



# The U.P. Post

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UNIVERSITY PARK, IL

Prepared and published by the Department of Community Relations; James B. Bell, Manager

Summer 2014 Edition

## THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Mayor Vivian E. Covington

I send greetings and Joy to the Residents of University Park. We have so many Reasons to celebrate our town.

The Month of March was recognized as Federal Women's Month. That is an Honor and a powerful thought. The strength of a Woman is something to be respected. Oprah Winfred interviewed a young man last week which was very interesting. He stated if Women of the world would never produce again, what a control mechanism that would be. Also if they decided not to work again, how the economy would suffer. This history of Women power goes back to the biblical days of Esther, Deborah and Ruth. We should recognize how Women have made a unique contribution to our history and to the world. From the American Revolution to the present, African American women have played a myriad of critical roles in the making of our nation. Their labor and leadership, their motherhood and patriotism, and their intellect and artistic expression have all enriched both the African American community and the nation at large. In slavery and freedom, their struggles have been at the heart of the human experience, and their triumphs over racism and sexism are testimonial to our common human spirit. Women as a whole have their own unique stories in the annals of American history depicting their various struggles and accomplishments. Women were subjected to a long history of stereo-types about sexuality, morality,

**(cont. on page 6)**

## GETTING THE JOB DONE!!!

Ahhhh, the sights and sounds of spring and summer: the blooming of flowers, the birds chirping and the constant rat-ta-tat-tat of construction work being done. We all looked forward to these sights and sounds as we suffered through a particularly rough winter this year. The cold and snowy weather took a tremendous toll on all of us and also on our streets and roads. I'm sure everyone who lives in University Park noticed how badly our main thoroughfare, University Parkway, was damaged by the weather. The potholes that the weather caused were everywhere on University Parkway and our Public Works Department, although they tried desperately hard, could not keep up with Mother Nature and her wrath. During this winter we all waited anxiously for what seemed at times to be an eternity for spring to arrive so that we could enjoy some relief from nature's bitter and brutal cold.



Trustee Keith Griffin reviews the construction project of re-surfacing University Parkway between Crawford Ave. and the Metra train station parking lot entrance (May 14, 2014).

However, our village government did more than just wait for the weather to break. Our village manager, Mr. Lafayette Linear, Trustee Keith Griffin (Trustee Liaison for Roads, Bridges and Public Works) and Mr. Ernest Roberts of Robinson Engineering, LTD, meet and devised an emergency plan to quickly repair University

Parkway as soon as we got that break in the weather that we all so desperately needed. That emergency plan called for University Parkway to be resurfaced. This road repair work had previously been planned as part of a larger road-work project that is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2015. However, because of the urgent need for the repairs to University Parkway between Crawford Avenue and the entrance to the Metra train station, the plans were placed on an emergency schedule such that they were made in an accelerated manner.

The importance of this road work cannot be over-stated. Many, if not most of us use University Parkway to access the Metra train station as we travel to and from work; we use it to travel to and from shopping centers; we use it to access I-57; and we use it to access Governors State University. We all knew, all too well, that every trip along University Parkway in its previous state of disrepair, also exposed us to potentially costly automobile repair bills. On May 12, 2014 the emergency roadwork to our main street was commenced and was finished in approximately one week. Today, when we drive along University Parkway, we don't have to worry about the bumps and potholes that threatened our cars and our safety. Now, thanks to the forward, proactive thinking of Manager Linear, Trustee Keith Griffin and Ernest Roberts, it's smooth sailing.

### Other recently completed projects and projects that will start soon are:

- **The new Robert " Buck" Brown Bridge (completed)**
- **Family Dollar Store (completed)**
- **Fairway Estates Street Resurfacing (completed)**
- **University Parkway Street Lighting (completed)**
- **New I-57 Interchange at I-57 & University Parkway (underway)**
- **ITEP Project #131038 — Bike Path-Multi Use Trail Project (approved)**

## University Park Elected Officials

Vivian Covington	Mayor
Larry "LB" Brown	Trustee
Joseph E. Roudez, III	Trustee
Oscar Brown, Jr	Trustee
Keith Griffin	Trustee
Elizabeth "Liz" Williams	Trustee
Milton Payton	Trustee
Dorothy "Dee" Jones	Village Clerk



Village of University Park  
Village Hall  
698 Burnham Drive  
University Park, IL 60484

PRESORTED  
STANDARD MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
UNIVERSITY PARK, IL  
PERMIT NO. 33

RESIDENT  
University Park, IL 60484



## Summer Activities Suggestions from Chief Ed Bradley

Summer is fast approaching and parents should be planning summer activities now. There are many activities available in the village. Baseball, basketball, summer school classes, football, cheerleading, library activities, swimming at the pool, visit Regal Farm, Pine Lake, etc. University Park has so many amenities available for families to take advantage of. Think about taking the family to Pine Lake one day this summer for a little picnic and some nice, quiet, quality family time. Lets plan ahead for our children this summer. Because really it's all about our children:

Because:

- Children are the heart of our future;
- Everyone can make a difference in the life of a child;
- It's easier to build strong children than to mend broken adults;
- All children are special;
- There is absolutely no excuse for child abuse;
- Children excel and thrive when adults care;
- Protecting children is everyone's job;
- Each child deserves to be loved and cherished;
- Children are our most valuable natural resource; and
- Because they can't always stand up for themselves.

So may I ask You? What activities do you have planned for your children this summer?

### Dear Neighbors: (Pet Ownership Responsibilities)

At the urging of our police department, I am writing this note to you to remind everyone, including me, of the responsibilities that we take on when we have a pet. This reminder is specifically about and to the dog owners in our village. In addition to the responsibilities of making certain that we have a proper license for our pets and that they are vaccinated in accordance with the law, we must remember that our responsibilities also include making certain that our pets are not allowed to wander the streets without being properly restrained. Recently there have been far too many dogs roaming our streets alone. I suspect that this situation started during the bitterly cold winter weather that we experienced recently. We probably felt comfortable letting our pets go outside without supervision and/or restraint based on a hunch that no one else would be outside due to the cold weather. Although this assumption was perfectly understandable, it is still a violation of the village laws. Also, the weather is much more pleasant and comfortable now.

Pursuant to Section 610-03 of the University Park, Illinois Code of Ordinances, it is the strict responsibility of each owner of a pet (dog) to have their pet properly restrained whenever that pet goes outside the property line of its owner. This means, essentially, that whenever you allow your dog to go outside of your home and beyond your property line, you must have that pet on a leash and a person of reasonable strength and maturity must have possession and control of that leash and animal.

Pets are wonderful members of our families and bring us great joy and happiness. However, a pet that is roaming the community alone may perceive the actions of others that are not a part of its family as being acts of hostility or aggression. Also, when outside of the home, a dog may react out of fear to the actions of others, especially children, when they are confronted with unfamiliar people. The fines that could be imposed against us for irresponsible acts relating to our pets can be hefty, including the destruction of our pet. But I am sure that any fine would be considered minor compared to the toll placed against our conscience if our beloved pet injured one of our neighbors. So, do the right thing; leash 'em up before letting 'em out.

# Household Hazardous Waste Collection



Saturday, June 28, 2014  
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Eisenhower High School  
12700 Sacramento Avenue  
Blue Island, Illinois

*An opportunity to dispose of household products that are harmful to your health and the environment!*

#### Drop Off:

- ✓ Aerosol cans
- ✓ Anti-freeze
- ✓ Auto & boat batteries
- ✓ Cleaning products
- ✓ Drain Cleaners
- ✓ Herbicides, insecticides & pesticides
- ✓ Hobby chemicals
- ✓ Household Batteries
- ✓ Lawn & garden chemicals
- ✓ Mercury
- ✓ Motor oil & gasoline
- ✓ Oil based paint & paint thinners
- ✓ Pool Chemicals
- ✓ Solvents and Strippers
- ✓ Used/Unwanted Pharmaceuticals

**DO NOT drop off:**  
Agricultural wastes  
Business wastes  
Fire extinguishers  
Gas Cylinders  
Latex paint  
Radioactive material  
Regular garbage

**Ammunition**  
Explosives  
Fireworks  
Institutional wastes  
Propane tanks  
Sharps/Syringes  
Smoke detectors



Sponsored by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and  
The City of Blue Island

## LEADERS FOR TOMORROW

On June 7, 2014, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Theta Mu Lambda Charitable Foundation hosted its "Developing Visionary Leaders" banquet at Glenwood Golf Course in Glenwood, IL. The event was essentially a graduation ceremony (of sorts) celebrating the successful achievements of the young men who matriculated through the fraternity's mentoring program. This program is a special and very noteworthy one. The fraternity mentors a group of young men, from grade school through high school, in such a way as to instill all of the qualities needed for them to plan for and strive towards becoming upstanding and successful members of their communities. In addition to providing tutorial assistance with their school work for those who might need it, the fraternity instills in each of their students the values and skills needed to be successful, e.g., public speaking; honesty; integrity; respect for others; a keen sense of social responsibility; and an understanding of the importance of hard work directed towards achieving their goals.



Pictured above are University Park's own "Leaders For Tomorrow":  
From left to right, they are DeMarcus Davis, LeVonte Hudson,  
Gregory Box, Taariq Barnes and Kristoffer Kiszer. All were recipients  
of an "Award for Achievement". Keep up the great work, young men!

It was especially gratifying to see such a fine group of young men who are all on a path of success and leadership. Each was and is articulate, respectful, kind, studious, trustworthy, and talented. I was also very pleased to find out that several of the young men are residents of University Park. While I gladly applaud the efforts of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for their leadership today, the real praise of the day goes to the young men who have obviously dedicated their lives to achieving excellence in their endeavors. For more information about this program and how to enroll your child in this program, please visit the Theta Mu Lambda Charitable Foundation website at [www.tmlcf.com](http://www.tmlcf.com).



## BOOKS, BELLS AND WHISTLES: COTTON CLUB IN A BOX

On a lazy Wednesday evening, March 26, 2014 to be exact, I wandered up to our library to witness what I had been told would be a “nice” concert performed by a musical group that featured Tracy Worth. For those of us who didn’t know, Ms. Tracy Worth is our very own Tracy Duckworth, Director of the University Park Library. I figured, because I am the Community Relations Manager for the village, it was somewhat of a duty for me to stop in, witness what was surely to be a not so special attempt by an amateurish group to provide, at most, a pleasant break to an otherwise uneventful work- week. MAN, WAS I WRONG!!!!



Song Stylist Ms. Tracy Worth, AKA Tracy Duckworth, tenderly delivers “For Sentimental Reasons” to a captivated and appreciative audience. (03-26-2014)

The show started with the band, The Charlie Johnson Quartet, playing behind a gentleman (Mr. Brill Barrett) who is an exceptional tap dancer. It had been a long time since I had enjoyed the rhythmic beat of a professional “hoofer”. I particularly enjoyed the smooth and effortless manner that he led the band and entertained the crowd. Also, I immediately realized that the Charlie Johnson Quartet was no ordinary musical group but rather a very professional and accomplished group of musicians with witty style, impeccable skills and musical wisdom. The quartet included Mr. Charlie Johnson on piano, Mr. Will Howard on bass, Mr. Alan Burroughs on guitar and Mr. Derek Henderson on drums. At this point in the evening, I realized that this “nice” concert was very easily exceeding my expectations by leaps and bounds.



Ms. Tracy Worth, AKA Tracy Duckworth, performs and woos the audience at the University Park Library on March 26, 2014.

And then, Tracy took the stage. Somewhere between the beginning of the first song that she sang and the end of the night, I realized that my “jaw was on the floor.” The pure brilliance of her voice, the vocal control she demonstrated as she pranced through each song and the elegant manner that she commanded the stage left me (and I am sure, everyone else present) wanting more. Her renditions of “For Sentimental Reasons” and “Dr. Feelgood” were simply breathtakingly magnificent. She captivated her audience as she grabbed each one of us by the ears, and then gently supplied us with soulful and jazzy expressions of her art. She glided through our minds with a distinct and profound grace that made each of us in the

(cont. on next column)

audience her captive fan. Tracy made each song her own as she took us on a musical journey of blissful joy and thoughtful pleasure. Simply put, she made that night an extraordinarily special treat. I only wish that my vocabulary was far more extensive than it is so that I could shower upon her performance words that could accurately describe the crafty and regal skills that she demonstrated that night.

The show was billed as the “2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cotton Club In a Box”. It was truly a box of soulful fun and stylistic treats, and I, for one, can’t wait until the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual version of this presentation comes around!

## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT ON DALBERT STEELE: EXCELLENCE AND SUCCESS

Dalbert Steele began working for Western Fraternal Life Association (WFLA) in 2007. WFLA is a not-for-profit financial services organization that gives back to the communities where its members live and work. Dalbert received his Bachelor of Arts degree from George Williams College of Aurora University. He has been married to his wife Adrienne for over 30 years! They have four children: Eric, 30; Dalbert, 26; Nicholas, 23; and Jasmin, 19. They are also blessed with a granddaughter, Brooklyn, who is almost 1 year old. He and his family have lived in University Park for 15 years, and they enjoy having meals together, playing Wii, bowling, skating, and having family get-togethers with extended family.



Pictured from left to right, the Steele clan consists of Tasia (Eric's wife), Eric, Adrienne (Dalbert's Mrs.), Nicholas, Jasmine, Brooklyn (granddaughter), D.J. and Dalbert (Adrienne's Mr.) Steele. Now, that's a great family photo!

If you are interested in working with Dalbert as a life insurance agent, he would be more than happy to speak with you. He is an award-winning agent with WFLA; his awards include:

- New Member Award (won three times; this award is for bringing more than 52 new members per year);
- Century Club Award (won twice; this award is for placing more than 100 paid cases per year)
- The President’s Cabinet Award (won twice for being one of the top five agents in the company)

Dalbert’s hobbies include family outings, bicycling, relaxing, playing basketball, exercising, and being extremely active in his church. His motto is: Always believe in yourself!

Please give him a call today at (708) 941-3723.

## NOTICE: GED CLASSES TO RESUME

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Free GED Preparation Classes,** sponsored and hosted by the Village of University Park, IL and Prairie State College, are scheduled to resume on **August 19, 2014** and run until **September 18, 2014**. Classes will be held between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday. Classes will be held at 70 Towncenter, University Park, IL. You must be at least 16 years of age and reside or work within the Prairie State College district.

For more information, please contact Michelle Guiliani at (708) 709-7957 or email her at [mguiliani@prairiestate.edu](mailto:mguiliani@prairiestate.edu). Also, you can contact Trustee Elizabeth “Liz” Williams at (708) 534-4237 or email her at [lizwilliams@university-park-il.com](mailto:lizwilliams@university-park-il.com).

## A WORKING COMMITTEE

Recently there have been changes made to the “committee system” that is in place in our village government. As you probably know, volunteers serving on active committees are a very important part of our method of taking care of the residents’ business. For several reasons, our Board of Trustees voted to disband some committees and created others that would, in theory, better serve as a vehicle to competently advise our elected officials in an organized manner as to what residents thought about the important issues confronting our village.

One such committee created recently is the Legislative and Operations Committee. The ordinance creating this committee (University Park, IL Code of Ordinances, Ordinance No. 02013-15) was passed by the board and went into effect on May 14, 2013. Essentially, this ordinance codified several changes to our code of ordinances that expanded the procedure that is used to place items on the agenda of the Board of Trustees’ regular meetings. It also created a committee that meets once a month (the first Monday of every month). What is unique about this committee is that it offers residents and elected officials an opportunity to fully address the issues that confront our village, without the concern that must be placed on time constraints during regular board of trustees meetings. One of the major problems that plagued us prior to the creation of this committee was that residents and elected officials never had enough time to fully address important issues that came before the board or to ask questions and receive responses regarding the details of issues that were addressed by the board. While it is necessary in regular board meetings to limit the time that each resident who wishes to speak to the board regarding the issues that residents find to be important, it was also critical that some type of process be created so that residents and elected officials could fully express their favor, disfavor and/or opinions on the various issues that the board had before it. Now, it appears that the Legislative and Operations Committee has resolved these problems.



U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (l) and Illinois State Chairman of the Democratic Municipal Officials, Trustee Joseph Roudez III (r) discuss legislative trends in local and national legislative chambers at a recent meeting hosted by the Illinois Chapter of the Democratic Municipal Officials recently held in downtown Chicago.

As stated above, the Legislative and Operations Committee meets on the first Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. This committee, chaired by Trustee Joseph Roudez III, offers all an opportunity to place items on the agenda of the committee, an opportunity to fully be heard and to ask questions and receive full answers to any matter that appears on the committee’s agenda. The meetings are informal and offer everyone present an opportunity to have a free-flowing exchange of ideas regarding any issue that we, as residents, must address without the constraints of time limits.

The other trustees on this committee are Oscar Brown, Jr., Keith Griffin and Larry Brown. Mayor Covington is also an ex-officio (non-voting) member. Each trustee who makes up this committee as well as each resi-

(cont. on next column)

dent who participates in the various important discussions held before it, should be commended for their dedication and devotion to our village and its residents.

One of the cornerstones of our democracy, on a local, county, state and federal level, is the right to be heard on issues that our representatives will decide that affect our lives. The Legislative and Operations Committee entrenches that right further into the functioning of our village government. Further, it seems that the residual effect that this committee has had on our regular board meetings has been encouragingly positive. Let’s continue to work together to make our village a better and brighter place to live and to raise our children.

## Scofflaw Alert!!!! Amnesty Is Here!!!

The Village of University Park, IL **announces** and **gives notice** that All persons who have received parking tickets issued by the Village of University Park and whose tickets are now in the “collections stage” may take advantage of the village’s **Temporary Amnesty Program** that allows you to pay fifty per-cent (50%) of the current collections amount to satisfy the fine imposed as a result of the parking violation. This Temporary Amnesty Program shall be in effect until July 31, 2014.

Again, if you have parking tickets issued by the Village of University Park, IL that are in collections, you may settle those tickets at a reduced amount of one-half (1/2) of the collections amount of the ticket if you do so on or before July 31, 2014.

For more information and/or to take advantage of this Temporary Amnesty Program, please contact: **MSI Collections** at **P.O. Box 327, Palos Heights, IL 60463** or call them at **(708) 613-2062**.

## TRUSTEE ELIZABETH “LIZ” WILLIAMS TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

On April 30, 2014 the Illinois Municipal League hosted its annual “Lobby Day” for our region’s elected officials and governmental employees. This event is designed to inform the officials in attendance of the bills that are pending in committees or in the chambers of our legislature that may have an impact on our region and/or its residents. It also presents as one of its purposes, an opportunity for those elected officials to make known to our state government the issues and concerns that our citizens have and what is needed by our residents. University Park was ably represented at this event by Mr. Lafayette Linear, our village manager, and Trustee Elizabeth “Liz” Williams. Trustee Williams adroitly made a very sound case before the governor for the building of an overpass to relieve traffic congestion that plagues University Park as a result of the train traffic near the University Park, IL Metra train station. Trustee Williams pointed out the recent accidents that have occurred at or near the section of the train tracks that intersects with University Parkway. Her argument was very strong and was based on safety for those travelers who use both the trains and our streets to travel to and from their various destinations.

The governor received her comments and concerns with apparent great interest. He promised that he would have IDOT follow up their discussion with an assessment of the feasibility of constructing such an overpass. The discussion had by the governor and Trustee Williams was a perfect example of how our elected officials can effectively serve the needs of their constituents.

Bottom line: Trustee Williams represented University Park quite well during those important meetings.



Trustee Elizabeth “Liz” Williams and Governor Pat Quinn pause briefly after a productive meeting that took place in the Governor’s office on April 30, 2014.

**(The Mayor's Message cont. from page 1)**

spirituality, and intellect. Women have succumbed to victimhood and yet have pressed forward to uplift themselves, their families and their communities. The fight and struggle of Women suffrages for the right to vote, and many other issues resulted into the development of various organized groups (League of Women Voters) LWV, Women Employment (WE) and others. To gain an understanding of the history of American Women (I must add ALL Women), we must broaden our understanding of the American people during the formation of our Nation. I had the honor of receiving an award in February 2014 from Governors State University at their annual "Black Women Rock" ceremony, receiving the "Leader Extraordinaire Award". The award was a welcomed surprise and honor. I also received the "Valley Community Service Award" for my years of mentorship and support to Area Youth from the Marquette-Joliet Consistory No. 104 and Assembly No.87 on last Saturday April 12, 2014.



Mayor Vivian Covington (l) and Gov. Pat Quinn (r) enjoy a light moment after the Governor met with several mayors, managers and other officials from the south-land region on April 30, 2014 during the Illinois Municipal League's "Lobby Day."

**SPRING FEVER IS HERE ????**

This is the spring season and yet another display of nature's beauty. It affords us the opportunity to contribute towards God's natural landscape by planting flowers and cleaning our yards to enhance the beauty of our community.

This spring brings us great joy as we will see changes continuing to happen in University Park. We will have ribbon cutting ceremonies for the following: Hickok Bridge, I-57, and the Opening of Governors State University as a four-year university. This has definitely been a dream come true. I like to give thanks to the retired Bud Fleming, who I had a wonderful rapport with for several years, for informing me about the pending funds that were still available to allow those projects to become a reality. In spite of the funds being available, had it not been for the aggressiveness and skills of Robinson Engineering, LTD to revitalize the I-57 project, it still would be dormant. I would like to thank Mr. Ernest Roberts, Mrs. Val Williams, and the Robinson Engineering family for instrumentally completing the I-57 Bridge, working with us on the street right-of-ways, and road repairs for University Parkway. Thanks to our Board and Staff for all their support to make these projects come to fruition.

It is a pleasure to inform the stakeholders of this Village that University Park is receiving the recognition it well deserves. I continue to ensure that our village is represented and that we receive recognition for participation in most municipal events. I thank you for your prayers and support. It takes dedication, compassion and being at the right places representing the Village, not to mention, how we are now respected more because we are participating in more. There is a saying "out of sight, out of mind". It is entrusted upon us to ensure that University Park is a part of the various groups for funding, that our opinions are heard and supported by our Legislators for the various Bills for grants, other various funding and services.

Again, continue to support us and have faith to believe we will succeed. We are not where we want to be but we are surely not where we were.

Please look forward to the activities for the upcoming months. Check out our Web-site, digital board, and our Newsletter to stay abreast of the various Events.

Happy Easter, Happy Mother's Day and Father's Day! I wish this happiness upon you before the next circulation of our quarterly Newsletter.

(written in its entirety by)  
Vivian E. Covington

Your Mayor, your Servant. I continue to keep your interest at heart.

Thorn Creek Nature Center  
247 Monee Road, Park Forest IL 60466 708-747-6320 thorn\_creek@att.net tcwoods.org

## SUMMER SAFARI

### Adventures on Thorn Creek!



July 22-24

Tuesday through Thursday  
9 a.m.- Noon  
Ages 8-10  
\$35 per child  
Registration and payment required  
by Monday, July 14

Hiking \* Stream-stomping \* Bug catching

Come to our summer exploration camp  
Summer Safari's Adventures on Thorn Creek!  
Hands-on exploration of our Preserve's natural waterway.  
Learn about the critters that live along & in Thorn Creek.

Summer Safari introduces youngsters to nature  
with hikes, games, explorations, experiments,  
crafts and much more.

Snacks are included.  
Children should wear play clothes: long pants, a light,  
long-sleeved shirt or jacket, and sturdy shoes for exploring  
(not sandals). Insect repellent & sun block are also encouraged.  
Children should bring a lunch and water bottle.

Register early for this fun nature adventure program

### HICKOK AQUATIC CENTER OPENING DAY

Saturday, June 7, 2014

711 Hickok Avenue  
University Park, Illinois 60484  
Phone: (708) 534-6141 or (708) 534-6456  
Fax: (708) 534-4822  
Email: hickokaquatic@sbcglobal.net

**Day Camps**  
Monday- Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
(call for reservations)

**Public Swim**  
Monday- Friday 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Birthday Parties for Kids**  
Starts at \$8.99 per child  
Includes: Hot dog meals, goodie bags,  
reserved decorated concession area, swimming.  
\*requires a \$50.00 deposit

**WALK-IN**  
Residents - \$3.50  
Non-Residents - \$5.00

**Memberships**  
\*\*Up to five (5) Members on Family Passes  
Residents - \$100.00  
Non-Residents - \$175.00

**Rentals**  
Picnic Rentals start at \$100.00  
Private Rentals start at \$150.00  
\*requires a 50.00 deposit

All guests are expected to follow all rules. Everyone pays to enter the facility, even if you are not swimming.

- Anyone over the age of 11 must have identification.
- Ages 4 through 10 must have someone over the age of 15 accompanying them with an I.D.
- All children who are not potty trained must wear a swim diaper.
- Proper swim attire must be worn to enter the pool. Patron must wear swimming suits/trunks.
- Basketball shorts and leotards are not allowed.

## Pine Lake Trout Fishing Tournament Made A Big & Successful Splash!!

It was a cool, crisp Saturday morning on April 12, 2014, and many men and women travelled to Pine Lake equipped with their fishing rods and (I'm sure) a few tall tales ready to be told at day's end. At 6:00 a.m. those men and women sank their hooks in the water and the first annual University Park Pine Lake Trout Fishing Tournament was commenced. The event, which proved to be a rousing success, was arranged and organized by University Park's Department of Parks and Recreation Director Ms. Keely Childress and Program Supervisor Mr. Gregory Murray. The tireless work of Ms. Childress and Mr. Murray along with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources who, stocked Pine Lake with 850 pounds of catchable-sized rainbow trout, created a foundation for an exciting event that challenged and rewarded both the novice fisherman and fisherwoman as well as the seasoned veteran.



Trustees Keith Griffin (l), Elizabeth "Liz" Williams and Mayor Vivian Covington (r) welcome contestants to the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pine Lake Trout Fishing Tournament on April 12, 2014.

When the tournament ended at 2:00 p.m. and the day's catch was measured and weighed, trophies were presented to Bryan Jurgovan for 1<sup>st</sup> Place; Kelly Walsh for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; and Jeff Boer for 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. Congratulations to the winners and to all who participated!



The Winners were: First Place – Bryan Jurgovan (middle), Second Place – Kelly Walsh (left) and Third Place – Jeff Boer (right).

**NOTICE TO RESIDENTS:  
THE FINAL DAY FOR PURCHASING  
A UNIVERSITY PARK, IL  
VEHICLE STICKER IS:**

**JUNE 30, 2014**

**PENALTIES MAY APPLY  
AFTER THIS DATE!**

## SAFETY FIRST: SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING



Dear residents: summer has finally arrived! With that said, there are a few things that we should be aware of. The safety of your family and home is one of the most important issues that confronts each of us on a daily basis. University Park, like any other town, has its challenges; however, we can meet those challenges once we are informed. Burglaries and vandalisms are on the rise. Most burglaries occur during daylight hours when residents are at work and the cover of darkness is a thief's best friend!

Thieves don't usually target specific individuals; but, they look for the easiest opportunity. Being a victim of a past home burglary, I have learned to take steps to ensure that my home is safe.

Here are a few tips:

1. Lock your doors and windows.
2. Keep your travel plans private.
3. Notify the police department if you are going away (premise checks during shift).
4. Place lights in the home on a timer.
5. Consider purchasing an alarm system (don't give the code to anyone other than those who live there).
6. If you have children, do not allow them to have company when you're not home.

Finally, IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES

DIAL 534-0911 FOR NON-EMERGENCIES

Trustee Larry B. Brown



UNIVERSITY PARK

47<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL FAMILY FLING!!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 2014

PALMER PARK, 600 OLMSTED

Mayor Vivian E. Covington, Board of Trustees,  
Village Clerk and Treasurer

Welcome you to attend our

Annual Back to school Family Fling!!



Back to School Parade 10 a.m. SHARP  
(90 Towncenter Drive & Olmsted Road)

FAMILY FLING Noon till DUSK  
(Just west of Western Avenue)

Featuring: University Park Idol Contest, Live Entertainment, First Baptist Church of University Park Choir, Kid Zone, Back Pack Give Away, Motorcycle, and more.....

AND THAT'S NOT ALL!!

FREE FOOD FOR KIDS (NOON-2PM ONLY)

For more information, please call 708-534-6456 or 708-534-4837

## ROBERT "BUCK" BROWN: WORLD RENOWNED ARTIST AND UNIVERSITY PARK RESIDENT!!!

On May 10, 2014, the village of University Park, Illinois held a ribbon cutting and memorial dedication celebration changing the name of the Hickok Bridge to the Robert "Buck" Brown Memorial Bridge. As you all may know, Robert "Buck" Brown was a resident of our village from 1974 until the time of his passing in 2007. The ceremony was attended by the majority of our elected officials, many employees of University Park and quite a few residents of the village. Also in attendance were several members of the Brown family, including his lovely widow, Mrs. Mary Ellen Brown (who still maintains her home in University Park), their children, Mrs. Tracy Hill, Mr. Robert Brown III and Mr. Brown's sister, Mrs. Willa White as well as several grandchildren of Mr. & Mrs. Brown.

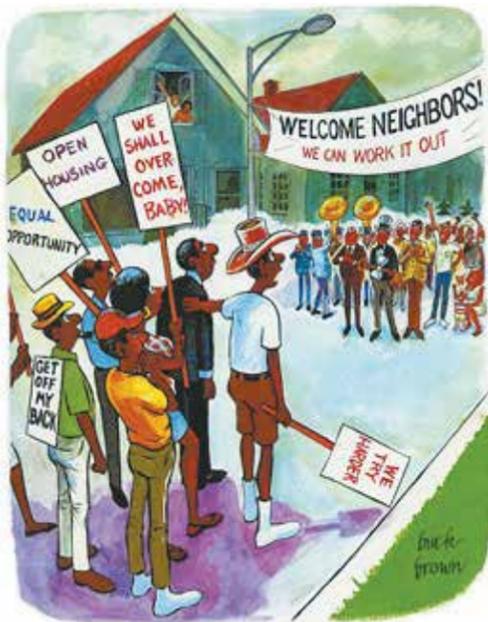


Mrs. Mary Ellen Brown addresses the crowd on May 10, 2014 at the ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony that renamed the Hickok Bridge to the Robert "Buck" Brown Memorial Bridge. Also pictured (from left to right) are Trustee Keith Griffin, Mayor Vivian Covington, Trustee Joseph Roudez, Mrs. Willa White (his sister) and one of the Brown's grandchildren.

Robert "Buck" Brown was born on February 3, 1936 in Morrison, Tennessee. During his childhood, he moved to Chicago where he attended and graduated from Englewood High School in 1954. Shortly after graduating from high school, Mr. Brown joined the United States Air Force, where he served honorably until 1958. While serving in the Air Force, Mr. Brown spent much of his free time developing and perfecting his ability to draw cartoons and other topics. He would periodically display his cartoons and drawings to his fellow airmen and his superior officers. As a result of these drawings, he began to receive recognition and notoriety as an extraordinarily gifted cartoonist.



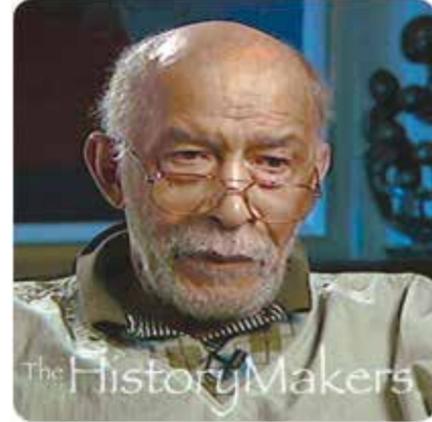
Artist Robert "Buck" Brown



A poignant commentary by "Buck" Brown on how far we, as a people, have come and a reminder of the work yet to be done. Simply brilliant!!!

After Mr. Brown was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1958, he worked for the Chicago Transit Authority as a bus driver and enrolled as a student at the University of Illinois. On one particular afternoon in 1961, Mr. Brown visited the offices of a new magazine publication in downtown Chicago and took with him several of his cartoons. Immediately upon seeing his cartoons, the publisher of that new magazine, Mr. Hugh Hefner, quickly recognized Mr. Brown's extraordinary talent and quickly purchased several of Mr. Brown's cartoons. In 1962 Mr. Hefner published the first of many of Mr. Brown's cartoons in his newly created publication, Playboy Magazine. Thus began a career as a professional cartoonist and a relationship with Playboy Magazine that spanned a period of time of more than four (4) decades. During the course of that time, over six hundred (600) cartoons of Mr. Brown's appeared in Playboy Magazine as the magazine

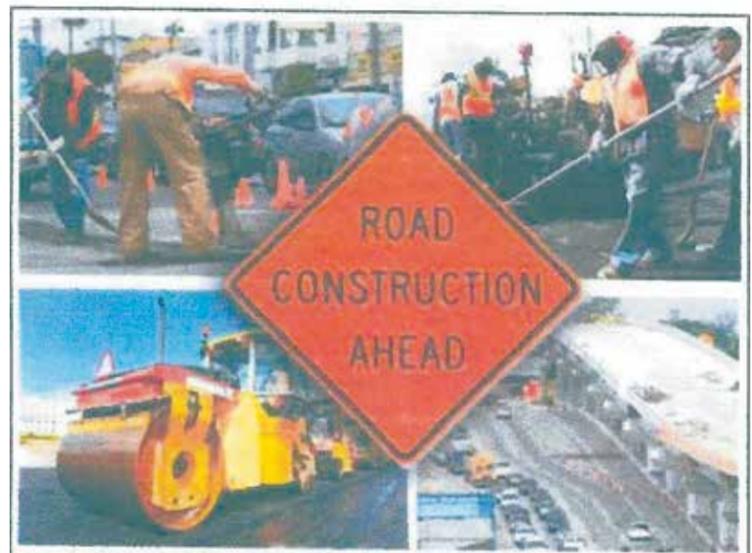
was distributed worldwide. One of the characters created by Mr. Brown in his cartoons was a feisty granny who was in constant pursuit of younger men for her own personal gratification. The creation and display of this humorous cartoon character brought Mr. Brown a great deal of fame and notoriety. Through the publication of his cartoons in Playboy Magazine and the many other publications of his works in other magazines such as Ebony Magazine, Ebony, Jr. Magazine, Jet Magazine, Esquire Magazine, The New Yorker and others, many people have surmised that Mr. Brown was the best, most viewed and most prolific cartoonist in the world during the last half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.



In addition to his great work as a cartoonist, Mr. Brown was also recognized as a great painter and artist. His works were enthusiastically collected by many people, including actor/comedian Dr. William (Bill) Cosby, singer Johnny Mathis and composer Henry Mancini. Two of Mr. Brown's works were gifted to University Park and now hang in our library. Ironically, one of those paintings that was gifted to the village (and was named "The Magic Bridge") depicts a bridge that Mr. Brown envisioned that looks very much like the actual bridge that was erected over Deer Creek at Hickok Avenue in November of last year. The bridge in the painting that is named "The Magic Bridge" also appeared on our village automobile stickers for the year of 2007.

In 1965, Mr. and Mrs. Brown wed, and their union produced two children. Prior to 1973, the Browns conducted a personal nationwide search for a city or town in which they could comfortably make a home and raise their children. That search ended in 1973 with their selection of University Park, IL as the town where they would "drop anchor" and build their home. It was here that they elected to live their lives and educate their children. It was also here that many of his famous cartoons and brilliant paintings were created. It was here that Mr. and Mrs. Brown found their "American Dream" as they lived and loved each other, their family, their town and their country.

## Highway Construction Careers Training Program



The Highway Construction Careers Training Program is a twelve week program. The next session will start July 14, 2014. The programs runs Monday through Friday, 7:50 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. This is a pre-apprenticeship program for individuals interested in getting into an apprenticeship program with any of the construction trades.

There is no cost to the program! (Program is funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation.) Students will be paid a stipend of \$10/hour to help with expenses.

Interested candidates must be at least 18 years old, have a High School Diploma/G.E.D., a valid Driver's License and be able to pass a drug test!

The application process starts at the mandatory one hour Informational Orientation followed directly by assessment testing. PLEASE NOTE: Orientations are **NOT** held on South Suburban College's Main Campus. They are held at the University and College Center located at 16333 S. Killbourn Avenue, Oak Forest.