

# Melrose Park's New Economic Development Projects

## Silver Creek Watershed Committee

The Silver Creek Watershed Committee met with village businesses and residents. Mr. Ted Gray P.E., CPESC, M.S. from Living Waters Consultants, Inc. gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the progress of the Phase II Silver Creek Stabilization Project. Phase II has a completion date of July 15, 2009. Mr. Gray also informed the audience that the village submitted a Phases III application to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. This Phase III project will continue addressing erosion and stabilization issues adjacent to Phase I going west to Ninth Avenue.

If you are interested in joining the Silver Creek Watershed Committee, please contact Rich Battaglia at (708) 865-8809.

## Silver Creek Cleanup a Huge Success

Mayor Serpico and The Silver Creek Watershed Committee conducted its Semi-Annual Silver Creek Cleanup on April 25, 2009. Over 80 volunteers participated. Volunteers met behind Winston Plaza and started out the morning with fresh coffee, juice, water and donuts all donated by Winston Plaza and New Mark Merrill Companies. The volunteers started the day's work by dividing into four designated groups. The cleanup areas were Andy Frenzel Park, behind Winston Plaza, east of Ninth Avenue and from First Avenue west.

Everyone had a great time and several loads of debris were collected from the creek. Three village trucks were filled with garbage consisting of over 140 bags, numerous tree branches, roofing singles and shopping carts. The cleanup ended at noon, just in time to meet at Bulger Park for a hot dog lunch under the pavilion. Mayor Serpico and The Silver Creek Watershed Committee would like to thank the following for all their hard work and donations: the volunteers from the Department of Public Works; the Horticulture and Landscaping Department; Electrical Department; the Public Safety Department; the residents and volunteers who participated; Concordia University Science Department; and especially the fifth, sixth and seventh graders from Grace Lutheran School. The great food was donated by the following: hot dogs from Consumer Food Products; buns, ketchup, mustard and relish from Jim Stramaglia of Harlo Grill; chips, cookies,

pop and water from Billy Campanelli of Campanelli Vending; Veterans Park District for the use of their pavilion and concession staff; and a special thanks to Carole Johannesen, from Winston Plaza and New Mark Merrill Companies for the use of their property, tent, chairs, tables, coffee, juice and donuts.



## Silver Creek Stabilization Phase III Receives Funding Approval

On May 11, 2009, the mayor and village board approved the Grant Recipient Agreement with the Illinois Environment Protection Agency for the Silver Creek Phase III Stream Bank Stabilization Project adjacent to Phase I going west to Ninth Avenue. The project is currently in the planning and permit stage. The project requires a public bidding process. Bids are projected to go out mid-summer with an early September 2009 return date. The actual construction is projected to start October of 2009 with a finish date of July 2010.

## Lake Street Corridor Beautification Project

Mayor Serpico and the village of Melrose Park are providing all the businesses on Lake Street from 25th Avenue to Ninth Avenue new awnings. This project started on March 15, 2009 and will be completed by July of 2009. The modern awnings will provide uniformity and revitalize the Lake Street business area. If any business needs information, please contact Pete Eleuteri at (708) 865-8809.

## DePaul University Chaddick Municipal Development Award

Mayor Serpico was recently notified that the village of Melrose Park is one of five finalists being considered for the DePaul University Chaddick Municipal Development Award. The Chaddick Municipal Development Award recognizes a suburban unit of government that has been innovative in managing the development process of a specific project. A letter was submitted nominating the village of Melrose Park for taking a proactive approach to addressing the long standing environmental issues relating to Silver Creek.

## Melrose Park Street Improvements

The village received funding to pave Ninth Avenue from North Avenue going south to Chicago Avenue. This project is scheduled to begin late July. The Illinois Department of Transportation will also be improving a number of roads under their jurisdiction. The following roads through Melrose Park are on IDOT's schedule for resurfacing sometime this summer: Chicago Avenue from 17th Avenue to First Avenue; 25th Avenue from Lake Street to Armitage Avenue; Lake Street from Mannheim to west of Wolf Road; North Avenue from DuPage County Line to Harlem Avenue; Mannheim Road from Lake Street to I-290.



## Computer Resource Center

The new Village of Melrose Park Computer Resource Center is located in the Guy Guerine Senior Center adjacent to the Civic Center. Computers are available to Melrose Park residents Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Computer Center is staffed with a full-time IT person from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Staff from the Melrose Park Youth Commission is available in the evening for assistance.

## Multi-use Path

The new Multi-use Path from River Woods to Thatcher Avenue will be complete this summer. This path provides safety to pedestrians and bike riders along the south side of North Avenue.

