

Field Notes



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS

We are grateful to you – Olympia Fields' elected officials, staff and residents – for your commitment to the Olympia Fields community. We wish you the brightest of holidays and look forward to a joyful year ahead.

Please note: Village Hall will be closed Friday, December 24; Monday, December 27; Friday, December 31 and Monday, January 3 for the holidays.



Carol in the Park – A Huge Success, A New Tradition

This past Saturday, the Village of Olympia Fields was the focal point for the south suburbs, celebrating the holiday season with its inaugural Caroling in the Park celebration, held in Bicentennial Park.



The outdoor celebration brought out an estimated crowd of nearly 600 attendees who enjoyed fellowship, food, treats and wonderful seasonal music.

Music performances came from various student performers and groups from Saint George School (Tinley Park), Infant Jesus of Prague Catholic School (Flossmoor), Rich Township High School, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School and Southland College Prep Charter High School.

Conceived by Trustee Howard White, the event established a cornerstone to reinvigorate the spirit of community and solidarity for the Village. With a vision in place, Trustee White and the Community Relations Committee (CRC) got to work on bringing the idea to life. The CRC partnered with the Olympia Fields Parks District to create an unforgettable experience that would start a new annual tradition for the Village.



According to Trustee White, "The most dynamic and vibrant communities have engaged residents. We want to maintain the quality of life here and elevate the Village's stature. To accomplish this, we have to find ways to bring our residents together and encourage them to take ownership in the Village's future."

Community spirit came alive for this event. CRC was pleasantly surprised by numerous residents spontaneously showing up hours before the event offering their assistance to help get the park and stage set for the event.



The event's reach stretched well beyond Olympia Fields. It attracted attendees from as far as New Lenox. They were joined by nearby neighbors from Homewood, Flossmoor, Tinley Park, Matteson and Richton Park.

This year's event included fourteen vendors with two food trucks. Several Village HOAs accepted invitations to set up "Christmas Stations" at the event, with Arcadia, The Greens, Maynegaite, The Original Village and The Trails taking active roles.

Perhaps the highlight of the night was an impromptu performance of "Give Love On Christmas Day" by the Olympia Fields Police Department, led by Officer Johnita Mitchell (see the video above).



The CRC will continue efforts to bring residents together and promote a higher quality of life for Village residents.

If you're interested in becoming a member of the CRC, please contact the Village.

[Learn about the Community Relations Commission \(CRC\)](#)

Olympia Fields Police Department Swears in Three New Officers

Officer Anoribe Nwannewuihe is a proud Nigerian American from the south side of Chicago. In 2016, Officer Nwannewuihe graduated from Dominican University with a degree in rhetoric and communications.

Officer Nwannewuihe played basketball, learning the value of teamwork and communication; he was always the teammate who was willing to do whatever was asked of him with joy. Officer Nwannewuihe hopes the culmination of his life lessons, on and off the court, will assist on his journey to become the best officer that he can be. Officer Nwannewuihe would like to thank Olympia Fields for providing him the opportunity to start his career in law enforcement and is excited to work in a field where every day he can make a difference.

Officer Anthony Lefko was born and raised in Tinley Park, IL which is where he continues to reside. Officer Lefko is a graduate of Tinley Park High School and is now attending Lewis University where he is studying Criminal Justice.

After graduating from high school in 2018, Officer Lefko worked as a Community Service Officer (CSO) in Orland Hills, IL. Officer Lefko has always had a goal of becoming a Police Officer and advancing his career in criminal justice. He enjoys walking his dog and working out in his free time, as well as spending time with family and friends.

Officer Zackery Ross Shull graduated from Rich Central High School and received his Associate Degree from Prairie State College. Officer Shull is a proud father of a little boy named Mateo, who has given him a new appreciation of and perspective on life.

Officer Shull enjoys weight lifting, gaming and spending time with family and friends. Officer Shull truly appreciates the opportunity that has been extended from the Village of Olympia Fields to become an officer.

The Public Works Department Welcomes Roxanne Post as the First Woman in Village History to be Hired as Maintenance Laborer

The Public Works Department is excited to announce the hiring of **Roxanne Post** to the position of Public Works Maintenance Laborer.

Roxanne is the first woman in Village History to be hired as a Public Works Maintenance Laborer. Roxanne is a mother of two and has been married for more than 35 years. Roxanne brings a vast amount of public works experience. Before accepting the position, she worked for the Village of Richton Park for 13 years. Please feel free to give her a warm welcome if you see her in the field.



The Village Has Completed the Annual Road and Drainage Project for 2021 in the Arcadia Subdivision, Greenwood Drive and Olympia Fields East Subdivision

All paving and swale restoration for the entire project has been completed. There is some minor work that still needs to be completed along the road edges which should temporarily be taken care of in the next couple of weeks and final restoration of these areas will happen in early spring.



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