

The

Rose CLIPPINGS

Summer 2024

Est. 1892

The Village of La Grange Park

www.lagrangepark.org



President's Corner

When I think of summer in La Grange Park, it's a time of celebration. Block parties are happening around the Village, the Community Park District has a full lineup of summer events and neighbors are gathering all around to enjoy time together. It's a magical time to be in La Grange Park, and we have so many reasons to celebrate as a community.

First and foremost, there were some notable openings over the last few months worthy of celebration. After many months of anticipation, the new ALDI grocery store opened its doors to our community in May with a grand opening ceremony. Shoppers lined up around the building for this special event, and the Village was thrilled to have this new business join our community.

The Library's re-opening in April was an exciting milestone with the renovated facility offering many new and improved amenities for residents. We look forward to the grand opening celebration at the Library in August. We also recently celebrated the complete overhaul of Beach Oak Park with a re-opening ceremony. This updated park is chock-full of new equipment and amenities for residents to enjoy. If you haven't been to these new facilities,



I encourage you to do so this summer.

In addition to all of these festivities, we have so many accomplishments to celebrate in La Grange Park. In March, the Village was awarded \$850,000 from Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García as part of Illinois' Consolidated Appropriations Act. Funding from this bill will go toward the Central Area Storm Sewer Separation Project for installation of storm sewers that provide flooding relief in the central area of the Village. Village staff and officials have worked tirelessly to keep



La Grange Park priorities top of mind with legislators by making several trips to Springfield this spring to secure additional funding. I would like to thank them for all of their efforts to help our Village thrive.

Another exciting initiative I want to draw your attention to is the Branding and Identity Plan that is in progress for the Village. Over the next few months, we will be looking for your valuable input about what makes La Grange Park unique through a public engagement workshop and survey. This feedback will help inform a Village-wide plan for enhancing La Grange Park's sense of place and improving wayfinding and signage throughout the community.

With the Fourth of July around the corner, there are sure to be many celebrations taking place in and around the Village. In this edition of Rose Clippings, the Fire Department shares some good reminders about fireworks safety that I encourage you to read. Other features in this newsletter include highlights from the Village's Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget, seasonal reminders, features from the Chamber, Community Park District, Library District and much more.

I look forward to celebrating with you all this summer in La Grange Park. It's sure to be a great one! As always, please feel free to contact me at any time.

President James F. Discipio

Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget Highlights

In April, the Village Board approved the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget (effective May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025). Guided by the policies, priorities and goals of the Village Board, the budget is both a spending plan for the Village's financial resources and the legal authority for Village departments to allocate funds for public purposes and services that meet the needs of our community.

The goal of this year's budget is "Promoting excellent stewardship of our Village resources" with a focus on responsibly investing in the people and infrastructure needed to continue providing high quality services to our residents. The following is a selection of highlights from this year's budget organized under three themes that support the Village's priorities for the year. The entire budget document can be found on the Village's website under "Transparency."

People: *Prioritize people to get the job done*

- Focus on employee retention
- Continue community planning and engagement efforts

Stewardship: *Comply with mandates, leverage opportunities and preserve assets*

- Continue to develop and implement Lead Service Line Replacement Program
- Implement state-mandated paid leave program for all part-time employees
- Develop and implement a plan for ADA compliance throughout the Village
- Continue to pursue grant funding and utilize lobbyist to prioritize Village goals in state matters
- Maintain building and fleet needs
- Continue to develop and implement streetscape improvement plans
- Implement new water and sewer rates to ensure future infrastructure needs

High Priority Needs: *Fund high priority needs*

- Seek additional funding for the Central Area Sewer Separation Project
- Pursue traffic calming measures (along with IDOT) on La Grange Road

Village Awarded Funding

Central Area Storm Sewer Separation Project

In March, Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García held a press conference at Village Hall to announce that he secured \$12.2 million in Community Project Funding for Illinois' 4th District as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act. The Village of La Grange Park will receive \$850,000 from this bill to go toward the Central Area Storm Sewer Separation Project to install new storm sewers and re-route water to a pumping station for flooding relief in the central area of the Village. For more information about this project, visit the Village's Stormwater Management page.

The Village's Work in Springfield

This spring, Village officials and staff traveled to Springfield for two Lobby Days to discuss critical matters that directly affect the La Grange Park community. They met with legislators including Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García, Senate Majority Leader Kimberly A. Lightford, Senator Mike Porfirio and House Speaker Chris Welch. During these meetings, the Village highlighted numerous local priorities including essential infrastructure funding for the Lead Service Line Replacement Program and Central Area Sewer Separation Project, La Grange Road safety improvements, and maintaining the 1% tax on groceries, which funds the Village's public safety services.

Village Branding and Identity Plan

Community Engagement Kicks off this Summer!

The Village Board recently approved a proposal from Span Studio to assist with developing a Branding and Identity Plan for the Village. This plan will communicate a clear, strong and cohesive identity for the Village, enhancing its sense of place, improving navigation and accessibility within the Village, and reducing visual clutter. The first phase of the plan will include a public kickoff and community engagement survey this summer. Stay tuned for more information in our E-Briefs digital newsletter and on Facebook for how you can get involved and share your valuable input!

2024 Construction Projects

Edgewood / Richmond Water Main Replacement Project - The Village's water main replacement project involves replacing the existing six-inch main under Edgewood Avenue with a new 10-inch main under the east sidewalk. In addition, a new eight-inch water main will be installed under the south sidewalk from Park to Edgewood to bring more available water to the area for fire protection. New fire hydrants, copper water services from the new main to the buffalo boxes, and the services of homes with lead service lines are being replaced.

Location: Edgewood from Ogden to Woodlawn and Richmond from Park to Edgewood.

Funding: 100% Water Funds

Green Alley Project - In partnership with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) and the Village, two alleys are being reconstructed as green alleys to assist with stormwater management. This project consists of excavating both alleys to a depth of approximately three feet, installing an underdrain system and backfill with a stone base, installing concrete drive ribbons, and installing permeable paver bricks in the center to capture stormwater.

Location: Alleys North of 31st, between Newberry and Kemman and Kemman and Blanchan.

Funding: 49% - MWRD Grant, 51% - 31st and Barnsdale TIF

Road Construction - This year's paving project is the 500 block of North Park Road. The scope of work consists of removing and replacing all the curbs and gutters along the roadway's outer perimeter and the island's interior curb, extensive sub-base patching and a new roadway surface. This project will begin in late summer/early fall.

Location: 500 Block of North Park

Funding: 100% Motor Fuel Tax (MFT)

Water Rate Increase

The Village Board of Trustees recently approved a water rate increase effective July 1, 2024. This increase is part of an approved two-year rate plan that began in 2023, following a water rate study conducted by Hancock Engineering. This two-year rate plan is outlined in the chart below. For more information about water rates, please see the Village's website.

Year	Water Rate	Sewer Rate	Combined Rate	Quarterly Bill	
				Min (600 CF)	Avg (1400 CF)
2022	\$11.50	\$2.95	\$14.45	\$86.70	\$202.30
2023	\$12.40	\$3.25	\$15.65	\$93.90	\$219.10
2024	\$12.95	\$3.35	\$16.30	\$97.80	\$228.20

Why Wait to Have Solar Power?



Solar power saves residents money and reduce pollution and greenhouse gases. Currently, there are four great green power options available: purchasing solar panels, participating in a community solar program supporting a renewable power project, leasing solar panels and taking part in the Illinois Solar for All Program. These options can save homeowners by as much as 60% on the cost of electricity. More information about solar panels and programs can be found on the Village's website, the Citizen's Utility Board website, and the Illinois Solar Energy and Storage Association website.

Meet Megan Shilney

Building Services Coordinator

Please join the Village in welcoming Megan Shilney as the new Building Services Coordinator. Megan will be responsible for a variety of administrative duties related to the permit process and other day-to-day activities of the Building Department. Megan comes to us from the Village of Brookfield where she was a Permit Services Coordinator for more than nine years. Welcome, Megan!



Allison Chorley Retires after 40 Years



Congratulations to Allison Chorley on her retirement after an outstanding 40-year career at the Village! Allison most recently held the position of Building and Fire Specialist, but began as a police dispatcher and has touched nearly every department at the Village. Thank you, Allison, for your service and commitment over the years to the Village.

Fire Department Candidates Graduate Basic Operations Fire Academy

This past May, nine new Fire Department candidates graduated from the Basic Operations Fire Academy, which was held at the College of DuPage, and at various other training sites. The “part-time” academy began in January, and as such, candidates had to attend class for two nights a week, and most Saturdays, nearly every week through May. They still have more training to do, but we look forward to their success, and appreciate their dedication to serving the residents of La Grange Park.



Fireworks Fire and Injuries

Most consumer fireworks are still illegal in Illinois, due to the amount of injuries and property damage that are caused each year. More than 19,500 reported fires are started by fireworks annually. More fires take place on the Fourth of July than on any other day of the year. Burns account for 44% of the 9,100 injuries treated in emergency rooms seen in the month around July 4. Half of the fireworks injuries seen at emergency rooms were extremities: hand, finger or leg. One-third were to the eye or other parts of the head. Children ages 10 to 14 had the highest rate of fireworks injury, with more than one-third (36%) of the victims of fireworks injuries under age 15. Sparklers account for roughly one-quarter of emergency room fireworks injuries.

Here are some things to remember when using fireworks:

- Verify that the type of fireworks you wish to use are actually legal in our state.
- Refrain from using fireworks while under the influence of drugs, alcohol or other substances which might impair your judgment.
- Prevent young children from using fireworks and keep them at a safe distance.
- Don't aim fireworks at people, animals or any other objects.
- Move away from fireworks quickly once they are lit.
- Avoid trying to relight misfired fireworks as this increases the chance of injury.
- Keep water nearby. It is important to soak used fireworks before discarding them. Water will also assist in putting out any fires that may occur.

National Night Out

**Tuesday, August 6, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.,
The Tower Green, 914 Hillgrove Avenue, Western Springs**

The Village of La Grange Park will partake in National Night Out with the Village of Western Springs and the Western Springs Police Department once again this year. The event will take place on August 6 on the grounds of the historic Water Tower in Western Springs. Join us for a family-friendly movie in the park, and hot dogs, chips and bottled water will be provided. Follow the La Grange Park Police Department on social media for further details.



La Grange Park Chamber of Commerce Highlights

This spring, we were thrilled to bring back the Run for the Roses 5K! We had beautiful weather and a great turnout on race day. Many local businesses supported this event via generous sponsorships and we were happy to donate a portion of the proceeds to Pillars Community Health. Stay tuned for information on our next big event on Thursday, September 19 - our annual Chili Cook-Off!

Contact Chamber President, Sheri Sauer, to learn about membership or with any questions (708-372-2579, lgpchamberofcommerce@gmail.com). Be sure to follow the La Grange Park Chamber of Commerce Instagram and Facebook pages to stay in the know on all that's happening locally with our Village businesses and events!

MUSIC UNDER THE STARS

CONCERT SERIES

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., Memorial Park Amphitheater (Rain location is Park Jr. High)

Concert Schedule

**June 26 West Suburban
Concert Band**

July 10 Strung Out
(Co-Sponsored by the Village)

July 17 Mr. Myers Band

July 24 Sting Rays

July 31 The Telltale Hearts

**August 7 The Mackenzie
O'Brien Band**

Wacky Wednesdays

Wednesdays in July, 11:00 a.m.
Memorial Park Pavilion

July 10 Jason Kollum's
Bubble Stations

July 17 Chris Fascione,
Juggling & Funny Stories

July 24 Wendy & DB
(Co-sponsored by the
La Grange Park Library)

July 31 Istvan & His Imaginary Band



Movie in the Park

Wednesday, July 31,
after Music Under the Stars
(approximately 8:30) at Memorial Park

Join the Community Park District,
La Grange Park Little League and the
La Grange Park Library for a showing
of Angels in the Outfield.



Splash Into Summer!

The Memorial Park Splash Pad will be open seven days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Yena Park Update

Thanks to a \$600,000 Open Space and Land Acquisition (OSLAD) grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Community Park District is moving forward with plans for a \$1.2 million full renovation of Yena Park. The project will be bid later this year, with plans to break ground in the Spring of 2025. The improvements include a perimeter pathway around the entire park, fully renovated athletic fields, new play equipment, naturalized areas, a new nature play space, new tennis court, half-court basketball and more. Visit www.communityparkdistrict.org for project updates.

Beach Oak Park is OPEN!

Make sure to stop by and check out the fun and exciting things we have to offer at the renovated park.

Bark in the Park

Sunday, August 4, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., Stone Monroe Park

Let the dogs out at this event fully dedicated to dogs and dog lovers. There will be an obstacle course, photobooth, costume contest and puppuccinos. This is a FREE event.

Pet Reminders

Dogs are allowed in parks as long as they are kept on the pathways. Dogs are not permitted on the courts at any time. Please be sure to clean up after your pets.

Fall Programming

Our fall brochure goes live on Friday, July 19. Check www.communityparkdistrict.org for popular programming like kids' enrichment classes, pickleball, theater and dance!

La Grange Park Public Library

Summer Reading Program: Growing Together!

Celebrate the renovated library by participating in our Summer Reading Program, Growing Together! This summer, we'll focus on all the ways we came together to make the library what it is, while using this fresh start to plant the seeds for our future. Join us as we continue to grow it into a place that best serves and represents our community.



From June 1 to July 31, complete six hours of reading and eight activities for a free book, a frosty treat and a chance to win a gift basket! Every 15 minutes of reading and each completed activity will earn you a ticket, which can be entered into a prize drawing for the basket of your choosing. The more reading and activities you do, the more tickets you collect! Visit the Library's website to learn more and to sign up!

Grand Reopening

Saturday, August 3, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

You won't want to miss this ALL-DAY extravaganza that will begin with a ribbon cutting and conclude with an epic outdoor party! This summer, look out for a mailed invitation, which will include the full schedule. Everyone in town is invited to this family-friendly event. Scan the QR code to RSVP today!



Village Board Highlights

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

- Approved A Temporary Use Permit For Jewel-Osco To Allow For The Construction Of A 1,248-Square-Foot Temporary Greenhouse Structure And An 864-Square-Foot Temporary Shade Structure For Seasonal Retail Sales, To Be Occupied On Or After March 17, 2024 And To Be Removed No Later Than June 16, 2024
- Approved Posting The Building Services Coordinator Position Announcement With The Salary Range \$52,173 To \$75,120
- Approved An Ordinance Allowing For Temporary Outdoor Dining
- Approved A Two-Year Renewal To The Current Paramedic/Firefighter Services Agreement With Paramedic Services Of Illinois, Inc. (PSI), Extended Through April 30, 2026
- Approved A Contract With Denler, Inc., With A "Not To Exceed" Amount Of \$24,500.00 For The 2023/2024 Village Wide Crack Sealing Program And Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Contract Documents
- Approved A Contract With First Fence Company Of Hillside In The Amount Of \$73,608.00 For The 2024 Security And Privacy Fence Project And Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Contract Documents
- Approved A Resolution Adopting And Authorizing Execution Of Collective Bargaining Agreement And Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Illinois Fraternal Order Of Police Labor Council And The Village Of La Grange Park
- Approved An Ordinance Granting Approval Of A Final Plat Of Planned Unit Development For 315 N. La Grange Road – Plymouth Place, Inc.
- Accepted The Lowest Bid From Davis Concrete Construction, Co. In The Amount Of \$434,385.00 And Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Necessary Contract Documents
- Authorized The Public Works Director To Participate In The State Of Illinois Purchasing Program And Authorized The Village Clerk To Attest The Certificate Of Authority By Vote
- Authorized A&B Landscaping To Remove Trees And Stumps At The Village Dump Facility At A "Not To Exceed" Cost Of \$12,000.00
- Proclaimed April 14-20 National Telecommunicators Week
- Viewed a Presentation: The Market & Site Capacity Analysis For Jewel Outlots
- Approved A Resolution Approving Pay Plan And Schedule Of Authorized Positions For Fiscal Year 2024/25
- Authorized A Payment In The Not To Exceed Amount Of \$65,000 From The General Fund To The Police Pension Fund
- Approved A Resolution Amending The Fiscal Year 2023/24 Budget
- Approved Travel Expenses In The Amount Of \$886.53 For Attending The La Grange Park Lobby Day In Springfield, Illinois
- Approved The Proposal From F.H. Paschen For \$50,000 And Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Necessary Documents
- Approved An Ordinance Amending Title III Of The La Grange Park Municipal Code By Adding A Chapter 38 Titled Administrative Adjudication
- Approved And Authorized The Village Manager To Execute An Agreement Between The Village Of La Grange Park And Edwin Hancock Engineering For Design And Construction Engineering Services In The Amount Of \$79,200.00 For The Park Road Resurfacing Project
- Approved A Resolution Approving FY 24/25 Operating Budget, And Approved The Five Year Plan FY 24/25 – 28/29
- Reappointed William Lampert To A New 5-Year Term Expiring In 2029 To The Planning & Zoning Commission
- Reappointed Steve May, Chmn., Paul Graham, Matt Huffman, Keith Krysa, Eric Johnson, Ryan Vokac, And Brian Sok For A New 2-Year Term Expiring In 2026 To The Traffic, Safety & Engineering Committee
- Reappointed Tim Albores To A New 3-Year Term Expiring In 2027 To The Board Of Police Commissioners
- Reappointed Phil Mesi To A New 2-Year Term Expiring In 2026 To The Police Pension Board
- Appointed Annette Henry To Fill A Vacancy With A Term Ending In 2025 on The Sustainability Commission
- Proclaimed May 5-11 2024 Professional Municipal Clerks Week
- Proclaimed April 26, 2024 National Arbor Day
- Proclaimed The Month Of May 2024 Building Safety Month
- Approved Travel Expenses In The Amount Of \$886.53 For Attending The IML Lobby Day In Springfield, Illinois
- Authorized Staff To Purchase One New 2025 Ford Interceptor Utility (Police Patrol Package), For A Cost Of \$45,404.00 From Currie Motors Fleet, In Frankfort, IL, Through The Suburban Purchasing Cooperative Contract #152 With A Not To Exceed Amount Of \$55,000.00 To Cover The Equipment And Up Fitting
- Viewed a Presentation Regarding An Update On The Lead Service Line Repair Water Rate
- Accepted The Lowest Bid From Unique Plumbing Company For \$1,721,119.95 For The Edgewood & Richmond Water Main Replacement Project And Authorized The Village Manager To Execute The Necessary Contract Documents
- Approved Change Order #5 With Unique Plumbing Company, In The Amount Of \$4,107.00 For Dewatering Services
- Approved Payment To BS&A Software For Annual Service And Support In The Amount Of \$25,161
- Adopted A Resolution Authorizing the Destruction of Certain Verbatim Records of Closed Meetings
- Approved An Ordinance Amending The Village Of La Grange Park Municipal Code Establishing Water And Sewer Rates
- Approved An Ordinance Granting Special Use Permits For Motor Vehicle Rental Establishment And Minor Motor Vehicle Service And Repair For 1045 N. La Grange Road – Alex Thomas (Case #24-0001)
- Granted An Extension For The Variations Granted In Ordinance #1210 For An Additional 180 Days To September 20, 2024

Fall Clean-Up Day

Save the Date

Saturday, October 12, beginning at 6:00 a.m.

Every October, the Village's waste hauler provides a clean-up day in which residents may dispose of an unlimited amount of refuse, including large items, for a total of five refuse stickers. See the Village's website for more information and a list of acceptable items.

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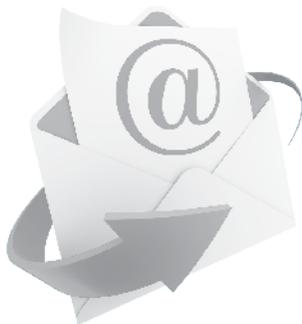
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Important Local Safety News Delivered Right to Your Inbox

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.

Overnight Parking Registration

With so many residents welcoming friends and family to our community during the summer, the Village would like to remind residents that while vehicles are not allowed to park on the street overnight (between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.), you may request up to four overnight parking permissions per vehicle within any 30-day period. These requests can be made on the Village's website or by calling the Police Department at 708-352-7711.

Watering Restrictions and Rain Barrels

From May 15 through September 15, residents and businesses are reminded to conserve water and follow the Village's seasonal watering restrictions. Odd street addresses should water on odd numbered calendar days, and even street addresses should water on even calendar days.

Another way to conserve water is by using a rain barrel to capture rainwater from your roof to water your plants and lawn. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District has discounted rain barrels available for purchase on their website: mwr.org.



Village Holidays

Village offices will be closed for the following holidays:

Thursday, July 4 - Independence Day

Monday, September 2 - Labor Day