



CLARENDON HILLS

January/February 2024



Dear Neighbors,

Happy New Year! 2024 is very exciting for this community as we celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a community. To kick off our 100<sup>th</sup> year I'd like to welcome you all to our newly renamed newsletter: The Daisy Digest, which will be in color for the entire year. Why the name change? We thought renaming it to better match what the newsletter is would be more appropriate. Using the name Daisy since it matches our branding and the history we have with the flower, would be fun. The term Digest -meaning a compilation or summary of material or information seemed appropriate for this newsletter, hence Daisy Digest. We will continue to share the important information our residents need with this bi-monthly newsletter. Please be sure to follow us on social media and our website to keep up with current news within the community and for our Centennial.

I'd like to thank the Village Staff, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Centennial Committee for planning exciting new events and activities while enhancing our existing events. The Historical Society, as official keepers of our history, has also been a key partner and we are looking forward to a year where all community partners which include the Library, Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, the Birches, Daisy Dash, and Park District join in the celebration!

Country House will be celebrating their 50 years of business this year too! The Country House building has been there as long as our community, so I'm sure if those walls could talk, they would have some great stories to tell. In the meantime, be sure to celebrate their 50th anniversary and make new memories in 2024.

At the end of 2023 the Village Board held a goal setting session. Strategic priorities discussed included setting design standards for downtown streetscapes, parking, development of downtown and other commercial areas, public-private partnerships, capital improvement projects and technology improvements. All with the goal of enhancing our already great community and preparing us for our next 100 years.

Inflation is coming down, stabilizing prices and interest rates. Hopefully this will increase economic development moving forward. Sparrow Coffee plans to open in 2024! There is a lot of buzz being generated by the developments that will anchor the southern area of our community's downtown. I encourage all residents to shop local and continue to support our businesses old and new. We also still have interest in our empty store fronts and hope that 2024 fills those too.

While the weather didn't cooperate, the Chamber of Commerce, our Police, Public Works, and other Village Staff did an excellent job of having a fun-filled evening planned at our Holiday Walk on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Events continue to be a major draw to our downtown and as we begin the festivities of celebrating our centennial anniversary, I look forward to seeing you and your families enjoying Clarendon Hills!



  
Eric Tech  
Village President

For questions, contact the Village Hall at (630) 286-5400





On January 22, 2024 the Village will be 100 years old. The Village of Clarendon Hills has experienced a lot of growth through out its history and continues to do so within the confines of its relatively small boundaries.

When the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad began service here in 1864, farmers initially used it as a milk stop. The scenic terrain soon attracted speculators, headed up by James M. Walker, then president of the railroad, who hoped to develop a commuter suburb. The area was platted in 1873 with a design inspired by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. Accordingly, numbered lots of various shapes and sizes were placed along winding streets which followed the natural contours of the land. The area was at one time called West Hinsdale but later named Clarendon Hills after a Boston suburb. Despite the hills, winding plat, and backers of influential

status, Clarendon Hills languished.

In 1869, Henry C. Middaugh acquired 270 acres north of the railroad tracks. Instead of subdividing his land he farmed the land and hoped to attract other wealthy investors to do the same. He tile drained his land, planted trees, and in 1893 built an elegant 20 room mansion. Unfortunately, the mansion was razed in 2002. Pieces of the mansion can be seen at the Clarendon Hills Historical Society located at 50 Sheridan Avenue.

Residents incorporated as a village in 1924. The one-room schoolhouse was quickly replaced by a two-room brick building. The first police officer was appointed in 1924, and a business district was developed to serve the growing population of commuters.

Residents in 1926 approved the spending of \$10,000 to buy the Village's first fire truck and to

build a fire station on the north side of the train line.

A real boom in Clarendon Hills followed World War II. Population increased from 933 in 1930 to 5,885 by 1960. Ranches, Cape Cods, and split-levels homes were built on the odd-shaped lots platted almost a century before; 45 of which are still standing today.

The Lions Club formed in 1950, built the community's first public swimming pool. The population of Clarendon Hills today is around 8,600.

#### **Fun Facts:**

Ogden Avenue was the first paved road within the Village

In 1930 concrete streets were added to the downtown.

Daisy Days (originally a sidewalk sales event) has been an event since 1964!

Orrin Goode was the first Village President in 1924.

Village Hall was built at 1 N. Prospect in 1965 and added onto in 1992.

The first Village Manager was Lloyd Church in 1959. He retired in 1973.

Country House on 55th Avenue has been in business for 50 years and the building is as old as the Village.

Today, Clarendon Hills offers a high quality of life for residents, including a low crime rate, top-rated schools, high average home values and a vibrant downtown, with access to the city of Chicago via Metra and highways.

Sources:  
Knoblauch, Marion. DuPage County Guide. 1948.  
Shockey, Celia Perry.

"Clarendon Hills." In DuPage Roots, ed. Richard Thompson, 1985, 133-137.

The Doings Newspaper 75th Anniversary Edition June 18, 1999

## Around Town

### Board Meetings

January 8th at 6:30 PM

February 20th at 6:30 PM

(rescheduled due to Presidents Day)

### ZBA/Plan Commission

January 19th at 7:30 PM

February 16th at 7:30 PM

### Library

January 30th at all day

National Puzzle Day

Drop by the library to do puzzles

**February 13, at 7 PM**

An Unfinished Journey: African American Music in it Pivotal Decades with Clarence Goodman  
Adult Program -*Registration Required.*

630-323-8188

[www.clarendonhillslibrary.org](http://www.clarendonhillslibrary.org)

### Park District

Check out the many activities offered by the Park District by viewing their Program brochure on-line.

Park District Number: 630-323-2626

[www.clarendonhillsparkdistrict.org](http://www.clarendonhillsparkdistrict.org)

### Historical Society

January 17th @ 7 PM

Jim Gibbons presents

*The 1920's Flappers, Speakeasies & Coolidge*

Location: Heritage Hall 50 Sheridan Rd.



## Shop, Explore, Enjoy Clarendon Hills!

Throughout the year 2024, we will continue with the traditional events many residents look forward to every year, but they will have a little something extra to celebrate this 100-year milestone.

There is an on-line store where residents can purchase merchandise to celebrate the 100th anniversary. [www.clarendonhills.us/Shop](http://www.clarendonhills.us/Shop) The proceeds made from these sales will go to the Clarendon Hills Historical Society.

Souvenir Centennial Passport Adventure Books will be available in 2024 for residents of all ages. These books can be used to collect stamps from Village businesses and events throughout the year. Those who participate can enter a drawing that will occur at the 2024 Holiday walk for prizes. Be sure to grab your souvenir passport book at the Village Hall, Library, and at many of the events throughout the year.

## Centennial Happenings!

New name to community newsletter "Daisy Digest"

Refreshed look to Village website (completed 4th quarter of 2023!)

Centennial Store on-line [www.clarendonhills.us/Shop](http://www.clarendonhills.us/Shop)

Historical Society Kick-off event January 17th *"The 1920's Flappers, Speakeasies & Coolidge"*

One 1924 Book—One Community event with library in February

Centennial Amazing Race (tbd)

Time Capsule (tbd)

"Clarendon Hills" Daisy seeds (spring)

Chalk Walk Contest (tbd)

Centennial Poster Contest in May

Community Day of Service in May

Farmers Market on Thursdays starting May 16th!

Daisy Day June 14th & 15th with Antique Car Show and Entrepreneurial Market

Daisy Dash 5K June 16th

Centennial Celebration in Prospect Park (September)

Dancin' in the Street Summer Concerts June 26th, July 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, and August 7th

Oktoberfest September 14th

Halloween Walk October 26th

Holiday Walk December 6th

Passport Raffle December 6th

Clarendon Hills Documentary and Historical Book

Centennial Home Designations and House Walk (tbd)

## Village Hall Hours

**Monday - Friday**

**NEW!!!**

**9 AM to 4:30 PM**

**February 19th Village Offices will be closed in observance of Presidents Day**



## Christmas Tree Clean Up

Lakeshore Recycling Services (LRS) offers free recycling for Christmas Trees during the month of January. All decorations must be removed. Place trees **ONLY** for recycling at the curb. Please remove tree from bag once at curb.



## Volunteers

Clarendon Hills is known as the Volunteer community. This is not only because our Village Board and the subcommittees are volunteers, but because we have many residents that donate of themselves within the community. This is something we are so very proud of. We can't possibly list all the volunteers within our community but we would like to thank a few throughout the year.

Resident Dan Cosgrove at Dan Cosgrove Designs, LLC donated his talents and time to create our 100-year logo. It is a nod to the 1920's when we were established as a municipality here in the great state of Illinois. You will see this logo throughout the year and hope you find something you would like to purchase as a souvenir at the centennial store online at [www.clarendonhills.us/shop](http://www.clarendonhills.us/shop). The proceeds made from these sales will go to a volunteer organization dear to the history of our Village, the Clarendon Hills Historical Society. If you have an interest in history they are looking for volunteer members of all ages.

There are a great number of volunteer organizations here in Clarendon Hills that really benefit the community. If you're looking to give of yourself check out these organizations. *(These are just a few)*

Lions Club  
Woman's Club  
Clarendon Hills Infant Welfare Society  
Friends of the Library  
Clarendon Hills Historical Society  
Clarendon Hills Village Board  
Board of Fire and Police Commissioners  
Downtown Design Review Commission  
Economic Development Commission  
Zoning Board of Appeals/Plan Commission  
The Birches Assisted Living & Memory Care  
Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts



**Find Recent Village Board Actions at**  
**[www.clarendonhills.us/AgendaCenter](http://www.clarendonhills.us/AgendaCenter)**

## Contact Us

### Village President:

Eric Tech 630-286-5420

### Village Trustees:

Mark Peterson 630-286-5421  
Ralph DeAngelis 630-286-5422  
John Weicher 630-286-5423  
Steve Tuttle 630-286-5424  
Meredith Lannert 630-286-5425  
Omar Chaudhry 630-286-5426

### Village Clerk:

Lynn Dragisic 630-286-5403

### Village Hall: 630-286-5400

Water/Finance Dept.: Press 2

Permit/Building Dept.: Press 3

Manager's Office: Press 4

### Public Works: 630-286-4750

### Non-Emergency:

Police: 630-286-5460

Fire: 630-286-5430

[www.clarendonhills.us](http://www.clarendonhills.us)

### Community Numbers:

Park District: 630-323-2626

Public Library: 630-323-8188

### Online Transaction

### Safe Zone Location:

Police Station

448 Park Ave.)