



# InverNews

The Village With A Heritage

Fall 2013

## Inverness Continues to Push for Best Possible Fire and Paramedic Response Time for Residents In Western Portion of Village

Mayor Jack Tatooles continues to push for an automatic aid agreement that would allow the Palatine Rural Fire Protection District to respond to fire and medical emergency calls from the western portion of the Village.

Who is best able to provide fire and paramedic service to the western side of Inverness became an issue in recent months due to the split between Barrington and Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District which is set to occur on January 1. As recently reported in the *Daily Herald*, Barrington Countryside has entered into automatic aid agreements with several other fire protection agencies, but is not planning an automatic aid agreement with Palatine Rural.

The issue of which fire protection district is the best choice to provide service to the western portion of Inverness is a critical one, according to Tatooles. "Barrington Countryside's Pepper Road fire station is so far away it might as well be in Wisconsin," he said. "I think Palatine Rural can better serve the western side of town."

Tatooles has pointed out on numerous occasions that Barrington Countryside's station on Pepper Road in Lake Barrington is seven miles from the western portion of Inverness, and the district's Barrington Hills station is just over five miles away. In contrast, Palatine Rural's station is just 1.5 miles from the west side of Inverness.

The Palatine Rural Fire Protection District provides fire and paramedic service to the eastern two-thirds of Inverness. When the Barrington Fire Department and the Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District functioned as one unit, the western side of Inverness could be served by the Barrington fire station on Northwest Highway. When the split between the two fire departments becomes effective on January 1, that will no longer be the case.

## Is Your Mailbox Winter-Ready?

Mailboxes are occasionally unintended casualties of the snow season. Snow being thrown off the snowplow blade is often wet and heavy. Weakened posts and mailboxes or those too close to the pavement may be unable to withstand the weight of the snow. Village code specifies that the face of the mailbox must be at least 12 inches from the edge of the pavement. According to US Postal regulations, the height of the mailbox should be between 41" and 45" from the road to the bottom of the box.

The Village will not replace or repair mailboxes where the damage was caused by heavy snow coming off the plow blade. According to the Village code, homeowners are solely responsible for maintaining (*continued on page 3*)



## Repairs to Begin on Inverness' Iconic Silos

Work is scheduled to begin before the end of the year to repair and restore Inverness' historic silos.

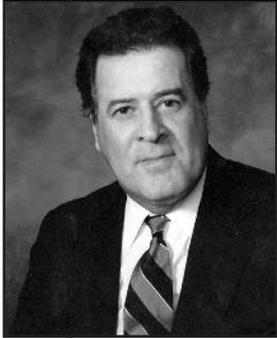
The silos, which are now more than 100 years old, are showing their age. Over the years water has penetrated the concrete, causing the interior steel to rust and exterior portions of concrete to loosen and fall off. The resulting internal corrosion has affected the structural integrity and safety of the silos. Water seepage into offices located within the silos has become an ongoing issue.

Following a review of a broad array of options -- ranging from rebuilding the silos at a cost of over \$1 million to tearing them down -- the Village Board voted to allocate \$126,000 to make essential repairs, which include removing loose concrete material, cleaning the interior steel rings, patching and restoring areas as needed, and applying a waterproof sealant to the patched surfaces. These repairs are expected to extend the life of the silos for another 20 years.

**Police Department garage space expanded.** A second Village construction project is nearing completion. The existing garage attached to the Police Department is being expanded to accommodate three more squad cars (*continued on page 3*)



## Jack Tatoes



Dear Residents:

On the front page you will see an article about Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District's efforts to develop automatic aid agreements with neighboring agencies. As you may know, Barrington Countryside provides service to the Barrington Township portion of the Village and the area north of Dundee Road that is located in Palatine Township. Barrington Countryside is in the process of starting up a new department as the long standing relationship with the Village of Barrington is coming to an end. When it became apparent that this was the direction things were moving in, I reached out to the leadership of Barrington Countryside to gain a better understanding of their planning process.

Early on I advocated to Barrington Countryside officials that they meet with representatives of the Palatine Rural Fire Protection District to discuss an equitable automatic aid and/or intergovernmental agreement, whereby Palatine Rural would provide service to the entire Village. In my mind, Palatine Rural is in a much better position to serve the needs of Inverness residents who also reside in the Barrington Countryside district. After all, fire and EMS responses are all about time and distance, i.e. how far do they have to travel and how long will it take to get to the location of the emergency. With the Village of Barrington Fire Station on Northwest Highway no longer part of the operational mix, Barrington Countryside personnel will be coming from either the fire station in Barrington Hills or Lake Barrington. Both of these are too far away. In contrast, Palatine Rural is located in the center of Inverness. This is not rocket science. You deserve the best service for your tax dollars.

Unfortunately, my efforts have been unsuccessful. It was recently reported in the Daily Herald that Barrington Countryside is no longer pursuing an auto aid agreement with Palatine Rural. I believe that their unwillingness to pursue such an agreement severely limits the quality of fire protection and EMS services offered to Village residents who also reside in the Barrington Countryside District. For that reason, I am encouraging those residents affected to get involved. Barrington Countryside trustees need to hear from you and be challenged over their unwillingness to enter into an equitable agreement with Palatine Rural.

The President of the District is Thomas Rowan. Trustees include Paul Heinze, Thomas Long, Marvin Hill and Paul Struck. Write, call or email them with your concerns about getting the best service. Barrington Countryside's address is 22222 N. Pepper Road, Lake Barrington, Illinois 60010. Their telephone number is 847-848-4800. Other information and an email link can be obtained by visiting their website at <http://www.bcfpd.org/index.asp>

I believe an agreement with Palatine Rural is in your best interests. Time is of the essence and I encourage you to become informed and engaged on this critical issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack".

Jack Tatoes, Mayor

## Holiday Tree Pickup

Christmas trees will be picked up at the curb free of charge from December 26 through the end of January.

Please remove all tinsel and ornaments prior to placing the tree at the curb.

No sticker is needed for the curbside tree pickup.



## NEWS TO KNOW—

**Hosting a holiday event at your home?** Remember that allowing cars to park on both sides of the road is not only inconvenient for your neighbors, but can also prevent emergency vehicles from reaching their destination quickly. If you are hosting an event where a large number of vehicles will need to park on the street, please stop by the Police Department to pick up “No Parking” signs to post on one side of your street so your guests know where to park when arriving.

**PATH coat drive:** The Inverness Police Department is serving as a collection point for children and adult winter coats, hats, mittens and boots for the PATH (Palatine Assisting through Hope) Program. Winter items can be dropped off at the Inverness Police Department or Village Hall throughout the month of December.



**Toys for Tots:** The Inverness Police Department has partnered with the United States Marine Corps for the Annual Toys for Tots Drive. Beginning Friday, November 15 and continuing throughout the holiday season, residents are invited to drop off new unwrapped toys at the Village Hall or Police Department. Your donation is greatly appreciated and will help make a child’s holiday season brighter.

**Final yardwaste pickup:** The last curbside yardwaste pickup of the season will be Thursday, December 12.

## Watch What You Heat

Many families gather in the kitchen to spend time together, but it can be one of the most hazardous rooms in the home if you don't practice safe cooking behavior.

The Palatine Rural Fire Protection District reminds residents that cooking equipment, most often a range or stovetop, is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Whether you are cooking the family holiday dinner or a snack for the children, practicing safe cooking behavior will help keep you and your family safe.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly and use a timer to remind you that your cooking is done.
- Keep anything that can catch fire - potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, towels, or curtains - away from your stovetop.
- Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.

## Garbage Pickup For Upcoming Holidays

**Thanksgiving:** Pickup will be on Friday, November 29.

**Christmas:** Pickup will be on Friday, December 27.

**New Year's:** Pickup will be on Friday, January 3.



## Police Department Garage Addition

*(continued from page 1)*

as well as provide storage space for barricades, emergency equipment and repair parts.

The original garage only provided enough space for one squad car and limited space for equipment storage. With the three vehicle addition, the Village’s fleet of emergency vehicles will now be better sheltered from the winter elements and readily accessible for use without the need to clear snow and ice from the vehicles.

The additional storage space in the expanded garage is also a welcome addition.

## Mailboxes

*(continued from page 1)*

their mailboxes. Therefore we suggest that you examine your mailbox early in the snow season to ensure that it is structurally sound and properly maintained. While crews always do their best to protect lawn areas and mailboxes adjacent to the roadway, we ask you to report any damage caused by snow plows **within 24 hours** so that we can investigate and make repairs as warranted.

## Calendar of Events

### December

- 10 Village Board
- 17 Plan Commission
- 18 Zoning Board

### January

- 14 Village Board
- 15 Zoning Board
- 21 Plan Commission

### February

- 11 Village Board
- 18 Plan Commission
- 19 Zoning Board



STD. PRE-SORT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Palatine, IL P & DC  
Permit No. 2854

Village of Inverness  
1400 Baldwin Road  
Inverness, Illinois 60067

847/358-7740  
847/358-8858 fax

Website: [www.villageofinverness.org](http://www.villageofinverness.org)

Village Hall Hours:  
Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

Jack Tatoes. . . . . Mayor  
Laurie C. White. . . . . Clerk

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# Snow Season Reminders: Plowing, Parking, Shoveling Tips & More

The holiday season and winter weather are on their way to Chicagoland. The Village’s snow plowing crews stand ready 24/7 to keep the roadways safe for travel. Check out these brief but important snow season reminders:

- **Please remove all landscaping obstructions** -- such as boulders, stones and tree limbs – from the right-of-way before the first snow-fall. Such items can pose a significant safety hazard for snow plowing crews.
- **Never shovel or plow snow from the driveway into the street.** Snow from a driveway that is deposited on the roadway can become compacted and icy; posing a significant danger to both vehicles and pedestrians.
- **Remove snow from your driveway after the plow has made its last pass.** We recommend removing snow from your driveway after the plow has made its last pass. Snow plows are designed to push snow to the outside edge of the road, which means the plow will inevitably leave snow at the bottom of your driveway. You can save yourself both time and frustration by waiting to clear the bottom of your driveway until the plow has made its final pass on your street.

- **Clear driveway culverts.** Remove debris and obstructions to prevent ice dams from forming.
- **Parking reminder.** When snow-plowing operations are underway, vehicles should not be parked on the street until the pavement has been cleared. Parking on Village streets is prohibited from 1:00-6:00 a.m. throughout the year.

**Village Hall Holiday Closings**

**Thanksgiving:**  
Thursday November 28  
& Friday, November 29

**Christmas:**  
Tuesday, December 24 &  
Wednesday, December 25

**New Year’s:**  
Tuesday, December 31 &  
Wednesday, January 1, 2014

The Village of Inverness elected officials and staff wish you a safe and happy holiday season



## WINTERTIME TRAVEL INFORMATION



Illinois Department of Transportation 312-368-4636;  
[www.dot.state.il.us](http://www.dot.state.il.us)

For information about state highways including Palatine, Dundee and Barrington Roads.

Cook County Highway Department (708) 485-7130;  
<http://cookcountyil.gov/highway>

To report problems on county highways such as Ela, Roselle, and Bradwell Roads.

Illinois Tollway Information Line 1-800-TOLLFYI (1-800-865-5394);  
[www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com)

For tollway information including problems with fog, snow, ice, high winds and trailer bans. This information is updated every four hours, more often if weather conditions warrant.

