



South Holland TODAY

NEWSLETTER FROM THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND
APRIL/MAY 2017



GENERAL ELECTION

APRIL 4, 2017

Cast your vote for...

- ›› MAYOR
- ›› CLERK
- ›› TRUSTEES
- ›› LIBRARY TRUSTEES
- ›› THORNTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR
- ›› THORNTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
- ›› THORNTON TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR
- ›› THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER
- ›› THORNTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
- ›› GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 150 BOARD
- ›› GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 151 BOARD
- ›› THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205 BOARD
- ›› SOUTH SUBURBAN COLLEGE DISTRICT 510 TRUSTEES

VISIT THE COOK COUNTY CLERK WEBSITE FOR A DETAILED LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR THE 2017 GENERAL ELECTION - [HTTP://WWW.COOKCOUNTYCLERK.COM/ELECTIONS/2017ELECTIONS/PAGES/40417CANDIDATELIST.ASPX](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections/2017elections/pages/40417candidateelist.aspx)



MONDAY, MAY 29, 2017

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 BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

ALL-STAR GAMES – 2 P.M.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK BALLFIELD

• VILLAGE VEHICLE STICKERS •

**South Holland 2017-18 Vehicle Stickers
Available May 1 - Must be displayed by July**

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

Reminder: 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 is the law.

PRICES:

Passenger Car: \$40
Truck & Motor Home: \$55
Truck C & Higher: \$95
Motorcycle: \$20



Senior Citizens (65 years & older) receive 50 percent discount.
For more information, scan QR code or visit the village website –
<http://www.south-holland.org/departments/clerk-collector/vehicle-stickers/>

GARAGE SALE PERMIT: \$5 & DOG TAG/LICENSE: \$10



HAPPENINGS

HOLIDAY CLOSING - Most municipal buildings and administrative offices will be closed Good Friday, April 14 and Memorial Day, May 29. Police and fire remain available 24 hours a day.

NEW RESIDENT BREAKFAST - The South Holland Neighborhood Groups Organizing Committee is pleased to host the 2nd annual New Resident Breakfast beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 22, at the South Holland Community Center, 501 East 170th Street. New residents interested in attending should send an email to mthornton@southholland.org or call 708-210-2918.

MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST - The annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, hosted by the South Holland Ministerial Association, is 7:30 a.m. Thursday, May 4, at Fellowship Hall, 16350 State St. Admission fee is \$5.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT NIGHT - Beginning at 7 p.m., Monday, May 15, 8th grade students from area schools will take the helm to conduct their very own village board meeting. This annual meeting is held in conjunction with the regular scheduled Village Board meeting at the South Holland Community Center.

MEMORIAL DAY - South Holland's staple Memorial Day Parade and Remembrance Ceremony kicks off at 11 a.m. Monday, May 29, from 170th Street and South Park Avenue. The parade heads north to Veterans Memorial Park, where the annual Remembrance Ceremony is hosted by Mayor Don De Graff and the Village Board in honor of military veterans. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m.



New Resident's Breakfast



Mayor's Prayer Breakfast



Student Government Night



Memorial Day Parade

Mayor's Leadership Awards

Tuesday, March 7, was a special night for South Holland volunteers as Mayor Don De Graff, Clerk Dr. Sallie Penman, and Trustees Larry DeYoung, Andrew Johnson, Jr., Cynthia Nylan, Vickie Perkins, Prince Reed, and Dr. John Sullivan demonstrated their sincere appreciation for the devoted service of community ambassadors.

It was the biennial Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Mayor's Leadership Awards presentation at the South Holland Community Center in which nearly 200 guests attended and shared in the special recognition of five honorees.

At the top of the awards presentation were special honors presented to Dr. Kathryn Worthen and Frank Zuccarelli, followed the heart and soul of the event – the Mayor's Leadership Awards presented to Father Ignatius I. Anaele, Felecia Williams, and Robin Scheldberg. Here is a brief recap of the award recipients:

- Dr. Worthen Beloved **Citizen Award**.
- Frank Zuccarelli, Supervisor of Thornton Township, received the **Community Humanitarian Award**.
- Father Ignatius I. Anaele is the recipient of the **Faith Leadership Award**.
- Felecia Williams is the recipient of the **Family Leadership Award**.
- Robin Scheldberg is the recipient of the **Future Leadership Award**.



Above: Mayor Don De Graff expressed his sincere appreciation for Dr. Kathryn Worthen's many years of devoted service to the community. Dr. Worthen received the Mayor's Beloved Citizen Award.



Above: While accepting the Community Humanitarian Award, Supervisor Frank Zuccarelli and South Holland Trustee Cynthia Nylan shared a special moment.



Felecia Williams is presented the Mayor's Family Leadership Award for her relentless commitment to serve youth and educational organizations.



Above: During her acceptance speech for the Mayor's Future Leadership Award, Robin Scheldberg encouraged the audience to find ways to get involve in their community, meet new people, and build new relationships.

Right: Mayor Don De Graff presented Father Ignatius Anaele (left), Pastor of St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church, with the Mayor's Faith Leadership Award.



THE MINIAT FAMILY OF COMPANIES HOST THEIR 10TH ANNUAL SOUTH HOLLAND POLICE & FIRE LUNCH

Since moving to the Village of South Holland in 1996, the Miniat Family of Companies have been Driven to Serve® the community. One of the ways they give back is by hosting an annual lunch for the community's first responders.

On Friday, January 27, 2017, Miniat held its 10th Annual Police & Fire Lunch for the first responders of the Village of South Holland. With over 50 people in attendance, three of the Miniat chefs served a hearty menu featuring tender Miniat pot roast, salad, sides, and dessert.

"This annual event is just one of the ways we're committed to serving our community, and it's a great opportunity to say thank you to the men and women who keep our community safe," said David Miniat.

Over the past 10 years, Miniat has hosted this event at their Culinary Center on Vincennes Avenue. This year's event took place in the bay area of the South Holland fire station and included not only first responders, but also members of the Miniat team.



L to R: Miniat chefs, Dylan Donovan; John Draz, CRC, CEC, CCE; Kim Nies

About Miniat Holdings LLC

The Miniat Family of Companies, headquartered in South Holland, IL, employs nearly 700 people at their two companies: Ed Miniat LLC, a value-added, cooked meat company, located in South Holland, IL; and South Chicago Packing LLC, an oil, shortening, and wax manufacturing company located in Chicago, IL. The companies were founded by Lithuanian immigrant, Michael Miniat, in 1896, and are still family-owned and operated.

DON'T GET SCAMMED. BEWARE OF UTILITY IMPERSONATORS

Scam Alert: ComEd has seen an increase in reports of individuals calling ComEd customers and falsely claiming their electric service will be disconnected unless payment is made. These impersonators instruct customers to buy a prepaid credit card and call back to a different phone number with the personal identification number (PIN) or other personal information. They also use a tactic called "Caller ID spoofing" to manipulate the displayed phone number so that it appears as a ComEd number.

Remember: ComEd representatives will never call you to ask you for cash or request that you purchase a prepaid credit card to make a payment on your bill. If you have concerns about the status of your account, call ComEd's Customer Service line at 800-334-7661 (800-EDISON1).

Report Phone Scams: If you believe you have been the target of a phone scam, ComEd urges you to contact the Illinois Attorney General's office at 800-386-5438 (TTY 800-964-3013), or visit illinoisattorneygeneral.gov and click on the "Protecting Consumers" link.

To learn more, visit ComEd.com/ScamAlert or use your mobile device to scan the QR code.



ComEd.
AN EDISON COMPANY

TORNADO WARNING SIGNAL ALERT

The South Holland Fire Department reminds all residents that the storm sirens at Fire Stations I & II are only activated to alert of a tornado warning. A tornado warning means an actual tornado has been spotted in the general area.

When the warning sirens have been activated, residents should immediately seek shelter in the basement or lowest level of their homes. The safest spot is in the southwest corner of the basement. Residents without basements should seek shelter in the inner most part of their homes, such as an inner hallway or bathroom.

It is vital that everyone keeps away from windows, doors, or anything which may inflict injuries. Flying glass and debris is the number one cause of injuries and deaths in a tornado. It is advised to seek shelter under something sturdy, such as a table, and to keep your heads protected at all times. A portable radio should be used to keep you advised of current weather conditions. Never seek shelter in an automobile, truck, or camper.

The **Tornado Warning Alert Signal** is a **Steady Blast** from the sirens, with a duration of three minutes. When this is activated, seek shelter immediately.

When the danger has passed, an **"ALL CLEAR"** signal will be activated, which is a **wavering up-and-down signal** of the sirens with two minute duration.

If during severe weather there are injuries, fires, fallen electrical wires, or other emergencies, residents are urged to use 9-1-1.

The South Holland storm signal sirens are tested the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 am to assure the sirens are fully operational.

If you would like further information on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Tips, please contact the South Holland Fire Department at 331-3123.

LIGHTNING: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Weather is unpredictable and the warmer than usual winter season has brought the onset of an early spring. Flowers and trees have started to sprout and rainy weather has snuck up on us bringing with it strong storms and tornados. While no one can control what Mother Nature will do, we all can be prepared to keep our families safe and sound during severe storms.

Keep these tips in mind when a storm presents itself. Remember no place outside is safe when thunderstorms are in the area. If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike, so immediately move to safe shelter: a substantial building with electricity or plumbing or an enclosed, metal-topped vehicle with windows up.

Stay inside at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

INDOOR LIGHTNING SAFETY

- Stay off corded phones, computers and other electrical equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity.
- Avoid plumbing, including sinks, baths and faucets.
- Stay away from windows and doors, and stay off porches.
- Do not lie on concrete floors, and do not lean against concrete walls.

LAST RESORT OUTDOOR RISK REDUCTION TIPS

If you are caught outside with no safe shelter anywhere nearby, the following actions may reduce your risk:

- Immediately get off elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges or peaks.
- Never lie flat on the ground.
- Never seek shelter under an isolated tree.
- Never use a cliff or rocky overhang for shelter.
- Immediately get out and away from ponds, lakes and other bodies of water.
- Stay away from objects that conduct electricity (barbed wire fences, power lines, windmills, etc.).

<http://www.usa.gov/>

8 QUICK TIPS TO A FUN AND SAFE SUMMER COOKOUT:

Ribs, hot dogs and burgers cooked on the grill are tastes we find hard to beat. The South Holland Fire Department reminds you that outdoor cooking can also lead to tragedy when carelessness causes serious burns. Use common sense and remember to cook safely:

1. Never use gasoline to start or freshen a fire. Gasoline is explosive and much too dangerous to use on grills.
2. Be cautious with charcoal lighter fluid. Use lighter fluid on coals only before the fire is lit and never after the fire is started.

3. Place grills where they will not tip over or ignite objects above them. Do not use on balconies or under awnings.
4. Never grill in your home. The carbon monoxide from the charcoal can be dangerous in an enclosed space.
5. Keep water available to extinguish a fire.
6. Keep children away from fires and grills.
7. Soak coals after cooking. Unsoaked coals can re-light a day later.
8. Keep damp or wet coals in a well-ventilated area. While drying, coals can erupt into a fire in confined areas.

SHPD SEEKS NEW OFFICERS

The South Holland Police Department

is currently accepting applications for the position of police officer.

Applications are available at recruitment.iosolutions.com until April 19, 2017.

The application deadline is April 19, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

You must meet the following minimum requirements:



- \$25.00 non-refundable application fee
- U.S. Citizenship
- 21 years of age and no more than 35 years of age at time of application, unless exempt by statute
- Valid driver's license
- Must have at least 30 credit hours of college credit from an accredited university (copy of official transcripts due at time of application)
- 20/70 binocular vision correctable to 20/20 and not be color blind
- Submit proof that they have passed the IL POWER test within the past year as of May 6, 2017 (POWER test cards considered valid if dated 5/6/2016 – 5/6/2017)
 - POWER cards can be obtained through any licensed agency:
 - Joliet Junior College
 - Triton College
 - NIPSTA
- Must be able to comply with contractually agreed upon residency requirement: All employees must reside within a three-mile radius of South Holland's Village Hall by the end of one (1) year of employment. Any employee who has so resided within such three-mile radius for four (4) years or more will thereafter be allowed to reside in any city/town that has any portion of its borders located within a ten-mile radius of the South Holland's Village Hall. Any employee who has so resided with the three-mile and/or ten-mile radius for eight (8) years or more will be allowed to reside in any city/town that has any portion of its border located within a twenty-mile radius of South Holland's Village Hall except that for the City of Chicago the actual ten-mile and twenty-mile radius line will be used
- Be of high moral standards and personal integrity and habits based upon contemporary Village standards, as determined by the Police Department
- Be free of any felony convictions, or misdemeanor criminal convictions as specified in 65 ILCS 5-1-7 of the IL Revised Statutes
- Be able to pass written examinations, power test, oral interview (2), background investigation, psychological and polygraph examinations and a medical examination

Mandatory Orientation:

Candidates must attend the mandatory orientation on **Thursday, May 4, 2017**. Please arrive no later than 6:45 p.m. with a photo ID (driver's license, state ID) to sign-in. Orientation will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Orientation will be held at:

**South Suburban College
15880 State Street – Performing Arts Center
South Holland, IL 60473**

Mandatory Written Exam:

Candidates must attend the mandatory written exam on **Saturday, May 6, 2017**. Sign-in to open at 7:30 a.m. Please arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. with a photo ID (driver's license, state ID) to sign-in. Testing will be held at:

**South Suburban College
15880 State Street – Performing Arts Center
South Holland, IL 60473**

All portions of the testing process are mandatory. Failure to attend and complete any portion of the process will result in elimination from employment consideration.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS EMBRACED BY COMMUNITY

BY MARY ANN THORNTON

"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." This is the oath of Special Olympics Illinois; an oath wholeheartedly supported by thousands, including many in the Village of South Holland.

Special Olympics Illinois has a rich history in South Holland. In case you are not familiar with annual activities, here's what's coming in 2017:



MAY 6 – 7:30 A.M. TO 3 P.M.
AREA 7 OLYMPIC-STYLE GAMES
THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
17101 SOUTH PARK AVENUE



MAY 19 – 5 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
COP ON ROOFTOP
DUNKIN' DONUTS
460 EAST 162ND STREET



JUNE 6
LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN
SOUTH PARK AVENUE

Special Olympics is a global organization boasting the participation of more than 4.5 million athletes in 170 countries. The organization came to life in Illinois as the first games were hosted at Soldier Field in July 1968, lead by Eunice Kennedy Shriver and her peers.

In Illinois, Special Olympics provides a transformative power for thousands of people living with intellectual disabilities as they engage and experience the joy of participating in sports.

Within 102 counties in the State of Illinois, there are 18 area programs annually hosting 290 competitions in 19 Olympic-style sports with the help of 45,800 volunteers and coaches for the benefit of 22,647 athletes (children and adults) with intellectual disabilities, and 19,927 Young Athletes ages 2-7 with and without intellectual disabilities.

If you've never been involved with Special Olympics Illinois, think about spending some time at Thornwood High School on May 6 to cheer on enthusiastic athletes, support your local police officers at the Cop on Rooftop event on May 19, and offer a little encouragement to officers and firefighters during the Law Enforcement Torch Run on June 6. Your support of this vital organization and the bravest of intellectually disabled men, women and children strengthens the fabric of our society.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact Kevin O'Brien at 708-991-7564 or register online at soill.org.

THORNWOOD SPECIAL OLYMPICS TEAM TAKES GOLD AND SILVER



The Thornwood Special Olympics Gold Basketball Team captured the Gold Medal during the Area 7 Tournament at Evergreen Park High School on January 21st. This is the fourth year in a row for the team!!! The Thunderbirds advanced to the State Tournament at Illinois State University, held in March. Congratulations to coaches Lisa Zuccolo and Denard Eaves!

Congratulations to Thornwood's Special Olympics Blue Basketball Team (highest division) for securing silver during the Area 7 Tournament. Congratulations also go out to coaches Jen Kilian and Billy Bundy. Great job coaches and players!!!

LUNCH WITH THE LAW PROGRAM STARTS WITH TABLE TALK

BY RONDA WILLIAMS

During lunchtime, you can catch Officer Kirk Kremski sitting at a small table chatting with South Holland elementary school students about video games, the latest jokes and sometimes about school projects. But mostly, just laughing and having a good time. It's called Lunch with the Law, a program that started in September 2016 as a request to visit with students regularly at each and every South Holland elementary school.

"Every quarter, I'm in the schools to deliver bikes and helmets for our Be Involved in Kids Education (B.I.K.E.S.) program," said Officer Kremski. "That program has been so successful that I wanted to have more time where the kids could really get to know our community police officers and not just see us when we're delivering gifts."

With no set discussion topic in mind, Officer Kremski is simply looking to develop relationships, open dialogue and build trust between students and police officers.

"During Halloween last fall, there were several stories about killer clowns," said Officer Kremski. "So many students talked to me about how afraid they were because of rumors they'd heard. It got to be such a big scare that I made several announcements about it during lunchtime where I

answered questions and talked about how stories like these can take a life of their own. In the end, the kids felt better and they were able to understand the facts and dismiss the rumors."

"The junior high students are more astute about serious issues, so sometimes we talk about topics like police force and the law," said Officer Kremski.

And that is a big part of this program, empowering students to express themselves and feel comfortable with law enforcement.

Even in its infancy, this program is creating positive relationships with school administration and students.



On a quarterly basis, Officer Kirk Kremski delivers bikes and helmets to local grade schools as part of the village's "Be Involved in Kids Education (B.I.K.E.S.) program.

BLOCK PARTY SEASON IS COMING!

This is a great time to begin planning a block party for your neighborhood, and it's certainly not too early to secure your date for a fabulous "ROCK YOUR BLOCK" Neighborhood Party. The South Holland Neighborhood Groups Organizing Committee offers these fun, yet simple, ideas to "Rock Your Block" this summer.

- Gather a few neighbors to form a small planning committee to host the block party and pick a party date that works best for your neighborhood.
- **Reserve your block party date by completing the simple block party registration form, available at southholland.org or pick up the form at the Village Hall, 16226 Wausau Avenue.**
- Consider ice breakers to give neighbors a reason to chat it up and build new friendships.

- Host a friendly cook-off. Invite neighbors to compete for best sauces, side dishes, and desserts.

- Create a unique beverage station using a wheel barrel to fill with drinks and ice, and get the kids in on the action with their very own neighborhood lemonade station. Another fun option for the beverage station are snow cones. WikiHow provides an easy guide to set kids up to make their own – <http://www.wikihow.com/make-snow-cones>.

- Consider a bounce house – an affordable activity for kids to spend hours jumping off energy from the sweet treats.

- Kids love face painting, and what goes better with face painting than balloon twisting.

- Music is a great way to "rock your block." Music will liven the atmosphere and neighbors. Perhaps there is a DJ in your neighborhood to take on this party assignment.

- Police and fire vehicles are thrilling for neighborhood kids. If special guest appearances of friendly officers and firefighters would excite your neighbors, simply check the box on the block party form.

- Incorporate fun games for everyone to enjoy. Oldies but goodies, such as tug-of-war and sack races, will keep the party going strong.

With the collaboration of good neighbors and the support of your community, you'll "rock your block" this summer.

SOUTH HOLLAND VACANCY RATES AT HISTORIC LOWS

BY JOHN WATSON

Economic development success is affected by many factors, not the least of which is a healthy business climate. When a community is known as a good place to do business (meaning profits can be realized there), it normally can sustain development success for as long as the climate or perception of the climate remains strong.

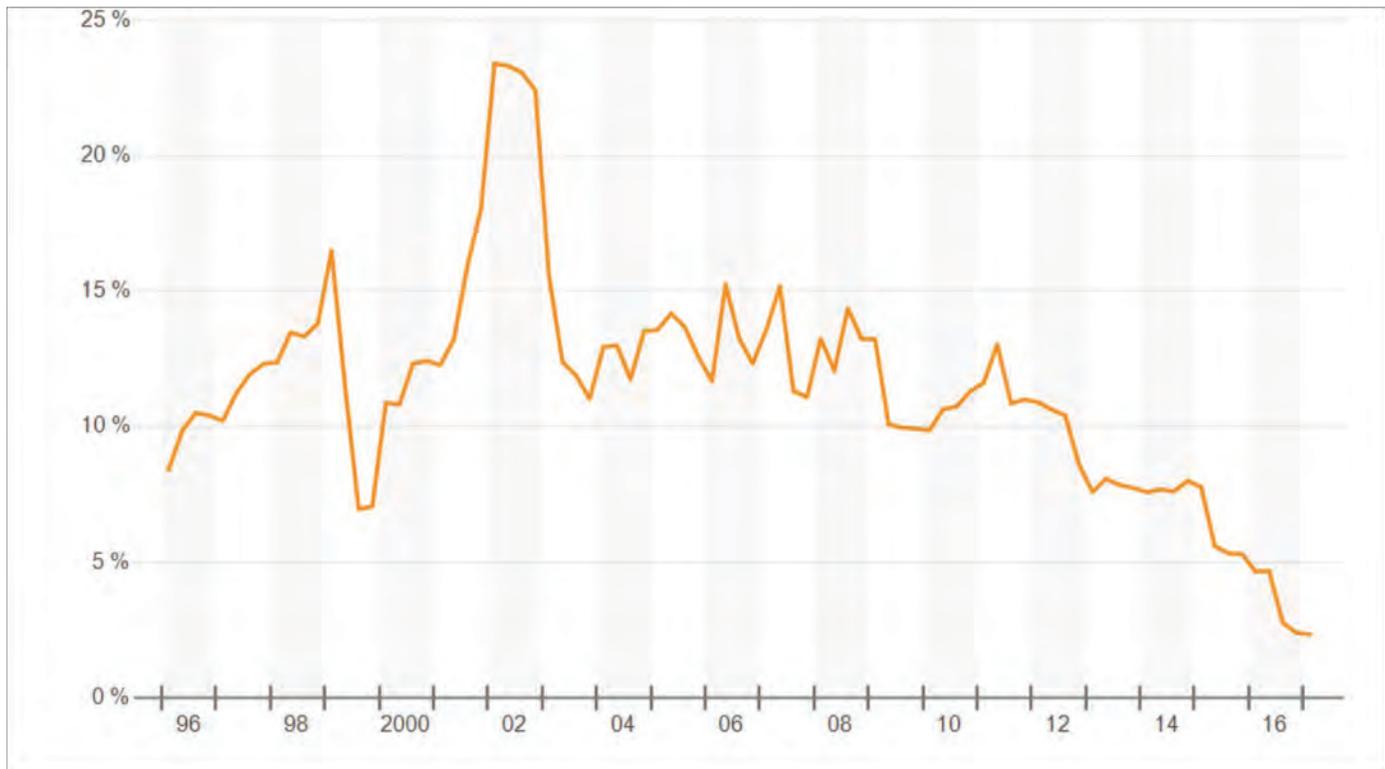
One of the key indicators of a healthy business climate is the vacancy rate in industrial and commercial corridors of a community. The heart of our community's economic success lies in our industrial corridor. It is the area that is responsible for the most employment, and second only to residential development in property tax revenue. Industrial rates have been trending downward as the country emerges from the recession, and the Chicago area is no exception.

Recent data from the Co Star group, a provider of information, analytics and marketing services to the commercial real estate industry in several countries including the United States, confirms this trend. While Chicago area industrial vacancy rate was a low 6.5 percent in the 4th quarter of 2016, the Village of South Holland enjoyed a vacancy rate of only 2.3 percent in the same period, the lowest in at least 20 years, and nearly two-thirds lower than the Chicago market overall! The commercial vacancy rate was also at a 10 year low of 3.3 percent.

While we still have much to accomplish to satisfy Vision 2022 development goals, these are important indicators of our work generating positive results. We will never stop working to move our great community forward.

Village of South Holland Industrial Properties

Vacancy Rate



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3/3/2017

1,000+ GAMES ON FIELDS

BY MARY ANN THORNTON

South Holland Little League, St. Francis De Sales, South Suburban Senior Men's Softball, South Holland's Men's Softball League, tournaments, and travel teams are all vying for their team to play on the community's manicured fields. In 2017, well over 1,000 ball games will be played this season in area parks.

Veterans Memorial Park is primarily home to the South Holland Little League. In addition, Little League's regional girls softball tournament is scheduled to play its third year on the field at Veterans Park in July. Gouwens Park will be home field for the St. Francis De Sales Varsity Softball team this season. Municipal, MacArthur, and Thorn Creek Parks are available for rental to travel baseball organizations.

The village's auxiliary fields are located at Hollandale Park, MacArthur Park (2 fields), Maicach Park (2 fields), Municipal Park, Thorn Creek, Van'O Park, and Volbrecht Park. All of these parks are utilized by the South Holland Little League for practices.

In 2017, South Holland anticipates three weekend tournaments hosted by USSSA Baseball and nine weekend tournaments hosted by Great Lakes Youth Sports Events (GLYSE). These tournaments will be held at Gouwens Park and the Babe Ruth Field (173rd & State).

Since taking over operation of the old Babe Ruth Field, South Holland's Public Works Department has retro-fitted it to include shorter base lengths and a shorter pitching distance to accommodate the 13 and under age group, which plays at 55' pitching distance and 80' bases.

As far as field prep work is concerned, Kris Prim of Public Works and the village's top ball field maintenance expert, said preparation begins in early spring. "In order to ensure our ball fields are ready, beautiful and safe for players, preparation for summer ball playing begins well before summertime," said Prim. "Due to the amount of frost, and the constant thawing and re-freezing of the fields, we have to raise or lower base anchors, as well as reinforce pitching rubbers and home plates with clay."

Prim also noted additional work, such as sod-cutting for a clean, crisp appearance, use of the ball field groomer which works as an attachment to the village's John Deere tractor, string and paint foul lines, drag and level warning tracks, and clean-up of dugouts.

To learn more about rental rates of the ball fields, contact the Public Works Department at 708-339-2323 or scan the QR code to receive rental rates.



Public Works will again prepare the softball fields at Veterans Memorial Park to accommodate games played by sports organizations, such as the Little League. 2017 will be the third year that the Little League Regional Girls Softball tournament will be played in South Holland.



YARD WASTE PICKUP IS BACK

It's outdoor spring cleaning time, which means residents can now resume use of their yard waste toter for branch and lawn waste. Pick up of yard waste will continue to be on the same day was your regular trash collection.

Please keep in mind that if the yard waste toter is full and there is still more waste to dispose, residents can use brown paper yard bags, too.

Also, the Public Works Department has resumed special pick up of outdoor landscape debris, which continues through the fall season. Contact the Public Works Department at 708-339-2323 to request a special pick up.

The return of spring also means the village's street seeper will begin making its rounds throughout the community.

TAKE A LUNCH BREAK

Fewer American workers take time away from their work to enjoy a lunch break. In fact, only one in five people step away for a midday meal.

Kimberly Elsbach, a professor at the University of California, Davis Graduate School of Management, who studies workplace psychology, says eating at your desk day after day is not good for business. She says research suggests "staying inside, in the same location, is really detrimental to creative thinking." Elsbach says "We know that creativity and innovation happen when people change their environment, and especially when they expose themselves to a nature-like environment, to a natural environment."

So why not enjoy lunch in the great outdoors? Here's an idea . . . Take a lunch break at Veterans Memorial Park. Home Plate Grill, located in the Park Central Building at Vets Park, offers a full lunch menu to please even the pickiest of palates. Lunch-goers will find burgers, hotdogs, pizza, smoothies and shakes, ice cream bars, assorted chips and candy to complete a satisfying midday meal.

Safety is a priority for Home Plate Grill, so all staff are food handler certified based on standards of the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Home Plate Grill offers these hours of operation from June 12 thru mid-August: Monday thru Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Prior to the official season opening of Home Plate Grill, families can enjoy a full menu selection during the Little League baseball and softball season, April 29 thru June 3. Typically, Home Plate Grill opens at 5:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday, and at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Gouwens Park also offers concession most evenings during the baseball season. Hours of operation are 5 to 9 p.m., and Saturdays as needed for a game.



Home Plate Grill draws a steady stream of customers during the baseball/softball season.

SPECIAL EVENTS

T R I V I A
G A M E
N I G H T

Win Prizes!!!

JOIN SOUTH HOLLAND'S BIGGEST GAME NIGHT
(Food will be available for purchase)

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE
SIGN UP INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A TEAM AT THE
South Holland Community Center
501 E. 170th Street South Holland, IL 60473



SOUTH HOLLAND MUNICIPAL BAND 2017 CONCERT SCHEDULE

SAT - MAY 6th @
Special Olympics, 9
am (Thornwood High
School, 17101 South
Park Ave.)

TUESDAY - JULY 4th @
Veteran's Park, 8 pm

MON - MAY 29th @
Memorial Day Parade,
11 a.m.
Remembrance
Ceremony
@ Veteran's Park, 12:30
pm

THURS - JULY 20th @
Holland Home, 7 pm
(163rd and Wausau
Ave.)

THURS - AUGUST 10th @
Veteran's Park, 7 pm

THURS - AUGUST 24th @
Veteran's Park, 7 pm

THURS - JUNE 15th @
Holland Home, 7pm
(163rd and Wausau
Ave.)

MON - SEPT 4th @
Paarlberg Farm, 3 pm
(173rd and Paxton
Avenue)

MAY IS GLOBAL YOUTH TRAFFIC SAFETY MONTH

During the summer months, teen drivers admitted to doing the following more often:

- 65% drive
- 52% have teen passengers present
- 50% drive in the dark
- 41% drive for extended periods of time
- 20% speed.

Sadly, each year more than 2,500 youth, ages 16 to 19, die in car crashes. Many of these crashes are preventable, meaning teens can take responsibility and make a change that will stop these tragedies and save lives. When you're given the keys to drive, you're also handed the keys to your safety and the safety of others.

In observation of Global Youth Traffic Safety Month, here are a few important statistics teens need to know and what can they do to make roads safer for them and their friends:

66% of teen passengers who die in crashes are not wearing seatbelts. Buckle up every time, with no exceptions.

58% of teens involved in traffic crashes are distracted by phone, friends and music. Put down the phone. Limit your number of passengers. Turn down the music. Keep your eyes on the road and hands on the wheel.

55% of all crashes where a driver fell asleep involve drivers 25 and under. Combining sleepiness with driver inexperience is deadly. Learn the signs of sleepiness.

26% of the deaths in large fatal truck crashes are those between the ages of 16 and 25. Take steps to drive safely around trucks - stay out of the truck's blind spots, and keep a safe distance.

Remember that trucks make wide turns and don't cut off a truck.

25% of teens drive under the influence of marijuana, alcohol or prescription drugs. Impaired driving is deadly. Drive and ride unimpaired every time. No exceptions.

For teens who enjoy bicycling or walking, please keep this in mind . . .

10% of teen deaths in crashes are bicyclists. Ride defensively. Eyes on the road. Wear a helmet. Take extra care at night.

5% of teen deaths are pedestrians. Walk defensively. Eyes on the road, ears listening to your surroundings. Take extra care at night.

Summer is the deadliest season for youth on the roads. It's okay to have fun, but always use caution and follow traffic safety rules.

With these actions, teen drivers can promote safe driving. Be a #TrafficSafeYouth. Scan the QR code to receive the teen traffic safety action guide.

SOURCES

Using Naturalistic Data to Assess Teen Driver Crashes, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, 2015, NHTSA, IIHS

National Organizations for Youth Safety, www.noys.org



SPRING INTO SPRING AT SOUTH HOLLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Residents of South Holland are invited to visit the library during National Library Week, April 9-15. This year's theme is Libraries Transform. South Holland Public Library has made several transformations this year, and is continuing to evolve as a popular destination for South Holland's social and learning needs. The recently renovated Teen Room, new printing and copying center, and new phone systems are just some of the ways the library has transformed. Celebrate with us at the South Holland Library! Check out materials during the week to win special prizes.

Visit the library on Wednesday, April 12, to celebrate D.E.A.R. Day, Drop Everything And Read! This day is set aside to remind and encourage families and individuals to make reading on a daily basis a priority.



Family Swim

FRIDAYS
7:00PM - 9:00PM
\$4 RES. / \$7 NON RES.

🌟 March 17

🌟 April 7

🌟 May 5

🌟 April 21

🌟 May 19



BUY 3 GET 1
FREE COUPON

(Must register all 4 at once)
Offer expires 5/19/17

NO ONE ADMITTED AFTER 8 PM

South Holland Community Center
 501 E. 170th Street
 708.331.2940
www.southholland.org

GOLDEN APPLE AWARD

Mr. Danny Gray, a master teacher and motivating instructor from Thornwood High School received the highest teaching award in the United States, the coveted Golden Apple Award, for outstanding teaching and exemplary leadership. Mr. Gray was one of only 10 teachers selected for this prestigious award nationwide.

Mr. Danny Gray works with many students with discipline and behavioral challenges, and uses empathy and reassurance to build relationships with them. "I instruct and engage my students by always putting myself in their shoes," he says. During the last two years, Gray also has led student teams as part of the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship national championship in New York. One of the teams won the national championship, which included a \$25,000 grand prize to start their own business, and an opportunity to meet President Obama at the White House. In addition, he leads a group called "A Few Good Men," where he



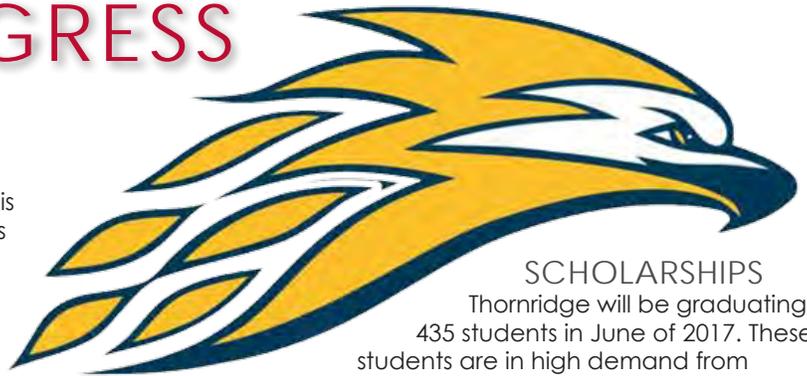
provides positive mentoring and guidance to young men who otherwise do not have any. The group started with four students, and with Gray's leadership, now more than 125 young men participate. Due to Gray's high expectations, faith in and support of students, many now are attending college and following their dreams.

SCHOOL PROGRESS REPORT

Thornwood High School's progress and improvement is continuing this school year. Faculty, staff and students are gratified to see their work pay off in the areas of academics, test scores, scholarships, and individual student growth. This progress is ongoing and while school leadership will never be satisfied, they can celebrate the positive growth areas at Thornwood High School!

ACT SCORES

Students have delivered higher ACT scores compared to previous years. School District 205's International Baccalaureate students posted an average ACT score of 23. This is higher than the state average by 12%. School officials attribute this growth to rigorous preparation, teacher involvement and also student effort. There is still room to grow, and they look forward to implementing more student and parent participation initiatives in the near future. Stay tuned for these exciting developments!



SCHOLARSHIPS

Thornridge will be graduating 435 students in June of 2017. These students are in high demand from colleges and universities across the nation.

Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) made a significant change this year where the application could be completed as early as October. This resulted in fantastic news! Thornridge's 435 students have been accepted to many prestigious colleges and universities with over \$5 million in scholarships offered to assist them with their tuition. Several of these scholarship offers are over \$100,000 to a single graduate! Preparation for college has taken a big step forward at Thornwood as student's academic ability is now mirrored in their GPA. This gives even more confidence to institutes of higher education that students are not just getting good grades, but are well prepared for success after they leave the classrooms.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Michael Blair, a Thornwood graduate, is now an educator and athletic coach at Niles West High School. Blair is a former NFL player for the Green Bay Packers, and has earned a spot on the Jamaican bobsled team.

Blair, a dual citizen in Jamaica and the United States, has been invited to train with the team and has an ultimate goal of being in the sled for Jamaica during the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

Blair commented, "Thornwood helped me lay a solid foundation for all the future endeavors that I became involved in. I am grateful to the teachers, coaches and athletes at Thornwood that have provided me with so much support and inspiration."



Pictured with Michael Blair is Thornwood High School principal Dennis Willis

THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL GETS STUDENTS PREPARED FOR SAT STANDARDIZED TESTING

BY RONDA WILLIAMS

The State of Illinois recently changed its standardized college entrance exam from the ACT to the College Board's SAT. So, for students entering college in the fall of 2018, this means a new test format that challenges their critical thinking skills in math and evidence based reading.

Thornwood is taking this new testing requirement seriously by offering its students SAT prep classes three days a week. At the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year, students were given a pre-test or preliminary SAT exam to benchmark their readiness, and the results were not favorable. It was at this time that the school developed a class to get students prepared.

School data shows that 67% of juniors who participated in previous years ACT prep class scored one to three points higher than the school's average.

Veronica Mosely Raggs, Data Coach and Testing Coordinator for Thornwood High School, developed the test preparation program so students can learn test taking strategies that help them improve their scores. "We want our children to succeed, and this preparation class teaches them the strategies they need for test taking," said Mrs. Mosely Raggs. "These are critical thinking skills that they will be able to use throughout their college years and adult life."

The voluntary preparation class is held Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Every other Saturday, students take a practice test to put what they've learned into action. As the

test is timed, they are also able to learn how to work quickly under pressure.

"I would really like to see more students participate in this class," said Mosely Raggs. "There are so many kids who just need a little bit of help to boost their scores. Every week, I hear the students talk about how they are going to work through each question to get to the answer. It's so rewarding to see them progress."

Juniors will take the SAT exam April 5, 2017. The scores they receive will determine which colleges accept them for the 2018-2019 school year.

Thornwood is considering a summer SAT preparation class for students entering junior year in the fall. This will be a pilot program that brings together educators, students and parents in an intensive three-week course.

"Our children's success takes community involvement," said Mosely Raggs. "And I'm hopeful that we all will pull together for their benefit."





ALL ABOUT FLOODING

URBAN FLOODING

The challenges, frustration and financial impact of urban flooding is all too real for a homeowner. As one of the most frequently experienced of natural disasters, flooding has become a substantial threat to property and health around the globe. Recent heavy rainfall events in the Village of South Holland exemplified the seriousness of flooding for many residents.

Scholars suggest that climate change will increase the frequency and intensity of heavy rainfall events, ultimately increasing the risk of urban flooding. The Code Enforcement Department shares this important information related to urban flooding.

WHAT IS URBAN FLOODING?

Urban flooding occurs when homes, yards or streets are inundated with water from heavy rains or snow melt, damaging property and making travel difficult and dangerous. It also results from sewer water backing up through pipes into basements and from water seeping through foundation walls.

HOW IS URBAN FLOODING DIFFERENT FROM OTHER KINDS OF FLOODING?

Government agencies and the media typically associate flooding with infrequent catastrophic events, such as hurricane Sandy, and when heavy rains cause tidal surges and riverbanks to overflow. However, a 2015 study in Illinois suggests that the vast majority of properties affected by flooding are in urban and suburban areas where flooding affects them every time it rains hard. For these residents and

businesses, flooding happens when the run-off from roads, parking lots, yards, and roofs overwhelms the sewer system and makes its way into their homes.

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

Urban flooding is a national trend and there are three primary reasons for this occurrence. First, over the last 50 years, there has been an increase in the number of heavy rain storm events. Second, over the same period, development has increased. The amount of impervious surfaces (new buildings, streets, sidewalks and parking lots) has resulted in less available soil to absorb the increased rainfall. Finally, most storm sewers installed 50 years ago were not designed for the massive amounts of rainwater that we are experiencing in today's climate. Additionally, it is extremely important that residents have their downspouts and sump pumps disconnected from the sanitary sewer system, which is the primary cause of basement flooding. If you are unsure about the status of your current plumbing system, contact an experienced licensed plumber for an inspection or contact Code Enforcement at 708-210-2915.

INSURANCE

There are ways homeowners can protect their property in the event of a flood. A typical homeowner insurance policy does not cover property damage caused by flooding from occurrences of storms, over-saturated ground, overflowing or surging bodies of water, such as rivers, ponds, and lakes. A separate flood insurance policy is recommended.

Additionally, property damage caused by flooding due to water

backup from sewers or drains, sump pump failure, below-ground seepage, mold damage, or earth movement are also not covered by a typical homeowner insurance policy or a basic flood insurance policy. However, homeowners may be able to secure additional sewer and water back up coverage to help provide protection in case of flood events.

Water backup and sump pump discharge policies can usually be purchased as riders, but they do not cover damage from water seepage through basement walls or homeowner negligence. Insurance riders are secured by contacting your insurance company.

The Village of South Holland offers flood assistance to help homeowners mitigate existing flood problems, such as seepage and sewer backup. Floodproofing your home can help prevent future damage to your property and loss of valued possessions.

Information about floodproofing and available flood assistance programs are available online at <http://www.southholland.org/departments/flood-assistance/> (scan the QR code), or call Code Enforcement at 708-210-2915. Look for future articles detailing MWRD's Infiltration and Inflow Control Program to address widespread flooding issues.



ALL ABOUT FLOODING CONTINUED...

BE PREPARED FOR UNEXPECTED STORMS

Most of South Holland's flooding and drainage problems occur during and after heavy storms. These can happen at any time, but are more common during the summer. There are many things that can be done to prepare for the storm and water problems that may follow, such as:

- Keep ditches, drainage swales, detention basins and storm sewer inlets clear of debris.
- Check with the Code Enforcement office to determine if your house is in a mapped flood plain or if there is a history of flood problems in your area. The code enforcement office can be reached by calling 708/210-2915.
- Ask the Code Enforcement office about how to protect against water problems.
- During a rain, keep tuned to local radio or television stations to see if there is a tornado or flash flooding hazard.
- Make a record of all personal property. Go through the basement (if not the entire house) and record everything. Videotape or take photographs. Inventory forms are available free from most insurance companies or make one.
- Ask the code enforcement office if an elevation certificate is available for your property.
- Protecting your property is important. Information is available from FEMA publications, including "Homeowners Guide to Retrofitting: Six Ways to Protect Your House from Flooding." These resources can be found on www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodplain/publications.shtm.

FLOOD SAFETY

DO NOT WALK THROUGH FLOWING WATER. Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths. Currents can be deceptive—six inches of moving water can knock an average-sized person off their feet. Use a pole or stick to ensure that the ground is still there before going through an area where the water is not flowing.

DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH A FLOODED AREA. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Don't drive around road barriers—the road or bridge may be washed out.

SHUT OFF ELECTRICITY AND GAS. Make sure these utilities are turned off before proceeding with further efforts. Call the fire department at 708/331-3123 for assistance.

STAY AWAY FROM POWER LINES AND ELECTRICAL WIRES. The number two flood killer, after drowning, is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to the Police Department at 708/331-3131.

LOOK BEFORE YOU STEP. After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris, including broken bottles and nails. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be very slippery.

BE ALERT FOR GAS LEAKS. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns, or open flames before checking that the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated.

CARBON MONOXIDE EXHAUST KILLS. Use a generator or other gasoline-powered machinery outdoors. The same goes for camping stoves. Charcoal fumes are especially deadly—cook with charcoal outdoors.

CLEAN EVERYTHING THAT GOT WET. Flood waters have picked up sewage and chemicals from roads, farms, factories, and storage buildings. Spoiled food, and flooded cosmetics and medicine can be health hazards. When in doubt, throw it out.

TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOURSELF. Recovering from a flood is a big job. It is tough on both the body and the spirit, and the effects that a disaster can have on a family may last a long time. Keep eyes open for any signs of anxiety, stress, and fatigue.

CREATE AN EVACUATION PLAN. If there is a threat of a flood or an emergency, you should have an evacuation plan for yourself and personal property items.

If it is raining hard, tune to a local radio station to see if a flood watch or warning has been issued. For residents watching television, the cable override will issue a message.

Remember, in the event of an emergency, call 9-1-1. To learn more about flood proofing, call Code Enforcement, 708/210-2915.

DOG OWNER ETIQUETTE:



- Dogs must be on a leash.
- Dogs must have a village tag. (available at Village Hall)
- Dogs are not allowed in area parks.
 - Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pet. (pick up after your dog)

* Beginning May 1, receive a gift when you purchase your dog tag.



WISDOM FROM OUR CHURCHES

I took my five-year old son, Willem, to the South Suburban College Men's Basketball game on a Tuesday night. My friends, Ron and Diana, from church had been encouraging and inviting us to make a game, so I asked Will if he wanted to go and he was all about it. So we made our way to South Suburban College for the 7:00pm tip off. We met Ron and Diana in the bleachers. They got him some popcorn and a t-shirt from a South Suburban College basketball camp. The popcorn, the shirt, the game, and the music put Will over the top with excitement. I could just tell how much joy they got out of seeing the excitement and happiness on Will's face during the game.

Ron must have bought a few raffle tickets because at halftime, one of his tickets was called out over the loud speaker; he had to come down to the court to shoot a layup, a free-throw, a three-pointer and a half court shot all in 30 seconds for prizes. He gave it to Will. So, I took him down to the announcer and he told us to have a seat on the bench with another kid who had to have been in high school and also "won" the ticket raffle. He went first. As he was shooting, it dawned on Will that he was up next to shoot in front of the entire crowd. What once was something fun, like playing in our driveway, all of a sudden turned into something super scary. He started burrowing himself in my side and kept saying "Dad, Dad, Dad, I don't want to. I'm scared. I'm scared. I'm scared." To be honest, I didn't really know what to do. Force him out on the court and risk a meltdown? Tell the announcer that we would "take a pass" on the whole shooting for prizes? Thankfully, Will found an extra measure of courage once he had the ball in his hands. He started throwing the basketball with all his might towards the hoop. He hit the net a few times, but all of his five-year old strength couldn't quite get the "oomph" to make a basket. The announcer kept calling out, "Let's give it up for the little man!" And while he didn't come close to making a basket, he still won the prize.

I don't know about you, but there seems to be a lot to be scared about in our world. From wars, rumors of war, a country seemingly tearing itself in two, there are a lot of reasons I feel like I want to burrow myself into the side of my Heavenly Father and say, "Dad, Dad, Dad, I don't want to. I'm scared. I'm scared. I'm scared." Words like "immigration," "wall," and "Isis" leave me feeling scared, unsettled and fearful. And those are just the words I hear and see about on the news. What about words like "cancer," "death," and "divorce." These words leave me feeling scared too. They make me feel like Willem sitting there in front of the crowd with a not-so-little nervous feeling growing in the pit of his stomach.

It's in these times we need to be reminded of Jesus' comforting and convicting words in the book of John when he says, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." It's true. Jesus has overcome the world. He's overcome war and rumors of war. He's overcome political divisions. He's overcome immigration and Isis. He's overcome cancer and death. This is trustworthy and true, my friends. And by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, we, too, are tethered to Christ and can experience that victory. It's not to say that we won't be scared and filled with fear. No, instead, it's a powerful reminder that as Christians, we have the uncanny ability to set our hearts and minds on things above, where Christ is seated. That heavenly victory is awaiting those who love and serve Jesus. So, on days that are like a lot of the days we've had as of late, maybe we do need to take heart and remember that Jesus has overcome this world.

Pastor Matt Waterstone
*First Reformed Church
of South Holland*





HONORING OUR VETERANS PARADE & REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY MAY 29, 2017 – 10:00 A.M.

Together, as a community, we honor Veterans of the United States Armed Forces at South Holland's annual Memorial Day Parade and Remembrance Ceremony, 10 a.m. Monday, May 29. Area schools, churches, businesses, and civic groups are invited to participate in the parade on South Park Avenue. Following the parade, at approximately 1:00 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park, Mayor Don De Graff will host the annual Remembrance Ceremony, featuring our local Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Registration for the parade is easy. Simply complete the short application below and submit to the Department of Recreational Services before May 2. For more information, call Recreational Services at (708) 331-2940.

PARADE THEME COLORS: RED, WHITE AND BLUE

2017 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE APPLICATION

Organization Name _____ Contact Person _____

Address _____

Email _____ Daytime Phone Number _____

Type of Entry: Marching/Walking Unit Float Vehicle Other _____

Describe Entry: Amount of People _____ Type of Vehicle _____ How Many Vehicles _____ (limit 4)

Length of Entry _____ ft. Do You Have Music? Yes No Prefer to be near music? (if feasible) Yes No

Special Needs: _____

MANDATORY PARADE MEETING: Thurs., MAY 16, 7 P.M.: Name of person attending _____

SEND ENTRIES TO:

Memorial Day Parade Entry
501 E. 170th Street
South Holland, Illinois 60473
(708) 331-3202 fax

DEADLINE: MAY 2, 2017

Entry designation and line up information
will be sent out prior to the parade date.
Questions: call the Dept. of Recreational
Services, (708) 331-2940

PARADE BIOS (50 WORDS MAX)

(This required information will be read as your float passes the judging table)



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

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MAYOR'S COFFEE

JUNE 13TH
7 P.M.

South Holland
Community Center
• 501 East 170th Street •



DON A. DE GRAFF
President

Village Board

DR. SALLIE PENMAN
Clerk

LARRY
DE YOUNG
Trustee

ANDREW
JOHNSON, JR.
Trustee

CYNTHIA
NYLEN
Trustee

VICKIE
PERKINS
Trustee

PRINCE
REED
Trustee

JOHN
SULLIVAN
Trustee