



# South Holland **TODAY**

NEWSLETTER FROM THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND

APRIL / MAY 2016

**Memorial Day, May 30, 2016**  
**11 a.m. - Parade**  
**12:30 p.m. - Ceremony**

[www.southholland.org](http://www.southholland.org)



# **South Holland's** **Memorial Day Parade**

**EXPERIENCE MEMORIAL DAY IN SOUTH HOLLAND**  
**MONDAY, MAY 30, 2016**

**PARADE, REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY & MORE!**

PARADE - 11 a.m.  
South Park Avenue (170th Street to 160th Place)



REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY - (approx) 12:30 p.m.  
Veterans Memorial Park, 520 East 160th Place



LITTLE LEAGUE HOME RUN DERBY - 2 p.m.  
Veterans Memorial Park Ball Field



LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL and SOFTBALL ALL-STAR GAMES  
Immediately following the Home Run Derby



Refreshments available for purchase at Home Plate Grill in Veterans Memorial Park.  
For more information about Memorial Day activities,  
contact the Department of Recreational Services, 708-331-2940  
or visit the village website - [www.southholland.org](http://www.southholland.org).

# HAPPENINGS

## CSX Rail Crossing Due for Major Repair

The CSX railroad crossing at 162nd Street and Van Drunen Road is completely closed for two weeks due to defects in both tracks. The project began the first week in April. A highlighted detour will safely re-route traffic to main thoroughfares, including State Street and Halsted. Please be mindful of detour signage and barricades as you proceed around the area with caution. Access to local businesses west of State Street will remain available during the two week project period. The Village of South Holland is grateful to CSX for its proactive investment of \$200,000 for this project.



## Parade Participants Wanted

The Department of Recreational Services is currently accepting registration forms for participation in the 2016 Memorial Day Parade. Local schools, churches, businesses, and civic groups are encouraged to participate in the parade. Start getting your ideas together and enter your group into the parade by filling out and returning the registration form before May 2. The registration form is available online at southholland.org. For more information, call the Recreational Services office at (708) 331-2940.



## Lions Club Pancake Day

The South Holland Lions Club will host their Annual Pancake Day on Saturday, May 7, from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the South Holland Community Center, 501 E. 170th St. The fee is \$10 per person. Residents are encouraged to attend and enjoy breakfast and fellowship with friends and neighbors. For more information about the Lions Club, see community article on page 8.



## Student Government Night

Annual Student Government Night is held during the Village Board meeting, Monday, May 16, 7:00 p.m., at the South Holland Community Center, 501 East 170th Street. Pictured from the 2015 event are Cruz Ibarra (Calvary Academy) and Steadman Ihejirika (Coolidge Middle School).



## Mayor's Coffee

The next Mayor's Coffee with Mayor Don De Graff is 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 14, at the South Holland Community Center, 501 E. 170th St. This meeting is "agenda-free," providing an opportunity for open discussion with members of the board and administration. Refreshments will be served.



# SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

## Young Author Chelcie Oparanozie Inspires a New Generation of Readers

By Ronda Williams



Chelcie C. Oparanozie is an inspiration to young and old. As an author and illustrator, this 13-year-old South Holland resident and student at St. Ann School in Lansing, Illinois, has a bright future ahead of her. Chelcie's first book in a five part series, *Reptiles vs. Amphibians*, tells of a high energy battle between two mutant beings that fight to co-exist. Her futuristic characters and illustrations are fueled by her love of Japanese anime design and storytelling.

"My writing actually started with me drawing anime," said Chelcie. "I really enjoy the art form and the Japanese language. It was my father who encouraged me to add stories to my illustrations that ultimately brought my first book to life. I

was 11-years-old when I finished this book."

In her book, *Reptiles vs. Amphibians*, Chelcie delicately weaves complicated, sensitive global issues of discrimination and conflict into her storytelling. With such universal themes, the book combines multilayered controversial issues with entertainment that can be easily digested by any reader. With this book, Chelcie has achieved in her young years what many mature authors hope to accomplish, publication and a listing on the best sellers list.

In its first week of availability this past February, *Reptiles vs. Amphibians* landed on the Amazon.com Children's Reptiles & Amphibians Books bestsellers list.

"I am very thankful for my family who has encouraged me to push forward," continued Chelcie. "I wrote this book to honor them and be an encouragement to others. I want to be an example to other kids my age who have dreams of doing great things. Illustration was my first step into writing. I hope more young people can develop an interest in literature."



*Reptiles vs. Amphibians* can be purchased on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and other websites. Find out more about Chelcie on [www.chelcie4books.com](http://www.chelcie4books.com).

## Creating Leaders in Thornwood's CAP Program



The U.S. Civil Air Patrol has existed as an auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force since 1941, and Thornwood High School is keeping it alive and well.

The Cornelius Coffey Composite Squadron (IL-332) is headquartered at Thornwood High School. The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) program has been an active part of Thornwood's curriculum for the past 3 years, and has been teaching important values to young men and women the entire time. "The CAP program consists of four components: leadership, search and rescue, community service, and character development," according to Major Leon Willis, Chaplain of the program. The lessons taught in the program are meant to benefit students whether that chose a career in the military or not.

Principal Dennis D. Willis, a major advocate of the program, stresses the impact the program has had on the surrounding community. "We have led the way, as far as character, ethics, professionalism. Our cadets really shine." He notes various requests for CAP cadets at local events. "I believe that is a tribute to how they handle themselves: being responsible, showing self-confidence, and their overall discipline. We are glad that they are leading the charge. They are examples of what we want all of our students to do."

Jesse Marr, a student who has been in the CAP program for 3 years, can attest to the value of the program: "When I came in at the age of 12, I didn't have that much discipline. I was always getting in trouble." It was during his sophomore year that Marr says things started to change. "I started becoming more of a man, developing leadership skills." This sentiment was shared by classmate Dequan Jackson, 16, who plans on entering the Air Force Academy following high school.

Shaylee Marr, the sister of Jesse, is the youngest Chief Master Sergeant in Thornwood's CAP program. At 14, she is already eyeing her future career, stating confidently, "I am going to be an Air Force pilot." She then added, "I highly recommend CAP for a lot of people."

## Archdiocese to close Seton Academy

The Archdiocese of Chicago has announced that it will close Seton Academy in South Holland at the end of the school year in June.

The archdiocese said the closing was based on declining enrollment and financial troubles. It will work with affected families to help their children continue their Catholic education, and is planning to celebrate Seton Academy's history in the coming months.

"Seton Academy leadership and the Seton Academy School Board were notified of the risk of closure over the last two years, and have worked hard to restore the school to viability," the Archdiocese said in a statement. "In spite of these efforts, finances and enrollment have not improved. Seton Academy will close at the end of 2015-2016 academic year."

Archbishop Blase J. Cupich and the archdiocese also plan to close St. Agatha Catholic Academy in Chicago and St. Peter School in Antioch. Only 12 students were enrolled at St. Agatha, which was converted from a grade school into an early childhood program last year.

"These closures result from extensive conversations and planning at all of these sites," the archdiocese said in a statement. "In the end, closure was recommended for each school by the Archdiocesan School Board and the Office of Catholic Schools. Archbishop Cupich has accepted the recommendations."

Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools still operates 230 schools that serve 82,000 students, making it the largest private school system in the United States.

## Join the Citizens Fire Academy



The South Holland Fire Department is pleased to announce its annual Citizens Fire Academy will be returning this summer.

The Citizens Fire Academy is a 10-week class that meets each Thursday evening beginning Aug. 3 and concludes with a graduation at its Open House on Oct. 1.

The Citizens Fire Academy is an opportunity for residents to get an inside look at the work and training South Holland Firefighters perform on a daily basis.

“We are excited to offer a program that will engage our residents through an educational and fun manner,” said Fire Chief Brian Kolosh. “Our mission is to serve the community, and through this initiative,

our residents will better understand what it takes to provide the highest quality of EMS and fire protection available to them.”

The Academy is limited to 25 students, so interested residents are encouraged to apply online at [www.southholland.org/departments/firedepartment](http://www.southholland.org/departments/firedepartment) or visit the fire station soon.

Classes will be held at Fire Station 1, 16230 Wausau Ave. on Thursday evenings from 6-9 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Deputy Chief Bryant Krizik at 708-331-3123.

## Fire Department Seeks Students for Fire Cadet Program

The South Holland Fire Department is seeking bright, energetic, team-oriented students between the ages of 16 – 21 to apply for the Fire Cadet Program.

Fire Cadets is a youth community service initiative designed to engage students who have an interest in being involved in the community and serving the public. Many of the current South Holland firefighters, lieutenants and chiefs began their careers in a cadet program.

If you are interested in becoming a cadet or know someone who would be a good candidate, contact firefighter Eric Petravich at 708-331-3123 or by email at [epetravich@southholland.org](mailto:epetravich@southholland.org).



## Changing A Battery Can Save a Life

Twice a year, in the days leading up to time adjustment for Daylight Saving Time, South Holland Fire Department would like to remind everyone to complete an important task in addition to adjusting their clocks. When you change your clock - change the battery in your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide (CO) detector as well.

### Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms save lives, prevent injuries, and minimize property damage by detecting fires early and alerting residents, allowing crucial time for you and your family to escape. The risk of dying from a fire in a home without working smoke alarms is twice as high as in a home that has working smoke alarms.

### Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Carbon monoxide alarms are designed to sound an alert before the exposure to carbon monoxide can present a hazard to healthy individuals. Illinois State law requires CO alarm to be installed within 15 feet of any room for sleeping purpose, and one (1) on every level of your home.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## BLOCK PARTY TIME!

Block party season is soon upon us and now is the time to reserve your date for a fabulous “ROCK YOUR BLOCK” Neighborhood Party. Here are a few simple, fun ideas to “Rock Your Block” this summer.

- **Ice Breakers**

Give neighbors a reason to chat it up through ice breakers, even if a little cheesy. Name tags may seem a bit old school, but tags don't have to be just for names anymore. You can add a fun element. Have guests add a question to their name tag, like “Ask me my favorite travel destination” or “Ask me if I could be an animal, what would it be.” Beyond the fun, use of name tags remove the assumption that everyone already knows their neighbors.

- **Cook-off Crown**

Rather than the standard potluck, invite neighbors to compete for the best barbecue sauce, side dishes, and desserts.

- **Wheel barrel beverage station**

Do you (or neighbor) have a wheel barrel? This would serve well as a cool beverage station. Fill the wheel barrel with drinks and ice and let the party begin.

- **Lemonade station**

Who doesn't love a lemonade station? Set up a small station, either self-serve or managed by the kiddos.

- **Bounce House**

Bounce House rental is a fun, organized, and fairly affordable activity for neighborhood kids who will spend hours jumping off energy from the sweet treats they consume at the block party. There are plenty of bounce house rental companies to serve your block party needs.

- **Face Painting and Balloon Twisting**

Kids love face painting and parents love pictures of their kiddies' painted up. And, what goes better with face painting than balloon twisting. This is another affordable activity that kids and parents, alike, enjoy at a summer block party.

- **DJ**

Do you know a local DJ? Music is a great way to liven the atmosphere and neighbors. A DJ will truly rock your block and make your neighbors feel like they're at a true party. And, don't be afraid to open the mic for karaoke.

- **Fire and Police Vehicles**

Fire and police vehicles are always a big hit at block parties. Contact your local public safety departments to request a visit. South Holland Fire and Police non-emergency numbers are 708-331-3123 and 708-331-3131, respectively.

- **Snow Cones**

Snow cones are synonymous with outdoor summer fun. Consider renting a snow cone maker, or make your own. WikiHow provides an easy step-by-step guide, <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-Snow-Cones>.

- **Games for everyone**

Tug-of-war and sack races are oldies but goodies that will keep the party in high energy the whole way through.

- **Pet Parade**

If many of your neighbors have pets, imagine the fun of a neighborhood pet parade.

- **Photographer**

Designate a photographer to capture the special memories of your rock'in block party. The truth is when we're having fun, we forget to pull out our mobile devices to capture the moments. By designating a photographer for the party, neighbors can focus on one thing – A Rock'in Block Party.

- **Facebook**

Set up a Facebook page for your neighborhood. Share photos of your “Rock Your Block” party and other special neighborhood moments.



# COMMUNITY

## South Holland Lions Club Continues Tradition of Service for 70 years

By Ronda Williams

South Holland's Lions Club is honored to celebrate the tradition of service in the community for 70 years. The Lions Club is an international organization founded in 1917 and now boasts over 46,000 clubs with membership exceeding 1 million in 208 countries and geographic areas. The mission of the organization is to serve those who are less fortunate and provide for the needs of the local community.

While the Lions Club has a special emphasis on sight and hearing conservation and work with the blind, they contribute significantly in many ways to provide services to residents in South Holland. The South Holland Lions Club has contributed funds to local parks, the Little League, and other health related services including medical equipment. Donations raised through various annual fundraisers have made a powerful positive impact on South Holland residents.

Lions Club President, Richard Zimmerman, is passionate about the organization and the role the club has in supporting local needs and improvement projects. As a lifelong South Holland resident and retired teacher from McKinley Elementary School, Zimmerman wants to see the organization grow and continue to provide services that meet the needs of the community.

"I am proud to serve this organization and celebrate 70 years as an active and contributing service group in South

Holland," said Zimmerman. "Our club is involved in nearly every major project in the Village."

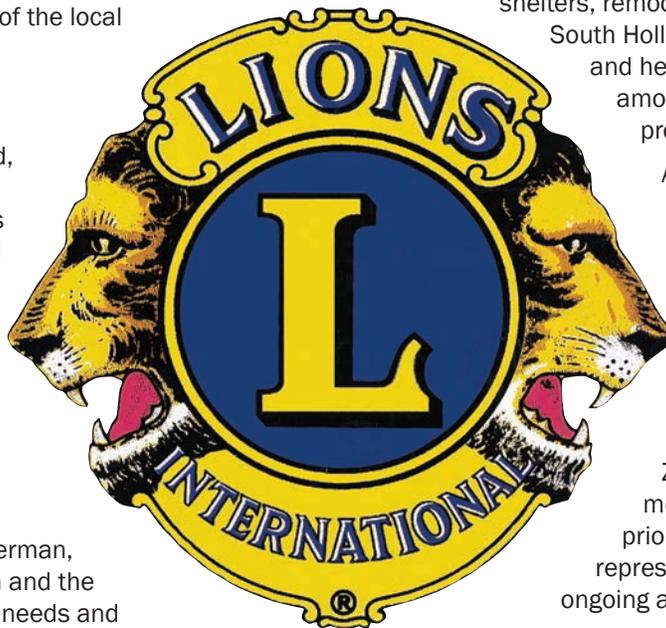
Through the years, the South Holland Lions Club has raised nearly \$40,000 to purchase the first paramedic vehicle for the Village and \$3,000 to create the first local library. Further projects include support of the municipal band, parks and shelters, remodeling of American Legion Hall, the South Holland Community Center daycare room, and hearing tests for students in Dolton, among many other special improvement projects.

As the Lions Club celebrates 70 years, the organization is looking to draw new members to continue its strong legacy of community service.

"We want to ensure that the foundation of the South Holland Lions Club continues into the future, serving those in our community and beyond that need our help," said Zimmerman. "We encourage business members with community centered priorities to be a part of our organization to represent the Village residents and support ongoing and future improvement projects."

The Lions Club hosts two major fundraisers throughout the year, Pancake Day and the Chili Supper. They also collect gently used eyeglasses at the local library, the South Holland Community Center, and local food stores.

With a tradition of service and a spirit of generous consideration, the Village is honored to celebrate this anniversary with the Lions Club. To learn more about Lions Club, visit [southhollandlions.com](http://southhollandlions.com).



## Thrift Center for Calvin Christian moves to Lansing

The Harvest Thrift Store has moved from its longtime home in Calumet City to a new location in Lansing and renamed itself the New 2 You Quality Resale Shop in the process.

The thrift store recently moved into its new digs at 18230 S. Torrence Ave. in the former Dekker Electric building.

The thrift store has been operated for the past 15 years by parents, alumni and staff of Lansing Christian School in Lansing and Calvin Christian School in South Holland. All proceeds are divided between the two schools to help parents pay for tuition to the two private schools. Since opening, the store has contributed about \$2.8 million to the two schools.

The schools decided to move the store because of the deterioration of the Wentworth Woods shopping center building and surrounding area, the high cost of rent, and the reduced amount of customer traffic in the area.

Store managers said they hope the new location will result in an increase in sales, a renewed enthusiasm for the store, and a more pleasant and inviting environment for shoppers and volunteers.

The store is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Donations are accepted during store hours, or furniture items can be scheduled for pick up. Accepted items include: clothing, furniture, house wares, books, shoes, sporting goods, toys, magazines, seasonal items, and tools. The store does not accept infant car seats, mattresses, bowling balls, and appliances.

For information or to volunteer, call 708-889-6369.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS



## Thornwood Embraces its Special Athletes

By Bob Bong

Special Olympics has always been a part of the Thornwood High School community and in recent years has become a source of pride for the students and staff at the South Holland high school.

The school started with a Special Olympics track team about 20 years ago and has since expanded to more than a dozen sports with athletes competing in a range of events from track and field to soccer.

One of its Special Olympians, junior Miguel Castillo, earned a Bronze Medal at last year's Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles as a member of the U.S. men's soccer team, which finished third behind Belgium and the Netherlands.

Mary Wimmer, Thornwood's Special Olympics athletic director, called Castillo "a natural athlete."

In addition to soccer, he also plays basketball and golf and was looking to get into track and field events this spring.

"Miguel is the ideal student," Wimmer said. "He embodies everything Special Olympics stands for."

As good as he is, Castillo is hardly the only Special Olympics champion at Thornwood.

The school's volleyball team recently came home with a bronze medal and its basketball team was set to play in the basketball tournament in March. The T-birds won the high school championship a few years ago in their first year competing in the sport.

The high school also acts as host for a variety of Special Olympics events.

In January, the school hosted the Area 7 Special Olympics Basketball Championship. It will play host again on **Saturday, May 7, to the Special Olympics Area 7 spring games beginning with the opening ceremony at 9 a.m., and on May 18 will host the Floor Hockey Certified Training School.**

The annual Spring Games is a precursor to the Summer Games in June and usually attracts upwards of, 800 Special Olympians who compete in a variety of sports including bocce ball, swimming, soccer, power lifting, gymnastics, and track and field.

Wimmer said the Special Olympics participants are accorded the same attention as regular student athletes.

"Here at Thornwood, our athletes aren't just 'special' athletes – they are Thornwood athletes," she said. "We receive the same accolades, if not more, as all the other sports teams involved at school."

Wimmer said that often Special Olympics sports and events garner large, cheering crowds and that their annual fundraiser, Pasta Festival, has become very popular amongst the faculty and staff.

She praises her colleagues for championing the school's Special Olympics efforts. "I'm often brought to tears by the devotion they shower upon us."

Her gratitude extends to the Special Olympics program as well. "I wish people could see how Special Olympics has impacted our students. They work so hard, learn important skills, and do better in school due to their involvement."

The success of the Special Olympics program at Thornwood doesn't end at the school. The South Holland Police Department has also embraced the organization like many police departments have done.

South Holland police regularly take part in the **Law Enforcement Torch Run**, which began in 1986 and is the single largest year-round fundraising event to benefit Special Olympics Illinois.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run has raised nearly \$35 million while increasing awareness of Special Olympics Illinois athletes and their accomplishments.

About 3,000 officers representing every branch of law enforcement across the state from local police officers to FBI agents will carry the Flame of Hope nearly 1,500 miles, running through thousands of Illinois communities via 23 different legs (routes) to its final destination – the Opening Ceremonies of the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games in June in Normal. South Holland police participate in Leg 9 of the run.

This year, as in years past, Officer Bob Kocher will be the organizer and representative from South Holland.

Kocher solicits donations and he coordinates "**The Cop on Top**" fundraiser held at the local **Dunkin Donuts**. He said this year's goal is to be more supportive than ever and he is looking for runners and officers to participate in "Cop on the Top."

For information and to volunteer, call Officer Kocher at the South Holland Police Department, at 708-331-3131.

For information on Special Olympics Illinois, call 708-991-7564 or visit [www.soill.org](http://www.soill.org).



# BUILDING CODE

## Time For Spring Cleaning

“Old Man Winter” is gone and it’s time to check the lawn mower or call the lawn service. But before you get started in cutting the grass, here’s a home checklist to ensure a beautiful yard this summer!

- Clean up dead leaves and debris.
- Make a plan for revitalizing landscaping with shrubs and flowers.
- Check for chipped/peeling paint on your home.
- Look at the roof to ensure shingles are in good condition.
- Check all sides of your home for winter damage.

Considering installing a deck or a swimming pool? Remember to get a permit from the Building and Code Department. They will ensure you have a good plan that supports your home and meets code requirements.

If you experience basement flooding and want to take advantage of the village rebate program, call the Building and Code Department who can discuss your options.

All hired contractors must have a Village permit to work on your home. This permit protects you from contractors who do shoddy work and ensures they carry the proper insurance to protect you from damages. Before choosing, you should get two to three quotes to get the best price and the best service that meets your needs.

# PUBLIC WORKS

## Yard Waste Pickup Resumed

Just in time for spring cleaning, branch and lawn waste pick up has resumed and will be on the same day as your regular trash collection day.

Remember that yard waste should be in the Republic Service containers or collected in brown paper yard waste bags.

Every Friday, South Holland Public Works will resume special pickups of outdoor landscape debris and continue through the fall.

Please call the Public Works office to request a special pickup at 708-339-2323.

Street sweepers will begin their rounds as well.



## Intersection Work set for U.S. 6 and Cottage Grove Avenue

The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that occasional, daytime lane closures are necessary for intersection improvement at U.S. 6 and Cottage Grove Avenue in South Holland. The work started March 1.

Closures are necessary for eastbound and westbound traffic on U.S. 6, as well as northbound and southbound traffic on Cottage Grove Avenue.

The scope of the project includes traffic signal modernization, sidewalk replacement and new pavement markings. The project is expected to be completed by the summer.

The Village of South Holland, in conjunction with Robinson Engineering, also is incorporating a left turn lane on southbound Cottage Grove at the Route 6 Intersection. New striping, electronic loops and new traffic signals also will be installed.

The location of the closures may affect access to and from the 159th Street interchange with the Bishop Ford Freeway. Drivers are encouraged to seek alternate routes.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

Other road work also is coming to South Holland.

The railroad viaduct on Route 6 is getting a face-lift on all four corners introducing an outcropping of stone and a wide variety of trees, bushes and flowers.

The village hall complex will be incorporating new storm sewers this spring and a complete resurfacing of its pavement and parking lots.

# POLICE



## May is Global Youth Traffic Safety Month

There is no greater rite of passage for a teen than getting a driver's license. The freedom and excitement of driving can be overwhelming for the new driver and parents. In recognition of Global Youth Traffic Safety Month, here are some tips for traffic safety from the South Holland Police Department.

**Seatbelts** – ALL passengers in a vehicle are required to Buckle Up!

**Cellular Phone Use** – It is illegal to text, email, access web pages, instant message, or use a cellular phone without a hands free device while operating a motor vehicle. It is illegal to use a cell phone in a construction zone or a school zone. It is also illegal for any driver under the age of 19 with a learner's permit or graduated driver's license to use a cellular phone while driving.

**Speed Limits** – The speed limits on South Holland roadways are posted in accordance with state law. In the event a street is not regulated by a sign, the state speed limit for city/town areas is 30 mph or 20-mph in a school zone.

**Construction Zones** – When entering a construction zone you are required to reduce speed, discontinue cell phone use, yield to authorized vehicles, and when possible, change lanes away from workers.

**School Zones** – School zones are 20 mph and are active 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday on school days when children are present. It is illegal to use a cellular phone while traveling in a school zone.

**Roundabout** – Always yield the right-of-way to vehicles and pedestrians already within the roundabout (unless informed by signs or law enforcement). Travel in a counter-clockwise direction and use your turn signal the same way as with any other intersection.

**Passing** – You may pass on the right only when the vehicle you are passing is making or about to make a left turn AND when you have enough room to stay on the paved roadway (not the shoulder).

## Burglary victims have support through Secure Residence Program

Victims of a residential burglary are forced to deal with a multitude of issues that they may or may not be prepared for.

Through a collaborative effort of the South Holland Police Department, South Holland Code Enforcement, Thornton Township and, eventually, local businesses of South Holland, the Secure Residence Program was formed to bring back the sense of security victims had before this drastic change in their lives.

This in-home program helps residents deal with safety issues and provides reassurance, information and psychological support.

All residents who are victims of a burglary are advised of the Secure Residence Program by the investigating detective and is given contact information for Officer Kremski, Brian Smith and Thornton Township Crisis Counselors.

If the resident is interested in participating in the program, Officer Kremski will arrange an in-home meeting within 72 hours of the incident. At that time, he and Brian Smith will provide information on safe home practices to avoid residential burglary and other simple home protective measures.

Officer Kremski and Brian Smith will walk with the resident around the exterior of the home and provide safety suggestions that reflect the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles. They will also walk-through the home and share suggestions to help secure the home, as well as explain how to make the home a "tough target."

Following the initial home visit, the Secure Residence Team will check back within three weeks to address any additional concerns.

The South Holland Police Department is committed to residential safety and security. This program is one of several resident offerings to support residents and their well being.

# SPORTS

## SSC Coach Named to Hall of Fame

By Zachary Hughes

South Suburban College Coach Darrell Scott was recently selected for the NJCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association) Region IV Hall of Fame.

Coach Scott is a 1987 graduate of Grinnell College and is entering his 24th season of coaching women's basketball at South Suburban College. This is his first and only head coaching tenure in the women's ranks. His record is 450-298.

Scott's teams have made appearances at the national tournament in 2000, 2001, 2005, 2013 and 2015, have won regional championship five times, and have been region finalists four times. Coach Scott also has 12 NJCAA All-Americans under his tenure.

He was honored on Feb. 20 after the Lady Bulldogs took on Illinois Central.



## Seton Girls in Top 4 at State

During the last five years, Seton has lost the Super Sectional Championship never advancing to the state finals. Well this year, the Lady Sting persevered and the girls took home the 4th place IHSA Class 1A Championship Title on Saturday, February 27, 2016 at the Redbird Arena at Illinois State University in Bloomington, Normal.

In addition to the championship win, the Lady Sting Basketball Team has won the following accolades this month:

- IHSA 2016 Girls Basketball Class 1A Super Sectional Championship title, February 23rd
- IHSA 2016 Girls Basketball Class 1A Sectional Championship title on February 18th
- IHSA 2016 Girls Basketball Class 1A Regional Championship title on February 11th
- The Girls Catholic Athletic Conference (GCAC) Championship title on February 6th

## Order Your Rain Barrel

The Village of South Holland now offers rain barrels. As of July 2015, South Holland, like many other communities in Illinois, joined the free rain barrel program operated by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD). The program uses 55-gallon rain barrels made from repurposed, or upcycled, food barrels. Rain barrels are a type of green infrastructure that capture rainwater from a roof and saves it to be used to wash cars, water the lawn, or to clean such things as work boots and tools. By collecting rain water in environmentally-friendly barrels, this initiative helps to prevent sewer overflows and flooding.



Rain water is naturally free of chlorine, lime and calcium. However, since the water is runoff from the roof, it is not good for human consumption – so do not drink it!

### Here is basic information of the program:

- Barrels are free of charge to South Holland residents.
- Due to popular demand, there is a limit of two rain barrels per household.
- Place barrels near downspouts near the rear of property or backyard.
- Order rain barrels through South Holland's Public Works Department - 339-2323.

To learn more about the benefits of rain barrel use, visit MWRD online at [www.rainbarrel.mwrdd.org](http://www.rainbarrel.mwrdd.org).

# FLOOD

## Flood insurance – a wise investment

For those residents living near the Little Calumet River, Thorn Creek, or one of the ditches in the Village, flood insurance is highly recommended. Even if the last storm or flood missed you or you have done some flood proofing, the next flood could be worse. Most homeowners' insurance policies do not cover a property for flood damage.

The Village of South Holland participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. Local insurance agents can sell a flood insurance policy under rules and rates set by the federal government. Any agent can sell a policy and all agents must charge the same rates.

Now is a good time to purchase flood insurance in South Holland. Due to South Holland's CRS rating (5), homeowners realize a 25 percent discount from standard flood insurance premiums.

Any house can be covered by a flood insurance policy. Detached garages and accessory buildings are covered under the policy for the lot's main building. Separate coverage can be obtained for the building's structure and for its contents (except for money, valuable papers, and the like). The structure generally includes everything that stays with a house when it is sold, including the furnace, cabinets, built-in appliances, and wall-to-wall carpeting.

There is no coverage for things outside the house, like the driveway and landscaping. Renters can purchase contents coverage, even if the owner does not buy structural coverage on the building.

Some people have purchased flood insurance because it was required by the bank when they got a mortgage or home improvement loan. Usually these policies just cover the building's structure and not the contents. During the kind of flooding that happens in South Holland, there is usually more damage to the furniture and contents than there is to the structure.

Several insurance companies have sump pump failure or sewer backup coverage that can be added to a homeowner's insurance policy. Each company has different amounts of coverage, exclusions, deductibles, and arrangements. Most are riders that cost extra. Most exclude damage from surface flooding that would be covered by an NFIP policy. The cost varies from nothing up to about \$75 for a rider on your homeowner's insurance premium. However, there is a 30 day waiting period once homeowner has applied for flood insurance.

## FLOODPROOFING YOUR HOME

Floodproofing a house means altering it so floodwaters will not cause damage. Different floodproofing techniques are appropriate for different types of buildings. Use the following as a guideline:

- If you have a basement, split level, or other floor below ground level, get a free copy of Guide to Basement Flooding from the Village Hall. There are lots of ways to protect your basement or lower floor from seepage and sewer backup.
- If your house is on a slab foundation, investigate a low floodwall, berm, or "dry floodproofing" (i.e., making the walls watertight and closing all the openings when a flood comes).
- If your house is on a crawlspace, a low floodwall, berm or "wet floodproofing" will work. "Wet floodproofing" means moving all items subject to damage out of harm's way so water can flow into the crawlspace and not cause any problems. If floodwaters go over the first floor, it is relatively easy to elevate the building to get the first floor above the flood level.
- Properties that are substantially damaged must be brought up to current building codes. Any work needing to be done may require a permit. Contact Code Enforcement to learn if a permit is required

## VILLAGE FLOOD SERVICES

The Code Enforcement office at 16240 Wausau (708/210-2915) provides the following:

- Information on whether a property is in a mapped floodplain and related flood insurance rate map data;
- Records of past flooding;
- Advice on how to protect a building from water problems;
- Guidance on the laws that govern construction and property improvements; and
- Site visits to view the cause and possible solutions to a problem.

Get a free copy of Guide to Flood Protection from Village Hall. Additional information on these measures is available at the Public Library.

# LIBRARY



## Chicago's Sweet Candy History

Tuesday, April 5th, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

At Holland Home - 16300 Lewis Avenue

Hosted by: Leslie Goddard  
Call 708-331-5262 for details

Baby Ruth, Milk Duds, Juicy Fruit, Cracker Jack, Tootsie Roll, whatever your favorite candy may be, chances are it came from Chicago. Travel with us as we go through nearly 200 years of Chicago's candy history. What's your favorite?

## Taking Care of Natural Hair

Tuesday, April 26th, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

South Holland Library North Meeting Room

Hosted by: Rachel Odem  
Call 708-331-5262 to reserve your spot

If you're thinking about making the transition from processed here to wearing it natural, you might have a lot of questions. We will discuss how to make this transition, hair type, hair care routine, and more.

## Cinco de Mayo Commemoration of the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862

Tuesday, May 3rd, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

South Holland Library North Meeting Room

Hosted by: Rachel Odem  
Call 708-331-5262 to reserve your spot

Join us in the celebration. If you want to provide a dish, sign up at the "Ask" desk.

# WISDOM FROM OUR CHURCHES

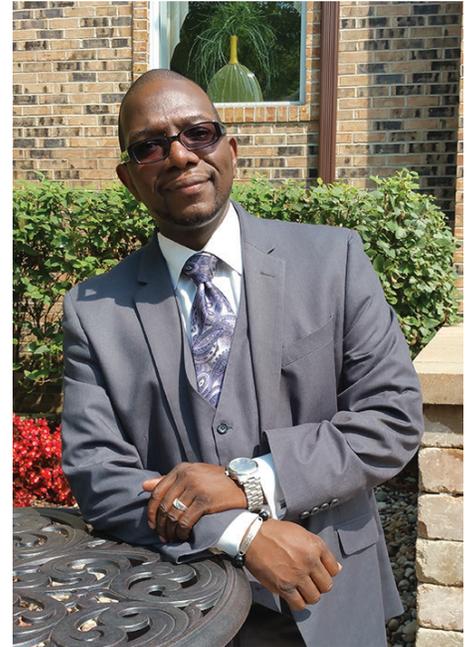
## Moving forward

By Senior Pastor Michael Burford  
Christ Centered Kingdom Ministries

I believe that in order for us to move forward we have to receive God's forgiveness and forgive ourselves of the past. If Moses, King David, Peter etc. had not been forgiven, they would have become stuck in the things they had done, which will always cause us to not be able to move forward. A few enemies of moving forward are unforgiveness of others and self, hurt or a wounded spirit, fear and excuses of the things we think we cannot do. Moses was created in the image and likeness of God and taught in the ways of the Egyptians, yet he made the excuse of being slow of tongue, which was based out of fear. Moving forward is a decision we all must make just like the Prodigal son who came to himself. In other words he made a decision not to stay in that place of sin. The man at the pool of Bethesda was asked by Jesus did he want to be made whole.

What does moving forward look like? Moving forward looks like us fulfilling the call of God upon our lives in spite of our past and walking in His love and the Blood He shed for the remission of our sins. Peter was prayed for by Jesus that his faith would not fail him. In his first sermon, three thousand people confessed Jesus as their Lord. Now that's what I call moving forward! How will you know that you have moved forward? You will know you have moved forward when the hurt, pain and shame of your past do not paralyze you from fulfilling the call of God on your life to minister to others in spite of what you or they have done. I think it's just like when King David sinned with Bathsheba. He asked God's forgiveness and forgave himself. Then he was able to minister to Bathsheba when their child died. Jabez's name meant pain or sorrow. He prayed and asked God to take the pain away and God granted him his request. Don't allow your past to keep you from arising and moving forward. I would like to leave you with this quote by Joyce Meyer.

"If the horse has been dead 10 years it's time to dismount. Don't keep trying to make something work that God got finished with a long time ago. He gave the children of Israel a law of 30 days to mourn the death of Moses, then they had to move on. Looking back will immobilize you just like Lot's wife. If you want to go FORWARD you can't do it looking back. You Have To Let Go Of What Lies Behind. Let Go Of What's Behind And Trust God."



*"He Hears Their Cries"*

South Holland Ministerial Association

**MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST**

in Conjunction With National Day of Prayer

**MAY 5, 2016**

**7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.**

Admission \$5 at the door

**Keynote: Rev. Scott Reese, Christ Cares**

**Music: Rev. Phil Tarver, United Faith Center**

**Fellowship Hall**

16350 South State Street | South Holland, Illinois

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

## South Holland's



# Education Fair



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

## Sat. August 6, 2016 10:00am - 2:00pm

## VILLAGE LICENSES AND PERMITS



### South Holland 2016-17 Vehicle Stickers

**AVAILABLE MAY 1  
MUST BE DISPLAYED BY JULY 1**

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

**REMEMBER:** 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's the law.

### PRICES:

Passenger Cars.....	\$40	Senior Citizens (65 years & older)	receive 50% discount.
Trucks & Motor Homes .....	\$55	Garage Sale Permits.....	\$5
Trucks C & Higher .....	\$95	Dog License.....	\$10
Motorcycles .....	\$20		



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



POSTAL PATRON  
 South Holland, IL 60473

# South Holland Fire Department

*invites you to an*

All You Can Eat

## Pancake Breakfast

**Saturday, April 16**

**7 to 11 am**

**Fire Station #1**

**16230 Wausau Avenue**



HAVE BREAKFAST WITH FIREFIGHTERS!

**\$800**  
 per person  
 Children 4 & under FREE!



## Village Board

Don A. De Graff  
 President

Dr. Sallie Penman  
 Clerk

Larry De Young  
 Trustee

Andrew Johnson, Jr.  
 Trustee

Cynthia Nylen  
 Trustee

Vickie Perkins  
 Trustee

Prince Reed  
 Trustee

John Sullivan  
 Trustee