

Rose CLIPPINGS

Summer 2015

Est. 1892

The Village of La Grange Park

President's Corner

Summer is finally here and I see that many of our residents are making the most of the warmer weather. Like for many of our residents, summer is a time when the Village checks off a number of projects on our "to-do" list and we move forward with many of our long-planned infrastructure improvements. Read on for more details on the many projects and initiatives currently underway.

Roads

Early this summer, the Village completed the resurfacing of Kemman Avenue between 26th Street and 31st Street and Cleveland Avenue between 26th Street and 30th Street. Public Works staff also completed potholing on various streets throughout the Village. This fall, the Village will proceed with the resurfacing of Finsbury Lane and Pine Tree Lane.



The Village Board recognizes the importance of maintaining our local road network and has identified the paving of roads as the Village's number one priority. In June, the Board held a Strategic Planning Workshop to review various financing options that would allow the Village to expand our local paving program. More information on the options identified will be provided in future Rose Clippings.

Water Infrastructure

This fall, the Village will proceed with replacing a

portion of water main along La Grange Road north of 31st Street. This is an extension of the work that was completed on La Grange Road in the summer of 2013. The construction will result in temporary lane closures and delays on La Grange Road and we thank residents for their patience and understanding during the construction.

Downspout Disconnect Program

The Village's Downspout Disconnect Program, announced last year, continues in full swing. All single-family residences in the Village are required to disconnect their downspouts from the Village's combined sewer system by January of 2017. Through a grant the Village received from the Illinois EPA, residents are eligible to receive reimbursement for a portion of the costs associated with the disconnection. Questions regarding the program should be directed to the Village's Special Projects Coordinator, Forrest Tucker at (708) 354-0225, ext. 208 or forrest@lagrangepark.org.

Sewer Back-Up Prevention Program

In an effort to assist residents with making improvements to their homes to prevent sanitary sewer back-ups, the Village has implemented a new program that will provide a 50% reimbursement for eligible costs related to the installation of check valves or overhead plumbing. Look for more information about this program on page 2.

As you can see, the Village has a very busy few months ahead! We at the Village are continually striving to 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



The Village Steps Up Property Maintenance Enforcement

Why Does the Village Care About My Property? The Village recognizes the need to encourage and promote property maintenance throughout the community. The appearance and maintenance of your property impacts its market value. Simple measures are the key to protecting and maintaining your property values. Let's all pitch in and do our share as a community. The appearance of the community begins with you.



Common Property Maintenance Issues

Weeds: All plant growth must be trimmed and maintained at all times. Weeds are generally defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation over 8 inches high. Trees or shrubs, cultivated flowers and gardens are not included in the definition of weeds.

House Numbers: All house numbers must be in Arabic numerals at least 4" high and ½" stroke and required to be mounted on the principal structure. The numbers should be easily readable from the street for your safety and must be contrasting in color.

Garbage Containers: May not be placed in the parkway area earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the day preceding pick-up. All containers must be removed from the parkway area no later than 7:00 a.m. the day after pick-up. At all other times, garbage containers are required to be stored on the side or rear of the dwelling. This also includes large items such as furniture and other trash.

Accumulation of Rubbish or Garbage: All exterior property and premises, and the interior of every structure, should be free from any accumulation of rubbish or garbage.

Vehicles: It is unlawful to park vehicles on any unpaved surface within the Village. In residential areas, motor vehicles may not at any time be in the process of being dismantled, disassembled, or in disrepair.

Building Exteriors: All exterior surfaces should be free from holes, breaks, and loose or rotting materials; weatherproofed and properly surface coated to prevent deterioration.

Accessory Structures: Fences, sheds, decks, swimming pools and other structures should be properly maintained.

Roof Drains, Gutters and Downspouts: All should be maintained in good repair, secured and free from obstructions. Roof water should not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance nor shall discharge be directed towards a neighboring property.

Public Nuisances: Anything which continues for such length of time as to substantially annoy, injure or endanger the comfort, health, repose or safety of the public; in any way render the public insecure in life or in use of property; greatly offend the public morals or decency; unlawfully and substantially interfere with, obstruct or tend to obstruct or render dangerous for passage any street, alley, highway, or other public way; or be any nuisance so defined by law.

New Sewer Back-Up Prevention Program

The Village of La Grange Park is pleased to announce a program to assist single-family homeowners with the cost of plumbing improvements to address sanitary sewer related backups. The program, which requires pre-approval, is being administered on a "first come – first served" basis, and will provide 50% reimbursement of eligible sewer related costs, subject to a maximum reimbursement of \$3,000 for backflow devices or \$5,000 for overhead sewers. The goal of the program is to encourage homeowners to improve their quality of life and enhance property values through the reduction of sanitary sewer backups. To accomplish this goal, \$50,000 has been budgeted for the period of May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016. For more information on the program, including how to apply, please visit the Village website at www.lagrangepark.org.



Emerald Ash Borer Update



Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive pest new to our area. The pest is a native of Asia and was most likely brought to this country in shipping crate lumber. This pest lays eggs on ash tree specimens (the only species it currently infects.) The larvae burrow into the vascular tissue of the trees, just below the surface of the bark. The larvae feed on this tissue during the course of their development, and the tissue which feeds the tree is damaged. The trees can no longer provide food for themselves, causing their demise and ultimate death. All ash tree species are susceptible and will most likely fail within the next few years. Ash specimens are no longer a viable species for our area. More information can be found at www.emeraldashborer.info.

How do you know a tree is infested with EAB?

There are several symptoms and signs that show us where the pests are. Primary identifiers are split bark, d-shaped exit holes, and woodpecker damage. Bark tends to split on the smaller trees a season after feeding has begun. When the bark splits, you can visibly see the feeding galleries. D-shaped exit holes from adult emergence are also an identifier. While many pests can leave exit holes, EAB has a distinct size and shaped exit wound. For mature species, our greatest telling damage is the presence of woodpeckers. As EAB larvae mature, woodpeckers find the larvae irresistible and feed primarily on these during the fall and winter months. Heavily infested trees are riddled with holes from this feeding activity, although only a handful of wounds on a tree can be an excellent identifier of the earliest stage of a big infestation. Heavily infested trees can appear to be perfectly healthy, unless you know what you are looking for. Once a tree is infested, it is a matter of a brief period of time before the tree will fail. As in human healthcare, early diagnosis can be made when good health seems obvious. Seeming health does not negate the problem, or its dire prognosis.

Who is responsible for removing the infested trees?

The Department of Public Works is responsible for removing trees in the Right of Way. Parkway Ash trees are inspected each Spring and the worst trees are identified for removal. The infestation of these bugs started in 2011 and 494 trees were removed prior to this Spring. Another 412 trees were identified for removal this year. There are another 410 trees that could become infested with the Emerald Ash Borer. Some of those trees were identified as having EAB symptoms, but were not severe enough to warrant removal at this time.

Residents are responsible for removing infested trees on their property. As with Dutch Elm Disease, both State Statute and Village Code require the prompt removal and destruction of any infested ash tree found on private property. Inspection and enforcement is handled through the Village's Code Enforcement Division. Chapter 95 of the Municipal Code requires property owners to remove infested trees. Voluntary compliance is appreciated. If the Village has to enforce this ordinance, fines for refusing to remove the tree can be up to \$750 per day. The Village also has the right to remove hazardous trees and bill the property owner for the tree removal, if the property owner does not remove the tree within 30 days of receiving notice from the Village. For further information, please visit the Village's website at www.lagrangepark.org.

New Green Spotlight Program

Help us learn about and recognize residents who have taken actions to become more sustainable! We want to shine "a Green Spotlight" on them and share their experiences with the rest of the community. If you know of someone who has taken a step toward being more green, please fill out the nomination form and return it to the Department of Public Works, 937 Barnsdale Road. Those recognized will receive a special stepping stone. Feel free to nominate yourself or someone in your household!



Nominations will be taken on an ongoing basis. The Sustainability Commission will evaluate them and make recommendations periodically to the Village President and Board. Considerations will include impact on greenhouse gas emissions, length of time of implementation, ability to generate the interest of residents, replicability, economy, and instructiveness.

Green Spotlight Nomination Form

Your Name and Address: _____

Name, Address, and Phone Number &/or email address of Person(s) You Are Nominating: _____

What makes them green? What actions have they undertaken? _____



New Employees

Fire Department Welcomes New Paid-on-Call Firefighters

Seven new paid-on-call firefighters were hired by the Fire Department this past January to fill vacancies. Six of them recently graduated from the part-time fire academy being hosted by the Western Springs Fire Department and the seventh had previously attended a fire academy. Through the academy, these firefighter “candidates”, along with several from Western Springs, trained together in both the classroom and at various training sites, to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become firefighters, and attain state certification as such. Our seven additions to the La Grange Park Fire Department are: Andy Chorley, Matt Dahl, Mike Hughes, Josh Johnsen, Matt Joyce, Jon Mohr, and Steve Selimos.



Police Department Welcomes New Officers



Bradley Lautner has been hired as a part-time Auxiliary Police Officer. Officer Lautner began his employment in May of this year. Please join us in welcoming Officer Lautner to the La Grange Park Team.



Kris Gardner has been hired a part-time Police Officer. Officer Gardner began his employment with the Village in June and he also works as a certified, full-time police officer for the Village of Indian Head Park. Officer Gardner has experience in NIPAS, ILEAS and the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force. Welcome!



David A. Escamilla has been hired as a new probationary Police Officer. Officer Escamilla has a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration from St. Xavier University and recently graduated from the Cook County Sheriff’s Department Training Academy, Basic Law Enforcement Course at Triton College in River Grove. Please join us in welcoming Officer Escamilla to the La Grange Park team!

Vehicle Stickers & Dog Licenses Due July 31st

La Grange Park vehicle stickers must be purchased and displayed prior to midnight on July 31, 2015. Renewal applications were mailed in early June. Please correct any pre-printed information on your renewal application and return it with payment to Village Hall for processing. We encourage you to mail your renewal application and payment as soon as possible to the Village of La Grange Park, 447 N. Catherine Avenue, La Grange Park, IL 60526.

If you are purchasing a new sticker or have not received a renewal application, blank forms are available at Village Hall. Vehicle stickers may be purchased at Village Hall Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or after hours at the Police Desk. Please note, if you purchase your vehicle sticker after hours at the Police Desk, you will need exact cash or a check, otherwise Village Hall accepts all forms of payment. Village Hall will be opened for additional hours on Saturday, July 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to sell stickers.

Vehicle stickers are \$35.00. Seniors who are 65 years of age prior to July 1, 2015 may purchase one sticker at \$15.00. Seniors are limited to one senior rate sticker per household. Stickers purchased after midnight July 31, 2015 will include delinquent penalties. Vehicles not properly licensed are in violation of Village Code and may be ticketed by police. Fines are \$50.00 per offense. The fee for the replacement of a lost or damaged sticker is \$5.00.

Dog Licenses are \$10.00 and are also due July 31st. Please visit www.lagrangepark.org for more information.



Community Park District Updates

Music Under the Stars Concert Series Schedule

Music Under the Stars is a series of weekly concerts that take place during the summer. Concerts are held outdoors at the Memorial Park Amphitheater, the corner of Woodlawn and LaGrange Rd. Concerts are held on Wednesday nights, from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. In the event of inclement weather, concerts will be moved to Park Jr. High, 333 N. Park Road, La Grange Park. Call the rain-out hotline for updates on concert locations: 708-354-4580 x300.

July 15 – Abba Salute,

Sponsored by MB Bank

July 22 – Final Say

Sponsored by Ready Teddy Preschool

July 29 – One Foot in the Grove

(Senior Night), Sponsored by Bluders Tree Service

August 5 – Classical Blast

Sponsored by D'Dami Salon & Spa

August 12 – Island Night! 6-11 pm! Beer, Wine, Food, and 3 Bands: Thick Six,

Rio Bamba, & The Wave Runners

Sponsored by Dr. James Discipio, DDS & First National Bank of Brookfield

What is going on with Memorial Park?

Memorial Park construction was scheduled to begin a few months ago. The District is already under contract with a construction company. At the beginning of March, they were informed that their and all state OSLAD grants, including our grants for improvements at Memorial and Beach Oak parks have been suspended. The District was told to immediately cease incurring any costs for the project. Luckily, grant funds have not yet been swept with the other funds when the state was balancing the budget. OSLAD grants are dedicated funds for the grant program and, by state law, cannot be used for other purposes. The Governor has yet to release the grant funds. They hope he does sooner, rather than later, so they can begin Memorial Park this year.



Police Department Interacts with the Community

The La Grange Park Police Department would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire Village for partaking in various department activities throughout the community. Over the past year, patrol officers within the Police Department have had the privilege of educating students throughout grade schools in La Grange Park on topics such as crime prevention, safety, awareness, and general duties behind a police officer's badge. Programs and activities such as Adopt-A-Cop, Spark Plug, Shop With A Cop, Coffee with the Chief, college internships, Park Patrol, and Block Party involvement gives the La Grange Park Police Department the ability to interact with not only kids, but the entire community. The La Grange Park Police Department strives to demonstrate: quality, care, obtainability, positivity, and approachability.

With positive activities throughout the community, the Village of La Grange Park stays on top of times. Recently, members of the La Grange Park Police Department have been trained to administer naloxone to counter the effects of a drug overdose and possibly revive individuals who have stopped breathing; which unfortunately is an ongoing phenomenon. La Grange Park is one of few Cook County jurisdictions take part in this developing program. The Police Department also contributes to weekly safety briefs which is open to the community and helps alert members of La Grange Park on current crime trends and safety tips. To receive weekly updates and safety topic discussions by email, please contact Allyson by email at arackow@lagrangepark.org or by phone at 708-352-7711 ex.203.

For an update on naloxone please visit: www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/la-grange/news/ct-dlg-naloxone-tl-0604-20150602-story.html

SAVE THE DATE

Coffee with the Chief

Thursday, July 23, 2015
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Village Hall Board Room
447 N. Catherine Avenue
La Grange Park, IL 60526

SAVE THE DATE

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 4, 2015
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Memorial Park

National Night Out

The La Grange Park Police Department Crime Prevention Unit and Fire Department will host the 2015 National Night Out evening on Tuesday, August 4th at Memorial Park. Festivities will begin at 7:00 p.m. and include entertainment, child safety seat inspections, food, and refreshments. The Police Department is currently looking for volunteers to assist with the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Village at (708) 352-7711 ext. 203 or email arackow@lagrangepark.org.

National Night out is a nationwide annual campaign that has been held since 1984 and is sponsored by the national Association of Town Watch in the United States and Canada. The purpose of the event is to increase awareness about various police programs offered by communities, such as drug prevention, town watch, neighborhood watch and other anti-crime efforts. Residents are asked to show their support for crime prevention by turning on their porch lights from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. the evening of the event.



Village Board Highlights

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

- Authorized the renewal contract of Schroeder & Schroeder which is not to exceed \$35,000 with the same terms and conditions as agreed to in the 2014 contract
- Accepted the proposal of Suburban General Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$124,470; and authorized the spending of \$75,000 from the FY14/15 budget for work completed by April 30, 2015, and an additional \$49,470 from the proposed FY15/16 budget; and authorized the Village President to execute the contract documents Street Pavement Mill and Overlay
- Approved a Resolution Opposing Reduction of State Collected Revenues Due Municipalities
- Approved an Ordinance Amending Chapter 51.43 of the Village of La Grange Park Municipal Code Establishing Water Rates
- Appointed Jamie Zaura to Village Board to serve the remaining unexpired four year term of Mario Fotino
- Approved a Temporary Use Permit for Jewel-Osco, located at 507 E. Woodlawn, to allow for the construction of a 1,560 square foot Temporary Structure for seasonal retail sales; to be occupied on or after April 1, 2015 and to be removed no later than July 15, 2015
- Approved a Temporary Use Permit for the Community Park District for installation of a shed at Robinhood Park, to be installed no earlier than May 1, 2015 and removed no later than September 1, 2015
- Granted an exception for the nuisance regulations contained in Section 93.04.C.5 (as amended) of the Village Municipal Code, for the purpose of allowing carnival rides and amplified music to remain operational at the St. Louise de Marillac Carnival/Summerfest on Thursday, July 16, 2015 until 10:00 pm, and on Friday, July 17, 2015 and Saturday, July 18, 2015 until 11:00 pm
- Approved the purchase of fire hose and adapters at the total cost of \$20,912.60 from Air One Equipment, Inc., located in South Elgin, IL
- Authorized the Village President to execute the Amendment to Employment Agreement Proclamation –Arbor Day 2015
- Appointed John Buzzelli to the Sustainability Commission
- Authorized the Village Manager to execute a one year contract for services with Cagwood Consulting
- Approved the policy Electronic Mail Communications To and From Elected Officials at the April 28th Village Board meeting
- Approved Ordinance Granting Certain Variations for 901 W. 26th Street
- Approved rooftop lease for 937 Barnsdale Road between SprintCom Inc. and the Village of La Grange Park
- Approved the allowance of Little Free Libraries as a Permitted Temporary Use/Structure Under Section 12.6 of the Village of La Grange Park Zoning Code, until such time as the Village Amends its Zoning Code to Formally Address the Use/Structure
- Awarded contract to the lowest bidder, GA Paving LLC in the amount of \$236,961.20
- Approved resolution amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15 for the Village of La Grange Park
- Approved resolution approving FY 2015-2016 Operating Budget
- Approved the addition of a new Table VI, Position Cost Allocation by Fund Table
- Approved the Five Year Plan FY 2015/16 –FY 2019/20
- Approved resolution approving Pay Plan and Schedule of Authorized Positions for FY2015-2016
- Approved ordinance amending Chapter 50, Section 50.61 of the Village of La Grange Park Municipal Code Establishing Wastewater Service Charges
- Approved appointment of standing committees and chairs
- Proclamation –Building Safety Month May 2015
- Proclamation –National Emergency Medical Services Week
- Proclamation –Motorcycle Awareness Month
- Proclamation –National Safe Boating Week
- Approved an ordinance granting certain variations for 801 Homestead Avenue, La Grange Park, IL
- Authorized the hiring of an Executive Director for the Consolidated Dispatch Center for the Villages of La Grange Park, La Grange and Western Springs, the Lyons Township Area Communications Center (“L-TAC”); and approved a cost sharing agreement for the New Consolidated Dispatch Center for the Villages of La Grange Park, La Grange and Western Springs, the Lyons Township Area Communications Center (“L-TAC”)
- Approved the expenditure for purchase of 2 complete street light poles with arms and lamp fixtures from Gexpro in the amount of \$11,971.30
- Approved authorizing the payment of \$24,060.00 to HD Supply Waterworks, Ltd
- Approved an open purchase order, not to exceed a total amount of \$60,000, with HD Supply Waterworks Ltd. for the purchase of Fire Hydrant Modification Kits or New Fire Hydrants
- Authorized the dissolution of the Public Works Garage Committee
- Adopted a resolution authorizing the destruction of certain verbatim records of closed meetings
- Approved ordinance designating Village depository and financial institutions and authorized signers, and approved Banking Resolutions for FNBC Bank & Trust
- Approved the Committee and Commission Re-Appointments

Annual Water Quality Report

The Village of La Grange Park’s 2015 Consumer Confidence Report (Water Quality Report for Calendar Year 2014) is now available on-line at: <http://bit.ly/lagrangepark2015>

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 bsrejma@lagrangepark.org to request it in PDF form.



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, please submit your nominations to Village Hall, 447 N. Catherine. Help us share the efforts of good neighbors with the entire community.

Good Neighbor Excerpts:

Nominating: Teachers, Staff, Principal Kathy Boxell, Vice Principal Lisa Cavaliere, All the Families of Forest Road School, Pastor Rev. Hoffman and Associate Pastor Killeen, Terri Simeoni and the Religious Education Staff of St. Francis, and the Community of La Grange Park

The Mueller Family had a 4 year battle of Leukemia with our Sweet Daughter, Becca. Throughout these past 4 years we have been very blessed with the help and support we received. The generosity was in various forms - meals, babysitting, simple phone calls and lovely cards, special events in Honor of Becca and donations. From the bottom of our hearts we are very thankful to live in the community we live in. We don't know how we could have made it through without everyone's help. It takes a village to raise a child, and La Grange Park did that for our family.
- The Mueller Family - Kent, Barb, Julia and our Angel Becca

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? _____





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

www.lagrangepark.org

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REMINDER

Vehicle Stickers & Dog Licenses due July 31st. See page 4 for more information.

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!"

RESIDENT FEEDBACK

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.

VILLAGE HOLIDAYS

Just a reminder that Village offices will be closed for the following holidays:

Monday, September 7 - Labor Day
The Police and Fire Departments will remain open