



VILLAGE OF

# Mundelein **INSIDER**

Incorporated in 1909

FALL 2016

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in Mundelein

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Excellence Award

## Message From the Mayor

With the fall season upon us and Thanksgiving just around the corner, I extend my sincere thanks to the numerous community volunteers who worked diligently to give our village a wonderful summer experience.

We enjoyed record attendance at Mundelein Community Days, the Farmers Market, Concerts in the Park, Barefoot Bay, and Diamond Lake Beach to name just a few. Thanks to everyone for turning out, getting to know your neighbors, and making these events so enjoyable. I also wish to send a huge thank you to Mike Flynn who has served as the Mundelein Community Days Village Liaison for 27 years. Mike has worked tirelessly to ensure that Mundelein's week-long festival is truly the "best ever."

Here are a few things I think you'd like to know:

### **Mundelein Arts Festival and the One World Festival**

We recently celebrated the Sixth Annual Mundelein Arts Festival and the Fourth Annual One World Festival and both events were well-attended and well-received. Both festivals showcased Mundelein in a very positive light and it takes a Village to host events of this caliber. I applaud everyone involved.

### **STEM Addition Opens at Mundelein High School**

Mundelein High School's new \$23.6 million building addition features a STEM lab, multiple science/math labs, a Business Incubator lab, and multi-use classrooms. This building is source of pride for

our community and will serve Mundelein for decades to come.

### **Community Development News**

We have great news to report in terms of Community Development. Here are just a few highlights:

- Panera Bread is scheduled to open in the Spring of 2017 on the old Pizza Hut site on the corner of Rte 60 and Hwy 45.
- Jewel-Osco is renovating the former Dominick's space on Midlothian and Hwy 176 and expects to open before the end of the year.
- Two new restaurants recently opened in town. In and Out BBQ is now open in Hawley Lakes Plaza at Hwy 45 and Hawley Street, and Tina G's Restaurant is now open on the corner of Park Street and Hwy 45.
- Advocate HealthCare is completing a new facility at Mundelein Crossings in front of Home Depot.
- The Downtown North Implementation Plan Open House was held on September 20, 2016. Led by our consultant, Farr Associates, the team is refining three scopes into a final document for presentation at a future Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting and Village Board Meeting.



*continued on page 2*

## Village of Mundelein

GOVERNOR'S HOMETOWN AWARD WINNER

TOP 100 SAFEST CITIES IN AMERICA—  
RANKED 38

MUNDELEIN PARKS AND RECREATION  
DISTRICT—ILLINOIS DISTINGUISHED  
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RECIPIENT NEW URBANISM CNU MERIT  
AWARD FOR MASTER REDEVELOPMENT  
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

10 BEST CHICAGO SUBURBS FOR FAMILIES

MOODY'S AA1 RATING—SECOND HIGHEST  
GRADE FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

RECIPIENT OF SUNSHINE AWARD FOR  
GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

10 BEST CHICAGO SUBURBS FOR  
YOUNG COUPLES

## Panera Bread to Open Soon in Mundelein—New Restaurant to Feature Drive-Thru and Outdoor Patio Seating

Mayor Steve Lentz and the Board of Trustees are pleased to announce that Panera Bread has plans to open a new bakery-café in Mundelein in the Spring of 2017 at 1575 South Lake Street—at the north east intersection of Townline Road (Route 60) and South Lake St (Route 45). The new 4,156 sq. ft. location features the latest Panera design with drive-thru and outdoor patio seating.

The new bakery-cafe in Mundelein will offer a warm and welcoming environment including various intimate seating areas, comfortable chairs, a community table and free Wi-Fi Internet access.

For those on the go, an ordering option called Rapid Pick-Up will enable customers to place an online/mobile order from their office, car, work or home – up to 2 weeks in advance – and pick up their food at a pre-determined time without waiting in line. The bakery-cafe will be equipped with a special “to go” pick-up area, featuring dedicated seating, an order-status monitor providing real-time information as orders are prepared and completed, and shelf space, all to facilitate easy pick-up.

“We look forward to opening a new bakery-cafe in such a vital community,” said Mike Hamra, President & CEO of Hamra Enterprises. “Our bakery-cafes have been embraced by many surrounding communities in Chicagoland over the past 18 years and we look forward to sharing the Panera warmth in Mundelein.”



“We are very pleased to welcome Panera Bread to Mundelein and we are equally pleased to know that Mundelein residents will now have their own hometown Panera Bread. Periodically over the past few years, residents have inquired about a Panera Bread in Mundelein and now it will soon be opening. I feel confident that this business venture will be a win-win. The Panera Bread team and Village staff worked together closely to finalize plans for a great looking building on a very visible corner. This adds to a growing list of dining options in our Village and on behalf of the Board of Trustees we extend a warm Mundelein welcome,” said Steve Lentz, Mayor.

## Message From the Mayor (cont.)

### Construction Projects

Mundelein is alive with construction projects this fall, many of which will continue next spring.

- Hawley Street Rehabilitation—This \$9 million joint project with Lake County is nearly 50% complete. Once finished this November, Hawley Street will look vibrant and updated.
- Hawley Lake Plaza—the former Walgreen’s shopping center at Route 45 and Hawley Street just underwent an estimated \$1.8 million renovation. New businesses routinely express interest and more details will soon follow.
- K. Hovnanian’s Orchard Meadows Homes, a residential housing development between Route 60/83 and Midlothian Rd. (formerly Quigs Apple Orchard) consisting of 77 single family homes, is currently 50% sold.
- Fairhaven Crossing—a new 40- unit apartment building on Hawley Street next to the Post Office, will open later this fall.

- The parking lot at Seymour Avenue and Park Street has been reconstructed and is open for public use.
- The North Shore Bike Path, starting at Brice near Carmel Catholic High School, is getting paved out all the way out to Route 43.

Mundelein continues to garner attention as being a desirable place to live, work, and raise a family. Most recently, “Time Out Chicago,” an online blog about Chicago happenings and the surrounding areas, featured an article about suburban life. In it, the writer names Mundelein as one of 9 suburbs they would choose to live in.

With the onset of the school year, football is back! Be sure to cheer on our home teams as Mundelein High School and Carmel Catholic High School take to the turf each Friday night! Go Mustangs! Go Corsairs!

Steve Lentz  
Mayor

## Mundelein Board of Trustees Appoint Orenchuk to Community Development Director

Recently, the Mundelein Board of Trustees appointed Amanda Orenchuk, AICP to the position of Community Development Director for the Village of Mundelein. Orenchuk served as Acting Director for the past several months and prior to this position she was the Village's Senior Planner.

In this role, Orenchuk will reach out to new and existing developers and businesses to showcase Mundelein as the premier location to meet their needs. She also will guide interested parties through the Village's processes, expertly communicating requirements and needs, assist with the development of policies, procedures, and regulations that serve the best interests of the customer and the Village.

Community development requires a knowledge base on a variety of subjects to effectively carry out job duties. During the span of a project, particularly a large project, it is common to deal with planning and site design, architecture, land use law and agreements, zoning requirements, sign regulations, community outreach, economic development, communication, mapping (geographic information systems), procedures across multiple jurisdictions, and basic understanding of other department codes and regulations.

"For years, I've worked with Amanda on various initiatives and have always been impressed with her technical and practical knowledge. More importantly, developers and business owners with whom she's worked give her high marks, as well. She is both detail-oriented and able to see the big picture. I have the utmost confidence in her ability to assist us in keeping Mundelein thriving and moving forward," said Steve Lentz, Mayor.

"I am very pleased that Amanda accepted the position of Community Development Director, as she has been an important part of the economic development team in Mundelein since she was hired in 2007 and the department has thrived under her leadership in her role as Acting Director, successfully handling several key tasks. Her education, experience, passion, and steady leadership for building a strong, vibrant community will build on our momentum. Attracting desirable businesses to the community will be her top priority," said John Lobaito, Village Administrator.

In terms of attracting new business to the Village, Orenchuk believes Mundelein is well-positioned.

"The Village has spent the lean recession years putting the house in order and making it easier to open businesses and develop property. Community Development has spent an extraordinary amount of time gathering data on the community in order to better understand where we stand in the market with regards to demographics, vacancy, fees, and business activity. Now, the focus will transition to

outreach and presentation of the Village's strengths and position in the market. The Village will make a presence at new venues in order to make new business contacts. We also will leverage our existing contacts and encourage people to 'ReThink' Mundelein. We know we are doing great work here and it's important to better communicate the progress we've made in the past decade," Orenchuk explains.



### ORENCHUK'S PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES WILL INCLUDE:

1. Creating additional opportunities for job growth by identifying industrial and flex spaces;
2. Lay the foundation to attract new businesses and development;
3. Improving Village data;
4. Reporting on Comprehensive Plan Implementation;
5. Identifying updates to the Comprehensive Plan;
6. Amending the Zoning Ordinance;
7. Improving the public space and built environment of the Village; and
8. Ensuring opportunities for growth and involvement for Village staff.

Orenchuk continues, "We will present all available tools in our toolkit to assist businesses, brokers, developers, and residents with their projects that meet the goals and objectives of the Village's Comprehensive Plan. We will continue to evaluate our Economic Incentive Programs, Zoning Ordinance, Sign Ordinance, Comprehensive Plan and Subarea Plans, fee schedules, agreements, processes, data, marketing pieces, and appearance of the public space to facilitate the Village's growth and enhance the Mundelein experience."

Orenchuk further emphasized that people want to be in places that have vibrancy and are attractive environments. Businesses also want to be in spaces with responsive landlords. "Between private investment and Village incentives, the spaces in the Village are beginning to see reinvestment and renewed interest. We expect many people will want to be a part of this growth," she says.

Orenchuk earned her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and her Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Michigan.

## Mundelein Board of Trustees Vote to Acquire Downtown Property Parcel

Recently, the Mundelein Board of Trustees adopted a Resolution authorizing the acquisition of 538 North Morris Avenue. This 2.8 acre property comprised of 2 parcels of property and a 14,700 sq. ft. building, was acquired for the purchase price of \$200,000. The Village Board deemed it would be in the best interest of the public to acquire this property. The property appraises at \$525,000 so the purchase price is \$350,000 below the property's appraised value.

According to the Village of Mundelein's Comprehensive Plan and Downtown Redevelopment Plan, an implementation strategy to promote the development and redevelopment within the Downtown is to acquire and assemble key properties for redevelopment. Acquiring these key properties enables the Village to guide the development of the property in a manner that is consistent and supportive of the place making efforts undertaken by the community.

"Our vision for Mundelein's Downtown is to transform the space into a vibrant, active, attractive, walkable, mixed-use area that provides living and shopping opportunities, connects to transit, provides civic functions, and respects



the historic character of the Village. To achieve this vision, we have to take strategic and calculated steps to turn our vision into reality. The purchase of this property moves us closer to redefining the downtown and opens up this space for other uses such as housing and retail. The purchase also helps to accelerate redevelopment and improve Mundelein's image," explains Steve Lentz, Mayor.

## Mundelein Earns Top Awards for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Certificate for Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the Village of Mundelein by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR).

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

Additionally, an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to Doug Haywood, Mundelein Finance Director for his role in the preparation of the award-winning comprehensive annual financial report.

"We are pleased to receive this recognition. One of our key objectives is transparency in reporting the Village's finances and outlook. Although the recognition is awarded to Mundelein, our Finance Director, Doug Haywood is the reason behind this award. The community has benefitted significantly from Doug's expertise and proficiency with managing the Village's finances," said John Lobaito, Village Administrator.



The CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program. The panel used specific criteria to evaluate Mundelein's comprehensive financial report including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals across the country.

# Public Works Hires New Business Services Manager



Kelsey Langelier was recently hired to the newly created position of Business Services Manager in the Public Works and Engineering Department. Her hiring is part of a restructuring of the Public Works and Engineering Department. According to Director Adam Boeche, Ms. Langelier's addition provides the department with strong analytical skills to assist with strategic planning.

Rather than replace the Deputy Director position, the Department assessed current needs and reassigned the position the title of "Business Services Manager." This change provides the Public Works and Engineering Department with an individual who can concentrate on finding more efficiencies in an already efficient organization.

"We recognized the strength of our department is in our current leadership and operations, therefore filling the mid-level supervisor position wasn't necessary," stated Adam Boeche. "The Business Services Manager position gives us an opportunity to take a deeper dive into our data to see how and where to most effectively allocate resources."

Prior to joining the Mundelein Public Works and Engineering team, Kelsey worked at the Village of Algonquin, in a similar capacity while studying to obtain her graduate degree in Public Administration from Northern Illinois University.

The reorganization is anticipated to save the Village more than \$200,000 in personnel costs over the next five years.

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*diabetes, cataract, glaucoma, macular degeneration*

## Mundelein Board of Trustees Appoint 11 Members to Newly Formed Mundelein Arts Commission

In keeping with Mundelein's commitment to recognize and celebrate the communities' rich cultural and artistic history and to promote cultural diversity through the arts, Mayor Steve Lentz and the Village of Mundelein Board of Trustees recently voted to pass an Ordinance establishing the Mundelein Arts Commission.

Through the creation of the newly formed Mundelein Arts Commission, Mayor Lentz and the Village Board seek to expand the scope of the communities' artistic awareness by combining the vision and goals of the Human Relations Commission, the Utility Box Art Review Committee, and the Police Statue Planning Committee into a broad-based arts commission as recommended by the Village Hall Study Committee.

"The Village Hall Study Committee recommended the development of the new Mundelein Arts Commission as a means to develop a long-range plan to meet and expand the communities' cultural and artistic needs," Mayor Lentz explains. "We take great pride in living out our brand promise to be a 'welcoming community' and the Village Board believes that it is essential to promote the arts and cultural opportunities in order to best communicate this welcoming vibe throughout the Village."

At the July 25, 2016 Village Board Meeting, Mayor Lentz and the Board of Trustees appointed 11 members to the newly formed Mundelein Arts Commission. The newly established Mundelein Arts Commission, is a natural extension of the former Human Relations Commission, the Utility Box Art Committee, and the Police Statue Committee. The members of these three organizations have worked tirelessly to promote the cultural, visual, and performing arts in Mundelein over the past several years. Collectively, these dedicated community members have helped to set the stage for the consolidation of the arts through the Mundelein Arts Commission.

"We all owe a debt of gratitude to the Mundelein residents who have worked to promote and further diversity awareness in our community. They have provided a solid foundation upon which we can build and they have amassed an impressive body of work including the One World Festival, Diversity Award Recognition, and public art, to name just a few of their many accomplishments. They have certainly made their mark," said Mayor Lentz.

The commission's Mission Statement places a greater emphasis on the arts and using the arts to communicate Mundelein's welcoming spirit. It reads: "As part of the Village of Mundelein's promise to be a welcoming community, the Mundelein Arts Commission

*We are very grateful to those who volunteered to serve on the Arts Commission and trust that their passion for the arts will greatly benefit Mundelein's expanding cultural focus.*

shall seek to create an environment in which cultural, visual, and performance art will enhance the quality of life for the Mundelein community."

To be considered to serve on the Mundelein Arts Commission, applicants needed to have a background in the arts or marketing.

"Initially, we intended for the Mundelein Arts Commission to have 7 members, however, we quickly realized we could expand the number of members based on the caliber of the applicants and their superior qualifications. We are very grateful to those who volunteered to serve on the Arts Commission and trust that their passion for the arts will greatly benefit Mundelein's expanding cultural focus," Mayor Lentz said.



### MUNDELEIN ARTS COMMISSION

- Joyce Lee—Chairman of Arts Commission, formerly on Human Relations Commission HRC
- John Ramer—former Human Relations Commission, Chair
- Maryanne Warton
- Dr. Bruce Moon
- Daniel Arends
- Katie Bernardi~formerly on HRC
- Aurelia Spicuzza
- Stan Kirschner
- Jeff Justman
- Gail Smith
- Sarah Lybik

## New Electrical Aggregation Rates Go Into Effect 3-Months Early New Rates Trending Slightly Lower

Recently, the Village has received some phone call inquiries from residents about conflicting information from letters they are now receiving about the new electrical aggregation rates and an article that was featured in the Summer, 2016 edition of the Mundelein Insider quarterly newsletter. The article suggested that residents may want to switch back to ComEd for the best rates. At the time the newsletter was published in late June, this information was correct. However, with the new fixed aggregation rates from Dynegy (which began August 1) and the variable rates from ComEd (beginning this October) now known, the information in the newsletter is no longer accurate. The Village apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.

In October 2015, the Village re-entered the Municipal Aggregation program through Dynegy, Inc. The Village secured a guaranteed 12-month rate of 6.781 cents per Kilowatt Hour (KWh) for Mundelein residents that chose to opt-in. As it turned out, the flexible ComEd rate, which can vary monthly between 5.695 cents to 6.815 cents per KWh, ended up being slightly better with an average overall rate of 6.275 cents per KWh for the year.

However, in late July of this year, the Village re-entered into the Municipal Aggregation program with Dynegy and

secured a guaranteed 12-month rate of 6.199 cents per Kilowatt Hour (KWh), which was originally set to begin in

October 2016. This new Dynegy fixed rate is a 9% decrease from last year's rate of 6.781 cents per KWh. It is also lower than ComEd's variable rate of 6.31 cents per KWh, which begins this October, and can change by 0.5 cents month-to-month in either direction (5.81 cents to 6.81 cents per KWh).

**Please see the chart below.**

Due to some sort of internal error at Dynegy, these new lower rates, that were meant to begin in October of this year, went into effect August 1. This is 3 months earlier than intended. This is good news for residents who entered into the Municipal Aggregation program with Dynegy, as they are enjoying the new lower rates a few months early. The Village applauds Dynegy for allowing the early rates to remain in effect.

If you would like to switch from ComEd to opt-in to aggregation program and received the fixed rates outlined above, please call Dynegy at 1-844-351-7691. Please feel free to contact the Village at 1-847-949-3200 if you have any questions.



### Village of Mundelein Program vs. ComEd rate in cents per kilowatt hour

	Supply + transmission	PEA fee <sup>1</sup>	Effective rate
<b>Com Ed rate</b> 10/16–5/17 6/17–10/17	6.31¢ <sup>2</sup> unknown	+/-0.5¢	5.81–6.81¢ 6/17–10/17
<b>Mundelein rate</b> 10/16–10/17	6.199¢	none	6.199¢

## Mundelein Launches Mass Notification System— Sign-Up Today

In an effort to facilitate timely and accurate communication with residents, the Village of Mundelein has implemented Blackboard Connect, a leading mass notification system.

Blackboard Connect enables Village officials to send both urgent and non-urgent notifications. The system provides residents with information/directions in the event of emergency, road closures, or community events. Using Blackboard Connect, officials can record and send an unlimited number of personalized voice messages to home phones, businesses, local agencies and mobile phones in just minutes. The service also sends email, text messages

(SMS) to mobile phones and posts on Facebook, RSS feeds and Twitter channels. Messages can also be sent to TTY/TDD devices for people who are hearing impaired.

Those without Internet access are encouraged to call 847-968-4600 and speak with Jennifer Marshall to provide their current information. Residents with call blocking services should add 847-949-3200 to their approved number list to ensure they receive important notifications from the Village.

**Sign-up for Blackboard Connect at:**  
<https://villageofmundelein.bbcportal.com/>

## Mundelein Welcomes New Downtown Restaurant— Tina G's Earning Rave Reviews during First Few Weeks of Opening

Tina and Phil Gilardi, longtime Mundelein residents who already own a restaurant in town, recently opened Tina G's a new restaurant in downtown Mundelein—8 East Park Street located at the northeast corner of Route 45 and Park Street. Tina G's is a full-service restaurant open seven days per week serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The menu features "outside the box" unique dishes. Tina G's also has a full bar and lounge.

"Mundelein ... has been very warm to us," Phil Gilardi said. "They've really wanted to work with us and have wanted us to do more things. We love that little corner where our restaurant is now located," Gilardi commented.

The restaurant has enough seating for about 50 people, and this includes a private dining area with space for about 10 people.

"It's great to see a local resident and restaurateur open another restaurant in our community. The Gilardis have done a fabulous job with Tavern on 60, and there is no doubt they will do a terrific job with Tina G's," said Steve Lentz, Mayor.

Tina G's website states, "Our menu is carefully selected with a variety of scrumptious dishes to satisfy your palate. Some of the items on our Breakfast menu includes the famous Tina G's and Philly G's Omelet, Eggs Benedict and Breakfast Specialties. Our Dinner Menu includes a variety of Appetizers, Salads, Steak, Pastas, and Chicken."

The husband-and-wife team have operated Philly G's in Vernon Hills since 2005 and they have operated the Tavern on 60 sports bar and restaurant in Mundelein since 2013.

Those who have visited the restaurant during the first few weeks since opening have given Tina G's high praise.

### Here are a few recent rave reviews:

*Loved it! So pretty inside! All the old family pictures on the walls are amazing to see! The bar is awesome very cozy and slot machines and tv's too!! The chicken salad is the best I've ever had! Great new dishes with an Italian-American flare.*

*Tina and Philly are fantastic warm people! Stop in... you won't be disappointed!!*

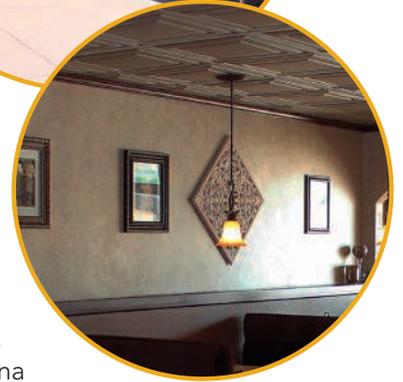
*Had a great dinner. It's about time Tina had her name in lights. Philly G's has been our go to place for over 25 years and Tina G's is a great addition to our very favorites. Breakfast, lunch, dinner-I'm thinking of moving in!*

*I love this place! Bright, cheery and the food is AMAZING! Try the Lobster and Asparagus—to die for!  
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner—what more could you want?*

*Very friendly staff and atmosphere! Their food is awesome and the prices are very reasonable.*

*Drinks and fried ravioli were great! Can't wait to try dinner—we will definitely be back!*

*Great breakfast selection. Great service. Nice addition to the city.*



## Mundelein Residents Warmly Welcome In and Out BBQ to Village

Mundelein is proud to welcome In and Out BBQ carryout restaurant. This new eating establishment, "Where the BBQ speaks for itself," is located at 428 North Lake Street in the Hawley Lake Plaza shopping center. Independently owned and operated, In and Out BBQ prides itself on quality food freshly prepared at affordable prices coupled with exceptional customer service.

"We at In and Out BBQ would like to give a special thanks to the Mundelein Mom's Facebook group. Your responses to our food and customer service has been amazing. Your reviews, enthusiasm, phone calls, and support is truly appreciated and we thank you," Owner Quinton Beal said on the company's Facebook page.

"I'm very pleased that Mundelein residents have enthusiastically welcomed In and Out BBQ to town. In the very near future, the renovations to Hawley Lake Plaza will be complete and this is sure to help all the businesses in that shopping center. We wish In and Out BBQ all the best," said Mayor Steve Lentz.

Popular menu items include: Southern style homemade sides and special sauces to go along with the slow wood smoked meats such as fall off the bone ribs, 15-hour smoked brisket, pulled pork offered in 3 variations-one of a kind In and Out style, authentic Carolina style and Jamaican Jerk.

Based on the online reviews, Mundelein residents are enjoying In and Out BBQ's great food and friendly service.

### Here are a few examples of what they are saying:

*Tasty BBQ and friendly service hold hands at In-N-Out BBQ in Mundelein. Brittany was like seeing an old friend and the food took me back to 1976 to my great aunt's potato salad. Such a great trip back in time, I was there twice in one day making sure my best friend got in on it. Fantastic BBQ with perfect heat for anyone's taste and mac-n-cheese like it should be. Thank you for coming to my town and right around the corner no less!*

*This place is awesome, we picked up some BBQ & Pulled Pork this evening for dinner and the food was fantastic so was the service. We give it a 10!! Let's keep this place in business Mundelein Residents, it is so nice to have this unique type of business here in town. Prices are pretty good for what you get, inside decor is really cute!! We wish them all the best!*



## Study Ranks Mundelein 5th Safest Big City in Illinois

A study recently published by Value Penguin ranked Mundelein among the 5 Safest Big Cities in Illinois. The ranking is based on a variety of crime metrics the researcher's sourced from the FBI across 291 Illinois cities.

**Here is the link to the full report:**

<http://www.valuepenguin.com/2016/safest-places-illinois>

**Here's how Mundelein ranks amongst the Safest Places in Illinois among several categories:**  
(1 = Best, 145 = Average)

- 5th-Big City Safety Rank
- 47th-Overall Safety Rank
- 59th-Violent Crime
- 42nd-Property Crime

## Smart Meters to be Installed throughout Summer and Fall 2016

ComEd plans to install approximately 4 million smart meters in all homes and businesses across northern Illinois by the end of 2018. For the Village of Mundelein, most smart meters will replace standard analog meters over a six month time period from June to December of this year. Fourteen of them were installed throughout the Village in June, twenty-four meters in July, twenty-seven meters in August, 8,394 meters in September, 3,019 meters in October, and twelve meters in December. While some smart meter installation will continue into 2017, a majority of meters will be installed during the fall of this year for a total of 12,760 smart meter installations in 2016.

Smart meters are digital electric meters that securely send electricity-usage information to ComEd. Smart meters are a key part of ComEd's effort to modernize the electric system and provide their customers with better service and a stronger, more reliable electric system. Approximately 1.5 million smart meters are already installed and provide additional benefits to their users. Some of these benefits include:

- Greater control over energy usage.
- Access to more information about electricity usage.
- Optional alerts when usage is trending higher than normal.

- Optional weekly emails that summarize daily usage.
- Optional pricing programs that help to provide customers with savings.
- Ability to manage costs by shifting electricity usage to times when prices are lower, such as nights and weekends.
- They help eliminate estimated bills and the need for a meter reader to come to your home.
- Smart meters provide more efficient utility operations including detection of meter tampering, and the ability to expedite the transfer of electrical service should customers move from one location to another within the ComEd service territory.
- When the smart grid is complete, smart meters can notify ComEd when an outage occurs and when power is restored. This leads to quicker response times and more efficient outage restoration.

For residents who do not know if they already have a smart meter, information will be provided on their ComEd bill. One has a smart meter if the meter number on their bill has nine digits and begins with a "2" (See the "Meter Information" box near the top of the bill). Another indicator is that smart meters are affixed with a "Silver Spring Networks" sticker at the top of the face of the meter and have a digital display while analog meters have dials.

## MHS Theatre Department Announces Name Change and Upcoming 2016-2017 Season

For years, the theatre department at Mundelein High School was known as "MHS Theatre." But beginning this year, the department will change its moniker to "Mundelein Theatre," to facilitate better name recognition.

"The issue with being known as MHS Theatre is that many other schools whose name starts with an 'M' use that same name," said Jonathan Meier, theatre director at MHS. "Having Mundelein in our title gives us much stronger name recognition." So armed with a new name and a new logo, the Mundelein Theatre department is proud to announce its 2016-2017 season.

The next production is *Completely Hollywood*, by Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor. This is the New Faces production, providing an opportunity for freshmen and sophomores, as well as junior and seniors who have not previously acted on the Mundelein main stage. This seriously silly show biz satire cuts through the celluloid to condense the 186 greatest films in Hollywood's over 100-year history into a

complete compilation of classic cinematic clichés - plus a few

brand new clichés. Performances will be held October 28 and 29 at 7 p.m., and October 29 at 3:45 p.m.

The fall play will be, *The Best Man*, written by the celebrated American writer, Gore Vidal. The perfect play for an election year, the show deals with a fictional presidential primary in 1960. The play examines the nature of power, the quest for power, and the way power makes people behave. The witty dialogue and clever characters give the play a sense of satirical fun. Performance dates are November 10, 11, and 12 at 7 pm, and November 11 at 3:45 pm.

For more information about the upcoming theater season visit [www.mundeleintheatre.org](http://www.mundeleintheatre.org).



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## Take Note— Village Reminders—Notes—Accolades

### School's Open... Drive with Caution

Schools are now in full swing so the Mundelein Police Department reminds drivers to please drive carefully traveling to and from Mundelein. As drivers may have noticed, it is especially congested in the Rt. 176 and 60/83 corridor and along Hawley from Midlothian to Route 45 due to the ongoing construction. The good news is that the construction projects are on time and will be wrapping up in a few months. The less than good news is that those areas will take more time to get through than normal, so we ask for your patience and to consider alternate routes if possible.

Please be especially mindful of the school zones and be on the lookout for our dedicated crossing guards who are there to assist the children get to and from our area schools safely each day. We ask that drivers remember to stay off their phones (Unless in hands-free mode) and be aware that the school speed limit zones are back in effect during the times that the schools are open with children nearby.

### Hands-Free Technology Law in Effect

In 2014, it became law for Illinois drivers to use hands-free technology to talk on cell phones on any roadway, not just school zones and construction zones. The new law also restricts drivers from using personal digital assistants, portable or mobile computers while in traffic. The new law does allow for the use of global positioning systems (GPS) and for phone calls in emergencies. Penalties increase for drivers involved in motor vehicle crashes resulting in serious injury when use of an electronic device was a contributing factor. So, Put It Down and Keep Your Eyes on the Road.

### Like Us on Facebook

The Mundelein Police Department is now on Facebook! Throughout the year, the MPD hosts a variety of family community events, academies, and classes advertised first on the department's Facebook page. "Like" the page and get the inside scoop on events, safety tips, and other important news.



<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Mundelein-Police-Department/187781837900042>

### MPD Alerts Residents to Recent Scams

**1.Problem**—Residents are receiving telephone calls from someone claiming to be from the internal revenue Service (IRS) threatening to have them arrested, deported, or revoking their business and/or driver's license if immediate payment is not made.

**Solution**—Never wire money to anyone, person or business, unless their identity has been confirmed and it is not unordinary. Contact the police department if in doubt.

**2.Problem**—Law Enforcement Solicitation of Money (i.e. Fraternal Order of Police)—Residents may receive a telephone call from someone claiming to be from the Fraternal Order of Police, or another law enforcement agency, soliciting funds.

**Solution**—Call the local police department and verify its legitimacy. Never provide social security numbers, credit card or banking information over the phone.

### Public Works Competes in Snow Plow Roadeo

For the third consecutive year, the team of Jeff Carrier and Mike Hassebroek finished in the top 10 and second year that the team of Nick Galan and Chris

Deremo placed in the top 10 at the Chicago Chapter APWA Snow Plow Roadeo—a regional event held in Schaumburg in May with 2-man crews completing a challenging course that includes navigating around parked vehicles, weaving and a written exam. Congratulations and thank you for making Mundelein Proud!

### Double Tree Named Best Local Hotel by Daily Herald's Readers' Choice Awards

Mayor Lentz and the Board of Trustees congratulate Double Tree America by Hilton-Libertyville/Mundelein for being named the Daily Herald's 2016 Readers' Choice Best of the Best "Best Local Hotel." This prestigious recognition affirms that the Double Tree is a great source of community pride and we are very proud that the Double Tree calls Mundelein "Home."

### Mundelein's PK Bennett Jewelers Earns Preferred Jewelers International Status

Preferred Jewelers International is proud to announce Mundelein's PK Bennett Jewelers as the newest jewelry retailer to become part of its prestigious Preferred Jewelers International Network. According to representatives from Preferred Jewelers International, "Since 1988, Rich and Peggy Bennett have consistently delivered outstanding customer service, specializing in custom design, manufacturing, repair and refinishing. By embracing 21st century tools such as CAD/CAM software and machines, laser welders and a computer operated engraving machine, PK Bennett Jewelers provides a level of jewelry repair expertise unmatched in the Lake County area."

# Mundelein Police Department Earns CALEA Accreditation with Excellence Award

The Mundelein Police Department recently earned the CALEA Accreditation with Excellence Award. This award is not granted to all agencies and the police department was required to meet a very specific and stringent set of criteria to achieve excellence. The CALEA Award is considered to be the Gold Standard in Public Safety.

"This is a very important distinction and one that we haven't received prior. This is a true testament to the work of all police department employees. We are pleased to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies as it validates the high standards we hold for our department and that those standards are aligned with national guidelines. This certification also helps to instill greater public confidence in our police department," said Eric Guenther, Chief of Police.

The CALEA Accreditation award is for a three-year period and the department is required to maintain continuous compliance during the award period. The intent of the **CALEA® Accreditation with Excellence Award** is to provide agencies an opportunity to be further recognized for the effective use of accreditation as a model for the delivery of enhanced public safety services and management professionalism.



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- Community Development Department** 949-3282
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Mundelein Insider is a publication of:  
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## Felix's Famous Cookies Wins Congressman Bob Dold's Entrepreneurial Excellence Award

Recently, Mayor Steve Lentz and the Board of Trustees nominated Laura and Felix Castillo of Felix's Famous Cookies for Congressman Bob Dold's District 10 Leadership Awards, "Entrepreneurial Excellence" category.



With great Mundelein pride, we are pleased to announce that Felix's Famous Cookies WON the 10th Congressional District Entrepreneurial Leadership Award hosted by Congressman Bob Dold.

"Thank you to the Village of Mundelein, Mayor Lentz and all the Village Trustees for nominating our business for this prestigious award. Thank you to all who voted and believe in the spirit of entrepreneurship," Laura and Felix said on their Facebook page.

The District 10 Leadership Awards are about recognizing the everyday heroes that make our community an amazing place to live, work and raise a family. Laura, and her 11 year-old-son Felix, have taken what started as a family hobby and turned it into a growing and thriving Mundelein business.

## Public Works and Engineering Outline Fall Activities

**ROAD CONSTRUCTION**—Construction activity is nearing completion throughout the Village. The major projects that impacted travel throughout the summer will be complete by late October. Major arterials such as Hawley Street, Route 176, and Lake Street are scheduled to have all lanes open to travel by that time. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this busy construction season.

**LEAF COLLECTION**—The Village's solid waste contractor, Groot Industries, Inc., will be conducting curbside leaf collection. Please remember to rake leaves to the back of the curb and NOT into the street.

**WASTEWATER PLANT TOURS**—The Village owns and operates one of the area's most advanced reclamation facilities. To schedule a visit to this award-winning facility, contact (847) 949-3275.

**TREE TRIMMING/REMOVAL**—Public Works crews will be working with contractors to trim healthy trees and replaced diseased ones from the public parkways. The EAB Management Plan is nearing completion, with final replacements scheduled for fall 2017.

**DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION**—Several projects are underway as part of the downtown renovation process. New planters, benches, and trash receptacles have been installed along East Hawley along with sidewalk improvements from Prospect to James Avenue. In addition to these improvements, the municipal parking lot at Park Street and Seymour Avenue is also being renovated for public use.

**TREE PLANTINGS**—Fall season brings the second installment of the Village's tree replacement program. This season will include plantings within the Route 45 landscape islands north of Route 176.

## Take Note— Village Reminders–Notes–Accolades (cont.)

**VILLAGE OF Mundelein CONNECTION**  
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**Join Us! Mundelein's Fourth Annual One World Festival Held This Weekend—Great Family Fun!**

If you are looking for a fun family festival, plan to attend Mundelein's One World Festival this Saturday, September 17 at Knockbar Park, 120 N. Lake Street from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This highly entertaining one-day event celebrates cultures from around the world with music, dance, food, art, and crafts. If desired, everyone is welcome and encouraged to wear their own traditional cultural dress.

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1:30 p.m. Royal Scottish Country Dance Society of Chicago (Scottish Country Dancing)  
2:30 p.m. Chicago Korean Dance Company (Traditional Korean Dance)  
Between Acts: Paddy Lynn (Around the World Story Telling)

**Read More**

**Mundelein Board of Trustees Recognize 75-Year Mundelein Resident on 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Genevieve Rouse recently celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in the Village of Mundelein, a community she has called "home" for more than 75 years. During this time, Mrs. Rouse has witnessed firsthand Mundelein's growth from a small Village into a vibrant and progressive community of nearly 22,000 residents. To commemorate this special occasion, the Mundelein Board of Trustees presented her with a Mayord Proclamation on the September meeting of Board Meeting in friendly regards. Mrs. Rouse for her many years as a wonderful Mundelein resident, neighbor, and friend in the year of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Read More**

**Four Students Earn Scholarships at Mundelein Arts Festival**

Four Mundelein High School artists recently earned \$500 scholarships at the 50th Annual Mundelein Arts Festival which recently took place at Knockbar Park. The joint art festival showcased the talents of 45 artists and craftspersons who work in a variety of media. Students who earned the awards are: Nicole Blake, Senior, for painting; Nicole Casler, Senior, for photography; Emma Jamison, Freshman, for drawing; and James Reiter, Junior, for 3-D. Congratulations to the MHD Art

### Stay Informed... Stay Current— Sign-up for Mundelein's E-Newsletter...TODAY!

The Village of Mundelein produces a weekly electronic newsletter, "Mundelein Connection." Each edition of Mundelein's E-News features timely information about Village happenings including: upcoming events, latest development news, important announcements, and much more. The Mundelein Connection helps subscribers stay "in the know" about

everything related to Mundelein. To sign up to receive the Mundelein Connection on a weekly basis, simply send your email address to: [info@mundelein.org](mailto:info@mundelein.org) and ask to be added to the E-News mailing list.

**Our Promise**  
Mundelein will be Central Lake County's premier location for entrepreneurs and known as a welcoming community.

## Mundelein Fire Department Takes Fire Safety Public Education on the Road

The Mundelein Fire Department's new colorful public education van with a smiling, cartoon Dalmatian on the side, has proven to be a crowd pleaser. The Ford Transit van is equipped with fire extinguishers, a thermal imaging camera, a fire hose and other gear. It is designed to help teach the community about fire prevention, fire suppression, and other safety techniques. It also promotes the Mundelein Fire Department in a friendly, approachable way.

"This is just a fun way to help inform the public about fire safety. We are taking public education on the road," said Lt. Steve D'Incognito, the department's public education coordinator. The department acquired the van this spring. D'Incognito built a special collapsible rack system inside the vehicle to hold all the gear, so he or other firefighters won't have to load equipment onto traditional fire trucks every time they visit schools, businesses or public events for safety demonstrations.

"It's a self-sufficient vehicle and it has been especially popular at local schools. The side of the van, which features a Dalmatian in a firefighter's jacket holding a battery for a smoke alarm, is particularly eye-catching," said Fire Chief Ben Yoder. "The kids are excited when they see it. They know the Dalmatian. They know it's the fire dog. We're just happy as heck with this thing," Yoder added.

In addition to firefighting equipment, the van has stacks of lightweight, plastic firefighter helmets for kids to play with, along with booklets about fire safety, shopping bags with a department logo and other promotional items. But the van isn't just for kids. Firefighters can take it to local businesses to show employees how to properly use extinguishers if they spot flames at work. It will appear at this summer's Mundelein Community Days festival, too.

"I love the look of it," Trustee Bill Rekus said. "It's targeted to kids, and they're going to get excited when it pulls up. And that means they're going to get excited about the information."

According to Yoder, the van cost \$25,000, and the custom-made shelves inside ran another \$4,000, but the project came in significantly under budget.



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