



InverNews

The Village With A Heritage

Summer 2010

On Duty: Inverness Police Department Celebrates Milestone First Year



Whether it is a traffic accident, report of suspicious activity, or theft from a vehicle, members of the Inverness Police Department respond quickly to emergencies and requests for assistance — and residents are very pleased.

Most calls to the Police Department are for the kind of minor issues you would expect in a small, quiet community like Inverness. It's those calls asking for assistance in unlocking a vehicle or to report a suspicious individual in the neighborhood that let police officers know they are accomplishing their goal of being approachable and available.

"The officers are tuned into the residents and their neighborhoods, and people are very enthusiastic," said Village President Jack Tatooles. "We've put our focus on creating the kind of police department that existed years ago when everyone knew the police officer on the beat."



In its first year of operation, the Department's officers have responded to 2,024 calls for service, including calls to assist the Fire Department and to respond to burglar alarms. The first year of operation also saw three residential burglaries and 10 burglaries to unlocked vehicles.

Reducing deaths and injuries on the roadways is always a primary focus. In addition to responding to 150 reportable accidents, officers issued 767 warning tickets to motorists, 167 tickets for moving

violations, and 475 tickets for parking, licensing or equipment violations.

Best of all, because they are in the neighborhoods 24/7, officers are alert to the potential for theft, burglary or vandalism and take the time to leave a "Crime of Opportunity Alert" for the resident so that the situation can be corrected. During the year, officers wrote 702

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Financial Update: The Inverness Police Department at One Year

On April 30, 2010, the Inverness Police Department completed its first full year of operation. In addition to the excellent feedback we have received from our residents on the quality and the level of service of our Police Department, I am very happy to report that the financial impact of having our own Police Department is equally superb.

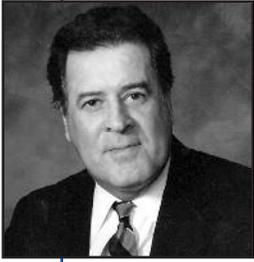
We budgeted \$1.54 million for the first full year of operation for the Police Department. Our actual expense for this initial year was \$1.4 million — for a savings (versus our budget) of \$140,000. Much of the credit for this 9% savings goes to the effective and efficient management of the Department by our Police Chief, Bob Haas. This excellent financial management of our Police Department is very much appreciated by all of our residents in these challenging economic times.

For many years Barrington had supplied us with police protection on a contractual basis. The initial proposal from Barrington to continue to perform this contractual service for 2009 was \$2.1 million. This was 50% higher than what we actually spent on our police department over this past year. While Barrington did lower their proposal to \$1.8 million, this was still \$400,000 more than our actual cost to operate our own Police Department for this past year.

In summary, your Village's Finance Committee firmly believes that the establishment of our own Inverness Police Department was a very sound financial decision by our Mayor Jack Tatooles, and your Village Board of Trustees.

*Dick Gallagher, Village Trustee
Chairman, Finance Committee*

Jack Tatoes



Dear Residents:

On June 18th we experienced a storm event that left many of you without power. Several neighborhoods were without power for more than three days. I was extremely dissatisfied with ComEd's response to the storm and their lack of communication during the event. Village staff was frustrated with ComEd's inability to provide reliable information on when power was going to be restored. Shortly after this event, I met with ComEd's Senior Vice President of Corporate Affairs and their Regional Director of External Affairs to express our frustration about this storm event and their response. A follow-up meeting was held on July 6th. It was clear from this second meeting that ComEd still did not have a handle on their storm response.

As a result of these meetings, I received a commitment from these officials to provide the Village with a full report on the cause of the outages and a determination on what work was needed to reduce the likelihood of outages in the future. This includes identifying additional areas for vegetation clearing, transformer replacement, additional fuse placement and other methods for overhead line protection. They also committed to initiate an internal dialogue within ComEd to change the operational protocol on how they respond to widespread outages. At the current time their protocol is to restore as many customers as possible, as soon as possible. Smaller residential areas are restored last based on the smaller number of customers affected.

While I understand the logic behind this approach, it fails to recognize the impact on most of you who depend upon reliable power from ComEd for your domestic water supply. When your power is out, you no longer have a domestic water source for drinking water, bathing and sewage disposal. Accordingly, an extended outage has a much greater impact on you than those who are on a public water supply. I believe that ComEd needs to take this into account in terms of their operational protocol when they are engaged in widespread restoration efforts and not just on the number of customers who are out in a particular area.

As this newsletter is being published, I am waiting for ComEd to provide us with their action plan. We have also been critical of the reliability and accuracy of ComEd's "real-time" outage data that we can use to give you information on service restoration. This is a system-wide problem that they need to address.

Getting ComEd to improve the reliability in this community is a priority of mine. I will keep you informed of our progress in future newsletters. If you have any thoughts or comments regarding ComEd's reliability in your neighborhood, please drop me a line at Village Hall. I will include your comments in my ongoing dialogue with ComEd. Thank you.

Sincerely,



An Eight Year Old Speaks . . . and Village Officials Listen!

Eight year old Aisling Finnegan saw a problem and turned to the Village of Inverness Mayor and Police Chief to assist with the solution.

The problem? Aisling noticed a turtle sitting on Banbury Road and worried that this turtle and others living in nearby ponds would be run over.

The solution? At Aisling's suggestion, there is now a "turtle crossing" sign on Banbury Road to warn motorists to be on the lookout for turtles that may have wandered onto the roadway.

Pictured at right is Aisling with Mayor Jack Tatoes and Police Chief Robert Haas.



Is Your Address Easily Visible for Emergency Responders?



No one ever expects an emergency, but emergencies happen every day. The moment you need to call for emergency police, fire or medical help, is the moment you will realize how important it is for your house number to be easily visible for those who are coming to assist you. Please take a moment to make sure your home address is visible for emergency responders.

Three things that make it difficult to find your home:

1. Address is hard to see and/or blends in with the mailbox
2. Address is missing entirely
3. Address is on the mailbox across the street and not on the home

These issues pose a significant danger because they may cause delays in identifying your home.

Make it easy to find your home by making it easy to see your address.

- The house numbers should contrast in color where affixed
- The numbers should be at least 4 inches in height
- The numbers should be reflective if possible
- The house numbers should be displayed so that they are visible in both directions of travel

Many residents have purchased reflective address signs from the Palatine Rural Fire Department. They can be seen in many neighborhoods in Inverness. The Fire Department is offering these signs for a small fee of \$15.00. For more information, call (847) 991-8700 or stop in at 35 N. Ela Road (at Palatine Road) to order.

Computer Recycling at Your Front Door

The **At Home Computer Pickup Program** offered by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) provides residents with a convenient option for recycling old electronics and computers.

For \$25.00, SWANCC-area residents can take advantage of front door pickup to recycle up to six items. Additional items are \$5.00 each, with a maximum of 15 items per pickup. Cell phones and calculators are accepted at no cost and do not count toward the item total. However, when you register online or call to make a pickup appointment, you will need to specify the total number of items you are recycling, including those that do not count toward the maximum allowable number.

You can easily schedule a pickup online and place your items by the front door tagged with a SWANCC receipt on your pickup day. It's that easy!

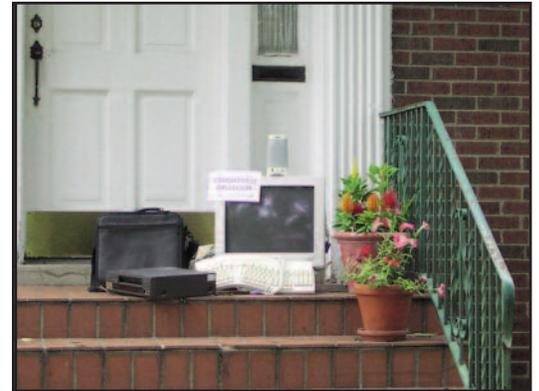
To be eligible to participate in the At Home Computer Pickup Program, you must live in a SWANCC member community and have street level access to your front door.

All materials will be dismantled domestically and recycled by an ISO 14001 and 9001 certified contractor.

Due to these recycling efforts, natural resources and energy are conserved, materials are recovered or disposed of in a safe manner, and landfill space is being saved.

To learn more about SWANCC's At Home Pickup Program, or to schedule an at home pickup, go to www.swancc.org or call (847) 724-9205.

Be sure to check the SWANCC website for complete information about other recycling programs including household hazardous wastes, prescription drugs/sharps disposal, document destruction events, and information on eco-friendly cleaning products.



Milestone First Year

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Crime of Opportunity Alerts for such things as an open garage door, valuables left in plain sight in a vehicle, and excessive newspapers on the driveway or front porch.



"They regularly patrol at night," said resident Melodie Moroney. "They're really looking out for us. It just feels good."

Garbage Pickup Days Change for Labor Day, Thanksgiving Holidays

Two upcoming holidays will bring changes to the regular garbage pickup days in Inverness.

Labor Day: The holiday falls on Monday, September 6; garbage pickup will be on Friday, September 10.

Thanksgiving: The holiday falls on Thursday, November 25; garbage pickup will be on Friday, November 26.

There will be no change in garbage pickup days for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.



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Website: www.villageofinverness.org

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Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

Jack Tatoes. Mayor
Diane C. Haas Clerk

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**9-11 Remembrance, Flight for Life Helicopter
And More at Fire Protection District Open House**

Exhibits, demonstrations, tours and more will all be part of this year’s Palatine Rural Fire Protection District Open House on Saturday, September 11 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The fire station is located at 35 N. Ela Road, Inverness.

Special guests will include the State Fire Marshal, Sparky the Fire Dog, and the state’s specially trained arson dog.

A 9-11 remembrance ceremony is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Weather

permitting, the Flight for Life helicopter is scheduled to land at 12:00 noon.

“The Fairlanes” will be on hand to provide musical entertainment. Hot dogs and beverages will be offered free of charge.

Other activities will include Home Depot and other exhibitors, the Sprinkler Trailer, tours of the fire station, the chance to slide down the firepole and sit in the fire engine, as well as a variety of other hands-on activities for both children and adults.

Ample parking will be available at Holy Family Church, with free shuttle service to the fire station.

For more information on the Open House as



well as other Fire Protection District programs and services, visit www.prfpd.org or call (847) 991-8700.



Quick Tips from the Inverness Police Department

- Lock doors of your vehicle. Most burglary to vehicles do not involve forced entry -- the burglars just open the unlocked door and help themselves.
- Call 911 if you observe any suspicious vehicles or persons anytime, anywhere.
- Unwelcome solicitors at your door? The only action the Police Department can take is the enforcement of the door placard that indicate “Canvassers, Solicitors and Peddlers Forbidden.” These window clings are available free of charge at the Village Hall and Police Department. If you do not have a placard posted, we cannot take any action against those who come to your door.

Calendar of Events

September

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

October

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

November

- 9 Village Board
- 15 Zoning Board
- 16 Plan Commission