

Countryside CONNECTIONS

SPRING 2020

www.countryside-il.org



Dear Countryside Resident/Business Owner:

Governor J.B. Pritzker announced a state-wide stay at home order, beginning March 21st at 5 p.m. This measure is being implemented to help limit further spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. To view the stay at home order go to www2.illinois.gov/documents/execorders/2020/executiveorder-2020-10.pdf and to view the stay at home frequently asked questions go to www2.illinois.gov/sites/coronavirus/FAQ/Pages/Stay-At-Home-FAQS.aspx.

To protect the health of our community, the City of Countryside is implementing recommendations provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Cook County Department of Public Health. The City will continue to adapt its operations to protect the safety of our residents and employees while doing our best to limit impacts on services. All non-essential City services have been temporarily suspended through the termination of the Governor's stay at home order.

In the meantime, residents and businesses have the following options to avoid direct interaction:

Building Permits

- Apply and pay online. See page 5 for instructions.
- Approved permits will be emailed or mailed.
- Inspections will be limited to Mondays and Wednesdays only. Call (708) 485-2374 to request an appointment. Messages are retrieved daily.

Restaurant Taxes

- Businesses are asked to file their tax returns on time by mail or in the night deposit box located in the front entrance vestibule of the Municipal Complex.
- **The City will suspend penalties for late payment through June 30, 2020.**

Water Bills

- Pay bills online or by phone. See page 5 for instructions.
- Mail or drop off your payment in the night deposit box located in the front entrance vestibule of the Municipal Complex.
- **The City will suspend penalties for both residential and commercial accounts through June 30, 2020. In addition, water shut-off procedures will be suspended.**

ComEd Bills

ComEd offers payment options such as budget billing and flexible payment arrangements, including individually tailored payment installment plans. Customers who may be experiencing financial hardship should visit ComEd.com/CARE or call (800) 334-7661.

AT&T

AT&T will waive any late payment fees for any wireless, home phone or broadband and domestic wireless plan overage charges for data, voice or text for residential or small business wireless customers which may be incurred because of economic hardship related to the coronavirus pandemic. They have also temporarily suspended shut-offs.

City Officials will continue to monitor the outbreak of COVID-19 and adapt our operations as needed. We thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Sean R. McDermott

Mayor

Next Coffee with the Mayor - May 30th 10 - 11 a.m.



Mayor Sean McDermott welcomed residents for coffee and City updates on Saturday, January 18th. The Mayor invited the Illinois Tollway to attend and provide updates on their Central Tri-State expansion project. Senior Project Engineer Jeff Allen gave a very i n f o r m a t i v e presentation covering

an overview of the entire project, the progress of the mile long bridge construction, noisewalls in and around Countryside, and the anticipated timeline. You can see a visualization of the overall project on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGiMa-WsEpl&feature=youtu.be>. A copy of the slideshow specific to Countryside has been posted to our website at www.countryside-il.org/general/construction-news/. It is amazing how much progress they have made since January. See slide 11 for a diagram of noisewalls to remain, be replaced or are proposed new. If you have any construction-related concerns, you can call the 24/7 answering service for the Central Tri-State Project Construction Project at (630) 246-2930.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen

At the February 12th City Council meeting, St. Patrick's Day Parade Chairman Alderman John Finn introduced Countryside Resident Pat Schwartz as the Grand Marshal of the 2020 St. Patrick's Day Parade. Pat Schwartz is a 45 year resident of Countryside and the owner of Schwartz Excavating, also located in Countryside. Pat is a member of the Countryside Chamber of Commerce and has spent countless hours volunteering and giving back to the community.



Mayor Sean McDermott and the City Council pictured with Parade Grand Marshal, resident Pat Schwartz, Queen, Faith Benson, Members of the Queen's Court, Nicole Annella, Catie Ramicone, Lilja Waliewski and Princess, Fiona Webb.



If you receive a call from Medicare asking if you want a "test kit", hang up. It's a scam. The caller wants your social security number.

Police Updates

Trending Crimes - Keep Your Vehicles Locked!

The Countryside Police Department and surrounding departments have seen a dramatic increase in car burglaries and vehicle thefts during the overnight and early morning hours. Offenders in these crimes search through our neighborhoods looking for unlocked vehicles. They browse through the vehicles looking for valuables and keys or fobs that are sometimes left in the vehicles. If keys or fobs are located, the offenders steal the vehicle in order to commit other crimes in the area.

Valuable items should be kept out of sight or locked in the trunk. Also, DO NOT leave garage door openers in parked vehicles as, once inside your vehicle, thieves have access to your garage/home at any time. Please report any suspicious people or activity to the Countryside Police Department by dialing 9-1-1 immediately.

LOCK IT OR LOSE IT

HIDE YOUR VALUABLES LOCK YOUR VEHICLE TAKE IT WITH YOU

- ☒ Always keep valuables out of sight or in the trunk.
- ☒ Never leave valuables in unattended vehicles.
- ☒ Always lock your vehicle.
- ☒ Notify the police of any suspicious activity.

Ruse Burglaries

Confidence Crimes continue to be one of the most difficult for police to prevent without the assistance of the citizens in our community. One common scam is the ruse burglary where an offender comes to your door and purports themselves to be from a utility or construction company doing work in the area, only to distract the homeowner while their accomplices sneak into the residence and steal money and jewelry. These offenders typically prey on our senior citizen community. What can we do as a community to prevent or catch these offenders? If you have an elderly neighbor, keep an eye on their house for strange cars or people on their property. If someone comes to your door to “check the pipes” or “are doing work in the neighborhood” do not let them into your home. Speak with them through a closed door. In all instances, call 911 and let the police investigate them. If they are legitimate, they will not mind waiting for an officer to arrive.

Department Awards



At the January 22, 2020 City Council meeting, Chief Ford and Mayor McDermott presented awards to Officer Bisignani, Sergeant DuRell, and Pleasantview Fire Protection District Firefighter/Paramedic Kevin Klincik for their actions taken while investigating a disturbance call in December 2019. Officer Bisignani was speaking with a subject and noticed that they were attempting to hide a firearm. The subject did not comply with orders given by officers and physically resisted officer's efforts to disarm them. Firefighter/Paramedic Klincik was on scene and assisted our officers as they struggled with the armed person. DuRell, Bisignani, and Klincik were able to disarm the subject without serious injury to anyone involved.

Tobacco Compliance Checks

Under City of Countryside Ordinance 20-06-O “Each retailer shall request and examine the photographic identification of any person purchasing tobacco products so as to verify that the purchaser is over twenty-one (21) years of age or older. No such verification is required for any person who appears without reasonable doubt to be over the age of twenty-seven (27) years of age”.

On February 20, 2020 Countryside Police Officers conducted tobacco compliance checks on the 17 businesses in Countryside with tobacco licenses. We are happy to report that every business complied with Local and State Regulations regarding the sale of tobacco to minors.



Thank you

to Entenmann's for visiting
and dropping off baked goods in recognition of Law
Enforcement Appreciation Day!

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 18 - May 20)

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 18th.

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 2019 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in June 2020. The CCR includes basic information on the source of your drinking water, the levels of any contaminants that were detected in the water during 2019, 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, 803 Joliet Road, 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.

Pay Your Bills Online

Countryside offers online billing and payment service that gives customers greater flexibility to view and pay their water bills and building permits online.

Additionally, this easy-to-use payment portal provides customers with quick access to their account to view bills, check their balance, and email reminders.

It's Easy to Pay Your Bill!



Water Bill

- 1 Go to www.countryside-il.org and click on the Pay Online button to access the payment portal.
- 2 Click on Register Now to create an account or click on Pay Now to make a one-time payment.
- 3 Enter your information and select the invoice that you would like to pay. Add it to your cart or click the option to register.
- 4 Follow the steps to complete your payment. You may also choose to go paperless and sign up for pay by text during this time. **OR, to pay by phone 24/7, call (855) 329-4908.**

Building Permit

- 1 Go to www.countryside-il.org and click on "Departments" and select "The Community Development Department".
- 2 Click on "Online Building Permits" (please review the listed instructions) click on "Online Permit Link" to begin the permitting process.
- 3 Type the numbers of the Countryside address, and select your address from the listed results.
- 4 Check the owner information and under the permit tab click on "Apply for a Permit".
- 5 When your permit is approved you will receive an email with a link to pay your permit.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Sponsors

Please show your appreciation by supporting the businesses that support our community.

JACK PHELAN



DODGE



Jeep



POT O' GOLD SPONSORS

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



EMERALD SPONSORS

Center for Independence
Chariot Automotive & Towing
Countryside Chamber of Commerce
Driftwood Lounge
Flagg Creek Golf Course
Groot Industries, Inc.
Highline Automotive
Kenny's Irish Pub
Local 134 - IBEW
Odelson & Sterk, Ltd.
Park District of LaGrange
Rafferty's Irish Pub
Spot on 66
Time Out Sports Bar
Tressler, LLP
Vulcan Materials Company
Westfield Ford



SHAMROCK SPONSORS

BlueSky Home Care
Countryside Veterinary Center
Designer Event Chicago
Hooters of Countryside
Infinity Communications Group
Inland Bank
Kane, McKenna & Associates
Napleton's Countryside Mazda
NIMEC
Nyco Products
Schwartz Excavating, Inc.
Sinnott Tree Service, Inc.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY FAMILY PARADE 2020



2020 Census - Be Counted!

The City of Countryside urges its residents to complete the 2020 census. The census includes nine questions and is available at www.my2020census.gov. Illinois residents will receive four reminders to complete the census through April 27th, the first of which is a mailed postcard. Residents will only receive a paper questionnaire with their fourth reminder.



Why the census matters:

- The data can be used to inform funding for services like schools, fire departments, clinics and roads.
- The census helps ensure fair representation that affects our community.

Facts about the census:

- You must be 18+ to fill out the census.
- The census does **not** ask about citizenship.
- The answers you provide are only used to produce statistics.

Finance Department Earns The Distinguished Budget Award

The City's Finance Department has earned the Distinguish Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) during this fiscal year. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and Finance Department has earned it for the 4th consecutive year. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and as a communications device.

Code Corner

The City would like to notify all residents and businesses of this newly passed ordinance which is effective immediately.

20-05-O: Starting March 1st, the Community Development Department will be performing all plan reviews internally. The new permit plan review fees have been updated in the City Code.

Memorial Day Holiday



When: Monday, May 25, 2020
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

Reminders ...

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.

Community Garden

We have 10 garden plots, 10' x 10' in size which are available to Countryside residents.

Call (708) 485-4775 for more details and registration materials.

Countryside Chamber of Commerce

Save The Dates!



Gift Certificates

Are available in \$10 and \$25 increments and can be used at any of the participating Countryside business (visit our website at www.countrysidechamber.org for the list of participating businesses). They make great gifts for coaches, teachers, co-workers, Mother's Day, graduation, etc. **Chamber gift certificates are available for purchase at the City of Countryside (cash or check only), or ONLINE.** Countryside Chamber of Commerce 2020 membership drive is in full force. It's not too late to join the Chamber and be a part of a supportive network of local business owners. The Chamber provides its members with educational programs, networking and local sponsorship opportunities and so much more. You can easily join the Chamber on their website at www.countrysidechamber.org/membership/.



It was a fun filled day at Flagg Creek despite the bitter cold! There was an ice carved painting wall with the Frozen theme for guests to paint, a bonfire with marshmallows, face painting, kids bingo, cookie painting, games, a Home Depot craft project, and an exotic animal show. Friday night's adults only activities included wine tasting provide by Mainstreet Wine and Spirits, food and drink specials and live music by Timeless.

We would like to thank several businesses which sponsored Winterfest 2020. These generous sponsorships continue to allow the City to offer these events for free.



Flagg Creek Golf News

Demo Day

DATE: May 15

TIME: 2 - 6 p.m.

All major vendors will be present: Callaway, Cobra, Ping, Titleist, Taylor Made, Cleveland, Srixon and Wilson.



Spring, Summer & Fall Scramble

DATES: June 14 and August 16

TIME: 2:30 p.m. Shotgun

COST: \$180 per foursome

The fee includes golf, food, Closest to the Pin, and (optional) Skins and Beat the Pro. Registration opens 1 month before each scheduled scramble date.

Junior League

DATES: June 9,16,23,30 and July 7 (Rain date is July 14)

AGES: 8 -15 (Boys & Girls)

TIME: 8 a.m. Shotgun

COST: \$110 residents, \$130 non-residents

The fee includes green fees, participation gift, t-shirt, and use of Ken Malnar's game based designed driving range.

Sign up in the Pro Shop (708) 246-3336 for Demo Day, Junior League, 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 seven after parties. Flagg Creek Golf Course served a traditional corn beef and cabbage lunch along with kids favorites like pizza, chicken fingers, and hot dogs. New this year was a tent right outside the clubhouse where the band, The Toolies, played a wide variety of music from traditional Irish tunes to favorite pub songs. The kids were entertained by a face painter and balloon artist that were stationed on the screened-in deck. A good time was had by all.



Upcoming Meetings

April

** City Council	7:30 p.m.
15 Flagg Creek Admin. Board	7:00 p.m.
22 City Council	7:30 p.m.

May

5 Plan Commission/ZBA	7:15 p.m.
13 City Council	7:30 p.m.
20 Flagg Creek Admin. Board	7:00 p.m.
27 City Council	7:30 p.m.

June

2 Plan Commission /ZBA	7:15 p.m.
9 Fire & Police Commission	5:00 p.m.
10 City Council	7:30 p.m.
17 Flagg Creek Admin. Board	7:00 p.m.

** Watch the City's website for schedule revisions.

Concerts in the Park

Mark your calendar for Countryside's
Concert in the Park Series -

Opening acts start at 6 p.m.

**** New**** Headliner Band will start at
7 p.m. and play through 8:30 p.m.

**Happy 60th Birthday
Countryside!**



June 18th
Disney Princess
Sing Along
Opening for
**ROCKIN'
FENDERSKIRTS**

June 25th
Cloggin' Craze
Opening for
**JOHNNY RUSSLER &
THE BEACH BUM
BAND**

July 2nd
Acoustic Flight
Opening for
KARMA COMMITTEE

July 9th
Cirrus Falcon
Opening for
**KALEIDOSCOPE
EYES**

July 16th
Robbie Gold Music
Opening for
THE MILLÉNNIALS

July 23rd
Guitarra Azul
Opening for
ETHAN BELL BAND

July 30th
Gypsy
Opening for
**CHICAGO TRIBUTE
ANTHOLOGY**

August 6th
Salted Coffee
Opening for
SERENDIPITY

Welcome to Countryside

Bryan the Barber

23 Countryside Plaza, Suite 118
Barbershop

Crash Champions

(formerly: Fix Auto Countryside)
9600 Joliet Road
Body shop



Edith Styles You

23 Countryside Plaza, Suite 108
Hair salon

La Michoacana of Countryside

909 S. 55th Street
Homemade ice cream and snacks



Skin and Brow Spot

(moved)
5508 S. Brainard, Unit 1
Facial waxing, eyelash extentions and eyelash lift

Tavern on LaGrange

(new owner)
5403 S. LaGrange
Restaurant and bar

The Weston System

23 Countryside Plaza, Suite 113
Scalp pigmentation

Vickie's Vanity Salon Suite

23 Countryside Plaza, Suite 128
Hair salon





City of Countryside
803 Joliet Road
Countryside, IL 60525

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

Officials:

Mayor

Sean McDermott

Clerk

Elizabeth Kmet

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) 354-9445

Community Development:

Main: (708) 354-1860

Fax: (708) 354-9445

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.