

The Rose CLIPPINGS

Summer 2020

Est. 1892

The Village of La Grange Park

www.lagrangepark.org



President's Corner

Summer is in full swing and with the transition of the State to Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois plan, many of us are feeling lighter and more hopeful than we have in several months. It seems there really is a light at the end of the tunnel. I know we all welcome the return to a more “normal” daily life and we look forward to reconnecting with our family and friends.

As we adapt to life in Phase 4 and begin to widen our social circles and interactions, please remember what it took to get us here. The many weeks spent at home away from friends and family – the abrupt end of the school year – the loss of jobs – the overall upheaval of our daily lives. These were real sacrifices and the effects will be long lasting. I urge each of you to do your part to follow the public health guidelines so that Illinois can continue to move



forward in our recovery. Wear your face covering, wash your hands, and maintain your distance. These are simple things, but they will make all the difference.

Here at the Village, we too are moving forward. The Village Hall welcomed visitors back on June 15th, although many of our services remain available online. Our annual road paving program is underway with the repaving of two alleys and the construction of new public parking spaces on Beach Avenue, north of 31st Street. The La Grange Road

water main reconstruction project is also well underway, as those of you who frequently drive down 31st Street have surely experienced.

The Village recently submitted two large grant applications to the State of Illinois requesting financial support for \$600,000 in roadway improvements and \$4.6 million for a sewer separation project to improve storm water management in the lowest lying areas of the community. We anticipate the grant awards will be announced sometime this winter.

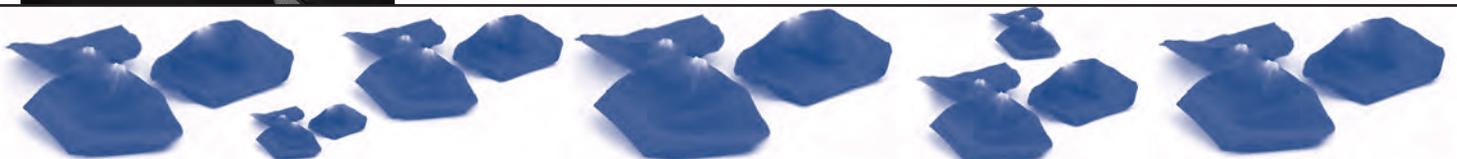
Despite the many challenges businesses have faced over the past few months, our local business community is persevering. Rosati's Pizza opened their doors last month at the newly rebranded Plaza 31 at the corner of 31st Street and Barnsdale Road. Ino's Tacos and Strive 4 Fitness are currently under construction at Plaza 31 and are anticipated to open this fall. The Village also welcomed Gemini Hair Salon at 1901 E. 31st Street.

You will find in this edition of the Rose Clippings special inserts dedicated to our local businesses. Please take a few moments to read their messages. La Grange Park would not be the same without these local businesses, so please consider patronizing them before you look elsewhere.

While this summer may look different than summers past, I urge all of you to make the best of it. Enjoy the sunshine and warm weather, play lawn games with the family, grill out, and get to know your neighbor. Summer is fleeting....soak it in and stay safe!

As always, I am here for you. Feel free to reach out to me at any time.

President James F. Discipio



Village Hall Now Open

Village Hall reopened to the public on June 15th. Due to the need to conduct additional cleaning in accordance with CDC and IDPH guidelines, Village Hall hours are limited to 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Monday thru Friday). Please use the north doors (on Woodlawn) as the south doors will remain locked. All visitors will be required to wear a face covering and practice social distancing both within and outside the building. Please note that no building permits will be issued over the counter. All building permit applications must be completed and dropped off in the Village Hall lobby.

Many Village services such as water bill and parking ticket payments, requests for overnight parking, building permit applications and others are available on the Village website. For resident convenience, a dropbox for water bill and parking ticket payments is also available 24/7 in the Village Hall foyer.

Brush Collection Program



Village brush collection pick-up begins on Monday of the first full week of each month (May-October). Brush must be at the curb by 7:00 a.m. A first sweep is conducted through the entire Village, picking up the smaller piles of brush. Larger piles will be left for the end loader and dump truck to pick-up. Upcoming dates are:

August 3rd • September 7th • October 5th

If you miss putting your brush out, the yard waste can be packaged for the Village's waste hauler (Lakeshore Recycling) to pick up. Brush and branches must be securely bundled with bio-degradable twine or rope. Each bundle must be no more than four feet in length, two feet in diameter and weigh no more than fifty pounds. Individual branches must be no larger than three inches in diameter. A yard waste sticker must be affixed to each bundle. Visit the www.LRSrecycles.com/LaGrangePark for more information.

United States[®] Census 2020

More Important Than Ever

Did you know that the Village receives money for each resident that is counted in the U.S. Census? Each year, the Village receives funds from the State of Illinois based on our population count established by the most recent census. In 2019, the Village received \$164.40 per resident from the State of Illinois, totaling over \$2.2 million! The exact amount the Village receives each year from the State varies, depending on total revenue collected. However, since the Census count is used for 10 years, this amounts to approximately \$22 million dollars over the course of a decade. Complete your census now online by visiting www.2020census.gov.

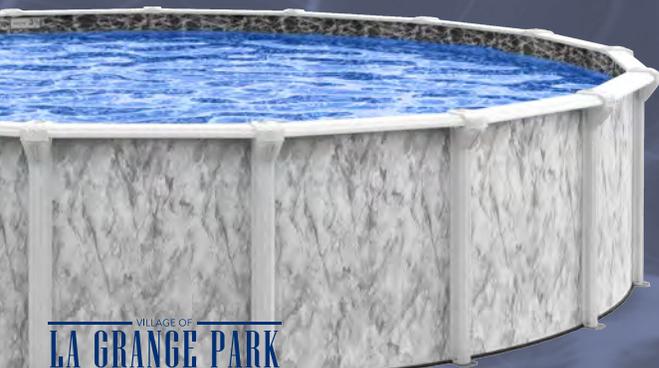


Pools and Spas Water Safety and Responsibility

There are many pools located on private residential properties throughout the Village, and with more residents staying at home due to the pandemic many are becoming first time pool owners. As such, please review the following basic recommendations in regards to water safety and your property.

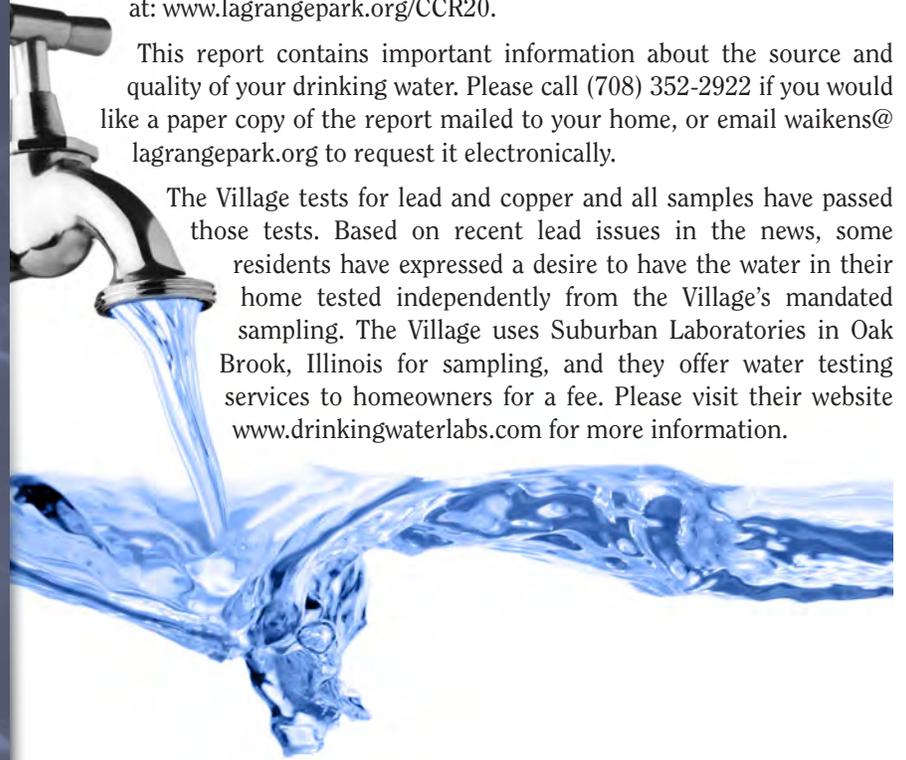
- If you do own your own pool or spa, make sure gates, decks, and ladders are secured to prevent young children from being able to access the pool or spa when adults are not around. Village codes require barriers for all pools which are deeper than 24 inches. Even temporary pools, or popular “blow up” pools over 24” in depth require that you have a four (4) foot high fence or other four (4) foot tall barrier installed to protect entry to your yard or pool area.
- If you are planning to install a new pool, please make sure that you or your pool contractor touch base early on with Village’s Building Department. Permits are required for new pools, and Village codes can impact the location of your pool. As such, you will want to know the requirements prior to completing your purchase.
- Once you open your pool, it is important to keep furniture away from the pool that children can climb on to get over fences. Keep toys that attract children out of the water and away from the pool when not in use. Keep electrically operated appliances away from pools and sprinklers. Such things as electrically powered radios, extension cords, and air conditioners can kill you if you’re wet.
- ALWAYS supervise children when near the water.
- Also, make sure everyone who plays in or around water knows how to swim.

Should you have any questions about village codes or ordinances related to pool and/or water safety, please contact the La Grange Park Building Department at 708-354-0225.



Annual Water Quality Report

The Village of La Grange Park’s 2020 Consumer Confidence Report (Water Quality Report for Calendar Year 2019) is now available on-line at: www.lagrangepark.org/CCR20.



This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. Please call (708) 352-2922 if you would like a paper copy of the report mailed to your home, or email waikens@lagrangepark.org to request it electronically.

The Village tests for lead and copper and all samples have passed those tests. Based on recent lead issues in the news, some residents have expressed a desire to have the water in their home tested independently from the Village’s mandated sampling. The Village uses Suburban Laboratories in Oak Brook, Illinois for sampling, and they offer water testing services to homeowners for a fee. Please visit their website www.drinkingwaterlabs.com for more information.

31st Street Water Main Replacement Program

The replacement of the water main along 31st Street from Meadowcrest to Barnsdale Road is currently underway and construction will last most of the summer. The replacement work will be performed by the Village selected contractor A Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. Project scope consists of installing a new 12” ductile iron water main under the sidewalk on the north side of 31st including valves and fire hydrants. In addition, new copper water services will be positioned from the water main to a new buffalo box (shut-off) and connected to your existing water service.

Contact Public Works Department with questions by phone (708) 352-2922 or by email at waikens@lagrangepark.org.

2020 Road Paving Program

As a result of the \$10 million bond referenda passed in March of 2016, the Village has entered into its fifth phase of road resurfacing. We anticipate bidding the project in July with construction to begin in August or September.

PHASE 5	
Meadowcrest	Jackson to 31st
Garfield	La Grange Road to Community

Village Awarded Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Village of La Grange Park for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019. This was the third year that the Village has achieved this prestigious award. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. The full report is available on the Village's website.



New Online Services

Stay tuned for new online services as the Village completes first phase of software modernization project.

The Village recently completed the first phase of its software modernization project. The first phase included the financial systems and will bring increased efficiency to the Village's accounting procedures creating the opportunity to provide enhanced services to residents, including additional online payment options. Stay tuned for more information as new features are planned to begin rolling out later this summer. The second phase of the software project will focus on the building department and is set to be completed in the fall.



Community Park District Summer Programming

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the board and staff of the Community Park District have been working diligently to balance the immediate need to keep our community safe with the long-term and essential need to protect the overall health and well-being of our residents.

We have revamped our entire catalog of summer programs and are excited to present new community-centric activities that implement IDPH and CDC safety guidance and protocols. Through the fall of 2020, the Community Park District will be updating our programming monthly and publishing new programming regularly at: www.communityparkdistrict.org.

As we gradually reopen in accordance with the Restore Illinois Plan, you will be able to find the most up to date information on what is open and available for use and new programming offerings by checking our website and following us at [Facebook.com/communityparkdistrict](https://www.facebook.com/communityparkdistrict).

Here is a sampling of programs now available:

- Art in the Park - Make Art a Family Activity!
- Art in the Park - Colors!
- Art in the Park - Figure Drawing
- Art in the Park - Flip Book Animation
- Virtual Concerts in the Park
- Sports!
- Virtual Performing Arts

Do you have an idea for a program or want to teach a class? Email jcannaday@communityparkdistrict.org

Candidates Graduate from Fire Academy

This past June, nine Fire Department Candidates graduated from the Basic Operations Firefighter Academy in Romeoville. The Academy began in January, which was specifically designed around the schedules of part-time or paid-on-call firefighters. Most classroom sessions took place at the Riverside FD on Tuesday and Thursday nights, and practical training took place on Saturdays, many of them at the Academy training grounds in Romeoville. Besides the rigors of the training, they also overcame an additional hurdle of facing the pandemic, but with special precautions put in place, they forged on and were able to finish safely.

Congratulations to the following Probationary Firefighters whom each recently graduated. Ezra Avery, Mike Ortega, Luis Galvez, Stefan Weston, Konstantinos Kapetanakos, Ken Marciniak, Ramond Ortiz, Madalyn Eliff, and Veianey DeJesus.



New Patrol Officer



Denisa Gargovic has been hired as a full-time Police Officer. Officer Gargovic began her employment with the Village in June of 2020 as a probationary police officer. She will be attending the Police Training Institute in Champaign, IL with an expected graduation date of September 11th, 2020. Welcome Denisa!



La Grange Park Ladder Truck Now ChicagoFire Truck 81

In 2018, La Grange Park sold its 28 year old 1990 ladder truck to a private buyer. Since that time it was sold again, and this past January, after being sold to NBC, it made its debut as Truck 81 on the Chicago Fire television series as their new truck. Some modifications were made to it, including paint and graphics, but we are glad to see it has some life left in it, serving a unique role.



Save the Date!

Citizen Police Academy

Saturday, August 1 - September 5, 2020

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Village Hall – Boardroom

Limit of 20 Participants (must be at least 18 years of age) per session

(Contact Officer Chris Dempsey at 708-352-7711 ext. 275 for further details)

Coffee with the Chief and Staff

Saturday, August 15, 2020

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Memorial Park Band Shelter

Due to COVID-19, please bring your own coffee

Village Board Highlights

The Board of Trustees conducted the following business during the months of: March, April, & May:

- Accepted the Bid Proposal from Sewertech, LLC, for \$28,898.00 and Authorized the Village Manager to Execute the Contract Documents
- Approved and Authorized the Village Manager to Execute Agreements Between the Village of La Grange Park and Edwin Hancock Engineering for Engineering Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$16,000 for Infiltration and Inflow Control Program
- Approved and Authorized the Purchase and Planting of Parkway Trees in a "Not to Exceed" Amount of \$13,000.00 from St. Aubin Nursery and Landscape
- Accepted the Bid Proposal from Insituform Technologies USA, LLC for \$139,136.00 and Authorized the Village President to Execute the Contract Documents
- Approved a Resolution Approving Proposal For Paramedic /Firefighter Services for 2020 Through 2023 As Submitted By Paramedic Services of Illinois, Inc. (PSI)
- Approved An Ordinance Authorizing the La Grange Park Liquor Commissioner to Act in Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak
- Approved a Resolution Excluding Emergency Responders of the Village of La Grange Park from Certain Provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act
- Authorized Staff to Implement a 1-Year Pilot Program Modifying the Current Patrol Officer Work Schedule from an 8-Hour Shift to an 8.5 Hour Shift
- Approve the Payment of \$14,799.00 to Concentra Occupational Health Centers of Illinois, P.C., for Fire Department Candidate Pre-Employment Medical Evaluations
- Approve A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Execution Of An Intergovernmental Agreement Entered Into By The Village Of La Grange, La Grange Park And Western Springs Relative To An Intergovernmental Cooperative Venture Known As The "Lyons Township Area Communications Center" For The Operation And Maintenance Of A Combined Dispatch And Communications System
- Approved an Ordinance Amending Title III (Administration), Chapter 37 (Emergency Management Agency) of the Village Code of the Village of La Grange Park in Regards to the Village President's Authority to Declare a State of Emergency Pursuant to 65 IL CS 5/11-1-6
- Approved and Authorized the Village Manager to Sign Contracts from Landscape Concepts Management, Inc. in a "Not to Exceed" Amount of \$14,000.00
- Approved a "Resolution Approving Pay Plan & Schedule of Authorized Positions for Fiscal Year 2020/21"
- Approved A Temporary Use Permit for Clovers Garden Center, to Allow for the Construction of a 1,700 Square Foot Temporary Structure and Outdoor Display Area for Seasonal Retail Sales; to be Occupied on or After May 1, 2020 and to be Removed No Later Than July 31, 2020
- Approved A Resolution Approving FY 2020/21 Operating Village Budget
- Approved the Five Year Plan FY2020/21 – 2024/25
- Approved An Ordinance Extending the Local State of Emergency
- Approved an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Property Owned by the Village of La Grange Park, Illinois

- Accepted the Lowest Bid from A Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. in the Amount of \$1,214,432.00 and Authorized the Village President to Execute the Necessary Contract Documents
- Waived the Competitive Bid Process, Approved a Contract Extension with Globe Construction, in a Not to Exceed Amount of \$44,500.00 and Authorized the Village President to Execute the Contract Document
- Directed Staff to Prepare an Ordinance Changing the Due dates for Vehicle Licenses and Dog Licenses to October 31st
- Adopted A Resolution Authorizing the Destruction of Certain Verbatim Records of Closed Meetings
- In response to COVID 19 Suspended Block Parties; House, Apartment, Garage and Yard Sales; Arts and Craft Shows, and Plant Shows (Indoor or Outdoor); and Sidewalk Sales, Through June 30, 2020
- Approved and Authorized the Village President to Execute Agreements Between the Village of La Grange Park and Edwin Hancock Engineering for Construction Engineering Services in an Amount of \$94,200.00 for the 31st Street Water Main Replacement Program
- Accepted the Invoice from Core & Main in the Amount of \$19,620.00 and Authorized the Village manager to Sign the Purchase Requisition
- Approved A Resolution Amending the Village's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan and Authorized the Village Manager to Execute All Required Documents

Library News

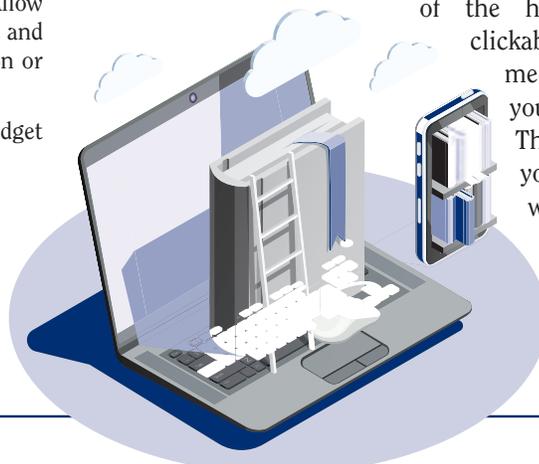
La Grange Park Public Library (LPPL) encourages patrons to visit their COVID-19 page at lplibrary.org/covid-19-updates to see all the ways they have adapted their programming and services to a virtual world.

La Grange Park residents who would like to take advantage of the library's popular and robust digital resources can request a library card online. E-books, e-audiobooks, films, and more are all available for immediate streaming or download.

Other services available to residents include online notarizing appointments, individualized book recommendations, and a Summer Reading Program open to all ages!

Please note...

Connect with the LPPL to be part of all their offerings and learn about re-opening phases by visiting lplibrary.org! On the bottom of the homepage, there are clickable icons for each social media platform where you can like or follow us. There is also a field for your email to join the weekly newsletter.



We're Looking for Good Neighbors!

The Good Neighbor Corner is a regular newsletter feature highlighting the good news in our community. In order to praise the efforts of local residents, organizations and businesses, we need your help! We're looking for those friendly folks, good deeds, and special neighborly touches that make living in La Grange Park special.

If you know a Good Neighbor, fill out the form below and send it to Village Hall, 447 N. Catherine. Help us share the efforts of good neighbors with the entire community.

Nominating: *Zak Smrt, Lou Roppo, Barb Roppo, Andrew Roppo*

We are so grateful for these neighbors to have carried my husband into the house after his fall in February. We are blessed and so thankful for them! - *Jarmila & Leonardo Petrusis*

Nominating: *Trustee Michael Sheehan*

My daughter recently had a serious operation. During the times of going back and forth to Northwestern Hospital, Mike Sheehan stepped up to the plate offering to drive me. He also checked up on me to see if I needed anything from the stores. When my daughter was discharged she had to live with me so that I could care for her. Mike would visit us and bring his sense of humor, which helped pass the time away. God gave me a great neighbor. God Bless you, Mike Sheehan! - *Bonnie Koll*

Nominating: *Annabelle Porter & Family (600 block of Robinhood)*

During this pandemic, Annabelle and her family have been delivering messages and care items such as a "find the word" booklet, candy popcorn and even seeds to plant. These care packages included beautiful messages and artwork. Annabelle appeared on the channel 7 news early on. These visits have been so uplifting. My family took their example and did the same in their neighborhood. - *Kathryn McInerney*

Good Neighbor Nomination Form

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Please provide the name and address of the person/group you are nominating:

Why are they a Good Neighbor to you? _____

Good Neighbor Corner



 Printed on recycled paper



Published quarterly by
The Village of La Grange Park
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Vehicle Stickers & Dog Licenses Will Be Available September 1st.

Due to COVID-19, Village vehicle sticker and dog tag due dates have been extended to October 31st. Stickers with the July 31st, 2020 expiration date are valid until October 31st. New stickers will be available September 1st. If you are a new resident, purchased a new vehicle or require a 2020 sticker, please call Village Hall at 708-354-0225 or email finance@lagrangepark.org.

ResidentFeedback

Please use this section to give us your comments, suggestions, questions, problems or compliments. If you have something on your mind . . . let us know! Just jot it down and send it to us.

Please mail to: Village Manager, Village of La Grange Park, 447 North Catherine, La Grange Park, IL 60526. Email address: jcedillo@lagrangepark.org. If you would like a response, please include your name, mailing address, email address or daytime phone number.

Stay connected with Village news and community happenings, subscribe to E-Briefs, the Village's weekly electronic newsletter. Send an email to jcedillo@lagrangepark.org and type "sign me up!"

VillageHall

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

LOST & FOUND

From time to time the Village of La Grange Park maintains a gathering of lost and found items. To reclaim any items left behind at Village Hall, call (708) 354-0225, ext. 102.

VillageHolidays

The Village offices will be closed for the following holidays:
Monday, September 7 - Labor Day