

Countryside CONNECTIONS

SPRING 2019

www.countryside-il.org



St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen



Mayor Sean McDermott and the City Council pictured with Parade Grand Marshal, Fire Chief John Buckley, Queen Colleen Sullivan, Princess Maeve Offenbacher, and members of the Queen's Court, Danielle Dahill and Emily Walker.

At the February 27th City Council meeting, Mayor Sean McDermott introduced Fire Chief John Buckley as the Grand Marshal of the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade. Chief Buckley has been leading the Pleasantview Fire Protection District since 2015.

Parade Chairman, Alderman John Finn crowned Colleen Sullivan of La Grange as Queen. Colleen attends Lyons Township High School "LTHS" where she participates in the Color Guard and runs for the track and field team. She also serves as co-captain of both the competitive CyberPatriots team and GEMS (Girls in Engineering, Math & Science). Colleen gives back to the community by volunteering at Plymouth Place, Margaret's Village, and the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

The Queen's Court includes Danielle Dahill, Ashley Walker and Emily Walker. All three are residents of Countryside and attend LTHS. Princess Maeve Offenbacher lives in La Grange Highlands. She is a student at Highlands Elementary School and the Lavin Cassidy Irish Dance School.



Despite some rain, the parade was a success. The route had eager children waiting for their chance to snatch a piece of candy or a green necklace. See pages 6 & 7 for parade highlights including a list of our generous sponsors. Photos are the courtesy of Countryside resident, Janusz of Jag Photo and posts from the City's Facebook page. ***Did your photo make the centerfold?***

Coffee with the Mayor - May 4th 10 - 11 a.m.

Recommended Capital Projects FY2019 -2020

Street Resurfacing:

Barton (Brainard to Longview)
Forestview (Lorraine to Sunset)
61st Place (Brainard to East Limit)
Burr Oak (South Limit to 5th Av Cutoff)

Watermains:

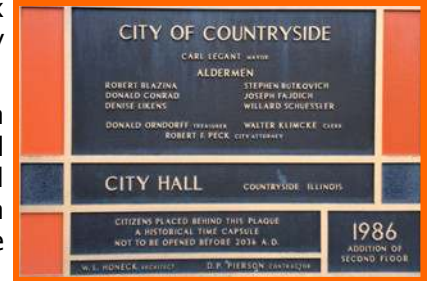
East Avenue
East Avenue to Joliet/LaGrange Rd

Dave Schutter, Director of Finance presented the City's proposed FY2019-2020 budget at Coffee with the Mayor on February 23rd. Dave explained that over the past 5 years, sales taxes grew at an annualized rate of 3.4% compared with inflation for the same period at 1.09%. This is primarily due to the City's economic development initiatives. This growth has enabled the City to abate property taxes once again this year. Dave reviewed the capital projects completed this past year and those included in the recommended budget. The City Council will vote on the FY2019-2020 recommended budget in April.

Adam Slotkus joined Mayor Sean McDermott in presenting the second video of the Municipal Complex

construction site. Attendees got to see where construction is currently and where it will be in a few months.

Have you ever noticed the plaque on the front of the City Hall? Back in 1986 when the second floor addition was constructed, citizens placed behind the plaque historical time capsules. Mayor McDermott will reveal the contents of the time capsules at the next Coffee with the Mayor on **May 4th from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.** The contents will eventually be displayed at the new Municipal Complex.



Municipal Complex Update

Work continues on the new Municipal Complex. Due to weather conditions over the winter, we are about 2 weeks behind schedule. Some trades have been working on weather-permitting weekends to make up time. The plan is still to move in by the end of June. The move will take place in phases so services are minimally disrupted.

Outside, the masons continue to assemble bricks and adhere stone. The carports with photovoltaic (PV) panels atop are being constructed in back of the police wing. Each car port will accommodate 37 vehicles. There will be a total of 466 PV panels on the car ports and another 169 panels on the roof. This system was manufactured by Sunpower. At the time of the design, these PV panels are the highest efficiency solar panels on the market. The calculated annual production of the system is approximately 273,000 kwh.

Inside, drywall and taping is almost complete on all levels. Painters are busy priming and painting the walls. Tile is being installed in the bathrooms. Windows will be installed shortly. Each week following the onsite construction meeting, staff tours the building. It is amazing to see how all the details we painstakingly reviewed over the past 12 months are coming together.



Police Updates

2019 LETR Events for Special Olympics Illinois

Harley Davidson Raffle tickets are available for purchase at the Countryside Police Department for \$10 per ticket. The drawing for a 2019 HD Street Glide will be held in October 2019. Once the Stanley Cup playoffs begin in April, our officers will start growing their beards for our annual **"Beards for a Cause"** fundraiser. Also, make sure to save the date for the **Dunkin' Cop on Rooftop** event on Friday, May 17, 2019 and the **Texas Roadhouse Benefit Lunch** that is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 26, 2019.

Through our efforts and the support received from the community, we were able to raise **\$15,774.54** during the 2018 Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. This amount earned our department a spot on the back of the 2019 Torch Run t-shirt.

"One Mind" Pledge Successfully Completed

In December 2018, the Countryside Police Department completed the four steps of the International Association of Chiefs of Police One Mind Pledge: 1) Establish a clearly defined and sustainable partnership with one or more community mental health organizations; 2) Develop and Implement a model policy addressing police response to persons affected by mental illness; 3) Train and certify 100 % of your agencies sworn officers in Mental Health First Aid or equivalent mental health awareness program; 4) Provide Crisis Intervention Training to a minimum of 20 % of your agencies sworn staff. **Countryside is one of only 4 agencies in Illinois who have completed the pledge.**

Police Academy Graduation

Pictured on the right (L to R): Chief Ford, Officer Cerny, and Deputy Chief Novak, at the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy Graduation on December 21, 2018. Officer Cerny graduated from the 14-week Police Academy and he is currently completing field training. Our other new officer, Officer Rinehart, successfully completed 12 weeks of field training and has been on solo patrol since December 5, 2018.



Powering Safe Communities Grant

The Countryside Police Department pursued the "2018 Powering Safe Communities" grant to provide high definition video cameras at 2 of its most attended parks, Countryside Park and Ideal Park. In July 2018, ComEd, in partnership with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, announced the 2018 grant recipients and Countryside's "Parks Video Camera Project" proposal was one of 21 community proposals that was approved for funding. The City of Countryside was awarded \$9,362 toward the cost of the camera project and as of January 2019, the cameras have been installed and are fully functional.

2019 Junior Police Academy

The Junior Police Academy is a free, 1-week program with classes designed to provide an informative and interactive experience for middle school students interested in learning more about law enforcement and what police officers do on a daily basis. The Academy is offered in June to students entering 7th and 8th Grade in the next school year. Exact dates and more details will be sent out to schools in April.



Some New Laws to Know in 2019

Gun Purchase Waiting Period, Flagging Dangerous Gun Owners, Rear-Facing Car Seats, Ban on Synthetic Marijuana, Safeguarding Against Stalking, Help for Pets in Danger, School Safety Drills, Ride Operator Background Checks.

More details on these laws can be found by searching keywords in the Illinois Compiled Statutes online at www.ilga.gov/legislation/

Public Works Reminds You . . .

Brush Pickup (April 1 - October 31)

Branch and brush pickup will be provided by the City for residents beginning April 1st through October 31st. Public Works crews will be covering the City on a weekly basis.

Residents are asked to observe the following rules for branch/brush pickup:

- Cut ends of tree limbs must face the street and be stacked along the parkway.
- Tree limbs should not be over 10 feet in length or over 4 inches in diameter.
- Tree stumps are **not accepted** at the disposal site and will not be picked up.
- Do not include vines in the branches for pickup. They will become entangled with the limbs, creating a dangerous situation during handling.
- City ordinance forbids the depositing of grass clippings, leaves or any other debris in the branch pile or on the street.
- Contractors providing tree and brush trimming services are responsible for the removal of all materials they cut.
- Please allow 7 to 10 working days for pickup.

If you have any questions, please call Public Works at (708) 354-3390. ☎

Spring Clean-Up (May 20 - May 24)

This service is provided to all residents **free** of charge and is certainly one of the benefits of living in Countryside! Please note that all items (including electronics) for pick-up should be placed at the edge of the street in front of your home by 7 a.m., Monday, May 20th.

Items **not accepted** include:

Yard waste (including brush)
Bio-medical and infectious material
Hazardous and toxic waste of any kind
Volatile and highly flammable material

Radioactive material
Concrete/Dirt
Liquids and paints
Explosive material



The hauler will not collect any materials that are excessive in size and weight. Items that are not acceptable will be tagged by the hauler.

Water Department

Water Report - 2019 Water System Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)



The City of Countryside will be publishing its 2018 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in June 2019. The CCR includes basic information on the source of your drinking water, the levels of any contaminants that were detected in the water during 2018, compliance with other drinking water rules, as well as educational materials.

To obtain a free copy of the CCR, please contact the Clerk's office at (708) 354-7270 or stop by the Clerk's office at City Hall, 5550 East Avenue, in June.

Lawn Sprinkling Restrictions

City ordinance restricts sprinkling between May 15th and September 15th. Sprinkling lawns and gardens is **prohibited between the hours of 12:00 (noon) and 6:00 p.m.**

During the hours when sprinkling is permitted, odd numbered addresses may water on odd numbered dates, and even numbered addresses may water on even numbered dates.

Winterfest 2019...

CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE

Was a fun-filled day at Flagg Creek Golf Course. There was a 9-hole mini golf course made of ice, hayrides, a bonfire with super-sized marshmallows, face painting, balloon artisty, ice sculpting, demonstrations, kids bingo, Home Depot craft project, a DJ, photo booth, and a special performance by the Frozen princesses.

We would like to thank the several businesses which sponsored Winterfest 2019. It helps the City offer these events for free.

SPONSORS

SLEIGH RIDE

Chilton Yambert Porter LLP
Hanson Material Services
MB Financial Bank
Merging Technologies
Tressler LLP

ICE CASTLE

Bluder's Tree Service
Countryside Bank
Heat Engineering
Ledo's Pizza
Mesirow Financial
Novotny Engineering
Schwartz Excavating

SNOWBALL

Combined Warehouse
Countryside Chamber
Home Depot
Township of Lyons



Step 1: Block of Ice



Step 2: Start carving



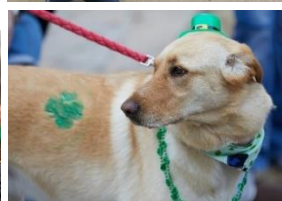
Step 3: It's OLAF!



THANKS TO OUR MANY SPONSORS

JACK PHELAN

RAM DODGE CHRYSLER Jeep



POT O' GOLD SPONSORS

Commissioner Jeff Tobolski
Countryside Leadership Party
Frederick Quinn Corporation
Friends of Sean McDermott
George J. Keporos
Ledo's Restaurant
Local 150 - IUOE
Merging Technologies
Novotny Engineering
Township of Lyons
Vulcan Materials Company

EMERALD SPONSORS

Countryside Bank
Countryside Chamber of Commerce
Flagg Creek Golf Course
Groot Industries, Inc.
Halal Guys
Kenny's Irish Pub
Local 134 - IBEW
Odelson & Sterk, Ltd.
Park District of LaGrange
Rafferty's Irish Pub
Spot on 66
Sunbelt Rentals
Tony's Finer Foods
Tressler, LLP
Westfield Ford

SHAMROCK SPONSORS

Autobarn Subaru & VW
BlueSky Home Care
Core & Main
Countryside Veterinary Center
Designer Event Chicago
Dewberry Architects, Inc.
Edward Jones
Gencar Inc.
Infinity Communications Group
Inland Bank
JMS Environmental Associates
Kane, McKenna & Associates
Midwest Office, Inc.
Napleton's Countryside Mazda
NIMEC
Pace Systems, Inc.
Schwartz Excavating, Inc.
Sinnott Tree Service, Inc.
TPI Building Code Consultants



Halal Guys Grand Opening

Mayor Sean McDermott and owner, Dimitris Bouhoutsos, cut the ribbon at the grand opening on February 8th. Alderman Jasinski, staff and Countryside Chamber of Commerce members were present to welcome the new business. The Halal Guys is a fast casual restaurant that began as a food cart in New York City. Their platters of chicken and beef gyros over rice made them famous. Try out the American Halal Food but be careful of the hot sauce...it only takes a couple drops!



Wendy's "New" Look

Wendy's reopened on January 11th after investing \$250,000 to remodel their restaurant at 9941 W. 55th Street. Improvements included installation of kiosks, a façade upgrade, new modern signage and a complete upgrade of the interior counters, ceiling, furniture, and bathroom fixtures. Check it out!



Countryside Chamber of Commerce

Save The Dates!



Gift Certificates

Countryside Chamber of Commerce offers Gift Certificates that can be used at any of the participating Countryside business (visit our website at www.countrysidechamber.org for the list of participating businesses). Gift certificates are available in \$10 and \$25 increments. They make great gifts for coaches, teachers, co-workers, Mother's Day, graduation, etc. This program is part of the Chamber's "Shop Local" initiative and is a great way to support local businesses. **Chamber gift certificates are available for purchase at the City of Countryside (cash or check only).**



Flagg Creek Golf News

Big Cup Tournament

DATE: May 11

TIME: 10:00 Shotgun start

COST: \$90 per team (2-person scramble format), which includes golf, lunch, prizes, closest to the pin and (optional) Skins game too.

Junior Cup

DATES: June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 8 (Rain date July 15)

AGES: 13 - 17 (Boys & Girls)

TIME: 11 - 12:00 p.m.

COST: \$150 per golfer which includes golf, range balls, weekly events, prizes, and lunch



Night Golf

DATE: June 14

TIME: 9:00 Shotgun start

COST: \$50 per person which includes golf, food, goodie bag and prizes.

Spring, Summer & Fall Scramble

DATES: June 9, August 18, October 13

TIME: Shotgun start (TBD)

COST: \$175 per foursome

Sign up in the Pro Shop (708) 246-3336 for Big Cup, Junior Cup, Night Golf, and Spring, Summer, & Fall Scramble.

SPACE IS LIMITED!

☘ St. Patrick's Day Party ☘

Following the parade, many people continued the festivities at one of the five after parties. Flagg Creek Golf Course served a traditional corn beef and cabbage lunch along with kid favorites like chicken fingers, hotdogs and fries. The Tooles played a wide variety of music from traditional Irish tunes to favorite pub songs. Kids were entertained by a face painter and balloon artist. A good time was had by all.



Community Happenings

Construction Updates

5th Avenue Cutoff Resurfacing Update

The work on the 5th Avenue Cutoff resurfacing project will be completed this spring. The asphalt plants will be opening the third week of April and the remaining work will be completed in two to three weeks from that date, weather permitting. Aldermen Mikolyzk and Von Drasek thank the residents for their patience. This will be a great improvement for the Ward 2 community. We would also like to thank Mayor McDermott and Cook County Commissioner Jeff Tobolski for pushing hard to get the intergovernmental agreement approved last year whereby Cook County will reimburse the City for 100% of the cost.

Brainard Avenue Multi-Use Path

Contractor bids were opened on Friday, March 8th at the IDOT offices. A contract was awarded to K-Five Construction for the construction of the multi-use path. Work should begin around May 1st, with completion estimated by the fall. In the meantime, ComEd, AT&T and Comcast have begun their utility relocations. Weather permitting, the pole relocations are expected to be completed by May 1st, and the underground relocations are expected to be completed by June 30th.

Want To Get Involved?

Have you ever thought about serving on a board or commission? Well now is the time. Residents are appointed to the Board of Fire and Police, Flagg Creek Golf Course Advisory Board, Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals and the Police Pension Board with a recommendation by the Mayor with concurrence by the City Council.

Any interested resident 18 years or older may complete the Committee/Board Member Interest Form on the City's website at www.countryside-il.org/forms-permits/ or you may obtain a copy from the Clerk's Office. Applications are kept on file for a minimum of 2 years.

BOARDS

Board of Fire & Police

Board members independently fulfill all duties and responsibilities associated with the hiring, firing, promotion and discipline of Countryside's police officers.

Flagg Creek Advisory Board

Members advise on the operation and maintenance of the golf course.

Plan Commission/Zoning Board

Commissioners are responsible for land use planning and zoning including review of variance and special use requests.

Police Pension Board

Board members fulfill all duties and responsibilities associated with the Pension Fund including investment oversight and approval of applications for participation, retirement benefits, and disability.



Reminder ... Easter Egg Hunt
Date: Saturday, April 20th
Place: Countryside Park
Time: 10 a.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

Date: Saturday, June 29, 2019
Place: City Hall Parking Lot
5550 East Avenue
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Prevent consumer fraud and identity theft by shredding your personal papers.
(Limit of 5 small boxes)



Making sure it's secure.™

Reminder. . . 

Cost Sharing Tree Program

If you have a dead or diseased tree on your property, the City has a program to assist you with the cost.

Call the Clerk's Office at (708) 354-7270 for more details.

Upcoming Meetings

April

9	Plan Commission/ZBA	7:15 p.m.
10	City Council	7:30 p.m.
17	Flagg Creek Admin. Board	7:00 p.m.
24	City Council	7:30 p.m.

May

7	Plan Commission/ZBA	7:15 p.m.
8	City Council	7:30 p.m.
15	Flagg Creek Admin. Board	7:00 p.m.
22	City Council	7:30 p.m.

June

4	Plan Commission/ZBA	7:15 p.m.
11	Fire & Police Commission	5:30 p.m.
19	Flagg Creek Admin. Board	7:00 p.m.
26	City Council	7:30 p.m.

Welcome to Countryside

Hairfinity

23 Countryside Plaza, Suite 113
Hair Salon

Herr Capital Management

27 W. Plainfield Road
Financial planning, investment & insurance

Silvia's Hair Cuts

(formerly: Enny's Hair Cuts)
6572 Joliet Road
Hair salon

The Halal Guys

5621 S. LaGrange Road
Mediterranean food



Memorial Day Holiday



When: Monday, May 27, 2019

Time: 11:45 a.m.

Where: Carl W. LeGant Memorial Park

Following the service, a separate ceremony to honor all deceased veterans will be held at 12:00 p.m. at Post 1941.

Robert E. Coulter Jr. Post 1941
900 S. LaGrange Road
LaGrange, IL 60525

Concerts in the Park

Mark your calendar for Countryside's
Concert in the Park Series -
Opening acts start at 6 p.m.

Summertime in Countryside

June 6th
Guittara Azul
Opening for
THE SPECIAL
20s

June 13th
Lincoln Don't Lie
Opening for
THE WAYOUTS

June 20th
Cirrus Falcon
Opening for
BLOOZE
BROTHERS

June 27th
3AM Band
Opening for
KALEIDOSCOPE
EYES

July 11th
Evil Burrito
Opening for
SUBURBAN
COWBOYS

July 18th
Steel Express Band
Opening for
RECKLESS



July 25th
Multiplicity
Opening for
PRISCILLAS
FIREWORKS SHOW
@ 9

August 1st
Strung Out Band
Opening for
R GANG
FIREWORKS
RAIN DATE @ 9



City of Countryside
5550 East Avenue
Countryside, IL 60525

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
So Suburban, IL
Permit No. 928

Officials:

Mayor

Sean McDermott

Clerk

Susan Burdett

Treasurer

Caryn Stancik

Aldermen

Mark Benson

John Finn

James Jasinski

Thomas Mikolyzk

Scott Musillami

John Von Drasek



Websites to Know

City of Countryside

www.countryside-il.org

Cook County Clerk

www.cookcountyclerk.com

Countryside Chamber of Commerce

www.countrysidechamber.org

Flagg Creek Golf Course

www.flaggcreekgolfcourse.org

Pleasantview Fire Protection

www.plvw.org

West Suburban Chamber

www.westsuburbanchamber.org

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS



City Hall:

Main: (708) 354-7270

Fax: (708) 354-9445

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Police Department:

Main: (708) 352-2171 (non-emergency)

Fax: (708) 352-1032

Emergency: 911

Clerk's Office:

Main: (708) 354-7270

Fax: (708) 354-9445

Public Works:

Main: (708) 354-3390

Fax: (708) 354-9445

Water Billing:

Main: (708) 485-2465

Fax: (708) 354-9029

Community Development:

Main: (708) 354-1860

Fax: (708) 354-9029

Disclaimer: If you attend a local festival or City function and the event is photographed, your image may be used for news and promotional purposes.