



Village Voice

Summer 2011

The Village of Plainfield's Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 2

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



Plainfield Village Board

From left-right: Trustees Dan Rippy, Garrett Peck, Paul Fay, Mayor Michael Collins, and Trustees James Racich, Margie Bonuchi, and Bill Lamb.

I would like to begin by welcoming Trustee Dan Rippy to the Village Board. Trustee Rippy was elected to the Village Board in April along with Trustees Paul Fay and Bill Lamb who were reelected. The Trustees were sworn into office at the first Village Board Meeting in May. Congratulations to all!

I would also like to thank Larry Kachel for his many years of service to the Village. Larry served on the Village's Plan Commission for 16 years before serving as a Village Trustee for the last two years.

Congratulations also goes out to Allen Persons, Plainfield's Director of Public Works, for his selection as a "Top 10 Leader of the Year" by the American Public Works Association. Allen's dedication to the Village and community involvement were key factors in his selection for the Top 10 Leader of the Year Award.

I am also pleased to report that the Village was presented with the American Public Works Association's "Project of the Year" Award for the recent expansion of the Wastewater Plant. The project stood out among the other submissions based on its innovation, automation, and energy saving features.

I would like to recognize and thank the local businesses who are sponsoring Village events this year. The following companies are sponsoring concerts, movies, and/or Green Village programs: Aerotek Design Labs; Baxter & Woodman Consulting Engineers; Christopher B. Burke Engineering; Crawford, Murphy & Tilly; First Midwest Bank; Harris Bank; Tim Stetenfeld & Edward Jones Investments; and Waste Management. We truly appreciate their support and community spirit! For more information on events in Settlers' Park this summer, please read the article on page 5.

A special thanks also goes out to

Garden Visions Nursery in Plainfield for their donation of a Bradford Pear Tree to Lincoln Elementary School in honor of Arbor Day.

Inside this issue, be sure to read all about the exciting projects along Van Dyke Road including Diageo's major expansion. Additionally, with one senior housing development under construction and another proposed, this corridor continues to explode with development.

Finally, be sure to stop by during Coffee with the Mayor to say hello, ask a question or two, and have a cup of coffee. The discussion is always lively and interesting. This summer coffee will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates: June 8th, July 13th, August 10th, and September 14th!

Have a wonderful summer and drive safely!

Michael P. Collins
Village President

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Check it out!



Enjoy Downtown Plainfield!

Now that the nice weather has arrived, head to Downtown Plainfield for an enjoyable afternoon or evening out. MainStreet Plainfield's Cruise Nights are held every Tuesday evening through September 6th. Check out the hundreds of classic cars that are on display and enjoy dinner at one of the many great downtown restaurants. Hawg Nights will also be held the last Saturday of each month.

While downtown, be sure to visit the new stores and restaurants that have recently opened including Southern Belle's Restaurant, Tap House Grill, and Thomas Albert American Wine Bar and Lounge, along with Vintage Retail Shop.

Community Development News

Diageo

Diageo is adding 96,000 square feet to their facility at 143rd Street and Van Dyke Road. The expansion will include a new state-of-the-art bottling facility and processing addition, allowing the plant to produce an additional 20% volume. This new investment in the Village will add 40 employees at the plant.

Heritage Woods

The Heritage Woods Supportive Living Facility is under construction, on Van Dyke Road, and Staff anticipates that the facility should be open by the end of this year. The 78,000 square foot structure will provide the community with 100+ units of affordable supportive living.

Plainfield Manor

A new affordable senior apartment development has been approved in the Village. The development will be located on Wood Farm Road and the proposed project would contain four stories of senior apartments with a

total of 80 units that would be available to seniors at an affordable rate. This project is contingent on the approval of tax credits by the Illinois Housing Development Authority. This project reflects the continued interest that the development community has in the Van Dyke-Wood Farm Road corridors.

Downtown Historic District

The process has started to create a new Downtown Historic District along Lockport Street from Route 59 to an area west of James Street. The proposed district would contain approximately 66 parcels and requires a majority of the voters' support before it can proceed to a public hearing before the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). After the Public Hearing, the HPC provides their recommendation to the Village Board. The Board could consider the proposal in June. The Village currently has one historic district, the East Side Historic District.

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.

Freedom of Information

For details on how to file a Freedom of Information Request, please visit the Village website at www.plainfield-il.org.

Municipal Code

Have a question about a Village Ordinance? The Village of Plainfield's Municipal Code is available online at www.plainfield-il.org, click on the Municipal Code link. The site is user-friendly and allows users to research Village Codes by simply typing in a keyword or phrase in the search field.

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 pm and Saturdays and Sunday at 1 and 8 pm. 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.



Police News



National Night Out Celebration

National Night Out & Teen Pool Party

The Plainfield Police will be coordinating community festivities the first week of August beginning with the 15th Annual National Night Out Celebration on Tuesday, August 2nd, co-sponsored by the Police, Plainfield Fire Protection District, and Target. On Thursday, August 4th, the Police Department will hold its annual Teen Pool Party for students entering 6th-9th grades at the Ottawa Street Pool, sponsored by the Village, Plainfield Park District, and Hyper Entertainment DJ Services. Watch for more details closer to the events!

Unwanted Medications Drop Box

The Village is in the process of establishing a program for the safe disposal of certain medications and personal care products. An intergovernmental agreement with Will County and the IEPA is under final review, to provide a site in the lobby of the Police Department for residents of the Village and the County to safely dispose of medication, both over-the-counter and prescription, as well as personal care products, that may contain potentially hazardous ingredients. Watch for details in the near future on the official implementation!

Red Light Cameras

In the first year of operation, the red light cameras at Route 59/135th Street and Route 30/Renwick Road, have proven to be an effective tool in traffic safety with a decrease in crashes by 37% and 31%, respectively, from the prior year. This program will continue to be monitored. If you have any questions, please call the Police Department at (815) 436-6544.

Code Enforcement

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 began 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 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 of the Village's neighborhoods to look wonderful!

Important Information Regarding Your Water

In May, residents received a mailing regarding the increase in water and wastewater rates. We are providing the following information to remind residents that this rate increase is reflected on the enclosed bill.

The Village Board recently approved an increase in the water and wastewater rates. The City of Chicago has raised water rates by 44% since 2008; the Village Board realized that residents could not bear the entire rate increase at once and planned a series of increases over three years. This increase is the second of the planned rate increases.

Residents will see the rate increase reflected on their June bill. Usage will now be charged at the following rates:

- Water = \$4.38/100 cubic feet. (Base charge 100 cubic feet.)
- Sewer = \$2.50/100 cubic feet. (Base charge 300 cubic feet.)

The capital charge, which funds the maintenance of water and sewer infrastructure, will increase from \$5 to \$7 per month.

This means:

- Residents with average water usage (900 cubic feet per month) will see an increase of approximately \$4.52 per month.
- Residents that receive a minimum water/wastewater bill will see an increase of \$2.56 per month.

Seniors who qualify for the County "Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Exemption" can apply for a 10% discount on the monthly water, sewer, and capital charges by providing Utility Billing with a copy of their tax bill, which lists the exemption, via mail or in person at Village Hall.

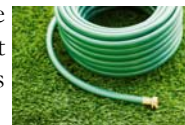
If you have any questions, please contact the Village at (815) 439-2923 or (815) 439-4257.

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.



Public Works Updates



Photos of 127th Street before & after paving during the Emergency Road Repair Project.

the striping and shoulder restoration will be completed this month.

Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Program

This summer, resurfacing work will be completed in the Walker's Grove and Nature's Crossing subdivisions as part of the MFT Program. Funds for the program come from motor fuel tax revenues.

IDOT Route 59 Project

The Route 59 Project, from Union Street to Route 126, is slated to be complete by July 14th. Streetlighting and landscaping may extend past this date but all of the travel lanes should be completed and in use.

Plainfield/Naperville Road Water Main

The Village received a low interest loan from the IEPA for the construction of the Plainfield/Naperville Road Water Main. This project will bring a large diameter water main down from 127th Street to Route 59 along Plainfield/Naperville

Road. This water main will help to reinforce the entire water system and supply water to the southern section of town. It will also help to reduce electric use at the pumping station resulting in substantial cost and maintenance savings. This project is under construction with a summer 2011 completion date.

127th Street Road Closure

127th Street is scheduled to be closed at the Canadian National Railroad crossing from June 13-24th. During this time, Canadian National will be reconstructing the crossing and installing the second rail line. A detour route will be posted.

Construction Updates

Looking for the latest news and updates on local roadwork and road closures? Register for Village E-News updates online at www.plainfield-il.org. The Village's weekly e-mail updates include news, construction updates, special event information, and much, much more!

ERP Grant

The Village received an "Emergency Road Repair Fund" Grant from the State in late 2010. This grant enabled the Village to rehabilitate several roadways in the Village including Indian Boundary, County Line, Walker, Ridge, 127th, and 135th Street. The paving work is now complete and

Conservation Landscaping

Conservation landscaping promotes landscape management techniques and philosophies that work with nature to reduce pollution and encourage wildlife habitat. It encourages yard care practices that use less fertilizers and pesticides, reduce lawn areas, and utilize native plants. The results are less maintenance and water use.

Water has become a limiting factor in many communities, especially during hot, dry spells. Landscaping to minimize watering includes careful planning, using drought resistant plant varieties, and improving soils or using mulches to help retain moisture in the soil. Many varieties of ornamental plants are adaptable to dry landscapes – sedums and potentillas, for instance. Many grasses and herbs also have low water needs.

Other sites have an abundance of water or problems with excessive stormwater

runoff causing flooding or erosion and homes have gutters to direct roof runoff away from the foundation. These situations can often be changed from problems to benefits or attractive landscape features. Roof runoff can be stored in rain barrels for later use in watering nearby lawns and gardens. A larger conservation landscaping project would be changing landscape contours to create infiltration swales or rain gardens. These shallow basins or channels are planted with moisture-loving plants and runoff is directed into them so the water will filter into the ground rather than into the nearest storm drain or water body, creating new habitat areas and preventing water pollution problems.

To learn more or to report illegal discharges to the storm drain system, call Public Works at (815) 436-3577.

-Adapted from the Clean Water Fact Sheet.

Refuse Reminders

The Village Offices will be closed on Monday, July 4th for Independence Day and Monday, September 5th for Labor Day. These holidays will make garbage pickup one day late all week.

Yard Waste Notes:

- Grass clippings and leaves must be placed in Kraft yard waste bags that weigh 50 lbs. or less.
- Tree branches and limbs must be tied in bundles no longer than four feet, no heavier than 50 lbs., and the branch diameter should not exceed three inches.
- Dirt, stones, and pavers are not considered yard waste.

Waste Management rents 96 gallon garbage and yard waste containers, as well as a smaller recycling container, for \$3 per month per container. These containers can be lifted by the trucks. Containers not supplied by Waste Management should be 33 gallons or less.

Recycling News

Electronic Recycling Pickup Service Available for Will County Residents

The Will County Land Use Department has partnered with Vintage Tech Recyclers to accept its electronic recyclables. The program is the first free household pickup service offered in Illinois.

Items accepted include: computers, laptops, monitors, printers, televisions, telephones, answering machines, computer mouse devices, keyboards, zip drives, computer cables, string lights, microwaves, fax, scanners, MP3s, PDAs, video game consoles, video cassette players/recorders, DVD players, and more.

For more information or to schedule a pickup, visit Vintage Tech Recyclers online at www.vintagetechnrecyclers.com or call 877-786-4715.



Settlers' Park Summer Events

Concerts in the Park

This year's concert series in Settlers' Park is presented by Tim Stetenfeld & Edward Jones Investments. Concerts will be held on the following Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.:

•**June 16 - BBI** (Music from the 60's-today's top artists.) - Sponsored by Baxter & Woodman, Inc. Consulting Engineers.

•**July 14 - The Renditions** (50's, 60's, & 70's music.) - Sponsored by Aerotek Design Labs, LLC.

•**August 11 - Bopology** (swing and jazz music.)

Movies in the Park

This year's summer of sequels movie series in Settlers' Park is presented by Harris Bank. Check out movies under the stars this summer!

•**June 10 - Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel** (PG, 86 min.) Sponsored by Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.

•**June 24 - Shrek Forever After** (PG, 93 min.) Sponsored by Waste Management.

•**July 1 - Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore** (PG, 83 min.)

•**July 22 - Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (PG, 105 min.) Sponsored by First Midwest Bank. Movies are held on Friday evenings and begin at approximately 8 p.m.

General Event Information

•The concerts and movies will be held at the Richard A. Rock Amphitheater in Settlers' Park. The park is located in Downtown Plainfield, southeast of Lockport Street and Van Dyke Road, just south of the Village Hall.

•Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets.

•Concessions are available at the park.

•For venue change or cancellation information in case of inclement weather, please call the Settlers' Park Event Hotline at (815) 609-6124 or visit www.plainfield-il.org after 4:00 p.m. on the day of the event.



Environmental Events

Green Village Lecture Series

The Green Village Lecture Series continues through the summer, with a free environmental program offered at the Plainfield Public Library at 7 pm on the second Monday of each month. The June 9th program will feature the benefits of organic and locally grown food, including sampling of organic food and wine. Sponsored by Waste Management, the July 12th program will bring you up to speed on the latest developments with "green" cars, including all-electric, hybrid, and highly fuel efficient conventional cars. In August, the program, sponsored by Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., will highlight the creative rain garden that was incorporated into the recent Village Green park improvement project. For more information about the Green Village Lecture Series, visit the Village web site at www.plainfield-il.org.

Conservation Plainfield

Residents will have two great opportunities to help improve a local park with upcoming park enhancement projects planned by Conservation Plainfield, in partnership with the Plainfield Park District. The summer environmental enhancement project is scheduled for Saturday, June 25th, from 8:30 am to noon, at Mather Woods on Renwick Road, west of the DuPage River. Volunteers are sought to assist with removing invasive and non-native plant species to enhance the ongoing native prairie restoration. On Saturday, September 17th, from 8:30 am to noon, the park enhancement project will focus on planting new native prairie grasses and forbs at Eaton Preserve, south of 135th Street and east of Route 59.

To learn more, visit www.ConservationPlainfield.com or check Facebook for the latest news!

Plainfield Riverfront Update

Volunteer efforts continue toward establishing a riverfront park in Downtown Plainfield. At no cost to the Village, the Riverfront Foundation has funded design work to improve the area south of Lockport Street and west of the DuPage River with a system of paths and benches, pedestrian lighting, and engraved brick plazas. The Foundation is organizing Plainfield Fest, July 15-17th. By enjoying Plainfield Fest, residents can support fundraising efforts to begin constructing a wonderful Riverfront. Plainfield River Days will be held September 9-10th. This family-oriented event will be held on the Riverfront and will feature a barbecue, music, food and games, and the popular duck race fundraiser.

For more information, visit www.PlainfieldRiverfront.com.

Community Calendar



Movies in Settlers' Park, VOP.....June 10 & 24
 Big Cat Pride Run/Walk, PSD.....June 12
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL.....June 13
 Concert in Settlers' Park, VOP.....June 16
 Relay for Life, ACS.....June 25-26
 Hawg Night, MSP.....June 25
 Movies in Settlers' Park, VOP.....July 1 & 22
 Patriotic Picnic & Fireworks, PPD.....July 3
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL.....July 12
 Concert in Settlers' Park, VOP.....July 14
 Plainfield Fest, RF.....July 15-17
 Hawg Night, MSP.....July 30
 National Night Out, PD.....August 2
 Teen Pool Party, PD.....August 4
 Green Village Program, VOP/PPL.....August 8
 Concert in Settlers' Park, VOP.....August 11
 Hawg Night, MSP.....August 27

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

ACS=American Cancer Society.....815-258-7672
 RF=Riverfront Foundation.....815-439-2824
 MSP=MainStreet Plainfield, Inc.....815-436-5510
 PD=Plfd. Police Department.....815-267-7207
 PPD=Plfd. Park District.....815-436-8812
 PSD=Plfd. School District.....815-577-4000
 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 utility bill, complete a direct pay application and submit it with a voided check. Applications are available online at www.plainfield-il.org or by calling (815) 439-4257.
- ✓The Village Offices will be closed July 4 and September 5, 2011.
- ✓When holidays fall on a weekday, refuse collection is delayed by one day for the rest of the week.
- ✓Waste Management requires that residents use waste containers that are 33 gallons or less in size. All items must be curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your pickup day.
- ✓Yard waste pickup has resumed. 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 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
 Settlers' Park Hotline.....815-609-6124
 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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