



Village Voice

Spring 2011

The Village of Plainfield's Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 1

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

Happy New Year! I hope that you and your family had a wonderful holiday season. The start of a new year is often a time of reflection. 2009 and 2010 were difficult years for the Village of Plainfield; however, better times are ahead of us. Although the Village, like many municipalities, still faces financial challenges, we see signs of the economy improving all around us. New businesses are opening, construction is underway on a variety of new projects, and developers are approaching the Board with new plans and concepts.

Plainfield is fortunate to have several existing businesses choosing to expand in the Village including Diageo, Mega Sports, and the Wheaton Eye Clinic. We also have a number of new businesses opening in the near future including Fox's Restaurant & Pub, Bartel's Auto Clinic, Southern Belle, The Thomas Albert American Wine Bar, and Jersey Mike's Subs.

Construction is also underway on a new senior community, the Heritage Woods Assisted Living Facility, and construction will start this spring on the Van Dyke Professional Building, a new 11,000 square foot office building which will contain an orthodontist group, adjacent to the Fairfield Ridge development. We are looking forward to the expansions and openings of these businesses in the coming year as well as the positive impact that they will have on the local economy!

Finally, another sign that the economy is improving is seen in the

fact that residential developers are beginning to approach the Village Board with new concept plans for potential developments. We look forward to working with them on these new projects.

This month, on behalf of the Village Board, I also want to recognize two very important organizations in the Village. First, I would like to recognize the Plainfield Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) for their dedication and service. Their service to the community is amazing! Last year, they volunteered over 10,500 hours of service to the community! Of those hours, nine individuals donated 500+ hours of service each!

Additionally, during a recent Village Board Meeting, we presented Gus Alexopoulos, the owner of Larry's Diner, with a Community Service Award, in recognition and appreciation of his generosity to the Plainfield community. This past Thanksgiving, he donated over 700 dinners to seniors in the community. What generosity! Thank you to PEMA, Gus Alexopoulos, and the entire staff of Larry's Diner for their generosity and hard work in 2010!



Mayor Collins presented Gus Alexopoulos with the Community Service Award.

Be sure to stop by during Coffee with the Mayor to say hello, ask a question or two, and have a cup of coffee. This winter and spring, we will be meeting for coffee on the following dates at 9:00 a.m.: February 9th, March 9th, April 13th, and May 11th!

Michael P. Collins
Village President



The Presidential Volunteer Service Award was presented to PEMA volunteers who gave 500+ hours of service in 2010.

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TRIAD

The Plainfield TRIAD, which is composed of representatives from the Plainfield Police Department, Will County Sheriff, Plainfield Fire District, and Plainfield Park District, hosts educational seminars on safety and quality of life issues for seniors.

The TRIAD invites all area seniors to attend their monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Cedarlake Village, 14800 S. Van Dyke Road. All programs begin at 11:00 a.m., last approximately one hour, and are free of charge.

Upcoming programs include:

- February 22 - Heart Awareness.
- March 22 - Self Defense.
- April 26 - Eye Care & Health.
- May 24 - Ice Cream Social & Bingo.

If you have any questions about TRIAD, please contact Officer Mark Siegel at (815) 267-7207.

Historic Preservation



Hagar-Smiley-Moravec Landmark

The Village's newest landmark is the Hagar-Smiley-Moravec House located at 23842 W. Main Street. The home is currently the dental office of Dr. Steven Moravec. This structure was constructed in 1852 and is a wonderful example of a Gothic Revival structure with Tudor and Italianate influences. In addition, the structure has lovingly been restored by Dr. Moravec and represents one of the best examples of a building that has adaptively been reused for a new purpose.

For more information on local landmarks, visit the Village web site, www.plainfield-il.org.

Downtown Historic District

New discussions are taking place regarding the creation of a Downtown Historic District. The Historic Preservation Commission held an informational meeting in January and another is planned for February 3, 2011 on the potential benefits of a Historic District.

The Village currently has one Historic District, the East Side Historic District, which includes 35 residences on Amboy Street, Bartlett Avenue, Center Street, Division Street/IL Route 59, and Evans Street. It includes residences built in various styles including Queen Anne, Italianate, and Colonial Revival that were constructed over approximately a 100 year period, c. 1850-1950.

For further information on the potential Downtown Historic District or the informational meetings, please contact the Planning Staff at (815) 439-2824.

CLERK'S CORNER

~Michelle Gibas, RMC/CMC~

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.

Voter Registration

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

- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Be a United States Citizen.
- Provide two forms of identification.

The Village has several registrars to assist you with the voter registration process between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Registration is open throughout the year except during the 27 days preceding an election. Registration reopens the second day following an election.

Consolidated Election Voting

In-Person Early/Absentee Voting for the April 5th Consolidated Election will be conducted at the Village Hall. In order to vote at the Village Hall, you must live in the Village and in Will County. The Village will also conduct early voting for all of Plainfield Township.

Early/Absentee Voting Dates: March 14 - April 1, 2011. Voting hours are Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday from 9:00 to noon.

For details about becoming an election judge or other election information, visit the Will County Clerk's web site at www.thewillcountyclerk.com or call (815) 740-4632.

Agendas & Meetings

Village Board agendas are posted at the Village Hall and on the Village web site, www.plainfield-il.org, 48 hours before all meetings. Agenda topics are also posted on Plainfield Community Television.

The public is welcome to attend all Village meetings. At the beginning of Village Board meetings, Mayor Collins offers the opportunity for comments from the public on items not on the agenda. Village Board meetings are held the first and third Monday of each month and Workshops are held the second and fourth Monday of each month.

Plainfield Community Television (PCT)

•Plainfield Community Television airs all Village Board, Plan Commission, and Historic Preservation Commission Meetings live. PCT also airs programs provided by the Plainfield Television Group on Fridays at 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. Community news and events are posted on the message board.

•To watch Plainfield Community Television, tune in to Comcast Channel 6 or AT&T U-Verse Channel 99.

•To contact PCT, please call (815) 609-6141 or e-mail mgibas@goplainfield.com.

Citizen's Police & Fire Academy To Begin

Would you like to know more about crime scene processing or how the Fire Department gets people out of a vehicle after a crash? Are you interested in learning more about Homeland Security or emergency preparedness in the community? Through the efforts of Fire Chief John Eichelberger and Police Chief William Doster, residents living in and around the Village and the Plainfield Fire Protection District will have the opportunity to explore these topics and others by attending the 9th session of the Plainfield Citizen's Police and Fire Academy, which is scheduled for this winter/spring.

Citizens are invited to attend this eleven (11) week program held on consecutive Thursday nights from 7:00-9:00 p.m., beginning February 17, 2011. The classes are free of charge and conducted at various locations in the Village. Classes are taught by personnel from the Plainfield Police and Fire and Ambulance Departments and the curriculum has been designed to be informative as well as beneficial for

those attending. Sessions include both lectures and hands-on instruction. Class size is limited to thirty (30) students and others will be placed on a waiting list for future sessions.

Chief Eichelberger and Chief Doster are encouraging citizens to enroll in this program and the deadline for registration is February 4, 2011. For more information or for registration instructions, please contact Officer Mark Siegel of the Plainfield Police Department at (815) 267-7207 or Assistant Chief John Stratton of the Plainfield Fire Protection District at (815) 436-5335. Applications are available at the Police Department for pickup, Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. or online at www.plainfield-il.org.



Code Enforcement

As spring approaches, Code Enforcement would like to remind residents of several important property maintenance issues:

- Grass and weeds cannot be over 8 inches in height. The weed season officially begins May 1st and runs through November 15th.
- Empty long standing water in buckets, bird baths, and kiddie pools to avoid stagnant water that could attract insects such as mosquitoes.
- If you live next door to a foreclosure or vacant property, please do not take it upon yourself to maintain the property. This causes confusion as to whether or not the property is in need of attention. Call Code Enforcement at (815) 439-4804 and let us know the address and violation.

We try to get to properties as fast as we can; however, the enforcement process can take time. Be assured, we will remedy the situation as quickly as possible. The Code Enforcement Unit wants all neighborhoods to look wonderful!

Be Alert & Aware During Severe Storm Season



The Plainfield Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) encourages all residents to remain alert and aware during severe storm season. February 27 – March 5, 2011 has been declared Severe Storm Awareness Week by the National Weather Service (NWS). Each year, an average of 31 tornadoes touch down in the State of Illinois. Residents can prepare themselves by learning how the weather warning system works and the differences in terminology.

When a **WATCH** is issued it means that conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop within the next 6-12 hours. Trained weather spotters from PEMA and other organizations will position themselves throughout the

area to report on any development of severe or potentially severe weather.

When a **WARNING** is issued it means that severe weather (a severe thunderstorm or tornado) has either been spotted or indicated by radar approaching the immediate area. If the storm is a tornado/funnel cloud, warning sirens will sound. This is the indication that everyone should take shelter either below ground or on the first floor in the interior of the building. Make sure you take your NOAA battery-operated radio with you, so you can get updates on the storm. Do not go outside to look at the storm and do not call 911 to see why the sirens are activated. (Remember, weather permitting, the warning sirens are tested on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m.) The sirens will not sound an all-clear signal. Listen to your radio to find out when the storm has passed.

Unfortunately, the Plainfield area is no stranger to severe weather, all residents should monitor their televisions or NOAA radios for changing weather conditions and be ready to move to shelter should a severe storm approach.

For additional information related to severe weather or emergency preparedness, please contact Plainfield Emergency Management Agency Director John Konopek at (815) 439-4803 or via e-mail at jkonopek@plainfieldpd.com.



Public Works News

Wastewater Plant Award

The Village received the “Project of the Year” Award from the Southwest Branch of the American Public Works Association (APWA), Chicago Metro Chapter, for the expansion of the Wastewater Plant. The expansion provides additional capacity for new commercial, industrial, and residential growth in our community. By winning this award, the project advances to the State level for consideration.

The plant expansion includes new technologies and energy saving features which help to reduce costs and improve water quality:

- Operational and labor costs have been reduced due to the installation of new computer controlled equipment.
- The removal of the old wastewater plant provides savings in operational costs and helps reduce the severity of future flooding for residents along the river by removing structures from the floodplain.
- Compliance with new IEPA phosphorus regulations helps improve the quality of the river.

Emergency Road Repair Grants

The Village received an “Emergency Road Repair Fund” Grant from the State late in 2010. This grant flows through IDOT and will be used to perform resurfacing work at the intersection of Indian Boundary/County Line and Walker Roads and at 127th Street and Ridge/Stewart Roads. This project will be bid this month with completion scheduled for the end of June.

Route 59 Update

Traffic has been shifted onto the “new” concrete pavement on Route 59, from Union Street to Route 126, and work will continue on the west side of Route 59 as weather allows over the winter. Most of the underground utility work has been completed. Decorative streetlights will be installed on both sides of Route 59 between Route 30 and Route 126. This section of the project has a June 2011 completion date.

Water Main Projects

The Village received a low interest loan from the IEPA for the construction of two major water main projects.

•The first project, the Main Street Water Main, has been installed and completed. This project replaced one of the oldest sections of small 4” water main in town with a new 12” main from Division to Lockport Street. This line will increase capacity and reliability in the downtown and aid in moving water to the western section of town.

•The second project will bring a large diameter water main from 127th Street to Route 59 along Plainfield/Naperville Road. This water main will help to reinforce the entire water system, supply water to the southern section of town, and reduce electric use at the pumping station resulting in substantial cost and maintenance savings. This project is now under construction and should be completed early this summer.



Protect Your Yard's Water Quality

Here are tips for protecting water quality in your yard this spring:

- Recycle winter debris. Lawns and gardens need to be raked out to remove the leaves, twigs, and branches deposited during winter storms. Use this material as the base for a new compost pile or chop it up and use it to mulch around foundations, under shrubs and trees, and in planting beds rather than buying mulch. Don't dump brush and leaves into streams or wetland areas. They add excess nutrients to the system and may cause flooding by blocking water flow.
- Sweep up leftover sand from the road or driveway to keep it out of storm drains and local water courses. This sand will contain salt and other pollutants, so don't use it in gardens and sandboxes. Instead sift it and store it in buckets for next winter.
- Rethink the early application of fertilizer. Avoid “weed and feed” type

products that mix pesticides and fertilizers. Why pay for chemicals that you don't need or that force you to start mowing earlier and more often? Delay the first application until mid-May or apply a thin layer of compost to add organic material to the soil while providing a more balanced dose of nutrients for healthy lawn growth.

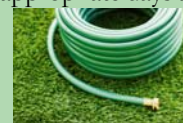
- Cover bare soil. If lawn areas are bare or plantings have died over the winter, don't leave exposed soil. Reseed or mulch to prevent soil erosion.
- Start a landscaping log. Spending a few minutes writing down what plants are growing well or having problems, what was eaten, and what yard chores take too much time will help when you are making plans for next year.
- Call the Public Works Department at (815) 436-3577 to report illegal discharges to the storm drain system.

Source: Clean Water Fact Sheet

Water Conservation

The Village's year-round outside water usage ordinance permits lawn sprinkling between the hours of 6:00 and 10:00 a.m. and/or 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. for:

- ◆Even numbered addresses on even numbered calendar days only.
- ◆Odd numbered addresses on odd numbered calendar days only.
- ◆The watering of gardens, trees, shrubs, and flowers (with a handheld hose or watering can) is permitted any time.
- ◆Watering violation penalties: The first violation at a residence receives a warning notice. After a residence receives a second warning notice, a \$50.00 fine is generated and sent to the home by the Police Department. If you have an underground sprinkler system, please make sure that the timer is set for the appropriate days and times.



News & Notes

Water Meter Information

•The Utility Billing Department recommends reading your water meter each week, once you start using water outside, so that you know how much water you are using. Every 100 cubic feet is billed at the combined water/sewer rate of \$6.60. Please note: water usage is billed 30-60 days after it is used (i.e. May usage is on the July bill.) If you have any questions regarding your water bill, please call (815) 439-4257.

•If you receive a letter from the Water Division regarding your water meter not working properly, please respond quickly! We strive to maintain all water meters in working order and if there is an issue with your meter, we want to repair it as soon as possible.

Battery Recycling Now Available



Residents can now conveniently recycle batteries at the Village Hall as part of Waste Management's battery recycling program, BatteryTracker.

The following types of dry-cell batteries are accepted: Alkaline (AA, AAA, C, D, 9 volt, & lantern) Carbon Zinc, NiCD, NiMH, Silver Oxide, and Mercury batteries. This includes button cell batteries (hearing aids, watches, etc.) and rechargeable batteries. Please note: lithium, lithium ion, lead acid, wet-cell, and leaking batteries will not be accepted.

To recycle batteries, simply bring them to the Village Hall, 24401 W. Lockport Street, Monday-Friday, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Please note: The ends of each battery must be taped or each battery must be placed in its own plastic sandwich bag to prevent short circuits and damage to terminals.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Interested in sponsoring a Green Village Program or perhaps movies or concerts in Settlers' Park in 2011? If so, please contact Amy De Boni via e-mail: adeboni@goplainfield.com or at (815) 439-4255 for more information.

Community Development Projects



Bartel's Auto Clinic

Construction will soon begin on a new 5,000 square foot auto repair facility, Bartel's, in the Prairie Creek development on Route 59, north of 135th Street. This new auto repair facility is the first project within this Planned Development and the new structure will be designed with a modern mid-century motif.

Mega Sports Expansion

Mega Sports on Route 30 is expanding their store by 15,000 square feet and constructing a new entrance into their retail showroom. With the addition, Mega Sports will have over 20,000 square feet of retail space in addition to their shooting

range. Mega Sports' addition is a reflection of the Village's commitment to the long term revitalization of the Route 30 corridor.

The Park at Plainfield

The Park at Plainfield, a new assisted living and memory care facility on Van Dyke Road, north of the Edward Plainfield Medical campus, is now open for business. The 100,000 square foot facility is a new addition to the Village's long term goal of creating a new medical center for the community at 127th Street and Van Dyke Road. For more information on the facility, visit www.horizonbay.com.



The Park at Plainfield

Environmental Efforts

Plainfield Riverfront Effort

The Plainfield Riverfront Foundation is planning for two major events – Plainfield Fest in July and Plainfield River Days in September – to help raise money for the Riverfront in the coming year. To organize and run these events, the Foundation needs your help. Leaders are interested in partnering with community groups, such as Rotary and Kiwanis, and are also seeking individual volunteers to help plan and staff the events. If you or your organization would like to participate, please contact the Planning Department at (815) 439-2824.

The Foundation, along with the Riverfront Steering Committee, continues to seek grants and other funding sources to move forward with construction of the first phase of development west of the DuPage

River and south of Lockport Street. Improvements would include a walking/jogging path, solar-powered pedestrian lighting, pedestrian benches, additional parking, and a Grand Pavilion. For more information about the Riverfront project, please visit www.PlainfieldRiverfront.com.

Conservation Plainfield Update

Look for Conservation Plainfield's booth at next month's Plainfield Area Chamber of Commerce Business Expo for your chance to win a rain barrel or composter in CP's annual raffle. Conservation Plainfield will also be distributing information about the spring Plainfield Clean-Up Week and the Environmental Expo in May. For more information, please visit www.ConservationPlainfield.com or call the Planning Department at (815) 439-2824.

Community Calendar



Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....February 9
 A Penny Saved....Sales, MSP...February 11-12
 TRIAD Seminar, PD.....February 22
 Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....March 9
 Irish Parade, MSP & VPA.....March 13
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL.....March 14
 TRIAD Seminar, PD.....March 22
 Business Expo, PCC.....March 26
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL.....April 11
 Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....April 13
 Egg'straordinary, MSP.....April 23
 TRIAD Seminar, PD.....April 26
 Girls Night Out, MSP.....May 5
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL.....May 9
 Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....May 11
 TRIAD Seminar, PD.....May 24

For more special event information, visit the Village web site at www.plainfield-il.org.

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

MSP=MainStreet Plainfield, Inc.....815-436-5510
 PCC=Plfd. Chamber of Commerce...815-436-4431
 PD=Plfd. Police Department.....815-267-7207
 PPL=Plfd. Public Library District.....815-436-6639
 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.
- ✓The Village Offices will be closed February 21 and May 30, 2011.
- ✓When holidays fall on a weekday, refuse collection is delayed by one day for the rest of the week. Memorial Day is Monday, May 30.
- ✓Waste Management requires that residents use waste containers that are 32 gallons or less in size. All items must be curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your pickup day.
- ✓Yard waste pickup resumes with your first garbage collection in April. Remember, yard waste must be contained in brown Kraft yard waste bags or tied in bundles four (4) feet or shorter in length and 50 pounds or less to be considered packaged properly.
- ✓To receive Village E-News Updates via e-mail, sign up online at www.plainfield-il.org. To receive Economic Development Updates via e-mail, sign up online at www.plainfielddevelopment.com.
- ✓Follow the Village on Facebook by searching for: "Village of Plainfield IL," "Plainfield IL Police Department;" and "Plainfield IL Public Works." You can also follow the Village on Twitter: @PlainfieldIL; @PlainfieldILPD; and @PlainfieldILPW.

Information You Can Use

Village Contacts & Departments:

Administration815-436-7093
 Building.....815-439-2937
 Code Enforcement.....815-439-4806
 Community Television.....815-609-6141
 Emergency Mgmt.....815-436-6215
 Law Enforcement.....815-436-6544
 After Hours.....815-436-2341
 Planning.....815-439-2824
 Public Works.....815-436-3577
 Snowplowing Hotline.....815-609-6145
 Utility Billing.....815-439-4257
 Village Clerk.....815-439-2921

Local Government Contact Numbers:

Indian Prairie School Dist...630-375-3000
 Kendall Cty. Assessor.....630-553-4146
 Kendall Cty. Forest Preserve District.....
630-553-4025
 Oswego Fire District.....630-554-2110
 Oswego Park District.....630-554-1010
 Oswego Public Library.....630-554-3150
 Oswego School District....630-636-3080
 Oswego Township.....630-554-3211
 Plainfield Fire District.....815-436-5335
 Plainfield Park District.....815-436-8812
 Plainfield Public Library....815-436-6639
 Plainfield School District...815-577-4000
 Plainfield Township.....815-436-8308

Plainfield Twp. Assessor.....815-436-5110
 Wheatland Township.....630-851-3952
 Wheatland Twp. Assessor...630-851-9740
 Will Cty. Animal Control...815-462-5633
 Will Cty. Forest Preserve District.....
815-727-8700
 Will Cty. Health Dept.....815-727-8480

Local Service Numbers:

AT&T.....800-244-4444
 Comcast.....866-594-1234
 ComEd.....800-334-7661
 Crime Stoppers.....800-323-6734
 Emergency.....911
 Green Harvest Food Pantry.....
630-416-1109
 J.U.L.I.E.....800-892-0123
 MainStreet Plainfield.....815-436-5510
 Nicor Gas.....888-642-6748
 Pace Bus.....847-364-7223
 Plainfield Area Chamber of Commerce..
815-436-4431
 Plainfield Art League.....815-556-9278
 Plainfield Food Pantry.....815-439-8394
 Plainfield Historical Society..815-436-4073
 Plainfield Post Office.....815-436-9641
 Plfd Twp. Senior Shuttle...815-436-1112
 Waste Management.....800-796-9696

Village Board

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 Larry Kachel lkachel@goplainfield.com
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