

The *Rose* CLIPPINGS

Village of Roses

Summer 2012

Est. 1892

The Village of La Grange Park



President's Corner

Summer is the time of year when it's most evident how we come together as a community. The warm weather and longer days entice residents outdoors for long walks and bike rides, shopping at the farmers market, concerts in the park, and movies under the stars. As summer kicks off this year, let's remember that it each and every one of us play a part in making this a great community to live, work and play. As citizens of this great community, we all have a responsibility to continue to contribute to the vitality and sustainability of La Grange Park.

In this edition of the Rose Clippings, you read about how the Village recently adopted a Sustainability Plan to guide the community toward a more environmentally sustainable future. A commission made up of your friends and neighbors spent over 2 years working diligently to develop the plan, because they are devoted to improving this community and the environment.

In order to ensure the safety of our employees and improve service to the community, the Village is continuing to evaluate the feasibility of constructing a new public works facility. In June, the Village reviewed the schematic design and preliminary cost estimates for the building. Staff is continuing to work with the Village's consultants to solidify cost estimates so the Village can determine if construction of a new building is feasible.



In effort to reduce costs for residents and small businesses, the Village recent entered into an agreement with a new energy supplier as part of the municipal aggregation program. As a result, those residents who chose not to opt-out of the program will realize savings of approximately 40% on their electricity bills, which amounts to a savings of approximately \$325 for the average household per year. This is a significant savings for residents at a time when they need it most. Additionally, the energy supply will also be 50% green, moving our community one step closer towards a sustainable future.

This edition of the Rose Clippings again urges residents to recognize the importance of keeping your dollars in your community by shopping local. The things that

make this community great, good schools, ample recreation opportunities, excellent police and fire services and a solid infrastructure are all supported by tax dollars. Spending your dollars in La Grange Park keeps our local businesses strong, increasing property values and generating sales tax, gas tax and income tax dollars. Why support services in other communities when you can support your own?

To make shopping local more convenient, the Village is moving forward with the construction of the Village's first public parking lot at 1029 Beach Avenue, located just south of 31st Street. When completed, the parking lot will contain 12 parking spaces, including one handicap accessible space, fencing, lighting and landscaping. Parking will be free of charge although there will be a time limit, to ensure that the maximum number of residents have access to the parking lot. Construction began on the parking lot June 9th and is expected to be completed in September. To minimize the cost of the parking lot to the Village, construction of the parking lot is being funded in part by grant dollars. This project is just another example of the Village's efforts to grow the community by improving access to our local businesses.

When residents join together to support their community, they really can make a difference. In 2011, the United States Postal Service announced that it was considering closing the La Grange Park Post Office branch due to low sales. Recognizing the need to maintain a convenient, accessible branch location, residents spoke out against the potential closure. In concert with the Village, hundreds of residents participated in a telephone survey, attended meetings and open houses and provided video testimonial, urging the U.S. Postal Service to maintain the location. As a result of our collective efforts, the U.S. Postal Service recently announced that not only will the branch remain open, but that they have a signed a five year lease at the current location, ensuring that residents will continue to benefit from having a post office branch in the community. Our appreciation goes out to all those residents who voiced their concerns and in doing so, contributed to maintaining a vital community service. You'll read more about this effort inside this edition of the Rose Clippings.

Are you looking for something to do this summer? Pick up some fresh produce Tuesday mornings at the La Grange Park Farmers Market or join your friends and neighbors at Memorial Park for the weekly Music Under the Stars concert sponsored by the Community Park District of La Grange Park. Help your children stay on track for the upcoming school year by participating in the La Grange Park Public Library's Summer Reading Program and nurture their creativity with Drop-In Craft night. Save the date and say farewell to summer while enjoying the third annual Jazz and Blues Festival on September 14th. These are just some of the great programs and events being offered by organizations in our community – be sure and check them all out.

Remember to keep your family safe by reviewing the water, bike and car safety tips in this edition. Taking a vacation? Keep your home safe this summer by following the Police Departments best summer safety tips. If you see suspicious activity, be sure and report it to the Police Department. Let's help keep each other safe.

As a resident of La Grange Park and as your Village President, I strive to continually improve our community and to ensure that it remains a great place to live, work and play. I invite you to join me in my effort. Have a great summer and as always, feel free to contact me anytime.

President James J. Discipio



La Grange Park Trustees Accept Bid for Electricity from **FirstEnergy**

On June 12th, the Village Board accepted the lowest bid for electrical supply from First Energy Solutions, for its residential and small business electrical aggregation program. Details of the program are outlined below:

- All residents not currently with an alternative supplier or participating in ComEd's Resident Real Time Pricing (RRTP) or hourly rate program will automatically be enrolled unless they choose to opt-out
- Participating residents will pay 4.93 cents per kilowatt-hour for their electricity
- Included in the 4.93 cents is a small civic contribution to the Village
- It's estimated that the average household will save approximately \$325 a year of their bill, a savings of 41%
- 50% of the supply is in the form of green energy
- Residents will be given two opportunities to opt out – one letter from the Village (sent in July) and one from ComEd (sent approximately 1 week prior to the switchover)
- The switchover is anticipated to occur in September

Please note that you do not have to do anything to participate in the Village's program. If someone requests your account number or other information, it is not for the Village's program. Additional questions on the program? Contact the Village at 708-354-0225.

Updates and Upgrades from ComEd



Residents may have noticed an increased presence of ComEd trucks and service personnel in the Village during the first half of 2012. The Company has announced significant electric system upgrade projects in the area to provide better reliability for La Grange Park residents and businesses. These projects include enhancements designed to improve performance and reduce service interruptions, such as lightning enhancement. Following the storms of last year, "high-risk" areas have been identified, and work for these circuits includes trimming trees along the entire circuits.

In April, ComEd completed enhancements designed to improve performance and reduce service

interruptions, such as installing four distribution automation devices. Distribution automation devices minimize the number of customers affected by an outage by isolating the problem area and making automatic, real-time adjustments to the electric grid. ComEd will also invest in Smart Grid-related programs to upgrade and digitize the electric system; moreover, the program will also provide for the installation of digital meters in every home.

The Village of La Grange Park and ComEd hope that these infrastructure improvements will deter future service interruptions, as well as empower residents with new tools and data to better manage and monitor their energy usage.

United State Postal Service Renews Lease for the 31st Street Post Office Branch

The Village of La Grange Park has received news that the United States Postal Service has signed a facility lease agreement for its Post Office Branch located at 700 E. 31st Street in La Grange Park. Beverly Howard, Corporate Communications Manager of the USPS Central Illinois District contacted the Village to confirm that a lease agreement has been signed by the landlord and received by their USPS facility office. The lease agreement calls for a five year term, without the option to terminate.

In July of 2011, the La Grange Park branch was one of over 3,700 offices in the country identified in a feasibility study for potential closing in an effort to reduce operational costs. La Grange Park was identified because branch retail sales for the last two years fell short of the \$600,000 annual threshold used for the study. The Postal Service held a public forum in November of 2011 at the La Grange

Park Library where over 60 local residents attended to voice their concerns. In January of this year, the Village held its own event, an Open House where the Village videotaped resident testimony against closing the local branch, and provided the results of a survey detailing who uses the facility and why, how often and what services are used. The Village mailed the video and the results of the survey to USPS officials and to its U.S. representatives and senators.

With the USPS's recent announcement of the lease renewal, the Village is pleased that local postal service will continue for residents and businesses. Over the last year, the Village has received feedback from residents that touts the 31st Street branch as easily accessible, provides adequate parking, and has helpful and friendly service.



Village Adopts A Sustainability Plan

In January 2010, the Cool Village Commission (CVC) was established by the Village Board with the primary objective being “to educate and inform citizens and facilitate sustainable community practices that lead to a reduction of the community’s carbon footprint while promoting water conservation and the improvement of air, climate and water quality.” For the past two years, the Commission has worked tirelessly toward this goal – gathering data on the community, completing a comprehensive carbon emissions inventory, co-sponsoring community events, and developing a Sustainability Plan. Because the practices of the Village government and its residents have a substantial impact on the local environment, the Sustainability Plan establishes a framework for future decision-making by the Village to make sustainable choices, thereby enhancing the quality of life of Village residents and making the Village of La Grange Park a better place to live, work and play. The Village Board adopted the Sustainability Plan on March 27, 2012. To review the Plan, visit the Village’s website at: www.lagrangepark.org and click on “Village Government – Committees and Commissions – Cool Village Commission.”



Summer Safety Tips from the Police Department

When going on vacation

- Lock up your home, activate your alarm.
- Don't broadcast your plans on social media.
- Hold the delivery of your mail and newspaper or ask a trusted friend to pick them up for you.
- Buy a timer for your lights and set them in a random pattern.
- Ask a neighbor to occasionally park in your driveway.
- Fill out a FREE vacation check form at the Police Department.

Car Safety

- Never leave your car running unattended, even to dash into a store.
- Always roll up your windows and lock your car even in hot weather.
- Never leave valuables in plain sight.
- Never leave any keys in the car or ignition.

Bike Safety

- Always wear a helmet
- Follow the rules of the road
- Ride with the flow of traffic, not against it
- Wear bright-colored or reflective clothing
- Protect your bike, in the event it is stolen, by registering it at the Police department. There is no fee and registrations are conducted 7-days a week, 24 hours a day.

Village Hires New Public Works Director



In May 2012, the Village of La Grange Park hired Brendan McLaughlin as Public Works Director. Brendan comes to the Village with over twenty years experience working for municipalities, which includes a 10-year career with the City of Naperville, IL where he assumed many leadership responsibilities, including acting as the City’s liaison to the Naperville Development Partnership which oversaw the recruitment of several corporate headquarters located along Interstate 88. Brendan also managed engineering and project approvals for the development of residential and mixed-use master planned communities in California’s Central Valley. Most recently, he spent two years serving as the Executive Director for the O’Hare Noise Compatibility Commission overseeing the residential and school sound insulation programs for those areas impacted by the new runways being constructed at O’Hare. We are proud to welcome Brendan to the Village of La Grange Park and we know he will be a valuable asset to our community.

Pick Up After Yourself... and Your Pet!

Summertime means that more people (and their pets) are outside enjoying the warm weather. Let’s make sure our sidewalks, streets and lawns are kept clean so that everyone can enjoy the outdoors.

As such, the Village would like to remind residents that it is unlawful to discard or leave litter, as defined in Chapter 93 of the Village’s Municipal Code, upon any public or private property, as well as into any body of water within the Village. The penalty for any person convicted of this violation is a minimum \$10 fine and a maximum \$500 fine.

The Village also reminds residents of the penalties associated with and improper pet ownership as stated in Chapter 92 of the Municipal Code.



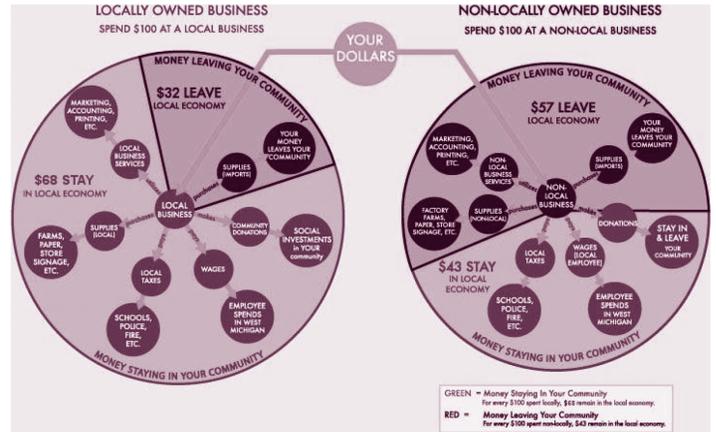
Description	Fine
No dog license	\$50
Dog(s) on another’s property w/o permission	\$25
Dog(s) running at large	\$25
Excessive barking	\$25
Failure to remove dog feces	\$50



The Village has provided a *Guide to Responsible Dog Ownership* to promote a happy, healthy, pet-friendly La Grange Park. The Guide is available at Village Hall, and also on the Village’s website at www.lagrangepark.org under Community Information.

The Economics of Shopping Local

When you choose to forgo shopping at big box stores and instead support local La Grange Park businesses, you're having a significant impact on our local economy. The chart to the side, which is from an economic study in the Chicago area, illustrates how when you spend \$100 at a local business, 58% more money on average stays in La Grange Park compared to what would have happened if you spend that \$100 at a national chain store.



Source: Pioneer Valley Local First: Andersonville Study

Shop Local... Along 31st Street

This edition of the Summer Rose Clippings will highlight the variety of services and restaurants La Grange Park offers by featuring three unique 31st Street businesses. Read on to learn more about their history and special summer promotions!

Get a Summer Check Up at Jessup's Automotive Services



Jessup's Automotive Services is a family business started in 1958 by Jerry and Ron Jessup in Countryside, Illinois. Jessup's was founded during the era when a stop to the gas station was not complete without a windshield wash and a check of your oil! The business is now owned and operated by Michael Jessup, and he is proud to carry on his father's old-fashioned attitude towards automotive service. Jessup's mechanics are well-trained and certified, and they specialize in brakes, tires, shocks, check engines. They even offer a convenient and affordable car wash!

1118 E. 31 Street, LaGrange Park
Phone: (708) 352-8800
Toll Free: (866) JESSUPS (537-7877)
Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Visit their website at <http://jessupsauto.com/directions.asp> to make an appointment and to read about seasonal specials and customer reviews.

Mangia at Mattone Restaurant and Bar

Mattone Restaurant occupies the building that once housed the local favorite, D's Little Italy. Owner, Jason Korinek, redesigned the restaurant in 2010 to create a more romantic, casual dining experience. The focal point of the restaurant (and the menu!) is the wood fired oven where Mattone's pizzas and other specialties are prepared to perfection. Mattone offers contemporary, traditional Italian cuisine with low-calorie and organic options. The bar and dining area are obtainable for private parties, and services such as catering, banquets, take-out and delivery are available. Come and see what all the talk is about!



9 E. 31st Street, La Grange Park
Phone: (708) 352-758
Hours: Sunday – Thursday 4:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Friday – Saturday 4:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.

Find Your New Favorite Brew at Angel's Spirits

Angel's Spirits is not your average liquor store. Owner, Tom Zukauskas, is proud of the rare liqueurs, microbrews and wines which distinguish Angel's from its competition. Mr. Zukauskas is extremely knowledgeable and passionate about all the products he carries. He specializes in beer from the Midwest to across the globe, as well as craft and microbrew brands. Angel's is always running great promotions on its extensive selection, so stop by soon to stock up for your summer festivities!

1000 E. 31st Street, La Grange Park
Phone: (708) 482-4019
Hours: Monday – Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Brake Inspection
and Tire Rotation
\$14.99



Pools and Spas – Water Safety and Responsibility...

There are many pools located on private residential properties throughout the Village, and many have now been opened for the summer. As such, please take a moment to 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 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.

Enjoy Summer at the La Grange Park Farmers Market

The La Grange Park Farmers Market is back! The Farmers Market is held every Tuesday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. from May through October in the parking lot at Mattone Restaurant & Bar at 9 East 31st Street.

This year, the Market will feature fresh produce and delightful sweets and treats from local vendors, including JD’s Bramblebush Farm and A Sweet Thing.

For additional information about the Farmer’s Market please contact the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce & Industry at (708)387-7550.

Be sure to stop by on Tuesday mornings to sample the fresh taste of summer!



**WEST SUBURBAN
CHAMBER**
of Commerce and Industry

Arbor Day 2012

This year’s winning nomination was in honor of Paul Matlas. Mr. Matlas passed away last fall at the age of 82. He was nominated for his untiring involvement with community volunteering, whether it was assisting the Village Church with their annual rummage sale, building maintenance issues or making sure the grounds were beautifully kept throughout the year. Paul was known for his dedication in mentoring a great many of the youths in our community. This type of giving lasts more than a life-time; it carries on in the memory and the lives of others.

The Arbor Day Ceremony took place on Friday, May 11th, at 2:30 p.m. at the Village Church, 1150 Meadowcrest. A Cleveland Pear tree was planted in his honor and bears a plaque with his name.



Community Park District of La Grange Park Upcoming Events

For more information about Park District Programs, please visit their website at <http://cpdlagrangepark.com>, or call (708) 354-4580.

Music Under the Stars

Wednesday Evenings 7:30-9:00 p.m. at Memorial Park

July 11 – ABBA Salute (ABBA Gold)

July 18 – X-Factor Talent Night/60 Carat Band (Local Artist)

July 25 – Vinyl Highway (Classic Rock)

August 1 – Jin and Tonic (Contemporary Country Classic)

August 8 – Mr. Blotto (Rock 'n Roll)

August 15 – Johnny Russler & The Beach Bums
(Caribbean/Beach Party)

We would like to thank all of our 2012 sponsors

Plymouth Place

Bluder's Tree Service

Hitzeman Funeral Home

Viridian Energy – Joanne Brychel

Premier Design and Cabinetry

Paul's Pizza

MB Financial Bank

Windy City Hot Dogs

1st National Bank of Brookfield

Village Board Highlights

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

- Ordinance Approving Granting a Variation on Property located at 1029 N. Beach Avenue (Public Hearing No. 2012-01)
- Approval the Temporary Use Permit Application Granting a Temporary Structure at Jewel
- Approval the Purchase of New Structural Firefighting Turnout Gear
- Resolution Accepting the Bid from Rags Electric Company in the Amount of \$9,100 (replacement of Auto Transfer Switch)
- Resolution Accepting Proposal/Contracts for Lawn Mowing and Flower Bed Landscape Maintenance (Landscape Concepts Management)
- Approval of the Village of La Grange Park Sustainability Plan
- Authorized Village Manager to Execute a Contract for Services with Cagwood Consulting
- Approval of Five Year Plan FY 2012/13 – 2016/17
- Resolution Approving FY 2012-2013 COLA and Pay Plan
- Resolution Approving FY 2012-2013 Operating Budget
- Executed an Agreement for Consulting Services Regarding the Aggregation of Electricity Program
- Proclamation – Arbor Day 2012
- Ordinance Approving Amending Chapter 33 of the La Grange Park Municipal Code as Amended
- Resolution Accepting Proposal from Chicagoland Paving Contractors, Inc. (1029 Beach Avenue Parking Lot Construction)
- Approval of Obligation Retirement Resolution Appropriating MFT Funds for the Purpose of Paying Bond Principal and Interest
- Ordinance Authorizing Aggregation of Electrical Load and Adopting an Electric Power Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance
- Ordinance Amending Chapter 36 of the La Grange Park Municipal Code as Amended (increase to ambulance service fees)
- Proclamation – Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week (May 20 – 26)

Vehicle Stickers Due July 31

La Grange Park vehicle stickers and dog licenses must be purchased and displayed prior to midnight on July 31, 2012. Renewal applications were mailed to each home in early June. To renew your license, please correct any incorrect pre-printed information on your renewal application and return it with payment to the Village Hall for processing. If you have not received a renewal application, blank forms are available at the Village Hall. Vehicle stickers may be purchased at the Administration desk Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or after hours at the Police Desk. Please note: Village Hall will be opened on Saturday, July 30th from 9:00 a.m. to noon for your added convenience. You may also mail your renewal application and payment to the Village of La Grange Park, 447 N. Catherine Avenue, La Grange Park, IL 60526.

Vehicle stickers are \$30.00 per year, \$15.00 per year for seniors who are 65 years of age prior to July 1, 2012. Seniors are limited to one senior rate per household. Licenses purchased after midnight July 31, 2012 are assessed delinquent penalties. Vehicles not properly licensed are in violation of Village Code and may be ticketed by police. Fines are \$50.00 per offense.

 Printed on recycled paper



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LA GRANGE, IL
PERMIT NO. 3

Published quarterly by
The Village of La Grange Park
447 North Catherine Avenue
La Grange Park, Illinois 60526
(708) 354-0225

www.lagrangepark.org

PRESIDENT
Dr. James L. Discipio
VILLAGE CLERK
Amanda G. Seidel

TRUSTEES

Rimas Kozica Marshall Seeder
Scott Mesick Susan Storcel
LaVelle Topps Patricia Rocco

VILLAGE MANAGER
Julia Cedillo

La Grange Park Postal Customer
La Grange Park, Illinois 60526

RESIDENT FEEDBACK

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!"

VILLAGE HALL

Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 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.

COOLING CENTERS

The following locations are cooling centers open to everyone.

La Grange Park Village Hall, 447 N. Catherine Avenue. Open 24 hours.

Adventist La Grange Hospital, 5101 S. Willow Springs Road.
10:00 am – 8:00 pm (Over 90 degrees with high humidity)

La Grange Park Public Library, 555 N. La Grange Road.
M-F 10:00 am - 9:00 pm, Sat 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Sun 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm