



# South Holland TODAY

NEWSLETTER FROM THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2015



## Inside This Edition

Celebration of the Arts.....	3
Citizen Fire Academy.....	6
Rain Barrels.....	7
Harvest Fest .....	9
Peace Christian Church .....	13

# Winter Wonderland

Friday December 4, 6 p.m.  
Veteran's Memorial Park

Join...

Mayor Don De Graff  
Clerk Dr. Sallie Penman

Trustee Larry DeYoung

Trustee Cynthia Nylen

Trustee Andrew Johnson, Jr.

Trustee Vickie L. Perkins

Trustee Prince Reed

Trustee John Sullivan

## Schedule of Activities

Holiday Lights Ceremony ..... 6:00 p.m.

\*Santa Comes to Town...6:30-8:30 p.m.

Trolley Rides .....6:30-9:00 p.m.

\*Pre-Registration is required at the South Holland  
Community Center, 501 E. 170th Street, South  
Holland, 331-2940

*Hot chocolate, coffee and  
other treats will be served.*



Veterans Park  
500 E. 160th Place  
South Holland, IL 60473

# CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

## South Holland Master Chorale



### South Holland Master Chorale

The South Holland Master Chorale made its introduction as the community's new performing arts ensemble during its inaugural concert, Sunday, October 18, at First Reformed Church, 15924 South Park Avenue.

As the recipient of the 2010 South Suburban Small Business Association Summit Award for Creative Arts, the 100-plus voices chorale has a long history as one of the premiere singing consorts of the Chicago southland. The chorale was known for many years throughout the Chicago south suburban/northwest Indiana region as the South Suburban Chorale. The tradition of the organization continues, while establishing its brand as the South Holland Master Chorale.

Continuing as it has for the past 17 years under the directorship of Albert M. Jackson, the Chorale remains the Chicago southland's premiere symphonic chorus. The organization performs many of the greatest masterpieces of classical choral and choral/orchestral literature. The chorale's repertoire includes presentations of major works such as Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, Carl Orff's Carmina Burana, Mozart's Grand Mass in C minor, Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise, and most recently the Mozart Requiem and Bernstein's Mass with the Illinois Philharmonic.

In the summer of 2011, the Chorale embarked on a concert tour of Europe, singing to enthusiastic audiences in the cathedrals of Salzburg, Vienna, and Melk, Austria, and Prague, Czech Republic. Each season, the chorale performs nearly ten full concerts, and is scheduled to appear at South Holland's 10th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute, Saturday, January 16, at Covenant United Church of Christ, 1130 East 154th Street.

To learn more about the chorale, visit online at [www.southhollandchorale.com](http://www.southhollandchorale.com)

### South Holland Master Chorale 2015-2016 Performance Season

**October 18, 2015**

**4:00 PM**

First Reformed Church • South Holland

**December 6, 2015**

**4:00 PM**

St. Victor Catholic Church • Calumet City

**January 16, 2016**

**10:00 AM**

Village of South Holland

10th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute  
Covenant United Church of Christ • South Holland

**March 5-6, 2016**

**4:00 PM**

Lincoln-Way Performing Arts Center/Rialto Theatre Joliet  
Concert with Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra

**April 24, 2016**

**4:00 PM**

Annual Spring Concert

Spirit of God Fellowship • South Holland

**May 1, 2016**

**4:00 PM**

St. Andrew Catholic Church • Calumet City

CHORALE PERFORMANCES ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC.  
(with exception of March 5-6, 2016 concert).

[www.southhollandchorale.com](http://www.southhollandchorale.com)



# HAPPENINGS

## Holiday Closings

South Holland Village Hall will be closed

Nov. 11 for Veterans Day

Nov. 26 for Thanksgiving

Dec. 25 for Christmas

## South Holland Lions Club

The Lions Club, celebrating 75 years, has its staple event coming up this fall. The club will hold its annual Chili Supper from 4:30-7:00 p.m. Nov. 12 at the Community Center, 501 East 170th Street.



## Coffee with the Mayor

Residents can meet and talk about issues of the day with Mayor Don De Graff at the quarterly coffee on Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7:30 a.m. at the Community Center, 501 E, 170th St.

## Support the Blood Drive

South Holland Blood Drive will be held in partnership with Life Source on Saturday, November 21, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 16226 Wausau Avenue. To schedule an appointment, call 877-543-3768, use code 358.

## Veteran's Day Ceremony

VFW Post 9964 will hold a Veterans Day ceremony at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11 at Veterans Park, 160th Place and South Park Avenue.

## Trick or Treat

Halloween is Saturday, October 31. Community-wide trick or treat hours are 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.



## HERITAGE HAUL & FALL FEST

A fun-filled day in South Holland, Sat. Sept. 19, included (clockwise) a car show, hay rides, Heritage Haul race kick-off with Valerie Warner and Mayor Don De Graff, commemorative medals for race finishers, connecting with Village officials including Trustees Prince Reed and Vickie Perkins, and much more.



## TOP 10 HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

By Ronda Williams

South Holland Police Officer Kirk Kremski wants South Holland children and parents to enjoy safe and fun Halloween festivities.

Nothing is more fun for kids to do on Halloween than trick-or-treating. While the idea of collecting candy from neighbors and wearing fun costumes excites kids, it can be worrisome to parents. The best way for both children and parents to enjoy the day is to be safe.

Here are safety tips from the South Holland Police Department to ensure fun filled trick-or-treating for everyone.

- Children should never enter the home or car of any stranger.
- Use jack-o-lanterns or high intensity glow sticks to light porch steps.
- All children should be accompanied by an adult or responsible teenager.
- Only trick-or-treat in neighborhoods with residents you know and at homes with porch lights on.
- Only give out commercially wrapped treats and candy.
- Carry a flashlight to help illuminate yourself and the group when crossing streets.
- Use available sidewalks and crosswalks. Never walk in the middle of the street.
- Don't hesitate to call 911 if you see any suspicious activity.
- Enjoy your trick-or-treating and remember to be safe.



### Send Tips to Police Department

To send an anonymous tip via text message to the South Holland Police Department: Text shpd and your tip to 847411 (tip411).

### Don't Let Thieves Ruin Your Holiday Season

The holidays are always exciting with shopping, gifts and family. However, thieves love the opportunities this time of year provides.

Christmas shopping presents unique dangers as people usually carry more money and gifts than at other times of the year.

While there is no need to be afraid, you should keep in mind the following holiday safety reminders from the South Holland Police Department.

- Be aware of your setting and strangers.
- Trust your instincts – If you are uncomfortable with a person or place, get away.
- Keep your cash in a front pocket and carry your purse close to your body.
- Immediately notify your credit card company if your card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Never leave the building until you believe everything is safe.
- Dress casually and comfortable.
- Shop with a friend.
- Never overburden yourself with packages.
- Only use ATMs during daylight hours or in well lit public places.
- Never leave your purse in a shopping cart.

# FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

By Ronda Williams

South Holland Fire Chief Brian Kolosh and the South Holland Fire Department welcomed residents for an open house on Saturday, Oct. 3, to kick off Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5-11. The Fire Department opened its doors to the community for firehouse tours and an inside look at the fire engines and ambulances that are dispatched to local emergencies. The Fire Department also honored its first graduates of the Citizens Fire Academy 2015.

The University of Chicago Aeromedical Network trauma helicopter was on site and open to the public for an inside view. The trauma helicopter is an important vehicle in helping to save lives when timing is of the essence.

On Tuesday, Oct. 6, the Fire Department continued its Fire Prevention Week observance with the 20th annual Fire and Rescue Parade of Lights. The parade is a silent tribute to commemorate fallen firefighters and residents who lost their lives in fire emergencies. The lights-only parade started at Thorn Creek Reformed Church after a 7 p.m. ceremony and proceed to the Homewood Fire Department at 17960 Dixie Highway.

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme is Hear the Beep Where you Sleep. South Holland firefighters will share fire prevention safety tips and other information on how you can keep your family safe in the event of a fire.

Fire Prevention Week was first observed in 1922 to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. This tragic event devastated Chicago and killed more than 250 people and left 100,000 homeless. The blaze destroyed more than 17,000 structures and burned over 2,000 acres.

According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record.



## SHFD Graduates its First Citizens Fire Academy

The South Holland Fire Department graduated 20 students from its first Citizens Fire Academy on Saturday, October 3, 2015, kicking off Fire Prevention week. With a spirit of pride, accomplishment and duty, these students eagerly accepted their certificates of completion praising Fire Chief Kolosh and Deputy Chief Krzik for their instruction and leadership throughout the 10-week program.

The complementary program incorporated classroom instruction and hands on learning where students suited up in protective fireman gear, extinguished controlled fires and obtained their CPR certification. Students boasted of their new knowledge, quickly offering historical facts about the invention of the fire pole and winding staircases found in fire houses.



"The fire pole was invented by Capt. David Kenyon of Chicago's Engine co. 21 an African-American engine company," said Beckie Harris, Fire Academy graduate. "The first pole was made of wood and was originally used to transfer hay bales. Eventually firefighters began sliding down the pole to get from the second floor to the first more quickly, it just made practical sense."

For other students the class was an extension of their commitment and

connection with the community. Several students also participated in the Police Academy and are current ESDA volunteers.

"I have become more knowledgeable about firefighting and appreciate the mental toughness it takes to be a public servant," said Roy Pradelski, Fire Academy graduate. "As a 35-year South Holland resident, I believe in staying involved, active and aware of what's happening in our community. This is one way that I've been able to do that."

The Citizens Fire Academy was introduced by Deputy Chief Krzik who joined the SHFD just one year ago. A fourth generation firefighter himself, Deputy Chief Krzik grew up in Posen and spent 25 years serving the Orland community. "I am honored to be a part of the South Holland community that lives its core values of faith, family and future and allowing me to teach and share safety practices to the residents," said Krzik.

Village trustees Larry De Young, Prince Reed and village clerk Dr. Sallie Penman were in attendance and presented their well wishes to the graduates.

### 2015 Fire Citizens Academy Graduates

Joyetta Andrews  
Marie Bates  
Flor Correa Vallejo  
Beckie Harris  
Gerri Harris  
Clarence Haynes  
Brad Hedstrom  
Tina Hedstrom  
Jason Huisman  
Frank Knittle  
Virginia Knittle  
Terry Levi  
Natasha Moore  
Craig Nelson  
Jan Nelson  
Roy Pradelski  
Donna Ramusac  
Robert Romaine  
Stella Stokes  
Suzanne Tardy

# PUBLIC WORKS GREEN INITIATIVES

## Rain Barrels

The Village of South Holland continues to make contributions to the nation's green initiatives with the addition of rain barrels. As of July 2015, South Holland, like many other communities in Illinois, joined the free rain barrel program operated by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD). The program uses 55-gallon rain barrels made from repurposed, or upcycled, food barrels. Rain barrels are a type of green infrastructure that capture rainwater from a roof and saves it to be used to wash cars, water the lawn, or to clean such things as work boots and tools. By collecting rain water in environmentally-friendly barrels, this initiative helps to prevent sewer overflows and flooding.

**Coming Soon!**

Rain water is naturally free of chlorine, lime and calcium. However, since the water is runoff from the roof, it is not good for human consumption – so do not drink it!

Here is basic information of the program:

- Barrels are free of charge to South Holland residents.
- Due to popular demand, there is a limit of two rain barrels per household.
- Place barrels near downspouts near the rear of property or backyard.
- Order rain barrels through South Holland's Public Works Department - 339-2323.



To learn more about the benefits of rain barrel use, visit MWRD online at [www.rainbarrel.mwr.org](http://www.rainbarrel.mwr.org).

### Last Day For Branch Pick Up is October 30th

The last day for branch pickup in South Holland will be Oct. 30, according to Public Works Director George Gunkel.

Yard waste will be picked up until Nov. 30, at which time the containers can be used for regular garbage use through the winter months.

### Curbside Recycling

South Holland is a few months into curbside recycling. The village board and administration appreciates residents' participation and encourages all to continue this effort of supporting the environment.

Benefits of recycling:

- Reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators;
- Conserves natural resources such as timber, water, and minerals;
- Prevents pollution by reducing the need to collect new raw materials;
- Saves energy;
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change;
- Helps sustain the environment for future generations;
- Helps create new well-paying jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries in the United States.

In case you have questions about what is (or is not) recyclable, cut out this handy "Recycling at your Fingertips" sheet and post on the fridge.

## RECYCLING AT YOUR FINGER TIPS!



### Recycling at your curb

Plastic	Glass	Metal	Cartons	Paper
<p><b>YES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bottles and jugs:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water, soda and juice bottles</li> <li>• Milk and juice jugs</li> <li>• Ketchup and salad dressing bottles</li> <li>• Dishwashing liquid bottles and detergent jugs</li> <li>• Shampoo, soap and lotion bottles</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>NO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Styrofoam™ containers, peanuts or packing</li> <li>• Microwaveable food trays</li> <li>• Plastic wrap</li> <li>• Plastic toys</li> <li>• Motor oil bottles and other containers that held hazardous products</li> </ul>	<p><b>YES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food and beverage bottles and jars</li> </ul> <p><b>NO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drinking glasses, ceramic dishes and vases</li> <li>• Window glass and mirrors</li> </ul>	<p><b>YES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food and beverage cans</li> <li>• Empty aerosol cans</li> <li>• Clean aluminum foil wrap and pans</li> </ul>	<p><b>YES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Milk cartons</li> <li>• Juice boxes</li> <li>• Soup, broth and wine cartons</li> <li>• Take-out pizza boxes</li> </ul>	<p><b>YES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mail, office and school papers</li> <li>• Magazines and catalogs</li> <li>• Newspapers and inserts</li> <li>• Phone books</li> <li>• Shredded paper in closed paper bags</li> <li>• Boxes</li> </ul> <p><b>NO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paper soiled with food</li> <li>• Paper plates and cups</li> <li>• Paper napkins or towels</li> <li>• Gift wrap</li> </ul>
<p><b>NO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Batteries or electronics</li> <li>• Hazardous or toxic product containers</li> <li>• Flower pots</li> <li>• Frozen food bags</li> <li>• Plastic and metal hangers</li> <li>• Light bulbs, drinking glasses, other glassware</li> <li>• Chip bags</li> <li>• Propane tanks</li> </ul>				

# RECREATIONAL SERVICES



## Navy Band to Highlight Military Tribute

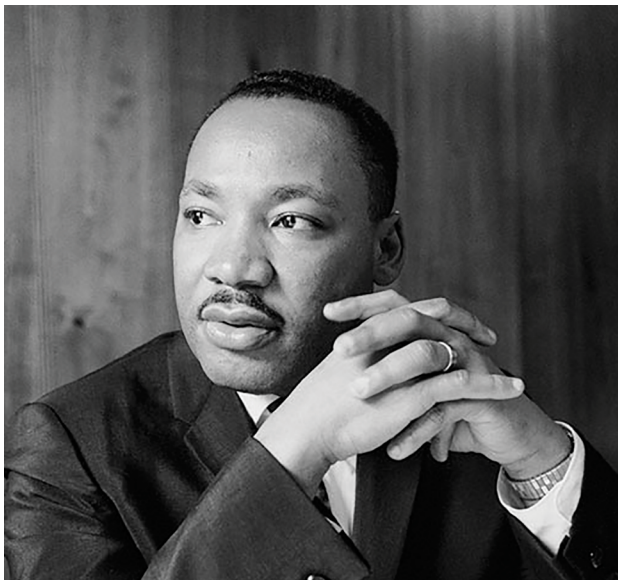
The Great Lakes Naval Station Ceremonial Band will be the special guest at the Community Holiday Gala: A Military Tribute luncheon on Wednesday, Nov. 4, at the Community Center, 501 East 170th Street.

Doors will open at 10:30 a.m. with lunch served at 11:30 a.m.

Registration is required in person by Oct. 30. All ages are welcome. Cost for lunch is \$10 per person.

Immediately following the luncheon is a performance by the Great Lakes Naval Station Ceremonial Band. This performance is free and expected to begin at noon. Like the luncheon, pre-registration to attend the Naval Station band performance is required by October 30.

Guests are asked to please bring a toy for the South Holland Fire Department's annual Toy Drive.



Mayor Don A. De Graff,  
Clerk Dr. Sallie D. Penman &  
the Village of South Holland Board of Trustees  
present

## MLK DAY PROGRAM

REV. CAROLYN MCKINSTRY

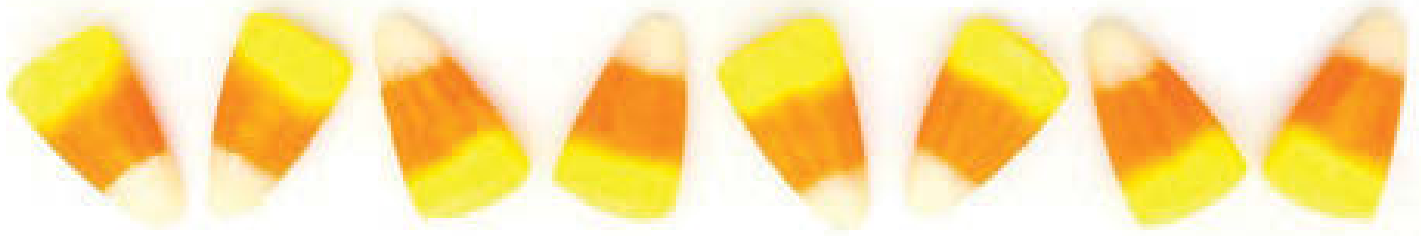
Guest Speaker

January 16, 2016

10:00 AM

Covenant United Church of Christ  
1130 E. 154th Street  
South Holland, IL





# HARVEST FEST

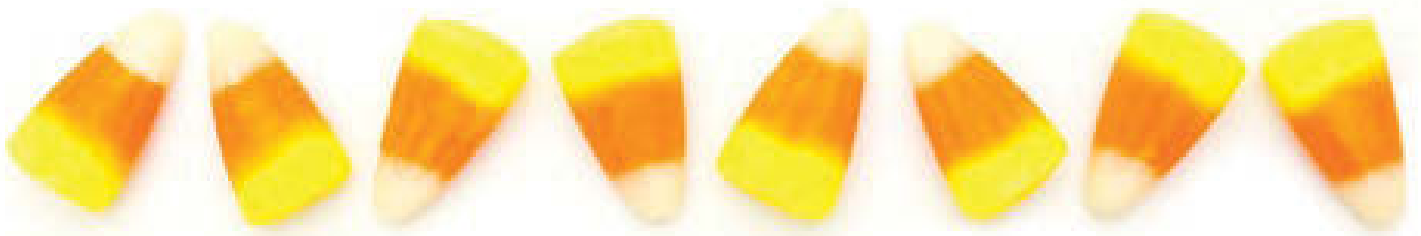
The South Holland Department of Recreational Services will host the Annual Harvest Party at the South Holland Community Center, 501 East 170th Street, with costume judging contest, candy bags (while supplies last), games for children 3 to 12 years, a craft project, and "Pumpkin Decorating." Bring your pumpkin from home and we will supply the materials you need to decorate it. An adult must accompany eligible children. There will be no registration taken the day of the event.

**OCTOBER 29, 2015**

**6:30 - 8:30 PM**

**FREE**

**(SOUTH HOLLAND RESIDENTS ONLY)**



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## South Holland's Own Local Expert

Congratulations to Stephanie L. Walters, Marketing Director and Owner of South Holland based Blue Top Marketing, Inc., who has been selected as an Authorized Local Expert by Constant Contact®, Inc., the trusted marketing advisor to more than 600,000 small organizations worldwide. As an Authorized Local Expert, Ms. Walters will offer training seminars on best practices in online marketing in the Chicago area.



Blue Top Marketing is dedicated to helping small businesses with all things marketing, from email, text message, and social media marketing, to online advertising through Google and Facebook. "I am honored to be selected as an Authorized Local Expert by Constant Contact," said Ms. Walters. "I truly enjoy teaching the marketing tips and tricks I have learned through owning my own businesses over the course of 10 years. Partnering with a company like Constant Contact that is as dedicated to providing education and resources to small businesses as I am, will be great!"

Constant Contact Authorized Local Experts are dedicated to educating small businesses, nonprofits, and organizations on how to make their marketing efforts as effective as possible. These experts are authorized by Constant Contact to deliver seminars because of their proven expertise, passion, and commitment to helping small businesses and nonprofits in their local community.

Ms. Stephanie L. Walters will host free seminars and training workshops in the Chicagoland area focused on using marketing strategies to find new prospects, engage key audiences, drive dialogue, and build relationships. To learn more about training seminars, go online to [www.bluetopmarketing.com](http://www.bluetopmarketing.com).

## South Holland Has A New Bakery!

**Exploding Desserts** is now open for business at 253 W 162nd St., and is a full service bakery with a plethora of delectable treats. Stop in and be sure to say hello to the owner Chef Kim Washington, who is a South Holland resident.



## South Holland Welcomes New Businesses

By Ronda Williams



**Meekhof Tire and Service** is now located at the former Alison Haggerty Buick location, said Economic Development Director John Watson.

Headed by Calvin "Butch" Meekhof, the business is a family owned Michelin Commercial Service Network Dealer that conducts retail tire sales and repair for cars and trucks.

Ninety percent of truck repairs are done outside of the facility by dispatching one of five service vehicles to respond to calls on the highway.

The company is based out of Grand Rapids, Mich., and has nine locations in the state of Michigan. The South Holland location, 555 E. 162nd St. represents the 10th store and the first outside of Michigan.

They expect to bring an additional 20-25 jobs to the community.

"Their investment into the property is visibly evident, and appreciated," said Watson.

**J.D. Byrider** has a new management team. The Burgstone group, led by CEO Mike Burgstone, purchased the South Holland location in July, making it their fourth J.D. Byrider franchise, along with locations in Joliet, Glendale Heights and East Dundee.



The new owners have bolstered the available inventory, said Watson, and reported phenomenal results since taking over.

**ISC Water Solutions** will relocate from Harvey to a site at 410 W. 169th St. The company will occupy 43,000 square feet for their manufacturing operation, which creates chemicals used for waste water treatment. ISC will bring an additional 25-30 jobs to the community.

# LIBRARY

## New things are going on at the South Holland Library!

The South Holland Public Library Youth Services Department has made some changes.

Head of Youth Services, Dorothy Koll, said to stop by to meet the new librarian, check out the department's fresh look, and sign up for programs and events for all ages.

For tiny tots, the library is introducing two new weekly programs.

- Terrific Tuesdays will incorporate music, dance, and art in a fun class for ages 0-5. Be prepared to wiggle, giggle, and dress for a mess every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.
- Alphabet Soup will explore a letter each week with stories, rhymes, songs, and dancing. Come to the library for this fun program on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

For families, the South Holland Public Library will be hosting several celebrations.

- Paint a Pumpkin at the library on Monday, Oct. 26, at 6:30 p.m.
- Día de Los Muertos will be celebrated on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 6:30 p.m.

The library will hold its second annual Halloween Party on Saturday, Oct. 31, from noon to 4 p.m. There will be games, music, contests, and sweets and treats for the whole family.

Don't forget to check the website [www.shlibrary.org](http://www.shlibrary.org) for more great fun for the whole family.

# HARVEST FOOD DRIVE

## South Holland High Schools Collaborate to Help the Hungry!

The month of November marks the start of the holiday season with the anticipation of Thanksgiving. In South Holland, November represents a season of giving. Community members, including students from Seton Academy and Thornton Township District 205 high schools, as well as many volunteers, gather annually on the 2nd Saturday of November to deliver food donation bags to residents in the community. The following weekend, students and volunteers return to collect bags of donated food for the Catholic Charities Food Pantry at Seton Academy. Young adults from Seton Academy and Thornton Township District 205 make this event a success year after year. Please join students on Saturday morning at Seton Academy on November 14 and 21 from 7am to 11am to participate. For more information or to donate, please call Christopher Torres at 708-333-9239 or Linda Abbott at 708-339-6010.



## THIS IS HOW IT WORKS!

**ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 14TH** Volunteers will deliver paper bags to residents in all of our South Holland neighborhoods. If you would like to participate, please fill the bag with whatever non-expired canned goods you can provide.

**ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 21ST** Volunteers will return to pick up any filled paper bags that are left outside the front doors between the hours of 8 AM and 11 am and deliver them to the Food Pantry. Please help support this great cause to help feed our hungry.



# CODE

## Tips to Prepare Your Home for the Cold Season

### Windows and Doors

Check all the weather-stripping around windows and door frames for leaks to prevent heat loss.

Replace all screen doors with storm doors.

Replace all windows screens with storm windows.

Examine wooden window frames for signs of rot or decay. Repair or replace framing to maintain structural integrity.

### Lawn, Garden and Deck

Trim overgrown branches back from the house and electrical wires to prevent iced-over or wind-swept branches from causing property damage or power problems.

Aerate the lawn, reseed, and apply a wintering fertilizer to promote deep-root growth come spring.

Ensure rain or snow drains away from the house to avoid foundation problems. The dirt grade around the exterior of the home should slope away from the house. Add extra dirt to low areas as necessary.

Clean and dry patio furniture. Cover with a heavy tarp or store inside a shed or garage to protect it from the elements.

Remove any attached hoses and store them away for the winter to prevent cracks, preserve their shapes, and prolong their life. Wrap outside faucets with covers to prevent water damage.

Shut off exterior faucets. Drain water from outdoor pipe valves, and sprinkler heads to protect against pipe bursts.

Clean leaves, dirt and pine needles between the boards of wooden decks to

stop mold and mildew growth.

Inspect outdoor lighting around the property. Good illumination will help minimize the chance of accidents on icy walkways at night.

### Tools and Machinery

Bring all seasonal tools inside and spray them with a coating of lightweight oil to prevent rust.

Weatherize your lawn mower by cleaning off mud, leaves, grass and debris.

Prepare the snow blower for the first snowfall by changing the oil and replacing the spark plug.

### Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning

Inspect the fireplace (firebox) and the flue system to ensure both are clear of any soot or creosote and that there aren't any cracks or voids that could cause a fire hazard.

Check fireplace for drafts. If it's cold despite the damper being closed, the damper itself may be warped, worn or rusted. Consider installing a Chimney Balloon into the flue to air seal the area tightly.

Clean or replace the air filter in your furnace for maximum efficiency and improved indoor air quality.

Clean the whole house humidifier and replace the evaporator pad.

Bleed valves on any hot water radiators to increase heating efficiency by releasing air that may be trapped inside.

Remove air conditioners from windows or cover them with insulated liners to prevent drafts.

Make sure fans are switched to the reverse or clockwise position which will blow warm air down to the floor for enhanced energy efficiency and comfort.

Flush a hot water heater tank to remove sediment and check the pressure relief valve to make sure it's in proper working order.



### Gutters, Roof, and Drains

Check for missing, damaged or warped shingles and replace as necessary before there's a leak.

Check for deteriorated flashing at the chimney, walls and skylights, and around vent pipes. Seal joints where water could penetrate, using roofing cement and a caulking gun.

Check the gutters and downspouts for proper fastening and re-secure if loose or sagging. The weight of snow and ice can pull gutters off the house.

Clean gutters of any debris. Make sure downspouts extend away from the house at least 3 feet to prevent flooding of the foundation.

Ensure all vents and openings are covered to prevent insects, birds and rodents from getting inside to nest in a warm place.

Finally, stock the cabinets with plenty of hot chocolate and soup to enjoy.

# PEACE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

## Celebrates 50 Years

Peace Christian Reformed Church in South Holland is celebrating two events this fall. The church will celebrate its Golden 50th Anniversary in November and the church welcomed its new pastor in August.

“We are a diverse community of families reconciled to God through the work of Jesus Christ on the cross,” said new Pastor Glen McCarthy in a message on the church’s website. “We acknowledge Jesus as Lord over our lives and all of creation as we seek to honor him through faithful obedience to His Word.

“We invite you to join us in worshipping God, following Christ as our example and Lord, and doing good works with the Holy Spirit as our guide.”

McCarthy, his wife Briana and children Cainan and Cai, were welcomed to the church on Sunday, Aug. 23.

The church was founded in 1965 “As the church celebrates 50 years of ministry, we are so grateful to God for sustaining us as a community and look forward to what he will do through us for His glory in years to come.”

The church is part of the Christian Reformed Church and offers several ministries, including:

**KFC (Kids For Christ)** is the middle school youth group. It meets every other Sunday night during the school year. KFC is a wonderful environment for young adults to hang out, get to know one another, and grow in their faith.

**Peace MOPS** invites all mother of preschoolers, infant through kindergarten, to join us in the fall for our new season. MOPS is a unique program designed to meet the needs of

moms and their children. It is a chance to meet other moms, listen to and discuss relevant topics, create new crafts, and enjoy refreshments while your children enjoy a structured program of their own called MOPPETS. We generally meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday mornings of each month.

The philosophy of **WyldLife** is the same as Young Life’s has always been – introducing adolescents to Jesus Christ and helping them to grow in their faith. WyldLife clubs are a practiced art form. They are high energy and interactive, fast paced and unpredictable. Leaders use personal testimonies, media clips, popular songs and a lot of creativity when planning the club format.

**Coffee Break** is a weekly women’s Bible study and fellowship group. All study materials are provided and no previous knowledge of the Bible is necessary.

**Soul Food** is a ministry outreach to people within the congregation and the community. This group meets approximately twice per month to cook together, providing food for those who need it or want to share it. We’ll support each other in fellowship and prayer while delicious things cook or bake. Take a meal to someone you’d like to meet, someone you’d like to invite to church, a neighbor or a friend!

**Catechism Classes** are where 6th through 12th grade kids learn about Christian doctrine.

To learn more about Peace Christian Reformed Church, call 331-7755



# Flood Proofing **SERIES**

## Why flooding sometimes occurs in South Holland?

### Overbank Flooding

South Holland is subject to overbank flooding from three sources: the Little Calumet River, Thorn Creek, and the Calumet Union Drainage Ditch. The Little Calumet River flows through the Village from east to west. The Little Calumet drains northeastern Illinois and northwestern Indiana via several tributaries. At South Holland, the river's watershed is over 200 square miles. A small tributary, Thorn Ditch, drains the central part of South Holland. Its overbank flooding is caused by backwater from the Little Calumet.

Thorn Creek flows from the south and joins the Little Calumet on the southeast side of town. Thorn Creek collects water from Deer, North, and Butterfield Creeks, and Lansing Ditch. The Thorn Creek basin drains over 100 square miles, accounting for over half of the water that enters the Little Calumet at South Holland.

The third stream is the Calumet Union Drainage Ditch, a man-made ditch that drains 18 square miles of the Markham and Harvey areas to the west. It joins the Little Calumet River in the west part of the Village.

Most of the Village's overbank flooding problem is in the Little Calumet River's floodplain. Because the area is so flat, the flooding of one stream is accompanied by flooding on the other two. Therefore, while there are three sources of overbank flooding, the problem is treated as one floodplain.

### Flooding History

Flooding has occurred in South Holland's streams since the last glacier left Illinois. Early settlers avoided building too close to the rivers. As late as the 1940s, large areas of the south suburbs remained vacant, primarily because it was too marshy to build on. These areas were used by the rivers to carry and hold excess rain runoff and snow melt.

Beginning in the late 1940s, this scene changed as the Chicago area population expanded to the south. Urban development put pressure on the vacant land along the rivers. The floodplains were built up during the 1950s and 60s, primarily with single-family housing. It was not until the 1970s that local governments passed floodplain management regulations to require the elevation of new buildings in the floodplain. Since then, floodplain development has slowed down, but developers still fill floodprone areas for new homes or commercial properties.

In the 1920s, the Calumet-Sag channel was

completed and the Little Calumet received an additional outlet. Instead of flowing into the Grand Calumet and Lake Michigan, most of its water now flows west through the Cal-Sag to the Des Plaines River. There are locks on both the Cal-Sag and the Grand Calumet to control low flows.

At the other end, Burns Ditch was connected to Lake Michigan in the 1920s. During high flows, the Indiana portion of the Little Cal drains west. These two diversions mark the northwest and eastern limits of the Little Calumet River's watershed.

With post-war growth to the south of Chicago, farmlands were replaced with roofs, parking lots, streets, gutters, storm sewers, and more ditches. Under urban development, more rainwater ran off the land and into the rivers and it ran off faster. As with floodplain regulations, it was not until the 1970s that communities began stormwater management regulations that require developments to restrict runoff.

In short, while the rivers of the Little Calumet basin flooded in the past, the problem has escalated since the 1940s. Until 1981, the worst flood on record for all three streams was in July 1957. Heavy summer storms caused widespread flooding in northeastern Illinois. The subsequent flood on the nearby Kankakee river was estimated at being a 750-year flood.

The 1957 flood was exceeded in 1981 by another flood caused by summer storms. While there was not as much rain as in 1957, the 1981 flood caused much more damage because there was more development. Because so many homes and businesses were affected, the June 1981 flood resulted in a Presidential Disaster Declaration for the area. Another presidential declaration followed the December 1982 flood.

One of South Holland's worst floods on record occurred in late November 1990. Heavy local storms caused the Little Calumet and its tributaries to rise higher than before, over half a foot higher than the 1981 record.

### Flood Data

Flood heights have been recorded since 1947 on a river gauge that is currently located at the Cottage Grove Avenue bridge over the Little Calumet. Recorded flood heights can be shown in stage or in elevation. Stage is measured in feet above an arbitrary starting point that was set when the gauge was first installed. Elevations are in feet above sea level.

"Flood stage" is the elevation where the river leaves its banks. There is no official "flood

stage" for the Little Calumet. Yards and parks are flooded when the river reaches an elevation of approximately 590 feet above sea level. Buildings are affected at approximately 593 feet.

The 100-year flood at Cottage Grove would reach an elevation of 598.0. The 500-year flood is predicted to crest at an elevation of 601.5, 3 1/2 feet higher than the 100-year flood. As the river flows from east to west, flood elevations are higher in the east and lower in the west. The 10, 100, and 500-year flood elevations for various locations are shown below:

### PROJECTED FLOOD ELEVATIONS

River	Mile*	Location	10-yr.	100-yr.	500-yr.
		Thorn Creek at 170th	596.2	599.5	602.6
9.4		Little Calumet at Eastern Vlg. limit	595.0	598.7	601.8
8.0		Little Calumet at 159th	595.0	598.5	601.8
6.8		Little Calumet at Cottage Grove	594.4	598.0	601.5
5.9		Little Calumet at Calumet Union Ditch	593.8	597.4	601.2
4.4		Little Calumet at Western Vlg. limit	591.7	595.6	600.2
		Cal Union Ditch at Grand Trunk RR	595.3	597.8	601.5

\* miles above confluence with Calumet-Sag channel

### 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;
- General records of past flooding throughout the Village, but not for specific parcels;
- Advice on how to protect a building from water problems;
- Guidance on the laws that govern construction and property improvements, and;
- Site visit (when a lot is part of a flood rebate program and after receipt of at least two estimates from waterproofing companies) to view the cause and suggest possible solutions to a problem.

Flood maps and flood protection references are also available at the South Holland Public Library. We would like to remind everyone that dumping in ditches, storage basins and wetlands is a violation of the Village Code.

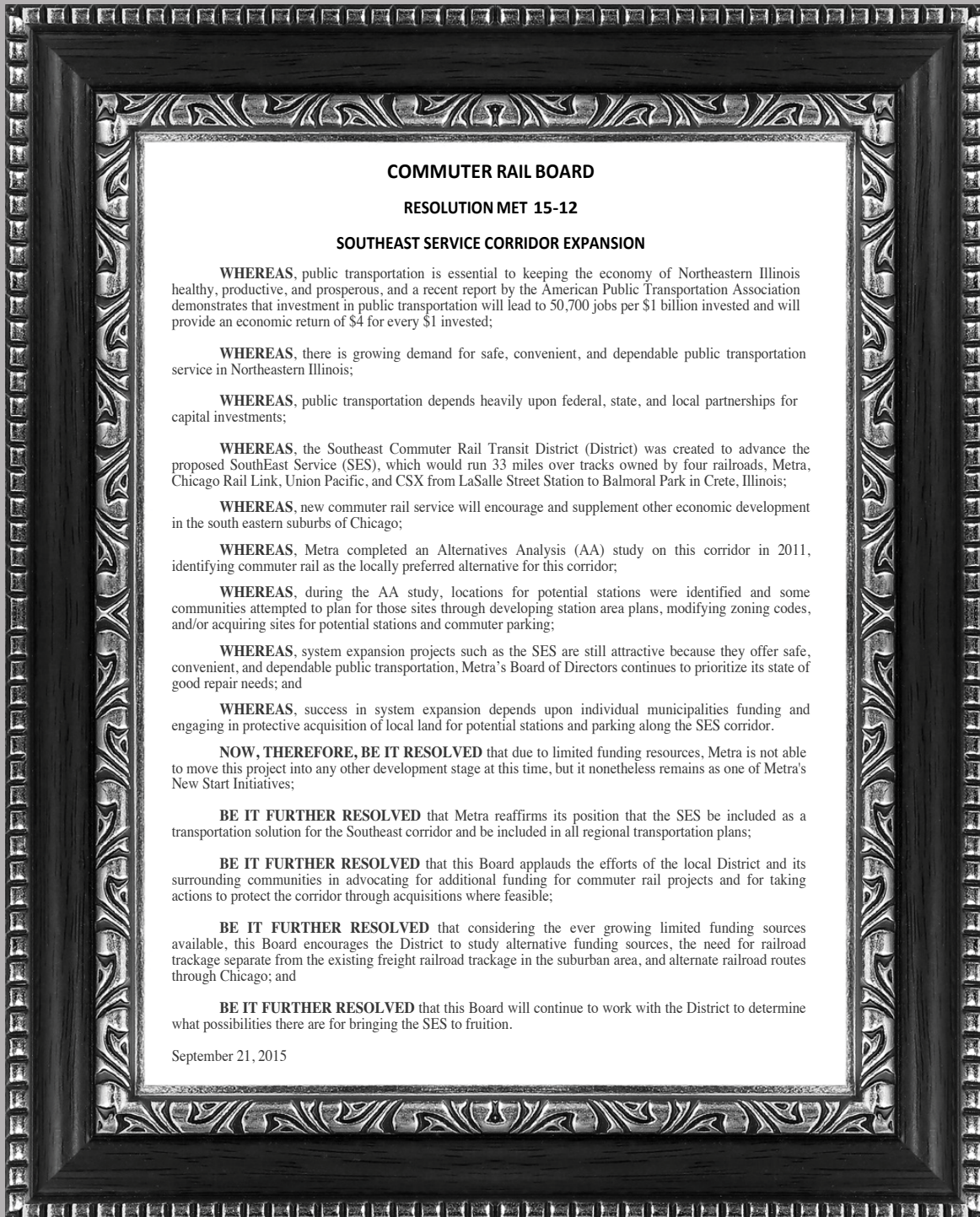
# Metra Board Passes Resolution in Support of Southeast Service Corridor Expansion

During the Sept. 21 meeting of the Metra Board, members unanimously passed a resolution for the SouthEast Service (SES) Corridor expansion project. Metra Board Chairman Marty Oberman introduced the resolution and expressed the importance and impact of the project.



South Holland Mayor and Metra Board member Don De Graff stated, "I am pleased with the collaborative efforts of regional organizations to expand transportation projects that will benefit an entire region. The endorsement of Metra is paramount to the advancement of SES."

The Metra Board has resolved to continue to work with the district to determine what possibilities there are for bringing the SES to fruition.





Village of South Holland  
16226 Wausau Avenue  
South Holland, IL 60473

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #4  
SO. HOLLAND, IL  
CARRIER ROUTE  
PRESORT FOR  
**POSTAL  
CUSTOMER**  
SOUTH HOLLAND, IL

POSTAL PATRON  
**South Holland, IL 60473**

# A Season For Giving



## **BLOOD DRIVE**

Saturday, Nov. 21st  
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Village Hall, 16226 Wausau

**DONATE BLOOD. SUPPORT LIFE.**

To schedule your appointment, call 877.543.3768 and use group code 358.  
Appointments recommended. Walk-ins welcome.

   @lifeforce.org



## **Village Board**

Don A. De Graff  
President

Dr. Sallie Penman  
Clerk

Larry De Young  
Trustee

Andrew Johnson  
Trustee

Cynthia Nylen  
Trustee

Vickie Perkins  
Trustee

Prince Reed  
Trustee

John Sullivan  
Trustee