



The City of Northlake Northlake News

February-March, 2024

City Desk by Jeffrey T. Sherwin, Mayor City Looks Forward on 75th Anniversary

In July, the City of Northlake will turn 75 years old. The City has come a long way in those 75 years and we will have more on that later in the year.

One of my favorite quotes is from a speech that President Franklin D. Roosevelt was working on the day before he died. He wrote, ***"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today."*** In that vein, the City of Northlake will be initiating several infrastructure projects that will have a significant impact on the future of our community. The most ambitious project will be the rebuilding of the City's main water pumping station and 3,000,000 gallon reservoir located in Hansen Park between Morse Drive and Lemoyne Avenue. Both of these facilities were built in 1960 and have served our City well. The pump station will receive new pumps and a new emergency generator and the 3,000,000 gallon reservoir will be replaced with a new corrosion resistant glass coated reservoir which should serve the City for at least 75 years or more. This project has been in the planning stages for the past several years and the City has put aside funds to pay for the bulk of the work which will keep the need to borrow any money at a minimum.

Another will be the reconstruction of Railroad Avenue from North Avenue to Palmer. This vital road serves our industrial complex and has not received any major attention other than routine maintenance since the City assumed responsibility for this road some 30 years ago.

This project will be somewhat disruptive, as only one half of the road can be reconstructed at a time. Northbound traffic will be maintained throughout the project, while southbound traffic will be directed to Wolf Road, including trucks. The project is expected to run through the summer, so this disruptive traffic pattern will be with us for a time. However, upon completion, the new roadway should have a serviceable life of 30 years or more, and we will not see this type of disruption for a long time. Unfortunately, there is no other way around this traffic pattern, so we will need to tolerate this inconvenience. The good news is that the cost of this project will be covered by an extra allotment of Motor Fuel Tax Funds in the amount of \$850,000, which the City received from the State of Illinois and a \$3,000,000 grant secured by Senator Don Harmon last year.

The City will also be replacing approximately 100 lead water service lines to homes at no cost to the homeowner. We expect to keep this pace for the next 4 years at which time all lead service lines in the City will be replaced.

There will be other projects in the mix, such as water main replacement in the 100 block of Golfview and street resurfacing on Prater Avenue from Bernice Avenue north to Palmer. Our parkway tree planting program will also continue with the planting of approximately 150 trees.

All of these projects are being done through careful fiscal management, setting aside funds and securing grants without the need to raise the City's tax levy, which has been the same for the past six years.

The second part of President Roosevelt's quote is ***"Let us move forward with a strong and active faith."*** I believe in the future of our community and making these vital investments is a true embodiment of President Roosevelt's quote.

Jeffrey T. Sherwin
Mayor
Nancy Pauletto
City Clerk

Aldermen
Paul Straube, 1st Ward
Penny Feldmann, 1st Ward
Alex Sosa, 2nd Ward
Jaime S. Contreras, 2nd Ward
Juan Urbina, 3rd Ward
Norman Johnson, 3rd Ward
Francine Patti, 4th Ward
Rich Grochowski, 4th Ward

55 E. North Avenue
Northlake, IL 60164
708-343-8700

Visit our website at:
www.northlakecity.com
or like us on
[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/northlakecity)

City Hall will be closed Monday, February 19 for Presidents Day!

2024 Meeting Schedule

City Council and Finance Committee:

Finance: 6:30, City Council 7:00 at Council Chambers

January 8, February 12, March 4 and 18, April 1 and 15, May 6 and 20, June 10, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 7 and 21, November 4 and 18, December 2 and 16.

Board of Police Commission

Meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 at the Police Department.

6:00 at Police Department: January 23, February 27, March 26. April 23, May 28, June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24, October 22, November 26, December 24

Community Events and Affairs

CEAC meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at Council Chambers

6:30 at Council Chambers: January 9, February 13, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10

Senior Citizen Commission

Senior Commission meets 3rd Monday of month at 10:00 at Sandra Vasquez Community Center.

10:00 at Sandra Vasquez Community Center: January 15, February 19, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18, December 16

Youth Commission

Youth Commission meets 2nd Wednesday of month at 4:30 at Community Center.

Check newsletter for time and location: January 10, February 14, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11



New Officers in Northlake

Four new officers were sworn in on December 18th at the City Council meeting. From left to right: Sean Palm, Bill Johnson, Alexandra Nava, and Erik Cohn. In between is the new Miss Teenage USA Latina, Isabella Ortiz. Ms. Ortiz is a resident of Northlake. Congratulations to everyone.

PARKING

City regulation states that there will be no parking on all streets between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Also, on north-south streets, there is no parking on the west side of the street at any time. On east-west streets, there is no parking on the north side of the street at any time.

February is National Spay/Neuter Month

The Department of Animal & Rabies Control will be offering a rebate for spay/neuter costs in the month of February.

The Cook County Department of Animal & Rabies Control are doing their part to help solve our country's pet overpopulation problem. Cook County residents can have their dogs, cats, or ferrets spayed/neutered during the month of February and save \$40 through their veterinarian.

How the rebate program works:

1. You must be a Cook County resident.
2. Call your veterinarian to ask if she/he is participating in the Cook County spay/neuter rebate program.
3. Schedule an appointment in February with a participating veterinarian.
4. Bring your cat, dog or ferret in for spay/neuter surgery. Limit is two pets per household.
6. All pets must either receive a rabies vaccination and tag the day of surgery or have a current rabies vaccination and tag to qualify for the program.

Contact your local veterinarian for more information. Or you can go to the County site at CookCountyIL.gov/service/spay-and-neuter-program-0.

In addition, for Northlake residents **only**, bring your cat or dog in to a participating veterinarian to be spayed or neutered, anytime during the year, and you will receive a \$20 rebate from the City of Northlake. To participate in the program, your pet must be inoculated with the rabies vaccine. To receive your \$20 rebate from Northlake City Hall, you must bring in proof of residency and proof of the procedure from your veterinarian.



Birthday Celebrations

The Live It Up Club, which meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, at noon, at Grant Park, recently celebrated the birthdays of the members over 80 years old.



Heating Safety Tips

Heating equipment is one of the leading cause of home fire deaths. Half of home heating equipment fires are reported during the winter months. Some simple steps can prevent most heating related fires from occurring.

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove or space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat the home.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel for fuel burning space heaters.
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your furnace and fireplace very year.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at lease once a week.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Many home owners will be taking on home improvement projects. If you are having work done on or in your home, please remember the following permit and code requirements:

Hours for construction are 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Monday - Friday and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Typically, a permit is required for the following common projects: additions, bathroom remodels, decks, driveways, electrical upgrades, fences, kitchen remodels, patio, patio cover/overhangs, roofs, sewer, sheds, siding/gutters/downspouts and window replacements.

Application Requirements:

- **Application:** Filled out completely.
- **Plat of Survey:** Submitted along with all permits for all outside projects (new construction, additions, fence, patios, decks, driveways & sheds).
Plat of Survey **must be current** and reflect all structures on the property. Applications will be denied if a current plat of survey is not submitted with the application.
- **Site Plan:** Required for new construction, drawn to scale, with the building dimensions noted. The site plan can be shown on the plat of survey. New construction plans are reviewed by a consulting building official.
- **Engineering / Grading Plan:** Required for new construction. Engineering/grading plans are reviewed by a consulting engineering for storm water management compliances.
All engineering review fees are paid by the building permit applicant.
- **Topographical Survey:** Flood zoned residents are required to provide this survey for any new outdoor projects or any alteration.
- **Copy of Contract or Estimate:** Details the scope of work and the cost of the job.
- **Contractor's License:** All contractors are required to be listed on a permit application and be registered with the City.
- **Permit Card:** Required to be displayed in a window or door that faces the street and is un-obstructed. Failure to display the permit card will result in a fine.
- **J.U.L.I.E.:** Please call before you dig, **811 or (800) 892-0123**. It's FREE & they will arrange to come to your property and mark the locations of the underground utilities.

Inspections: Inspections will be listed on the Permit Card. The owner/contractor is responsible for obtaining all inspections. **Failure to call for an inspection can result in dismantling of finish surfaces or removal of drywall for inspection purposes.** It is recommended that a homeowner does not make their final payment to their contractor until a final inspection has been completed and approved. This protects the homeowner by ensuring that the contractor has done the work according to the plans approved by the Building Department and the City Code.

Permits shall become invalid if work does not start within 6 months, see expiration date on permit card. If work has been started, the permit is valid for 1 year from day of issuance.

If you have questions about building permits or possible violations, please contact the Building Department at (708) 343-8700 or visit the City of Northlake's website at www.northlakecity.com/departments/building.

Why Does The Snow Plow Deposit Snow At The Edge Of My Driveway?

Public Works in most towns use angled snow plows for snow removal. The major advantage of a side-angle plow is that it enables efficient and rapid snow removal. With this type of plow it is not possible to prevent a pile of snow from forming in front of a driveway. Drivers cannot lift their plows at driveways during snow removal. Doing that would increase the time it took to remove the snow from the streets and would leave piles of snow that could create a dangerous driving condition.

Though this may be an inconvenience for some, it is a necessary tradeoff for the removal of snow from the rest of the street.

Northlake Cares

What Is The Northlake Cares Program?

The Northlake Cares program is a voluntary registry for vulnerable populations in our city. The program enables the Police Department as a partner, to obtain critical information which assists an officer in responding to calls for service involving an individual with Alzheimer's disease, blindness, autism, Down's syndrome, deafness, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and other physical and developmental disabilities which may affect the way individuals interact and respond to law enforcement officers.

Benefits to the Northlake Cares program include providing peace of mind to caregivers, promoting officer safety and helping us to better interact with service calls involving individuals with medical and/or developmental disabilities.

How It Works

Northlake Cares is voluntary for those participating and all information is kept confidential. Information entered by residents into the Northlake Cares application is added to our current police records management system. Special situations remarks are also included, along with other information for the specific address provided by the resident. When our local communications center receives a call for service and the address is associated with an address previously registered in our Northlake Cares system, our local dispatchers will indicate this is Northlake Cares address to our responding officers and EMS.

Partnerships

Key to the success of the program are the strong partnerships formed with our police department, our special needs community and loved ones and referral agencies.

Residents/Caregivers of person that reside in Northlake interested in receiving more information for this program, can send an e-mail to policeinfo@northlakecity.com. Please include your name, address and current contact cell phone number.

Prescription Drug Drop Off Box at Police Dept.

It may not be safe to dispose of medications by flushing them down the toilet or pouring them into the sink. It could be polluting the waterways in Illinois. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District has seven water reclamation plants working to treat discarded water leaving the homes in the Chicago area. The process can remove many things, however, it is not designed to deal with prescription drugs. So they are returned to the waterways in Illinois.

Return unwanted or expired medication to a take-back program. This is the most environmentally safe way to dispose of these medications and will keep seniors, children and pets safe. **Please put the pills in a zip lock bag. Pill bottles do not fit through the slot.** By keeping the bottle, you also protect your personal information. The Northlake Police Department has a drop box located on the north end of the building. Drug drop off is anonymous and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For more information call 708-531-5755.

Garbage Pick Up

Occasionally, you may have additional items or cans which may be placed for pick up if they have a tag attached to them. The cost of the tag is \$1.50 each and will be available at City Hall (55 E. North Avenue), Walgreen's (North and Wolf) and Public Works (100 W. Palmer).

Yard waste must be placed in brown paper yard waste bags or a container NOT larger than 33 gallons (maximum weight – 60 pounds). Yard waste in plastic bags or oversized containers will not be picked up.

If you have metal items, such as appliances, water heaters, storm doors, lawn furniture, etc. you should place these items out on Thursday without a tag as the recyclers will most likely pick up these items quickly. You can always add a tag in the morning.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact City Hall at 708-343-8700. With your cooperation, this program will successfully serve the residents of Northlake.

KIDS' VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT NIGHT

sandra Vasquez
Community Center
316 N. LaPorte

Wednesday, February 14, 2024
5:00 to 6:30

FREE! FREE! FREE!
Sponsored by the Northlake
Youth Commission

Community Connection Circle

Are you looking to meet people in your community for support, connection, and fellowship?

If you are, please join our community connection circles and see how sharing stories and answering simple questions can bring people together. There is no obligation or cost. This is a circle for anyone that wants to participate. All are invited.

WHERE?

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2788 N. Wolf Road, Northlake, IL 60164

WHEN?

Wednesdays, 10:30am-12:00pm

For more information, please contact Sarah by phone or email.

Sarah Harmon
708.220.9629
sarahsmile26@gmail.com



IMPROV COMEDY FEBRUARY 10, 2024

showtime
8:00PM

tickets
\$15



NORTHLAKE THEATER at CITY HALL

55 E NORTH AVE • NORTHLAKE, IL

www.incognitomodeimprov.com

Fiesta! Family Dance Party

Friday, February 23
6-8pm
Bulger Park Hall, Melrose Park

Join us for some family fun! Music, games, entertainment and a taco bar!

\$10R / \$15 NR per person
Registration Deadline February 16

www.vpdpark.org
708-343-5270

Vehicle Stickers Discontinued

Passenger vehicles registered in Northlake no longer require a City sticker.
Commercial vehicles will still be required to purchase and display a registration sticker
on an annual basis.

Obituaries

Specchio, Stacy M. nee Panzella, passed away surrounded by her loving family Saturday, December 9th, 2023. Beloved wife of Pasquale Specchio for a loving 56 years. Devoted mother of Maria (Ricardo) Nieves, Michelle (Ron) Malchiodi and Christine Specchio. Loving daughter of the Late Harold and the late Henrietta Panzella. Fond grandmother of Claudia Nieves, Ricky Nieves and Alex Nieves. Dear sister of the late Sherry Kraus nee Panzella and the late Steve Panzella. Dear aunt and Great aunt and Godmother of many. Northlake resident for 56 years. Family and Friends gathered for the visitation Friday, December 15th, 2023, at Russo's Hillside Chapels, Funeral to followed Saturday, December 16th. Proceeding to St. John Vianney Catholic Church. Mass of Christian Burial celebrated promptly at 11:00 A.M.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 888

241 East North Avenue

FRIDAY FISH FRY FUNDRAISER

DINNER

EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

MENU

3 PIECE COD DINNER	\$13.00
1 PIECE COD & 4 SHRIMP COMBO	\$14.00
6 PIECE SHRIMP BASKET	\$14.00

** ALL DINNERS INCLUDE: FRENCH FRIES, COLE SLAW, BREAD & BUTTER, DESSERT, COFFEE** (NO SUBSTITUTIONS)

Pre-Purchases are recommended - See the bartender

Legion Game will follow * 50/50 fundraiser *

Trees for Spring 2024

Requests for tree for the spring 2024 planting are being taken. If you have room on your parkway to provide a home for a tree for spring, 2024, call Public Works at 708-562-0940 to pick from the list of trees for the spring planting.

Trees absorb storm water runoff, absorb various pollutants, produce oxygen and help reduce summer temperatures. Trees also improve property values as well, and studies have indicated that a block with mature trees also tends to slow down traffic. Trees also absorb and reduce urban noise – produced by airplanes, cars and other sources.

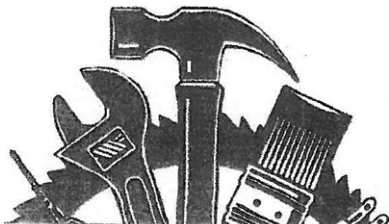
Remember – trees located on the parkway or in the City's right of way cannot be cut or trimmed without the permission of the City. The right of way is generally the area 20 feet from the back of the curb. If in doubt, or if a tree in this area needs attention, call Public Works at 708-562-0940.

FOR RESIDENTS SOUTH OF NORTH AVE.

Handyman Program

For Proviso Township

The Handyman Program, a part of Senior Services in Proviso Township, is available to homeowners over age 60 residing in the township. For a \$5.00 fuel fee, the handyman will visit your home and make small repairs, charging only for the cost of any needed parts. The handymen, are available by appointment. Call 708-547-4001.



FOR RESIDENTS NORTH OF NORTH AVE.

Leyden Handyman Program



For

Senior Citizens

And the disabled

From changing a light bulb to replacing cabinet hinges, no job is too small. The service is free, however, reimbursement for parts is required.

Call for more information:
847-455-8616

Calendar of Events – 2024

February	March
February 12 - Finance Meeting – 6:30 City Council Meeting – 7:00	March 4 - Finance Meeting – 6:30 City Council Meeting – 7:00
February 13 - Community Events and Affairs Mtg. – 6:30	March 12 - Community Events and Affairs Mtg.-6:30
February 14 - Youth Commission Meeting – 6:30	March 13 - Youth Commission Meeting – 6:30
February 19 – City Hall Closed Presidents Day	March 18 - Finance Meeting – 6:30 City Council Meeting – 7:00
February 19 - Senior Citizen’s Commission Mtg. – 10:00	March 19 - Court
February 20 - Court	March 18- Senior Citizen’s Commission Mtg. – 10:00
February 27 – Police Commission Mtg. at P.D. – 6:00	March 26 - Police Commission Mtg. at P.D. – 6:00

GRASS CUTTING 2024 APPLICATION FORM

Grass Cutting Program now includes gutter cleaning (once in the spring, once in the fall)

The City of Northlake offers Grass Cutting Services to property owners who are over 65, disabled, handicapped and/or have severe health problems and have no one else in the household who can mow the lawn. We anticipate that the grass will be cut every 10 days. The charge will be \$175 for the whole season, payable at the time of application. Those interested in Grass Cutting must use this form.

ATTENTION: April 6th IS THE DEADLINE.

Please mail or bring this form, along with a copy of your Illinois photo ID (with date of birth) to: Northlake City Hall, Attention: Grass Cutting Program, 55 E. North Avenue, Northlake, IL 60164

**Please note: Even though you may have been on this program in the past,
you must reapply each year.**

The grass cutting program is in operation from April 1 until the end of October.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

- ☐ I am 65 years of age or older and neither myself, a family member, a relative, or a neighbor are able to cut grass. Include a copy of your driver’s license or picture ID that has date of birth.
- ☐ I am disabled, and under 65. I will present a current medical verification from doctor or a Secretary of State license Disability Placard, or registration of disability through Social Security, along with a State of Illinois photo ID.

NOTE: GRASS CUTTING AND GUTTER CLEANING ONLY. EDGING AND TRIMMING ARE NOT INCLUDED.

**Arrange for snow plowing and lawn mowing bills from 2022-2023 to be paid in full so you can be added to the list for 2024.

By submitting this documentation, I hereby voluntarily release protected health information to the city of Northlake that is otherwise protected by law, including but not limited to the Health Insurance Probability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA).