



Village Voice

Fall 2009

The Village of Plainfield's Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 3

Mayor's Message - From The Desk of Michael P. Collins

Fall is just around the corner and September is shaping up to be a busy month around town.

This month I wanted to highlight some of the exciting events that are planned. However, first I would like to take a moment to share some Village news. I am pleased to announce that the Village Board selected a new Village Administrator over the summer. Brian Murphy joined the Village, as the new Administrator, at the end of August. Brian is from Troy, Michigan and on behalf of the Village Board, I would like to welcome Brian and his family to Plainfield. We are looking forward to working with him! I would also like to thank Police Chief Don Bennett for serving as Interim Administrator for the Village over the past nine months. We truly appreciate all of his hard work and leadership.

In addition, this summer, Trustee Larry Vaupel resigned from the Village Board. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank him for his years of service to the Village. Numerous applications for the Trustee position were reviewed before long-time Plan Commissioner Larry Kachel was selected to fill the vacancy. On behalf of the Village Board, I would like to welcome Larry to the Board. We are also looking forward to working with him.

This month, we are eagerly looking forward to the opening of the Edward Plainfield Emergency Room (127th Street and Van Dyke Road) on September 14th! The facility has 15 treatment stations and will be open 24/7. In addition, Phase 1 of the new Edward Plainfield Cancer

Center opens on September 1 when the Center begins providing Medical Oncology Services. In December, Radiation Oncology Services will be available to patients. We are absolutely thrilled with the continued expansion of the Edward Plainfield Medical Campus! The opening of these facilities brings additional services to our community and continues to help improve access to high-quality health care for residents. However, we are still focused on the ultimate goal of obtaining approval for and opening a full-service hospital in Plainfield. For more information on the new facilities and the services offered, visit www.edward.org.

We can also look forward to several special events in Downtown Plainfield this month:

- The Plainfield Art League will be sponsoring Art in the Park on Saturday, September 5th at the Village Green. Be sure to check out this great new event! For more information, visit www.plainfieldartleague.org.
- MainStreet Plainfield and the downtown business owners will be hosting sidewalk sales and Girls Night Out in Downtown Plainfield on Saturday, September 12th. For details, visit www.mainstreetplainfield.org.
- At the end of the month, the Plainfield Area Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring their annual Harvest 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, September 27th. For more information, visit www.plainfieldchamber.com.
- A look ahead at October means that the annual Homecoming celebration is around the corner. Be sure to check out the parade as it travels through Downtown Plainfield on Saturday, October 3rd!

Finally, I wanted to let everyone know that we have changed Coffee with the Mayor to the second Wednesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. It seemed that the second Wednesday worked out better for everyone when we tried it over the summer; so we have decided to make the schedule change permanent. Be sure to stop by the Village Hall and introduce yourself.

Have a great month!

Michael P. Collins
Village President



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Save the Date



Halloween

The designated Trick-or-Treat hours for Halloween (Saturday, 10/31/09) are from 4-7 p.m.

Environmental Activities Continue

•On Saturday, September 12th, Conservation Plainfield is hosting an Environmental Enhancement Project at Mather Woods beginning at 9 a.m. Help improve the environment and the appearance of a park facility while learning about native landscapes. For more information or to register, visit www.conservationplainfield.com.

•The September Green Village Lecture Series will feature information on beginning native plants from seeds. The free event will be held Monday, September 14th, at 6:30 p.m. at the Plainfield Public Library. To register, visit www.plainfield.lib.il.us.

•On Monday, October 19th, the Green Village Lecture Series will focus on innovative ways to conserve energy and save money on energy bills. For more information, call the Planning Department at (815) 439-2824.

Plainfield TRIAD Senior Group

About Plainfield TRIAD

The Plainfield TRIAD Senior Group is a partnership with the Plainfield Police Department, Will County Sheriff's Office, Joliet Police Department, Plainfield Fire Protection District, Plainfield Park District, and State Representative Tom Cross.

The Plainfield TRIAD is open to any area senior who would like to learn more about their community and the services available to them. Each month the Plainfield TRIAD provides special guest speakers or demonstrations with senior interests in mind. TRIAD meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month beginning in September. The group usually meets at Cedarlake Village.

Picnic Scheduled for September 22

We will be kicking off this year's TRIAD with a Welcome Back Picnic. The Picnic will take place on September 22, 2009 at 11 a.m. at the Plainfield Police Department, 14300 S. Coil Plus Drive. All food for this

event was generously donated by Representative Tom Cross. Tours of the Police Department will be given and special speakers will be on hand for this special event.

Please RSVP for the Welcome Back Picnic by contacting Plainfield Park District Senior Coordinator Kathy Whalen at (815) 436-8812 or whalen@plainfieldparkdistrict.com.



Area seniors enjoy a TRIAD luncheon.

CLERK'S CORNER

~Michelle Gibas, RMC/CMC~

Voter Registration

Are you registered to vote? Have you moved or had a name change since you last voted? To register, you must:

- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Be a United States Citizen; and
- Provide two forms of identification, one must have a current address. The Village has registrars available 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.

2010 Election Dates

- General Primary – February 2, 2010
 - General Election – November 2, 2010
- For details about becoming an election judge or other election information, visit the Will County Clerk's web site at www.willclerk.com or call (815) 740-4632.

Notary

The Clerk's Office provides free notary services. Please bring your unsigned document along with proof of identification to the Clerk's Office.

Please note: You must sign the document in front of the notary.

Municipal Code

The Municipal Code is available online at www.plainfield-il.org. To research Village Codes, simply type in a keyword or phrase in the search field.

Agendas & Meetings

Village Board agendas are posted at the Village Hall and online, www.plainfield-il.org, 48 hours before all meetings. Agenda topics are also posted on Channel 6.

The public is welcome to attend all Village Meetings. At the beginning of Board Meetings, Mayor Collins offers the opportunity for comments from the public on items not on the agenda. Village Board Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month and Workshops are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.

Plainfield Community Television

Comcast Channel 6 airs the following

programs on a regular basis:

- Village Board Meetings: Air live on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Rebroadcast on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
- Committee of the Whole Workshops: Air live on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Rebroadcast on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
- Plan Commission Meetings: Air live on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- Historic Preservation Commission Meetings: Air live on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- Plainfield Television Group (PTG) Programming airs Fridays at 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 1:00 and 8:00 p.m. Don't have Comcast Cable? Watch Channel 6 live on P-Span: www.plainfieldtv.com.
- Coming Soon: Plainfield Community Television will be broadcast on AT&T U-Verse, Channel 99!

To contact PCT, please call (815) 609-6141.

New Landmark



Standard Oil Gas Station, circa 1930

The Village designated 24103 W. Lockport Street, also known as “The Courtyard” a local landmark in May 2009. It was constructed in 1928 as a Standard Oil Station and also operated as Overman’s Certified Texaco Station, Allen Hall’s Texaco, and a Welco Gas Port.

The building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. Its areas of significance were architecture, commerce, economics, and transportation.

Alterations to it include a car wash in 1962, extensive remodeling in 1985, and additional renovations in 2004 with the assistance of a facade grant funded through the downtown Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District.

Parking in Downtown Plainfield

With strong interest in the renovated downtown, the demand for parking has increased. The Village would like to remind downtown patrons of the many parking options that are available. On-street parking is permitted for up to three hours on Lockport Street between Fox River Street and Route 59 and on the adjacent side streets, except for a handful of spaces designated for 30-minute parking. In addition, all-day parking is allowed in four off-street public parking lots. These lots are located on Des Plaines Street, west of the Fire Station; on Illinois Street, north of the library; on Route 59, north of Baci; and on Lockport Street/Illinois Street (former First Midwest Bank parking lot) with additional access from Route 59 and Chicago Street.

In addition, two parking lots are made available to the public in the evenings and all day on weekends. One lot is located adjacent to the Courtyard building on the south side of Lockport

Street, just west of Des Plaines Street. The second lot is the Fire Station Lot located on Des Plaines Street. Village officials appreciate the cooperation of the Fire Protection District in making this lot available to the public during non-business hours.

A map of the parking lots, along with other information about downtown businesses and events, can be found online at www.plainfieldstreetscape.com. For more information, call the Planning Department at (815) 439-2824.



Preserving Plainfield

Façade Grants Approved

Several façade improvement grants for buildings in the Downtown Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District were approved this spring and are undergoing renovations.

On the Coldwell-Banker Building, 24034 W. Lockport Street, the metal façade has already been removed to reveal the cast iron columns underneath. The columns will be repainted, replacement transom and storefront windows will be installed, and a cornice will be fabricated to replicate the original.

Renovations at The Tawny Tortoise, 24012 W. Lockport Street, include reconstruction of the entry steps, replacement awnings, installation of decorative lighting, paint, masonry repair, additional landscaping, and the installation of new signage.

The Silky Florist, 24008 W. Lockport Street, will add awnings and landscaping, and 15008 W. Lockport Street has replaced the entry stairs, painted, tuckpointed the chimney, and added landscaping.

The Façade Improvement Program is designed to promote the use and maintenance of commercial buildings in the downtown by helping property owners and tenants rehabilitate and restore their buildings. The grant reimburses up to 50% of the total project cost, not to exceed \$150,000.

Village Receives CLG Designation

The Village, with the assistance of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, was designated a Certified Local Government (CLG) in May. Designation as a CLG provides additional opportunities for the Village’s Historic Preservation Commission including

technical assistance, grant funding, and the ability to comment on National Register nominations.

The CLG program is administered jointly by the National Park Service and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. To become certified, a local government must have a historic preservation ordinance, establish a preservation review commission, have an active local survey program to identify historic resources, and provide for public participation.

As a CLG, the Village is eligible for matching grant funds to assist in the implementation of local preservation programs. At least 10% of the federal Historic Preservation Fund is set aside specifically for CLGs. The funds can be used for a variety of projects, including surveys, preservation plans, staff support, and public education.

News & Notes

Canadian National RR Information

Monthly operations reports and quarterly environmental reports for Canadian National's acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad are available on the U.S. Surface Transportation Board web site at www.stbfinancedocket35087.com/html/home.html.

2010 Census

Watch your mailbox - Census forms will be mailed to all residents in the spring of 2010. For the latest Census news, visit 2010.census.gov.

Water Service for New Residents

Due to changes in state and federal laws, **new** residents must sign up for utility (water, sewer, garbage) service in person at the Village Hall, 24401 W. Lockport Street. New residents must complete the Utility Service Application and bring two forms of identification. The Application Form is available online at www.plainfield-il.org. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please call (815) 439-4257.

Pace Service Comes to Plainfield

Bus Service to Begin in November

Plainfield-area residents will soon have another transportation option for their daily commute and other trips to downtown Chicago.

Beginning in late November, Pace will begin offering bus service from Plainfield to Downtown Chicago. Three departures will be an extension of the existing I-55 Flyer (Route 855), which currently originates at a Park-n-Ride facility in Bolingbrook. The express bus service terminates at Monroe and Wabash Streets, with courtesy stops on North Michigan Avenue, in Downtown Chicago. The other three departures will be a new service (Route 755) and will offer service to the Loop with opportunities to connect with Metra and the CTA. Evening return trips will be provided. The service will be offered on weekdays only with no service on weekends or holidays. The official route maps have not yet been released, but information can be found online at www.pacebus.com.

The bus stop will be located adjacent to Village Hall on Village Center Drive. On-street parking will be reserved for Pace patrons as an interim Park-n-Ride facility until a permanent parking lot is constructed at a future date. The new service is funded by Pace with support from a Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) grant.

This bus service is the first step in implementing a transit plan that was recently adopted by the Village of Plainfield. The plan was developed in partnership with the RTA, Metra, and Pace. Village Staff continues to coordinate with Metra on the long-term plans to develop commuter rail service to Plainfield as part of the STAR Line.

For more information, contact the Planning Department at (815) 439-2824.



Public Works Updates

Drauden/Steiner Road

Drauden/Steiner Road, from Route 126 to 143rd Street, is anticipated to be open to traffic by September 14th. The Village was able to secure two million dollars in grants through the Will County Governmental League for the reconstruction of this roadway.

119th Street Project

The reconstruction of 119th Street is scheduled to be completed this fall and the finished roadway cross section will be identical to the section in front of the high school. Improvements to the bike path and street lighting are also included in the project.

127th and 248th Traffic Signal

Bids were taken for the installation of a new traffic signal at the intersection of 127th Street and 248th Avenue. It is anticipated that it will be completed by the end of the year.

Pavement Patching Program

This fall, the Village will be performing significant patching on Drauden Road, Wallin Drive, 135th Street, and other locations throughout the Village. Press releases and signage will be posted in advance of the work.

Route 59/Wal-Mart Traffic Signal

A new traffic signal is scheduled to be installed on Route 59 at the entrance into the Wal-Mart shopping center. It is anticipated that the work will be completed later this year.

Storm Water Regulations

The Public Works Department has instituted storm water regulations as required by the EPA. The goals of the "Discharge Elimination Phase II" regulations are to prevent flood damage and improve water quality.

Water that flows into storm drains carries debris with it including

chemicals, oils, and refuse that are harmful to plants, animals, and water quality. Storm water is not processed or cleaned before it enters detention ponds, retention areas, streams, and the DuPage River. This means that the things people put on the ground may end up in a nearby pond or river.

People enjoy the beauty of local water resources, please help keep them beautiful by following these rules:

- Do not dump oils, paints, lawn clippings, leaves, or other garbage into drains.
- Do not sweep refuse along the curb into the drain.
- Be sure your sump pump connects to the proper discharge, not to your sanitary sewer line.
- Avoid excessive use of ice control chemicals as they can run off and harm vegetation and waterways.

For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at (815) 436-3577.

Celebrating the Lincoln Highway

Lincoln Highway Mural Project

The Village was selected as the recipient of an Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition (ILHC) Interpretive Mural. The mural is a public art project that will graphically tell the story of the historic Lincoln Highway, which passes through the Village along Lockport Street in Downtown Plainfield.

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the mural project held a project kick-off meeting earlier this year to discuss graphic and story ideas for the mural. A sketch of the mural was recently forwarded to the artist that was selected by the ILHC and the LOC is currently gathering additional supporting graphics for the artist. While the mural design is being finalized, Village Staff plans to meet with the owners of several Downtown Plainfield buildings to discuss opportunities to attach the Village-owned mural to the façade of a building downtown. The goal of the ILHC is to have all of the murals completed by Spring 2011.

Lincoln Highway Gazebo Project

The Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition (ILHC) received a grant for the construction of Interpretive Gazebos along the Lincoln Highway (Route 30). These gazebos will attract travelers' attention and will contain interpretive panels that detail the history of the Lincoln Highway in Illinois and locally.

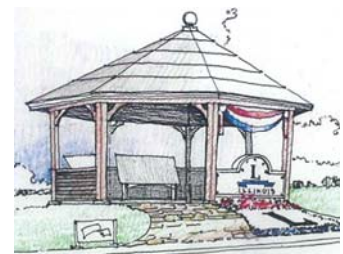
Plainfield was selected as the recipient of one of the gazebos and the Village Board approved the Settlers' Park knoll, located on the east side of the Village Hall, as the location for the structure. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) recently approved all of the community site plans for the gazebos and the contractor plans to begin constructing the gazebos this month. All 16 gazebos are expected to be completed within a two month period.

Under the project contract, the Village is responsible for constructing a concrete foundation for the gazebo as well as a new sidewalk that will link to

the existing Settlers' Park asphalt path. MainStreet Plainfield, Inc. and the Plainfield Historical Society are also participating in this project by assisting with the cost.

The ILHC and Staff continue to discuss the historical information that will be presented on the interior sign panels inside the gazebo. Be sure to stop by and check out the construction of the gazebo this fall!

Stay tuned for future updates on both of these projects. For more information about the Lincoln Highway or the ILHC, please visit www.drivelincolnhighway.com.



Rendering of ILHC Gazebo

From the Police Department

Alarm Registration

When a new alarm system is installed in your home or business you are required by Village Ordinance to have a current alarm permit. Registration forms are available at the Plainfield Police Department, 14300 S. Coil Plus Drive, or online at www.plainfield-il.org. An annual, non-refundable registration fee, of \$10.00 for a residential alarm and \$25.00 for a commercial alarm, must be paid prior to a permit being issued.

Business Licenses

All corporate, retail, and home businesses operating in the Village are required to register and be licensed. Business license applications are available at the Police Department or online at www.plainfield-il.org. For more information regarding the Village Business License Ordinance or any other matters regarding the licensing

procedure, please contact the Plainfield Police Department, Licensing/Permits Coordinator, at (815) 439-4805.

Lock Your Doors

While we strive to maintain a safe community, we need **your** help! Please remember to lock your doors (house, vehicle, shed, etc.), keep valuables out of sight (don't leave the GPS on the dashboard), and be cognizant of your surroundings. When you need **our** help, call 911 or the 24-hour non-emergency number at (815) 436-2341.

Open Burning Prohibited

No open burning is allowed, except within a chamber or apparatus designated for that use and with an IEPA permit; or firewood for legitimate campsite, recreational, or cooking purposes consistent with other law. **No** burning of garbage or yard waste is allowed within Village limits.

National Night Out

As a 'last hurrah' before school started, 135 6th-9th grade students enjoyed swimming, dancing, and eating at the 13th Annual National Night Out Pool Party in August. Thankfully it was hot enough to swim! A huge THANKS to the sponsors: the Village of Plainfield; Plainfield Park District for providing the use of their pool and lifeguards; Hyper Entertainment DJ Services; and Target, who provided gift cards to purchase chips, soda, candy, and prizes! Thanks also to Wal-Mart for donating a gift basket prize. Congratulations to the lucky raffle winners: Ariana Romita, Lexie Nickel, Ben Kolaczowski, and Hanna Ruiz. We truly appreciate all the parent and Police Department volunteers who helped check in, serve pizza, and 'monitor' picnic areas; and also the parents for expeditiously picking up their children!

Community Calendar



Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....September 9
 Environmental Enhancement Project, CP.....
September 12
 Sidewalk Sales/Girls Night Out, MSP.....
September 12
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL...September 14
 TRIAD Picnic, PPD.....September 22
 Harvest 5K Run/Walk, PACC.....September 27
 Homecoming Parade, PSD.....October 3
 Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....October 14
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL...October 19
 Spooktacular, MSP.....October 24
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL...November 9
 Gobbler Hobbler 10K, OPD.....November 14
 Candlelight Christmas, MSP.....November 28
 Holiday Shopping Day, MSP...December 5 & 19
 Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....December 9
 Oswego Holiday Express, OPD...December 11-13
 Holiday Open House, MSP.....December 12
 After Christmas Sale, MSP.....December 26

*For information on the events above, please contact the organization listed.

CP=Conservation Plainfield.....815-439-7940
 MSP=MainStreet Plainfield, Inc.....815-436-5510
 OPD=Oswegoland Park District.....630-554-1010
 PPD=Plainfield Park District.....815-436-8812
 PPL=Plainfield Public Library.....815-436-6639
 PSD=Plainfield School District.....815-577-4433
 VOP=Village of Plainfield.....815-436-7093

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- ✓All businesses as well as commercial and residential alarms in the Village must be registered with the Police Department. Please contact the Records Department at (815) 436-6544 for more information.
- ✓No parking is allowed on Village Streets between 1:00 and 6:00 a.m.
- ✓Village curfew hours are: Under 16 years old: Sunday-Saturday: 10 p.m.-6 a.m.; 16 years old: Sunday-Thursday: 11 p.m.-6 a.m.; and Friday-Saturday: 12-6 a.m.
- ✓To report streetlight outages, contact Public Works at (815) 436-3577. Please provide the exact location to insure timely repairs.
- ✓To automatically pay your water/sewer/garbage bill, simply complete a direct pay application and submit it with a voided check. Applications are available by calling (815) 439-4257 and online at www.plainfield-il.org.
- ✓Plainfield memorabilia is available! Stop by the Village Hall today to pickup Community Cookbooks and Collector's Plates (\$10 ea.).
- ✓The Village Offices will be closed September 7, November 11, and November 26-27, 2009.
- ✓When holidays fall on a weekday, refuse collection is delayed by one day for the rest of the week. Labor Day is September 7, 2009 and Thanksgiving Day is November 26, 2009.
- ✓Waste Management requires that residents use waste containers that are 32 gallons or less in size. All items (including yard waste) must be curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your pickup day.
- ✓Yard waste and leaf pickup ends with your last regular pickup in November (November 25, 27, or 30). All yard waste and leaves must be placed in brown Kraft bags. Yard waste pickup will resume with the first garbage collection in April 2010.
- ✓To receive Village News via email, sign up for the E-News Group online at www.plainfield-il.org.



Information You Can Use

Village Contacts & Departments:

Administration815-436-7093
 Building.....815-439-2937
 Code Enforcement.....815-439-4806
 Community Television...815-609-6141
 Law Enforcement.....815-436-6544
 After Hours.....815-436-2341
 Planning.....815-439-2824
 Public Works.....815-436-3577
 Utility Billing.....815-439-4257
 Village Clerk.....815-439-2921
 Water/Wastewater.....815-436-3577

Local Service Numbers:

AT&T.....800-244-4444
 Comcast.....866-594-1234
 Crime Stoppers.....800-323-6734
 Digging-J.U.L.I.E.....800-892-0123
 Electric-ComEd.....800-334-7661
 Emergency.....911
 Garbage-Waste Management
800-747-2278
 Gas-NICOR.....888-642-6748
 Indian Prairie School Dist.630-375-3000
 Kendall Cty. Assessor...630-553-4146
 Wheatland Assessor...630-851-9740

Wheatland Township...630-851-3952
 Will County Animal Control.....
815-462-5633
 Will Cty. Health Dept....815-727-8480

Plainfield:

Assessor.....815-436-5110
 Chamber of Commerce..815-436-4431
 Economic Partnership..815-327-4803
 Fire District.....815-436-5335
 Historical Society.....815-436-4073
 MainStreet.....815-436-5510
 Park District.....815-436-8812
 Post Office.....815-436-9641
 Public Library.....815-436-6639
 Senior Transit.....815-740-6201
 School District.....815-577-4000
 Township.....815-436-8308

Oswego:

Fire District.....630-554-2110
 Park District.....630-554-1010
 Public Library.....630-554-3150
 School District.....630-554-3447
 Township.....630-554-3211

Village Board

President

Michael P. Collins

Trustees

Margie Bonuchi
 Paul Fay
 Larry Kachel
 Bill Lamb
 Garrett M. Peck
 James Racich



24401 W. Lockport Street
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 (815) 436-7093 · www.plainfield-il.org

Village Hall Hours:

Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Village Voice Editor: Amy De Boni

The Village welcomes comments and questions on this issue of the Village Voice, via mail (see address above, Attn: Amy De Boni) or e-mail: adeboni@goplainfield.com.