

The Rose CLIPPINGS

Winter 2020

Est. 1892

The Village of La Grange Park

www.lagrangepark.org



President's Corner

Let me be one of the first to welcome you to 2020! The beginning of a new year always holds much anticipation and excitement as we think of the many possibilities that lie ahead. The Village has several large initiatives planned for the upcoming year, including: a new water main along 31st Street; new public parking spaces along Beach Avenue north of 31st Street; a new financial software system; a new audio system for Village Board meetings; and new Police and Public Works vehicles, just to name a few. These initiatives, along with the regular annual services we provide, are funded not only through local tax dollars, but State and Federal tax dollars as well. The importance of the funding the Village receives from the State and Federal level cannot be overstated. Without these funds, the Village would not be able to provide the critical infrastructure, public safety and maintenance operations that residents have come to rely upon. With the 2020 Census coming up in April, it is more important than ever that residents understand the Village's reliance on these funding sources for sustainability and how this funding is tied to census counts.



Why is the 2020 Census Important? The census's population count determines the number of seats Illinois has in the House of Representatives; the amount of federal funds allocated to Illinois; and how Illinois state revenues (such as income tax and motor fuel tax) are distributed. As a result of the 2010 Census, Illinois lost one Congressional seat. According to the Illinois Complete Count Commission, Illinois is expected to lose a second Congressional seat as a result of the 2020 Census, and may lose a third if our population

is undercounted. Each year, Illinois receives over \$34 billion in federal funds to support schools, hospitals, roads, public works, social services and more. Many La Grange Park residents benefit from these programs and all La Grange Park residents benefit from the funding the Village receives directly from the state as a result of our Census population. For details on how much money La Grange Park receives, see page 2.

Many people have concerns about sharing their personal information with the U.S. Census Bureau and how the information is used and maintained. If you have these concerns, I encourage you to review the special "Census 101" insert included with this Rose Clippings.

The 2020 Census will be released in April and for the first time, will be available for residents to take online. Over the course of the next few months, the Village will be working with the U.S. Census Bureau, the State of Illinois, and the Proviso Township Complete Count Committee to get the word out about the upcoming 2020 Census and to encourage residents to respond. The population count for La Grange Park set by the 2020 Census will be used for the next ten years and for each resident not counted, the Village will lose over \$1,600 during that time period. Please spread the word and help us insure that every single person in La Grange Park is counted. More information about the Census can be found on the Village's website (www.lagrangepark.org).

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 J. Discipio



Public Works Personnel Updates

The Public Works Department is proud to introduce its newest member to the team, Matt Smith. Matt previously worked part-time for the Community Park District of La Grange Park in its maintenance division. He is a graduate of Riverside-Brookfield High School and holds a Bachelor's Degree from Elmhurst College. In his free time, he enjoys playing baseball and loves to fish. If you see Matt around, please welcome him to our community and Village Team.



BE COUNTED.



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. Look for your opportunity to be counted this April with the release of the 2020 Census forms, which for the first time, will also be available to complete online.

Community Park District Updates

Ready Teddy Preschool Fall 2020 Registration

School Year: September 14, 2020 - May 21, 2021

Registration for current preschool class resident families is Monday, February 10 at 8:30 am. Registration for all resident families is Tuesday, February 11 at 8:30 am. Additional information is available on our website: www.communityparkdistrict.org

FROZEN JR

Tickets on sale now for Community Footlight Players production of Frozen Jr!

Performance Dates

Friday, January 10th, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 11th, 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 12th, 7:30 p.m.

Ticket Prices: Adult: \$10 (\$15 at the door), Students: \$5, Children under 5: Free

All performances are located at: Park Jr High School, 333 N Park Road La Grange Park

Please call 708-354-4580 to purchase tickets in advance (or to be held at Will Call).

Seussical JR Auditions

Ages: 6-18

Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat and all of your favorite Dr. Seuss characters spring to life onstage in Seussical JR., a fantastical musical extravaganza. Auditions occur January 18th – 20th. All auditions MUST be scheduled by Thurs., January 16th. To schedule an audition and request a time slot, please email:

cpdLPtheatre@communityparkdistrict.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

Daddy Daughter Date Night

Friday, February 21st

Age: 3-8 years with adult

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

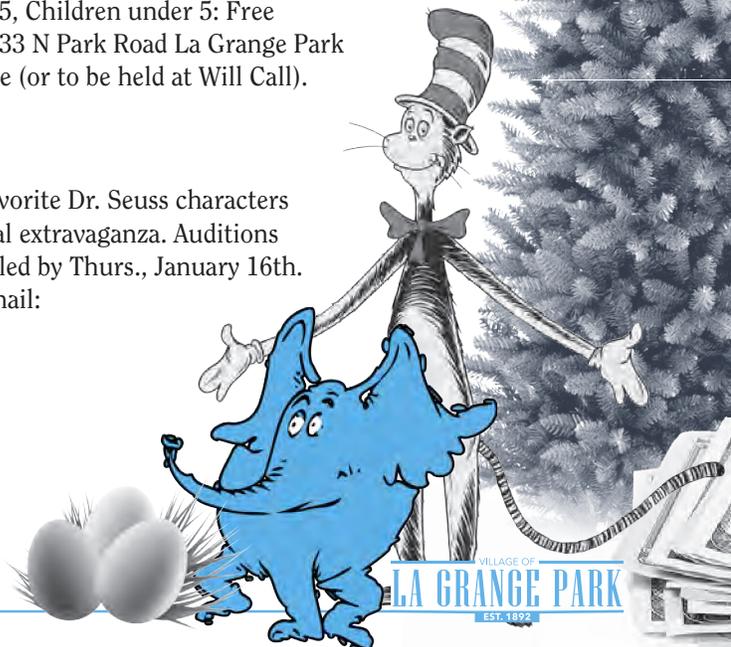
FREE! Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4th

Age: 8 years and under

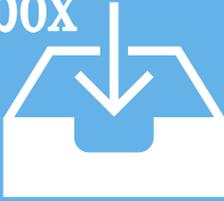
Time: 11:00 a.m. Sharp

Watch for All Day Summer Camp coming Summer 2020



Important Local Safety News Delivered to Your Inbox

Please join our weekly Public Safety Briefs with information about various types of community alerts or safety tidbits that can keep you and your family safe and well. If interested, send an email to bbaum@lagrangepark.org to be placed on the list.



Christmas Tree Disposal

Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) 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 LRS (773) 685-8811 with any questions about tree pickup or holiday service.



Village Property Tax Summary

The Village strives to deliver exceptional value for every tax dollar by providing excellent police and fire services, keeping streets and public areas well-maintained, protecting the residential and commercial buildings of our community, and doing all of it as efficiently as possible.

The Village's portion of your 2018 total property tax bill (collected in 2019) is about 11% to 13%, depending on your school districts. The majority of your property tax bill, approximately 63% - 69% supports the grade schools and high schools. Not including the schools, three local institutions – the La Grange Park Public Library, the Community Park District, and the Village, make up approximately 17% - 21% of your total tax bill.

Total Tax Levy

The 2018 total tax rate per \$100 of Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV), which was payable in 2019, was 9.618 for properties in School District 102 and 11.858 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
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
2015 Tax Year	10.179	12.328
2016 Tax Year	10.778	12.403
2017 Tax Year	9.202	10.880
2018 Tax Year	9.618	11.858

How Your Property Tax Bill is Calculated

To 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. The Illinois Department of Revenue calculates an equalization factor to apply to the assessed value of property per county to ensure equitable assessment across individual counties. The equalization factor for Cook County for the 2018 tax year was 2.9109. So, if you own a home valued at \$350,000, then the equalized assessed value will be [350,000 x .10 x 2.9109], or \$101,882. This equalized assessed value is then multiplied by the tax rate for your property's particular location to get the total tax bill. Using the 2018 tax rates as listed above, a property with an equalized assessed value of \$101,882 paid the following estimated amounts in 2019 for the 2018 tax year (prior to any exemptions):

District 102	District 95
$\$101,882 \times .09618 =$	$\$101,882 \times .11858 =$
\$9,799	\$12,081

In both examples, the Village's portion of the tax bill would be approximately \$1,305.

While we will not know the 2019 property tax rates until next summer, the Village Board approved an ordinance in November that authorized the 2019 Village tax levy (collected in 2020). Tax cap laws limit the Village's 2019 operating levy to a 1.9% increase plus any new property value.



Fire Department Personnel Updates

This past December, the Village and Fire Department welcomed Michael Wilson, who will serve as the Fire Department's Part-Time Fire Prevention Coordinator. Mike will be responsible for coordinating the overall activities of the Fire Prevention Bureau, which includes: coordinating and conducting fire inspections, inspecting the installation of, and witnessing the testing of fire protection systems, and overall enforcement of the Villages Fire Prevention Code. Mike is a full-time firefighter/paramedic with another nearby suburban Fire Department; a U.S. Navy veteran; and has owned his own construction company. We welcome his expertise and are very excited to have him as part of our Village staff.

Two new contract paramedics also recently began working for our Fire Department late last year. They are Vanessa Kieres and Vlado Radanov, who are currently enrolled in the Fire Academy. They replaced Matt Scott, who took a paramedic position in South Carolina, and Sean Kirby, who was hired as a paramedic by the Chicago Fire Department. We welcome Vanessa and Vlado and look forward to them serving our residents, and wish Matt and Sean luck with their new endeavors.



Child Safety Seat Installation

The La Grange Park Police Department is now offering Child Safety Seat Installations. For further information or to check availability, please contact Officer Doug Rackow (drackow@lagrangepark.org) at (708) 352-7711 Extension 262.



Join the Citizen's Police Academy

Session 1 – April 18th through May 23rd

Session 2 – September 12th through October 17th

All Sessions are held Saturdays from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Citizen's Police Academy will be open to all citizens and business owners in the Village of La Grange Park, 18 years of age or older.

Anyone interested in participating in the CPA should complete the application available at the Police Department (located in Village Hall, 447 N. Catherine Ave., LaGrange Park, IL). Please note:

- The application must be picked up and returned to the Police Department in person.
- There is no cost for participation.
- A routine background check will be conducted on all applicants.
- A waiver of liability must be signed by each participant.
- The maximum number of participants will be twenty (20) on a first come, first available basis.
- There will be two sessions: April - May, 2020 and September - October, 2020.

Please contact Officer Chris Dempsey at (cdempsey@lagrangepark.org) or (708) 352-7711 extension 275, with any questions.



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"). 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: 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.

Stay Safe This Winter

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.

Winter Fire & Safety Reminders

Heating is the second leading cause of U.S. home fires, deaths and injuries. December, January and February are the peak months for heating fires. Space heaters are the type of equipment most often involved in home heating equipment fires, figuring in two of every five fires (40%). Keep space heaters away from combustible materials, and always plug a space heater directly into an electrical receptacle, avoiding the use of an extension cord, which may not be designed for such loads and can overheat. Also, make sure boilers and furnaces are inspected annually, along with your fireplace and chimney. If you own a fireplace, make sure the ashes are completely cool before discarding them.

Carbon Monoxide (CO), often called the invisible killer, is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, propane, etc. do not burn completely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of CO. Carbon monoxide incidents are more common during the winter months, and in residential properties. Make sure your fuel burning appliances are properly maintained and inspected annually. And make sure you have at least one working CO alarm in or near every sleeping area.

Fire Hydrants are critical for firefighters when fighting a fire, and need to be kept clear of snow during winter snow events. Please do your part and remove snow from around fire hydrants near your home. The water carried on fire engines only provides a few minutes of water for firefighters to use during fires. Locating and connecting to a fire hydrant quickly is critical to continuing the firefight, and in protecting your home and our firefighters.

Snow Blowing Reminders

The Village offers the following reminders for managing the snow:

- Do not blow snow into the street. Instead, blow onto your parkway or yard.
- 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.

Local Warming Centers

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 7:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m. 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: St. Barbara Church, 8900 Windemere Ave. Brookfield

Wednesdays: St. Hugh Parish, 7939 43rd St, Lyons

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

Fridays: St. Barbra Church, 8900 Windemere, Brookfield

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

Day-Time Support Center Open Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 203 S. Kensington, LaGrange (2nd Floor)



Village Board Highlights

The Board of Trustees conducted the following business during the months of: September, October & November 2019:

- Approved an Ordinance Rezoning 630 Beach Avenue to the R-4 Multi Family Residence District
- Accepted the Contract Extension with Globe Construction, In a Not To Exceed Amount of \$39,500.00 and Authorized the Village Manager to Execute the Contract Document
- Accepted the Proposal From Energenecs, in an Amount of \$16,100.00 and Authorized the Village Manager to Execute the Contract Document
- Accepted the Bid Proposal from True North Consultants, in the Amount of \$16,473.00 and Authorized the Village Manager to Execute the Contract Documents for Soil Boring, Testing and Reporting
- Accepted the "Not to Exceed" Proposal from Safe Step, LLC, in the Amount of \$19,500.00 and Authorized the Village Manager to Execute the Contract Documents
- Approved An Ordinance Amending the "La Grange Park Municipal Code" as Amended
- Authorized the Village Manager to Execute a Certain Agreement With the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services to Allow For Greater Cost Coverage Through Enhanced Rates For Services
- Approved Resolution No. 19-10, A Resolution of the Village of La Grange Park, Cook County, Illinois, Authorizing the Adoption of the Update of the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Estimated That the Amount Necessary to be Raised From the 2019 Property Tax Levy is \$3,792,700, Exclusive of Debt Service; Which Amount is Less Than 5% Greater Than the Amount of Taxes Extended for 2018
- Approved a Resolution Appointing A Director and Alternate Director to the West Cook County Solid Waste Agency
- Approved the Resolution to Allow the Village President to Execute a Certain Agreement with the Cook County Department of Public Health for Health Inspections Services, Effective December 1, 2019, and Continuing through November 30, 2020
- Accepted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2019
- Accepted the 2019 Police Pension Municipal Compliance Report
- Accepted the Annual Post-Issuance Compliance Report
- Authorized the Destruction of Certain Verbatim Records of Closed Meetings
- Approved a Resolution for Construction on State Highways
- Authorized the Village Manager to Execute the Contract Documents with HEI Utility Contractors in a "Not to Exceed" Amount of \$10,928.00 for Hydro-Excavation of Water Services
- Approved A Resolution Approving the Annual Schedule of Regular Meeting Dates for 2020
- Approved an Open Purchase Order with Cargill Incorporated Salt Division, Not To Exceed a Total Amount of \$75,000.00
- 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, 2019 And Ending April 30, 2020
- Approved An Ordinance Providing For Specific Reductions Of The 2019 Property Tax Levy Pursuant To The Property Tax Extension Limitation Law

-Approved An Ordinance Abating The Tax Hereto Levied For The Year 2019 To Pay The Principal Of And Interest On \$3,495,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2014, Of The Village Of La Grange Park, Cook County, Illinois

-Approved An Ordinance Abating A Portion Of The Taxes Heretofore Levied For The Year 2019 To Pay Debt Service On General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2016 Of The Village Of La Grange Park, Cook County, Illinois

Sustainability Corner

Did you know that La Grange Park has a Sustainability Commission? The Sustainability Commission is made up of seven members appointed by the Village Board. Each member is a resident of the community and the Commission works to educate and promote sustainable practices for Village residents. As an example, the Commission collected nearly 4 tons of pumpkins for composting after Halloween this year. If you are interested, consider attending a meeting, visiting the Commission's Facebook page (facebook.com/LGPSustainability), or the Village's website (lagrangepark.org/277/Sustainability-Commission). The Commission look forwards to celebrating Earth Day's 50th Anniversary with you at one of our events this coming spring!



LaGrange Park Library

Get Yeti to Read! Children's Reading Program

Unlike the elusive Yeti, a good book is easy to find! Join us for our winter reading program January 20th through February 29th. Register at the Children's Services desk then check in once a week for a prize. Finish four hours of reading and choose your own book to keep.

Curl Up with Kanopy Streaming Service

Cold winter days are a great excuse to enjoy quality entertainment. The library offers FREE streaming content to La Grange Park Library cardholders for access to movies, documentaries, foreign films, classic cinema, independent films and educational videos that inspire, enrich and entertain. Visit lplibrary.org/downloads to get started!



 Printed on recycled paper



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

Meghan Kooi

TRUSTEES

Scott Mesick

James Kucera

Amanda G. Seidel

Jamie Zaura

Michael Sheehan

Robert Lautner

VILLAGE MANAGER

Julia Cedillo

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

La Grange Park Postal Customer
La Grange Park, Illinois 60526

Little League Sign Up

La Grange Park Little League registration is now open for SPRING Baseball and Softball. Registration closes January 15th and divisions fill up fast. For more information and to register visit: lgplittleleague.com.



Don't Forget to "Spring" Ahead

Daylight Savings Time will begin on Sunday, March 8th at 2:00 a.m. "Spring" your clocks forward at that time!



VillageHall

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.

VillageHolidays

The Village offices will be closed for the following holidays:

Monday, February 17 - Presidents' Day

Friday, April 10 at Noon - Good Friday