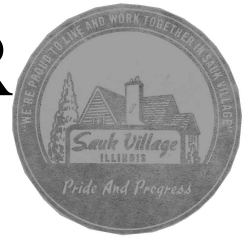




THE SAUK VILLAGER



Sauk Village's Original Community Newspaper

VOICE OF SAUK VILLAGER FOR THE 21ST CENTURY!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2013

3 NEW POLICE OFFICERS SWORN-IN

By Joseph Wiszowaty

SAUK VILLAGER | Three new police officers were sworn-in Tuesday night. New to Sauk Village but not to serving as Police Officers so says Deputy Chief of Police Tim Holevis. "All three have served with other police departments prior to coming here" Holevis said.

Michael Brown, Chad Frederichsen and Frank White are the newest additions to the department. Many may remember Brown who has attended Village Board meetings in recent past.



Photos by J. Wiszowaty: Chad Fredericksen, Michael Brown and Frank White take the oath.

The three officers are replacing officers who left the department and have already been calculated in the budget costs for the department according to Alan Stoffregen who serves as the Department's

chief. Stoffregen was given the dual role of Fire Chief and Police Chief.

This action brings the department's police staffing back up to the same level it was since the departure of the controver-

sial former temporary Chief of Police Robert Fox who was brought in by former Mayor Lewis Towers.

CANDIDATES HOST FORUM ON IMPROVEMENTS

By Staff Report

SAUK VILLAGER | Village Trustee **Derrick Burgess**, candidate for mayor in April told a group of supporters last night "after I win the election, I plan on retiring from my full-time job now to focus my full-time and attention to the matters of Sauk Village" Burgess said to a round of applause.

Burgess said that despite the fact that it is only a part-time paying job that he will have enough time in at his current job and can begin drawing on his pension. "It's going to take a full-time effort to get our village back on track, this isn't a part-time village, this is a multi-million dollar business" Burgess said. "You can't have an absentee mayor, we see where that has

brought us in 4 years" Burgess said.

Likewise **Marva Campbell-Pruitt**, age 57, said she retired last year and will dedicate her full-time to the duties of Village Clerk at the part-time pay. "We're not doing this for the money, we're running for office because we care about Sauk Village" Campbell-Pruitt said.

With the People's Unity Party candidates for Mayor and Village clerk willing to take on the full-time responsibilities for the hourly rate broken down for mayor would be something like \$9.13 per hour and the Village Clerk something like \$8.17 per hour according to village records.

Burgess introduced each member of his team and incumbent Village Trustee **Edward Myers** gave residents information about the Fire Department and the Community Services Department, while **Jeffrey Morden**, candidate for Trustee, gave information on the Emergency Services and Police Departments.

Elizabeth "Beth" Zupon and **Debra "Deb" Davis** also gave those in attendance a brief introduction about themselves and their vision for Sauk Village.

Burgess explained a detailed plan on the infrastructure improvements for the village including the water mains, streets and sidewalks. One of the limitations
(CONTINUED PG 2- See CANDIDATES)

(con't from pg 1— **CANDIDATES**) Burgess spoke about was the limited resources the village has in order to improve the streets. "It is incumbent upon the mayor to go out and seek alternative revenue sources to supplement what we normally get each year" Burgess said.

Burgess also pointed out that some candidates are not telling the entire truth the water. "The water may have a funny odor, but you get that with well water, Sauk Village has well water, not Lake Michigan water. Since the village has installed the air stripping equipment, it has been routinely tested by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and despite the well water taste, it is safe to

drink" Burgess said. He also took a little jab at one of his opponents which elicited laughter. "There is no fecal matter in the water as one person has state" Burgess said. "Rest assured the village will be doing something about the village's water source. We are under mandate by the people who voted in the March, 2012 referendum" Burgess said.

Burgess addressed his plans to pay for the multi-million dollar costs by stating that the resident's cannot afford to replace the infrastructure and connect to an outside community for Lake Michigan water, the cost is too great for us to bear alone. "We must put forth a full-time effort to secure alternate sources of revenue, in-

cluding lobbying state and federal officials for financial assistance and grants" Burgess said.

Burgess said he offers a new approach to governing the Village. "We can't go back, we must move forward and work in a collaborative effort with other communities, state and Federal officials in order to get what we need here in Sauk Village" Burgess said.

"Being mayor of any community is not a part-time job. It's not a job you can do from 5pm until 7pm each day. It is a full-time job, it is a full-time commitment. I am prepared to take on the challenges because I care about Sauk Village" Burgess said.

IUCCIOS NO MORE...

VILLA DI PIZZA HERE TO STAY!

By Joseph Wiszowaty

SAUK VILLAGE | The name may have made it's way to Dyer, but that's the only thing that moved there according to the owner of **Villa Di Pizza** located at 2420 E. Sauk Trail. Iuccios merely changed names, the old Iuccio name is gone but the same pizza tradition that they were cooking up for years remains.

The company recently went through a "divorce" of sorts and one owner split with the name and old phone number but not with the pizzas and not with what has become a quintessential Sauk Village staple for year. Villa Di Pizza and remains committed to Sauk Village whose owner lives in the village.

Delivery service to Sauk Village is still being made, while other companies have discontinued delivery to Sauk Village

Owners plan on hosting a Business After Hours even in conjunction with the Village's Economic Development Committee in March to showcase Villa Di Pizza. Details will be announced.

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Road Improvements Announced



21800 Block of Jeffrey Avenue

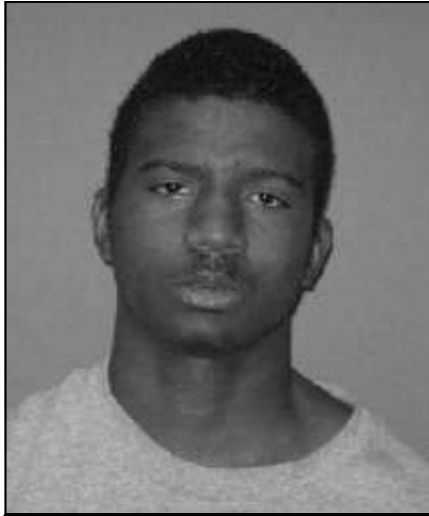
By Joseph Wiszowaty

SAUK VILLAGE | Village Engineer Jim Czarnik announced that the Village will be working on some much needed street repairs to the tune of \$500,000 this year. "We didn't begin working on these projects yesterday" Czarnik said. The planning and funding for some of which goes back to 2011, Czarnik said.

Village Trustee Derrick Burgess advised that nearly 1 mile of roadway will be repaired and the projects are fully funded by Federal, State and County resources and no village tax dollars.

223rd Street from Nichols Avenue to Murphy from April to July, Burgess said.

215th Place from Peterson to Jeffrey Ave; Luella Court; 225th Court; Merrill Court; 223rd Place Court. (May to August, 2013) Additionally water main repair restoration will take place at about 99 individual sites at a cost of \$150,000 Burgess said following the meeting Tuesday.



Easley's Sauk Village Booking Photo

EASLEY GETS 75 YEARS FOR MURDER

State's Attorney Anita Alvarez.

Timothy Easley, 24, of Sauk Village, was convicted by a jury in January of First Degree Murder and Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault for sexually assaulting and strangling honor student Brashai Griffin, and then leaving her body in a creek in a secluded area in south suburban Sauk Village. Both Easley and the victim attended Bloom Trail High School.

According to prosecutors, on April 2, 2008 at approximately 6:30 p.m., the victim left her home in Sauk Village to meet the defendant. Earlier that day, the victim told other students at Bloom Trail that she was planning to meet

Easley that night. When the victim's mother came home around 10:30 p.m., she contacted police because her daughter was not home. Police and local search teams looked for the 15-year-old victim for almost 48 hours.

On April 4, 2008, investigators discovered a body in a wooded area near 223rd Street and Torrence Avenue in Sauk Village. The body, found submerged in water, was later identified as the victim, Brashai Griffin. An autopsy revealed that the victim had been strangled and sexually assaulted and the death was ruled a homicide. DNA taken from the victim during the autopsy was later (con't pg 4- See **EASLY**) Con't

SAUK VILLAGE | A Cook County judge Wednesday sentenced a man convicted of sexually assaulting and killing a 15-year-old honor student and classmate and later dumping her body in a wooded area in the south suburbs in 2008, according to Cook County

HOW MANY LIES MAKE A LIAR?

Opinion Editorial

by Joseph "Indiana Joe" Wiszowaty

The accidental mayor David Hanks is playing politics again trying to get your vote! In a Lewis Towers weasel move, the pontificating pastor's son who wants to be mayor so badly, had big checks printed up and laminated (at whose expense I wonder) to pass out in a photo op moment Tuesday night. The only problem is that the money he doled out wasn't the Village's money to dole out in the first place.

In fact, the Nancy McConathy Library District put it best: "For the record, the various taxing bodies received the money left over from the expiration of the Sauk Plaza TIF (Tax increment financing) District Number 1. Money was distributed through Cook County because it is their responsibility to figure out the correct amounts of money based on our (individual taxing districts) tax levy.... It is just the "facts".. The money was in no

way a "gift" to any taxing body. It was money we did not receive based on a property evaluation". Let me repeat, **"THE MONEY WAS IN NO WAY A GIFT!"** Sure looked like it for the camera (Con't page 3- see **LIAR**) though, didn't it? Even saw pictures being snapped! I'm sure those pictures will magically appear on some political propaganda that you'll see shortly! **THIS IS THE TRUTH!**

It sure looked all nice though when the "accident" was passing out money as if the broke Village had money to burn! David Hanks' supporters are AMENing him just like Lewis Towers' "AMEN" CORNER did in his truncated administration.. So you have to ask yourself, What is the difference between David and Lewis Towers???? One thing is obvious, but we won't go there yet!!

Now the accidental Mayor wants to bring



back all the employees who have been laid off as if the Village had a huge influx of cash! How could that be if less than a month ago, the Village was borrowing money from whatever fund it could scrape together just to make payroll. In his infinite wisdom, he borrowed money from the sacrosanct Cell-Tower fund via a consensus vote taken in PRIVATE not in PUBLIC (wonder what the Attorney General will say about that which I had to FOIA request--- but I digress). You can't make payroll but you still want to bring

VILLAGE ENTERS AGREEMENT WITH
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Water Rates

Rise 33%

The village board approved a consent decree with Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan (vote of 4 to 0 with Benson Abstaining and Myers absent) to settle legal action against the Village for not installing air stripping equipment to clean up the contamination in the Village's well water.

The Village agrees to continue with air stripping to remove the vinyl chloride and agrees to install the equipment in Well #3.

Until the Village can improve the water mains to reduce water loss to below 8%, currently the water loss is estimated at some 30%, it is not likely able to apply successfully to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for a Lake Michigan Water allocation.

Voters approved a referendum to abandon the 56 year old wells in favor of Lake Michigan water.

Village water rates will rise this month to \$7.50 per 1000 gallons of water used, an increase of 214% increase since July, 2012. Many residents have complained of outrageously high water bills as high as \$800 in recent months.

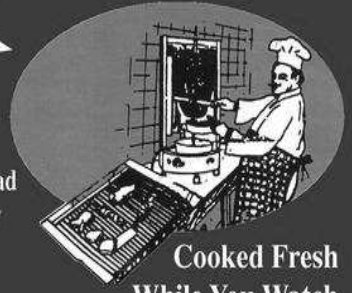
Continued from page 3- **LIAR**

back employees that you can't afford to pay??? Smells like it... Sounds like it... YEP SURE IS! Remember when Lewis Towers brought in Bobby Fox and didn't have any money to pay for him but the VILLAGE BE DAMNED! Like Towers said, "He is here "ya'll figure out how you are gonna pay".... SAME MOVE HERE Mr. Accident!

You can call me "Indiana Joe" or "Mr. Negativity" all you want Mr. Accidental Mayor, but at least you can't call me a LIAR! I don't care that David Hanks is running for Mayor. He is the one that told me back in March of 2012 that he hadn't decided yet. But in November you LIED to the people of Sauk Village and you LIED to the public via a television newscast that you would not run for Mayor. Then you whitewashed that LIE by telling everyone that "THEY MADE ME DO IT" DAVID, you have NO INTEGRITY and you are not a man of your word.

[This is my personal opinion and does not represent any candidates' views. I am a big boy and can speak for myself, just as I did in 2011 and will do always!]

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**Note - Menu items subject to change*

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from pg 3- **EASLY**

matched to the defendant's DNA.

Cook County Judge Luciano Panici imposed the 75 year sentence during a court appearance today at the Markham Courthouse.

State's Attorney Alvarez thanked Assistant State's Attorneys Nicholas D'Angelo and Torrie Corbin for handling this case. She also thanked the Sauk Village Police Department for their assistance.

St. James Church
Friday Fish Fries are
Back on Again for Lent!