SOUTHHOLLAND

Sept | Oct 2020

Get to know your neighbors this fall



JOIN US FOR A FUN AND ENTERTAINING 5K RUN THROUGH THE STREETS OF SOUTH HOLLAND!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Veterans Memorial Park - 520 E 160th Place

- · COSTUMES/ACCESSORIES ENCOURAGED
- · FINISHER'S MEDAL
- -CASH PRIZES
- -GOODIE BAGS

STAGGERED START TIMES AND OTHER DISTANCING MEASURES WILL BE IN PLACE TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE.

SIGN UP AT SOUTHHOLLAND.ORG



FROM YOUR MAYOR



Dear South Holland Residents and Friends.

The Village of South Holland is a distinctive, unique Village, not only because of its tradition and values, but also for the genuine care we show to one another. As you will see in this issue, many efforts are being made throughout our Village to minister to those who need it most. We as the Village of South Holland—our Board and Administration as well as our residents, churches, schools and businesses—have truly invested in the care of others.

Some of the examples of that in this issue... our children are being mentored and pointed to various career paths through programs available in each of our schools. Those in financial debt are being assisted, especially now with the launch of the new Christians Against Poverty Debt Help Center here in South Holland. As displayed at our Unity Walk this summer, the Village and its residents also care deeply about racial injustice and social inequity and have pledged to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly when it comes to these important issues.

These are just some of many examples showing how South Holland ministers to those who need it most. The Village Board and I are proud of these efforts and the legacy of care our Village is establishing. Let's continue to lead the way by serving selflessly and caring deeply, as Christ Jesus has modeled for us.

Don A. De Graff Mayor

VILLAGE BOARD

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Don A. De Graff

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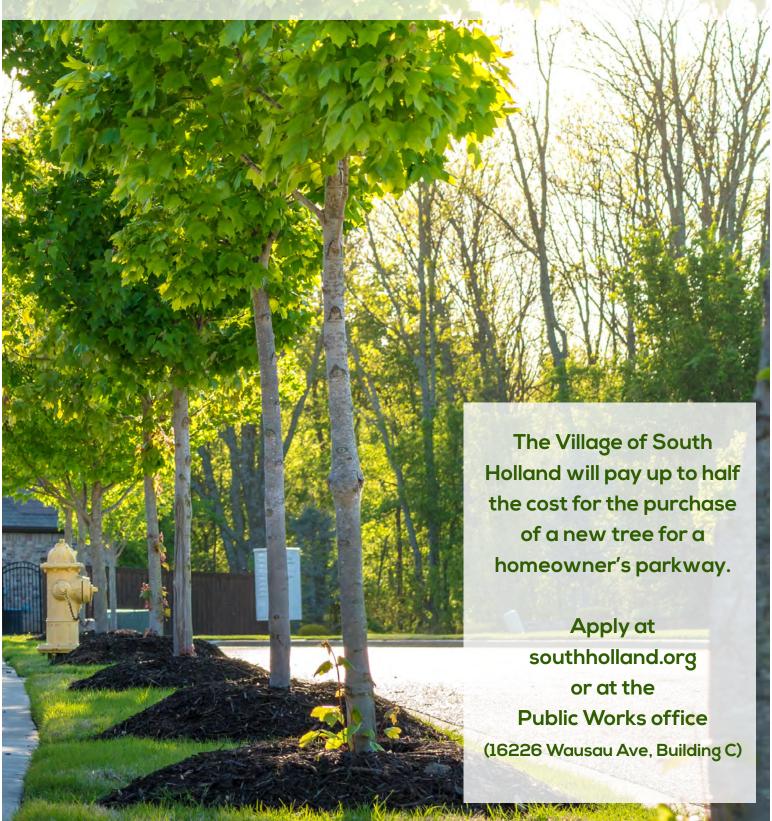
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VILLAGE NEWS

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND SOUTH HOLLAND



VEHICLE STICKER DEADLINES

Residents who haven't yet purchased a 2020-21 vehicle sticker are encouraged to do so as soon as possible, as a \$100 late fee will be applied after September 30. There is a 50 percent late feel applied from now until September 30. Stickers can be purchased at the Customer Service Center on the Village Hall campus, 16220 Wausau Ave, Building A.



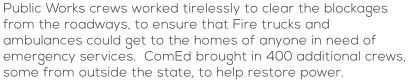
ALARM PERMITS NOW ONLINE

The alarm system program managed by the South Holland Police Department is now offering residents and businesses the following options online: register a new alarm permit; renew an existing alarm permit; and pay false alarm fees. These services can be done in person at the Police Department as well, but for convenience and a contactless transaction, the online option is available at southholland. alarmreg.com.



AUGUST STORM

On August 10, a storm later labeled as a derecho, tore through South Holland, bringing perhaps the most widespread power outage we've ever experienced, and the worst in terms of damage to trees. The winds, which were reported to be in excess of 100mph, resulted in countless downed trees and branches, many of which landed on power lines, 47 power poles were toppled, numerous roads impassable, and some properties suffered structural damage.





That week, at the South Holland Community Center, in partnership with the Greater Chicago Food Depository and Thornton Township, we distributed food to hundreds of South Holland residents whose food had spoiled in the power outages.

After the storm, we heard many stories of neighbors reaching out to each other-clearing debris, bringing food, doing well-being checks, offering generators, etc. We commend our residents for being a Village of neighbors helping neighbors!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Village has adjusted many of our annual events for Covid-19 regulations. Please note that the following events are subject to be changed or canceled due to Covid-19.



September 19 FUN RUN 5K

7am, Veterans Memorial Park, 520 E 160th Pl

In lieu of our annual Heritage Haul race, this year we are having a socially distanced 5K with fun and entertaining surprises along the course. Participants will have staggered start times and are encouraged to wear costumes or accessories. Proceeds benefit the Greater Chicago Food Depository Register at southholland.org.

October 6 PARADE OF LIGHTS

7pm, Parade begins at Thorn Creek Reformed Church, 1875 E 170th St
The South Holland Fire Department and other suburban Fire Departments will form a lights-only parade that winds through the streets of South Holland, Thornton, and Homewood, as a silent tribute to fallen firefighters and citizens who have suffered a loss in fire emergencies. There is no opening ceremony this year. View the parade route at southholland.org.

October 10 BREAST CANCER WALK

This year instead of a 3K walk through Veterans Park, members of the Park Advisory Committee will caravan to registrants' homes with a gift and a thank you being a breast cancer survivor or supporter. Register at the South Holland Community Center.

October 24 ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

8am-noon, South Holland Public Library, 16250 Wausau Ave

Bring your electronic items to the library parking lot to be properly disposed. This includes devices that are broken, outdated, discarded, or at the end of useful life. This service is for South Holland residents only.

October 29 HARVEST FEST

6:30-8pm, South Holland Community
Center parking lot, 501 E 170th St

Due to Covid-19 regulations, the annual
Harvest Party will be changed to an
outdoor event. Village of South Holland
employees will decorate their vehicles and
hand out candy to families driving through
the parking lot. South Holland residents
only. Register at the South Holland
Community Center.

November 4 MILITARY TRIBUTE

llam-lpm, South Holland Community Center, 501 E 170th St

In lieu of the annual luncheon and ceremony honoring veterans, this year we will have a parking lot pickup event, where we will give South Holland veterans a complimentary certificate, souvenir, T-shirt, and a booklet with veterans' stories. Register at the South Holland Community Center.

OUT AND ABOUT

FACES FROM EVENTS AROUND THE VILLAGE

UNITY WALK

Photos by Michelle Hamstra

The Village of South Holland partnered with the South Holland Ministerial Association and South Holland residents to hold a peaceful walk and time of reflection about the need for unity and our deep desire to see an end to racism in America and around the world. The walk highlighted the principles of Micah 6:8—"act justly, love mercy, walk humbly." The peaceful walk began and ended at First Reformed Church, closing with prayers and insights from South Holland pastors and leaders.







OUT AND ABOUT

FACES FROM EVENTS AROUND THE VILLAGE

JULY 4 MUSIC PARADE

Photos by Lawrence Bickerstaff

In place of the Village's annual 4th of July Celebration, this year we held a Music Parade, where a single float carrying musicians paraded through various South Holland neighborhoods. The bands Return2Soul and Bob's Big Band played patriotic music to spread cheer and festivity on our nation's birthday, and Village Trustees and staff handed out flags and candy to those along the parade route.









OUT AND ABOUT

FACES FROM EVENTS AROUND THE VILLAGE

STARBUCKS GROUNDBREAKING

Photos by Lawrence Bickerstaff

A brand-new Starbucks is coming to South Holland, and Village officials celebrated with a groundbreaking ceremony to welcome the new addition. The Starbucks will be a standalone store with drive-thru, located next to Fifth Third Bank on Route 6.







By Josh Bootsma Photos courtesy of Christians Against Poverty

At the beginning of this year, the first Christians Against Poverty Debt Center in America opened in South Holland.

An organization devoted to helping people free themselves from debt, Christians Against Poverty (CAP) was started in the UK in 1996 with a mission to "restore hope for those who are lost and hurting" by helping people overcome financial burdens, especially debt. They have over 300 Debt Centers around the world and help around 2,500 people a year with financial problems.

Their new Debt Center here in South Holland was started in Covenant Fellowship Church. South Holland resident Nancy Zekveld serves as manager and debt coach.





After meeting Zekveld at a conference at Moody Church years ago, Simon Wilce—the executive director for CAP America—and Nicola Robinson the vice president of fundraising and marketingcontacted Zekveld about starting the first stateside Debt Center in South Holland, beginning a process that finished this January.

Zekveld has felt for years that something like Christians Against Poverty was needed in the South Holland area.

"I wanted to have a more holistic look at not just a person's finances but other contributing factors and helping people in a broader way," she says. "I just didn't see anything like that around."

As a debt coach, Zekveld meets in person (or on Zoom, which has been the case recently) with people who need help. The first meeting provides an overview of the program and helps CAP get a broad picture of the client's financial situation. The second meeting is called "The Fact Find," and incorporates a detailed examination of the client's finances which is submitted to CAP's main office in Lisle. There, financial experts put together a budget for Zekveld to present to the client on the third visit. After the budget is presented and explained, the client can decide if he or she would like to continue with CAP and receive free financial help whenever needed.

For many of Zekveld's visits, she's accompanied by a "befriender," someone whose goal is to form a relationship with the client apart from any CAP involvement. "What we would really love to see happen is that the befriender creates a relationship with the client that would continue after I've done my three visits," Zekveld says, "so they have somebody who will stay with them on a personal level and encourage them and share the gospel with them."

Christianity is a fundamental part of CAP's mission with its clients, though clients do not need to be Christians to receive help. "We want to be able

to share the hope of Jesus with them," Zekveld says. "We want to be able to pray with them and communicate to them that God cares about them and we care about them."

In her training and initial meetings with clients, Zekveld was surprised at how ruthless creditors can be, and how challenging it is to get out of a debt-ridden situation.

"People are nervous to answer the phone and they don't know what to do," she says. "And that's where we want to step in and say, 'It's okay, we know what to do. Give us your information and we will provide you with what you need."

In addition to providing clients with a budget, CAP can set clients up with a debt management plan where CAP will make payments through the client's bank account to creditors. CAP can also help clients navigate bankruptcy.

Alongside her role as debt coach, Zekveld serves as the Debt Center manager, seeking out clients, promoting CAP, and organizing the Center as a ministry of Covenant Fellowship Church, which provides the funding necessary to operate the Center.

Given CAP has only a small presence in the U.S., publicity has been a unique challenge. Zekveld encourages anyone who is interested in receiving financial help to visit capamerica.org for more information, or to call 888.777.4620 to book a free appointment. CAP is also supported by donations, which can be submitted on its website. Churches interested in hosting a CAP Money Course to help their local communities learn financial skills can learn more on the website as well.

"So many aspects of a person's life and relationships are affected by what's happening financially," Zekveld says. "We want to see people financially free but our greatest desire is to see people know the love and grace of Jesus and to have their lives renewed in all ways."

For more information about CAP, visit capamerica.org/debthelp or call 888.777.4620.

TEACH THEM OUT MENTORING PROGRAMS PROVIDE GUIDANCE,

INSPIRATION AND INSIGHT TO YOUTH

BY CARRIE STEINWEG

Growing up is hard even in the best of situations. Throw obstacles into the mix, like complex family situations, financial insecurity, mental health challenges, a pandemic, and trudging through preteen and teenage years is made even more difficult.

Administrators at South Holland's schools recognize the value in providing kids with direction from confident, successful, caring adults, and are using mentoring programs to empower students and help broaden their scope of experience. In recent times of social unrest within a global pandemic, the need for such programs is even more crucial.

MADISON SCHOOL

Although a mentoring program has existed at Madison School since 2009, the increased need for mentoring, especially for children of color, in current times is apparent, says Dr. Jerald McNair, Principal.

"Our male mentoring program has grown tremendously at Madison over the years," says McNair. Madison Students With Academic Pride (MSWAP), a male mentorship program, came first. It was followed up six years later with a female mentoring group, Madison Intellectual Student Scholars (MISS). Seven educators serve as sponsors of MSWAP, and MISS has six.

"Both of the mentoring programs, at the intermediate level, are derived







from the mentoring programs at the junior high school, referred to as Coolidge Students With Academic Pride (CSWAP) and Coolidge Ladies of Academic Success and Services (CLASS)," says McNair. "It is imperative that every school offer mentoring opportunities for students of color, particularly the young men, now more than ever before."

A myriad of opportunities is available at or through the school to help boost confidence and improve interactions with adults-from gardening, to visiting the Federal Reserve Bank and learning about finances, to cultural trips to see plays and learn about the arts, to team building activities at Irons Oaks Environmental Learning Center.

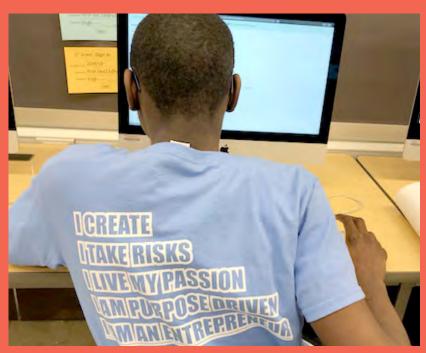
MCKINLEY SCHOOL

The Next Generation Entrepreneurship program at McKinley Elementary and Junior High School creates an environment where young people are empowered to take responsibility for their personal and professional future through creating and developing a business plan. It is an extracurricular program designed to build upon School District 150's commitment to "creating a holistic, rigorous, relevant and relationship-based educational environment that produces students that will thrive and be successful learners."

Students who participate learn how to start, run, and grow their own business. "Also during the program the students learn how business people think and create new businesses and ideas. They are also taught how to develop a business plan," says Principal Dr. Jerome Ferrell, who facilitates the program with teachers Kyle Cyrus and Kimara Hall. "During the program students begin the sessions with a hot breakfast before receiving a presentation from a well-established entrepreneur from the Chicago Metropolitan area, who always captures and wows their attention. Students then transition to one of the McKinley computer labs where they begin to work online developing their business. The facilitators of the program monitor the students' progress with their business ideas and coach them through the process."

Another mentoring program at the school is A Few Good Men Junior program (an off-shoot of Thornwood High School's A Few Good Men program) for junior high male students. The program encourages responsible decision making when faced with adversity or conflict to produce a positive outcome and aims to help the student be the best version of himself without excuses.

Facilitated by Farrell and parent Harold Cherry, lectures and discussions take place within the group based on topics suggested through student input along with interactive activities.





Students in the Next Generation Entrepreneurship program at McKinley School learn how to develop business plans.



THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

The critical need for mentorship is also being met at the high school level where Thornwood Principal Don Holmes is proud of two successful programs that provide mentorship opportunities—A Few Good Men and Ladies of Eminence. "Both programs work with students to come together on challenges. We work with them to identify different issues in the community where their assistance may be needed and it also establishes connections for employment," says Holmes.

During the pandemic the school has made efforts to provide mentorship opportunities virtually since inperson mentorship hasn't been possible. The baseball team was able to take part in a Zoom call with former MLB player and manager Ozzie Guillen. "He talked to them about maintaining focus and keeping up with college plans and staying engaged," says Holmes. Similar calls were done between other students and wellknown actors.

Another program within the school that can open up students to a wealth of opportunities is an Aviation Science program. The school has had a longtime wing of the Civil Air Patrol associated with the school and now they'll have 150 freshman students enrolled in this program, which will connect them to veteran pilots.

A new STEM program through the University of Chicago is also expected to provide mentoring opportunities to students with interest in those fields.

For now, most of the interaction will continue to be done via video, but Holmes invites community members who are interested in serving as mentors to get in touch regarding future volunteer opportunities. "If anyone has the talent and time, we welcome the idea of becoming a mentor," he says. "We're always looking to make connections and to improve relations between students and the community."





YOUR NEIGHBORS

HOW TO HAVE A SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL FALL BLOCK PARTY

BY JULIA PERLA HUISMAN

Every year, the Village of South Holland encourages residents to host and attend block parties so we can get to know our neighbors better. According to a study from Pew Research, only 31 percent of Americans say they know most or all of their neighbors, a drastic decrease from decades prior. There are many reasons for this decline, the primary being that we've become more dependent on our digital devices than on the actual people who live near us. The craving for social connection that used to bring neighbors together is now being fulfilled via online communities and social media.

We have seen this year, however, that a strong physical community is more necessary than ever, and also that our online interactions are becoming more hostile than hospitable. Between the pandemic, civil unrest, and our most recent major storm that wiped out power for days, we need each other more than ever. It is in crises where community is built.

It may be overwhelming, however, to know where to start. If you don't yet know your neighbors, how do you suddenly get to know them? Sometimes it starts with the simplest of things, like a block party.



A group of neighbors gathered for their annual block party in the summer of 2019.

But it's fall! In the middle of a pandemic! How can we possibly have a block party right now? We recommend changing things up from a traditional summertime block party held on a typical year.

The fall is a fun time to gather around the fire pit and roast s'mores, so for the remainder of 2020, the Village will provide a s'mores kit to every block party! We can also provide a portable fire pit if needed, to be set up in the street or on one of the driveways on your block.

Providing your guests with s'mores instead of a smorgasbord of food reduces the risk of transmission and also keeps things simple for party organizers.





How to host a safe block party...

You can still have a fun and exciting block party while also being safe! Being outdoors already lowers risk, but there are other ways to minimize the risk even more.

- According to Illinois Governor JB Pritzker's executive order regarding Covid-19, groups of up to 50 people may gather. If you believe more than 50 neighbors will attend, consider staggering the arrival time of each household so that everyone can still have a chance to attend.
- You may want to encourage guests to wear masks and to stand 6 feet apart.
- Provide a sanitation station with hand sanitizer, disposable masks, gloves and disinfecting wipes.
- If you do provide other food, it's best to choose foods that are single-serve and individually wrapped.
- Choose games and activities that can be done by individuals or small family units.

WHAT THE VILLAGE PROVIDES...

- Road blocks and picnic tables, which will be delivered to your location the Friday before your party.
- A box containing graham crackers, marshmallows and chocolate, along with two skewers which are yours to keep.
- A gift bag with brand-new aprons for the party organizers, plus bubbles, jump ropes and frisbees for the kids (or young-at-heart adults).
- Police and fire vehicles will visit the block party if you select that option on the form (and if they are not required for an emergency call that day).

When you are ready to plan your block party, please fill out a form online at southholland.org/blockparty or in person at Village Hall (16226 Wausau Ave).

As you can see, a block party can be safe and easy to organize, and the Village is here to help make it a fun and enjoyable experience for you. Let's be a community that knows and helps our neighbors!

Everyone Counts.

Time is running out to complete the 2020 Census, and it's more important than ever!

Each person not counted by the Census translates into \$1,400-\$1,800 in reduced funds in Illinois per person, per year for 10 years in the allocation of federal funds for schools, roads, health care, Head Start, school lunch programs and other family services. The count also affects the drawing of congressional districts and the number of congressional representatives.

Completing the Census has never been easier! Respond by one of the following methods:

ONLINE: 2020census.gov

BY PHONE: 844.330.2020

BY MAIL:

U.S. Census Bureau National Processing Center 1201 E 10th Street Jeffersonville, IN 47132



It's easy. It's safe. It's confidential. Shape your future today.

Shape your future START HERE >

Census 2020



JESUS, MY ROCK! HOW TO REMAIN HOPEFUL IN TRYING TIMES

By Evangelist Betty Wilson of Breaking of Bread Fellowship Ministries

There is a song that says: "In times like these, we need a Saviour; in times like these you need an anchor; be very sure, be very sure, your anchor holds and grips the solid rock! This Rock is Jesus, Yes, He's the One; This Rock is Jesus, The only One! Be very sure, be very sure, your anchor holds and grips the solid rock!" This is only the first verse out of three; however, these lyrics speak volumes in reminding us that we need Jesus.

We are living through a pandemic that is difficult for most of us and really traumatic for some because of all of the ramifications associated with it. First of all, we have never experienced a situation of this nature before. Secondly, we are feeling confined having to be shut-in and not really living the "normal" lives that we are used to living. Thirdly, we must social distance ourselves by staying at least six feet apart from others and not congregating in large groups. And lastly, we must wear masks and gloves to further protect ourselves and others from the virus.

Yes, these are truly trying times that not only affect our health, but also bring about stress, depression, anxiety, fear and a feeling of wondering if we will make it through. And when, for a fleeting moment, I feel as if I'm "losing ground," I must refocus

and regroup and look to the Rock that's higher than I. I call on Jesus, my Rock and Anchor, because He can keep me "grounded," sane and peaceful. He is the Almighty God who has this pandemic in His Hands. He calls the shots! He is omniscientall knowing; omnipresentever present; and omnipotent-all



Betty Wilson

powerful! He is able to do anything! Jesus is our Keeper and He will see us through this pandemic. That is why we can remain grateful and hopeful.

Remember, we can't forget that Jesus is our Rock; we are in His Hands; and we will get through this pandemic. I am praying and believing that God will shower us with peace, a sound mind and the contentment that we may need during this time. Philippians 4:1lb states: "for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." This pandemic too shall pass! In Jesus' Name! Amen!



SOUTH HOLLAND SPORTS





SOUTH HOLLAND FIELD RENTALS

South Holland is well-known for its premier parks and ball fields, which can be rented out to groups and teams for a small fee. This fall, as you form softball and soccer leagues, consider renting one of our fields for the ultimate playing experience. Contact rentals@southholland.org to reserve a field.

BASEBALL FIELDS

Field Location	Field Type	Field Size	Fees
Gouwens Park	1 Baseball	90ft. Bases for 14u and older	\$100/game - 3 hr. Time Limit
SH Babe Ruth	1 Baseball	80-90ft. Bases for 13u and older	\$100/game - 3 hr. Time Limit

SOFTBALL/YOUTH BASEBALL FIFLDS

SOFTBALL/ TOOTH BASEBALL FIELDS					
Field Location	Field Type	Field Size	Fees		
Gouwens Park	2 Softball/ Youth Baseball	60 - 70ft. Bases for 8u-12u with Portable Mounds	\$50/game - 2 hr. Time Limit Sen./Youth \$50/game		
Gouwens Park	1 Youth Baseball	60 - 70ft. Bases for 8u-12u with Portable Mounds	\$50/game - 2 hr. Time Limit		
Veterans Park	1 Softball/ 1 Youth Baseball	60 ft. Bases	\$50/game - 2 hr. Time Limit		
Thorn Creek Park	1 Youth Baseball	60 - 70ft. Bases for 8u-12u with Portable Mounds	\$50/game - 2 hr. Time Limit		
Municipal Park	1 Softball/ Youth Baseball	60 - 70ft. Bases for 8u-12u	\$50/game - 2 hr. Time Limit		
MacArthur Park	2 Softball/ Youth Baseball	60 - 70ft. Bases for 8u-12u with Portable Mounds	\$50/game - 2 hr. Time Limit		
Van' O Park	1 Softball/ Youth Baseball	60 ft. Bases	\$500/game - 2 hr. Time Limit		
SOCCER FIELDS					
Field Location	Field Type	Field Size	Fees		
Paarlberg Park	2 Grass Soccer	Full Size	\$50/game - 2hr. Time Limit		
Veterans Park	2 Grass Soccer	1 Full Size/ 1 Youth	\$50/game - 2hr. Time Limit		

DID YOU KNOW?

LEARN ABOUT THE VILLAGE ORDINANCES THAT HELP KEEP SOUTH HOLLAND A CLEAN, BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY.



Did you know...

- ... that the Village has established an 11pm curfew for any person under the age of 17 Sunday-Thursday?
- ... that garbage or household waste must not accumulate in a resident's premises for more than seven days?
- ... that it is the responsibility of each homeowner/resident to maintain the trees and the grass in the parkway?
- ... that garbage containers must be placed on the curb no earlier than 4pm on the day before scheduled pickup, and must be removed from the curb by 8pm on the day of pickup?

For more information about snow removal and Village ordinances, call the Building and Code Department at 708.210.2900.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST FOR VILLAGE EMAIL UPDATES

Text
SOUTHHOLLAND
to 22828 to
get started.



*******ECRWSSEDDM********* LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER





Lot opens: 6:30pm | Movie begins: 7:30pm First Reformed Church - 15924 South Park Ave

Tickets are for South Holland residents only.

Register in advance at the South Holland Community Center beginning September 28. ID is required.

southholland.org



southholland.org