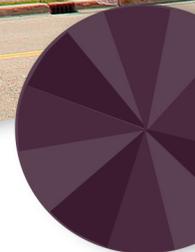




DECEMBER 2019

DISCOVER CHANNAHON

Information & News for the Channahon Community



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As 2019 draws to a close, and the holiday season is upon us, I want to take a moment to wish you all happiness and good health in the coming year. The promise of a new year brings renewed focus and new opportunities, and the Village of Channahon is excited to welcome 2020.

I am pleased to say the Channahon Village Board, once again, voted to lower the tax rate levied by the Village of Channahon. Our efforts to broaden the tax base serve to stabilize tax rates for our residents and allow us the ability to decrease the Village of Channahon portion of the overall tax rate. In 2020, Channahon is poised to bring further economic development. Among our goals

is a long term stable and diverse tax base, along with continued careful budgeting, so that potential fluctuations in the national and global economies have a less dramatic impact on our residents.

Our second goal for Channahon in 2020 is to identify, enhance and promote the things that bring us together as a community. What makes Channahon unique? Why do we choose to live here? What do we love about this community? How do we magnify all of that for our residents and potential visitors? With an eye toward preserving and accentuating our natural amenities, the Village of Channahon will focus on green space, water recreation, connections and

events that serve to bring people together.

Wishing you all a warm and wonderful holiday season, and all the best in the coming year.



Want to receive the Discover Channahon Newsletter sent directly to your email?

Visit www.channahon.org to sign up.

10 TIPS TO PREVENT FRAUD

While the internet can help make people's lives easier and more convenient, it can also make it easier for personal information to be compromised. Fraud prevention, including social media fraud prevention must be a priority now more than ever with the Internet continuously changing. The key to all types of fraud is to protect yourself. Here are a few tips:

1. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. So always question whether you think something is really legitimate.
2. It might sound simple, but remember if you didn't enter a lottery, you could not have won a prize.
3. If you have received an email which includes personal details such as an account number, always check to see if they match the ones you have been given.
4. Your bank will never ask you for personal or financial details or ask you to confirm your full password, so do not respond to emails or phone calls asking for this information.
5. Always install up-to-date anti-virus software and a firewall to protect your personal information on your computer or other electronic devices.
6. Be careful when using social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook. Avoid including personal information on these sites, do not advertise the fact that you are on vacation and always ensure your privacy settings are high.
7. If you are shopping online, always ensure the website you're using has a postal address. If it does not, or the address is a P.O. Box, you should be cautious. When you pay for your purchases, make sure there is a padlock symbol on the screen and the web address changes to 'https://' as opposed to 'http:'
8. Sign up to Verified by Visa or MasterCard Secure Code whenever you are given the option when shopping online. You'll need to register a password with your card company and by doing so, you'll gain additional security.
9. Do not be afraid to ask questions if you are unsure about anything. If the company is legitimate, you should not feel pressured into making a decision, and the company will be happy to answer your questions. If it is a scam, the more questions you ask, the more likely the fraudster will simply give up!
10. Be very wary about handing over personal information to people you do not know, particularly if you are being asked to give money upfront or pay with prepaid gift cards.

What you should do if fraud is suspected. If you believe you are a victim of fraud, you should immediately contact your local law enforcement authority and give a full account of what happened, as well as any information you have on the person or company in question. You can also contact the Internet Crime Complaint Center if the act took place via the Internet. After filing a complaint with the authorities, you should contact the appropriate institutions, including your bank, lenders, and credit card companies, in addition to the major credit reporting agencies, in order to protect your money and your credit rating.

VILLAGE HOLIDAY HOURS

The Village of Channahon will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25 for the Christmas holiday. The Village will also be closed Tuesday, December 31 and Wednesday, January 1 in observance of the New Year holiday.



Around Town

Local woman Sally Kren knitted more than 140 hats for the Winter Clothing Drive that benefitted the Will County Veterans' Assistance Commission.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2019 Outdoor Home Decorating Contest! The winners were:

- 1st Place: 24213 Hummingbird Drive
- 2nd Place: 26403 S. Ivy Lane
- 3rd Place: 24340 S. Edwin Drive



Have something you'd like to see featured in Around Town? Send a brief description and photos to sthompson@channahon.org.

SALT SMART. SAVE MORE.

Channahon is working with communities, residents and business owners to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy our rivers. One way we are doing this is by reducing excess salt use during the winter months.

Salt is used to make driving conditions safer, but the cost of using too much salt goes beyond the pavement. The salt used on streets and sidewalks runs off into the storm sewer system with the snow melt and finds its way into our rivers, where it is harmful to fish and local water quality. Too much salt also hurts our pets' feet and is corrosive to our cars, driveways, bridges and sidewalks. There is such a thing as too much salt!

This winter, Channahon is applying salt in smarter ways. By applying liquid brine on roads prior to snowfall and using other best management practices, Channahon is making driving conditions safer and protecting our rivers' health. This winter, we can all do our part to protect our waterways and our community.

Here are five tips for shoveling smart this winter:

1. Shovel first. Salt should only be used after the snow is removed and only in areas needed for safety.
2. Size up. More salt does not mean more melting. A 12-ounce coffee mug of salt should be enough for a 20-ft. driveway or 10 sidewalk squares (250 sq. ft.).
3. Spread. Distribute salt evenly, not in clumps. Clumped salt is wasted salt!
4. Sweep. If you see salt leftover on the ground after the ice melts, then you've used too much! Sweep up leftover salt to keep it out of our rivers and streams.
5. Switch. Untreated salt stops working if the temperature is below 15 degrees. When temperatures drop that low, switch to sand for traction or choose a different deicer formulated for colder temperatures.

PET TAGS RENEWAL

2020 pet tags are available now! The Village of Channahon requires that all dogs and cats be licensed with the Village. A copy of the Municipal Code of Ordinances: Chapter 91: Animals can be found online at <http://www.channahon.org/government/municipal-code/>.

Please bring proof of pet's rabies vaccination from your veterinary clinic. The tag is to be renewed annually. There is no charge for tags obtained by January 31, 2020, but as of February 1, 2020 there is a charge. After your Village tag is issued, you may email a photo of your pet to be added to our pet database by emailing it to smutz@channahon.org. Please include the pet's name and Village tag number.

If your pet is due for inoculation after the registration deadlines DO NOT WAIT to register. Obtain your Village tag at this time, otherwise you will be charged a fee, after February 1, 2020.

If you no longer have your pet, please contact Village staff with your name and the pet's name so our records can be updated.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Village Hall at 815-467-6644. We are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Local Business SPOTLIGHT

In support of local businesses and to help residents get to know their neighbors better, the Village of Channahon is launching a Local Business Spotlight program.

Starting next month, the Village will spotlight local businesses on our social media pages and in the Discover Channahon newsletter.

Know of a Channahon business that should be featured in an upcoming spotlight? Send suggestions to sthompson@channahon.org.

FOLLOW US



HELP KEEP THE STREETS CLEAR

With winter weather conditions now upon the Village of Channahon, please be considerate when clearing snow and ice from your driveway and walks. Section 95.35 of the Village of Channahon Municipal Code of Ordinances prohibits the deposit of snow and ice from private property onto any street. Snow blower chutes should be aimed to prevent snow discharge from being blown onto the street.

Vehicles are also prohibited from parking on Village streets during snow events of 2 inches or more. Once the streets have been cleared and cleaned, on-street parking may resume. Residents can do their part to help snowplow drivers, removing the need for plows to weave around additional obstacles in the roadway.



HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS



TWELVE HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

- 1** Keep decorations at least three feet away from heat sources – especially those with an open flame, like fireplaces and candles.


- 2** The best decorations are safe decorations, so when you're decorating, make sure not to run cords under rugs or furniture.

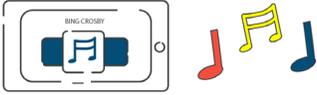

- 3** If you have a natural Christmas tree water it to keep it fresh and safe.


- 4** Always turn off your decorations when you leave your home and when you're sleeping.


- 5** If you're using extension cords or adapters that add receptacles, consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home.


- 6** Only use electronics in dry areas. As tempting as it is, you just can't decorate your aquarium with icicle lights.


- 7** Remember that phones and tablets should stay on your nightstand.


- 8** Every home needs a working smoke alarm in each bedroom, outside sleeping areas and on every level, including the basement.


- 9** If you're using a space heater, switch it off before leaving the room.


- 10** Inspect your decorations and discard any that are damaged or worn out.


- 11** Keep batteries stored safely in their packaging and out of reach from small children and pets.


- 12** The best gift for your family is an Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter breakers or outlets. Many electrical fires that occur every year could be prevented by AFCIs.



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 www.youtube.com/ESFI.org



UPCOMING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE & VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS

Monday, January 6, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Monday, January 20, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Monday, February 3, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Monday, February 17, 2020
6:00 p.m.

CONTACT US

Village of Channahon
24555 S. Navajo Drive
Channahon, IL 60410

Phone: (815) 467-6644
Fax: (815) 467-9774