



# Village Voice

Winter 2008

The Village of Plainfield's Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 4

## Mayor's Message - From The Desk of James A. Waldorf

**H**ow time flies! It's hard to believe that it is almost the end of 2008. It has been a busy year for the Village of Plainfield.

It seems as if just yesterday we broke ground on the Lockport Streetscape project and now it is complete! The project turned out beautifully – the infrastructure has been replaced and the streetscape has been transformed. I hope that you have all had the opportunity to visit the downtown and to check out the completed project while shopping and dining at our local retailers and restaurants. If not, I encourage you to visit this holiday season! For more on the downtown celebrations including the ribbon cutting and reopening celebrations, check out page five.

2008 has also been a busy year for the development and future of the Edward Plainfield Campus. In fact, Edward has just broken ground on the new \$13 million cancer facility! Edward Hospital and Health Services has also submitted a modified plan for the proposed Edward Plainfield Hospital to the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board for approval. The modified plan which is the result of excellent hospital planning and contains several thoughtful new modifications proposes 130 beds including 72 medical/surgical beds, 32 obstetric/gynecology beds, a 20-bed acute mental illness unit, and 6 intensive care unit beds. At this time, the project will be on the agenda for the Planning Board's

December 16-17 meeting in Springfield. We need your support at the hearing! If you are interested in attending the hearing and supporting our community's grassroots efforts, please contact Adam Underhill at (815) 609-7570 or via email at [aunderhill@fnbiweb.com](mailto:aunderhill@fnbiweb.com) to help us Pack the Bus!

There is also good news on the Edward Plainfield Campus...

The Plainfield Surgery Center is now open and available as a closer, more convenient alternative for surgery that does not require an overnight hospital stay. The 14,000 square foot facility has three operating rooms, one endoscopy room for colonoscopies and gastroenterology procedures, and 22 preoperative and recovery rooms.

In addition, I am pleased with the community's support of the Edward Plainfield Cancer Center. The Plainfield Cancer Center project chairs for the Edward Foundation, Joe Judd and Bill Pommerening, have provided wonderful community leadership for the Center which will be a 30,000 square foot facility that will offer comprehensive outpatient medical and radiation oncology services. The Edward Plainfield Cancer Center is scheduled to open in 2009. Let's hope after the Planning Board's December Meeting that we have good news regarding the proposed hospital also joining the campus!

To have the latest Village news delivered to your fingertips, sign up for the Village E-News Group! Residents who subscribe occasionally receive Village News and updates via email. To join, please send your name and email address to [adeboni@goplainfield.com](mailto:adeboni@goplainfield.com).

Finally, please join me for the first Coffee of the New Year at 9:00 a.m. on January 7, 2009 at the Village Hall. The discussion is always lively and very interesting!

Happy Holidays!

*Mayor Waldorf*



*Visit Downtown Plainfield to check out the completed Lockport Streetscape project. For more on the reopening of Lockport Street, see page five.*

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## News & Notes

**From the Police Department...** As a reminder, please remember to remove valuables and lock your vehicles to prevent theft.

**Route 59...** The installation of utilities on Route 59 has begun from the intersection of Feeney Road and Route 59 and proceeding north. A new 12" water main is being installed and new utility poles are being erected. A new 20" water main will also be installed from Renwick Road to Union Street to help improve flow rates to the south side water tower. Phase 2 of this project will involve installation of the 20" water main and other utilities from Union Street to Route 126. Please contact IDOT at (847) 705-4300 with any questions.

### Energy Assistance

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is designed to assist eligible low-income households pay for energy bills. If you are interested in the program, please call (815) 722-0722.

## CLERK'S CORNER

~Michelle Gibas, RMC/CMC~

### 2009 Consolidated Election - April 7

Petition Packets for the 2009 Consolidated Election can be picked up at the Village Clerk's Office. The open positions include the Village President and three (3) Trustee Positions. All positions are for a four (4) year term. The first day to file petitions is Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. The last day to file is Monday, January 26, 2009 until 5:00 p.m.

For details about becoming an election judge or other election information, visit the Will County Clerk's website at [www.willclerk.com](http://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.

## CN Update

The U.S. Surface Transportation Board (STB) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which was prepared as part of the environmental review process for Canadian National Railway's proposed purchase of the EJ&E Railway, which runs through the Village. By law, the environmental review process must be completed prior to final approval of the transaction, which will have a significant impact on the Village and other communities that are located along this rail line. The full text of the Draft EIS is available online at: [www.stbfinancedocket35087.com](http://www.stbfinancedocket35087.com).

From August through September, the STB/SEA hosted public meetings throughout the Chicagoland area to present the findings of the Draft EIS and to receive public comments. Meetings in the area were held at West Aurora High School and the Holiday Inn in Joliet. Each public

meeting included an informal open house segment followed by a formal public meeting. At the beginning of each public meeting segment, the SEA gave a brief overview of its findings in the Draft EIS and invited interested parties to make oral comments and/or submit written comments. The public, agencies, elected officials, and communities had the opportunity to actively participate and comment on the Draft EIS as part of the environmental review process.

The Village formally submitted written comments on the Draft EIS in September requiring the STB to carefully consider the Village's concerns as part its final comments. The Village eagerly looks forward to the STB's release of the Final EIS (date unknown at this time). A copy of the Village's letter to the STB, regarding the Draft EIS, is available online at [www.plainfield-il.org/news/eje.php](http://www.plainfield-il.org/news/eje.php).

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, 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.

### Municipal Code

The Village's Municipal Code is available online at [www.plainfield-il.org](http://www.plainfield-il.org). The site allows the user to research Village Codes by simply typing a keyword or phrase in the search field.

### Agendas

Village Board agendas are posted at the Village Hall and online at [www.plainfield-il.org](http://www.plainfield-il.org), 48 hours before

all meetings. Agenda topics are also posted on Channel 6.

### Plainfield Community Television

Cable Channel 6 airs the following programs on a regular basis:

- Village Board Meetings: Air live on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Rebroadcast on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
- Plan Commission Meetings: Air live on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- Historic Preservation Commission Meetings: Air live on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- Plainfield Television Group Programming airs Fridays at 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.

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

## Preserving Plainfield's Past

### Village's First Local Historic District

The Village Board approved the East Side Historic District as the Village's first local historic district in November. The District consists of over 30 residences on Amboy Street, Bartlett Avenue, Center Street, Division/IL 59, and Evans Street.

It is significant under the three criteria that the Village uses to evaluate historic districts. While the District does not include Plainfield's earliest buildings, it does represent the mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century expansion of the original town and its three additions platted between 1834 and 1856. It incorporates those areas that reflected the doubling in size of the Plainfield community that had been established between 1834 and 1856. The District memorializes many of Plainfield's leading businessmen, civic leaders, and socialites within the period of significance identified by the district designation.

Over time, additional properties can be added to the district. The establishment of the District reflects Plainfield's desire to embrace its historic past while moving forward with planning for the future. It sets out a plan for ongoing protection of and incentives for a sensitive area within the growing and changing community.

### Sixth Local Landmark Approved

The Village Board approved the Varley-Olsen House, located at 14931 S. Bartlett Avenue, as the Village's sixth local landmark in October. The Varley-Olsen House is a Queen Anne style residence owned by Clayton and Debra Olsen.

It is significant under three of the criteria that the Village uses to evaluate properties for landmark status. It embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use

of indigenous materials; it embodies elements of design, detailing, materials, or craftsmanship that are of architectural significance; and it is suitable for preservation or restoration. The residence is located within the recently approved East Side Historic District.



*The Varley-Olsen House*

For more information on the East Side Historic District, local landmarks, and/or historic preservation, contact the Community Development Department at (815) 439-2824 or visit [www.plainfield-il.org](http://www.plainfield-il.org).

## Public Works Projects Around Town

### Drauden/Steiner Road

The Drauden/Steiner Road reconstruction project, from Route 126 to 143rd Street, was bid in September and is currently under construction. Work will take place outside of the paved areas for as long as the weather permits. The road will then be closed in the spring for total reconstruction. Access will be maintained for the residents living on the road but through traffic will be prohibited. Drauden/Steiner Road will be rebuilt with a design similar to the Drauden Road boulevard section. Also included in the project are permanent traffic signals and turn lanes at Route 126. The Village was able to secure two million dollars in grants through the Will County Governmental League to be used for the construction of this project.

### Hazelcrest Drive Reconstruction

The reconstruction of Hazelcrest Drive was bid in early August and is currently under construction. The scope of work includes new curb and gutter, storm sewer, paving, and landscape restoration.

### Van Dyke Road & 119<sup>th</sup> Street

This project was completed this fall and the new roadway is a significant improvement over the old traveling surface. Due to traffic from the high school, vehicle traffic volume has significantly increased and the new roadway will handle the increased load better.

### Sidewalk & Curb Replacement

The program to replace damaged sidewalk and concrete curb in various locations throughout town was bid in

September and the bulk of the work will be completed before winter with a final completion date of April 30, 2009.

### Washroom/Concession Facility

The new Settlers' Park washroom and concession facility project is moving forward and should be complete by the end of December. The building will be ready for use beginning in the Spring of 2009.



*Settlers' Park Washroom & Concession Facility*

## Snow & Ice Removal

Each year, the Village receives questions regarding snowplowing and road conditions during inclement weather. To help answer these questions, the Public Works Department has prepared the following information on the Village's procedures for snow and ice removal.

### Salting Operations Only

When a minor snow or ice event is forecast (accumulations from a dusting to less than two inches), the Village's snow and ice crews are on alert and standing by. (In some instances, roads are pre-salted.) When the precipitation, either snow or ice, begins to accumulate on paved surfaces, salt trucks begin applying salt to arterial roadways (primary or main traffic routes). These roads are dealt with first for safety reasons, due to higher speed limits and heavier traffic volume. On a number of occasions, the primary (main) roads must be gone over more than once.

Upon completion of the primary roads, salting of major collector streets

begins. These include main streets through subdivisions, roads that link with main roads, and streets with schools located on them. Then salting of residential side streets, dead ends, and cul-de-sacs begins. A simple salting operation can take six to eight hours after the last of the snow has fallen. Normally approximately 300 pounds of salt per lane mile is applied. When temperatures fall below 20 degrees, calcium chloride is added to the salt to enhance the melting process. If the forecast changes and the snow continues to intensify prior to completing the salt route, the Village stops salting and immediately begins plowing operations.

### Plowing Operations

When snow reaches two or more inches in accumulation, the Village begins a plowing operation. A secondary group is called out to help with the plowing, in addition to the salt shift that is already out. As the salt trucks continue to work on plowing primary and arterial streets,

other snowplow trucks begin to work on side streets. Alleys, cul-de-sacs, and dead ends are done towards the end of the storm due to low or very little traffic volume. The last task is pushing back corners and cleaning up areas where cars may have been parked. Finally, salt trucks will then run their entire route and re-salt and plow where required. This operation in normal weather conditions will last about 14 to 18 hours after the last of the snow has fallen. It is important to remember that excessive amounts of snow, extreme drops in temperature, heavy wet snow, blowing and drifting snow, and equipment breakdowns will increase this time frame.

During the winter, safety is the Village's number one priority for our residents, our emergency service responders, and the general public. Thank you for your understanding and patience during the season.

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at (815) 436-3577. ❄️

## Northwest Riverwalk Project Update

The Plainfield Riverfront Master Plan Steering Committee recently completed its work with the project consultant, Hitchcock Design Group, on the preparation of construction documents for the Northwest Riverwalk project, which is identified as one of several catalyst projects within the Plainfield Riverfront Master Plan.

The Village hosted Community Input Meetings to provide the public with opportunities to review the planned improvements for the Northwest Riverwalk project early in the design process and to provide feedback to the design team.

The Northwest Riverwalk will be located on Village-owned property. The project area is generally located along the west bank of the DuPage

River, north of Lockport Street, between the Commonwealth Edison utility corridor/EJ&E Railroad and extending north to an imaginary line approximately 700 feet north of Lockport Street.

The potential schedule for the project is pending funding for actual construction. The Village Board would then consider authorizing the Permitting Phase, Bidding and Bidding and Negotiation Phase, and Construction Services Phase. Construction would be subject to permitting approval from various State and Federal Agencies, and potentially could take place in the next several years pending funding.

The Village of Plainfield and the Plainfield Park District continue to cooperatively work together in the

planning and implementation of this exciting project.

For more information on this exciting project, visit the Village web site at [www.plainfield-il.org/village/riverfront/php](http://www.plainfield-il.org/village/riverfront/php).



*Northwest Riverwalk Property*

## Lockport Street Reopens



*Village and area elected officials gather to cut the ribbon commemorating the reopening of Lockport Street.*

Lockport Street recently reopened and to celebrate this momentous occasion, Village officials gathered for a ribbon cutting ceremony. Village officials were joined by area elected officials to mark the substantial completion of the major Lockport Street construction project on Wednesday, October 29. Following a brief ceremony, Lockport Street reopened to two-way traffic ahead of schedule.

Mayor James Waldorf and Village Trustees welcomed U.S.

Representative Judy Biggert, State Representative Tom Cross, and State Senator Linda Holmes. Mayor Waldorf led the ribbon cutting ceremony and highlighted the many benefits that will result from the Village's investment in the downtown. The enhanced streetscape provides downtown businesses with a great environment for retail shops and restaurants. The amenities, including expansive sidewalks, extensive landscaping, and an ambient sound system, offer a unique shopping and dining experience. Coupled with the Village's efforts downtown, many private building owners are investing in renovations of their historic buildings, including the Masonic Block building and the A.C. Steiner building.

At the ribbon cutting, Representative Cross presented the Village with a commemorative check for \$750,000 as an indication of the state grant

funding Representative Cross secured on behalf of the Village to help fund the road construction. Congresswoman Biggert and Senator Holmes also addressed the audience of approximately 100 people. Village Trustee Walter Manning, who chaired the Lockport Street Committee, and Anna Denys, president of MainStreet Plainfield, spoke on behalf of the efforts of the committee and business representatives who worked collaboratively to support the project.



*Representative Cross presents Mayor Waldorf with a commemorative check.*

## Downtown Plainfield Celebrates

### Lighting of Lockport Street Grand Reopening Celebration

On November 8, the downtown business community commemorated the reopening of Lockport Street with an afternoon of activities, highlighted by an evening parade. Mayor Waldorf cut a ceremonial ribbon at Des Plaines Street and welcomed the parade down Lockport Street. Upon cutting the ribbon, the streetlights and holiday lights in the parkway trees were lit in unison. The tree lighting included a beautiful 15-foot Norway Fir at the corner of Des Plaines and Lockport Street as a community Christmas tree.

The Mayor and Mrs. Waldorf led the parade in a horse-drawn carriage.



*Lockport Street shines this holiday season.*

Trustees Walter Manning and wife Vera, Jeff Dement and wife Carolyn, Jim Racich, and Bill Lamb followed in convertible Ford Mustangs. Rod Baker rode with his 1920 Model A Ford. Parade participants also included the Plainfield Fire Department, Plainfield Police Department, and the Village's

Department of Public Works.

The event also featured a Chime concert performed by Tim Sleep, the City Carillonner for the City of Naperville, who played the Chime bells at the Plainfield United Methodist Church. In addition, the Plainfield Public Library hosted an afternoon of book readings and book signings by local authors.

The grand reopening was just the beginning of the season's special events downtown. Be sure to visit the downtown on December 6 for MainStreet Plainfield's Holiday Open House event! It's sure to be a wonderful highlight of this holiday season!

## Community Calendar



Holiday Open House, MSP.....December 6  
 Oswego Holiday Express, OPD.....  
 .....December 13-14  
 Snow Fun Day in the Park, PPD.....January 3  
 Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....January 7  
 Coffee with the Superintendent, PSD.....  
 .....January 10  
 Winter Reading Program, PPL.....  
 .....January 10-February 22  
 Preschool Information Fair, PPL.....January 18  
 Citizen's Police & Fire Academy, PD.....  
 .....February  
 Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....February 4  
 Coffee with the Mayor, VOP.....March 4  
 St. Patrick's Day Parade, MSP & VPA.....  
 .....March 8

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

MSP=MainStreet Plainfield, Inc.....815-436-5510  
 OPD=Oswegoland Park District....630-554-1010  
 PD=Plainfield Police Department.....815-436-6544  
 PPD=Plainfield Park District.....815-436-8812  
 PPL=Plainfield Public Library.....815-436-6639  
 PSD=Plainfield 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.

\*Automatic Debit: 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](http://www.plainfield-il.org).

\*Plainfield memorabilia is available! Stop by the Village Hall today to pickup Campfire Mugs (\$4 ea.), Community Cookbooks and Collector's Plates (\$10 ea.).

\*The Village Offices will be closed December 24-25, 2008 and January 1, January 21, and February 18, 2009.

\*When holidays fall on a weekday, refuse collection is delayed by one day for the rest of the week. Christmas Day is December 25, 2008 and New Year's Day is January 1, 2009.

\*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 has ended and will resume with your first refuse collection day in April 2009.

\*Christmas Trees are not considered yard waste and will be picked up on regular garbage days. They must be four (4) feet or shorter and 50 pounds or less to be considered packaged properly.

## Information You Can Use

### Village Contacts & Departments:

Administration .....815-436-7093  
 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.....815-439-2923  
 Village Clerk.....815-439-2921  
 Water/Wastewater.....815-436-3577

### Local Service Numbers:

Kendall Cty. Assessor...630-553-4146  
 Plainfield Assessor.....815-436-5110  
 Wheatland Assessor...630-851-9740  
 Cable-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

Phone-AT&T.....800-244-4444  
 Wheatland Township...630-851-3952  
 Will County Animal Control.....  
 .....815-462-5633  
 Will Cty. Health Dept....815-727-8480

### Plainfield:

Chamber of Commerce..815-436-4431  
 Economic Partnership...815-671-4294  
 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

James A. Waldorf

#### Trustees

Jeffrey Dement  
 Paul Fay  
 Bill Lamb  
 Walter O. Manning  
 James Racich  
 Larry Vaupel



24401 W. Lockport Street  
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#### 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](mailto:adeboni@goplainfield.com).