

Village of Mokena, Illinois Newsletter

Mokena e-News

September 29, 2017

The Count of Mokena

Are you European nobility?

Perhaps not, but take heed; you'll still want to be down for the count.

Many of you can expect to see enumerators from the U.S. Census Bureau at your door starting next week as the Village moves ahead with a partial Special Census of the town. Welcome them and make your household known!

For more information on the Special Census, including those areas of the community that will be counted, check out the "Census is Here, Now" article below.

Census is Here, Now

It's official.

The Village of Mokena's long-awaited Special Census will be gearing up and getting underway next week, according to communication received at Village Hall from the U.S. Census Bureau regional office in Oak Brook earlier this month.

Actual enumeration is expected to begin October 6.

Unlike the 2010 Census, this Special Census will be a partial enumeration only. That means only residents in specific census blocks where recent growth has occurred will be counted.

Specific subdivisions to be counted (either in full or in part) in the Special Census include (but may not be limited to) the following: Bridges of Mokena, Prairie Ridge, Foxborough Estates, Blackthorne Ridge, Boulder Ridge, Whisper Creek, Ginger Creek, Crystal Creek, The Oaks, and Sarkis Estates. Clarendale of Mokena will also be included in the count.

The Special Census and your participation (if you are located in a part of the community being counted) in it is important. Providing high quality public services in a rapidly-growing community takes money. The Village receives approximately \$150 per person annually in State revenue to help provide the level of services Mokena residents have become accustomed to, and that's why the Village makes the effort every few years to up the town's official population count.

Should you have questions regarding the upcoming Census, call the Mokena Village Hall at (708) 479-3900.

Board Approves Lease Arrangement

Village-owned land at the southeast corner of Hickory Creek Drive and 189th Street will soon begin delivering a new non-tax revenue stream to help support day-to-day Village operations.

At its September 25 meeting, your Mokena Village Board approved a ground lease contract with The Huntington National Bank for the 0.653 acre parcel that will generate \$4,000 annually for the Village over a ten-year term.

The agreement additionally provides for two consecutive ten-year options to extend the contract, increasing the lease rate to \$5,000 annually after ten years, and to \$6,000 annually after twenty years. Ultimately, the lease could result in \$150,000 in new revenue for the Village over the next thirty years, all at no cost to taxpayers.

This is the second lease arrangement for the land, which was purchased by the Village in 2003 to provide further, as-needed access to a municipal water tower located just to the east of the parcel. The previous tenant constructed parking on a portion of the acreage to accommodate the needs of clients leasing space in its office tower directly to the south, and The Huntington (which now owns the office tower) will be utilizing the land for the same purpose.

The deal specifically allows the Village to continue to access the site for periodic maintenance of the water tower and any cellular structures/equipment that may be co-located there in the future.

Board, Staff Recognize Chamber Exec Melissa Fedora

Under her directorship, the Mokena Chamber of Commerce experienced growth in its membership, expanded its services, and established strong community connections.

Outgoing Mokena Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Melissa Fedora was honored with a proclamation at the Mokena Village Board's September 25 meeting recognizing her 7 years of outstanding service to the Mokena community.

During her tenure, Melissa's friendly demeanor, cooperative attitude, and endless enthusiasm made her an important resource to the Mokena business community.

Village elected officials and staff wish Melissa all the best moving forward.

Trees Need Moisture Now

Trees may have started losing their leaves, but that doesn't mean you can just ignore them until next spring.

During the current streak of extremely dry weather, arborists say you would be wise to water your trees every other day. This will help ensure they don't go dormant later this year in a stressed condition, which will in turn make them more vulnerable to adverse environmental conditions over the winter and into next spring.

Take a hose and let it trickle 3-5 feet around each tree for 20 minutes every other day. This will apply water where it is needed most--to the tree's root system. Avoid watering the trunk or foliage of the tree.

While your tree's need for moisture is great, avoid the temptation to water every day. Every other day should be adequate, and following this practice will help you avoid other problems associated with overwatering.

Need more information on the care of trees? Simply click on the link below.

[Tree Tips](#)

