



# Willow Springs *Messenger*

Spring 2022

“Spring will come  
and so will happiness.  
Hold on.  
Life will get warmer.”

– ANITA KRIZZAN



## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

*Village President*

**MELISSA N. NEDDERMEYER**

*Village Trustees*

**TOM ARRA**

**TERRANCE M. CARR**

**MICHAEL C. KENNEDY, JR**

**ERNIE MOON**

**FRED POSCH**

**RICK MIKA**

*Village Administrator*

**RYAN GRACE**

## VILLAGE STAFF

**708-467-3700**

*Village Clerk*

**LORI CHARLES**

*Finance Director*

**KELLY ZABINSKI**

*Chief of Police*

**JAMES RITZ**

**708-839-2732**

*Public Works Director*

**KEITH GRANTLAND**

**708-839-3027**

*Building Commissioner*

**BRUCE ZARTLER**

**708-467-3700**

# WELCOME TO OUR NEW VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR!



Meet our new Village Administrator! Ryan Grace has been hired by the Village of Willow Springs and his first day was January 31, 2022. Previously, Ryan has held several positions in municipal government management, most recently he was the director of public works for the Village of Lyons. Ryan and his wife Meghan live in Darien and have two children. Ryan is excited to join Willow Springs and help expand upon our community events and resident services. Since joining Willow Springs Ryan has been dedicated to meeting our residents, businesses, and all of our fantastic employees. Ryan can be reached by calling the Village hall at 708-467-3700 or by email at [RGrace@willowsprings-il.gov](mailto:RGrace@willowsprings-il.gov).

## PUBLIC WORKS



Public works would like to welcome our new Village Administrator, Ryan Grace, to Willow Springs. Ryan was a previous Public Works director and his background in public works will be a huge asset to our village. During last year's tornado clean up, Ryan and his crew from Lyons helped our community clean up storm damage. He has also assisted Willow Springs with other projects such as street sweeping and helping with the set-up for Willow Fest.

In December, Public Works took delivery of a new Ford F550 dump truck equipped with a snow plow and salt spreader. With this truck, we now will run two salt trucks simultaneously on each side of the town during winter storms.

Public Works has hired a new seasonal part-time employee with a background in plant and flower care this summer. This employee will maintain all the flowering areas around the village. We are very excited to see our public space get the special attention it deserves.

Branch pick-up will begin on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The pick-up schedule is:

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday will be on the south side of the river  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday will be on the north side of the river

I hope everyone has a great spring and summer,  
Keith Grantland  
Public Works Director  
[kgrantland@willowsprings-il.gov](mailto:kgrantland@willowsprings-il.gov)



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## **WILLOW SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT TEAMS UP WITH THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN (NCMEC)**

The Willow Springs Police Department has teamed up with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in their Missing Children's Readiness Program (MKRP). The MKRP training program promotes best practices for taking and responding to calls of missing and sexually exploited children. As part of the training, every police officer on our department must go through the online training program. All of our officers will complete the MECINTRO and MECPAT training modules. With all of our officers completing the NCMEC program, the Willow Springs Police Department will receive a Certificate of Membership and Award for placement of our department as an active MKRP member. We will also be recognized and placed on the NCMEC website and social media platforms signifying our department as a MKRP member. This certification process provides great training for our officers when handling calls for missing or exploited children. The Willow Springs Police Department is proud to be recognized and work in partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

### **DEA TASK FORCE RECOGNITION**

The Willow Springs Police Department is proud to recognize the outstanding efforts of our assigned DEA Task Force Officer and their group. Thanks to the hard work and efforts taken, we were rewarded with a number of asset disbursement awards totaling over \$139,000.00 to enhance our continued drug enforcement initiatives. Also, due to the efforts of our task force officer, we currently have over \$200,000.00 in pending asset awards for possible disbursements to our department.

### **WILLOW SPRINGS COMMUNITY ALERT – CYBERATTACKS AND MOBILE PHONE ATTACKS**

With the recent developments of Russia and Ukraine, there has been a significant uptick in cyberattacks from Russia. Many businesses and most home users DO NOT have geographical filters in place to block certain countries and locations.

Please be very careful when opening emails. Confirm the send from email address (not just the name) and also hover over links to confirm they are from a legitimate source. If you are not sure, delete the email and contact the sending party or access your portal (bank, email, etc.) to confirm no pending alerts on any of your accounts.

#### **Mobile Phone Attacks**

The FBI has recently sent out alerts and warnings concerning surges in schemes to break into your mobile phones in order to nab money from your bank account. These sophisticated scams hijack your mobile phone number and gain access to your money accounts.

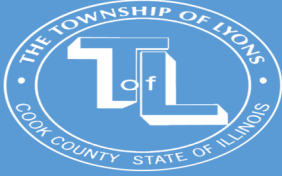
The Willow Springs Police Department has handled calls of this nature, so please take extra precautions to protect your electronic devices and your personal information.

Please contact our department if you are suspicious of any communications or have any concerns related to this Community Alert.

Thank you and be safe,  
Jim Ritz  
Chief of Police



# TOWNSHIP NEWS



## TOWNSHIP OF LYONS

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE TOWNSHIP OF LYONS, 6404 JOLIET ROAD, COUNTRYSIDE, IL

#### BOARD MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm

#### MOBILE ID & I-CA\$H - April 28 - 10am-2pm

Illinois Secretary of State & Illinois Treasurer's Office here to help renew license plates, driver's license, State IDs, etc. & search for Lost Cash!

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS COFFEE CHAT - DATE TBD

Come have a cup of coffee, some little treats, and good conversation.

Contact Clerk Elyse Hoffenberg with questions, concerns, suggestions and to be notified of future events at [ehoffenberg@lyonsts.com](mailto:ehoffenberg@lyonsts.com) or call 708-482-8300 ext. 217



## Palos Township

Working for YOU

### INFORMATION & EVENTS AT THE TOWNSHIP OF PALOS, 10802 S. ROBERTS ROAD, PALOS HILLS, IL

#### BOARD MEETINGS

4th Monday of each month at 6:30pm

#### PALOS TOWNSHIP HEALTH SERVICE MEDICAL SUPPLY LOAN CLOSET

We offer medical supplies which you may borrow for an unlimited time.

Wheelchairs - Walkers - Canes - Shower chairs - Toilet seats/chairs

Palos Township Residents ONLY. Please CALL regarding availability (708) 598-2441. Supplies vary. Our supply is dependent on donations and is first come first served.

#### Donations of Medical Supplies

We accept donations of CLEAN and Functioning Medical Supplies. Wheelchairs - Walkers - Shower chairs - Canes - Toilet seats/chairs. No Crutches. Please call 708-598-2441 to arrange a drop off time and to confirm that the equipment is taken. Donation letters available - please allow one week.



# COMMUNITY NEWS



The reconditioning and painting project of the High Tank located at High Street and Forest Ave is ready to start! On March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 the high tank will be completely drained and taken out of service for approximately 11 weeks. The high tank is responsible for maintaining the water supply and pressures within the Village of Willow Springs. Without the high tank in service the Commission will be interconnected with the Village of Burr Ridge to supply water to the Community eliminating the Commission from pumping or pressure adjustments. During this time water pressures may vary and may not be as high as you are used to but there is no need of concern of boil orders or water quality issues. We ask for your patience and understanding during this project. The high tank is a vital part of the water system and this work is needed to ensure it remains in great working condition for years to come! If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact us at 708-458-7010.



## ATTENTION:

**Moms and Dads with children in school or  
retirees who are looking for part time employment.**

**Part-time school bus driver job with benefits:** ☀️ **Paid Training**

☀️ **Bonus incentives** ☀️ **Paid Holidays**

☀️ **Insurance** ☀️ **Personal Days**

## STARTING WAGE:

**\$18.00 -new drivers/ Drivers with CDL class B school bus endorsed  
pay will be higher also **\$1000 sign on bonus for all drivers****

**\$13.00 Bus monitors**

**Paid Training!!!!**

**Stop in**

**Grand Prairie Transit**

**12049 W 91st Willow Springs IL 60480**

**630-655-8739**

# BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION



Throughout the long, dreary Winter months, the Beautification Commission has made lofty plans for when Spring finally arrives. The time has come!

First is the opening of the Legacy Garden Park, 105 Kazwell, Willow Springs, on May 1. Applications will be taken beginning March 1 for the 14 low-lying spaces and four accessible spaces. What better way to supplement your garden space and spend time enjoying nature and meeting neighbors? Plans call for the enlargement of the butterfly garden to add to the beauty of our community space.

Community Outreach Programs to inform and educate residents on topics related to gardening will once again be held at Legacy Garden Park. There will be a zoom presentation on April 6 at 6pm on designing butterfly gardens. Check the Beautification Facebook page for more information. Future programs will be announced as they are planned.

The Beautification Commission fundraising project "Paving the Way for History" has begun with the installation of the first group of bricks in the walkway leading to the Village Hall. Purchasing a brick or two is a wonderful way to honor a special person or memorialize a loved one. Bricks are available for \$125 each and a purchase form can be found on the Village website or by visiting Village Hall.

You may have noticed the Little Libraries installed at the historic Bus Stop, Village Hall and the Community Center. Have you browsed the selections and perhaps donated books you may have already read? You will find interesting titles for adults and children just waiting to be enjoyed again.

We have exciting news to share! We will add two new Little Libraries to Willow Springs this summer! Kiley Mahoney of Troop #50738, a sophomore at Lyons Township High School, will construct the Little Libraries in fulfillment of the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouting encouraging Senior Scouts and Ambassadors to develop and carry out lasting solutions to their neighborhoods and beyond. We are thrilled Kiley's project will benefit the residents of Willow Springs by providing convenient access to interesting reading materials for all.

Looking ahead, plans call for multiple, ever-popular bingo sessions sponsored by the Beautification Commission at Willow Fest, August 11-14. Please watch for dates and times.

Finally, a Community Shredding Event will be held Saturday, September 17 from 9am to 12 noon in the Metra lot west of the Village Hall. Pack up all the documents you would like shredded free of charge and enjoy doughnuts and coffee with us. We look forward to seeing you!

As always, we thank our neighbors for the support we receive for our efforts. Making Willow Springs a more beautiful and welcoming community is an exciting adventure. We are so grateful you join us in the journey!

Chairperson: Linda Arra, Trustee Liaison: Fred Posch, Commissioners: Jason Buege, Niki Chibucos, Nancy Meingast, Lucy Mierop, Beth Piersialla, and Jan Posch

**APRIL**

**23**

**9 A.M.**

**GET INVOLVED!**

# Village of Willow Springs



**WANTED!**  
SCOUT TROOPS • FAMILIES • CLUBS • SCHOOL  
GROUPS • CHURCH GROUPS • KIDS • ADULTS •  
NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS • LOCAL BUSINESSES •



Public Works Building - 8261 Willow Springs Road

Please call Jan to register: 708-280-9829

or email [jposch@willowsprings-il.gov](mailto:jposch@willowsprings-il.gov)

**SAFETY GEAR • SCAVENGER HUNT • LUNCH AT NOON •**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE CERTIFICATES**

Sponsored by the Beautification Commission,  
the Parks and Recreation Commission  
and the Public Works Department

**All residents welcome!**



# **MILKSHAKES WITH THE MAYOR!**



**WEDNESDAY  
MAY 18  
7 pm**

**Come chat with your  
mayor and enjoy a sweet  
treat!**

**THE VILLAGE HALL @ ONE VILLAGE CIRCLE**



Save the dates!



THE VILLAGE OF WILLOW SPRINGS  
— ANNUAL —

WILLOW  
★ FEST ★

AUGUST 11-14, 2022



# HAPPY EASTER Egg Hunt

Join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt!

**Saturday, April 9th**

Lots of fun for kids!

Bring your basket!

Lions Park - 10 am

Willow Park - 11 am

Willow Springs Residents Only

To register call 708-467-3700

[www.willowsprings-il.gov](http://www.willowsprings-il.gov)



*Our deepest gratitude  
goes to the fallen men  
and women.*

**Thank you All**

Please join us on Memorial Day,  
May 30th at 11 a.m. at the corner  
of Archer and Willow Springs  
Road to remember the fallen.

## VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALES

*Toys, Tools, Books,  
Clothes  
& More!*

**JUNE 9-11**

**8AM TO 3PM**

CALL 708-467-3700 TO GET ON THE LIST

THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION PRESENTS

## VILLAGE SHRED DAY

9AM-12PM



SATURDAY  
SEPT  
17

PROTECT YOURSELF  
FROM IDENTITY  
THEFT!

Coffee and doughnuts will be served.  
Donations graciously accepted.

METRA PARKING LOT ONE VILLAGE CIRCLE

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS



Welcome to a new year!

The Historical Society continues to work on files and papers processing them in an orderly fashion. Member Eileen loves putting displays together and continually adds to them. They are really quite nice to look at. Please drop in and see them!

We haven't met for a year, but can now hold our meeting on the first Saturday of the month of March immediately following our hours of visitation. Our Saturday hours are 10:00 am to 12:00 pm monthly on the first Saturday. Alice and Eileen are generally there each Wednesday working on collections and would be happy if someone drops in. **Willow Springs Then and Now** flash drives and discs are still on sale the Village Hall. You may pick one up today for just \$10 and enjoy over 700 photos of our town from the past and the present! These historic treasures also make great gifts!

## Willow Springs 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Car Show



Come join the fun at the **Willow Springs 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Car Show** supporting local veteran organizations on Thursday, August 11 from 4pm – 9pm! Kicking off Willow Fest, this event promises a wonderful evening for residents and visitors alike. Sponsored by Steak N' Egger, Nino's Italian Beef & Hot Dogs, Gemcom and other companies, all event registration proceeds go directly to non-for-profit organizations benefiting veterans.

The first 200 car show participants will receive a limited event t-shirt and dash plaque. All show participants are eligible for raffle prizes and will compete to win various class trophies. Pre-registration assures a reservation in a preferred parking lot. Register now!

Car Show visitors may enjoy classic cars, trucks and motorcycles, food from Willow Fest vendors and amusement park rides. Attendees can also support our veterans by participating in our exciting 50/50 drawing.

If you would like to volunteer at the Car Show, please contact Jan Posch at [jposch@willowsprings-il.gov](mailto:jposch@willowsprings-il.gov), or by phone at 708-280-9829. This is a wonderful way to have a great time and meet new friends!

For more information on the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Willow Springs Benefit Car Show, please visit the Village of Willow Springs website, or contact Village Hall at 708-467-3700. We look forward to seeing you at the Car Show!



# COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

## **VEHICLE STICKERS GO ON SALE APRIL 1ST!**

Every car housed in the Village is required to purchase a vehicle sticker, even if your car is not registered to Willow Springs, is leased, or is a company car – you still need a vehicle sticker. Vehicle stickers are not transferable from one town to another, and new residents have 30 days from their closing date to purchase a sticker. Vehicle stickers are due by June 30 of each year and must be displayed on your windshield in the lower passenger side before July 1. Late fees will apply immediately after June 30.



## **LRS has acquired Roy Strom, but the Roy Strom crews are still servicing you!**

**Please remember to have all material set out by 6am on your collection day.** There are times when the regular drivers are out and you may see new drivers at different times of the day.

**Did you know Roy Strom/LRS will collect one bulk item per week for no charge?** Bulk items are items that are too large to fit into your garbage container. Examples of bulk item include a table, chair, mattress, bed frame, box spring, large pictures, or frames, (4) carpet rolls or up to (4) containers of home project debris.

Oversized items or appliances that may need two or more people to lift will require a special pick up. To schedule a special pick up please contact Roy Strom/LRS at (708) 344-5000.

**Yard Waste season** is just around the corner! Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup> Roy Strom/LRS will continue to collect brown yard waste bags or bundles set out with Willow Springs Yard Waste Stickers attached. Residents also have the option to rent 96-gallon yard waste carts. Contact Roy Strom/LRS at (708) 344-5000 for more information.

## **NEVER PAY A UTILITY BILL LATE FEE AGAIN!**

Say what? That's right! If you sign up for direct debit, you will never pay a late fee again!

### **What is direct debit?**

Direct debit, also known as automatic transfer, authorized withdrawal, and auto-pay, is when a bill payer authorizes another party—such as an insurance company, utility, landlord, etc.—to withdraw money from their checking account at regular intervals using the ACH network.

It's a convenient alternative to other bill payment methods where the payer has to remember to mail a paper check, drop off cash, or pay with a card via the phone or online. With direct debit, the payer only needs to provide their bank details once. Then, they enter into a standing agreement for their bank account to be regularly debited once per a given time interval, without any further action on their end. Some common bills that are paid for with direct debit include software subscriptions, utility bills, and auto loans. It's an easy way to pay any bill that's regularly charged over a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or yearly basis. To sign up for direct debit for your garbage/sewer bill, please fill out the form on the next page and return it to the Village Hall along with a voided check.



**Village of Willow Springs  
One Village Circle  
Willow Springs, IL. 60480  
Phone (708) 467-3700**

**AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT  
DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENT PROGRAM  
UTILITY BILLING SEWER/REFUSE**

I hereby authorize the Village of Willow Springs and the Financial Institution designated herein to begin deductions for Direct Debit in payment of my utility bill. I understand my automatic withdrawal of the billing amount will be made every two months on the bill's due date, as indicated on the statement received from the Village of Willow Springs.

I hereby agree to have such funds available on said due date as specified in this agreement, if funds are not available in my account on the payment date, the pre-authorized debit will be returned by my Financial Institution. I understand that if this occurs it will be handled as if I had a check returned for non-sufficient funds. I will be assessed a 10% penalty on the amount due and incur the relating \$35.00 returned check fee, as well as any charges issued by my Financial Institution.

This authority will remain in effect until the Village of Willow Springs has received written notification of termination at least 60 days prior to termination. I also agree to provide the Village of Willow Springs notification of any changes such as: a new bank, or change in checking or savings account status at least 60 days prior to changes.

**Please type or print all information**

**Financial Institution:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bank Account Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Routing Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Checking Account** \_\_\_\_\_ **Savings Account** \_\_\_\_\_

**Resident Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Billing Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Village of Willow Springs Account Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorized Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please remember to attach a voided check to this form. All information must be completed in order to process your request.**

# Fundraiser!

## Spring Flower Bulbs

Dahlias • Lilies • Perennials • Seed Mats • More!



### Order Flower Bulbs & Support Our Cause!

*Online Orders Delivered Directly To Your Door!*

Willow Springs Lioness Lions Club Fundraiser

Spring is almost here and our gardens need to be beautified!

Purchase beautiful spring and summer bulbs and flowers while helping out your local Lioness Lions Club!

Visit Our Personalized Website By 05/15:

[WillowSpringsLionessClub.FPFUNDRAISING.COM](http://WillowSpringsLionessClub.FPFUNDRAISING.COM)

Contact For More Information:

WILLOW SPRINGS LIONESS CLUB





## MEET THE REMAX MARKET TEAM



### ABOUT US

Whether you are buying or selling a home or simply curious about the local market, our RE/MAX® agents are dedicated to making your real estate experience memorable and enjoyable. Our agents live, work, and serve in our local communities and have the experience to get the job done in today's market. In addition to exceptional marketing strategies to help you sell your home quickly, we offer the latest technology to make the process of finding a home easier than ever. You will gain access to cutting-edge map search technology, our state-of-the-art mobile app, current market stats, and more.

We are eager to be your local resource for finding the home of your dreams. We would love the opportunity to connect you with the right agent for your unique needs. Please feel free to contact us today.

### CONTACT

PHONE:  
(708) 839-8100

WEBSITE:  
[www.remax-market.com](http://www.remax-market.com)

EMAIL:  
[lucymierop@remaxmarket.com](mailto:lucymierop@remaxmarket.com)

### TEAM MEMBERS

Linda Saracco	(630) 640-5848
Barbara Plahn	(630) 816-9827
Becky Marquardt	(630) 772-7500
Zeeshan Chaudhary	(630) 649-9397
Mark Damas	(708) 772-6404
Lynn George	(630) 915-8494
Donna Montefusco	(630) 229-2591
Jessica Loxton	(810) 300-4334



### Lucy Mierop

Designated Managing Broker and Owner for 21 years and Broker for 34 years. Commissioner of Beautification Committee & School Board Member of District 108. Re/Max Market was established since January 21, 2001.

We love Walk-ins! Stop in and have a cup of coffee anytime. Our office is located at 8728 S Archer Ave (the old home of Mr. John Banks Jr.)



### Judita Paulauskas

Office Administrator



Becky Marquardt



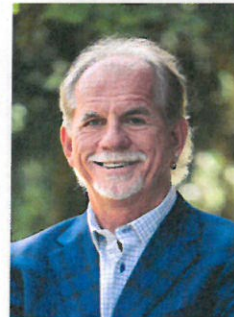
Linda Saracco



Barbara Plahn



Zeeshan Chaudhary



Mark Damas



Lynn George



Donna Montefusco



Jessica Loxton



# The Village Of Willow Springs

One Village Circle,  
Willow Springs, IL 60480  
Phone: 708.467.3700  
Fax: 708.467.3710  
Web: [www.willowsprings-il.gov](http://www.willowsprings-il.gov)  
E-mail: [info@willowsprings-il.gov](mailto:info@willowsprings-il.gov)

## Office Hours:

Monday through Friday;  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Every 2nd and 4th Thursday:  
9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Village Committee/Board Meetings:  
2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

## Village of Willow Springs 2022 Calendar of Events

Date			Event	Details
April	9	Saturday	Easter Egg Hunt	Lions Park, 201 Park St. at 10am
April	9	Saturday	Easter Egg Hunt	Willow Park 10739, Chaucer Dr. at 11am
April	23	Saturday	Clean Up Willow Day	Public Works Bldg, 8261 Willow Springs Rd, 9am
May	2	Monday	Branch Pick Up Begins	Southside: 1st/3rd Mon - Northside: 2nd/4th Mon
May	30	Monday	Memorial Day Ceremony	11am - Archer Ave and Willow Springs Road
May	30	Monday	Village Hall Office Closed	1 Village Circle
June	9-11	Thurs - Sun	Village Wide Yard Sales	Throughout the Village - 8am - 3pm
July	3	Sunday	Fire Works Display	Pleasantdale Park District, 7425 S. Wolf Rd., Dusk
July	4	Monday	Village Hall Office Closed	1 Village Circle
Aug	11	Thurs	Willow Fest 2022 - Benefit Car Show	Village Center, 1 Village Circle
Aug	11-14	Thurs - Sun	Willow Fest 2022 - Carnival, Concerts, Crafts	Village Center, 1 Village Circle
Aug	14	Sun	Willow Fest 2022 - Fireworks Display at dusk	Village Center, 1 Village Circle