

The

Rose CLIPPINGS

Spring 2023

Est. 1892

The Village of La Grange Park

www.lagrangepark.org



President's Corner

I hope everyone is enjoying the start to spring! As the seasons transition, we are seeing lots of growth and change throughout our small Village.

In March, the Village officially welcomed Andy's Frozen Custard to La Grange Park. The grand opening event featured welcoming remarks from owner Andy Kuntz and a "golden scoop" ceremony, as well as music, games, and the chance to win free custard for a year. I couldn't be happier to see this project come to fruition, as the redevelopment of the property has been a priority of the Village's for many years. It's uniquely situated among some of La Grange Park's most important and popular community amenities – the La Grange Park Public Library, Memorial Park, and the Village Market shopping center. Andy's Frozen Custard is sure to be a popular destination as the weather warms up and families and neighbors gather for nearby community events, such as Music Under The Stars and National Night Out.



I'm pleased to report that the Village Market Streetscape Improvement Plan was completed this winter, and Village staff is working on the next steps for prioritizing and implementing the plan. The recommendations focus on these key themes: safety; identity; activation; and sustainability. Thank you to the many residents, businesses, and other community stakeholders who participated in the community engagement activities – you were instrumental in setting the vision for this plan. The Village's Commercial Revitalization Committee also played a critical role in guiding the planning process and providing feedback on the streetscape design concepts. Stay tuned for updates on forthcoming public improvement projects, like intersection enhancements and safety intervention tactics. We look forward to developing the next streetscape improvement plan along 31st Street!

In this edition of Rose Clippings, you'll find important safety reminders for spring storms, the 2023 brush collection schedule, department updates, a variety of community events, and much more. If you're looking for ways to get involved and stay up to date on what's going on in La Grange Park, subscribe to the Village's weekly E-Briefs newsletter. We regularly share important project updates and publicize opportunities to attend meetings, provide input through surveys, and volunteer for community events.

As always, please feel free to contact me at any time.

President James J. Discipio



This year, the Village expects to see additional community and economic development projects take shape along La Grange Road. ALDI, a multi-national supermarket chain, is planning to open a new store at 333 N. La Grange Road. The development proposal went through a rigorous public process to consider multiple variation requests. Additionally, all of the parking areas around the Village Market, including Jewel, will be replaced, with the addition of parking lot landscaping, starting with the parking area at Sherwood Road and Woodlawn Avenue.





Community Volunteer Day

Saturday, May 13, 9:00 a.m.

The Village's annual Community Volunteer Day will take place Saturday, May 13 at various locations throughout La Grange Park. Volunteers will provide assistance to older adults in the community who need help with outdoor "spring cleaning." This day of service is a great opportunity for individuals, families, and organizations to support their neighbors and make a positive mark on the community. Visit the Village's website to register for the event or to request volunteer assistance.

Run For the Roses 5K

Sunday, May 14, 8:00 a.m., Forest Road School

The La Grange Park Chamber of Commerce is always on the lookout for engaging ways to promote local commerce and foster a vibrant, energetic business climate in La Grange Park! Neighborhood events are just one of the ways we support our local businesses and build a sense of community. This spring, we are thrilled to be bringing back the Run for the Roses 5K on Sunday, May 14!

The race will begin at Forest Road School, located at 901 Forest Avenue in La Grange Park. Half of the proceeds for this event will go to Interfaith Community Partners! Contact Chamber President Sheri Sauer to learn about sponsorship opportunities or with any questions (708-372-2579).

Follow the Facebook event page to get all the important updates:
www.facebook.com/events/896611731685781?active_tab=about

Registration is open! Visit the website or use the QR code to sign up for this awesome event:
<https://raceroster.com/events/2023/67288/run-for-the-roses>



Drug Take Back Day

Saturday, April 22, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Village Hall Lobby

The La Grange Park Police Department in coordination with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will host a National Drug Take Back Day. This program offers a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of unwanted or expired medications. Please empty all drugs from their original containers, bottles, or blister packs and place in a sealed baggie for drop off. Only drugs in pill form will be accepted (no liquids). Can't make it to Village Hall on April 22? A permanent drop box is located in the Village Hall Lobby with drop off access during regular business hours.



National Night Out

Tuesday, August 1, Parade & Memorial Park Event

The La Grange Park Police Department is excited to announce the upcoming 2023 National Night Out event taking place this summer! On Tuesday August 1, a Public Safety/Neighbor Appreciation Parade will make its way through the streets of La Grange Park, ending in Memorial Park for a family-friendly movie and snacks. For more information and updates, stay tuned to the Police Department's social media accounts and the Village website. We look forward to seeing the public come out and support another amazing year of National Night Out!



Sustainability Commission

Reusable School Supply Project

The Village is excited to announce that the Sustainability Commission will be leading the Reusable School Supply Project. Since 1988, project volunteers have collected lightly-used school supplies from area schools, including those in District 102, at the end of the school year. Over 300 boxes of supplies are boxed and distributed for reuse to under-resourced schools and education-related programs, preventing those materials from being landfilled. The project was started by two residents from Western Springs, who are retiring after 35 years of providing this service for our community.

We can use your help! Do you know of a school in the area that might be willing

to collect school supplies at the end of the year? Can you or your group help us sort the materials (specific date TBD)? Or do you know

of a group who might benefit from boxes of school supplies? If yes, please get us contact information by emailing schoolsuppliesreuse@gmail.com. We will get back to you with gratitude and specifics!



Illinois Monarch Project

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District partnered with the Illinois Monarch Project to save monarch butterflies, which are at risk of going extinct in the region. Cook County residents can take an online pledge at mwr.org/form/monarch-butterfly-pledge to help save monarch butterflies and the district will send them free milkweed seeds while supplies last. Milkweed is a flower that monarchs lay their eggs on. It is native to the area, and experts have said it would greatly help the butterfly population if more Chicagoans planted the flower.

If interested in a larger number of seeds, the Live Monarch organization will provide seeds at a nominal cost of \$1.00 plus postage for 40+ seeds. For additional information go to www.livemonarch.com/free-milkweed-seeds.

Police Department New Hire



In January, the Police Department welcomed Matthew Armenta to its team. Officer Armenta is currently in the Police Academy and is slated for graduation at the end of April. He will then begin his 12-week field training program. Welcome, Officer Armenta!

Fire Department News

On January 1, Firefighter (Acting Lieutenant) Ted Zimmerman was promoted to Lieutenant and Lieutenant John Fagan was promoted to Captain. Also, in recent months, Firefighters David Skiba, Brendan McManus, Colin Naff, and Spencer Schattauer successfully completed their initial training and probationary period. Congratulations and thank you for your service to the Village of La Grange Park!



New Pumper in Service

On March 1, the Village's new "Engine 1221" was officially placed in service. It was manufactured by Pierce Manufacturing in Appleton, WI, and is equipped with a 450 HP Cummins motor, Allison transmission, "TAK-4" independent suspension, 1500 GPM Waterous pump, and carries 700 gallons of water. Engine 1221 replaces a 1992 pumper.



Resident Sidewalk Purchase Program

Each year the Village budget provides funds to replace hazardous sidewalk squares in the public right of way. Sidewalk squares that have a vertical displacement of 1.5" or greater, are severely broken, or have heavy pitting/spalling are eligible for replacement through the Village program. Squares that do not meet the replacement criteria will be eligible for the Village's sidewalk-grinding program. The grinding program consists of grinding and shaving the defect to create a smooth service between adjoining squares.

Additionally, the Village is now offering a cost savings program to residents who may want sidewalks replaced adjacent to their homes, but they do not meet the Village's replacement program guidelines. These include raised, sunken, spalled, or cracked sidewalk squares. Pricing per sidewalk square will be available over the summer between July and August, once a contract is awarded. When pricing is available, more information will post on the Village website, E-Briefs, and social media. If you would like to discuss or participate in any of the Village's concrete programs, please contact John Jandak, Public Works Superintendent, at jjandak@lagrangepark.org. Last year, a standard five-by-five foot sidewalk square was \$275.



Residents can always report hazardous sidewalk conditions directly to Public Works by submitting a service request through the Village's website or calling 708-352-2922.

Spring Construction & Remodeling

The Building Department has remained busy throughout the winter, with many residents continuing to re-invest in their properties, and a few larger projects ongoing and more potentially to begin soon. As a reminder, if you're contemplating or beginning spring home improvement projects, please check with the Village if permits are required. Requiring permits and adhering to Village codes helps to ensure that minimum construction standards are met and that the Village of La Grange Park continues to be a nice looking and safe place to live.

Information is available on the Village website, or feel free to contact the Building Department at 708-354-0225.

Spring Storms

Spring is finally upon us, and with it comes the threats from spring storms. This season, please remember the following:

- **Rave Smart 911** can provide you with fast, reliable information during weather emergencies and other critical events. The Village recommends all residents enroll in Smart 911 and keep your information up-to-date. Although outdoor warning sirens can provide some warning, they are designed for outdoor notification only. Residents are also encouraged to invest in a NOAA Weather Radio and stay tuned to local media during inclement weather.
- If a **tornado warning** is issued for our area, find safe shelter right away, such as a safe room, basement, or small interior room on the lowest level.
- If a **severe thunderstorm warning** is issued for our area, identify safe shelter right away and move indoors to a building or car prior to the storm threatening.
- If a **flood warning** is issued for our area, identify safe shelter right away, and do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Stay away from electrical hazards such as standing in a flooded basement, and when driving, "turn around and don't drown!"



Brush Schedule 2023

The Village offers a free brush collection service once per month from May to October, starting on the first Monday of the month, regardless of holidays. Brush must be at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on Monday and pickup occurs throughout the week. Small piles are picked up during a first sweep and larger piles are collected later by an end loader and dump truck. Brush pickup weeks start on the following days:

May 1st • June 5th • July 3rd
August 7th • September 4th
October 2nd (last pick up for the year)

Note: The Village will no longer be scheduling specific sections for pick-up. Instead, multiple crews will work concurrently across the Village during the collection week.

See the Village's website for guidelines on brush placement, size requirements, and other related information. Brush pickup is strictly for residents who have performed tree or brush work on their own property. Contractors working for homeowners are not allowed to use this service. Please follow these simple guidelines to insure your brush pile is removed from the parkway. Public Works appreciates your patience and cooperation. For questions, call 708-352-2922.

Free Mulch!

The Village's mulch is the result of all the in-town brush pickups, tree trimmings, and tree removals done by the Public Works Department. This program is an environmental initiative to recycle the Village's material and reinvest it back into the community. Mulching around trees and bushes is an excellent landscaping tool. Nutrients are provided, soil stays moist longer, there is less lawn to mow, and mowers do not scar trunks and stems.

For the past few years, the demand for mulch has far exceeded availability. This year, the Village has a large quantity of mulch to distribute to residents and it will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis instead of the typical lottery system. Please complete and return the request form by April 21, or use the online sign up portal by April 23. Only one entry is allowed per address.

The Village will notify residents via email the week before their delivery date, and residents must confirm their delivery date by responding to the email. Approximately 40 mulch deliveries will be made each week, beginning on May 4 and May 5. Deliveries are anticipated to continue through May and June, or until the mulch supply runs out. Public Works will be unable to answer any delivery date inquiries prior to May 10.



Welcome to our New Executive Director



The La Grange Park Public Library (LPPL) District Board of Trustees is pleased to announce Juanita Harrell as the Library's new Executive Director, effective March 20. Juanita comes to LPPL from the DuPage Law Library where she has been Director for the past 2.5 years. Before that, she was the Health and

Wellness Librarian at the Oak Park Public Library. "This is a wonderful community with a great library and dedicated staff," Ms. Harrell said. "I'm honored to be the one chosen to lead the library through its upcoming renovation and beyond." Please join us in welcoming Juanita to La Grange Park!

Summer Reading: Take A Reading Road Trip!

Reading can take you so many places, fictional or real! That is why we've chosen "Reading Road Trip" as this year's summer reading theme. This summer, explore the multitude of destinations this big world offers while reading or listening to your material of choice. Also, be sure to check out our Story Walk® in partnership with the Community Park District of La Grange Park. The program runs from June 1 to July 31.

Participants will track their progress through the Beanstack website or app, and will earn prizes for various achievements. The library will share more information for this all-ages reading program in mid-May at lplibrary.org. Also, mark your calendars for a kick-off celebration the evening of Friday, June 2, location TBA, pending renovation developments.

There will be plenty of fun surprises in store!



Village Board Highlights

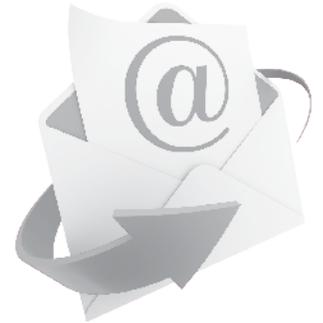
The Board of Trustees conducted the following business during the months of December, January, and February.

- Approved a Proposal From F.H. Paschen With A Not To Exceed Amount Of \$100,000.00 and Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Necessary Documents
- Waived The Competitive Bid Process And Authorized The Village's IT Consultant, AIS, To Purchase And Install A New Computer Network Server In The Amount Not To Exceed \$32,000.00
- Approved An Ordinance Amending Chapter 112, Section 20, Of Title XI Of The La Grange Park Municipal Code
- Approved A Resolution Authorizing Execution Of "Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The International Union Of Operating Engineers, Local 150 Public Employee Division And The Village Of La Grange Park"
- Approved A Professional Services Consulting Agreement With Lakeside Consultants Dated November 29, 2022 and Approved A Master Agreement With GOVTEMPUSA, INC. For An Interim Building Official Dated November 22, 2022
- Approved An Ordinance Granting A Variation For Lot Area For Lot 8 And Lot 9 For 618 N. Ashland Avenue – SLAVAUUA LLC (Case #22-0007) and Approved An Ordinance Granting A Variation For Interior Side Setback For Lot 8 For 618 N. Ashland Avenue – SLAVAUUA LLC (Case #22-0007)
- Appointed Austin Haacke as Finance Director and Village Treasurer, effective December 19, 2022
- Waived The Competitive Purchasing Process And Enter Into A Five-Year Lease Agreement With Konica Minolta For Two New Copiers, And Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Necessary Documents
- Approved An Ordinance Approving A Plat Of Subdivision For 555 N. Kensington Avenue – Case #22-0009
- Approved An Ordinance Authorizing Execution Of The Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network Agreement (IPWMAN)
- Accepted The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report For The Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2022
- Approved An Ordinance Designating Depositories And Investment Institutions And Authorized Signers For The Village of La Grange Park and Approved Fifth Third Bank Multi-Product Resolution
- Approved A Resolution Appointing An IMRF Authorized Agent
- Upheld Ordinance 914, An Ordinance Prohibiting Video Gaming For The Village Of La Grange Park
- Approved Travel Expenses In The Amount Of \$186.67 For Attending The 2022 IML Legislative Conference in Chicago, Illinois and Approved Travel Expenses in the Amount Of \$192.66 For Attending The Inauguration Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois
- Approved An Ordinance Approving A Plat Of Subdivision For 555 N. Kensington Avenue – Case #22-0009
- Approved A Contract With National Power Rodding Corp. For A "Not To Exceed" Amount Of \$57,000.00 For The 2022/2023 Sewer Cleaning And Television Program and Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Contract Documents

- Witnessed the Swearing-In of Paid-On-Call Firefighters: Brendon McManus, Colin Naff, David Skiba, and Spencer Schattauer
- Witnessed the Swearing-In of Promoted Fire Department Officers: Captain John Fagan and Lieutenant Ted Zimmerman
- Approved An Ordinance Authorizing The Sale Or Disposal Of Surplus Property Of The Village Of La Grange Park, Illinois
- Approved A Contract With Hydro-Exc., Inc. In The Amount Of \$47,000.00 For Hydro Excavating (Potholing) Of Water Service Lines And Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Contract Documents
- Authorized Hancock Engineering To Proceed With The Competitive Bid Process For The Park Avenue Water Main Replacement Project
- Authorized An Additional \$4,187 In Expenses Associated With The Additional Work Provided By Forvis (Previously BKD) In Order To Complete Audit Services For Fiscal Year 2022
- Directed Staff to Proceed With Issuing A Request For Proposals For Auditing Services

Important Local Safety News Delivered to Your Inbox

Please join the Village's weekly Public Safety Briefs to receive community alerts and safety tidbits that can keep you and your family safe and well. Send an email to bbaum@lagrangepark.org to subscribe.



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 neighborly touches that make living in La Grange Park special. If you know a Good Neighbor, fill out the enclosed form and send it to Village Hall. Help us share the efforts of good neighbors with the entire community.



Music Under the Stars

CONCERT SERIES

Concerts will be held Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Memorial Park Amphitheater. In the case of inclement weather, concerts will be held at Park Jr. High School, 333 N. Park Road. Please check our Weather Hotline (708-354-4580) after 4:00 p.m. on the day of the concert for updates.

Concert Schedule:

June 21

RetroActive (Oldies)

June 28

Jolly Ringwalds (80's Music)

July 5

Jose Valdez & the Mambo Allstars
(Salsa & International Orchestra)

July 12

South of Disorder
(Jimmy Buffet Beachcomber Band)

July 19

Evil Burrito (Cover Band)

July 26

West Suburban Concert Band
(Concert Band)

August 2

Angie & the Misters (Cover Band)



Community Park District

Summer Day Camp

Make memories that last a lifetime! Children will have a ton of fun during this energy-filled summer camp. Our counselors create an environment that is encouraging for all campers. The Summer Camp program is designed for kids 3 years old to 5th grade and includes a half-day option, as well as before and after care.

Camps will be held Monday through Friday, from June 12 to August 18, at the following times:

- Full Day Camp – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Half Day Camp – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Before Camp – 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.
- After Camp – 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.



8th Annual Veteran's Memorial Ceremony

Saturday, May 27, 10:00 a.m., Veteran's Memorial Plaza

This event includes a military salute presented by the Robert E. Coulter Jr., American Legion Post 1941, and a wreath presentation by Boy Scout Troop 111. The names of the veterans and active-duty personnel that have been installed in our Plaza since last Memorial Day will be recognized. All are invited to attend.

Memorial Park Splash Pad Hours

The splash pad at Memorial Park will be open seven days per week beginning Memorial Day Weekend, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

FREE!! Wacky Wednesdays

July 12, July 19, August 9, & August 16, 11:00 a.m. – Noon,

Memorial Park Pavilion

Spend some quality time with your little loved ones and enjoy free children's entertainment that is sure to put a smile on everyone's face. This series takes place on select Wednesdays in July and August. Participants should bring a blanket and water bottle, and groups are welcome! Check the Community Park District's website for the schedule of events, including music, magic, and bubble stations!

Beach Oak Park Update

Construction on Beach Oak Park is expected to start July 5, with completion anticipated in the fall. Follow the Community Park District on Facebook to get updates as the project progresses.

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La Grange Park, Illinois 60526

VillageHall

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

LOST & FOUND

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

VillageHolidays

Village offices will be closed for the following holidays:

Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day
Tuesday, July 4 - Independence Day

MULCH FORM - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL (Important) _____

CIRCLE AMOUNT REQUESTING: ½ Truck Full Truck

½ truck load equals approximately 1.5 cubic yards • 1 full truck load equals approximately 3 cubic yards

Generally, one cubic yard will cover a 6-foot x 9-foot area

RETURN by April 21 to: VILLAGE HALL, 447 N. Catherine Avenue
ONLY ONE (1) REQUEST PER HOUSEHOLD