



# Willow Springs *Messenger*

Summer 2022

THE VILLAGE OF WILLOW SPRINGS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
THE WINDY CITY BLUES SOCIETY AND IMPERIAL OAK PRESENTS



## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

*Village President*

**MELISSA N. NEDDERMEYER**

*Village Trustees*

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**FRED POSCH**

**RICK MIKA**

*Village Administrator*

**RYAN GRACE**

## VILLAGE STAFF

708-467-3700

*Village Clerk*

**LORI CHARLES**

*Finance Director*

**DAN DENYS**

*Chief of Police*

**GARRY MCCARTHY**

708-839-2732

*Public Works Director*

**KEITH GRANTLAND**

708-839-3027

*Building Commissioner*

**BRUCE ZARTLER**

708-467-3700



# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents,

I hope that you are enjoying the beginning of Summer. This summer 2022 newsletter comes to you with relevant information from your Village Administration, Police Department, Public Works Department, Village Commissions and more. You will also find stories about recent happenings and details about upcoming Village events.



Earlier in the Spring we hosted “Milkshakes with the Mayor.” It was a very well attended, casual event where residents, board members, and department heads were able to mingle. Representatives from Pathlights and the Township of Lyons were on site to provide information about services offered to our residents. A hot topic at the event were the planned park improvements at Willow Park and Lions Park. A portion of funding from The American Rescue Plan Act has been allocated to improving playground equipment at both parks. Residents at the event were able to see concept renderings and weigh in on which layouts they preferred. More information will follow as this initiative progresses, as well as information for an upcoming “Milkshakes with the Mayor” this Fall.

Summer events in Willow Springs will offer our community several fun opportunities to gather. We have the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show and Willow Fest to look forward to from Thursday August 11<sup>th</sup> through Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup>. The food, live music line up, craft vendors and carnival rides promise to be outstanding again this year. The **Blues Fest** will be a fun new event that we’ve added to the calendar in partnership with Imperial Oak and The Windy City Blues Society. It will take place on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. You can find details about these events and more on the pages of this newsletter. Information is also always available on our website [www.willowsprings-il.gov](http://www.willowsprings-il.gov).

It is an honor and privilege to serve you. I know that your Village Board Members feel the same. Please feel free to contact me at the Village Hall should you ever have a Village related question or issue to discuss. May God bless you and may you have a fun and safe summer.

Yours truly,

Melissa Neddermeyer

Willow Springs Village President



# PUBLIC WORKS

## Landscaping

Public works has been busy planting flowers and greenery around the Village! A few of our big planting projects have been at the 91st and County Line Road welcome sign and the entrance to Willow on the Hill.

Pothole repair and branch pick up is being done around the Village. Just as a reminder, branch pick up is the 1st and 3rd Monday on the south side of town, and the 2nd and 4th Monday on the North side of town.

## 2022 Street Resurfacing Program

The Village of Willow Springs will be contracting for road resurfacing on three streets this year. The project includes a mill and overlay of new asphalt from road edge to road edge and curb replacement as needed.

The streets that will be resurfaced are 85th Place from Wolf Road going west; Bucki Lane from 85th Street going south; and Cliff Street from Archer going north. The Village will notify the affected homeowners and businesses prior to work beginning.

I hope everyone has a great summer and takes some time to enjoy our parks. If you have any questions, please email me at [kgrantland@willowsprings-il.gov](mailto:kgrantland@willowsprings-il.gov) or call the office at 708-839-3027.

Your public works director, Keith Grantland



# BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Summertime and the living is easy! We've waited a long time! Willow Springs is spruced up courtesy of the Beautification Commission, the Public Works Department, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and 27 volunteers who made Clean Up Day a success on Saturday, April 23. Every corner of the Village was prepped for the glorious summer season. Our thanks to all who rolled up their sleeves and worked all morning. What a difference you made! In other news, every box in Legacy Garden Park is spoken for and planted in anticipation of the summer bounty. The Beautification Commission has planned a series of Community Outreach programs to make certain you have all the skills needed for gardening success:

## ***~Save the Monarchs***

August 24, 6 pm at Legacy Garden Park

Learn about ways you can help save the Monarchs; see Monarchs in all their life stages and recognize the importance of saving these important pollinators.



## ***~Harvest Fest***

September 28, 6 pm at Legacy Garden Park

Check out the community garden harvests, enjoy Garden tastings, get information on how you can secure a Garden plot next year, hints and tips on extending your harvest and preparing your garden for winter.

Kiley Mahoney of Troop #50738, a junior at Lyons Township High School, is busily building two 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 to add these new additions to our existing Little Libraries at the bus stop, the community center, and the train station. We are in need of books to fill the shelves. If you've done your Spring cleaning and have gently used books to donate, we would appreciate receiving them. Please drop them off in the bin at the Village Hall. Thank you!

A major spring project has been the enhancement of the entrance to Willow on the Hill. Our thanks to the Public Works Department for their help in making this happen.

Now the news so many have been waiting for! The Beautification Commission will host two ever-popular bingo sessions on Saturday, August 13 and Sunday, August 14 from 12 noon-3 pm at Willow Fest. Mark your calendars now!

Finally, a Community Shredding Event will be held Saturday, September 17 from 9 am-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. Donations will most gratefully be appreciated. 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!



# WILLOW SPRINGS ANNUAL CAR SHOW

The can't-miss summer event will be the Willow Springs 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Car Show supporting local veteran organizations on Thursday, August 11 from 4 pm – 9 pm.

Fun for all! The car show drives into the Village Center at Archer and Willow Springs Road with an evening of fun and entertainment for family and friends. 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.

This year there will be trophies for:

- Best original & modified cars
- Best original & modified trucks
- Best original & modified motorcycles
- Best of show
- Mayor's Choice

All entrants are eligible!



Enjoy an evening of live music, beer, food (the famous Lions Club Pork Chop sandwiches will be served,) and the best collection of classic cars, trucks, and motorcycles in the Midwest. Free admission to the public. We want to see YOU at our show. The first 200 car show participants will receive a gift bag with limited event t-shirt, dash plaque and raffle ticket. Pre-registration assures reservation of a preferred parking location so register now! You may also register at the show entrance. Show car pull-in is from noon to 6 pm. 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 [www.willowsprings-il.gov](http://www.willowsprings-il.gov) or contact Village Hall at 708-467-3700. Looking forward to seeing you at the Car Show!



# WILLOW SPRINGS LIONESS-LIONS CLUB

The Willow Springs Lioness-Lions Club is pleased to present their 2022 scholarship recipient; Willow Springs resident Keaton Walsh of St. Xavier College received a \$1,000 academic scholarship. Applicants were to apply and write an essay to be considered. All applications were reviewed by an outside source. Applications are available every January and are open to any Willow Springs resident high school senior or enrolled college student.

The club also donated more than \$1,500 to various organizations including the American Diabetes Association, Canine Companions for Independence, The Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind, CRIS Radio, International Hearing Dog, Inc., Leader Dog for the Blind, Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, Seeing is Believing and local organizations including the Willow Springs Food Pantry. The Willow Springs Lioness Club meets every second Wednesday of the month, except July, at 6 p.m. at the Willow Springs Community Center. New members are always welcome. For more information, visit their Facebook page. Save the date for our annual pancake breakfast. It will be held Sunday, September 25, 2022 at the Willow Springs Community Center. Stay connected to our Facebook page for more details.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Spring Flower Power Fundraiser. We so appreciate your continued support. Although the summer season is just kicking off, our Fall Flower Power Fundraiser is going on right now. Every order earns our club 50% which helps us continue with our mission, award scholarships, and donate to many worthy organizations, locally and nationally. Thank you for continued support.

We also hosted a Baby Shower for the Aunt Martha's Youth Service on June 4. *Aunt Martha's* is a health and wellness not-for-profit organization serving over 105,000 children and adults throughout over 600 communities in Illinois. Gifts and monetary donations were made to help needy mothers and their newborns. We played several baby themed games and won prizes at the raffle.



## TRI-STATE FIRE DEPARTMENT

### HAVE FUN WITH GRILL SAFETY IN MIND

Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors. The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area. Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill. Never leave your grill unattended. Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

Contact our Fire Prevention Bureau at 630-654-6284 for information on free smoke alarms and free loaner emergency access boxes.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS





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# WILLOW FEST

## AUG. 11-14, 2022

### Thursday - August 11

Carnival Rides, Food Vendors and Beer Garden from 4pm – 10pm

14th Annual Benefit Car Show from 4pm – 9pm

American English from 7pm – 9:30pm

### Friday - August 12

Carnival Rides, Food Vendors and Beer Garden from 4 pm – 11 pm

Buckle from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Austin Edwards (*America's Got Talent* winner) 9:00 pm – 11 pm

### Saturday - August 13

Carnival Rides exclusive access for those with special needs from 10 am – 12pm

Carnival Rides, Food Vendors and Beer Garden from 1 pm – 11 pm

Arts and Crafts Vendors from 12 pm – 7 pm

Bingo from 12 pm – 3pm

Free Byrd 4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Reckless from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Arra from 9:00 pm – 11 pm

### Sunday - August 14

Carnival Rides, Food Vendors and Beer Garden from 12 pm – 10 pm

Arts and Crafts Vendors from 12 pm – 7 pm

Bingo from 12 pm – 3pm

How Rude from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

High Infidelity from 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm

**Grand Finale Fireworks Display at dusk**

**FOOD VENDORS** – LaChilanguita, Barone's, Lion's Club, Nino's, and Tropical Sno

**BEER TENT VENDORS** – MGD, Miller Lite, Coors Light, White Claw, Cayman Jack Margarita

**Willow Springs Village Center, One Village Circle, Willow Springs, IL**

**Corner of Archer Avenue & Willow Springs Road**

**Free Shuttle Service Daily from 4:00 pm-11:00 pm – from designated parking areas**

**NO PETS PERMITTED**

# Restore the Canopy

## PLANT A TREE

# FREE TREES FROM THE MWRD!

Trees provide a beautiful green canopy for our communities and are a powerful and effective form of green infrastructure. A medium-sized oak tree can help prevent flooding and improve water quality by absorbing 2,800 gallons of rainfall per year. Restore the Canopy provides four types of native trees (black oak, pin oak, red oak, and white oak) for free to Cook County residents, community groups, and schools. Please note that the availability of each sapling may vary depending on supply.



## TREE PICKUP DAYS

Pick up your free trees on Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon at the following MWRD water reclamation plants (WRPs):

Calumet WRP • 400 East 130th St., Chicago

Egan WRP • 550 South Meacham Rd., Schaumburg

Hanover Park WRP • 1220 Sycamore Ave., Hanover Park

Kirie WRP • 701 West Oakton St., Des Plaines

O'Brien WRP • 3500 Howard St., Skokie

Stickney WRP • 6001 West Pershing Rd., Cicero



### For more information:

- \* Call the MWRD Office of Public Affairs at 312.751.6633
- \* visit our website at [mwrdd.org](http://mwrdd.org)
- \* email [public.affairs@mwrdd.org](mailto:public.affairs@mwrdd.org)

Post a selfie with your tree on Facebook or Twitter and tag us @mwrddgc with #MyMWRDTree. You can also email pictures to [public.affairs@mwrdd.org](mailto:public.affairs@mwrdd.org).



#myMWRDTree

*Restore the Canopy trees are not for resale.*





# HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

We are preparing to finish the last portion of our Civilian Conservation Corps (C.C.C.) project. Our goal is to place two or three educational information boards at the site of the "Iron Mike" statue. The Historical Society started this project in 1994 in conjunction with the Forest Preserve District, the Village of Willow Springs and Chapter #77 of the C.C.C. We are starting to fundraise the money to reach our goal and hoping we can complete this project before too long so future citizens can see some of the struggles our country went through in the depression era, while learning about the young men who answered the call to help rebuild this nation.

We want to thank everyone who stopped by on Memorial Day to look at our display and donate to our project. We would also like to send our thanks to the Public Works crew and especially to Keith for the much-needed help that day. We also wish to thank the village for their continuing support in all that we do.

We still are open on the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The public is always welcome and we're sure you would enjoy seeing our exhibits on display!



## WATER DEPARTMENT



The Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission is happy to announce that the High Tank Rehabilitation Project is complete, successful, and back in service! We want to thank all of residents for their patience during this project.

The annual water quality report is now available online at <https://jswswc.org/2021-water-quality-report/>. The 2021 report will be published in the Desplaines Valley news and will not be delivered individually to your residence. If you would like a copy, please call our office at 708-458-7010 to request a copy or visit our website at [www.jswswc.org](http://www.jswswc.org).





# COMMUNITY EVENTS

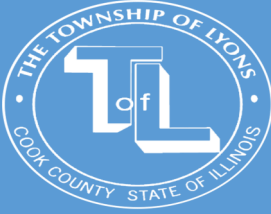


# MOVIE IN THE PARK

President Melissa Neddermeyer and  
the Parks and Recreation Commission present...



# TOWNSHIP NEWS



## TOWNSHIP OF LYONS

Township government is one of the oldest forms of government in Illinois. Townships perform three mandatory functions: administering a general assistance program to qualifying residents, maintaining township road district highways and bridges, and appraising property values. Townships also assist with tax exemptions, appeals, senior freezes and other exemptions, provide senior transportation, conduct youth programs, maintain unincorporated roads with snow and branch removal/chipping, voter registration, unincorporated vehicle stickers, notary services and food pantries. The Township also provides funding to agencies like Pillars, Helping Hand, Center for Independence, Aging Care Connections, The Leader Shop, NAMI, CSS, and Beds Plus.

Please feel free to contact the Township of Lyons with any concerns you have at our regularly scheduled meeting: August 9, 2022, September 13, 2022, October 11, 2022, November 8, 2022, December 13, 2022

Supervisor Christopher Getty, Clerk Elyse Hoffenberg, Assessor Patrick Hynes, Highway Commissioner Sean McDermott. Trustees: Mark Anderson, Colleen H. Kelly, Donna Baffoe-McDonald, Mike Porfirio



## Palos Township

Working for YOU

### Public Sidewalk Share Repair Program

#### ***To Residents located in Palos Township***

As many of you are aware, the public sidewalks in Palos Township have sunk over the years due to natural settling or from sewer and waterlines underneath them. We are pleased to announce that after an intensive search, we have decided upon a process called "mud-jacking" which is the most cost effective approach to repairing and/or eliminating trip hazards. Many residents have inquired about a "share plan" with the Township Road District. In an effort to repair the sidewalks in a cost effective manner as well as to assist our residents in avoiding future issues in the event that there is an accident on the sinking and deteriorating sidewalks we have entered into an agreement with Ken-Rich Concrete Raising and "mud-jacking" up to 3-4 squares in order to raise, adjust and stabilize the area and may be a shared 50/50 expense with the Road District. The actual cost would depend upon the response we receive from interested homeowners regarding this project. Estimated cost per home-owner address, before the cost sharing, would be approximately \$90 per square. Please contact the Palos Township Highway Department for consideration in this process. We need resident involvement to proceed, enhance the look of our sidewalks and make them safe for all.

**PLEASE CONTACT PALOS TOWNSHIP ROAD AND BRIDGE FOR MORE INFORMATION AT 708-598-4451 OR EMAIL [Hwydept@palostownship.org](mailto:Hwydept@palostownship.org)**



# POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS



Please be aware of these Village ordinances:

## 11-3-1: Vehicle Stickers are required on all vehicles

No person, firm or corporation whether residing in the village, or not, or having a place of business in the village, or not, shall register, or house, or keep, or otherwise maintain any vehicle(s) hereinafter described within the village unless each and every of such vehicle(s) is licensed by the village as hereinafter provided. Any person required to purchase a vehicle license hereunder who fails to purchase and display a vehicle license by July 1 in any year shall pay a late purchase fee in addition to the applicable annual license fee for each vehicle license subsequently purchased in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the applicable license fee.

## 11-5D-3B: Overnight Parking is prohibited

No person shall park any vehicle between the hours of two o'clock (2:00) A.M. and six o'clock (6:00) A.M. of any day on any streets in the Municipality. If you need to temporarily park a car overnight, please call the police department non-emergency number at 708-839-2732.

## 11-5D-4A: Park on the street only in the direction of the flow of traffic

**Parking at Curb:** No vehicle shall be parked with the left side of such vehicle next to the curb, except on one-way streets, and it shall be unlawful to stand or park any vehicle in a street other than parallel with the curb and with the two (2) right wheels of the vehicle within twelve inches (12") of the regularly established curb line, except that upon those streets that have been marked for angle parking, vehicles shall be parked at the angle to the curb indicated by such markers.

## 6-1-1B9: Tall grass and weeds

The following is declared to be a nuisance... and deemed to be a menace to the health of inhabitants of the village as declared in any other section of this code: To permit the growth of weeds or grass in excess of six inches (6") in height on any real estate within the village limits.

## 8-2-2: Building permits

A permit is required for **all** construction project (big or small) including the following common projects – fences, dumpsters, roofs, windows and exterior doors, siding, gutters, soffit, fascia installation, decks, patios, swimming pools, sheds, driveways, sidewalks, underground drainage, electrical, plumbing and all interior and exterior remodeling projects. If you are unsure whether a permit is required, please call the village hall at 708-467-3700.

# Village Shred Day!

Saturday, Sept 17th 9am—Noon

Metra Parking Lot—One Village Circle

Coffee and Doughnuts will be served

Donations graciously accepted!



## Illinois Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

The Illinois Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant awards have been announced for Cycle 14 2021.

The Illinois Department of Transportation received 102 project applications requesting over \$21.3 million. After careful review, 57 projects were chosen totaling over \$12.3 million in federal funding. These funds will be used to improve safety and promote walking and bicycling as transportation options for school children in Illinois.

**Gina Scaletta Nelson**, an employee in the Clerk's office, worked on our grant application for the Safe Routes to School program. The Village of Willow Springs had the highest score of all applicants and was awarded \$250,000. The "Wolverines Walk" project adds a sidewalk on the west side of Nolton Avenue from Prospect Street to Archer Avenue. This sidewalk will include detectable warnings that meet ADA standards. This is the second time the Village of Willow Springs has been awarded a Safe Routes to School Grant. Scaletta Nelson also worked on the first grant which provided sidewalks along the south side of German Church Rd and on the west side of School Street, as well as flashing beacons and a crosswalk allowing residents to cross safely.

## Village of Willow Springs 2022 Calendar of Events

Date			Event	Details
July	20	Wed	Movie in the Park—Minions 8pm	Lions Park, 201 Park Street
July	30	Sat	Blues Fest Noon-10pm	Imperial Oak Brewing, 501 Willow Blvd.
Aug	11	Thurs	Willow Springs Benefit Car Show 4pm-9pm	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
Aug	18	Thurs	Village Board Meeting 7pm	Village Center, 1 Village Circle
Sept	8	Thurs	Village Board Meeting 7pm	Village Center, 1 Village Circle
Sept	17	Sat	Village Shred Day 9am-Noon	Metra Parking Lot, One Village Circle
Sept	22	Thurs	Village Board Meeting 7pm	Village Center, 1 Village Circle
Sept	23-25	Fri -Sun	Village Wide Garage Sales 8am-3pm	Various locations throughout the Village
Oct	13	Thurs	Village Board Meeting 7pm	Village Center, 1 Village Circle
Oct	31	Mon	Wicked Willow 6pm-8pm	Lions Park, 201 Park Street



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.

**Village Committee/Board Meetings:**

2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

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**Village President**



**Melissa N. Neddermeyer**

**Trustees**



**Tom Arra**



**Terrance M. Carr**



**Michael Kennedy Jr.**



**Rick Mika**



**Ernie Moon**



**Fred Posch**