

Countryside CONNECTIONS

SUMMER 2023

www.countryside-il.org



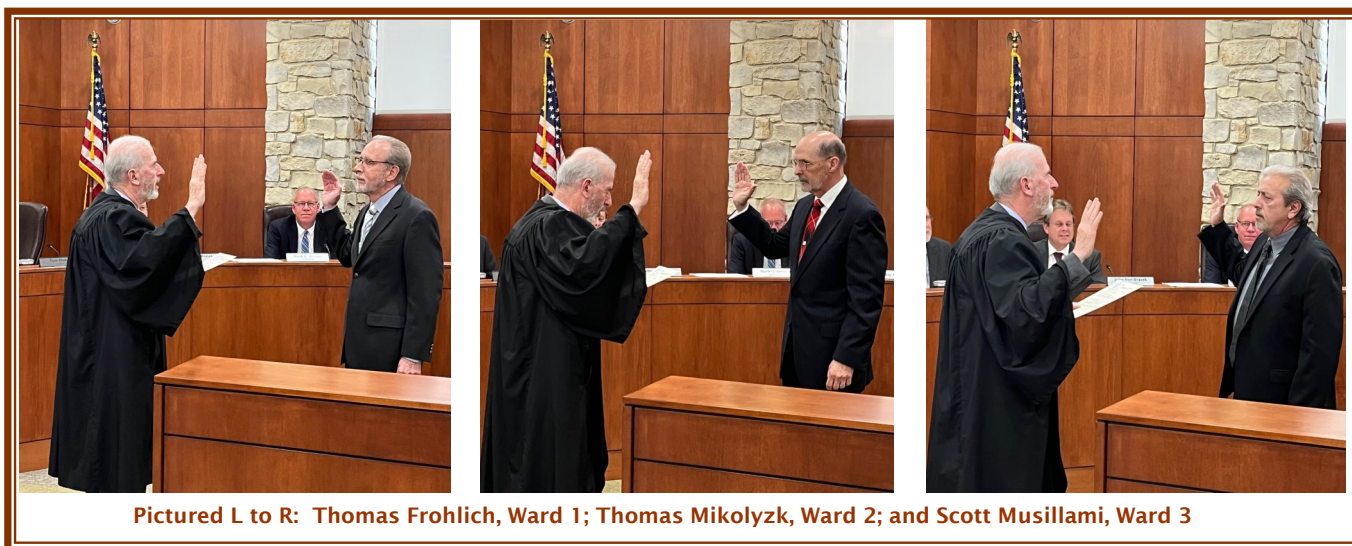
City Officials Re-Elected

The May 10th City Council meeting included the swearing in of 6 re-elected officials, all took the oath of office, administered by Judge Patrick Rogers, and will serve a 4-year term.

Congratulations!



Pictured L to R: Sean R. McDermott; Mayor, Elizabeth A. Kmet, City Clerk; and Courtney Bolt, Treasurer



Pictured L to R: Thomas Frohlich, Ward 1; Thomas Mikolyzk, Ward 2; and Scott Musillami, Ward 3

Welcome to Countryside

Boba Heaven

5432 S. LaGrange Road

Food and drink service specializing in bubble tea

Pillars Community Health

5220 East Avenue

Non-profit community medical services

Signature Spa & Beauty Center

27 W. Plainfield Road

Facials and skin care



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

Date: Saturday, August 5, 2023

Place: City Hall Parking Lot
803 Joliet Road

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)



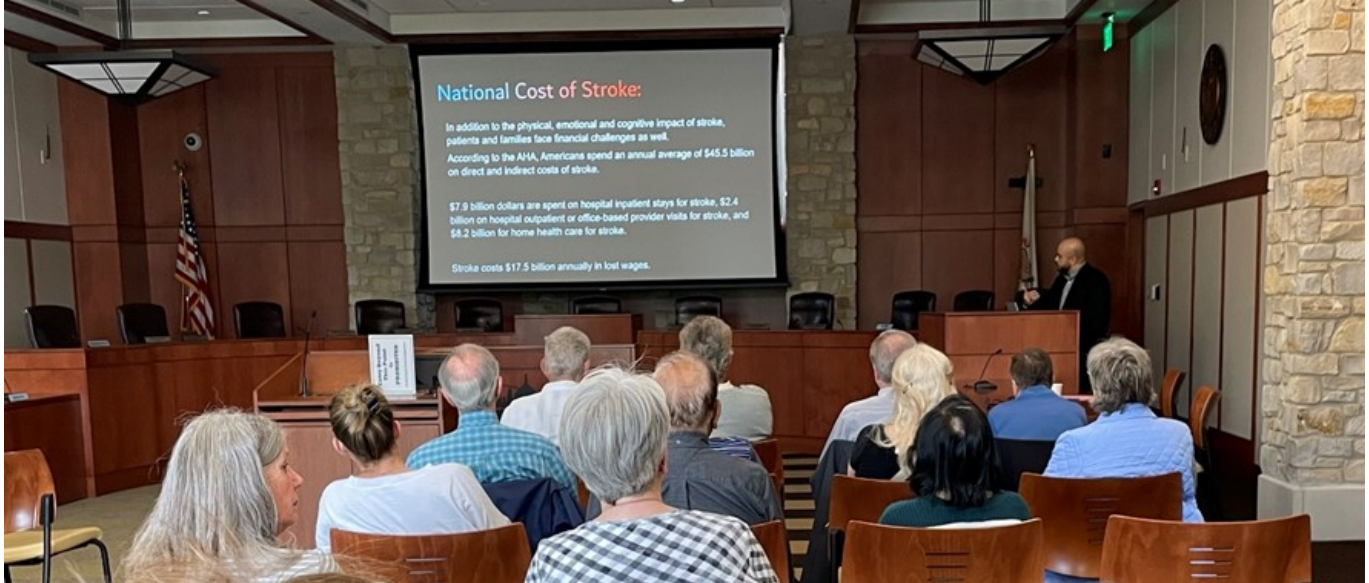
SUMMER / 2023

Coffee with the Mayor - September 9th from 10 – 11 a.m.



We were very fortunate to have resident Dr. Khaled Asi speak to the crowd during Stroke Awareness Month. He gave a very informative presentation on the warning signs of a stroke, the importance of getting a stroke victim medical attention as soon as possible, and the current procedures for treating patients. Dr. Asi practices neurointerventional surgery for Advocate Medical Group.

The next coffee with the Mayor is Saturday, September 9th. Please join us.



City Services

Block Party Request: An application must be completed and returned to the Clerk's office at least 3 weeks in advance of the event. There is *no charge* for this service.

Garage/Estate Sale: A permit is required at *no cost* to the resident. Two garage/estate sales are permitted per household per calendar year, for three consecutive days each.

Library Reimbursement: The City has a contract with the McCook Public Library for Countryside families to become members for a flat rate of \$100. Families can choose to join the McCook Public Library and get reimbursed 100%. If you choose to join another library, the reimbursement will be capped at \$100. To apply, bring your library card, a valid driver's license, and the paid membership to the Clerk's office.

The McCook library card can be used at other libraries and also to access eBooks and audiobooks online.

Pool Reimbursement: Residents are also offered a 50% reimbursement (one per household, up to a maximum of \$100) toward the cost of a membership to any outdoor swimming pool. Fitness Clubs and YMCA memberships are not eligible unless a separate "outdoor pool" rate is established. To apply for a reimbursement, bring in your paid receipt and valid driver's license to the Clerk's office. All 2023 pool memberships must be presented by December 29, 2023 to be eligible for a reimbursement.

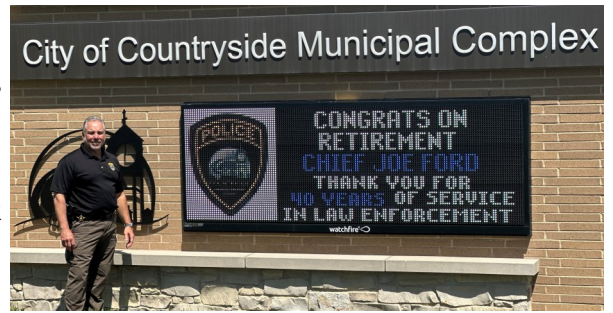
For more information about these services, please contact the Clerk's office at (708) 354-7270. **Forms are available at the Clerk's office or on our website.**

Sign Up Today—E-News Mailing List

Countryside residents can receive City News updates via email. To join the list, click on "E-News Mailing List" on the home page of the City's website, www.countryside-il.org, and follow the easy onscreen directions.

Police Department Updates

Retirement and Promotions: After 40 years of dedicated service in law enforcement, the last 10 with the Countryside Police Department, Chief Joseph Ford retired on May 13, 2023. Chief Ford began his career in 1983, when he was hired by the newly formed Burbank Police Department. Over the course of his 30 years in Burbank, Ford held a number of ranks before being selected to be Chief for the City of Countryside in 2013. Chief Ford served as the Chairman for the Major Case Assistance Team (MCAT), the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force (SSMCTF), and NARCINT/HIDTA. Under Chief Ford's leadership, the Countryside Police Department has become a model for other law enforcement agencies. He has implemented programs that have helped to build trust and improve relations between the police and the community. His dedication to the job has made Countryside a safer and more welcoming place to live. We would like to express our deep appreciation to Chief Ford for his years of service, guidance and his unwavering commitment to the community. Please join us in congratulating Chief Ford on his retirement!



With Chief Ford's retirement, we are excited to announce the appointment of our new Chief of Police, Paul Klimek and our new Deputy Chief of Police, Jim Stern. Chief Klimek and Deputy Chief Stern were sworn in to their new positions by Mayor McDermott at the City Council meeting on May 24, 2023.

Chief Paul Klimek has served with the Countryside Police Department for 19 years. He has worked his way up the ranks holding the positions of patrol officer, sergeant, commander, and deputy chief. He holds a Master's Degree in Public Safety Administration from Lewis University and a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Illinois-Chicago. He completed the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety's School of Police Staff and Command and the Executive Management Program. Chief Klimek has earned numerous certifications in various areas of law enforcement, including Taser instructor, field training officer, use of force instructor, and truck enforcement officer. He currently serves on the board of directors for the South Suburban Major Accident Reconstruction Team (SSMART).



Deputy Chief Jim Stern has served with the Countryside Police Department for 16 years. He has worked his way up the ranks holding the positions of patrol officer, detective, sergeant, and commander. While in the patrol division he earned certifications as an field training officer and an evidence technician. During his time in the investigations division, he was assigned to the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force (SSMCTF) and the Major Case Assistance Team (MCAT). Jim has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Lewis University and recently graduated from the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety's School of Police Staff and Command.



Illinois Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics:



Thanks to the generosity of our residents, business owners, family and friends, we have managed to set a single day fundraising record for the Countryside Police Department. The 2023 Cop on a Rooftop event held on May 19, 2023, raised \$5,782 for Special Olympics Illinois. A special thank you to Dunkin' of Countryside for hosting this event.



Building Department

With the change in weather, many homeowners will take on home improvement projects. If you are having work done to the outside/inside of your home, please remember the following permit and code requirements:



✓ Hours for construction are 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday - Friday and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. If temperatures are above 95° F, work can begin at 6:00 a.m. No work can be performed on the following holidays: Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day.

✓ Typically a permit is required for the following common projects: Window and exterior door replacement, water heater, furnace/AC, fences, interior remodels, dumpster/PODS, roof, siding, gutter, soffit, fascia installation, decks, patios, swimming pools, sheds, underground drainage discharge and driveways or sidewalks. **MYTH:** Doing the work yourself (as the homeowner) means that you do not need to get a permit. **ANSWER:** FALSE! If you are not sure if a permit is required, call (708) 354-1860.

✓ Application Requirements:

- ◆ **Application:** Filled out completely. Found on our website www.countryside-il.org under "Forms and Permits" on the left side of the home page. Scroll down to Community Development and choose the appropriate application. Email the completed application to building@countryside-il.org.
- ◆ **Plat of Survey:** Submitted with all permits for new construction, additions and accessory structures, including replacing patios/decks and driveways. Plat of Survey **must be current** and reflect all structures on the property. Applications will be denied if a current plat of survey is not submitted with the application.
- ◆ **Engineering/Grading Plan:** Required for new construction or for any permit that will be disturbing the soil (patios, in-ground pools or major landscaping). Engineering/grading plans are reviewed by a consulting engineer for stormwater management compliance. **All engineering review fees are paid by the permit applicant.**
- ◆ **Copy of contract or estimate:** Details the scope of work and the cost of the job.
- ◆ **Contractor's License:** All contractors are required to be listed on a permit application and be registered with the City. Permits will not be issued when a contractor is not registered or their license has expired. Contractor's licenses expire yearly on December 31st.
- ◆ **J.U.L.I.E.:** Upon receiving your permit, call J.U.L.I.E. and they will arrange to visit your property and mark the locations of the underground utilities. **Call J.U.L.I.E. at 811 or (800) 892-0123.**
- ◆ **Permit Card:** Required to be displayed in a window or door that faces the street and is unobstructed. Failure to display the permit card will result in a fine.

✓ Inspections: Every permit requires an inspection on all work performed. The owner/contractor is responsible for obtaining all inspections. **FAILURE TO CALL FOR AN INSPECTION WILL RESULT IN FINES.** It is recommended that a homeowner does not make their final payment to their contractor until a final inspection has been completed and approved. This protects the homeowner by ensuring that the contractor has done the work according to the plans approved by the Community Development Department and the City Code. Call (708) 354-1860 to schedule the inspection.

Inspections occur Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. A contact name and number must be provided. Our inspectors may call in advance prior to their arrival on the job site if requested. Failure to be on-site for the inspection will result in a re-inspection fee being charged.

✓ Permits shall become invalid unless the work authorized is completed within 365 days after issuance, or if the work is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days after the time work is initiated, unless an extension is requested from and authorized by the Building Official.

If you have questions about building permits or possible violations, please contact the Community Development Department at (708) 354-1860 or visit the Community Development's web page on the City's website www.countryside-il.org/departments/community-development/.

Public Works Reminds You . . .

Brush Pick-Up

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.

Keep Storm Sewers Clear to Prevent Flooding

The Public Works Department is requesting that residents with a sewer cover near their homes help prevent street and parkway flooding by keeping the cover and inlets clear of grass clippings, leaves and other debris throughout the year. Clearing the sewer covers also helps prevent storm water backup into homes.

Restrictions on Sprinkling

City ordinance restricts sprinkling between May 15th and September 15th. Sprinkling lawns is **prohibited between the hours of Noon - 6:00 p.m.** During the hours when sprinkling is permitted, properties who addresses end in an odd numbered digit may water on odd numbered dates, and properties who addresses end in an even numbered digit may water on even numbered dates.



Lawn Sprinkler Systems/Fire Sprinkler Systems

Reminder ... All RPZ/Backflow devices are to be inspected annually. This is a City, State and Federal law to prevent cross-contamination of the potable water system.



Irrigation systems should be tested before activation in the spring. Fire sprinkler testing can occur at any time.

Help Fight Mosquitoes

With the return of warm temperatures coupled with drier conditions, the production of mosquitoes involved in the transmission of West Nile Virus (WNV) is on the increase. The Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District stated that WNV positive mosquito samples have been found in northern Cook County, and it is only a matter of before positive samples will be found in our area.



It doesn't take much water for mosquitoes to develop. There are many potential breeding sites that can be found around your home. You can take the following steps to eliminate potential sources:

- ➊ Change the water in your bird bath regularly.
- ➋ Clean your gutters/downspouts.
- ➌ Keep weeds and grass cut short.
- ➍ Remove containers, buckets, etc. which may accumulate water.
- ➎ Screen rain barrels to prevent mosquitoes from depositing eggs on the water's surface.

The Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District routinely maintains an aggressive larval control program against mosquitoes. Control operations started in early April and continue into early October.

Love, Lila Toy Box

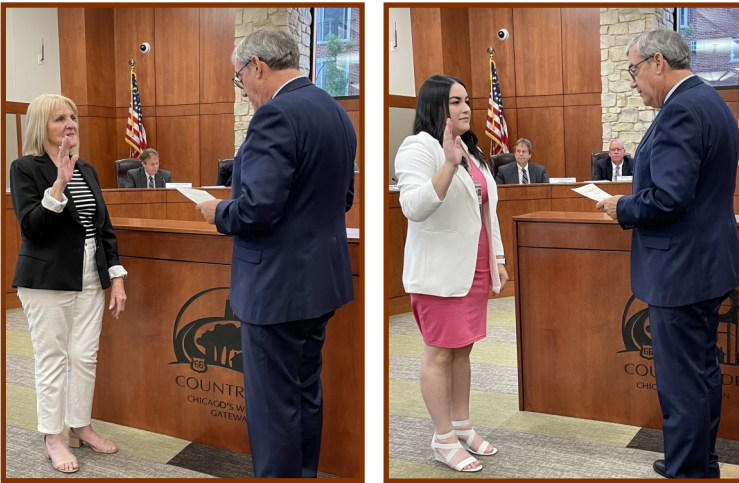


Countryside Deputy City Clerk Liz Saucedo, created "Love, Lila", a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization in response to her 3 year old daughter Lila's multiple visits to the hospital to diagnose digestion issues which ultimately resulted in surgery. During the visits, nurses would bring in a cart filled with various toys, stuffed animals, and games which were uplifting for Lila. So "Love, Lila" placed a toy box inside the Countryside Police

Department filled with items that Countryside officers can offer to children that are involved in stressful circumstances in hopes that it brings them some comfort.

Mayor Swears in Commissioner and City Deputy Clerk

Mayor Sean McDermott swore in one member to the Board of Fire and Police Commission and the City Deputy Clerk at the May 14, 2023 City Council meeting.



Pictured L to R: Mary Louise Pisone, Board of Fire and Police Commission and Elizabeth "Liz" Saucedo, City Deputy Clerk.

Flagg Creek Golf Course Tree Sponsorship Program

Help replenish the golf course trees by participating in our Tree Sponsorship Program. What a unique way to celebrate a special occasion to honor a loved one. Each tree sponsorship is a minimum cost of \$250. The sponsorship includes a customized recognition stone.

Call the Pro Shop at (708) 246-3336 for more details.

Harling School of Dance - Going to the Nationals

The Harling School of Irish Dance is sending their Ceili team to the North American Irish Dance Nationals this summer in Nashville, TN.

This four-hand Ceili team placed 5th at the Mid-American Oireachtas last November in Indianapolis, IN. "It has always been our goal at the Harling School of Irish Dance to first and foremost instill a love of Irish dance in our kids," said Alyssa Harling, TCRG, who owns and is the principal of the school.

The North American Irish Dance Championship (NAIDC) is held annually in North America over the first week of July and is hosted on a rotational basis by each region. The NAIDC is one of the premier Irish dance competitions worldwide and it is considered a secondary Oireachtas Rince n Cruinne (world) qualifier for those dancers residing in North America.

The Harling School of Irish Dance is located 919 W. 55th Street, Unit B in Countryside, IL. The Harling School of Irish Dance teaches Irish dance to girls and boys ages 5 and up, as well as Irish dance movement class for tots ages 3-4. Visit www.harlingdancers.com for more information on how your child can learn to Irish dance.



Pictured L to R: Abi Dunlap, Ainsley Wilson (daughter of Board of Fire & Police Commissioner, Mike Wilson), Alyssa Harling (owner & teacher), Mia DiSanto, and Roisin Kennedy.

Community Happenings

Bluegrass & Brews - Saturday,
August 26th

COUNTRYSIDE PARK
630 61st Street
3 - 9 PM

**BEER FROM LOCAL BREWERIES
& LIVE MUSIC**

LIVE MUSIC

3-4:30 pm - Don Stiernberg Trio
5-6:30 pm - Chicken Wire Empire
7-9 pm - Anderlik, Otto & Church Bluegrass Band

FOOD VENDORS ON SITE

Ledo's Pizza, Monk's (Burgers & more), Grz Grub
(Nathan's Hot Dogs, Pretzel Bites with Beer
Cheese, and Pot Roast Sliders)

BREWERIES ON SITE

Buckle Down & Imperial Oak Brewing

For more information about this event, please call
(708) 354-7270 or visit our website at
www.countryside-il.org under the Special Event
tab on the home page.

Summer Concert Series

Join your friends and family every Thursday at Countryside Park (located at 630 61st Street) for our eight week summer concert series. All concerts begin at 7 p.m. and run through 9 p.m. This years lineup is designed to appeal to all music lovers. Concerts are held, rain or shine. For more information, please call (708) 352-7270.

July 6: The Special 20's
July 13: Rosie & The Rivets
July 20: No Turn on Red
July 27: Opening Act 6 pm - The Vaughn
Building
7 pm - Mellencougar
9 pm - Fireworks show
August 3: Heartache Tonight
(fireworks rain date)

We are looking forward to seeing all our residents at the upcoming Concerts in the Park at Countryside Park.

Back to School Celebration and Neighborhood Festival Saturday, August 19th

*Sponsored by the City of Countryside
& School District 105*



IDEAL SCHOOL
9901 W. 58th Street
(school playground)
2:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

2-4 pm - Wellness Resource Fair, school supply and personal hygiene distribution.

4-7 pm - Neighborhood Festival opens

4-4:30 pm - Mariachi Monumental De Mexico

4:30-6:30 pm - Rotary Bingo

5-7 pm - Timeless

Food vendors on site: Monks Burgers and more, Tacos Mario Food truck, Chick-fil-A (2-4 pm only), Nothing Bundt Cakes and Ledo's Pizza.

For more information about this event, please call (708) 354-7270 or visit our website at www.countryside-il.org under the Special Event tab on the home page.

Upcoming Meetings

July

11	Plan/ZBA Commission	7:15 p.m.
12	City Council	7:30 p.m.
19	Flagg Creek Admin. Board	7:00 p.m.

August

1	Plan/ZBA Commission	7:15 p.m.
9	City Council	7:30 p.m.
16	Flagg Creek Admin. Board	7:00 p.m.

September

5	Plan/ZBA Commission	7:15 p.m.
12	Fire & Police Commission	5:00 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.

Upcoming Holiday

The City Hall will be closed in observance of
Labor Day, Monday, September 4th

LABOR DAY



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

Courtney Bolt

Aldermen

Mark Benson

John Finn

Tom Frohlich

Thomas Mikolyzk

Scott Musillami

John Von Drasek



Websites to Know

City of Countryside

www.countryside-il.org

Cook County Clerk

www.cookcountyclerk.com

Flagg Creek Golf Course

www.flaggcreekgolfcourse.com

Pleasant Dale Park District

www.pdparks.org

Pleasantview Fire Protection District

www.plvw.org

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS



EMERGENCY 911

City Hall/Clerk's Office:

Main: (708) 354-7270

Fax: (708) 354-9445

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

Community Development:

Main: (708) 354-1860

Fax: (708) 354-9445

Police Department:

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

Fax: (708) 352-1032

Public Works:

Main: (708) 354-3390

Fax: (708) 354-9445

Water Billing:

Main: (708) 485-2465

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.