

Village of Summit, IL.

Spring, 2023

Founded in 1890

A Village on the Rise

THE SUMMIT



FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR SERGIO RODRIGUEZ

Happy Spring! As we say goodbye to another winter, we welcome Spring. The Village Board has prioritized providing relief to property owners by maintaining the Village property tax rate for the past six years. **Since 2015, they have been able to lower the property tax rate from 2.6% to 2.2%. The overall property tax rate has also dropped from 17.152% to 13.983%.** During this time the board has also been able to build a reserve which has not been done in decades.

The board has made a commitment to improve our infrastructure and facilities by aggressively targeting grants, including awards **over \$1,000,000 just last year.** Many of the projects that have been completed were not only to resurface streets, but also the widening several streets, replacing water meters, and paving several alleys. **The Village**

has also been awarded \$750,000 in grants to complete several more alleys and complete a lead service inventory for this upcoming year.

The Village board has also made a commitment to ensure our public work, fire, and police department have updated and new equipment, tools, and vehicles needed to do their job. **Remember to say "hello" to our wonderful employees** who are out their day and night in all types of weather to ensure our Village runs smoothly.

We look forward to continuing all this progress for the upcoming year which will include planting of more trees, beautification of Archer Road, and several water main replacements.

SAVE THE DATE— CHICAGO RIVER DAY

Last May, the Village of Summit proudly participated in the 30th Annual Chicago River Day, a volunteer-based event hosted by Friends of the Chicago River to help dispose of litter and beautify the Calumet-Chicago River System. **The Village of Summit will again participate in the 2023 addition, which is being held Saturday, May 13th.** With the I&M Canal celebrating its 175th anniversary (see page 6), this is a perfect way for residents to get involved to help clean, maintain, and restore the river system. The Village of Summit will provide information on registration and further details as we get closer to May. **Stay tuned!**

SUMMIT WELCOMES NON-PROFIT BEDS PLUS TO COMMUNITY

BEDS Plus, a 30-year-old La Grange-based non-profit which helps vulnerable individuals stabilize their lives through housing and supportive services, opened a new facility on March 3rd at **7666 W. 63rd Street, Summit, IL 60501.** The facility, named the **Linda Sokol Francis Summit Service Center**, is the first medical respite center in Southwest Cook County. **See BEDS, page 5**



The I&M Canal Celebrates its 175th Anniversary. Read more about it on **page 6.**



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The Official Publication of the Village of Summit



Happy St. Patrick's Day and Feast of St. Joseph! So many traditions are carried on year after year for these special days. My Grandmother McGuire use to make the traditional corn beef and cabbage dinner for St. Patrick's Day every year for family. While mine is not as delicious as hers (no one could ever cook as well as Grandma), I still do every year to make sure that tradition carries on.

The Easter Bunny is hopping its way as well. Easter has always been so special because it was one of my father's favorite! Not only do children enjoy Easter egg hunts and getting those special Easter baskets from the Easter Bunny, but it also brings family together to celebrate. My family

Office phone: 563-4807

Email: clambert@summit-il.org

has the tradition of Easter breakfast with homemade potica and a very special breakfast. My Grandmother Tichacek made potica every year and, while I make it as well to carry on the tradition, nothing compares to Grandma's.

Traditions are so special to me and I am blessed to be able to carry them on from my grandmothers' to my children and, hopefully, to their children. That's what makes these holidays so special.

Dog Licenses

Be sure your pet is licensed with the Village! Forms are available at the Strzelczyk Municipal Center and should be renewed on an annual basis. **The cost of the license is just \$2.00.**

Please Keep in mind

2023 Vehicle tags go on sale **Tuesday, June 1ST**. Tags must be displayed on the lower right corner of your windshield by no later than **July 1ST, 2023**.

Election Day Information

Election Day is (again) upon us. Below you'll find information on the upcoming municipal elections, which is Tuesday, April 4th. While turnout is often lower in these types of elections, they nonetheless carry heavy importance because they elect our neighbors to serve on library, village, and school boards — all with the purpose to make decisions that better impact your life. **No matter how you vote or what your plan is, always remember to VOTE!**

Election Day Voting Locations

Polls open at 6:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

Precinct 56 Summit Park District Spark Center

Precinct 57 Strzelczyk Municipal Center

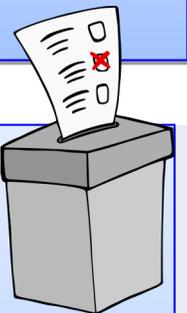
Precinct 60 Argo Community High School



Village Municipal Election— Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Important Dates:

- March 19, 2023 Last day to register to vote via online
- March 20, 2023 First day of early voting
- March 30, 2023 Deadline for mail-in ballots
- April 03, 2023 Last day of early voting
- April 04, 2023 Election Day



Early Voting Locations

Hodgkins Village Hall
8990 Lyons St.
Hodgkins, IL. 60525

Lyons Village Hall
4200 S. Lawndale Ave.
Lyons, IL. 60534

Stickney Township N. Building
6721 W. 40th St.
Stickney, IL. 60402

Early Voting Dates and Hours

Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Saturday:** 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Sunday:** 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

March 20 – March 24 March 25 and April 1 March 26 and April 2

March 27 – March 31, April 3

Mel Ortiz, Interim Police Chief

Safety Protocols to Note

Spring is approaching and with the warmer weather, there are some things to be aware of.

- **Drive carefully:** As the weather warms, more kids will be out to enjoy the warmth and play with their friends. Please use caution when driving especially through the residential streets. Be aware of kids or pets running out from in between parked vehicles.
- The season also brings those who wish to take advantage of unsuspecting residents and members of the elderly community. People passing themselves off as legitimate service providers such as contractors, solicitors, or utilities workers use these pretexts to commit ruse burglaries or fraud. Remember, **the Village does not allow solicitors to conduct business without being vetted and having received a permit to conduct their work.**
- If you have anyone that comes to your door as a solicitor or as a worker that you cannot identify please do not open your doors for them and contact police. A police officer will be sent to the area to identify them and their work permit.

New K-9 to Join Force

Our residents will begin to see the new addition to our patrol division in the month of May. **The Summit Police will be deploying our newest officer in the form of a trained police K-9.** This new asset will be patrolling the community with his handler and partner, Officer Correa, a three-and-a-half year veteran

VILLAGE BRINGS BACK 50/50 SIDEWALK PROGRAM TO REPAIR RESIDENTIAL SIDEWALKS

Mayor Rodriguez recently announced the return of the 50/50 Sidewalk Program, a Village sponsored initiative which **subsidizes the cost of sidewalk repairs for residents.** The program, which was last in effect prior to COVID, is paid for via motor fuel revenue the Village collects from gas stations. Approximately \$60,000 is allocated toward the initiative this year. **Any residents interested can contact info@summit-il.org or (708) 563-4806.** Service is limited to demand and applications will be taken on a first-come, first-service basis.



of our department. Both will be attending their specialty training in March and April before assuming their local duties. We hope to introduce the community to our new four-legged officer upon their return.

How to Better Connect with Us

The Police Department is continuing to explore new and innovative ways to provide protective services to the Village. As these concepts become reality, we will inform the community on how these new strategies and technologies will be implemented and enable our officers to better serve the People of Summit. We would like to remind our residents of our online portal that provides information about our department, the work the officers do, and resources that are available. **You can find us and register for notifications through our online page at www.summitcrimewatch.com or download the crimewatch app on your smart phone or tablet.** If you choose the app, you can select Summit Police as your department and receive notifications through there as well. As always, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support. We can only succeed if we work as a partnership with the community.



Office phone: 563-4830
Anonymous Tip Hotline: 563-8100
Email: mortiz124@summitpd.net

Village of Summit 50/50 Sidewalk Application

The Village is gathering names and addresses for our 50/50 program for late summer/early fall of 2023. The 50/50 program will give residents an opportunity to divide the cost to repair sidewalk squares located on village property. (Public sidewalks only) Should you be interested, please complete the following information.

The cost for each square will be \$140.00 per square. The money will be due by Friday, May 19, 2023.

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Number of Squares _____ (public property only)

Additional Notes _____

Signature

Wayne Hanson Fire Chief



As we move into warmer weather, there will be greater risk of severe weather and possible **tornadoes**. A tornado's path of destruction can be more than one mile wide, 50 miles long and can devastate a neighborhood in seconds. You may have little warning, so preparation and planning are key to reducing injuries. **It's important to know what to do before, during, and after a tornado.**

Before

Know a safe place: Know the safe places at home, work and at school. Locate local shelters and be aware of the tornado risk in your county or parish.

- Practice tornado drills at home and school.
- Have a plan for how family members will contact one another during an emergency. Establish an out-of-area contact (such as a relative or family friend) who can coordinate family members' locations and information should you become separated. Make sure children learn the phone numbers and addresses and know the emergency plans.
- Prepare a family disaster supplies kit. Families with children should have each child create their own personal pack.

During

During a tornado watch:

- Remain inside, away from windows and doors.
- Listen to the radio or TV. Keep a battery-operated radio or a NOAA Weather Radio.
- Make sure your family disaster supplies kit is complete.
- Be alert during a thunderstorm watch. Severe thunderstorms can produce tornadoes. Being prepared will give you more time should the weather turn severe.

During a tornado warning, listen to the radio or TV for weather updates and instructions from local officials. Quick action and planning ahead can save your life! If you get caught in a tornado, know what to do: take shelter immediately; stay away from windows, corners, doors and outside walls; be aware of flying debris. Crouch on the floor near an interior wall or under a heavy object, such as a table. Bend over and place your arms on the back of your head and neck (which are injured more easily than other parts of your body).

Updated Illinois Smoke Alarm Law

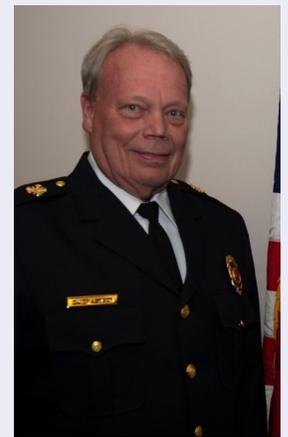
In 2017, the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance worked with the General Assembly to pass a law which will require Illinois residents to replace their old smoke alarms with the type that has a long term, 10-year sealed battery beginning January 1st, 2023. This would apply to residents that are still using alarms with removable batteries or alarms that are not hardwired.

After

Continue to listen to the news and weather updates. Stay away from power lines and broken glass. Be aware of the possibility of broken gas lines and chemical spills. If you smell gas or chemical fumes, immediately evacuate the area and contact authorities. Stay out of damaged buildings and return home only after authorities have issued an all-clear signal. **On the first Tuesday of every month at 10am, the emergency siren will sound for 5 minutes for testing purposes.**

Stay Safe During Spring Cleaning

With warmer weather comes with spring cleaning. People tend to mix cleaning products together to make cleaning easier and faster. **Make sure you follow the direction when using cleaning products!** Misuse of cleaning products can be harmful or can lead to being fatal.



Office phone: 594-3894
Email: chiefhanson@summit-il.org

DO NOT mix the following products. They can be fatal!

BLEACH & VINEGAR

- Bleach and vinegar mixture produce chlorine gas, which can cause coughing, breathing problems, burning and watery eyes.

BLEACH & AMMONIA

- Bleach and ammonia produce a toxic gas called chloramine. It causes shortness of breath and chest pain.

BLEACH & RUBBING ALCOHOL

- Bleach and rubbing alcohol make chloroform, which is highly toxic.

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE & VINEGAR

- This combination makes peracetic/peroxyacetic acid, which can be highly corrosive.

Exemptions to the new smoke alarm law

Homes built after 1988 that already have hardwired smoke alarms. Homes with wireless integrated alarms that use low-power radio frequency communications, WI-FI, or other Wireless Local Area Networking capability.

Medical respite care, also known as recuperative care, is for people experiencing homelessness and are too vulnerable to recover from a physical illness or injury, but do not qualify for further hospitalization, rehabilitation services or nursing home care. Priority of care will be given to patients discharged from partner hospitals.



The center has semi-private rooms, congregate meals, shower and laundering facilities, and medical care spaces operated by health partners AdventHealth and Pillars Community Health.

The facility will be staffed 24/7 and the residents will be screened to ensure they meet the following criteria: no history of violence; cannot be registered sex offender; absent of severe or untreated psychosis.

Other services offered at the facility, by appointment, are:

- Rental Assistance — access to rent and utility payments.
- Housing Programs — connection to supportive and transitional housing.
- Employment Program
- Case Management access and linkages to community-based safety net programs.



BEDS Plus is a member of the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County, a federally funded network that coordinates homelessness services in the Chicago metropolitan area, and the leading agency in the Southwest Suburbs (serving townships: Berwyn, Cicero, Lemont, Lyons, Orland, Palos, Proviso, Riverside, Stickney, and Worth Townships).

BEDS provides evidence-based Stabilization, Emergency Services, Interim Housing, Transitional Housing, and Supportive Housing services. BEDS Plus main offices are located at 9601 Ogden Ave., La Grange IL, where they also own and run an apartment building.

VILLAGE AND NON-PROFIT PARTNER FOR ANOTHER BEAUTIFICATION INITIATIVE MAY 20TH

The Village of Summit, along with the help of the environmental non-profit Openlands, will partner **May 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to plant trees and beautify parkways south of 59th St. and North of 63rd St.** This will be the third partnership between the Village and Openlands, with both most recently planting 54 trees last fall between Archer Ave and 59th Street.

The initiative has been made possible by the Village successfully securing a grant in 2020 to help with beautification purposes. **Openlands and the Village have together planted a total of 81 trees to date.**

Tom Ebeling, Community Arborist for Openlands, hopes to build on the momentum and success. "Openlands is looking forward to our Third successful TreePlanters Grant with the Village of Summit!" said Ebeling. "Thanks to the coordinating efforts of the village and the residents who have signed up to adopt a tree, we will continue to bring the environmental, aesthetic and economic benefits of new trees to Summit."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Residents are welcomed and encouraged to participate. Any resident interested in volunteering can:

- Call the Summit info line at (708) 563-4806
- Email info@summit-il.org
- Visit the following link: <https://openlands.iotform.com/223334352535148>, or scan the QR codes on this page.

SCAN TO VOLUNTEER



SCAN TO REQUEST A TREE PLANTED



I&M Canal Celebrates 75 Years

Historical Spotlight

The Village of Summit Board of Trustees recently passed a proclamation recognizing the **175th anniversary of the Illinois & Michigan Canal**. While the canal begins at the Chicago River in Bridgeport and runs all the way to the Illinois River at LaSalle-Peru, **the canal runs through Summit on the western side of town**. The Village also designates a specific commission, called the I&M Canal Board, to help study and preserve Village's portion of the historic canal. This board is Chaired by Trustee Arthur "Coach" Sullivan and includes Trustees Aleco "Al" Julius and Mayra Ortiz.

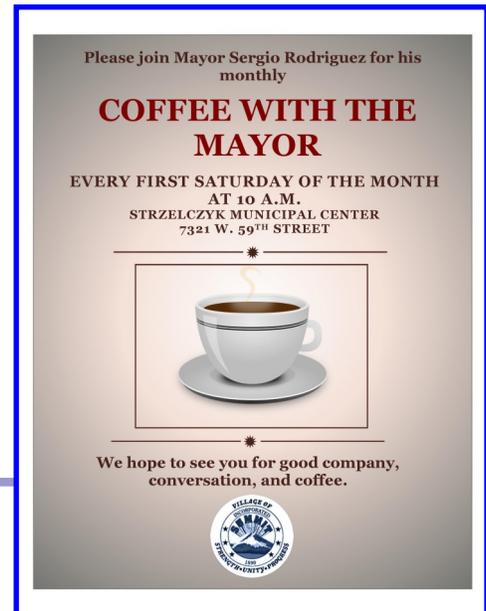
The Canal Corridor Association, the non-profit that preserves the history, nature and open space of the canal, will also pursue initiatives to honor the canal. Late last year, the Association announced that they were seeking 175 stories from individuals to showcase the impact of the I&M Canal, both from a historical and personal perspective. According to the Association, these stories will be channeled throughout the year with the end goal of preserving these stories for another 175 years to come.

Coffee with the Mayor Continues with Riveting Success

Community Focus

Village Mayor Sergio Rodriguez recently hosted his monthly **"Coffee with the Mayor"** session with residents on Saturday, March 4th at the Strzelczyk Municipal Center at 7321 W. 59th Street. The sessions are an opportunity for residents to connect with local government and learn about recent municipal projects and initiatives.

For this session, **Mayor Rodriguez announced** the Village applied for a \$40,000 grant to help repair lead service lines, the purchase of a parking lot on 63rd, and cost savings from the 50/50 Sidewalk Program, an initiative that helps residents pay for repair of their sidewalk.



Please Recycle Accordingly

The Village of Summit has relocated Village recycling bins to the **Metra parking lot, located at the end of Center Ave on the west end of the lot** (picture to the right).

The use of the bins is meant only for residential public disposal and **NOT for businesses, independent contractors, or construction companies**. Remember not all items can be recycled. If items are placed into the bins that are not recyclable, it runs the risk of contaminating the entire bin making all items not able to be recycled.

Please ensure that all items have been rinsed and clean before putting into the bin. **Additionally, only the following paper items are allowed to be recycled:**

- Paperboard, office paper, mail, newspaper, magazines, empty milk or juice cartons and cardboard and paper bags.

Paper items that have food stains, such as pizza boxes, napkins, and tissues, are not allowed.

For plastic items please look at the container or packaging for the recycle symbol and the only items that can be recycled are plastic items with a **numbers 1,2,3,4,5,7**. **If it does not have a recycle symbol, do not place in bins**. No plastic bags. The following items are also **NOT** allowed to be recycled:

- Styrofoam, batteries, clothing, wire, cords, hangers, ropes, propane tanks, paint cans, wood items, concrete, chains, hoses, e-waste, tires.

Finally, please be advised that yard waste pickup is begins April 1st and lasts through November 30th.



SENIOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The Township of Lyons offers free rides for township residents **60 years and older and for those with a disability**. The boundaries are the following:



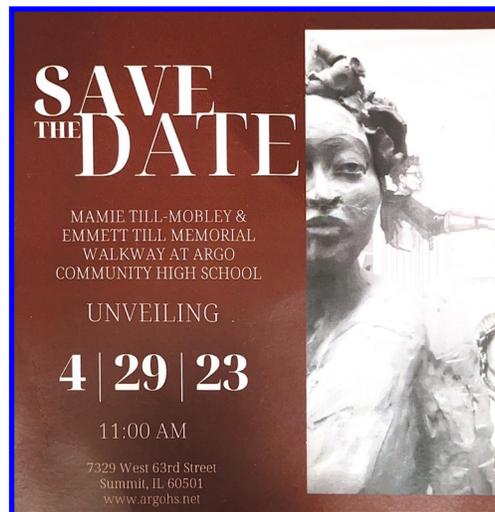
- North: 39THST / Ogden Ave
- South: 87th St
- East-Harlem Ave
- West: County Line road

You can register for this program by calling the office Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 708-354-0229. For more information about services they offer please visit their website <https://lyonstownshipil.gov/>.

2022 TAX SEASON REMINDERS

For the 2022 tax year, **there will be NO auto renewals of the Senior Freeze Exemption, Persons with Disabilities Exemption, and Veterans with Disabilities Exemption**. If you previously had any of these exemptions, you will need to re-apply for the 2022 tax year via the Township of Lyons. The Township can be contacted at <https://lyonstownshipil.gov/> or 708-482-8300.

COMMUNITY EVENTS TO NOTE



SUMMIT BULLETIN BOARD

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT



December 21 2022

Ordinance 22-0-39 was adopted, approving the village budget for the fiscal year of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Mayor Rodriguez wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - hoping that 2023 will bring a new sense of peace and health to the Village of Summit.

January 17, 2023

Board adopts Resolution 23-R-01, Resolution in support of Tax Increment Financing, and Ordinance 23-O-01, an Ordinance authorizing the sale of certain surplus property (1998 Ford F800).

February 6, 2023

Several zoning ordinances were approved. Ordinance 23-O-07 was also adopted establishing a partnership between Summit and Village of Bedford Park for Emergency Medical Services.

February 21, 2023

Ordinance 23-O-09 was approved, authorizing an agreement between Flock Group, Inc. and Summit for hardware, software, and services for license plate readers. A proclamation recognizing the 175th anniversary of the I&M Canal was adopted. The Board approved and confirmed the hiring of Chris Crisanti as the Village's new Public Relations Assistant.

March 7, 2023

Ordinance 23-O-12 was adopted, approving an agreement between the Village of Summit, Archer and 63rd C/E Inc and Envios Express & Services (currency exchange sale of Village Stickers). Board approved the first steps repair and maintain village sidewalks this year by awarding a contract to Strada Construction Co. to perform the work. The Board continued their aggressive pursuit of grants by approving Resolution 23-R-02, authorizing participation in this years Cook County Development Block Grant Program.

VILLAGE OF SUMMIT
Strzelczyk Municipal Center
7321 W. 59TH Street
Summit, IL 60501

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
1ST Saturday of month: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Summit Village Hall (708) 563-4800
Village Clerk (708) 563-4807

FOR SERVICES CALL:

Emergency 911
Police Department non-emergency (708) 563-4830
Fire Department non emergency (708) 594-3894
Public Works Department (708) 563-4809
Water / Sewer Billing (708) 563-4817

OFFICIALS:

MAYOR **SERGIO RODRIGUEZ**
CLERK **COLLEEN LAMBERT**

TRUSTEES

Setki "Sam" Dardovski Marvel Parker
Aleco S. Julius Arthur Sullivan
Mayra Ortiz Karen J. Wasko

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



WEBSITES TO KNOW

Summit Park District
www.summitparks.org

Summit Public Library District
www.summitlibrary.info

Cook School District 104
www.sd104.us

Argo Community High School District 217
www.argohs.net

Township of Lyons
www.lyontownshipil.gov

Illinois Department of Public Health
www.dph.illinois.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 1ST: Coffee with the Mayor

April 3RD: Village Board Meeting - Village Hall

April 7TH: Good Friday - Village Offices Closed

April 17TH: Village Board Meeting - Village Hall

April 21ST: Neighborhood Watch Meeting

May 1ST: Village Board Meeting - Village Hall

May 6TH: Coffee with the Mayor

May 6TH: Summit Library Health Fair

May 13TH: Chicago River Day - Lawndale Avenue and Service Road

May 18TH: Neighborhood Watch Meeting

May 15TH: Village Board Meeting - Village Hall

May 29TH: Memorial Day - Village Offices Closed