



South Holland TODAY

NEWSLETTER FROM THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND
JUNE / JULY 2018



MAYOR'S COFFEE

with
SPECIAL GUEST

CMAP

(Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning)

CMAP has been
working on the Village's
Comprehensive Plan
and will present the revised
version at Mayor's Coffee.

JUNE 12TH
7 P.M.

South Holland Community Center
• 501 East 170th Street •

4TH OF JULY
INDEPENDENCE
- DAY -
Celebration

Veterans Memorial Park
520 E. 160th Place

ALL ACTIVITIES FREE!

Full menu of refreshments available
for purchase at Home Plate Grill

Kid's Train Rides & More
Pie & Wing Eating Contests
Live Music
Reptile Show
South Holland Band

RIB FEST @ NEW LOCATION!

Town Center Commons,
161st and South Park Avenue.

For additional information or to register for the
Rib Fest Contest, contact the Department of
Recreational Services, 708-331-2940

Spectacular Fireworks at dusk!

HAPPENINGS

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION:



Children can expect to engage in craft activities at the upcoming Juneteenth event. (Photo provided by Sand Ridge Nature Center).

On Saturday, June 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sand Ridge Nature Center will celebrate freedom, family and country with Underground Railroad interactive interpretive hikes, traditional music, a wild edibles display, period recipe samples, crafts, and more.

SOUTH HOLLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION:

SHBA's annual Scholarship Golf Classic will begin at 8 a.m. Thursday, June 21, at Glenwoodie Golf Club in Glenwood. The organization's annual picnic will be 11:30 a.m. Thursday, July 26, at Veterans Memorial Park, 160 th Place and South Park Avenue. To learn more about SHBA's upcoming events and monthly meetings, visit its website at www.shba.org.

20TH ANNUAL GARDEN WALK:

The annual Garden Walk will be Saturday, June 23, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (rain or shine). Meet at Veterans Memorial Park, 160th Place and South Park Avenue. Tickets are \$5 and available the morning of the walk.

MOVIES IN THE PARK:

Free movies are shown on Saturday evenings in the summer on a big screen at Veterans Park, 160th Place and South Park Avenue. The first one will be at dusk Saturday, June 23. Concessions will be open throughout the movie. Remember to bring chairs and/or blankets. Additional dates are July 28 and August 25. The movies to be shown will be posted on the village website - southholland.org.

FOURTH OF JULY CLOSING:

All nonemergency municipal facilities, such as the Village Hall, will be closed Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

GIRLS SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT:

Little League's Central Region Softball Tournament will be back for its fourth consecutive year from July 20-24 at Veterans Park. Opening ceremonies are at 6 p.m. July 20. The tournament is sponsored by Illinois District 6 Little League and the Village of South Holland.



Pictured are Trustees Vickie Perkins (front) and Cindy Nysten enjoying the annual South Holland Garden Walk.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING:

On Saturday, July 28, from 8 a.m. to noon, electronic recycling will be taking place behind the library. This service is for only South Holland residents who would like to discard anything electronic, such as old computers and televisions.

SOUTH HOLLAND MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERTS:

Our very own Municipal Band performs a series of concerts over the summer. Their season begins with the Memorial Day celebration and concludes with the Paarlberg Festival. See page 13 for the full seasonal concert schedule.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY:

It is almost that time of year when South Holland Fire Department members sponsor the annual Christmas in July food drive. Together with village churches, businesses, employees and residents, firefighters collect nonperishable food items during the entire month of July. Donations can be made at Fire Station 1. The beneficiary of this initiative is Restoration Ministries, which operates a food pantry in support of families in the region. For information, call 708-331-3123.

COFFEE WITH THE FIREFIGHTERS:

Residents can meet and talk with members of the fire department from 8:30-9:30 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at Fire Station 1, 16230 Wausau Ave.

CURFEW IN PLACE FOR YOUTHS 17 AND YOUNGER:

The South Holland Police Department wants to remind residents that the village has a curfew for anyone younger than 17 years of age. This curfew applies yearlong, and not just during the summer. Curfew times are between midnight and 6 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, and between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. on Sunday to Thursday.

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION:

On Saturday, June 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sand Ridge Nature Center will celebrate freedom, family and country with Underground Railroad interactive interpretive hikes, traditional music, a wild edibles display, period recipe samples, crafts, and more.

PROTECTING CHILDREN AT SOUTH HOLLAND'S INDEPENDENCE DAY EVENT

BY RONDA WILLIAMS

Every year, South Holland draws hundreds of people to its annual Independence Day celebration in Veterans Park. The day is filled with entertainment, friendly contests, and ends with a night full of amazing fireworks that light up the sky for miles around.

Before you pack up your family for a fun-filled day in the park, be sure to keep these child safety tips top of mind.

- Be aware of your child's location at all times.
- Take a photo of your child as they are dressed at the park in case they need to be identified to the police.
- Point out landmarks in relation to where your family is setting up so your children know how to get back to the group if lost.
- Introduce children to "safety" personnel in the park, like police officers or festival staff who can help them locate you.
- Dress your child in a brightly colored shirt or something that is unique and easily identifiable.
- Write a mobile number on a wristband BUT not the child's name.

Festivals should be fun and happy events. Being prepared with these safety tips can make it a great day.



STUDENT POLICE ACADEMY



THE STUDENT POLICE ACADEMY in its inaugural season, is a program available to all students currently enrolled in Thornwood High School, or of high school age and a South Holland resident. According to Officer Kirk Kremski, "The academy is designed to introduce participants to the field of law enforcement and provides an opportunity for youth and police officers to connect". Students attend a mock police academy involving lectures, role-playing, topical demonstrations, and team building exercises. The academy is designed to highlight key principles of communication, teamwork, leadership, and conflict resolution. Students will receive training in the areas of:

- Patrol Basics
- Police Interaction
- Investigations
- SWAT Team
- Basic Criminal Law
- Use of Force Simulator

The program will be held for a total of five weeks at the South Holland Police Department located at 16330 South Park Avenue, South Holland, IL and begins September 19th through October 24th, one class per week, every Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Please note: Participants must have parental consent, cannot be on school suspension, probation or have a criminal record that includes offenses of violence or drugs.

Applications are available at the South Holland Police Department, Thornwood High School with Officer Patterson, or by visiting southholland.org/studentacademy. Applications can be dropped off at the South Holland Police Dept. and will be accepted through September 10th, 2018 @ 5:00 p.m. or until classes are filled. Sign up for the Student Police Academy Today!

ANNUAL TORCH RUN SUPPORTS ILLINOIS SPECIAL OLYMPICS

BY RONDA WILLIAMS

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the largest year-round fundraising movement supporting Special Olympics Illinois. The Torch Run raises money and brings awareness for the athletes who participate in Special Olympics Illinois. To date, the Torch Run has raised more than \$47 million over 32 years.

The Torch Run includes an annual intrastate relay conducted by officers representing every branch of law enforcement across the state, from local police officers to FBI agents. Approximately 3,000 officers will carry the Flame of Hope nearly 1,500 miles from June 10 – 15, running through thousands of Illinois communities via 23 different legs (routes) to its final destination – the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games on June 15 in Normal, Illinois.

The 2018 theme is “Guardians of the Flame” and will use #ILTorchRun on social media to spread the word. South Holland is part of Leg #9. South Holland’s portion of the run is Tuesday, June 12. Village representatives will receive the torch from Dolton PD at 9:50am the corner of



Special Olympics

Cottage Grove and 154th St. South Holland will carry the torch to 168th & State Street where South Holland will pass the torch to the South Suburban College PD.

Anyone can join us in this great cause by purchasing t-shirts, hats, or raffle tickets and/or participating in the actual run. All inquiries must go through the SHPD by calling 708-331-3131.

Information provided by
<https://www.soill.org/law-enforcement-torch-run/>

STEM FOR KIDS SUMMER PROGRAMS



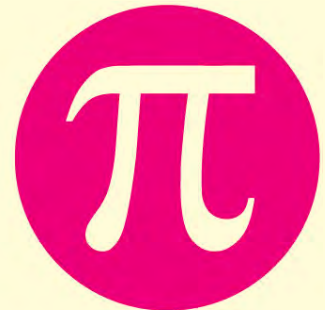
Science



Technology



Engineering



Math

BY AMBRIA ELLISON

South Suburban College's Office of Continuing Education and STEM Department are partnering to offer courses to help fill the summer days with activities that will inspire and challenge kids and young adults. Various areas of STEM will be available at the South Holland campus in the South Works Maker Lab including topics such as 2D and 3D Design, 3D printing, electronics, programming and more!

KFKSSC (College for Kids SSC) will also offer several STEM for Kids classes at the Oak Forest Center in June for grade school and high school students. For questions about STEM classes or programs at SSC, please contact Anna Helwig, STEM Dean at 708-210-5706.

For more information about all of SSC's programs, admissions, and registrations, please visit www.ssc.edu or contact the Admissions Office at 708-210-5718.

THE TEACHER APPRECIATION RED TULIP AWARD & EDUCATION FAIR

BY AMBRIA ELLISON

The South Holland Education Commission recently celebrated its first annual Teacher Appreciation Red Tulip Award initiative. This award acknowledges recipients who exemplify professionalism, demonstrate a high commitment towards student achievement, who extend themselves beyond the classroom, model appropriate behavior, and they exhibit enthusiasm about teaching and caring for students.

Last month, six teachers were presented a crystal award. They were Benita Ingram (District 150, Greenwood School), Jolanda Washington (District 151, Madison School), Danny Gray (District 205, Thornwood High School), Lisa Johnson (ECHO/MacArthur School), Jennifer Medlen (South Suburban College), and Bryon Ritzema (Calvary Academy). Additionally, these individuals received a proclamation and monetary award presented by Mayor Don De Graff and the Village Board of Trustees at the June 4, board meeting at the South Holland Village Hall.



Resource Event, which is held every other year in August. This community event is FREE and open to the public, offering academic, health and wellness and financial education to those in attendance. This year's event will be held on Saturday, August 11, at the South Holland Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Commission also hosts the Education Fair & Parent

Additional information will be available at southholland.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

South Holland's Education Fair & Parent Resources

Sat. August 11, 2018
10:00am - 2:00pm

South Holland Community Center
501 E. 170th St.
South Holland, IL

SOUTH HOLLAND LIBRARY PROGRAMS

BY AMBRIA ELLISON



Attention adults and children of all ages. Save the dates for South Holland Library's summer programs. For book lovers, "The Adventure Awaits Summer Library Challenge" (SLC) will take place beginning June 2 and end July 27.



For animal enthusiasts, come enjoy live, up-close, hands on experience with "Dave Dinaso's Traveling World of Reptiles" Thursday, June 26 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and "Beautiful Bats" July 12 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Also, there will be a Drive-In Movie Finale Party showing of The Wiz (1978) July 27, from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m., and many more activities to date.

Some programs may require registration. For additional information regarding the Summer Library Challenge and other programs, please call 708-527-3150 or visit online at shlibrary.org.

EIGHTH GRADERS CONDUCT BOARD MEETING

The 30th annual Student Government event was held Monday, May 21, at the South Holland Community Center. Graduating eighth grade students from South Holland public and private schools conducted their own student board meeting, while sharing the perspectives of the positions of various village officials.

Participating students serving in various roles of village officials included:

Jaden Adams, Christ Our Savior (Mayor); Mariah Smith, Calvin Christian School (Clerk); Frances Boerman Cornell, Calvin Christian School (Trustee, Community Development); Loren Polk, Calvary Academy (Trustee, Recreational Services); Jordan Perdue, Christ Our Savior (Trustee, Community Coordination); Kennedy Pennington, Calvary Academy (Trustee, Finance); Darryl Hawkins, Christ Our Savior (Trustee, Public Safety); Chaylan Palmer, Calvary Academy (Trustee, Public Works); Hannah Sliemers, Calvin Christian School (Village Attorney); Camille Williams, Calvary Academy (Village Engineer); Kristin Taylor, Coolidge Junior High (Deputy Village Administrator); Caleb Purnell, Calvin Christian School (Police Chief); Quintin Hale, Christ Our Savior (Fire Chief); and Katia Harbaugh, Coolidge Junior High (Director, Recreational Services).

Congratulations to our graduating eighth graders and job well done!



Pictured (l-r) are: Frances Boerman Cornell, Trustee, Community Development; Loren Polk, Trustee, Recreational Services; Jordan Perdue, Trustee, Community Coordination; Mariah Smith, Clerk; Jaden Adams, Mayor; Kennedy Pennington, Trustee, Finance; Darryl Hawkins, Trustee, Public Safety; and Chaylan Palmer, Trustee, Public Works.



Student Trustee Chaylan Palmer shares her reflection of the role of Trustee Prince Reed.



The entire group of participants of the 2018 Student Government Night and their respective village officials.

DR. SALLIE D. PENMAN - FINDING

When Dr. Sallie Penman learned she would be honored by Thornton Township as a woman making history in the community she quietly thought to herself, "I never talk about myself or what I do. Like so many women I just get things done." And for Dr. Penman that has meant operating stealth mode, quietly behind the scenes with force and passion. Early in her career with focused resolve, Dr. Penman committed to teaching special education at Manley High School, a Chicago Public School on the city's west side. With a dual teaching certificate, K-3 general education and K-12 special education, she solidified her journey in the field of education.

A SERENDIPITOUS MOMENT

But it was an unexpected opportunity that launched her career into administrative roles, a path Dr. Penman initially didn't feel was the right fit. "A friend approached me about a coordinator position at the Illinois Administrator Academy, and I thought to myself, no this job isn't for me," said Dr. Penman.

The program was created following the 1985 Educational Reform Act, which among many new requirements included a provision for school principals to obtain additional professional development coursework. These new mandates were not readily accepted by seasoned principals and superintendents who at the time felt the requirements more of a burden than an opportunity.

Dr. Penman had her work cut out for her. Not only was she new to this role but she needed to gain their trust and prove that a much younger teacher with no administrative experience was up to the task and capable of getting the job done.

With a can-do spirit, Dr. Penman not only exceeded expectations, but went on to be promoted to the director of the academy.

"It wasn't on my agenda to go down the career path of leadership development," said Dr. Penman. "I enjoyed what I was doing and realized I was good at it."

In this role, Dr. Penman honed her communication and human relation skills to foster an environment of trust and empowerment among the school principals she worked with.

"My early years in education taught me how to simplify complex concepts and make it easily digestible for any audience," said Dr. Penman. "I used this strategy with the principals, encouraging their own ideas, making them feel special and empowering them in their own learning, in spite of the fact state law mandated their participation in program."

She also engaged the group by creating an advisory board where the principals were encouraged to make decisions and report on their priorities. This allowed them to be involved in their own coursework while meeting the criteria set by the new state mandates.

It was a brilliant strategy that for a younger administrator in the midst of seasoned principals and superintendents worked to her advantage.

"I used their power to drive communication. It wasn't me advising them. It was the advisory board; their peers," recalls Dr. Penman.

She smiles, and reflects. I didn't get any argument from them.

As always, working in support of others, Dr. Penman prides herself on simply getting the job done without accolades and fan fair.

FINDING ONE'S SELF

Dr. Penman's interest in teaching was evident early on.

"I can actually remember lining up my dolls and playing school with them. I was a teacher even when playing," Penman said.

"I am from a generation where women became teachers, nurses or social workers. And I thought about that when I was doing my doctoral work. For African American women, there were limited career options. And these professions were the ones that I felt were readily available for me. I chose to teach."

As an honoree of Thornton Township's 10th annual Women of Honor, Dr. Penman quietly acknowledges her contribution while holding fast to her convictions.

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HER PASSION IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS

ally thought of myself as improving the
y," said Dr. Penman. "I just poured myself
y care of my children and being involved.
the best way to find one's self is to lose
n the service of others."

n's strong convictions shows in her
South Holland Village Clerk, member
ning and Development Commission,
on Board, Education Commission, and
on Township High School District 205
c Enrichment Foundation.

hored is just so special because as
e are use to being in the background.
ook for recognition. We just get the job

comes from the heart. Dr. Penman shares,
lucky we find our passion, our purpose
son to keep going and keep doing. But
do that with a thought of being honored
road. We're doing what needs to be

“I’VE FOUND THE BEST WAY
TO FIND ONE’S SELF IS TO
LOSE ONE’S SELF IN THE
SERVICE OF OTHERS.”





SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH
1:00 - 4:00PM

SOUTH HOLLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
16330 SOUTH PARK AVE.
(PARKING LOT)

• VILLAGE VEHICLE STICKERS •

South Holland 2018-19 Vehicle Stickers
CURRENTLY ON SALE! - Must be displayed by July

- Stickers purchased July 1 thru 31 incur a 50 percent late fee.
- Stickers purchased August 1 or later incur a \$100 late fee.

Reminder: 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 is the law.

LATE FEE IN EFFECT BEGINNING JULY 1ST

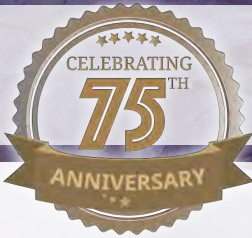
PRICES:

- Passenger Car: \$40
- Truck & Motor Home: \$55
- Truck C & Higher: \$95
- Motorcycle: \$20



Senior Citizens (65 years & older) receive 50 percent discount.
For more information, scan QR code or visit the village website –
<http://www.south-holland.org/departments/clerk-collector/vehicle-stickers/>

GARAGE SALE PERMIT: \$5 & DOG TAG/LICENSE: \$10



SOUTH HOLLAND MUNICIPAL BAND 2018 CONCERT SCHEDULE

SAT - MAY 5th
Special Olympics,
Thornwood
High School, 9am

MON - MAY 28th
Memorial Day Parade,
11 am
Remembrance
Ceremony
@ Veteran's Park,
12:30 pm

THURS - JUNE 14th
7pm, Holland Home

TUESDAY - JULY 4th
Veteran's Park,
7:30 pm

THURS - AUGUST 9th
Veteran's Park, 7 pm

THURS - AUGUST 23rd
Veteran's Park, 7 pm

MON - SEPT 3rd
Paarlberg Farm, 3 pm

THURS - JULY 19th 7pm,
Holland Home

Band performance locations:

- Thornwood High School - 17101 South Park Avenue
- Veterans Memorial Park - 160th Place and South Park Avenue
- Holland Home - 163rd Street and Wausau Avenue
- Paarlberg Farm - 173rd Street and Paxton Avenue



www.southholland.org/municipalband

SUMMER PET ALERT

Remember that dogs are not allowed in village parks, and should always be leashed when walking. Please be courteous by picking up after your pet along the way.



DAZZLING DIAMONDS CHEER ASSOCIATION

BY AMBRIA ELLISON

Do you want your young athlete to remain active this summer? Do they want to learn the fundamentals of cheerleading? This June, South Holland's Department of Recreational Services will offer its new South Holland Stars Cheer Fundamental Program, directed by the Dazzling Diamonds. The program will be held at the South Holland Community Center, 501 East 170th Street.

The DDCA (Dazzling Diamonds Cheer Association) was formed in 2016 as a not-for-profit, non-tryout youth recreational competition cheer organization. The DDCA was created to develop the fundamental skills of cheerleading for girls and boys from kindergarten through 12th grade.

DDCA competes against other cheerleading organizations in the recreational division of competitive cheerleading locally and nationally. The organization was granted its first award as the "Best Walking Unit" in the 2017 South Holland Memorial Day Parade.

To learn more about the organization and registration, please contact the South Holland Community Center at 708-331-2940.



Little League
Regional Girls
SOFTBALL
TOURNAMENT

July 20-24, 2018
Veterans Memorial Park
520 E. 160th Place

COUPON
FREE
POPCORN
OR
ICEE FREEZE
POP AT
HOME PLATE
GRILL

Only good for
July 20-24, 2018
while the tournament
is in progress

COUPON



GUARTLER INDUSTRIES, INC.

BUSINESS EXPANSIONS CREATE NEW JOBS IN VILLAGE

Cook County Commissioners approved proposals from President Toni Preckwinkle's Bureau of Economic Development that will provide tax incentives to two businesses in South Holland.

As a result of redevelopment activities, these incentives should support the creation of an estimated 8 new private sector full-time jobs, retain an estimated 111 full-time jobs and support 50 construction jobs.

"The companies receiving these incentives have demonstrated their commitment to our communities and residents," Preckwinkle said. "I'm pleased that we are able to use our tax incentive tools to either keep or expand businesses in Cook County."

A Class 6b incentive was approved for GBG Leasing, 15523 S. LaSalle St. The company manufactures commercial laundry cleaning products, wastewater chemicals and chemical dispensing systems.

The company is expanding its existing industrial business into the adjacent subject property, which it will redevelop and occupy. The project will create an estimated 5 full-time jobs, retain 105 full-time jobs and support 40 construction jobs.

Also receiving a Class 6b incentive was Valerie Rietveld/Ken-Rich Concrete Lifting, 15510 S. Wentworth Ave. The expanding company offers concrete raising and foundation repair services.

Ken Rich Concrete is a 61-year-old family owned and operated business. The company specializes in concrete raising and foundation repair services in the Chicago metro area and northwest Indiana.

The project will create an estimated 3 full-time jobs, retain 7 full time jobs and support 10 construction jobs.

PUBLIC WORKS IS ALWAYS WORKING FOR YOU

Gouwens Park softball fields will be retrofitted to LED lighting saving the village in maintenance and energy costs. The project also is being completed at an extreme discount thanks to rebates from ComEd.

Park signs at Pow Wow, Terrace View, and Thorn Creek will be replaced with newer, more modern signs, as well as the Little Calumet Bike Path sign located off of Cottage Grove Avenue and Riverview Drive.



The South Holland Professional Firefighters Association IAFF L-4109, in cooperation with the South Holland Fire Department and the Village of South Holland, is sponsoring a

Christmas in July Food Drive

Items can be dropped off any day during the month of July from 8:00am - 9:00pm at South Holland Fire Station 1



All non-perishable food items will be cheerfully accepted.

FLOOD-PROOFING PROJECTS PAY DIVIDENDS FOR SOUTH HOLLAND RESIDENTS

Now that the rainy season is upon us, Planning, Development and Code Enforcement (Code) reminds residents of flood assistance programs available to qualified applicants for pre-approved flood-proofing projects.

For example, residents planning to install overhead sewers in their homes to alleviate flooding problems may be eligible for a grant to cover a portion of the project costs. The Flood Assistance Rebate and a Sewer Back-up Pilot Program may be available for the following projects:

SURFACE WATER PROJECTS

- Diversion of downspout water
- Flood walls

SEWER BACKUP PROJECTS

- Overhead sewers (repairs and installation)
- Removal of sump pump and downspout connections from sanitary sewers
- Back flow valves

SUBSURFACE PROJECTS

- Interior and/or exterior drain tile
- Crack repair and/or waterproofing foundation walls

It is imperative that those planning to apply for the flood rebate or sewer back-up pilot program contact the Code Department at 16240 Wausau, or call 210-2915, before beginning any flood-control project.

A department representative will meet with the resident, inspect their property and assist in completion of the necessary grant application. The department can also provide a list of contractors who are licensed to do business in South Holland, if requested.

Homeowners are advised to allow plenty of time to secure the required pre-approval and minimum of two bid proposals from contractors.

These are great programs and many residents who have taken advantage of this opportunity are grateful for the benefit that comes with flood proofing their home.

THE NATURAL AND BENEFICIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE FLOOD PLAINS



It is difficult to think of flood plains without also thinking of flooding. And nobody likes it when their home or business or neighborhood gets flooded. But flood plain areas are now also recognized as having an intrinsic value of their own as a part of the interconnected ecosystem and an influential role in increasing a community's quality of life. For example, the recognized benefits of a naturally functioning flood plain include the storage and conveyance of flood waters, the recharging of groundwater, the maintenance of surface water quality, and the provision of habitats for fish and wildlife. These areas also provide diverse recreational opportunities, scenic value, and a source of community identity and pride. Clearly the potential gains of transforming stream and river flood plains from problem areas into value-added community assets are substantial.

Floods have caused a greater loss of life and property and have disrupted more families and communities in the United States than all other natural hazards combined. Despite the expenditure of tens of billions of tax dollars for structural measures, such as dams, levees, and channel projects to try to control flood waters, flood losses continue to rise. Thus, a new way of thinking about flood plain management has emerged in recent years that focuses on hazard mitigation. Flood hazard mitigation places greater emphasis on trying to adapt to the natural phenomena of flooding such as by maintaining flood hazard areas as open space, and less on trying to control floodwaters.

Flood plains play a valuable role in providing natural and beneficial functions to the area around, and including South Holland. Floodplains that are relatively undisturbed provide a wide range of benefits to both human and natural systems. These benefits provide aesthetic pleasures as well as function to provide active processes such as filtering nutrients. The Little Calumet River at Gouvens Park and Veterans Park, are both floodplains. Both are used as a means of recreation, discovery and are considered "wetlands". Both floodplains contain historic and archeological sites that provide opportunity for education and study. Both enhance waterfowl, fish and other wildlife habitats and provide feeding/breeding grounds. Both floodplains provide natural erosion control and open space so further flooding damage does not occur.

The Village of South Holland is working to improve the flood plain for natural and recreational purposes. Gouvens Park and Sports Complex has a wetland and a bikeway. The Village is cleaning up the banks and channels both for flood protection and appearance purposes. The Gouvens Park wetland mitigation site consists of approximately 5 acres of native prairie, native wetland plantings, and open water. The site will remain as a natural wetland/prairie complex on the park property. In its natural setting, the site is used by a variety of wildlife and could easily be used for environmental education. In addition, the area undergoes flooding from the adjacent river and was designed to function in that manner. Who knows? Someday the river front may be the main attraction in town.

It is important to recognize that the flood plains serve many functions besides carrying or storing floodwaters. Thus, we should keep the water as clean as possible to help fish and other wildlife. Here are some things residents can do to protect the river:

- Bag or compost all yard waste.
- Take used motor oil to a licensed recycling plant.
- Do not wash paints, thinners, anti-freeze, and other chemicals into the street. Take leftovers to a household hazardous waste collection center.
- Cover bare soil with a mulch and seed it as soon as possible to minimize erosion.
- Carefully apply lawn chemicals and limit the amount of fertilizers and pesticides being used.
- Keep as much green areas as possible as natural or man-made drainage swales. Plant plenty of trees and shrubs.

WATERSHEDS—THE BIG PICTURE

While it is important for communities to plan and take responsibility for the land uses that occur in their own flood plains, it must be recognized that flood level and water quality can be very much affected by land use activities occurring elsewhere in the watershed. Land uses along tributaries are likely to have an impact on downstream communities. Wise management of tributaries is therefore extremely important, as their protection can yield benefits for the entire network. Broad planning efforts among communities with a watershed can thus have far-reaching advantages.

WISDOM FROM OUR CHURCHES

The air hangs heavy, oppressive and still. The tornado siren shatters the silence with its eerie wail. On the horizon, dark clouds gather, then advance. Lightning bolts split the sky. Ominous rumbles swell into sonic booms as daylight retreats. Suddenly, the wind picks up and the first great rain drops fall. Now the heavens open, unleashing torrents of water.

It's over, as quickly as it started. Shafts of sunlight break through the gloom. Then you spot it: white light refracted in a kaleidoscope of color – the whole spectrum from violet to red.

A rainbow! The dark backdrop accents its beauty. After the flashing and crashing, it has the last word.

It also points us to God's word. God once destroyed an evil world with a flood. He spared a family of eight, along with animals, in a large barge. "Look up!" he said. They saw a rainbow. To it, God attached this promise: "Never again! I will not destroy the world again until I return to make all things new."

The original Hebrew calls it a bow. As in, a weapon of war, pointed at the heart of God himself. It proclaims, "God is willing to die to fulfill this promise." And he did. In Christ.

Man emerged, with God's approval,
Rescued from the cleansing flood.
Final rinse and sin's removal
Still await the cleansing blood.
Bow of promise, bow of grace,
Points to God who takes our place.

This summer, watch for rainbows in the storms that roll in. Remember that God's storm of final judgment is coming. Remember that Christ died to rescue us from the storm. Remember that all who entrust their lives to him survive the storm to thrive forever. They can rest assured that, whatever storms lash their lives, his promise has the last word.

Pastor Richard Zekveld,
Covenant Fellowship Church



Heritage Haul



The Village of
**South
Holland**
*Faith, Family,
& Future*

15 Mile Bike Race, Half Marathon, 10K, 5K

REGISTER TODAY!

Find Heritage Haul link at southholland.org

SEPT.

15

Veterans Memorial Park
South Holland, IL

7 AM



MOVIES

IN VETERANS PARK

Saturday, June 23rd

Saturday, July 28th

Saturday, August 25th

*** MOVIES START *
AT DUSK**



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

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LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER



Heritage Haul



The Village of
South
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& Future*



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Veterans Memorial Park
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7 AM

Chip Timing | Finisher Medals | Cash Prizes

Heritage Haul long sleeve race shirt included with paid registration

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