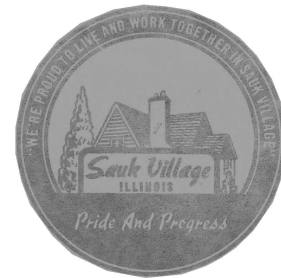




Sauk Village's Original Community Newspaper

THE SAUK VILLAGER

A Community News Service for the 21st Century



FRIDAY JANUARY 20, 2012

CRIMINAL CHARGES TO BE DRAFTED AGAINST FOX

By *Steve LaRock*

SAUK VILLAGE | The Village Board of Trustees voted unanimously Thursday at a special board meeting to draft criminal charges against the temporary Police Chief Robert Fox for theft of village property and official misconduct.

As the special meeting started, Fox had left the Village Hall meeting room abruptly. A Mayor Pro-Temp was appointed in the obvious absence of Mayor Towers being Trustee Hanks, the absence of Trustee Benson as well as Towers was apparent.

Trustee Rosie Williams announced that she called the meeting and motion to discuss the Sauk Talk issue. She referenced the last board meeting when it was announced that Sauk Talk would be professionally printed and mailed to residents in January, since it contained important water referendum information and ballot wording which was important to get out to Village residents. This would be the first printed Sauk Talk since July 2009.

Williams stated that on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at or about 12:45 P.M. she received a call informing her that the Bundled, Zoned, and placed in U.S. Postal Bins for mailing Sauk Talk pamphlets were removed from the Village Hall. Trustee Williams then phoned the Village Manager Henrietta Turner whom confirmed the report of the Sauk Talk mailers being removed from the Village Hall as correct, over the phone. Trustee Williams then met with Village Manager Turner at about 2:00 P.M. at the Village Hall. Upon arriving, Trustee Williams verified that the U.S. Postal Containers were empty,

Williams spoke to 5 employees that were working in the Village Hall, and asked them for affidavits to account as to what happened to the now missing Sauk Talks, and whom they witnessed removed them from the building. Upon reviewing security camera footage of the Village Hall, Trustee Williams was able to determine the unnamed person at this point of the meeting, and she then walked across the street to the



Temporary Police Chief Robert Fox waits for the meeting to begin. Fox leaves the meeting right as it is called to order.

Police Department where she attempted to file a Police Report.

Trustee Williams was told by Sergeant Rebecca Sailsbery that at the direction of Temporary Chief Of Police Robert Fox, that she was not able to file an official report, but provided Trustee Williams with an incident report. Temporary Chief Of Po-

(See FOX-Continued on page 3)

Moose Lodge Robbers Nabbed

by Joseph Wiszowaty

SAUK VILLAGE | 2 men were being held in custody by the Cook County police after the robbery Tuesday night of the Roseland Moose Lodge at 2911 E. Sauk Trail near Sauk Village in unincorporated Cook County.

Cook County sheriffs police launched a search near the area of the Moose Lodge. A police K-9 unit was able to

track down the money stolen and a shot gun was recovered according to Cook County Police.

The suspects had apparently jumped into the icy cold waters of a nearby lake to avoid capture and was latter captured at a nearby home around 1:30am in Sauk Village. There were no shots fired and nobody was injured or harmed during or following he incident according to an anonymous source.

Attempts to reach Wally Paris, Administrator at the Moose Lodge for comment were unsuccessful.

Criminal charges were to be filed on Thursday according to the Cook County Sheriff's office but attempts to reach the spokesman for the department were not successful.

Sauk Village Police assisted but did not head up the operation.

HOMETOWN GYROS




RED HOT CHICAGO
PURE BEEF PRODUCTS
A Family Tradition Since 1975

Cooked Fresh While You Watch

Special Discounts For Large Company Orders
We Do Catering
DRIVE THRU Now Open
**Note - Menu items subject to change*

Please call ahead for faster carry out service

HOT DOGS
HAMBURGERS
GYROS
TACOS & BURRITOS
BEEF & SAUSAGE
SANDWICHES
KIDS MEALS

708 757-6865
708 757-6864

Try our Pizza



Do it Best

Support your Local
Sauk Village
Hardware
1701 Sauk Trail
Sauk Village

Round the Clock

Breakfast starting at
\$4.99
Support your
local businesses!



**SUPPORT THE
McConathy Public
LIBRARY!**

*Read to your kids
The future belongs to
them...*

Diana's Day Care

Licensed & Insured
Child Care and Preschool
Before & After School Care

www.DianasDC.com



"JUST LIKE HOME"

708-758-2939

JANUARY-Historical Look Back...

January 16, 1958- Sauk Village to receive water, sewer service from Indiana Hills Water & Sewer Company

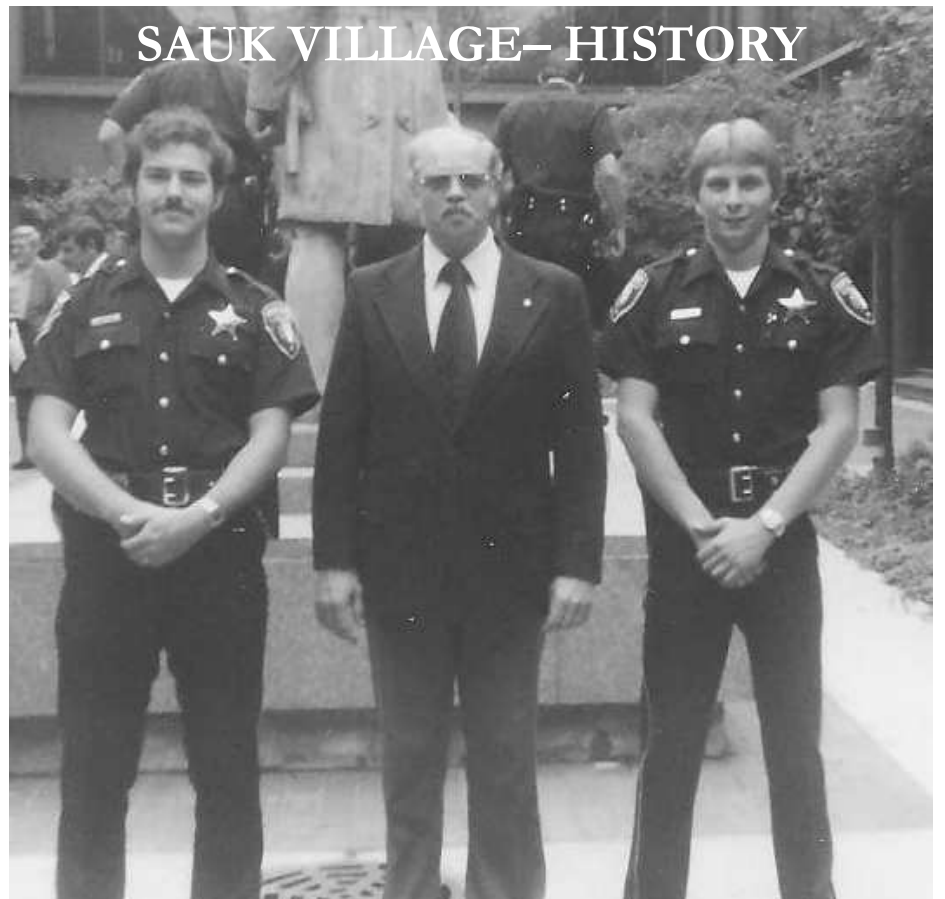
January 16, 1971- National Homes Corporation has opened the third section of its 480-home Bel Aire subdivision in south suburban Sauk Village. Four new model homes are on display

January 7, 1975- Fire razes Kalvelage Barn east of Sauk Plaza across the Lincoln-Lansing Drainage Ditch. Sauk Village Fire Department, Miller Woods and two other departments fought the blaze. 22 men from the SVFD responded to the fire call.

January 8, 1975- Robert Werner, Ed Paesel and Ray Gavin, incumbent Village Trustees plan on seeking re-election in April. Resident Judith Cast, wife of Police Sergeant Al Cast, also takes out a nomination petition and runs to challenge the incumbents.

January 17, 1983- OFFICIAL GUILTY OF DRUNK DRIVING: SAUK VILLAGE Board member David Gavin, at 25 one of the youngest elected officials in the south suburbs, pleaded guilty today to driving under the influence of alcohol and was sentenced to one year of court supervision and ordered to perform community service hours. Gavin, is also son of another Village Trustee Raymond Gavin, was elected in April, 1981. In the wake of the public controversy, Gavin resigns from the Village Board.

SAUK VILLAGE- HISTORY



L to R- Mark DiSanto, Former Police Chief and Former Trustee Marion Young and Dave Pacholski following Graduation from Chicago Police Academy- 1980

(FOX- Continued from page 1)

lice Fox, was currently not in the Police Department, but Sergeant Salisbery would have Fox contact her upon his return.

Upon Fox's return to the Police Department, Trustee Williams asked Temporary Chief Of Police Fox about the accounts thus far, and was told that he would contact the State Police and investigate what happened. Temporary Chief Fox advised Trustee Williams that "As a civilian, she was not able to contact the State Police, and file a report. When Trustee Williams informed him that this was incorrect and she knew otherwise, and that she also observed the person on the tape removing the Sauk Talk's from the Village Hall was in fact Fox himself removing them from the Village Hall, and that she wanted an investigation to begin immediately.

As Trustee Williams asked all employees and those involved to write a report of the events leading up to the removal of the Sauk Talks, Fox refused to write an affidavit describing why the printed matter was being removed, by him, as seen on security system footage. Williams stated she has 5 written, signed documents from the others present with the exception of Fox, whom refused to furnish a statement regarding the removal of the official U.S. postage mail from the Village Hall by him as seen on security camera footage.

Trustee Williams over the past 24 hours has contacted the Cook County Sheriffs Office, Illinois State Police, U.S. Postmaster General's Office, and the U.S. Attorney General's Office, Illinois State's Attorney's Office, have been informed of the removal of the official U.S. Postal material (Sauk Talks) that was prepared to be delivered to Sauk Village Residents.

Trustee Burgess asked Trustee Williams if Mayor Towers had been informed. Trustee Williams asked the Village Manager to contact Mayor Towers, at the time the empty boxes were discovered. Village Manager Turner stated she had a call out for Mayor Towers but had not responded or contacted her concerning the events that took place.

Trustee Williams stated she had confirmation that Mayor Towers was in possession of the missing Sauk Talk mailers, with the intent to alter them and then have them sent out, though he did not specify how they were to be altered.

The Village Clerk took initiative with vol-

unteers to make copies of the printed Sauk Talk mailers to be resent to the residents, and by using the copy machines at Village Hall and the Fire station, another set of photocopied Sauk Talk mailers were ready to be sent out in place of the professionally printed Sauk Talk mailers taken from the Village Hall.

When Trustee Burgess asked if the Mayor was furnished with a copy of the Sauk Talk mailer to go out prior to it being sent out, Trustee Williams stated that all members of the board, as well as the Village Attorney and Mayor Towers received a copy via email January 11th, by the Village Clerk requesting that any changes be completed and submitted by January 13th, so it could be sent to the printing vendor. It was also passed out to residents during Tuesday's board meeting, and questions from the audience were addressed concerning the wording of the referendum. At that time, Mayor Towers made no reference to making changes or stating that further clarifications. Village Clerk Debbie Williams also hand delivered a copy of it to Mayor Towers six days prior to the mailing for his review.

Trustee Myers asked Trustee Williams if the Temporary Chief Of Police removed the mailers, and placed them in a car parked outside the building in the parking lot. The only car witnessed to have the Sauk Talk mailers in it was that of the Village Employee's car, and were removed by Temporary Chief Fox from that employee's vehicle, and were placed in a resident's car per the direction of Mayor Towers. Though there is no security camera footage of the parking lot section where this reportedly took place, this is what was stated in the employee's written affidavit.

Myers asked if the Temporary Chief had permission to remove the Sauk Talk Mailers from the employee's car, and place them in the resident's car. When the resident was contacted by Williams, the resident state that they were being taken care of for Mayor Towers.

The cost for postage, original printing of the professionally printed Sauk Talk mailers, was also with the Sauk Talk Mailers, but was removed before being placed in a storage room by the Village Manager, which alleviated the concern of a missing Village check for the postage to mail out the printed Sauk Talk mailers.

3000 Sauk Talk mailers needed to be reproduced containing 4 pages each, and had to be mailed out before Monday, since postage rates will dramatically increase over the weekend, and if they were not mailed by the weekend, postage rates

would not allow them to be sent with the funds made available. The estimated cost to reprint the Sauk Talk mailers on paper, at an estimate of 1 cent per page, not considering toner, paper, and 5 labor hours across 8 people, though prepared by volunteers, the cost to reprint the Sauk Talk mailers was estimated to be about 400.00 to 500.00 dollars.

The original professionally printed Sauk Talk mailers was invoiced by the printing company for 845.00 Village Clerk Williams thanked the volunteers for their assistance and hard work in getting the copies prepared as the Sauk Talk mailers would not have been processed without their help.

The meeting recessed to executive session, and when the Village Board returned at or about 8:40 P.M. motion to reconvene was voted and after roll call, it was announced by Pro-Temp Mayor David Hanks, that the Village Attorney was instructed to draft official charges against Temporary Chief Robert Fox, for theft of Village Property and official misconduct, and scheduled another special meeting to be held 1 week from today on January 26 at 7:00 P.M. to review the charges.

The vote was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned shortly after the order was read. Many in attendance stayed to speak to the Trustees and thanked them for their diligence, and hard work to keep this type of thing from happening as best as possible.

The next scheduled special meeting concerning the charges to be brought against Temporary Chief Of Police Fox will certainly be interesting and will most likely play out to be another politically charged meeting. With the affidavits, preserved security system footage of Temporary Chief Fox removing Village property in the form of the Sauk Talk mailers in official U.S. Postal bins, reportedly at the direction of Mayor Towers, and Temporary Chief Fox seemingly making every attempt to block an official investigation being initiated by Trustee Williams, there should be ample debate. What happens next is certainly going to bring about changes as to how official Village mail and property is handled in Sauk Village.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

By Steve LaRock

SAUK VILLAGE | Tonight's special meeting oddly enough preceded by a representative of ADT Home Security Systems for home security systems which offered features and a loss theft protection guaranty where ADT will pay up to \$500.00 towards your deductible should you experience a loss from a burglary, with Temporary Chief of Police Robert Fox adding that "Once you get your home broke into, it's hard and some people would be ready to move. And it's my job as Chief Of Police and a married man to make sure the community is safe".

Define Irony!

Temporary Chief Robert Fox was initially in attendance for the presentation. And some in attendance at the well attended special board meeting, which began at 7:05 P.M., after the ADT representative was through with his presentation, he left. Marva Campbell-Pruit announced the deputy voter registrar service by Cook County Election Board David Orr's office for deputy voter registrar to be held at the Fire Station next week, January 30th to attend a training to become a Deputy Voter Registrar.

Prior to his departure, Temporary Chief Fox discussed how 911 calls were routed through cellular and landline calls with an audience member, to which he stated "I'll make sure the response time is addressed as Chief Of Police. The audience member commented to Fox about how Mayor Towers had been forcing officers out, to which Fox rebuked. Fox reiterated that "there have been no police layoffs in town." Though he did concede that there have been resignations.



Photos from
Special Meeting
January 19th

WHERE ARE YOU MAYOR TOWERS?



The Sauk Villager

Publisher & Chief Editor: Joseph Wiszowaty

Email: saukvillager@yahoo.com

Phone: 219-440-4487

Visit our Website: www.saukvillage.weebly.com

*Editorials are welcome 200 words or less subject to editorial review.
News, photos and stories may be shared with the Southland Voice Newspapers*

From our readers...

Your opinion matters!



GUEST EDITORIAL

By **SHARON NOWAK**

The real Sauk Village was a nice quiet place to live. We didn't have a lot of crime but we did disagree. Yes there are and always were differences of opinion as to how Sauk Village should be run. In the past though at least people presented their ideas in a respectable way. And yes we had the final say in the voting booth. But we were not forced to wait only for elections to be heard or to hear from our leaders. It seems so strange to me that we have computers, email, facebook, Sauk Talk and yet how many times do we hear from our leaders? Do they respond to email? Do they present plans for the town? Do they appeal to the public for volunteers and input? Do they recognize

and thank their volunteers? Do they join the volunteers on projects to show support and just to help out.

We never had a lot for kids to do in Sauk Village but we did have enough volunteers to keep a baseball program running. We had volunteers running the concession stand at the field. We had volunteers for other sports as well. There were quite a few volunteers keeping boy scouts going. And yes there was always a few people a little off the wall who would try to stir up issues or create a scene. But back then we did have leaders who attempted to follow procedures in meetings, to posting open meetings, in appealing for volunteers, in appreciating those who did volunteer and the goals were not necessarily the same but at least they were more focused on moving the village forward.

Back then children respected their elders, obeyed grownups, would shudder at the consequences of a policeman bringing them home to their parents and concentrated more on play, sports, school and their friends. Back then you didn't have to call the police for every little infraction by kids you just told their parents and the parents handled their own children. Back then if an adult yelled at a kid and told them to get their act together the kid did or at least took themselves home. Back then if your kid misbehaved out in public their parents knew about it before the kid got home. Back then parents lead by example.

In the old Sauk Village people understood that this is a small town and they could see that there was not a lot to do

here. We had a bowling alley, grocery store, a few bars, dog and suds, and a hardware store. Not a lot for kids to do and from that the SVSA grew from volunteers. The residents understood that the village provided the basics, water, streets, sewers, street lights, schools and they did not expect the village to also provide baby sitters, entertainment centers, disciplinarians, that was the parents job and the parents respected their neighbors and required their children to do the same.

So no Sauk Village was never perfect, we have always needed someone to provide for economic growth so the homeowners would not have to take the brunt of the cost of maintaining the infrastructure. We were always begging for volunteers but at least we did get enough of them to keep things moving. We did have code enforcement so our town was presentable but we also had some slackers and we struggled with getting them to step up.

So here we are in the 21st century with all the Internet access so let's start using it. I would like to hear from those who plan to run for election to run our town about your plan, your vision, your ideas for how to accomplish them. Enough with slapping each other around. Concentrate on what you want to do and how you plan to do it. This is not the time or place for Biggest Losers it is time for us to come up with winners. Winners have plans, strategies and goals. So let's hear them. You cannot advance this village alone so unless the strategies are on the table the residents cannot contribute to their success.



Follow us on

Facebook

And stay

“in the know”

THE SAUK VILLAGER

Sauk Village Parks & Recreation

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
CLOSED	5:00PM-7:30PM Basketball 16 & under (Novice)	5:00PM-8:30PM <i>Family Fun</i>	5:00PM-7:30PM Basketball 16 & under (Novice)	5:00PM-6:30PM Basketball 16 & under (Novice)	5:00PM-7:30PM <i>Family Fun</i>	CLOSED
	7:40PM-9:30PM Basketball 17 & over (Experienced)		7:40PM-9:30PM Basketball 17 & over (Experienced)	6:30PM-8:30PM <i>Family Fun</i>	8:00PM-10:30PM Basketball 17 & over (Experienced)	

SPECIAL NOTES ABOUT THE SCHEDULE

****During Basketball, all Family Fun activities are still offered****

****During Family Fun, NO BASKETBALL IS OFFERED****



Family Fun is a time that people of all ages can come and join in the fun at the Community Center. This is a time for families to come together and enjoy some recreation time with your own family, as well as others in your community. The Community Center is not just for kids. In fact, we are very open to parent involvement and open to any new ideas. Currently we offer Board Games, Cards, Bean Bags, Ladders, Crafts, and more.

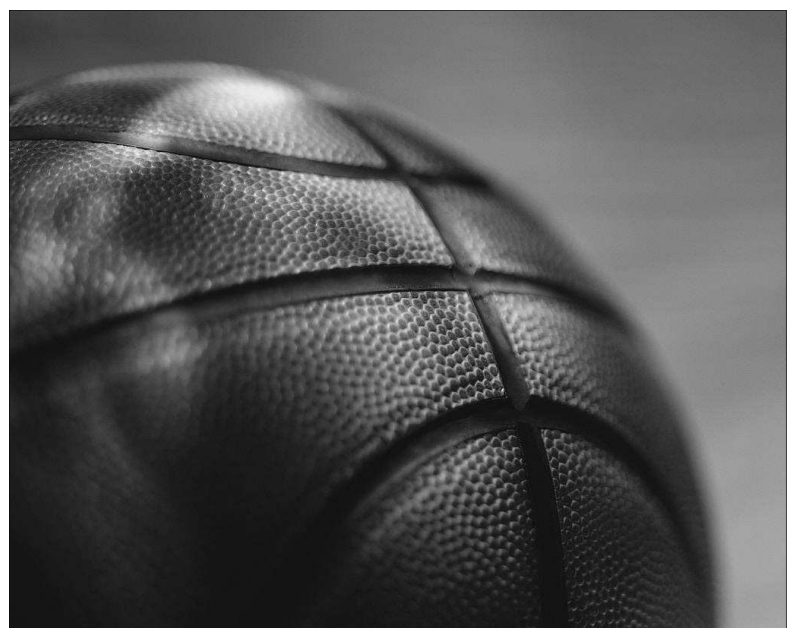
Registration for BOXING LESSONS started January 11th at the Community Center.

\$30.00 per month or \$75.00 for 3 months if paid in advance



Sauk Village Parks & Recreation announces BASKETBALL

Registration begins on February 1st at the Community Center after 5pm



Sponsor Opportunities

Volunteers *always* welcome!

708-932-9900 or come to the

Edward W. Paesel Community Center

2700 Kalvelage Drive

Robert Chavez, Village Trustee

Chairman, Parks & Recreation Committee

