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Village of Summit, IL.

Spring, 2024

Founded in 1890

THE SUMMIT

A Village on the Rise



FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR SERGIO RODRIGUEZ

Punxsutawney Phil didn't see his shadow, forecasting an early spring! We've been blessed with a remarkably mild winter so far, with little snow and comfortable temperatures. Let's keep our fingers crossed that things stay this way!

While we embrace the lingering warmth, let's not forget that spring is just around the corner. To celebrate the changing seasons and the power of community, we're excited to continue several upcoming volunteer events. Please check our website for how to sign-up and more information about these events:

- **Chicago River Day on May 11th**
- **Openlands' Tree Planting on May 18th**



Inside of The Kabaker Department Store, one of Summit's first businesses. Read more about it on **page 6**.

We're always looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make these events a success and keep our village vibrant all year round. Whether you have a green thumb, love organizing, or simply enjoy good company, there's always a place for you! Check out our website and Facebook to learn more and get involved.

NAMI OFFERING 24/7 BILINGUAL AND FREE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The non-profit **NAMI Metro Suburban** has newly expanded its **Living Room Program**, where residents can now receive fully bilingual and free mental health services 24/7. Located at 7602 63rd Street, the program provides help with stress, anxiety, or crises to any adult 18 years and older.



"Our goal is to continue providing support and tools that promote emotional wellbeing," said **Caitlin Joycesmith**, NAMI's Director of Advancement. "Providing this sort of access for people is extremely beneficial for community wellbeing." [see **NAMI**, page 5]

FAMILY-OWNED HTC PRINT GROUP CONTINUES TO BE SUMMIT STAPLE IN PRINTING BUSINESS

Dan and Gino Bucci have provided the community and Chicagoland area with blueprints, printing, and design needs for more than 20 years. Their business, **HTC Print Group** — formally known as Hank's Blueprint & Supply Company — has called Summit home since 1997 with it being located at 7355 W Archer Ave. [see **HTC**, page 6]



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Newsletter timelines:

- March - Spring Edition
- May - Summer Edition
- August - Fall Edition
- November- Year End Edition



The Official Publication of the Village of Summit



Office phone: 563-4807

Email: clambert@summit-il.org

Election Day Info

Election Day is (again) upon us and it's early this year. It's a presidential election year, so turnout is expected to be higher than normal. Below you'll find information on the upcoming primary election, which is **Tuesday, March 19th**. The general election will be held Tuesday, November 5th. As always, **no matter how you vote or what your plan is, remember to VOTE!**



Stay in the Loop!

Please be sure to sign up for these important resources by using the QR code below. Both resources help the Village send important information.



Code Red is the Village's public alerting and residential safety system. Signing up will provide you with important, real-time notifications texted to your phone, including power/water outages, weather alerts, police activity and updates, and more.



Launched in 2022, **SummitCrime-watch.com** provides public safety information and resources for residents. This platform allows for two-way dialogue in which the community can get involved and the department with real-time information and tips to help make our community safer.

Election Day — Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Important Dates:

March 3rd	Last day to register to vote via online
March 4th	First day of early voting
March 14th	Deadline for mail-in ballots
March 18th	Last day of early voting
March 19th	Election Day

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

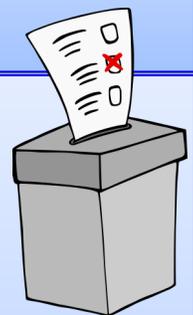
Precinct 57 Strzelczyk Municipal Center

Precinct 60 Argo Community H.S.

Early Voting Locations

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

Stickney-Forest View Library
6800 W. 43th 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 4 – March 8

March 9 and March 16

March 10 and March 17

March 11 – March 15; March 18

Mel Ortiz, Police Chief

Spring is coming and with it, the warmer weather will be a welcome. With the approach of the seasonal change, we are asking our residents to be aware of people attempting to defraud unsuspecting victims.

The changing of season seems to bring out phony contractors who promise home repairs, concrete work, and driveway resurfacing at great prices. However, this work is often substandard or may not even be completed at all — leaving customers with no way to get their money back or their repairs completed. Once inside the home, these unscrupulous persons may burglarize the residence and leave right before the homeowner realizes what had occurred.

The Village does not allow solicitors without a permit. If you see any suspicious contractors or workers going door to door, please call the police to verify their identity.

There have been **vehicle burglaries** in the Village and surrounding communities. The majority of the incidents are a result of people leaving their cars unlocked. **Please make sure that you lock your doors** and remove anything of value from your

vehicles when you park them for the night. Be part of the solution by helping prevent car break-ins.

As always, we ask everyone to **be mindful of our kids when driving**. The warmer weather will bring more people out to enjoy the weather so be aware of any kids running out into the roadway. Watch your speed and exercise due care.

Our monthly **Neighborhood Watch Meetings** are held on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. The meetings are held at the Village Board Room. We look forward to seeing you there.



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

Jerry Rosales, Superintendent of Public Works

Although it looks like we may have a mild winter for the remainder of the season, please still be sure to turn the thermostat up to keep your pipes from freezing if the temperature drops. Additionally, leave cabinets and vents open to help insulate water lines and leave a slight drip from the faucet to prevent freezing. If they do freeze, blow dryers can help warm them up.

DEBRIS NOTICES

Public Works will be out patching potholes, street cleaning when the weather permits, and cleaning out debris from sewers. **Please continue to follow the normal street sweeping schedule.** We follow that for snowfall/plowing as well.

The melting of the snow has also brought other issues, such as debris now being visible. Let's work together to help keep our parkways and alleyways free from debris.

GARBAGE PICKUP GUIDELINES

As we continue to maintain our properties **garbage pickup will continue to be on Fridays.** If throwing out a mattress it must be placed or wrapped in a plastic bag. Plastic mattress covers may be purchased at retail outlets such as Walmart, Lowes, Menards, Home Depot and storage unit facilities. Other acceptable options include packaging wrap or cut up, taped around trash bags to help cover a mattress or box spring.

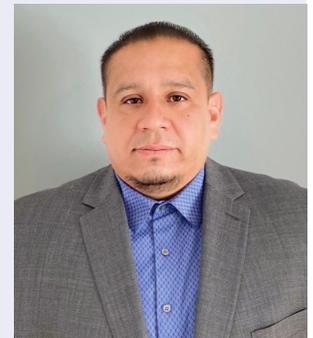
Bulk items are collected loose on your regular day of service. Each household is permitted up to two bulk items on the service day under 75lbs. If an item exceeds 75lbs, residents may need to call LRS to schedule a special pickup. It is recommended that it be taken out the night before so that the bulk item does not sit in the alley the whole week.



The Village is enforcing for **garbage overflow** and will fine residents. If a resident is doing construction/remodeling within the home the garbage company will not pick up any construction material. Instead, you will have to acquire a dumpster from a scavenger company. Anyone caught dumping into residential totes will be fined. Let's keep our alleys clean to help keep the rodents away. If residents need any additional garbage pickup, please reach out to **Lakeshore Recycling at 844-633-3577.**

RECYCLING PICKUP GUIDELINES

The Village also has **two recycling dumpsters** at the Metra station for recycling paper, plastic and glass. Please do not dispose of plastic bags, furniture or big items here. If anyone is caught dumping construction material, furniture, tires, or any other garbage that does not belong in the recycling bins, you will be fined. **Finally, please be advised that yard waste pickup begins April 1st and lasts through November 30th.**



Office phone: 563-4800
Email: jrosales@summit-il.org



Tony Anderson, Fire Chief



Stay Safe During Spring Cleaning

Warm weather brings spring cleaning and people unfortunately tend to mix cleaning products together to make cleaning easier and faster. However, there can be some safety concerns to that. **Make sure you are careful when using the following cleaning products!** Misuse

of cleaning products can be harmful. **Do not mix any of the following products as they can be fatal!**

> BLEACH & VINEGAR

Mixing bleach and vinegar produces 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.

Blood Drive April 20th

Please save the date for **Saturday, April 20th** as the Fire Department will be hosting a blood drive in partnership with the Village and Red Cross. Be sure to follow the Village website and social media pages as details become available.



Tornado Season

As we move into warmer weather, there will be greater risk of severe weather and possible tornados. You may have little warning, so preparation and planning are key to reducing injuries.

Remember to stay safe by remaining inside, away from windows and doors, and be alert. 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).

As a protocol, please take note that our emergency siren will sound for 5 minutes on the first Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. for testing purposes.



Office phone: 594-3894
Email: tanderson@summitfire.net

VILLAGE TO UNDERGO MORE BEAUTIFICATION MAY 18TH

The Village of Summit, along with the help of the environmental non-profit Openlands, will partner **May 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to plant trees and beautify parkways south of 60th St.**

This will be the fourth partnership between the Village and Openlands, with the most recent planting of 32 trees south of 59th St. and North of 63rd St. last spring.

The initiative has been made possible by the Village successfully securing a grant to help with beautification purposes. **Openlands and the Village have together planted a total of 138 trees to date.**



TREE PLANTING EVENT

WOULD YOU LIKE A FREE TREE PLANTED ON YOUR PARKWAY?

The Village of Summit is hosting its fourth community tree planting project in partnership with Openlands this Spring.



Use the following QR code to request a tree (or trees) for your parkway. You will be asked to care for the tree for 3 years-primarily watering once a week during the growing season.



QUESTIONS?

Our experts are on hand to help!
Tom Ebeling TreeCare@openlands.org
Sergio Rodriguez Info@summit-il.org



PLANTACIÓN DE ÁRBOLES

¿DESEA PLANTAR GRATUITAMENTE UN ÁRBOL EN SU ARCÉN?

La Villa de Summit organiza esta primavera su cuarto proyecto comunitario de plantación de árboles en colaboración con Openlands.



Utilice el siguiente código QR para solicitar un árbol (o árboles) para su acera. Se le pedirá que cuide del árbol durante 3 años, principalmente regándolo una vez a la semana durante la temporada de crecimiento.



¿Preguntas?

Nuestros expertos están a su disposición.
Tonatiu Rodriguez TreeCare@openlands.org
Sergio Rodriguez Info@summit-il.org



A national, evidence-based model, The Living Room concept is an innovative way to help limit barriers for those needing support. By focusing on access, such care may limit or even prevent unnecessary emergency room visits. Guests work with Certified Recovery Support Specialists one-on-one and in group settings to support wellness. They can also connect with other NAMI programs, such as their Jobs Program that helps individuals find gainful employment in the community.



“At NAMI Metro Suburban, we know individuals need support more than just 8 hours a day,” said **Joycesmith**. “By expanding our hours to a 24/7 model, we are decreasing barriers and increasing access to essential services. Individuals 18 and older have a safe space to talk with a peer about stress, mental wellness, or anything they may need support with; and they can do this at any time of the day.”

In 2023, Summit’s Living Room Program served 175 unduplicated guests and offered 470 hours of service. **Mayor Rodriguez**, who also serves on NAMI Metro Suburban’s board, credits that success to the organization’s staff and their tenacity to help others.



“Having NAMI here is such an important asset to the well-being of our community,” said Rodriguez. “Their 24/7 program will give members of the community easy access to mental health services and professionals who are dedicated to empowering others.”

NAMI’s Living Room Program also operates in La Grange and Broadview. Along with La Grange, Summit operates 24/7, with Summit being the first to operate fully with bilingual services.

GETTING TO KNOW . . . VILLAGE TRUSTEE SONIA PONCE

Fresh off a tiresome campaign, **Sonia Ponce** found herself elated on election night upon finding out that she had been elected one of the newest trustees in the Village of Summit. A native of the Back of the Yards neighborhood in Chicago and the youngest of eight children, Ponce always had strong roots in public service.

In 2010, her family founded a soup kitchen called Unforgettable Journey in memory of one of Ponce’s sisters who passed away from cancer. The organization originally partnered with Catholic Charities in Back of the Yards and was a small operation consisting only of family members and a few volunteers. However, the soup Kitchen has since grown with a large support group, including the turkeys being supplied by fellow Trustee Setki “Sam” Dardovski, and has been hosted by St. Blase the last 16 years.

“Our goal is to give respect to those who do not have much by providing a hot, home-made meal on Thanksgiving,” Ponce said. “We try to give them a little bit of comfort to help them forget the stresses of life.”

Ponce was also heavily involved with St. Joseph’s School, where both of her daughters attended since preschool, serving as vice president and then president of the school’s Parent Club. During her tenure, the Club was active in fundraising and creating strategies to welcome new families. The success, however, was short-lived. A few years after becoming president of the Parent Club, the school announced it was closing — the class of 2021 would be its last.

With the school closed and her leadership post gone, Ponce saw herself disgruntled with newly freed up time she had on her hands. With local elections fast approaching, Ponce broached the possibility of running for Village Trustee and ultimately felt the timing was right to jump back into public service.

“One of my goals is to make Summit a more friendly family environment and have more variety,” Ponce said. “I want to have people be able to go out, eat, and hang out in town.”

Despite challenges that may lie ahead, Ponce said she will always remain proud to call Summit home.

“I enjoy the suburban feel but being so close to the city,” Ponce said. “It’s always been a close community here in the Village — everybody knows everybody. What always intrigued me more is how deeply rooted people are here. Most people are second or third generation here and that’s very special.”



HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT

Summit's distinct location along the Illinois and Michigan Canal helped fuel commerce and turn this once small town into a prime hub for business. One of the Village's very first businesses was a department store called **The Kabaker Department Store**. Opened in 1897, the store had a lasting impact on the community as being known as a warm, neighborhood shop. According to the book *Summit Heritage*, the store was considered "The Kabaker Living Room to some and was a source of trust since banks were not available and the Kabaker safe was their bank." The store was originally located on Lawndale Ave but moved to 7449 Archer Ave until it closed in 1964 due to improvements connected with the Stevenson Expressway.

Historical Spotlight



HTC

FROM PAGE 1

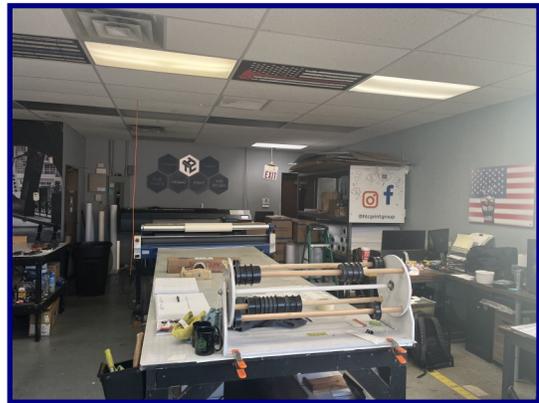
The company traces its Southwest side roots all the way back to 1976, where it was founded by their father at 60th Street and Pulaski Road. The then small shop quickly expanded to several locations around the Chicagoland area. Twenty-three years later, however, the business was undergoing transitions which presented Dan with an opportunity to purchase it.

"Summit has always been a key location for our business in relation to the city and suburbs," said part-owner **Dan Bucci**. "Many of our clients are sub-contractors and our location is important because they are always coming and going to various jobs around Chicagoland, whether it be the city or suburbs."

In 2004, Dan partnered with his brother **Gino** and the two have been business partners since. While the two have managed to maintain a strong clientele base of general contractors over the years, the company has evolved from primarily offering blueprints to a wider range of products, such as clothing designs and signs.

One particularly notable project the company produced is a dedication plaque inside of the Summit Park District when the new facility opened its doors a decade ago. The business has also consistently provided prints and banners to both the Summit Fire and Police Departments.

Community Focus



SENATOR PORFIRIO SECURES NEW SIGN FOR FIRE DEPT.

State Senator Mike Porfirio helped secure a new fire truck crossing sign at the intersection of **59th Street and Harlem Ave** to better protect Summit's firefighters when responding to emergency calls.



CHICAGO RIVER DAY MAY 11TH

The Village of Summit is proud to participate in the 32nd Annual **Chicago River Day** this year on **Saturday, May 11th**. This volunteer-based event is hosted by Friends of the Chicago River to help dispose of litter and beautify the Calumet-Chicago River System. Please join us to help clean, maintain, and restore our river system. The Village will provide more details as the date approaches.



Seniors eligible for meter rate discount

Below are the Village's current meter rates. As reminder, seniors may be able to qualify for a special meter rate.

Eligibility for the senior rate is based on submission of proof that the homeowner is age sixty-five years or over and residing at the account address.

For any questions, please contact the Village at **708-563-4817**.

Senior Rate	\$7.50
3/4 inch water meter	\$15.00
5/8 inch water meter	\$17.50
1 inch water meter	\$20.00
1-1/2 inch water meter	\$25.00
2 inch water meter	\$30.00
3 inch water meter	\$35.00
4 inch water meter	\$42.50
6 inch water meter	\$65.00

WHO ARE MY ELECTED OFFICIALS?

Federal Officials		
Senator Dick Durbin	230 S. Dearborn Street Suite 3892 Chicago, IL 60604	(312) 353 4952
Senator Tammy Duckworth	230 South Dearborn Street, Suite 3900 Chicago, IL 60604	(312) 886-3506
Congressman Chuy Garcia	4376 S Archer Ave Chicago, IL 60632	(773) 475-0833
State Officials		
Senator Mike Porfirio	6215 West 79th Street STE 1A Burbank, IL 60459	(708) 430-2510
State Rep. Abdelnasser Rashid	6901 W. Cermak Road Berwyn, IL 60402	(708) 956-7563
County		
Commissioner Frank Aguilar	7833 Ogden Lyons, IL 60534	(708) 447-5461

SUMMIT BULLETIN BOARD

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT



January 17, 2024

- Robert Almazan was sworn in as the newest addition to the Summit Police Department. "I'm so excited to start my new career as a police officer in the Village of Summit," said Almazan. "It's such an honor to serve and protect the community. I was thrilled to be able to shake hands with both the police chief and mayor. Those kinds of experiences will forever stay with me."
- Ordinance 24-O-03 was passed, regulating any un-scheduled intercity buses within Summit limits.

February 5, 2024

- Bids for various Village-owned surplus properties were opened and announced.
- Routine administrative business was conducted, such as approving payroll and bills.

February 20, 2024

- The Village and Summit Police Department honored the detectives and officers who helped aid the arrest of multiple offenders from the Bedford Park shooting in November, 2023. Their heroic acts helped saved the life of a Bedford Park police officer. On behalf of everyone here at the Village of Summit, a job well done.



Repair Café Event Series

ORGANIZED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LYONS
OFFICE OF THE CLERK, ELYSE HOFFENBERG

Saturday, March 16, 2024



10a.m. - 1p.m.

**at the Township Offices
6404 JOLIET ROAD IN COUNTRYSIDE**



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
Sonia Ponce Lorena Manriquez
Mayra Ortiz Aurora Rodriguez

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.lyonstownshipil.gov

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

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

March 2ND: Coffee with the Mayor

March 5TH: Village Board Meeting — Village Hall

March 18TH: Village Board Meeting — Village Hall

March 29TH: Good Friday — Village closed

April 1ST: Village Board Meeting — Village Hall

April 6TH: Coffee with the Mayor

April 15TH: Village Board Meeting — Village Hall

April 20TH: Blood Drive at Fire Department

May 4TH: Coffee with the Mayor

May 6TH: Village Board Meeting — Village Hall

May 11TH: Chicago River Day

May 18TH: Openlands Tree Planting

May 20TH: Village Board Meeting — Village Hall