHASED JULY 1 THRU 31 INCUR A 50% LATE FEE**
- **STICKERS PURCHASED AUGUST 1 OR LATER INCUR A \$100 LATE FEE.**

**REMEMBER:** Any vehicle registered to a South Holland address is required to have a South Holland vehicle sticker, regardless of it being parked on the street, in a driveway, or garage. It's the law.

### PRICES:

- Passenger Cars .....\$40
- Trucks & Motor Homes..\$55
- Trucks C & higher.....\$95
- Motorcycles.....\$20
- Senior Citizens (65 years & older) receive 50% discount.
- Garage Sale Permits....\$ 5
- Dog License .....\$10

# SALUTES

## Fire Chief Bettenhausen to retire



*South Holland Fire Chief Donald Bettenhausen.*

**By Eric Pradelski**

South Holland Fire Chief Donald Bettenhausen is retiring, effective May 2.

He has served the South Holland Fire Department with distinction for seven years, with about six full years as chief and one year as deputy chief.

Bettenhausen has been a firefighter/paramedic for more than 35 years. Firefighting runs in the family. His dad, both of his brothers, his son and son-in law are, or were, firefighters.

Early in his fire service career, Bettenhausen worked in Tinley Park as a paid-on-call firefighter and was a paramedic in Hazel Crest. After 25 years with Hazel Crest, where he ultimately served as assistant chief, Bettenhausen joined the Orland Fire Protection District where he led the department as chief for three years.

In 2007, Bettenhausen joined the South Holland Fire Department. During his tenure, he cites improving the firefighter/paramedic training program, getting new equipment for the department and replacing antiquated equipment, and updating policies and procedures.

He says that the South Holland Fire Department “had a good foundation, and I helped to build another level of bricks upon it.”

Bettenhausen also said that “my career has been great. The administration here is a great team of people, and I believe that the best years are yet to come for the South Holland Fire Department and the Village.”

Mayor Don De Graff, Clerk Sallie Penman, village trustees, and the administration will honor retiring Chief Bettenhausen at the May 5 board meeting. “Chief Bettenhausen has been a valued member of South Holland’s leadership team,” said Mayor De Graff. “He served our community with a high level of professionalism and commitment to protecting life and property. He will be greatly missed.”

After he retires, Bettenhausen plans to do some farming with his cousin and spend more time with his family.

With the support of the village board, Mayor De Graff will appoint Deputy Chief Brian Kolosh as chief of the Fire Department.

## Service Award



Mike Monaghan (pictured at left above) executive director of the Illinois Community College Trustees Association, presented an ICCTA Service Award to South Suburban College Board of Trustees Chairman **Frank Zuccarelli** (shown at right).

The ICCTA recognized Zuccarelli for his 35 years of service and for his many years of accomplishments and contributions to the statewide community college system. He is only the fifth person out of more than 2,200 current and former trustees to reach this level of success in the state.

South Holland resident **Clifford Wescott** celebrated his centennial birthday in March.

Wescott worked at U S Gypsum in East Chicago, Indiana for 40 years, progressing from a laborer to a manager. After retiring from Gypsum, he drove cars for Jabaay Motors in Lansing, Illinois. After 24 years with Jabaay, Mr. Wescott retired at the age of 90.



### CORRECTION

The February/March 2014 issue of *South Holland Today* included an incorrect photo.

Pictured is Felicia Houston, ComEd Neighborhood Hero.



*South Holland Today* regrets the error.



## Summer job opportunities for students

Thornton Township is looking for students 16 and older to work in its ZAP - Senior Lawn Care program.



ZAP provides skill-based learning/work opportunities to high school students who reside in Thornton Township. Student workers provide weekly lawn care service to senior residents residing in single family homes who may need assistance in performing routine home maintenance tasks. Students are trained in proper lawn care, lawn equipment and basic vehicle maintenance and repair.



To learn more about this opportunity, students are encouraged to contact Thornton Township at 708-596-6040, x3170 or x3164.

## Saran Dunmore to return to village



*Lifestyle and fitness expert Saran Dunmore presented the keynote address at the Chicago Women's Conference and Expo, hosted by South Suburban College's Business and Career Institute. Dunmore is scheduled to return to South Holland Saturday, September 20 to lead the warm-up session at the Heritage Haul race at Veterans Park. Visit southholland.org for more information.*

## ComEd offers \$10 million in assistance funds

ComEd has dedicated \$10 million in assistance funds to help customers who are facing financial hardship pay their electric bills.

In addition, the utility company is also offering flexible budget billing and flexible deferred payment agreement options to assist customers receiving higher than normal bills.

To assist customers receiving higher than normal bills, ComEd is adjusting the eligibility requirements for its financial assistance programs for eligible residents including seniors, veterans and active members of the armed services who are ComEd customers.

This is the third consecutive year ComEd is offering

\$10 million in assistance funds, which are part of a five-year, \$50 million commitment to help ComEd customers struggling to pay their utility bills, a result of Smart Grid law enacted in 2011. Grant amounts may vary while funds are available.



An Exelon Company

To apply for a Residential Special Hardship Grant or the state sponsored assistance programs, such as LIHEAP, customers should visit a local LIHEAP Agency.

For more information on any of ComEd's assistance programs or to enroll in ComEd's bill-payment assistance programs, call 1-888-806-2273 or visit ComEd.Com/CARE.

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Avoid scams and theft

By Eric Pradelski

The general premise of Home Improvement Scams (also called the Gypsy Scams) is that someone knocks on your door and says work needs to be done in your back yard. They then offer to show you what should be done.

While you accompany them to the back yard, an accomplice walks in your home and looks for small, high-value items.

By the time you realize something is missing from your home, they are long gone.

The South Holland Police Department has some tips to help avoid this scam and variations of it:

- Never allow anyone in your home that you do not know;
- Ask for ID. All Village of South Holland employees have a picture ID card;
- Never leave or exit your home without locking the front door and bringing the keys with you;
- Door-to-door solicitation is not allowed in South Holland without a permit and is a violation of village ordinances.

If someone is suspicious to you, call the police.

## PD award ceremony

The South Holland Police Department will be holding its inaugural Public Safety Commendation Awards Cer-

emony on May 17 at the South Holland Community Center, 501 E. 170th St.

The Annual Public Safety Commendation Awards Ceremony will honor police officers and citizens who have gone above and beyond the call of duty during the previous year.

## Giving back

The South Holland Police Department supports:

- **Illinois Special Olympics Spring Games**, May 3, at Thornwood High School Field.
- **Cop on Roof Top**, May 30, 5 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the South Holland Dunkin' Donuts/Baskin-Robbins.
- **Law Enforcement Torch Run**, June 3-13.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## South Holland storm alert warns of tornadoes

The South Holland Fire Department reminds all residents that the storm sirens at Fire Stations 1 and 2 are only activated to alert of a tornado warning, which means an actual tornado has been spotted in the area.

After the warning sirens have been activated, residents should immediately seek shelter in the basement or lowest level of their homes. The safest spot is in the southwest corner of the basement. Residents without basements should seek shelter in the inner most part of their homes, such as an inner hallway or bathroom.

It is vital to keep away from windows, doors or anything that may inflict injuries.

Flying glass and debris is the No. 1 cause of injuries and deaths in a tornado.



It is advised to seek shelter under something sturdy, such as a table, and to keep your head protected at all times. A portable radio should be used to keep you advised of current weather conditions. Never seek shelter in an automobile, truck or camper.

The Tornado Warning alert signal is a steady blast from the sirens lasting 3 minutes. When this is activated, seek shelter immediately.

When the danger has passed, an All Clear signal will be activated, which is a wavering up-and-down signal of the sirens for 2 minutes.

If there are injuries, fires, fallen electrical wires or other emergencies during a storm, residents are urged to call 911, or call the Fire Department at 708-331-

3123 or the Police Department at 708-331-3131 for non-emergency related issues.

The South Holland storm signal sirens are tested the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. to ensure the sirens are fully operational.

If you would like further information on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Tips, contact the South Holland Fire Department.

## FD annual report

By Eric Pradelski

In 2013, the South Holland Fire Department responded to 3,701 calls, an increase of 102 in 2012. Most of the calls (2,501) were for emergency medical services and 1,200 were fire response calls.

Some of the major accomplishments over the last year include continued and ongoing training of firefighters and officers, a continued fitness program, ongoing computer upgrades, improvements to Fire Station 2 and the purchase of a new pickup truck, new heart monitors and new fire attack hose.



# PUBLIC WORKS

## Big Day of Serving in South Holland

### N'tl Public Works Week

By Eric Pradelski

May 18-24 will mark the 54th annual celebration of National Public Works Week.

This year's theme is "Building for Today, Planning for Tomorrow."

Per the American Public Works Association website, Gov. Pat Quinn acknowledged the week via a proclamation on March 5.

Please take some time to remember and appreciate all that Public Works does to support our village, state and nation as this week approaches.

### Yard waste pickup

Collection of yard waste and branches for South Holland residents started again for the season on April 1 and will last through the entire month of November.

Residents are asked to please fill their yard waste toter or paper bags with lawn clippings, small branches and trimmings for pickup on your normal garbage collection day.

If you have a large pile of branches in front of your property, there is no need to call the Public Works Department to arrange for pickup. The branch pickup crew follows the same route one day after the waste collectors.

### Spring repairs to begin

"As we prepare for our usual spring Public Works responsibilities, we are faced with an extraordinary amount of restoration needed within the village due to the havoc caused by the severe winter of 2013-2014," said Public Works Director Jeff Hon.

More than 200 water main leaks were repaired this winter, and roadways took a beating due to extreme low temperatures and more than 80 inches of snow, he said.

Sod, asphalt and concrete replacement where water main repairs were made, along with the filling of potholes will all be completed as soon as possible, he said. "We apologize for any inconvenience caused by our construction repairs and thank our residents and the travelling public in advance for their understanding and patience," said Hon.

More than 100 volunteers from Christian Ministry Alliance spent the day in South Holland to help the village board and administration complete a list of community projects, including landscaping and/or clean up at Veterans Memorial, Hollandale and Maicach Parks, the community garden, the South Holland Community Center, the clover leaf at Interstate 94, the overpass on Route 6, and the parsonage at the Faith Family Future Center, among other locations. The day was sponsored by the Village of South Holland, Home Depot in Calumet City and Homewood, Piekarski & Sons Sherwin Williams, Scotts, and Starbucks in Homewood-Halsted.



## BUSINESS UPDATE

### Village welcomes new businesses



*On February 24, Christian Community Health Center held a ground-breaking ceremony for its new facility at 901 East Sibley Boulevard. In attendance were members of the organization's executive team, along with village and state elected officials.*



*West Side Tractor, 150 West 162nd Street, celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony on February 12. Celebrating with West Side Tractor's leadership were members of the South Holland village board and administration, including Mayor Don De Graff (pictured second from right).*



## Village seeks bids for landscaping

The President and Board of Trustees are seeking sealed proposals for: Plantscaping & maintenance program including the design, layout, installation and monitoring/maintenance; including plant replacements (if needed) of the village's planter boxes, pots, garden walls & welcome signs.

Sealed proposals will be received at the Clerk's office, 16226 Wausau Avenue, South Holland, IL 60473, until 10:00 A.M. on May 5, 2014.

Proposals will be publicly read aloud at 10:00 A.M. on May 5, 2014.

All proposals shall be sealed in an envelope, addressed to the Village of South Holland, attention Clerk's office. The name and address of the bidder and the name of the proposal shall also appear on the outside of the envelope. Proposals must be submit-

ted on the forms provided. The instructions to bidders and the proposal form can be downloaded on the Village of South Holland website at [www.southholland.org](http://www.southholland.org).

A performance bond in a sum equal to 100% of the bid amount, with sureties to be approved by the President and Board of Trustees for the faithful performance of the contract, must be furnished by the successful bidder. All bids or proposals shall contain an offer to furnish bond upon acceptance of such bid or proposal.

The right is reserved to reject any or all proposals, to waive technicalities, to postpone the bid opening, or to advertise for new proposals, if, in the judgment of the President and Board of Trustees, their best interests will be promoted.

## EDUCATION

### So. Suburban College

#### Summer School

Open registration for the Summer 2014 semester at South Suburban College is now in progress. Summer class sessions begin Monday, June 2, and Monday, June 9, at the college's Main Campus and Oak Forest Center.

SSC is also offering a special 50 percent discount for summer classes at the Oak Forest Center. The discount is only applicable at the Oak Forest Center in order to promote expanded offerings at this location, and is good for all credit classes on a first come, first served basis.

New students should visit the Admissions Office in Room 2348 to complete the Application Form, or may now complete the Online Application Form at [www.ssc.edu](http://www.ssc.edu) to begin the enrollment process.

#### Adult tutors needed

South Suburban College is seeking tutors and participants for the Adult Volunteer Literacy Tutoring Program. The program is structured to train volunteers to become one-on-one tutors for adults in need of basic literacy skills.

If you would like to volunteer or know someone who would benefit from these services, call Christopher McElroy, Coordinator of the Adult Volunteer Literacy Program, at 708-596-2000, ext. 2558, or email [cmcelroy@ssc.edu](mailto:cmcelroy@ssc.edu).

South Suburban College is located at 15800 S. State St.

### School Dist. #150

#### ALL STAR TALENT SHOWCASE PRESENTS 'THE 80'S'

May 17, 2014, 1:00 p.m.

McKinley Gymnasium  
16949 Cottage Grove Ave.

Call 339-4433

for tickets and details



# Calvin School teacher achieves her dream

*'The South Holland community has risen to every occasion to demonstrate their love, loyalty and support for the school.'*

—Kelly Archie



*Innovative Educator, Kelly Archie.*

**By Cindy Cruz**

For Kelly Archie, becoming a teacher was the fulfillment of a childhood dream.

Archie, who has taught in elementary Christian education for more than 10 years, came to Calvin Christian School in 2011.

The Pre-K/Kindergarten teacher enjoys working with young children because it is exciting, challenging, rewarding, and enjoyable.

"I appreciate this age group because I have the opportunity to help lay a foundation that other teachers can build upon that will last a lifetime," she said.

Archie describes her teaching methods as fun, practical, instructive, and supportive.

"I try to be patient and make it a goal to help each of my students have a good day. My goal is to help them to enjoy learning and coming to school each day," she said.

Using technology is integral to not only the curriculum and the education of her students but also to connect with

the parents and to collaborate with her peers. Some examples of the technology Archie uses to educate her students are the iPad and computer (educational apps), cameras, CDs and DVDs, video equipment, e-books, and different types of early childhood computer-based learning curriculum, and computer videos and games.

Archie said these learning tools help enhance her student's academic and social skills.

"These methods also introduce global and virtual learning experiences for my students," she added. "We are able to explore the world from our classroom."

She also uses technology to stay connected to her parents. Calvin Christian School uses RenWeb, which is a computer-based system that allows Archie to interact with each student's parents and her colleagues instantly. She emails parents each day with updates, pictures and information about their child.

For Archie there are many rewarding aspects of teaching. Working with the teaching staff at Calvin Christian School is one of her greatest rewards, along with seeing the progress of her students and meeting and working with the students' parents.

"Helping my parents to understand that their child has a distinct God given personality is another rewarding aspect of teaching at Calvin," she said. "My part is to help each child understand their personality and learn how to work and play well with others."

"The families we serve and the support that they give to Calvin is wonderful," Archie said. "The South Holland community has risen to every occasion to demonstrate their love, loyalty and support for the school."

"My advice for someone pursuing this career is to know that teaching others is a gift from God. Appreciate the talents that God has given you, and always remember that at the end of each day — you have enhanced someone's life!"

## COS students finalists for *Do the Write Thing Challenge*



Jalen Miles (pictured) and Ifeoma Egbuna, both eighth-grade students attending Christ Our Savior Catholic School, were selected as top finalists for the *Do the Write Thing Challenge 2014*.

This writing contest is part of a national campaign to stop violence.

Jalen's and Ifeoma's poems were selected from among the more than 1,000 essays/poems submitted by students from the Chicagoland area.

Students will be honored at a Recognition Awards Dinner on Tuesday, April 29, at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

During the dinner, two first-place winners will be announced and will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., in June.

## SPORTS

### Little League begins

By Eric Pradelski

The South Holland Little League baseball program will officially begin its 2014 season for all levels on Saturday, May 3.

Games will take place mostly at Gouvens Park and Veterans Park, with other local ballparks being used mainly for team practice. Games are played Mondays – Wednesdays and on Saturdays.

League organizers said to be sure to come out and support our youth, as there is plenty of room for fans at both venues.

### SSC Hoops Team wins conference title

Congratulations to the **South Suburban College Men's Basketball Team**, winner of the National Junior Conference Athletic Association Division Region IV Championship.

Sophomore guard **Antonio Levy** was named MVP of the Regional Tournament. Bulldogs Head Coach **John Pigatti** was named Region IV Coach-of-the-Year for the sixth time in his eight years at SSC, as his teams have advanced to the National Tournament in each of those years.

### Share your thoughts on planning for natural hazards



Partnerships of local governments in Cook County, including South Holland, are working on a plan to be prepared if natural hazard events occur: the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan. By participating in this plan, local governments will be eligible for federal funding to help pay for actions that reduce the potential for natural hazards that harm life, property or the environment.

Your help is needed to complete the plan. A public information survey is available online for you to provide input on your own experiences with natural hazards in Cook County. Your survey responses will provide important information about how much citizens already know about natural hazards and how they are most vulnerable. The survey results will also be used to help prioritize projects to reduce our risks from natural hazards.

The survey will take only about 10 minutes to complete, and your participation and responses are completely anonymous. You can access the survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CookCountyHazMit>.

For more public information on the plan and how to participate in its development, please visit the plan's website: <http://www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/hazard-mitigation-plan>.

## COS takes home two trophies!

Christ Our Savior Catholic School 7th and 8th Grade Boys Basketball placed first in the C.C.P.L championship. The 7th grade team beat St. Agnes, 42-26; 8th grade team beat St. Benedict, 63-49.

Congratulations to both teams!



*COS 8th Grade Basketball Champs*



*COS 7th Grade Basketball Champs*



# WISDOM AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM OUR CHURCHES

We opened our blinds that morning and looked out on a world freshly blanketed with snow. Again. In December, our kids prayed for snow. Now they prayed for spring. That morning we started reading *The Jesus Storybook Bible*\*. “God wrote, ‘I love you’ – he wrote it in the sky, and on the earth, and under the sea. He wrote his message everywhere! Because God created everything in his world to reflect him like a mirror – to show us what he is like, to help us know him, to make our hearts sing.” So began the opening chapter. Even this fresh blanket of snow showed us something about God, we reasoned – something ‘to make our hearts sing.’ But what? The responses came back from around the table. “God is beautiful! God makes all things and people different – no two snowflakes are alike. God covers our sin to make us pure and clean again.”

By the time you read this, I hope we’re not looking out on a fresh snowfall. Still, it’s a great image to keep in mind – waking to find the grit and grime of a drab winter landscape cleansed and clothed by a heaven-sent blanket.

Jesus bled on a Roman cross, covered with our guilty grime so that God could cleanse and clothe all who come to him with the fresh blanket of forgiveness to cover our guilt and regret.

By the time you read this, I hope good green things are popping up everywhere, drinking up the spring rains and opening to reveal splashes of color. Easter followed Good Friday, just as spring follows winter. Jesus rose from the dead so that we can share his resurrection life. When Jesus cleanses us and covers our guilt, he also causes good, new things to grow in our lives. And one day, even the bodies of all who belong to him will spring up from the earth, beautiful and new, to live forever.

– Rev. Richard Zekveld  
Cottage Grove Christian Reformed Church

\**The Jesus Storybook Bible*. Written by Sally Lloyd-Jones & Illustrated by Jago. Grand Rapids: Zonderkidz. © 2007.

## DIY at the South Holland Library (16242 WAUSAU AVENUE)

### CONTAINER GARDENING

Learn the art of container gardening. A container garden will be raffled at the end of the program.  
Tuesday, May 6, 6:30 to 8:30pm.  
North Meeting Room.

### ARRANGING FLOWERS

Learn how to beautifully arrange flowers. An arrangement will be raffled at the end of the program.  
Tuesday, May 20, 7pm.  
North Meeting Room.



*Learn how to create a container garden*

### SOLAR PANELS

Learn the advantages of solar power and the step-by-step details to installing solar panels in your home.  
Tuesday, May 27, 6:30pm.  
North Meeting Room.

### RAIN BARRELS

Learn how to install a rain barrel in your yard and how rain barrels can save you money on your water bill all summer long.  
Tuesday, May 27, 7:30pm.  
North Meeting Room.

### BEAVER SHREDDING

Documents shredded onsite as you watch; removal of paper clips or staples unnecessary  
Saturday, May 31, 11am to 1pm.  
West Parking Lot.

# FLOOD PROOFING SERIES

## Flood insurance – a wise investment

For those residents living near the Little Calumet River, Thorn Creek, or one of the ditches in the Village, flood insurance is highly recommended. Even if the last storm or flood missed you or you have done some flood proofing, the next flood could be worse. Most homeowners' insurance policies do not cover a property for flood damage.

The Village of South Holland participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. Local insurance agents can sell a flood insurance policy under rules and rates set by the federal government. Any agent can sell a policy and all agents must charge the same rates.

Now is a good time to purchase flood insurance in South Holland. Due to South Holland's CRS rating (5), homeowners realize a 25 percent discount from standard flood insurance premiums.

Any house can be covered by a flood insurance policy. Detached garages and accessory buildings are covered under the policy for the lot's main building. Separate coverage can be obtained for the building's structure and for its contents (except for money, valuable papers, and the like). The structure generally includes everything that stays with a house when it is sold, including the furnace, cabinets, built-in appliances, and wall-to-wall carpeting.

There is no coverage for things outside the house, like the driveway and landscaping. Renters can purchase contents coverage, even if the owner does not buy structural coverage on the building.

Some people have purchased flood insurance because it was required by the bank when they got a mortgage or home improvement loan. Usually these policies just cover the building's structure and not the contents. During the kind of flooding that happens in South Holland, there is usually more damage to the furniture and contents than there is to the structure.

Several insurance companies have sump pump failure or sewer backup coverage that can be added to a homeowner's insurance policy. Each company has different amounts of coverage, exclusions, deductibles, and arrangements. Most are riders that cost extra. Most exclude damage from surface flooding that would be covered by an NFIP policy. The cost varies from nothing up to about \$75 for a rider on your homeowner's insurance premium. However, there is a 30 day waiting period once homeowner has applied for flood insurance.

### Floodproofing your home

Floodproofing a house means altering it so floodwaters will not cause damage. Different floodproofing techniques are appropriate for different types of buildings. Use the following as a guideline:

◆ If you have a basement, split level, or other floor below ground level, get a free copy of *Guide to Basement Flooding* from the Village Hall. There are lots of ways to protect your basement or lower floor from seepage and sewer backup.

◆ If your house is on a slab foundation, investigate a low floodwall, berm, or "dry floodproofing" (i.e., making the walls watertight and closing all the openings when a flood comes).

◆ If your house is on a crawlspace, a low floodwall, berm or "wet floodproofing" will work. "Wet floodproofing" means moving all items subject to damage out of harm's way so water can flow into the crawlspace and not cause any problems. If floodwaters go over the first floor, it is relatively easy to elevate the building to get the first floor above the flood level.

◆ Properties that are substantially damaged must be brought up to current building codes. Any work needing to be done may require a permit. Contact Code Enforcement to learn if a permit is required.

### Village Flood Services

The Code Enforcement office at 16240 Wausau (708/210-2915) provides the following:

- ◆ Information on whether a property is in a mapped floodplain and related flood insurance rate map data;
- ◆ Records of past flooding;
- ◆ Advice on how to protect a building from water problems;
- ◆ Guidance on the laws that govern construction and property improvements; and
- ◆ Site visits to view the cause and possible solutions to a problem.

Get a free copy of *Guide to Flood Protection* from Village Hall. Additional information on these measures is available at the Public Library.

## Code enforcement office answers flood of questions

### Be prepared for unexpected storms

Most of South Holland's flooding and drainage problems occur during and after heavy storms. These can happen at any time, but are more common during the summer. There are many things that can be done to prepare for the storm and water problems that may follow, such as:

- Keep ditches, drainage swales, detention basins and storm sewer inlets clear of debris.
- Check with the Code Enforcement office to determine if your house is in a mapped flood plain or if there is a history of flood problems in your area. The code enforcement office can be visited at 16240 Wausau, or reached by calling 708/210-2915.
- Ask the Code Enforcement office about how to protect against water problems.
- During a rain, keep tuned to local radio or television stations to see if there is a tornado or flash flooding hazard.
- Make a record of all personal property. Go through the basement (if not the entire house) and record everything. Videotape or take photographs. Inventory forms are available free from most insurance companies or make one.
- Ask the code enforcement office if an elevation certificate is available for your property.
- Protecting your property is important. Information is available from FEMA publications, including "Homeowners Guide to Retrofitting: Six Ways to Protect Your House from Flooding." These resources can be found on [www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodplain/publications.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodplain/publications.shtm).

### Flood safety

**Do not walk through flowing water.** Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths. Currents can be deceptive—six inches of moving water can knock an average-sized person off their feet. Use a pole or stick to ensure that the ground is still there before going through an area where the water is not flowing.

**Do not drive through a flooded area.** More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Don't drive around road barriers—the road or bridge may be washed out.

**Shut off electricity and gas.** Make sure these utilities are turned off before proceeding with further efforts. Call the fire department at 708/331-3123 for assistance.

**Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.** The number two flood killer, after drowning, is electrocution. Electrical current



can travel through water. Report downed power lines to the Police Department at 708/331-3131.

**Look before you step.** After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris, including broken bottles and nails. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be very slippery.

**Be alert for gas leaks.** Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns, or open flames before checking that the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated.

**Carbon monoxide exhaust kills.** Use a generator or other gasoline-powered machinery outdoors. The same goes for camping stoves. Charcoal fumes are especially deadly—cook with charcoal outdoors.

**Clean everything that got wet.** Flood waters have picked up sewage and chemicals from roads, farms, factories, and storage buildings. Spoiled food, and flooded cosmetics and medicine can be health hazards. When in doubt, throw it out.

**Take good care of yourself.** Recovering

from a flood is a big job. It is tough on both the body and the spirit, and the effects that a disaster can have on a family may last a long time. Keep eyes open for any signs of anxiety, stress, and fatigue.

**Create an evacuation plan.** If there is a threat of a flood or an emergency, you should have an evacuation plan for yourself and personal property items.

#### What to do when it floods

South Holland's *Flood Warning System* is designed to supply Village officials with necessary data to make informed decisions in times of potential flooding in order to provide residents and businesses with timely assistance so that appropriate actions can be taken to minimize flood loss and casualties. Everyone did fine in previous floods and the system worked per design. But here are some reminders for residents:

If it is raining hard, tune to a local radio station to see if a flood watch or warning has been issued. For residents watching television, the cable override will issue a message.

Then, tune to Cable Channel 4 (Comcast), 6 (WOW), and 99 (AT&T) for more information (provided by the Village in emergency situations). Otherwise, an initial notification may come when residents are addressed by a police car public address system. Be sure to follow safety tips.

The National Weather Service issues two types of flood notices: a flood watch and a flood warning. A flood watch indicates flooding is possible within the area described by the notice. A flood warning indicates flooding is imminent or occurring in the area described in the notice.

An extra measure of protection is wise for people living close to the Little Calumet river, Thorn Creek, or other drainage waterways. A NOAA weather radio can be purchased at local electronic stores for \$10-\$20 and will enable residents to monitor National Weather Service notices directly.

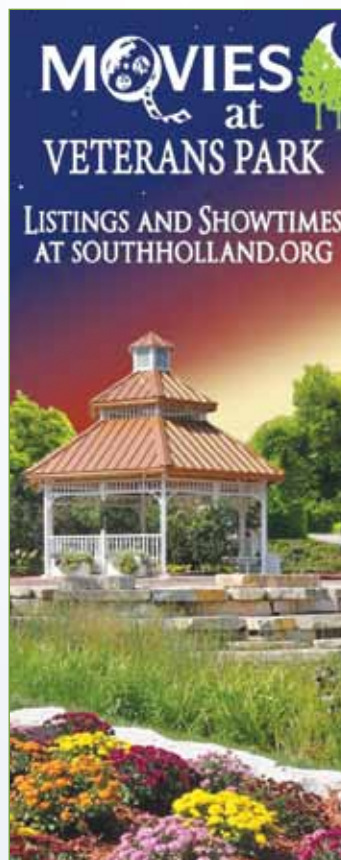
## Movies in the Park returns this summer

By Eric Pradelski

The Village of South Holland will once again be hosting Movies in the Park at Veterans Park, 160th Place and South Park Avenue.

Mark your calendars for the dates of June 21, July 26, and Aug. 30. The movies to be shown are yet to be determined.

Residents are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs to sit on the lawn. The concession stand will be open for refreshments, as well.



## Summer events for teens scheduled

By Eric Pradelski

The South Holland Youth Commission will host a series of events exclusively for village teenagers.

Aug. 8 is **Back-to-School Teen Night**. The event will take place at the South Holland Community Center, 501 E. 170th St., from 9 p.m. to midnight.

There will be a variety of activities for South Holland teens to enjoy, including basketball, watching a movie, singing karaoke, playing video games, and more.

The cost of the event is \$7 per teen, and covers admission and food for the night.

Also on the slate is a trip to **Six Flags Great America** in Gurnee on June 26. The cost of the trip will include both transportation and admission to the park for the day. Registration information will be announced at a later time.



Village of South Holland  
 16226 Wausau Ave.  
 South Holland, IL 60473

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**South Holland**, Illinois 60473

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**May 1**  
 Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

**May 5**  
 Village Board Meeting

**May 10**  
 Take a Bite out of Grime

**May 19**  
 Village Board Meeting/Student Government Night

**May 26**  
 Memorial Day Parade

**June 2**  
 Village Board Meeting

**June 10**  
 Mayor's Coffee

*In observance of Memorial Day, most municipal buildings and administrative offices will be closed Monday, May 26.*

*For upcoming activity details, visit [www.southholland.org](http://www.southholland.org).*

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

Village Hall .....210-2900

**Don A. De Graff**, President

**Sallie Penman**, Clerk

**N. Keith Chambers**, Trustee

**Larry De Young**, Trustee

**Cynthia Doorn-Nylen**, Trustee

**Mathew James**, Trustee

**Andrew Johnson, Jr.**, Trustee

**John Sullivan**, Trustee

Administration .....210-2904

Building Department .....210-2915

Public Works .....339-2323

Police.....331-3131

Fire.....331-3123

Recreational Services .....331-2940

Public Access .....339-2744

Thornton Township .....596-6040

South Holland Public Library.....331-5262

**Emergency (Fire or Police) .....911**

**VILLAGE HALL HOURS:**

Monday – Friday ..... 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Saturday..... 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**COMMUNITY CONNECTION CHANNEL  
 WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES**

**(Comcast – 4 / WOW! – 6 / AT&T – 99)**

**TUESDAY:**

Redeemer Lutheran Church of South Holland – 11 AM, 7 PM

**THURSDAY:**

First Christian Reformed Church – 11 AM, 6 PM

Christ Community Church – 12:30 PM, 7 PM

First Reformed Church – 2 PM, 9 PM

**FRIDAY:**

Pioneer Missionary Baptist Church – 10 AM, 6 PM

River Oaks Community Church – 12 PM, 8 PM

***Clean – Bright – Beautiful!***