



Naperville District 203 Releases Boundary Change Maps



Naperville School District 203, of which Green Trails subdivision is a member, released three hypothetical boundary maps on January 13th, and considered two additional maps on January 17th (not released as of 1/21). The district maintains that the maps are an exercise for a committee studying enrollment and capacity issues.

Green Trails residents can get additional information at the Naperville District 203 website at www.naperville203.org. Parents of current students can get information emailed to them by signing up for "Talk 203". Interested residents, that do not have a student in the district, also have an option for signing up to "Talk 203" as a Community Member.

As of January 21, information about Public Forums is as follows:

Tentative schedule for Public Forums on Capacity study

Public forums for review of the capacity revision plan will be held in each of the junior high schools according to the schedule listed below. Each public feedback night will include a presentation of map(s), with information, and allow for public input. All dates are tentative based on the progress of the committee in their review of the draft maps.

Please note that while meetings are scheduled for each junior high, community members are welcome to attend any meeting. The same information will be presented at each session.

All Public forums are from 7:00 -9:00 pm
January 30: Lincoln Junior High School
January 31: Washington Junior High School
February 1: Jefferson Junior High School
February 2: Kennedy Junior High School
February 8: Madison Junior High School

Happy New Year from the Parks Department!

Aaron Cerutti, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities, Lisle Park District,
630-964-3410 ext. 4381

This year the GTIA Board and I got together and decided that in an effort to better communicate with our Green Trails patrons via The Pathfinder, I would submit an article quarterly. This will enable me to get you a list of projects that will be going on in the parks this upcoming year, as well as more timely updates on projects as they move along. The goal here is to keep the information flowing in a timely manner. Again, please feel free to call me at any time with concerns, or just to discuss a particular need you might have for any of the parks in the district. We are always looking for feedback.



This year the Green Trails parks that are scheduled for asphalt pathway maintenance include:

The entire Abbeywood complex
Breckenridge
Coach House
Hampshire

New Albany
Surrey Ridge Pond
Surrey Ridge Athletic Complex

This year the only tennis court that is scheduled to be crack filled and color coated is Carriage Hill. There are no playground replacements scheduled this year.

With the addition of our naturalist to the staff in 2011, he has had time to evaluate many of the parks in your area and throughout the district. Over the next two to three months we will be doing our annual winter pruning and cutbacks. We will also be removing numerous dead trees, and selectively removing some of the less desirable species that are overcrowding and choking out the healthy, desirable trees in certain areas. A good example is what you will see occurring over in Carriage Hill and Tanglewood Parks. Just keep an eye open, and I think you will truly appreciate the results when complete.

Come this spring we will be actively starting to replant the trees we lost in 2011 due to the severe storms in all of the parks. Be patient, as some species take to fall planting rather than spring, so this will be an ongoing process through 2012 and beyond. We also have looked at site conditions; the same type of tree may not be put back in as what was removed or lost. We have tried to identify species that are correct for the area and its growing conditions. We want to diversify the foliage in certain parks to add not only color and interest, but to strengthen disease tolerance and complement the park/s as a whole.

Another hot topic the last few months has been the District and our attention to light pole outages within the Green Trails parks. Just so you are aware, the district has a facility staff member in charge of the repairs; we do not use a contractor as your Board does. To save time and cost, we wait until we have 4 to 5 outages reported, or once a month, whichever comes first, before we dispatch repairs. Outages are reported directly to me. I enter work orders and schedule these repairs accordingly. Because we handle this with our own staff, at times the lights become a lower priority for us based on our workload. This is by no means an excuse, just an explanation so you understand our process. We understand your frustration at times, and we do want the lights to work as much as you do, that's what they are there for. We are trying to be as proactive and responsive as we can. We are trying to look at ways to improve our response time in 2012. The one thing I ask is that the quicker an outage is reported, the quicker it gets into my database and repairs get in the works. Don't delay and assume someone knows or has reported it. Don't hesitate to call more than once, as often times I can update you on the why or what it is going on with a particular repair. You can call me directly at the number above, email me directly at acerutti@lisleparkdistrict.org or report it through your association.

I hope that this new format is helpful in keeping you more informed. I encourage you to contact me directly with comments, concerns, and feedback. Most of all I hope you enjoy another exciting year with the Lisle Park District as your neighbor and community partner.

Summary of GTIA Board Meeting Minutes December 13, 2011 Pending Board Approval

In Peter Bakas' absence, Les Lavin called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the LRC at Kennedy Jr. High School. Board members present: Lou Beccavin, Bill Burlein, Pat Coughlin-Schillo, Tony Dolinar, Linda Gilbert, Don Helgeson, Marg Hough, Les Lavin, Christy McGovern, Mark Munoz, Roxanne Nagel, Michael Olson, Roger Sassen. Board members excused: Peter Bakas, Bob Klaeren. Management: Joanne Broda. Paula Gleason was Recording Secretary. A quorum was present.

Open Forum: None

Minutes of the Prior Meeting: Minutes of the December meeting were reviewed.

Board Motion: Mark Munoz moved to approve the December minutes, Don Helgeson seconded. The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Michael Olson reviewed the December Balance Sheet, and Income and Expense Statement. It was noted that three partial payments and one payment in full were received on 2011 past due accounts. As of today, 529 residences remain unpaid for their 2012 assessment; this is less as compared to last year.

Board Motion: Lou Beccavin motioned to accept the revised check register expenditures of \$10,362.52 for January, Michael Olson seconded. Motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Management Report: Telephone log line items were reviewed.

Management expressed their appreciation and thanks to Peter Bakas, Les Lavin, Bob Klaeren, Mark Munoz, Lou Beccavin, Tony Dolinar, Linda Gilbert and Joe Broda for removing the holiday decorations from the accent signs on Saturday, January 7th.

Management distributed copies of an amended committee list, and board roster for board members to include in their Board of Directors book.

Management noted that the GTIA auditor, Robert Ripp, will start his audit work by February 1st.

Management provided a list of December newcomers. Board Directors are encouraged to call on newcomers in their respective areas.

Finance Committee: No Report

Maintenance Committee: No Report

Communications Committee: No Report

Parks Committee: Pat Coughlin-Schillo asked for three more Board members to sign up to attend at least one of the 2012 Park District Board meetings. Once the list is

(please see *Minutes continued on page 4*)

Green Trails Improvement Association Board of Directors

Peter Bakas - President - Area N, TYN-APC
Leslie Lavin - Vice President - Area E, WGL(W)
Michael Olson - Treasurer - Area O, GT apts.
Robert Klaeren, Secretary - Area L, SR4, LW1, AWC, CG apts.
Bill Burlein - Area A, HF3, 4&5
Don Helgeson - Area B, HF1, OKS
Marg Hough - Area C, WV1,2,TLO
Tony Dolinar - Area D, HF2, WGL(E)
Christy McGovern - Area F, CWD, HTW, WGL 1-31
Mark Munoz - Area G, PRM
Pat Coughlin-Schillo - Area H, GR1 &2, LWS, SR5
Roger Sassen - Area I, SRI
Lou Beccavin - Area J, SR2, BLM
Roxanne Nagle - Area K, SR3, LW2
Linda Gilbert - Area M, HPT

Green Trails Pathfinder is a newsletter of the
Green Trails Improvement Association
Board Meeting is on the second Tuesday of the month.
All Green Trails residents are welcome.

NEXT MEETING: February 14, 2012
7:30 p.m. Kennedy Junior High School LRC

PROPERTY MANAGER JRM Properties, Inc.

P.O. Box 3106
Lisle, IL 60532
(630)961-7456
Joanne Broda

Please call JRM Properties if
you need information or have
questions regarding Green Trails.

Visit our Green Trails website at:

www.greentrails.org
Or E-Mail us at:
gtia@greentrails.org

GTIA Yearly Assessment Policy

Assessments are paid annually. The billing for the new year's assessment will be mailed out no later than Nov. 29th. Payment is due Jan. 1st. If payment is not received by Feb. 1st, an administrative fee is added to the assessment. If an owner does not receive an invoice by Dec. 10th, notify management immediately. GTIA policy states the homeowner is responsible for paying on time, with or without the invoice. If your address has changed, or if you have any questions regarding your bill, call Joanne Broda at JRM Properties at 630-961-7456.

SELLING? REFINANCING?

Anyone selling or refinancing within the Green Trails Improvement Association area should require a letter from JRM Properties, Inc., regarding their status of the yearly assessment charge. Requests for such may be called into the Management Office or requested by letter. Information to provide is as follows: 1) Property address; 2) Seller's attorney name and phone number; 3) Buyer's name; and 4) Date of closing. All this information will be required no less than 14 days prior to the close. If notice is given less than 14 days prior to closing, a \$25 fee will be assessed. JRM Properties, Inc. P.O. Box 3106, Lisle, IL 60532. Contact Joanne Broda, 630-961-7456.

Please read the box on the Classified page for instructions on how to submit an ad.
Commercial ads should submit to address at right.

EDITOR

Beth Haugeberg
630-416-7693

E-Mail stories to:
pathfinderarticles@greentrails.org

For Commercial Ads Contact Pam Shuta

ARBOR

Printing & Graphics
5100 Academy Dr., Ste 100
Lisle, IL 60532
630-969-2277

Minutes continued from page 3

complete, Pat will supply a copy to Management to include in the monthly Board packet. Lou Beccavin will attend the January Park District Board meeting.

Nominating Committee: No Report

Old Business/New Business: None

Board Member Area Reports: None.

Adjournment

Board Motion: There being no further business, Pat Coughlin-Schillo motioned to adjourn the meeting, Tony Dolinar seconded. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote; the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Gleason, Recording Secretary, Signature on File

Paula's Gems

Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.

Some mistakes are just too much fun to only make once!

A truly happy person is someone who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

May the roof above never fall in, and may friends gathered below never fall out!

What Do Those Letters Mean?



Every month the newsletter lists on page 3 the names of the directors and the areas they represent. The mailing label on the newsletter indicates the area and section of each unit. However, it was brought to the attention of management that not all residents know what the letters mean. Hopefully the following will clear up this mystery:

Area A = Heritage Farms 3, 4 & 5 - (HF 3,4&5)

Area B = Heritage Farms 1, and the Oaks - (HF1, OKS)

Area C = Woodglenn Village 1 & 2, Tall Oaks - (WV 1&2, TLO)

Area D = Heritage Farms 2, Woodglenn (east of Golfview)- (HF2, WGL(E)

Area E = Woodglenn (west of Golfview)- (WGL(W)

Area F = Collegewood, Huntington Woods, Woodglenn lots 1-31- (CWD, HTW, WGL)

Area G = Promenades - (PRM)

Area H = Gardens 1 & 2, Lakewood South, Surrey Ridge 5 - (GR1&2, LWS, SR5)

Area I = Surrey Ridge 1 - (SR1)

Area J = Surrey Ridge 2, and Bloomfield - (SR2, BLM)

Area K = Surrey Ridge 3, and Lakewood 2 - (SR3, LW2)

Area L = Surrey Ridge 4, Lakewood 1, Abbeywood Condos, and College Green
Apts./Trails at Abbeywood Condos - (SR4, LW1, AWC, CGA/TAA)

Area M = Highpoint (HPT)

Area N = Tyrnburly, and Torrey Pines Condos (TYN, TPC)

Area O = Green Trails Apts. (GT Apts)

Area P = Collegewood Court (CWC) and Area Q = Hidden Lake (HNL) are affiliated



Expert Tips for Parenting Tech-Savvy Kids

From Kidsmatter.org

Do you sometimes feel overwhelmed in the ever-changing, ever-growing worlds of technology and media?

Most parents today work hard to find a proper balance between keeping up, and staying ahead of the kids. With gadgets like cell phones that can access the Internet, and video game consoles as powerful as yesterday's home computers, and with all of this increased exposure to media, how can we make sure that our children are only being exposed to appropriate content?

Fortunately, there are many things parents can do to help our children and teens navigate the worlds of technology and media.

Consider the tips below, for all ages and stages of parenthood, and when you're ready to learn more, head over to the Technology and Media sections of ParentFurther.com, where you'll find more tips and research-based advice on popular media and technology topics like social networking, mobile technology, and video game addiction.

Tips for . . .

parents with children under the age of 5

Television: Limit screen time to 2 hours a day or less for children over the age of 2. Pediatricians recommend no screen time for children under 2. Practice "appointment" television. Use your TV guide, and decide in advance what's good to watch.

Cell Phones: Pay attention to the messages you model—stay off the cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), and other electronic devices when you're driving or engaged in other activities that deserve your full attention.

parents with children ages 6 to 9

Online Safety: Content blockers and filters are great tools to use with younger kids. They allow you more control over where they go and what they do online. A content blocker blocks sites with explicit material, or limits a child's search to a pre-determined set of sites. A content filter scans sites and images, and blocks those that contain certain words, key phrases, or content.

Cell Phones: Some single parents and working parents find it essential for their young child to get a kid-friendly cell phone that can be programmed with five numbers (such as for home, your work, the next-door neighbor, grandparents, and another significant adult). It's a great way to have your child check in with you to let you know he or she caught the bus or has safely gotten home.

please see "Tech-Savvy" cont. on p. 7

You're Invited...

The Lisle Area Chamber of Commerce and the Dinner Dance Committee would like to invite you

to their Annual Dinner Dance and Silent Auction "Dancing With the Chamber Stars" on Friday, February 10, 2012, 6:00 – 11:00 PM at the Lisle Hilton.



Tickets are \$75 per person and include one hour open bar, passed Hors d'oeuvres, entertainment, dinner with wine, dancing, auction and lots of fun! Invite your friends, tables of ten are encouraged! Contact the Chamber office at 630-964-0052.

Lisle Library Events

for more information please visit www.lislelibrary.org

Adult Programs

Sweet Valentine Treats

February 7, 7:00-8:45 PM

Chef Dave Esau will prepare romantic Valentine desserts: warm chocolate custard, flour-less cake, red velvet cupcakes. Recipes and samples will be provided.



The Wide World of Google -- beyond web searching

February 8, 6:00-7:00 PM

This class takes users beyond basic Google searches into the realm of different things

that Google has to offer. Covered in this class will be Gmail, Google Maps, Google Docs and Google Reader. PLEASE NOTE: this class is not for beginners - basic computer skills and some familiarity with the Internet is necessary. The library has free wi-fi if you would like to bring your own laptop to class.

Researching Your Family History

February 20, 6:00-7:00 PM

Would you like to be able to find out more about your family history? The library offers two databases that include information such as census data, passenger lists, church records, and much more. Learn how to use Ancestry (Library Edition) and HeritageQuest. The library has free wi-fi if you would like to bring your own laptop to class.



Lyric Opera Lecture: Rinaldo

February 23, 7:00-8:45 PM

Lyric Opera Lecture Corps will discuss this season's production of Handel's Rinaldo.

Youth Programs

Homework Help at Lisle Library

Every Tuesday, 3:00-5:00 PM

Members of the Benet Academy National Honor Society will be at the Lisle Library to provide free homework help and tutoring to students of all ages. Just drop in if you need some extra help.



Books and Baking

February 6, 4:00-5:00 PM

Creative snack making and listening to stories that are perfect for first- through third-graders.

If You Give a Hamster a Blueberry...

February 10, 4:00-5:00 PM

Calling all mouse, moose and pig lovers! If you're a fan of If You Give a Mouse a Cookie and If you Give a Pig a Pancake, you will want to join us for a fun-filled and creative afternoon as we celebrate the author, Laura Numeroff. Who knows what will happen if you give a hamster a blueberry!

Friday Family Fun Night

February 17, 7:00-8:00 PM

Time out for fun with stories, songs, rhymes, games, and crafts for children and their families!

Science Saturday: Air Pressure

February 18, 10:30-11:30 AM

Air pressure, gravity, and how these two affect our everyday lives is the topic of this month's Science Saturday. Hands-on experiments including crushing a can, grappling with gravity and forcing an egg into a bottle will all be part of today's program.

Big Nate Book Party

February 24, 4:00-5:00 PM

All things Big Nate! Join us for games, crafts, activities and readings from the popular series.

Mint Chocolate Chip Cookies (36 Cookies)

'Tis time for the wearin o'the green. I almost didn't submit this recipe because it's sooo easy - but then, that's how the Irish like to cook!

1 pkg Betty Crocker sugar cookie mix	1 egg
$\frac{1}{2}$ C butter, softened	1 C Crème de Menthe baking chips
$\frac{1}{4}$ to 1/2 tsp mint extract	1 C semisweet chocolate chunks
6 to 8 drops green food color	

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, stir together cookie mix, butter, extract, food color and egg until soft dough forms. Stir in Crème de Menthe baking chips and chocolate chunks. Using small cookie scoop or teaspoon, drop dough 2" apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8 to 10 minutes. Cool 3 minutes; remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Serve warm or cool completely. Store, tightly covered, at room temperature. Slainte!

Birthdays are great for you, the more you have the longer you live.

"Tech-Savvy" (cont. from p. 5)

parents with children ages 10 to 15

Online Safety: Remember that not all adult sites post an industry rating that can be identified by blocker, filter, or tracker software. That's why it's important to talk to your kids about what to do when something inappropriate or scary pops up.

Television: Watch what your kids watch. Talk about what they're seeing. Ask provocative questions such as, "What do you think of that character drinking all that alcohol?" State your values clearly. "I don't like it when people swear. I don't want you to swear either."

Cell Phones: Just because your child has a cell phone doesn't mean that you know where your child is (or that you'll be able to get a hold of him). The batteries can run out. Kids can call and say they're at the library when they're actually at a friend's house. Cell phones are not foolproof. Talk about the importance of honesty.

parents with children ages 16 to 18

Online Safety: Consider tracking software for older teenagers. This software enables you to see which sites your children have visited, tracking their path

online. This tool gives young people more freedom to explore the Internet, but it also allows you to verify that they are using the internet responsibly. Let your teenagers know that you trust them, but that you will be periodically verifying that they are visiting appropriate sites online.

Cell Phones: Talk to your kids about "sexting" (sending sexually-suggestive photos or comments through text messages). Make sure they understand that sexually inappropriate language and pictures are not allowed.

Social Networking: Most social networking sites feature strong privacy settings that enable your child to decide which information to share with all other users of that site, and which is restricted only to friends. Understanding and using these settings is important not only for your child's safety, but also to prevent any unwanted embarrassment or vulnerability.

Remember: nothing can replace involvement and supervision by adults. Keep monitoring how your kids use the media and technology on a regular basis without becoming an "Internet Cop".

Lisle Park District

for more information please visit www.lisleparkdistrict.org or call 630-964-3410

50+ Programs

Chocolate Bingo

Monday, February 13, 9:15-11:30am

Celebrate Valentine's Day the right way by joining us for some delicious rounds of bingo! Our decadent morning begins with a chocolate breakfast, complete with chocolate milk! You'll be "treated" to some lovely take home treats, and entered in a raffle to win a scrumptious chocolate gift basket too! Your morning will be complete when you stay and play bingo with all of your friends!

Strength and Bone Density

Tuesdays, February 21-April 4, 5:30-6:30pm

There is scientific evidence that shows the benefits of weight bearing exercise on bone density. We reach peak bone density in our twenties and begin to lose it in our thirties. This is especially true without proper exercise, diet, and with a family history of osteoporosis. This class takes you through a wide variety of light weight bearing exercises to help you stay strong and healthy. Our instructor, Jen Young, holds a Master's Degree in Exercise Science, and conducted her graduate studies on the effects of exercise on bone density.

Chicago Flower and Garden Show

Tuesday, March 13, 10am

The Midwest's first blush of spring is indoors at Navy Pier at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show. This year's theme is "Hort Couture", reflecting the influence of fashion and design in floral, plant and landscape creations. Take in the beautiful sights and smells of a dazzling array of floral and plant containers, horticultural and greening displays, stylized gardens in full bloom, and 100+ vendors showcasing their wares. Dining options are available within the Festival Hall as well as at numerous restaurants within Navy Pier. Register by February 6th.



Regular Activities at the New Senior Center

Canasta

Mondays at Noon. This friendly group plays this all-time favorite card game. Beginners are always welcome!



Cash Bingo

Mondays at 10am. \$1 for 2 cards and \$.50 each additional card. Enjoy a variety of bingo games, sure to challenge your mind and luck! Participants enjoy the coffee and friendship as much as they do the games!

Bridge

Thursdays, 1-3pm. This is a favorite game among avid card players. We feature a welcoming, comfortable atmosphere, so bring a friend or come meet someone new! Partners are encouraged but not necessary. Feel free to bring a treat to share, and join in on the fun.

Mah-Jongg

Tuesdays at 9:30am. Join this dedicated group of gamers who have been learning and playing this game for more than two years now. Mah-Jongg is a tile game similar to Rummy, so stop by and find out what it is all about!

Rummikub

Thursdays at 1pm. This tile Rummy game is lots of fun and easy to learn. New players are always welcome!

Games Galore

Fridays at 10 am. Join this group of gamers for a round of Rummikub, Dominoes, Scrabble and other favorites! New players and games are always welcome!



Green Trails Classified Ads

Green Trails residents may submit ads and articles for publication in the Pathfinder free of charge according to approved guidelines:

1. Ads must be received by the editor on or before the 12th of each month to be considered for publication. Ads may be sent by e-mail or by USPS. If sent by USPS, the ads must be typed or printed on 8 ½ X 11 paper.
(2030 Carriage Hill Rd. - Lisle)
2. Ads must include the residents GTIA Account Number (as found on their Pathfinder label), name, address, telephone number and/or e-mail address.
3. Ads will be limited to 25 words.
4. Renewal ads must be re-submitted each month according to these guidelines.
5. Ads that do not meet policy guidelines will not be printed.
6. Ads for businesses will not be accepted for free publication.
7. First-time classified ad submissions will take priority over repeat ads, and the editor will have discretion over revisions to ads.

DISCLAIMER

The Green Trails Improvement Association does not endorse any of the products or services listed in the Pathfinder.

SUBMITTING CLASSIFIEDS

- Classifieds must be renewed monthly via e-mail with "pathfinder" in the subject line.
- No phone-in ads or phone renewals.
- Classifieds should be sent to Beth Haugeberg at: pathfinderads@greentrails.org.

FOR SALE:

- Craftsman 5 speed wood lathe 37" spindle in good condition. \$170. Craftsman Belt and Disc sander 6" X 48 " with 8" disc in good condition. \$75. I am downsizing my workshop. Cash and carry. Call Nathan 630-305-7356.
- BULLS TICKETS, 2 seats together for some of the best dates this season. Section 321 row 7. Available for the following games: Friday Jan. 27 vs. Milwaukee, Valentines Day Feb. 14 vs Sacramento, Saturday Feb. 18 (3:00) vs. New Jersey, Sat. March 17 vs. Philadelphia, Sat. March 24 vs. Toronto. Prices vary by date. Call 630-420-0260.
- Simmons Full Bed Box Spring (new!), \$50. Bought a mattress and box spring but didn't need both. Phone 630-408-8364.
- Free: TRS 80 Computer & Manuals. Wallpaper Books(good for crafts). Fabric Books. Call 630-983-0591.

- Step 2 child's desk with chair. Comes with built-in dry erase board and has plenty of storage space. Good condition. \$35. Call Susan at 630-355-8632.

- Handmade wooden dollhouse. 2-story, 10 rooms. Measures 34"W x 24"H. No furniture. \$30. Call Susan at 630-355-8632.

- Sears Pro.Form 830QT Quiet treadmill, like new, rarely used. Cost \$800.00 will sell for \$300.00.

Call Kathy 630-961-1355.

FOR RENT:

- VERY NICE Green Trails Townhome. 2 BR, 2 full baths, family room, garage, basement, stainless steel appliances. No pets. Phone 630-460-0010.

- LUXURIOUS SKI CONDO. Winter Park, Co. Ski-in, ski-out, fully furnished , sleeps 4, full kitchen, fireplace, hot tub, heated garage, deck overlooking Continental Divide. \$795 per week. Phone 630-460-0010.



“Shoveling Out”

during the Groundhog Day Blizzard, February 2011.

6 Tips for Getting Organized in the New Year

by Maria Gracia

This year can be your most organized yet, if you follow these simple tips:

SET GOALS WITH DEADLINES. The first step in getting organized is goal setting. Do you want to organize your home? Your office? Your exercise program? Your family? Your time? Jot down exactly what you want to do, and designate a deadline for accomplishing that goal. The deadline should be as specific as possible (e.g. Feb 10, or July 7, etc.)

MAKE MINI-GOALS. Break your goals down into small, bite-sized pieces. For instance, instead of a large goal, such as organizing your entire house, choose one room at a time. Or, instead of organizing all of your business files, start with one drawer. Smaller pieces are easier to accomplish.

DESIGNATE REWARDS. Always designate an enticing reward for each goal you accomplish. The reward acts as your motivator and helps you achieve your objectives.

USE A CHEERING SECTION. Inform your family and/or friends of your goals. Ask them for their support. Ask them to ask you about your accomplishments from time to time, so you stay on track.

LAUGH AT MINOR SETBACKS. Don't expect everything to run perfectly smooth. As with any improvement you're trying to make, there are bound to be bumps in the road. Don't get discouraged. Ask questions. If it looks like you're not going to accomplish your goal by your deadline, simply reschedule. It's better to get back on track, than to give up.

KEEP A 'CAN DO' ATTITUDE. Attitude is everything. If you think you're going to fail, you will. If you think you're going to succeed, you will. Zig Ziglar, a motivational speaker, always says that to succeed, you must get rid of that 'stinkin' thinkin' and set your mind to achieving your goals.

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Maria Gracia - Get Organized Now!™

Want to get organized? Get your FREE Get Organized Now!™ Idea-Pak, filled with tips and ideas to help you organize your home, your office and your life, at the Get Organized Now!™ Web site <http://www.getorganizednow.com>



Programs to Offer Electric Bill Savings from the Village of Lisle

On December 19, 2011, the Village Board authorized a referendum question on the March 20, 2012 election ballot for Lisle voters to consider. If approved, it would allow the Village to seek competitive pricing for the procurement of electricity to residents and small businesses.

The referendum question on the March 20, 2012 election asks Lisle voters if the Village should have the authority to seek competitive pricing bids for electric services under a single contract. Specifically, the referendum question will read:

Shall the Village of Lisle have the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such program?

If approved, the Village would work independently, or with other area communities collectively to issue a Request for Proposal for competitive electricity prices. If the referendum is approved, the Village will be required to hold two public hearings to discuss a plan of operation and governance for an electric aggregation plan. This will precede any bid for electric supply.

For those who don't want to wait for the referendum decision to begin saving on electric bills, Clean Air Counts, a campaign created by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (of which Lisle is a member), has launched an Energy Savings Program to provide lower rates to residents through Integrys Energy Services. More information about this program is available on the Clean Air Counts website. Please visit www.villageoflisle.org for more information.