



#### Volume XLV, No. II



Page 2 - East Grand Market



Page 3 - 2018 Water Quality Report

Page 4 - Families on the Fairway



# 2018 Construction Updates

Summer is not only time for fun and relaxation, but also the start of our busy construction season. A number of projects are underway in the Village of Gurnee that will impact local traffic patterns and improve infrastructure, including the following:

- Almond Road Reconstruction: Almond Road will be resurfaced from Washington Street to Grand Avenue to improve the pavement quality of the corridor. As part of the resurfacing project, a mini-roundabout will be installed at the intersection of Almond Road and Dada Drive to improve traffic flow. To learn more about this project, visit www.gurnee.il.us/almond\_dada.
- **Knowles Road Water Tower:** The Village of Gurnee is currently in the process of building a two million gallon water tower at the corner of Knowles Road and Rollins Road. This tower is a multi-year project that will result in better water pressure reliability for residents west of I-94. To answer questions about the water tower, we have put together an FAQ for residents to learn more about the project at www.gurnee.il.us/knowles
- **Grand Avenue / US-41 Railroad Bridge Replacement:** The temporary railroad bridge is currently operational, and IDOT contractors removed the old railroad bridge. The US-41 North on/off ramp are currently closed through August 6th, 2018 for the installation of the new permanent railroad bridge. IDOT estimates project completion in Spring 2019.
- **Grand Avenue Resurfacing:** The Village has received notice from IDOT that they are planning to resurface Grand Avenue from US 45 to the Tollway this year as one project, and from I-94 to IL-131 (Green Bay Road) as another. The project is subject to funding approval.

Work on roads and other capital projects have been funded primarily by a 0.5% sales tax increase that went into effect on January 1, 2015. Remember: every dollar spent locally helps support local roads and other vital infrastructure.

For regularly updated information, visit the Village's Road Construction Updates page at www.gurnee.il.us or call the Engineering Division at (847) 599-7550. To sign up for email updates from the Village's Construction Updates email Listserv, visit www.gurnee.il.us/ subscribe and click on the "Construction" option.

1

# Upcoming Events





All Village meetings are held at Village Hall (325 N. O'Plaine Road) unless otherwise noted. Schedule subject to change. Meetings in red and outlined in black are Committee of the Whole meetings where no formal action is taken. Meetings in green are Economic Development Committee meetings and meetings in purple are Civil Service meetings.

### **Community Events**

### Outrun the Cops

Saturday, June 9th 7:00 a.m. Gurnee Police Station www.gurnee.il.us/outruncops

### Gurnee Days 2018

Thursday, August 9th through Sunday, August 12th Viking Park 4374 Old Grand Avenue www.gurneedays.com

### Looking for more events?

Check out the Gurnee Park District (www.gurneeparkdistrict.com), Warren-Newport Public Library (www.wnpl.net) and Warren Township (www.warrentownship.net) websites for even more events and information!

# East Grand Farmers & Artisans Market



Come join us for the new East Grand Avenue Farmers & Artisans Market! From July to October, on the third Sunday of each month, the market will be the place to find fresh locally grown produce, unique artisanal goods, and lots of family fun! This event is free to the public, sponsored by the Village of Gurnee in cooperation with East Grand Avenue area businesses and residents.

The Market will feature a variety of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables; cut flowers and plants; meats; baked goods; honey and jams; arts and crafts; and handmade jewelry and accessories. Children's music and entertainment will be available throughout the day, and the Gurnee Police Department will provide free child safety seat inspections.

Save the Dates! The East Grand Farmers & Artisans Market will be 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the following third Sunday of the month from July - October:

- July 15th, 2018
- August 19th, 2018

### Vendors already scheduled:

- Big Norms
- Kiki's Cotton Candy
- Jerry Smith roasted corn
- Suzy's Swirl
- Gurnee Garden Center
- Little Bison Co. meats
- Soft Wave Fish Co. fresh and smoked fish
- Jerry Smith Produce & Pumpkin Farm
- 6 Generations Farm fruits and vegetables
- Sol-Ful Blooms cut flower bouquets, vegetables
- Twin Gardens vegetables and flowers
- Treat Diva dog treats
- Sharpening by Dave knife sharpening
- DJ Handmade hand sewn bags

- September 16th, 2018
- October 21st, 2018
- Loved Twice Thrift Boutique
- Custom Touch by Julie handmade jewelry
- Sonoma Farms pasta sauces, salsas, condiments
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Cindy's Petite Sweets pastries
- Marvelhas small batch olive oils, gourmet seasonings
- Nonie's Bees honey
- Sweet Tooth Delivery brownies, cookies, cupcakes
- Authentic Cheese & Bread Co. Brazilian cheese bread
- Usborne Books & More

Visit www.gurnee.il.us/eastgrandmarket to reserve a booth at the Market and for market rules, fees, and application form. Gurnee businesses receive 15% off booth fees; East Grand businesses pay no fee. Cooking, crafting, music, and art demonstrations, as well as Gurnee nonprofit organizations, are welcomed at no fee. Application deadline is June 22nd.

Join our lively and vibrant community while enjoying all the East Grand Farmers & Artisans Market has to offer!

# Mayor's Message

Dear Residents:

This summer is already shaping up to be busy and exciting, and I am grateful the Village Staff is charged up after a long winter and ready to go.

There is no way to miss the start of road construction season. The

Village continues to invest heavily in our infrastructure as laid out in the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan thanks to the 0.5% home-rule sales tax that is dedicated solely to infrastructure maintenance. Shopping local is as important as ever and is a direct investment in the "curb" appeal of our community. We also continue to work closely with the Tollway, State and County on their investments in primary routes that crisscross Gurnee. Read more about this summer's active road construction projects on the cover page of this newsletter. You can also check out our long-term Capital Improvement Plan at www.gurnee.il.us/capitalplan.

We have a long list of potential and approved development projects to make sure shopping local and attracting shoppers from throughout the region remains strong. Dick's is now open, while Art Van Furniture and The Room Place will be open shortly. We will have a new, larger Panera with a drive thru soon and many of our existing businesses are expanding or renovating. Six Flags announced a new Holiday Festival, has kicked off their season with a new rollercoaster and will have another major announcement at the end of the summer. Of course you can't miss the newly remodeled and ready to open Great Wolf Resort. We are proud to have this nationally-recognized attraction in the Village. The investments by private businesses in our community helps the other taxing bodies with increased property tax revenue, creates jobs and continues to attract people from the surrounding areas to generate the sales tax revenue needed to provide Village public services without a property tax.

We are also taking steps to focus more attention on development that is "Internet-proof" but still generates sales, food & beverage and amusement tax. You will hear much more about new ideas that we feel will protect our turf and cement our position as the top shopping and entertainment destination in Lake County for the long-term. It's crucial we invest now in new ideas and trends to ensure the Village's primary funding sources are protected and we do not have to resort to a property tax to fund public services. Staff and I look forward to working with the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Village Board and our residents to bring these projects to fruition.

As if those projects weren't enough, there are plenty of upcoming outdoor summer events to enjoy with family and friends. Families on the Fairway is planned for June, the new Farmers & Artisan Market begins in July; and, of course, Gurnee Days is coming in August. Legions of Craft Beer Festival is in September to benefit the American Legion Post 771 and Lake County Honor Flight. To keep up with dates and times please check our Facebook and Twitter pages frequently. I look forward to seeing everyone at all these events.

Enjoy the outdoor weather and remember to Shop Local!

Sincerely,

Mayor Kristina Kovarik



### Village **Reminders**

Call Before You Dig!

No matter if your project is large or small, Illinois law requires anyone digging to call the Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators (J.U.L.I.E.) hotline at least two working days prior to the start of excavation in order to locate and mark any utilities in the area in which you are working. The J.U.L.I.E. hotline can be reached at (800) 892-0123 or 811, 24 hours a day. Alternatively, requests may be submitted online at illinois1call.com.

2018 Water Quality Report Available

The Village has published its annual water quality Consumer Confidence Report at the following website address: www.gurnee.il.us/2018waterquality. This report gives customers an understanding of the source of the Village's water, how our water is treated and the regulated compounds it contains, as well as the levels of these compounds and minerals. For any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at (847) 599-6800.

#### Be fire safe this summer!

Looking forward to a summer of backyard barbeques and fires? While they are fun, they can also be dangerous if not properly supervised. Use the following tips to stay safe:

- Burn only dry, seasoned wood for the cleanest burn.
- Do not burn anything within 25 feet of a structure (such as a house or shed) or any type of combustible material (like a wood fence).
- Constantly supervise the fire to prevent unintentional spread.
- If you are building a fire pit, be sure that it is no more than three feet in diameter and two feet in height.

For more information or for any questions, contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at (847) 599-6650.



KRISTINA M. KOVARIK, MAYOR Andy Harris, Clerk

#### VILLAGE TRUSTEES

Jeanne Balmes Greg Garner Thomas Hood Michael Jacobs Cheryl Ross Karen Thorstenson

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR Patrick Muetz

VILLAGE DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

Police, Fire and Medical Emergencies: 9-1-1 Police Non-Emergency: 847-599-7000 Fire Non-Emergency: 847-599-6600 Village Hall: 847-599-7500 Utility Billing: 847-599-7525 Community Development: 847-599-7550 Public Works: 847-599-6800

Visit us online at <u>www.gurnee.il.us</u>.

### Keeping Posted 325 N. O'Plaine Road Gurnee, IL 6003 I

PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S. POSTAGE PAID Gurnee, IL Permit No. 45

### Postal Patron Gurnee, IL 6003 I

### Families on the Fairway: Saturday, June 23rd

The Village, Gurnee Park District and Bittersweet Golf Course will be holding the annual Families on the Fairway event on Saturday, June 23rd from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m at Bittersweet (875 Almond Road). The event is free and open to the public, and features activities for the whole family! There will be access to the driving range, tips from golf pros, a putt putt course for kids, giant miniature golf, remote controlled vehicles, a face painter, an ice cream social, and a variety of games! Food and adult beverages will be available for purchase at the Club House. For more information, please contact the Village Hall at (847) 599-7500 or the Park District at (847) 623-7788.

# Village Update

### Voluntary Residential Food Scraps Program

The Village of Gurnee has partnered with Waste Management and Midwest Organics (Lake Bluff) to begin a voluntary composting program. Beginning July 1, 2018, residents will have the option to comingle their food scraps with their landscape waste.

Residents who purchase a seasonal landscape waste subscription or landscape waste stickers will be able to put food items such as kitchen scraps, expired fruits and vegetables, and other organic materials in with their lawn clippings and other landscape waste.

The landscape waste collected through the program will be brought to Midwest Organics in Lake Bluff and used to create commercial compost. This is an eco-friendly alternative to sending organic material to the landfills.

To learn more about residential food scraps and how you can participate in the program after July 1st, visit www.gurnee.il.us/foodscraps

Additionally, the Village of Gurnee has food scrap pails available for \$5 to help get you started. Visit the website, Village Hall (325 North O'Plaine Road) or call 847-599-7500 to purchase a pail.

### Be in the Know

#### What's New:

- Dick's Sporting Goods (Gurnee Mills) sporting goods retailer
- Kiddie Academy (1555 Nations Drive) daycare facility
- LaMichoacana Central (5338 Grand Avenue) ice cream shop
- Shop and Save of Gurnee (3563 Grand Avenue) Phone accessories, wholesale, closeout items
- BoxLunch (Gurnee Mills) gift and novelty retailer with a cause, donating meals to those in need
- Mr. Pita (3900 Washington) pita wraps, salads

#### **Coming Soon:**

- Great Wolf Lodge (1700 Nations Drive) waterpark resort, opening July 1
- McAlister's Deli (6557 Grand Avenue) deli restaurant and sandwich shop
- Batteries + Bulbs (6300 Grand Avenue) battery, light bulb and smartphone/tablet repair
- 60 to Escape (Gurnee Mills) expanded! live, interactive puzzle rooms
- ArtVan Furniture (6911 Grand Avenue) furniture retailer
- Xfinity (6440 Grand Avenue)
- Panera (6440 Grand Avenue) -Counter service bakery/café, relocating with new drive-through
- Mission BBQ (6440 Grand Avenue) BBQ pulled pork, brisket, ribs, and sandwiches

For updates on new developments, please check out the Projects in Progress report on the Village's website: www.gurnee.il.us/projectsinprogress