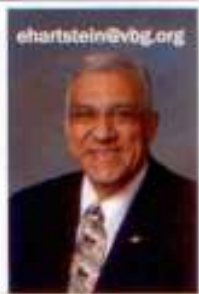


From Elliott Hartstein, Village President



Every November we have an opportunity to come together as a community at some significant community

events. First of all, we can recognize our veterans at the Annual Veterans Day Program sponsored by the Buffalo Grove Park District at BG High School with entertainment, refreshments and a meaningful program. Doors open at 12:15 for patriotic music and refreshments followed by the program at 1:30 pm. This year, there is also a special recognition program at the Indian Trails Library at 10:45 am. Let's come out in force to extend thanks to our veterans for their service to our country.

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, there is the annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service sponsored by the Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council. This coming together is a joint effort by clergy and members from our area churches and synagogues. Each year the event has proven to be an inspiring and fun way for community members to kick off the Thanksgiving holiday. The Interfaith Service this year is at Beth Am. The service begins at 7:00 pm on November 22. All residents are encouraged to attend and bring non-perishable food items which will be collected at the service to help stock our area food pantries. We as a community have much to be thankful for, and I hope to see the community come out in full force for this year's event.

Our blood drives during the year are another way we can all add to the pool available for those in need. Our next drive is December 5 at the Alcott Center from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please lend your support.

In this season of giving there are two new programs that could use volunteers:

One is the need for medical professionals to assist in the event that we ever need to do a mass distribution of medications. If the need arises, the Cook County Department of Public Health, the Lake County Health Department and the Village of Buffalo Grove would open clinics at Buffalo Grove High School and four polling places in Lake County to dispense antibiotics or to administer vaccinations to residents. Medications or vaccinations must be dispensed by licensed health care professionals such as MDs, RNs, LPNs, Physician Assistants, CNAs, DVMs, DDSs or Pharmacy Technicians. If you are a licensed medical professional and are willing to help in this vital endeavor please contact the Buffalo Grove Board of Health at health@vbg.org or 847-459-2530, so that we may begin credentialing you prior to any situation which might give rise to mass distribution.

Another call for volunteers is in response to resident inquiries about needing assistance in cutting grass, raking leaves, and/or shoveling snow. The Village has initiated the Shovel and Lawn Care Referral Program. This will provide seniors or other residents in need a list of volunteers who may be able to help - we need volunteers

willing to provide these chores to residents. Volunteers under age 18 are acceptable, but a parent must sign a waiver on behalf of the minor. Please call 847-459-2525 if you are willing to volunteer. Residents in need of assistance can call as well. Both residents and volunteers must complete a waiver form holding the Village harmless in this referral-only program. These forms are available on our website at www.vbg.org/referral.

In these challenging economic times programs like Toys for Tots will help put a smile on the face of some kids during the holidays. Our Police Department, as in past years, is coordinating this program in our area. Toys can be dropped off at the Police Station.

I extend my best wishes to the community on behalf of myself and the entire Village Board for a Happy Thanksgiving and upcoming holiday season. We indeed have much to be thankful for. We are so lucky to have Village departments and staff that provide exemplary services for our residents, super schools staffed with great educators to serve our kids, an amazing Park District to provide for our recreational needs, a wide array of religious institutions to meet our spiritual needs, and so much more, but most importantly a community of great individuals and families that make Buffalo Grove a great place to live.

Thanks to everyone and every institution who contribute to make Buffalo Grove so special.

Elliott Hartstein,
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