



Summer 2019

Volume XLVI, No. II



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Wonder Woman Run Coming to Gurnee Sunday, June 9th

The Village of Gurnee is excited to announce that the DC Wonder Woman Run Series is coming to Gurnee on Sunday, June 9th! Get your cape and join fellow Super Heroes and run or walk the Gurnee 5K, 10K or Half Marathon race.

The first annual Wonder Woman run is expected to bring over 5,000 runners to the Gurnee area. This run series will be featured in as many as 10 cities across the United States and Canada. Proceeds from the Gurnee/Chicago race will benefit the Children's Miracle Network.

Interested runners can register for the race at www.dcwonderwomanrun.com/chicago/. Race registration includes a Race Kit, a DC Wonder Woman Run finisher's medal, commemorative race bib and chip timing, professional photo and video and access to the post-race party at Gurnee Mills.

The 5K run, which will host the majority of runners, will start at 8:00 a.m. and take runners from Six Flags Great America to Gurnee Mills. During this time, there will be minor traffic delays on Grand Avenue at Six Flags Parkway to allow runners to cross.

The 10K and Half Marathon races will start around 7:00 a.m. at Gurnee Mills. Temporary crossing closures and lane closures along the routes are expected until 9:30 a.m., so expect delays. Check Lake County Passage prior to driving in this area on the morning of June 9th at www.lakecountypassage.com for local traffic patterns.

A full list of traffic impact and a road closure map can be found at www.gurnee.il.us/ wonderwomanrun.

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 purple are Civil Service meetings.

East Grand Farmers & Artisans Market

Come join us for the second year of the East Grand Avenue Farmers & Artisans Market! From July to October, on the third Sunday of each month, the market is the place to find fresh locally grown produce, unique artisanal goods and lots of family fun! This event is free to the public and 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 third Sundays of the month from July - October:

- July 21st, 2019
- August 18th, 2019
- September 15th, 2019
- October 20th, 2019

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.

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

Community Events

Outrun the Cops

Saturday, June 15th 7:00 a.m. Gurnee Police Station www.gurnee.il.us/outruncops



Gurnee Days 2019

Thursday, August 8th through Sunday, August 11th Viking Park 4374 Old Grand Avenue

Looking for more events?

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

Solicitors: Permit Required

The Village may not prohibit door to door commercial solicitation from taking place within the Village due to existing Supreme Court rulings. However, the Village can require individual commercial solicitors to obtain permits and set hours during which solicitation may occur. Solicitors may work within the Village between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

By village ordinance, legible signs must be displayed at your residence asking solicitors not to approach your home should you not want them there. "No Solicitors" signs are available at your local home improvement store.

If a permit from the Village of Gurnee is not observed when a solicitor visits your home, please notify the Police Department non-emergency number at 847-599-7000 as soon as possible. You will be asked to give the dispatcher a description of the solicitor and the location. An officer will then be dispatched to investigate the situation.

A solicitor with a Commercial Solicitation Permit is NOT endorsed by the Village of Gurnee or Gurnee Police Department. The permit indicates that the solicitor has registered with the Police Department and has passed a background check.

If you have more questions about commercial solicitors in the village please contact our crime prevention unit at 847-599-7080.

Mayor's Message

Dear Residents,

There is no mistaking when summer gets underway in the Village – even if the weather doesn't always cooperate. It's the beginning of another fun season of non-stop activities the whole family can enjoy together. This year we welcome the prestigious and renowned Wonder Woman Run to Gurnee. This event attracts thousands of

runners from around the tri-state area to participate in a fun weekend highlighted by a 5K, 10K and half-marathon run through our Village. The organizers have worked with my office, Village Staff, Gurnee Mills and Six Flags to make sure every visitor has a great and safe time. Our hotels, stores and restaurants are sure to be busy over the weekend which is good for our tax base as we get to showcase our area as a great travel destination.

The East Grand Farmers & Artisans Market returns this year after resounding accolades from our trial run last year. The organizer and Economic Development Director have put in many hours over the winter recruiting even more vendors to have a unique variety of booths to appeal to everyone. I have no doubt it will be a hit again this year and well attended the 3rd Sunday of the month. Another big hit has been our partnership with the Gurnee Park District and Bittersweet Golf Course to hold Families on the Fairway. This is a great chance to have a nice evening of family fun with a golf theme and view the beautiful natural setting of the course. I also know we are all excited about Gurnee Days, which is just around the corner.

While summer is for fun it's also a time when the Village gets very focused on infrastructure projects. The Knowles Road Water Tower project is well underway and should be in place by end of year, road construction projects are ongoing throughout the community, sidewalk extensions are being installed, tree maintenance has started and we've started preliminary planning on our 3rd Fire Station in the Route 120 corridor to significantly improve response times in the Village and the Fire District. These projects are possible due to local shopping that provides the funding through a 0.5% sales tax for new infrastructure as well as to maintain our existing infrastructure. We are more fortunate than many communities in being able to keep up and fund infrastructure without a property tax.

An important notification that will coming soon in your mailboxes is our 2019 Water Quality Report. We hope you take the time to read it. Gurnee is fortunate to have access to Lake Michigan water via the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency, which has been recognized consistently for some of the finest water at a very affordable cost compared to many areas of the country. We encourage you to contact us if you have any questions about the report or our water distribution and storage system.

The best part of summer for me (besides the warm weather) is getting out to all the Village events and having an opportunity to talk and listen to each of you. I enjoy finding ways we can work together to make our Village the best place to live, work and play. Please don't hesitate to say "Hi" and chat when you see me and, as always, you can contact me at Village Hall or send an email if there is something on your mind. Have a great, safe and warm Summer!

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.

2019 Water Quality Report Available

The Village has published its annual water quality Consumer Confidence Report at the following website address: www.gurnee.il.us/2019waterquality. 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.

Building Permits 101

Please remember that when you obtain a building permit for your project, the permit must be displayed in your front window or door, visible from the street. If you have hired a contractor that is securing this permit for you, make sure that the contractor gives you the permit prior to starting any work. This will also help to avoid situations of the contractor potentially starting a project before the permit has been secured, which is a violation of Village Ordinance. If you have questions regarding whether your permit has been secured, we urge you to contact our office at 847-599-7550 and we will be happy to verify the information for you.

Seasonal **Tips**

e-Bills for Utilities

The Village of Gurnee is pleased to offer a paperless option for your Village Utility Bill. You will receive an email alert with your utility bill. It's easy, secure and takes just a few minutes to fill out the email authorization form. Residents registered for paperless billing will no longer receive a paper copy of their Village Utility Bill through the mail. Participation in the paperless bill is voluntary. Those who do not register will continue to receive a paper copy of their water bill through the mail. In order to enroll, have your account number ready, an email address and access to the Village website.

Visit www.gurnee.il.us/paperless to enroll today!

Leak Detection

Little leaks inside your home can waste large amounts of water and cost you money on your water utility bill. Below are some tips for identifying possible leaks inside your home.

- Toilets: If a toilet turns the water on without you touching the handle, if you have to jiggle the handle to make it stop running or if you have to hold the handle down to allow the tank to empty. One way to determine if you have a leak is to add dark food coloring to the tank and wait 40 minutes. Do not flush, if the water in the bowl changes colors, you have a leak.
- Whole House Humidifiers: Regular maintenance can keep a humidifier working well, but if issues arise, troubleshooting may be useful.
- Bathroom, Kitchen and Outdoor Faucets: Occasionally, faucets may leak in other places such as the on/ off handles. You may have a leak if there are visible drips at the piping or if there are wet, damp areas underneath the sink.

If you have questions regarding your utility bill, contact Utility Billing at 847-599-7525.

2019 Construction Projects

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:

Village of Gurnee Projects:

- **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 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.
- 2019 Road Resurfacing Program: For 2019, the Village of Gurnee will be investing \$3.37 million improve pavement conditions in the community. A few of the 2019 construction season maintenance projects include: Tri-State Parkway (Washington Street to Lakeside Drive), Woodlake Boulevard, Queen Ann Lane, Dada Drive (Almond Road to 500' east of Tyme Court), Kingsport Drive (Cascade Way to Washington Street), and Morrison Drive. Additionally, heavy patching will be performed in sections such as Meadowlark / Bluebird / Eagle Courts, Warren-Newport Public Library, and more.
- Hunt Club / Ferndale Water Main Replacements: Both the Hunt Club Road and Ferndale water mains are among the older mains owned by the Village of Gurnee and are prone to breaks. The water main along Hunt Club Road will be replaced from the section between Wentworth Road and Wildflower Lane. As part of the main replacement project, new sidewalk will be installed in the right-of-way for increased pedestrian access. The Ferndale main will be replaced from Grand Avenue north to US-41.

Illinois Department of Transportation Projects:

- **Grand Avenue Resurfacing:** IDOT began resurfacing Grand Avenue from US-45 to Green Bay Road in 2018. This project continues in to 2019, with areas including I-94 to Milwaukee and US-41 to Green Bay Road currently under construction.
- **US-41 / Grand Avenue Bridge Widening:** This ongoing project is currently at the stage of installing material for the new bridge. The current anticipated finish date is early 2020.

Lake County Department of Transportation Projects:

- Stearns School Road: LCDOT is currently resurfacing Stearns School Road. You can learn more about the progress on this project at www.lakecountyil.gov/4030/ Stearns-School-Rd.
- Hunt Club Road / Grand Avenue Intersection: LCDOT will be adding right turn lanes from eastbound Grand Ave to southbound Hunt Club, and from southbound Hunt Club to westbound Grand. Dual left turn lanes from Hunt Club to Grand will also be added. You can track the progress at this project at: www.lakecountyil. gov/4151/Hunt-Club-Rd.

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.

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Gurnee Goes Green: 100% Renewable Energy Program

Following the passage of a March 2012 voter Referendum, the Village of Gurnee contracted to procure electric supply in a municipal electric aggregation program for residents and small businesses. Since 2012, this program has saved the average household \$375 on their electric bill and Gurnee residents over \$3.7 million combined.

The Village has continued to monitor the power supply market and recently was able to contract with MC Squared Energy Services, LLC (MC Squared) whereby residents and small businesses will pay exactly the ComEd rate and 100% Wind Green-e certified Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) will be purchased for the Village. This program will position the Village to be designated as an EPA Green Power Partner Community at zero increased cost to the residents. The program is for a 12-month term starting with meter read dates in July 2019 and ending at meter read dates in June 2020.

The cost of serving each electric account varies greatly depending on usage patterns. Some ratepayer accounts will be served by ComEd supply service and others will continue with our current supplier, MC Squared and pay the exact same ComEd rate every month. MC Squared will purchase RECs for the Village based on the historical usage for accounts on MC Squared supply and ComEd supply.

As such, some ratepayers will receive notice that their account will remain with ComEd supply service. There is no need to opt out because their account will not be switched.

Other ratepayers will receive notice their service is continuing with MC Squared. Those ratepayers may choose to opt out by calling MC Squared at 1 (855) 564-8130 or returning the enclosed pre-paid postage card.

Residents in the Gurnee Green Electric Aggregation Program, whether receiving service from ComEd or from MC Squared will pay the same rate. Notices of the program will be mailed the week of May 20th. There is never an enrollment fee, an early termination fee, nor any added monthly fees.

All Gurnee residents that currently receive service through the following programs are eligible to Opt-Into the program, however please review your current contract terms and conditions before making this decision: • ComEd's Hourly Rate • Alternative Retail Electric Supply Service • Net Metering Customers.

The program is anticipated to reduce carbon emissions. RECs purchased for the Village's energy consumption will be sourced from wind power generators located in the Midwest and are Green-e certified. For more information about energy supply choices, visit the ICC site at www.pluginillinois.org. For questions about your electric account, call Gurnee's aggregation program supplier, MC Squared, at 1 (855) 564-8130. If you require additional assistance, call NIMEC at (800) 727-3820 to leave your questions and callback number.

Please note: MC Squared will not come to your door or call you regarding this program. Any solicitor who comes to your door, or calls asking you to switch to a new supplier is not associated with the Village's EcoGreen Aggregation Program and not associated with MC Squared. Should you receive such a call from a person purporting to represent the Village, MC Squared or ComEd, please take the solicitor's information and contact the Illinois Commerce Commission at their Consumer Services Division complaint line: 800-524-0795.

Community News

New Waste Management Contract

On Monday, May 20th, the Village Board approved a new contract with Waste Management to serve as the contractor for the Village's residential waste hauling program. This new contract will be effective for a five-year period beginning on Saturday June 1st and, in addition to continuing all current services (including unlimited landscape waste collection in the spring and leaf collection in the fall), a number of new features have also been included for residents participating in the franchise:

- Cost Reductions in Year 1: As part of this contract, Waste Management has agreed to decrease its current pricing for regular refuse, recycling and subscription landscape waste collection during the first year of the contract through the removal of the RecycleBank program fee, meaning there will not be a cost increase through May 2020. Beginning in 2020, annual cost adjustments of 2.5% will be allowed each June.
- The unlimited landscape week has been extended to two full weeks each spring. This will allow residents two opportunities to have unlimited landscape removed for spring cleaning.
- The cost of the annual landscape waste subscription has been reduced from \$91.82/year to \$82.79/year for Year 1 of the contract.
- Food scraps can be mixed in with landscape waste from April 15th
 November 30th, and brought to a central drop-off during winter months.

For more information on this contract, visit the Village's website at www. gurnee.il.us. For any questions regarding your bill or services for waste and recycling, contact Waste Management at (800) 796-9696.



KRISTINA M. KOVARIK, MAYOR Andy Harris, Clerk

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

Jeanne Balmes Greg Garner Thomas Hood

> VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR Patrick Muetz

Ouin O'Brien

Cheryl Ross

Karen Thorstenson

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 ECRVVSS U.S. POSTAGE PAID Gurnee, IL Permit No. 45

Postal Patron Gurnee, IL 6003 I

Families on the Fairway: Saturday, June 15th

The Village, Gurnee Park District and Bittersweet Golf Course will be holding the annual Families on the Fairway event on Saturday, June 15th 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.

Welcome **New Businesses**

- Extreme Flight Simulation (1350 Tri-State Parkway) aviation flight simulator/entertainment
- L'Egancia Boutique (3701 Grand Avenue) special occasion apparel and accessories
- KT Furniture (3701 Grand Avenue) furniture, home furnishings
- BTE Motors (5710 Des Plaines Court) preowned vehicle sales
- Jesse's Auto Tech (640 Belle Plaine Avenue) automotive service
- Aira Fitness (5101 Washington Street) fitness and training facility
- Edward Jones (5101 Washington Street) financial services
- Teodoro Brothers Custom Woodworking (3850 Clearview Court)
 custom cabinetry and flooring
- Straight Up Spine and Posture (6021 Washington Street) chiropractic practice
- GI Partners of Illinois (731 S. Route 21) gastroenterology practice
- Avis (Gurnee Mills) vehicle rental
- Sole Seekers (Gurnee Mills) footwear/apparel
- Shee Goo Rolled Ice Cream (Gurnee Mills) Thai ice cream

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

Coming Soon

- The Authentic Cheese Bread (3900 Washington Street) bakery
- Abbott Laboratories Employee Credit Union (325 Tri-State Parkway) - financial institution
- Dunkin Donuts (5414 Grand Avenue) addition of drive through
- Menards (6401 Grand Avenue) expansion/remodel
- Stiltz of Chicagoland (83 Ambrogio Drive) in-home, personal lifts
- Lynda Throm, LCPC (5101 Washington Street) professional counseling services
- Gold Coast Produce (1800 Nations Drive) office, food processing
- MPP Law (505 N. Route 21) legal services
- Wing Stop (6409 Grand Avenue) food & beverage
- Good Life Veterinary Care (1475 Dilleys Road)
- Dancenter North (5410 Grand Avenue)
- Braulio Vallavarest Insurance Agency dba State Farm (1333 N. Delany Road)
- Core Realty and Investments (5101 Washington Street)
- World Lab Chicago (1790 Nations Drive) dental products
- Bargain Outlet and More (Gurnee Mills) discount electronics retailer
- Joe's Books (Gurnee Mills)
- Charming Sofia (Gurnee Mills) apparel and accessories
- Famous Footwear (Gurnee Mills)
- Subway (Gurnee Mills-relocated)