

# Rose CLIPPINGS

Winter 2016

Est. 1892

The Village of La Grange Park

[www.lagrangepark.org](http://www.lagrangepark.org)

## President's Corner

As we leave 2015 behind us, I'd like to pause and reflect on the many accomplishments of the past year. Despite many challenges at the state level, the Village continued to make significant strides in 2015.

In April, as part of the Village's implementation of new pension reporting requirements mandated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, the Village Board adopted a new pension funding policy. This policy was developed by a working group that included members of both the Village Board and the Police Pension Board. This new funding policy ensures that the Village meets its fiduciary obligations in a responsible manner without pushing the burden out to future generations of taxpayers.



In June, the Village Board held a strategic planning workshop to evaluate how the Village could fund its long-term capital program. Existing revenues are not sufficient to maintain the Village's 35 miles of roads at a sustainable pace and replace essential fire department equipment. As a result of the strategic planning workshop, the Village Board approved including two bond referenda on the March 15, 2016 election ballot. The proposed combined \$11.2 million in bonds includes \$10 million for road projects and \$1.2 million for fire department vehicles and equipment. More information on the 2016 Referenda can be found on the Village website.

In November, the Village Board approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Villages of La Grange and Western Springs to move forward with the establishment of the Lyons Township Area Communication Center (LTACC) which will serve as a combined dispatch center for our three communities. This effort will result in enhanced technology and service to residents at a lower cost than our communities could provide individually. While there is still much to do to get LTACC up and running, we hope the new communications center, which will be housed in La Grange, will be live in the fall of 2016.

In November, the Village Board also approved a contract with S.B. Friedman to move forward with a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Feasibility Study for the commercial and industrial areas of the Village. This study will evaluate the potential of creating a TIF district(s) or Business District(s) and assist the Village Board in determining what redevelopment opportunities might exist in these areas. The study is currently underway and the results will be presented at a public meeting this spring. Completion of the study takes the Village one step closer to determining what the best options are for securing our long-term financial future.

I'd like to conclude my comments by highlighting some of the recognitions our community received in 2015. Movoto named La Grange Park as one of the "10 Best Chicago Suburbs," recognizing the Village's high quality of life, low crime rates, quality educational institutions and access to amenities. The Village was also ranked by ValuePenguin as the seventh safest small city in Illinois and the eight safest city overall. Safewise Security ranked La Grange Park the 85th safest city in America. Finally, La Grange Park received the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) Environmental Achievement Award, in large part due to our Sustainability Plan, which the MMC noted would be used as a foundation for the regional template sustainability plan. While we are not surprised to receive these designations all in one year – we know we live in a great community after all – we are honored that our community is so highly regarded.

Thank you to all our residents who continue to make La Grange Park such a wonderful community to call home. I wish you and your families all the best in the year ahead and hope to see you around town. As always, please feel free to contact me at any time.

*President James F. Discipio*



# Legislative Update

## **Budget Impasse Continues, But Some Money Flowing to Municipalities Again**

While the State of Illinois starts 2016 without a comprehensive spending plan, Gov. Rauner and the General Assembly came together last month to approve legislation to get money earmarked for local governments flowing again. The legislation, Public Act 99-0491, was approved by overwhelming bipartisan majorities in both the House and Senate and quickly signed by the governor on Dec. 7. The \$3.1 billion spending plan includes distributions to local government from dedicated funding sources, rather than from the General Revenue Fund. Appropriations include \$582.5 million in Motor Fuel Tax funds, \$77.1 million for local 9-1-1 systems, and \$339.1 million from the Use Tax, all of which had stopped since the start of the Fiscal Year on July 1.

The disruption in funding was beginning to have a significant impact on the Village. La Grange Park receives on average each month approximately \$27,000 in MFT money, \$6,700 in 9-1-1 funds, and \$23,000 from the Use Tax, a levy on internet and out-of-state purchases distributed to communities on a per capita basis. President Discipio lobbied several lawmakers, including those representing the Village and others throughout Illinois, on behalf of the legislation.

The measure also included \$1 billion for lottery prizes, \$31 million to the Illinois Department of Transportation for the purchase of road salt and other cold weather supplies and \$165 million for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. The legislation also designates funds for several other programs and agencies, including the Secretary of State (\$152.8 million), the Attorney General (\$45.6 million) and to the Treasurer's office (\$24.2 million), all of which were finding it more and more difficult to continue operations. For instance, Secretary of State Jesse White maintained that his office was unable to pay the utility bills for the State Capitol complex, which his office manages, as well as mail out vehicle registration reminders.

Unfortunately, there was no appropriation for the Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant (IGIG) program administered by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The Village's downspout disconnection program is slated to be funded through a \$416,500 IGIG grant, but the project remains on hold.

In addition, the Community Park District's \$400,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Open Space and Land Acquisition & Development (OSLAD) program remains locked up because of the budget stalemate. The money has been earmarked for improvements at Memorial Park, including a splash pad water play area and picnic shelter. The Village anticipates that when a budget deal is finalized, funds for the IGIG and OSLAD projects will be released.

Fortunately, municipalities are continuing to receive their share of the State Income Tax, the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF), from which La Grange Park obtains approximately \$1.4 million annually. The Governor had proposed cutting LGDF payments by half, and while this has not happened, the Village and its residents must remain diligent in fighting to preserve this vital source of funding for municipal services. President Discipio and Village officials are continuing to lobby for full funding of the LGDF and residents can help by expressing their opposition to any cuts, too. The Illinois Municipal League offers an easy-to-use tool that allows residents to contact Governor Rauner and local legislators directly about the issue. The link to this tool, [www.protectmytown.com](http://www.protectmytown.com), can be accessed through the Village's website, [www.lagrangepark.org](http://www.lagrangepark.org).

The question, of course, is when will the state have a comprehensive budget? Currently, more than 90 percent of state spending is continuing, even without a budget in place. For instance, the General Assembly passed and the Governor signed last June a \$7 billion Elementary and Secondary Education appropriation measure to ensure that schools would open last fall. Court orders have mandated that state employees must be paid – almost \$5 billion – and Medicaid providers be reimbursed – about \$8 billion. In addition to the \$3.1 billion spending bill with funds earmarked for communities that passed that last month, another law enacted in August appropriated \$5 billion in “pass through” funds from the Federal Government, mainly for social service programs. Nonetheless, the Governor and General Assembly are facing an \$8.5 billion backlog of unpaid bills and the prospect of the state running out of money sometime this spring, despite the court orders and stopgap spending bills.

## **Congress Passes Comprehensive 5-year Transportation Bill**

In December, Congress passed and President Obama signed the first comprehensive Federal Transportation Bill in more than a decade. The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act provides nearly \$281 billion in funding for infrastructure improvements over the next five years. Illinois will receive approximately \$7.5 billion in guaranteed funding for roads over the next five years, about \$1.51 billion per year, 10% more than in 2015. The legislation also includes \$16 billion for projects to untangle congested freight rail crossings and \$199 million in support for commuter rail agencies, such as Metra, to install and test Positive Train Control safety technology.

# TIF Feasibility Study

**T**ax increment financing (TIF) is a public financing tool, which is used to promote redevelopment, invest in public infrastructure, and fund other community improvement projects. At the Village Board's 2015 strategic planning session, the Board decided that as part of a long-term strategy to maintain and enhance the Village's revenue base, it is important to consider reinvestment tools that could improve our commercial and industrial areas. As a result, the Village released a Request for Proposals, seeking a consultant to evaluate five areas within our community. These include the Village Market, three areas along 31st Street and the Barnsdale Industrial Corridor. The consultant will evaluate each of these areas to determine if any would qualify as a TIF District, what the appropriate boundaries would be, and how much the areas could potentially generate in tax increment revenue. Recently, the Village Board approved a proposal with S.B. Friedman for consulting services to conduct the study. Currently, Village staff is working with the firm to collect data as part of the process. While the Village does not intend to establish TIF Districts in all five areas, it is important that all areas are evaluated. The data gathered from the Feasibility Study will then be used to assist the Village Board in deciding whether establishing a TIF District would benefit the Village. We anticipate the Study will be complete in early spring of 2016.

# La Grange Park Property Tax Summary

**E**ach year, we include summaries of property tax information in the winter edition of the "Rose Clippings." We hope you find this information helpful in interpreting the property taxes you pay.

The Village's share of your 2014 total property tax bill (collected in 2015) is between 9% and 11%, depending on your school districts. The Village continues to strive to provide outstanding value for your money by keeping streets and public areas neat and well-maintained, providing police and fire protection, providing reliable water and sewer service, protecting the residential and commercial structures of our community, and doing all of it as efficiently as possible.

The majority of your property tax bill, approximately 63%-69% supports the grade schools and high schools. Not including the schools, the three remaining local institutions – the La Grange Park Public Library, the Community Park District, and the Village, make up approximately 16% - 20% of your total tax bill.

## Total Tax Levy:

The 2014 total tax rate per \$100 of Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV), which was payable in 2015, was 9.814 for properties in School District 102 and 11.901 for properties in School District 95. Please refer to the included chart for the tax rate history.

	TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATES IF YOU LIVE IN SCHOOL DISTRICT 102	TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATES IF YOU LIVE IN SCHOOL DISTRICT 95
2003 Tax Year	7.982	7.985
2004 Tax Year	8.059	8.067
2005 Tax Year	7.122	7.482
2006 Tax Year	7.311	8.105
2007 Tax Year	7.105	8.038
2008 Tax Year	6.712	8.160
2009 Tax Year	6.608	8.195
2010 Tax Year	6.663	8.226
2011 Tax Year	8.160	9.696
2012 Tax Year	9.076	10.714
2013 Tax Year	9.831	11.488
2014 Tax Year	9.814	11.901

While we will not know the total 2015 property tax rate until next summer, the Village of La Grange Park approved an ordinance in November that authorized the 2015 Village tax levy (collected in 2016), which is our portion of the total real estate tax. Tax cap laws limit the Village's 2015 levy to a 0.8% increase plus any new property value.

# How Your Property Tax Bill is Calculated

**T**o determine how much your property tax bill will be, you first need to know the assessed value of your home. In Cook County, residential property is assessed at 10% of its fair market value. Then the Illinois Department of Revenue applies an equalization factor to the assessed value of property per county to ensure equitable assessment across individual counties. The equalization factor for Cook County for the 2014 tax year was 2.7253. So, if you own a home worth \$350,000, then the assessed value will be [350,000 x .10 x 2.7253], or \$95,386. This assessed value is then multiplied by the tax rate for your property's particular location to get the total tax bill. Using the 2014 tax rates as listed above, a property with an assessed value of \$95,386 paid the following estimated amounts in 2015 for the 2014 tax year (prior to any exemptions):

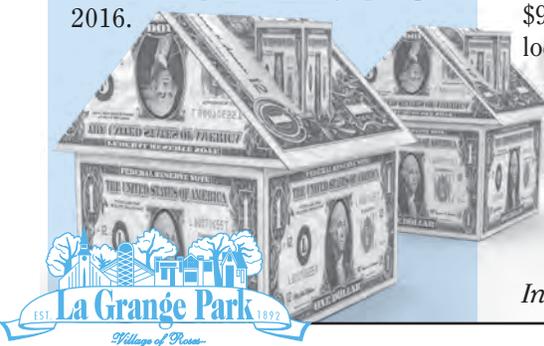
**District 102**

$$\begin{aligned} &\$95,386 \times 0.09814 = \\ &\mathbf{\$9,361} \end{aligned}$$

**District 95**

$$\begin{aligned} &\$95,386 \times 0.11901 = \\ &\mathbf{\$11,352} \end{aligned}$$

*In both examples, the Village's portion of the tax bill would be approximately \$1,018.*



## 2016 Bond Referenda 2nd Town Hall Meeting Feb. 10



The Village will host its second Town Hall Meeting on the 2016 Bond Referenda on Wednesday, February 10th at 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall in the Board Room. Residents are encouraged to attend and ask questions about the two propositions for roads and fire equipment which will be placed on the March 15, 2016 ballot.

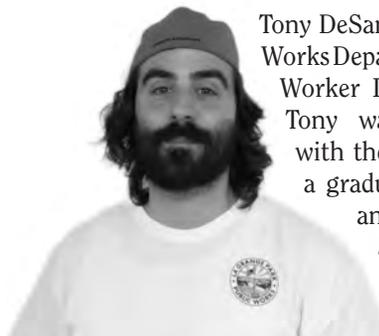
Residents may access helpful information on the 2016 Bond Referenda from the Village's website, [www.lagrange.org](http://www.lagrange.org), located on the right side of the homepage. Information includes a Frequent Asked Questions document, a map of the proposed road improvements, the Town Hall Meeting PowerPoint presentation, and flyers on the propositions.

Recently, the Village completed a number of presentations on the referenda in the community. President Discipio has presented at School Districts 102 and 95 Board Meetings, the Community Park District Board Meeting, the La Grange Park Library Board Meeting, and at Plymouth Place. Presentations are planned for the Garden Club and Bethlehem Woods Retirement Community. Additional presentations may be added to the schedule.

It is important that residents are informed on this important issue. Specific questions or comments regarding the referenda may be emailed to [info@lagrange.org](mailto:info@lagrange.org). Questions may be mailed via USPS to: 2016 Bond Referenda, 447 N. Catherine Avenue, La Grange Park, IL 60526.

## Personnel Changes

### New Public Work's Maintenance Worker



Tony DeSanto started with the Public Works Department in the Maintenance Worker I position on October 1st. Tony was a summer employee with the Village for 5 years. He is a graduate of Nazareth Academy and Benedictine University, and is also a resident of La Grange Park.



## *Naughty or Nice?*

### Guide to Holiday Recycling & Christmas Tree Pick-Up Schedule

Confused about how to dispose of your holiday wrappings and decorations? Allied Waste has created a "Naughty or Nice" list to answer your recycling questions:

#### *Naughty*

(not recyclable)

- Bubble wrap (*consider reusing*)
- Foam peanuts (*Some UPS stores will accept and re-use*)
- Ribbon and bows (*consider reusing*)
- Anything on the tree
- Sticky gift labels
- Gift bags if coated, laminated, dyed
- Metallic wrapping paper (*consider reusing*)
- Soiled disposable tableware

#### *Nice*

(recyclable)

- Gift boxes
- Tissue paper
- Shoe boxes
- Gift bags (*if paper*)
- Christmas tree (*non-artificial*)
- Holiday cards/envelopes
- Wrapping paper (*non-metallic*)

## Christmas Tree Disposal

Allied Waste will pick up Christmas Trees (no artificial trees) on your regular garbage day during the first two weeks of January. All trees must be free of ornaments, garland, lights, tinsel, etc. Trees should be placed in the parkway next to your garbage with the trunk facing the street. No sticker is required. Wreaths, garland, and natural décor will not be picked up. Residents should contact Allied Waste at (708) 345-7050 with any questions about tree pickup or holiday service.



# Snow Removal Rules

The Village would like to take this opportunity to remind residents that the Village plows the streets when we expect snowfall to exceed two inches (2"). Permission for overnight street parking is not granted in these weather situations. Salting will be performed during plowing operations on a limited, as needed basis.

**By following just a few simple rules, you can make our job and your neighborhood safer.**

**Rule #1: Remove your vehicles from public streets when the forecast is for two inches of snow or more.** Having vehicles in the road makes it harder for our drivers to thoroughly clean the streets and endangers their safety by forcing them to zigzag across slippery roads, increasing the probability of accidents. The Village tickets violators!

**Rule #2: If possible, please avoid driving during heavy snowstorms.** Our primary purpose is to clear streets for emergency vehicles. The less traffic there is, the faster and more efficiently our drivers can clear the streets.

**Rule #3: Do not shovel or blow snow into public streets.** This not only defeats the purpose of our plowing, but causes unsafe conditions for all drivers. All shoveled or blown snow should be piled in your yard or parkway. Violators may be ticketed.

**Rule #4: Drive cautiously.** If you must be out, please use extreme caution. Drive slowly and watch at intersections. Don't follow our plows too closely. Leave plenty of extra room between cars and brake slowly. Use extreme caution in passing our plowing and salting equipment.

**Rule #5: Keep sidewalks clear.** It is the responsibility of each homeowner/business owner to keep the sidewalk and walkways in front of his/her address shoveled and cleared of ice.

## Snow Blowing Reminders

- Do not blow snow into the street. Instead, blow onto your parkway or yard. This is the law.
- Keep hydrants visible and clear of snow piles.
- Keep the area in front of your mailboxes as clear of snow as possible.
- Keep your sidewalk/walkway clear of snow.



### Keep Fire Hydrants Clear of Snow

All of our Village fire engines carry water to help firefighters start extinguishing fires, but that water supply is limited. In most cases, firefighters only have a few minutes to get additional water from fire hydrants. As such, it is important to be able to find fire hydrants quickly, even during snow storms. La Grange Park Firefighters ask that you "Adopt-a-Hydrant" near your home, and help clear snow from around it when needed. Firefighters, and your neighbors, will greatly appreciate it!

# Winter Safety Tips

With the cold and snowy weather upon us, we would like to remind residents to be aware and take cold weather precautions when venturing out. Dress in layers and don't stay out too long at any one time. When shoveling snow, make sure you don't over exert yourself. In addition please check on elderly or infirm neighbors and, perhaps, offer to pick up groceries, medications or other supplies for them so they don't have to go out. If you know someone who is in need of a place to get warm, BEDS Plus (708-354-0858) has several locations that provide free, safe, overnight shelter. Daily operations are from 7:00pm – 7:00am daily, starting October 1st to May 15th.

**Sundays:** St Louise de Marillac Church (Colonnade Room) 1112 Raymond, La Grange Park

**Mondays:** St. Francis Xavier Church (Joyce Hall) 145 N. Waiola, La Grange

**Tuesdays:** Brainard Avenue Baptist Church (South Entrance) 6251 S. Brainard, Countryside

**Wednesdays:** Emmanuel Episcopal Church (Catherine Avenue Entrance) 203 S. Kensington, La Grange

**Thursdays:** First United Methodist Church (Rose Garden Entrance) 100 W. Cossitt, La Grange

**Fridays:** St. Barbara Church, 8900 Windemere Avenue, Brookfield

**Saturdays:** First United Methodist Church (43rd Street Entrance) 4300 Howard, Western Springs

## Coffee with the Chief

The next Coffee with the Chief will be Thursday, February 25, 2016 from 6:30 – 7:30pm. Chief Rompa will be adding Officers and additional Police Department staff to come and speak with residents on current police issues.



# Village Board Highlights

The Board of Trustees conducted the following business during the months of September, October and November:

- Approved payment to AIS for the Installation of Network Switches in the amount of \$11,636.61
- Approved Ordinance (#1012) authorizing the Sale of Surplus Property owned by the Village of La Grange Park is needed
- Approved an ordinance providing for and requiring the submission of the propositions of issuing General Obligation Bonds to the voters of the Village of La Grange Park, Cook County, Illinois, at the General Primary Election to be held on the 15th day of March, 2016.
- Proclamation – National Assisted Living Week 2015 “Nourishing Life: Mind, Body, and Spirit” September 13 – 19, 2015
- Approved the geographic areas to be included in the Request for Proposals for a Tax Increment Financing Feasibility Study
- Accepted the proposal of Rainbow Farm Enterprises, Inc. for the disposal of leaves in the amount of \$28.00 Per Bucket (Option #1), not to exceed \$30,000 & authorize the Village President to execute the necessary contract documents
- Authorized the Village President to execute a Right-of-Way Use License and Fiber Optic Cable Agreement between the Village of La Grange Park and Sigecom, LLC doing business as Wow! Internet, Cable and Phone
- Authorized the Village President to execute the Professional Engineering Services Agreement with Hancock Engineering
- Approved a one year contract extension with A & B Landscaping and Tree Service, Inc. for tree and stump removals, and with Winkler’s Tree & Landscaping for general tree maintenance and for emergency tree work, and authorizing the Village President to execute the necessary contract documents
- Approved a Village Fund Balance Reporting Policy
- Directed Village Staff to draft an Ordinance amending Title XI, Chapter 112, Alcoholic Beverages of the La Grange Park Municipal Code
- Approved a contract to the lowest bidder, Lyons & Pinner Electric in the amount of \$216,700.00 for the Emergency Generator Replacement Project
- Approved payment of temporary employee services with Stivers Staffing Services in an amount not to exceed \$28,000
- Appointed Robert Bartholomai to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire May 1, 2016
- Proclamation National Preparedness Month
- Proclamation Fire Prevention Week
- Authorize staff to reprioritize its spending plan to cut crack sealing, pavement markings and the power lift gate to fund for \$36,500 for the removal of the 122 trees that have been identified of having a higher risk of failure
- Approved the Resolution authorizing execution of a Health Inspection Services Agreement with the County of Cook, and authorize the Village President to execute the necessary contract documents
- Approved the payment of \$10,501.00 to Health Endeavors, SC, of Lombard, IL, for this year’s annual Occupational Medical Evaluations
- Moved that the President and Village Board of Trustees estimate that the amount necessary to be raised from the 2015 property tax levy for the 2015/16 fiscal year is \$3,500,132; which amount is less than 5% greater than the amount of taxes extended for 2014
- Appointed George Anagnos to the Village of La Grange Park Youth Commission for a term to expire on May 1, 2017
- Approved an ordinance amending the “La Grange Park Municipal Code” as amended
- Approved the implementation of Odd/Even parking restrictions for the 1000 Block of Newberry
- Approved a resolution approving and authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement Entered into by the Villages of La Grange, La Grange Park and Western Springs to Establish 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 3 (Administration), Chapter 32 (Boards, Commissions and Committees), Sections 32.15 Through 32.21 (Emergency Telephone System Board) of the La Grange Park Municipal Code to Dissolve the La Grange Park Emergency Telephone System Board and Recognize the Village of La Grange Park’s Participation in a Consolidated Joint

- Emergency Telephone System Board Created via an Intergovernmental Agreement Establishing a Consolidated Joint Emergency Dispatch System Known as the Lyons Township Area Communications Center.
- Authorized expenditures for necessary architecture and engineering services related to interior space needs for the Lyons Township Area Communications Center at a cost not to exceed \$28,400 and authorize the Village Manager to execute any necessary and related agreements.
- Authorized expenditures necessary for a New World Computer Automated Dispatch (CAD) Upgrade for the Lyons Township Area Communications Center at a cost not to exceed \$200,000 and authorize the Village Manager to execute any necessary and related agreements.
- Authorized expenditures necessary for the Power Phone Total Response Software for the Lyons Township Area Communications Center at a cost not to exceed \$16,000 and authorize the Village Manager to execute any necessary and related agreements
- Approved payment of \$10,322.00 to Suburban Tree Consortium
- Received the annual Post-Issuance Compliance Report
- Authorized the Village Manager to execute a contract with Constellation Energy for energy supply for the Village’s Water Plant for a 2 year contract
- Approved Resolution urging Illinois State Leaders to release Non-General Fund Revenues payable to local governments
- Approved Resolution for Construction on State Highway
- Adopted a Resolution approving the 2016 Meeting Dates
- Approved an ordinance amending Chapter 112 of Title XI of the La Grange Park Municipal Code Regulating Liquor Sales and Licenses
- Approved an Ordinance providing for the Annual Tax Levy for the Village of La Grange Park, Cook County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2015 and ending April 30, 2016.
- Approved an Ordinance providing for Specific Reductions of the 2015 Property Tax Levy Pursuant to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law.
- Approved an Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2015 to pay the principal of and interest on \$3,495,000.00 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2014, of the Village of La Grange Park, Cook County, Illinois.
- Adopted a resolution authorizing the Village Manager to execute and engagement letter with S.B. Friedman and Associates for consultant services to conduct a Tax Increment Financing Feasibility Study in an amount not to exceed \$29,260

## Register to Vote

Residents are encouraged to register to vote for the Presidential Primary Election on March 15th. The ballot will include two referenda questions for the Village of La Grange Park. Residents can register at the La Grange Park Village Hall, 447 North Catherine, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Monday - Friday). Two pieces of identification are required, one of which must have your name along with your current La Grange Park address on it.

Village Clerk Amanda Seidel will have her office open on Saturday, January 9, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. to noon for residents who are unable to register during normal business hours. She will also be available on Saturday, February 13, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to noon for last minute registration. Open registration will end on February 16, 2016. Residents can also go online to [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com) (under the Register to Vote tab) to register online and find information on polling places and voting dates.



# Village Sticker Photo Contest

The Village of La Grange Park invites resident photographers - professional or amateur - to take their best shot. We are looking for the best photo that exemplifies our village motto, Village of Roses. The selected photograph will be featured as the 2016-2017 Village Vehicle Sticker and used in various Village publications. The deadline for submission is January 22, 2016. Winners will be notified via e-mail as soon as the judging is complete. See below for rules.

- The contest is free to enter and open to both amateur and professional photographers of any age who are La Grange Park residents.
- Photos submitted must be original work by the submitting photographer.
- Once submitted, photos become the property of the Village of La Grange Park.
- The Village may alter images as necessary.
- Submit Photographs: info@lagrangepark.org. Include name, address, and phone number in the email body.
- All entries must be received by the Village of La Grange Park by January 22, 2015 with a waiver of release that can be obtained at www.lagrangepark.org.

By entering the contest, entrants grant the Village of La Grange Park a royalty-free, perpetual, non-exclusive license to display, distribute, reproduce and create derivative works of the entries, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or subsequently developed, for any educational, promotional, publicity, and other Village of La Grange Park purposes. Any photograph reproduced will include a photographer credit as feasible. The Village of La Grange Park will not be required to seek any additional approval in connection with such uses.



## LTACC 9-1-1

Hello to the Village of La Grange Park,

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Executive Director of the Lyons Township Area Communications Center which has been established by an intergovernmental agreement between the

Villages of La Grange Park, La Grange and Western Springs. The participating agencies have determined that there exists a need for a centralized, combined emergency services dispatch and communication system, which will provide for more efficient dispatch and communication capabilities within and among the participating agencies and which will otherwise provide for the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the participating agencies. As the Executive Director I am responsible for the overall project management of the consolidated center as well as the day to day operations.

As part of the comprehensive assessment of the feasibility of consolidated public safety dispatch for the Villages of La Grange, LaGrange Park, and Western Springs one of the primary objectives was to identify opportunities to share public safety services that could not only result in more cost-effective service delivery, but also create operational enhancements involving the combined use of equipment. With input from staff members from all three communities I have spent the last several months identifying existing and future technology to ensure that we will be able to accommodate today's needs while being scalable to allow for future growth and partnerships with other communities as well.

The new consolidated center will be located in the Village of La Grange Police Department at 304 W. Burlington Avenue in La Grange and will provide emergency services for Police/Fire/EMS for all three participating communities. We are still in the initial stages of development/implementation and are working towards being able to go live the fourth quarter of 2016.

Kim Knutsen, CMCP  
Executive Director (LTACC)  
Lyons Township Area Communications Center

## Community Park District News

### On-line Registration

Staff is currently exploring different registration software programs to be able to offer on-line registration for participants starting with the Summer 2016 brochure. Participants will be able to register for programs, download receipts and more from the comfort of their own home or on the go. They will continue to accept both walk-in and mail-in registrations. Keep your eye out for more information in the near future.

### Ice Rink

There will not be an ice rink set up at Memorial Park this season. Due to the OSLAD grant funds still not being released from the State, construction did not happen and there is not electricity for the lights at the tennis court area, which poses a safety concern. They apologize for the inconvenience and hope to bring the rink back in the future.

### Special Events

**Daddy Daughter Date Night** – February 26

**Apple Holler Trip** – March 10

**Science Fair Night** – March 16

**Easter Egg Hunt** – March 19

**Grease "School Version" Children's Musical** – April 15-17

**The Dancing Horses & Exotic Bird Show Trip** – May 11

**Run for the Roses 5K (25th Anniversary)** – May 14



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(708) 354-0225

[www.lagrangepark.org](http://www.lagrangepark.org)

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Amanda G. Seidel

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## Don't Forget to "Spring" Ahead!

Daylight Savings Time will begin on Sunday, March 13 at 2:00 a.m.  
"Spring" your clocks forward at that time!



**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.

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Please mail to: Village Manager, Village of La Grange Park, 447 North Catherine, La Grange Park, IL 60526. Email address: [jcedillo@lagrangepark.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## VILLAGE HOLIDAYS

The Village offices will be closed for the following holidays:

**Monday, February 15 - Presidents Day**

**Friday, March 25 at Noon - Good Friday**

The Police and Fire Department will remain open