

**VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS**  
**MANAGER'S REPORT**  
**APRIL 5, 2013**

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- A. Policy Feedback –**
- B. Management Reports**
  - 1. Manager's Notes -- See weekly report**
  - 2. Finance Department -- See weekly report**
  - 3. Public Works Department -- See weekly report**
  - 4. Community Development Department -- See weekly report**
  - 5. Police Department -- See weekly report**
  - 6. Fire Department -- See weekly report**
- C. News/Media Items - See attached articles**
- D. Calendar**



## **Village of Clarendon Hills Manager's Report**

To: Village President & Board of Trustees

From: Randall Recklaus, Village Manager

Date: April 5, 2013

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1. Staff has been in discussions with the Clarendon Hills Park District this week about the proposed pathway system in Prospect Park. They received a grant that will cover most of the project costs. As part of the project, they will be installing sidewalks along Oxford Avenue adjacent to the Park. They have asked that we contribute \$10,000 towards the cost of the project. Normally the cost of installing sidewalks at this location would be approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000. Staff will be bringing an Intergovernmental Agreement to the Board at the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to enable this project to go forward.

As a side note, the cost of permit and review fees to be charged to the Park District has been raised again. Park District representatives do not believe the District should have to pay the same fees as a private developer. Currently the code is silent on this issue. Nearby towns have various practices ranging from charging other governmental bodies the same fees to waiving all fees to charging only for outside expenses. This issue would not only impact the Park District but other governmental agencies such as Flagg Creek and the School District as well. Staff will be bringing a discussion memo before the Board on this issue as well at the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

2. Mike Millette and I met with representatives of Downers Grove and Westmont on Thursday to discuss potential fleet management sharing opportunities. We received a tour of Downers Grove's fleet maintenance facility and discussed current sharing agreements that Downers Grove has engaged in with other entities. We will now have an in house discussion with the other department heads about whether sharing maintenance represents a viable financial and operational option. However, our initial interactions have been positive and I believe we may be able to, at a minimum, experiment with sharing some expenses and services on a trial basis to see how workable the concept is. We will keep the board informed on this issue moving forward.
3. Chief Leahy and I are meeting with representatives of Burr Ridge, Hinsdale, and Willowbrook this morning to discuss the proposed Southwest Central Dispatch Budget and issue we have with it. The budget will be discussed at a Board of Directors meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

4. The Special Events Committee met on April 3. They have confirmed the band line up and are continuing to look for concert sponsorship opportunities. The committee has seen price increases for bands and staging, which further puts pressure on fundraising needs for the concert series. We will also be discussing joint advertising opportunities with the Chamber for Daisy Days as a way to promote both events more cost effectively. The next meeting will be May 1.

Have a Great Weekend!

# **VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS**

## **Finance Department**

### **MEMORANDUM**

DATE: April 5, 2013

TO: Randy Recklaus, Village Manager

FROM: Peg Hartnett, Finance Director/Treasurer

SUBJECT: Department Report

- A quarterly meeting of the Fire Pension Board of Trustees will take place on Friday, April 12 at 9:00 a.m. in the Village Hall conference room. The agenda includes a review of the fund's portfolio and financial statements, authorization to prepare the Illinois Department of Insurance annual report and engage an actuarial valuation, and the election of officers.
- The Police Pension Board of Trustees will hold their quarterly meeting on Monday, April 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the Village Hall conference room as well. Their agenda includes the same items listed above, as well as discussion on the hiring of Lauterbach and Amen to handle some of the duties for the fund. Elections are currently underway for one Trustee position for a current employee that participates in the pension fund, and one position for a retired pension fund participant. The results of the elections will be announced at the April 15 meeting. The Board is hoping to recommend a resident to fill the soon-to-be vacant appointed Trustee position on the Board.
- Diana McDermott and I will be participating in webinars and attending meetings over the next two weeks regarding the Village's responsibilities under healthcare reform.

**Village of Clarendon Hills**  
**Department of Public Works**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 5, 2013  
**TO:** Randy Recklaus, Village Manager  
**FROM:** Mike Millette, Director of Public Works  
**SUBJECT:** Department Notes

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1. We have caught-up with pothole patching – for now. The cold patch material we use is not intended to be a permanent fix, but it is the only asphalt product available in the winter when the asphalt plants are shut down (hence the name ‘cold patch’). Although the material is not intended to be permanent, the good news is that it can be in many cases – generally smaller cracks and chips. Areas larger than one square foot will be evaluated and replaced with hot patch as it becomes available.
2. The bathroom remodeling project is substantially complete. We are awaiting the delivery of some temperature regulating valves and have some minor touch-up work to do on the tiles.
3. The spring clean-up of our garage and yard in anticipation of our yearly IRMA visit continues and has reaped an unanticipated benefit. For the past several years, we had been stockpiling our scrap iron or, in some cases, sending it to the landfill because the scrap price was so low. This year we checked and found the price to be back up and took two loads (thus far) to the scrap yard. We received \$756.25! We should be able to gather together one more load, but it will be of smaller (lighter) scrap and will not net us nearly as much, but will more that cover our time and fuel to haul it to Lemont.
4. I finally received a call-back regarding the “Road Construction Begins April 1<sup>st</sup>” sign on Middaugh. The project is a joint effort between the State and Westmont with Westmont being the lead. It consists of adding an extra left turn lane from southbound Pasquinelli Drive to eastbound Ogden and a right turn lane from westbound Ogden to northbound Pasquinelli Drive and new traffic signals. There will be no changes to the geometry of the south side of the intersection – the right-in, right-out pork chop will remain.

# Village of Clarendon Hills

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Randy Recklaus, Village Manager  
**From:** Dan Ungerleider, Community Development Director  
**Date:** April 5, 2013  
**Subject:** Department Report

1. **88 Park Av (fka 103 S Prospect Av)** - A development review application for a 11-unit Condominium Development at the southeast corner of Park and S Prospect Avenues is scheduled to appear before the Downtown Design Review Commission on April 9 and before the Zoning Board of Appeals/Plan Commission on April 18. Public notice for the ZBAPC meeting will be delivered and posted early next week. The development will require PUD approval and variations granted for building height, transitional set back distance and for residential use on the first floor.
2. **24 Blodgett** - The owner of the property will be appearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals/Plan Commission on April 18 to seek a variation from the Village's floor area ratio (FAR) requirements for a new home. Specifically they are asking that the attic space over seven (7) feet in height not be counted towards the maximum permitted FAR. This restriction is usually resolved by constructing tray ceilings to reduce the attic height.
3. **Demolition of 227-231 Burlington Avenue:** The owner of the property has paid for the demolition permit and has picked up the required 48 hour notice to be posted on the property early next week. Sidewalks adjacent to the property will be closed during the duration of the demolition and restoration of the property. The Village's consulting engineer will be overseeing the work as it proceeds.
4. **Downtown Master Plan (DTMP) Update:** The DTMP Steering Committee met on Friday, April 05, 2013 to begin preparation for the upcoming Community Downtown Visioning meeting. In addition to the Visioning Workshop agenda, the Committee discussed the pending proposed development at 103 S Prospect, the conceptual development sketches developed for the former Police Station property, and the suggestion of a development moratorium for the downtown during the DTMP update process. These items were brought to their attention for discussion purposes only.
5. **Permits Issued:** 2 permits were issued this past week.
6. **Code Enforcement Reports:** Please see attached report.

**Community Development Department**  
One North Prospect Avenue, Clarendon Hills Illinois 60514

VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

DATE: March 8, 2013  
To: Village Manager Randy Recklaus  
From: Chief Ted Jenkins  
Subject: Weekly Activity Report

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1. Recent training:

- All officers participated in rapid response, active shooter training at Lyons Township High School over the spring break. In these types of incidents officers from different jurisdictions would be required to work together and the importance of training together cannot be over emphasized. Officers from 6 local jurisdictions participated in this training.
- Detective Shirley completed 16 hours of training related to the investigation of sex crimes and 8 hours of FIAT SWAT training.
- Officer Finfrock completed 16 hours of training on search and seizure law.
- Officer Leinweber completed an on-line police law course.
- All officers attended a mandatory 4 hour block of instruction sponsored by the DuPage Chiefs of Police and the DuPage State's Attorney's Office on dealing with people who have mental health issues. The course was presented by the National Alliance on Mental Illness at the Addison Theater and included legal updates, DuPage area resources and testimonials from some folks who suffer from mental health issues.

2. On Wednesday, I attended the first union contract meeting with Randy, Christina and Peg. We met with union members and their FOP representative. Information was exchanged and a future meeting will be set.



**Significant traffic and criminal activity during the period March 29, 2013 through April 4, 2013**

1. On 3/29 a 25 year old Clarendon Hills residents was arrested on a warrant for possession and dissemination of child pornography. He was booked and transported to the DuPage County jail.
2. On 4/2 a resident on Carlyle reported that a UPS package had been delivered to the lobby of his building while he was at work but had been stolen before he was able to pick it up. The loss is reported at \$85.30. Pending.
3. Clarendon Hills' officers made six arrests for driving with a suspended/revoked driver's license in the last week and served two arrest warrants.

# VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

**DATE:** April 5, 2013  
**TO:** Randy Recklaus  
Village Manager  
**FROM:** Brian Leahy  
Fire Chief  
**SUBJECT:** Weekly Fire Department Report 2013-11

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1. Fire Prevention Bureau Activity during the past week.
  - Five (5) Fire Prevention/Life Safety inspections were completed this week.
  - Fire Prevention Officer Dave Godek and two (2) on duty crew members are working on computerized building pre plan drawings that will be placed in Google Docs and accessible using Ipads. This is a joint project with the Hinsdale Fire Department
2. Training Report:
  - Wednesday evening, eighteen (18) firefighters participated in a 2-1/2 hour building pre plan drill at Hinsdale Hospital.
  - Also Wednesday evening, four (4) firefighters participated in a pump training drill using CH Engine 311 and Hinsdale Truck 1019.
3. Emergency Medical Services Report:
  - On Thursday of this week, Ambulance 314 was inspected for compliance for all advanced life support equipment and procedures by representatives of the Loyola EMS System.
4. Clarendon Hills/Hinsdale FD sharing of services report:
  - No report.
5. In the past 30 days we have applied for two (2) grants. The first grant was from the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) for about \$200,000 for security cameras at village asset and also EOC video conferencing equipment along with a fiber optic cable between Hinsdale and Clarendon Hills. The other grant was for about \$25,000 from the Illinois State Fire Marshal for replacement protective clothing. Unfortunately this week we were notified that we did not receive either grant. We continue to file grant requests for various projects in the village.
6. This week semi-annual maintenance of the three (3) outdoor warning sirens was done by Fulton Technologies. At that time we also changed the radio frequency used to activate these sirens to a new frequency that is used by both Clarendon Hills and Hinsdale.

7. On Friday evening, recruit firefighter Bryce McElroy graduated from the Romeoville Fire Academy. Bryce is now a certified firefighter and also a certified Paramedic. Congratulations to Bryce.
8. On Thursday, on duty firefighters used the aerial ladder on Truck 319 to assist the Public Works Department with the installation of replacement clock motors on the clock tower on top of the village hall.
9. Incidents of Interest:
  - During the past week Hinsdale FD responded to two (2) calls in Clarendon Hills.
  - During the past week Clarendon Hills FD responded to two (2) calls in Hinsdale.
  - Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:58 AM. Ambulance 314 responded for an extremely intoxicated patient in police custody at Burlington and Hiawatha. This patient was transported to a local hospital.
  - Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:46 AM. Ambulance 314 responded for an extremely intoxicated patient in the custody of the Willowbrook Police Department at Ruby and Western Aves. This patient was transported to a local hospital for treatment.
  - Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:01 PM. Ambulance 314 and Heavy Rescue Squad 316 responded for a pedestrian hit by a vehicle in the 200 block of S. Prospect Ave. Injured pedestrian transported to a local hospital for treatment and later transferred to Loyola Medical Center because of a severe head injury.
  - Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:31 PM. Ambulance 314 responded to assist the Westmont Fire Department for an ambulance call at 865 N. Cass Ave. One (1) patient transported to a local hospital for treatment.

10. Fire/Rescue/EMS calls:

- During the past week the fire department responded to seventeen (17) emergency calls.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

**chicagotribune.com**

## Clarendon Hills mulls 4.4% budget increase

By Annemarie Mannion, Chicago Tribune reporter

2:52 PM CDT, March 29, 2013

Officials in Clarendon Hills have proposed a nearly \$12.7 million budget for 2013-14 which represents a 4.4 percent increase over the current year, according to village officials.

The budget is posted online at the village's website and is slated for a public hearing and vote by the Clarendon Hills Village Board on April 15.

The amount proposed for the general fund, the largest portion of the budget, is about \$5.8 million, which represents an 0.3 percent decrease from the current budget, said Village Manager Randy Recklaus. Overall, however, the proposed budget is up about 4.4 over the current fiscal year.

The budget proposal includes re-assigning one full-time police officer who had been the village's Drug Abuse Resistance Education officer to patrol duties.

Total village staffing is at 34 full-time employees, down from 36 in 1992.

"We've got lower staffing village wide than in 1992 even though the village population has increased 15 percent," Recklaus said.

At the same time, the village has had to cope with declining revenues in some areas. It has seen a 14 percent or \$27,000 decrease to revenues it receives from fines from confiscated vehicles from crimes.

"The reason fines are down is because we've been short on officers," Recklaus said.

Building fees are expected to bring in \$275,000 in 2013-14, which is about the same as this year. Investment earnings are projected at \$16,000 as interest rates remain at historically low levels, according to Recklaus.

Sales tax revenue represents 12.5 percent of general fund revenues. It is projected to be \$85,000 for 2013-14, an increase of about \$25,000. Auto sales are expected to come in at about \$325,000 and half of that is rebated to a car dealer in the Ogden Avenue tax increment financing district.

The village also is planning for capital expenditures totaling a proposed \$1.8 million in the coming fiscal year.

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Some of those costs will be in maintaining its water system. The village has about 29 miles of water mains, with 15 of those mains being 68 years old or older. Proposed capital improvements include \$720,000 for replacement of 83-year-old cast iron water mains on portions of Ann and Short streets and Eastern and Sheridan avenues. Another \$217,000 would be used replace water fund machinery and equipment.

The village also is replacing curbs and concrete shoulders on roads throughout the village. Recklaus said residents share the cost of this work through special services areas.

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## Police & Fire

### New Clarendon Hills Cop Sworn In

Colin Hutchens took the oath at Monday night's Clarendon Hills Village Board meeting.

By [Joe O'Donnell](#) | [Email the author](#) | 5:54 am

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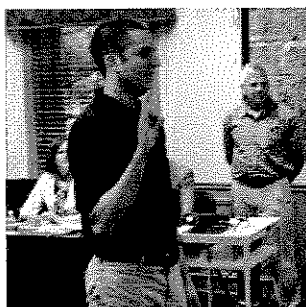
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The [Clarendon Hills Police Department](#)'s newest police officer was sworn in at Monday night's [Clarendon Hills](#) Village Board meeting at Village Hall.

Colin Hutchens, 24, took the village's oath in front of numerous family members. The Grayslake resident was hired after completing the necessary physical and psychological examinations, interviews and background check.

Hutchens is a Michigan State University graduate with a degree in criminal justice. He was last employed by Lowe's in Naperville, where he worked in loss prevention.

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# The Doings Clarendon Hills

## Clarendon Hills hires new police officer

BY CHUCK FIELDMAN | cfieldman@pioneerlocal.com April 3, 2013 1:26PM

Updated: April 3, 2013 1:44PM

CLARENDON HILLS — Colin Hutchins finds himself in somewhat familiar surroundings after being sworn in April 1 as a new police officer in Clarendon Hills.

This is the first job as a police officer for Hutchins, 24, of Grayslake. However, he traveled often as a child with his family to Clarendon Hills.

"My grandparents lived here until about a year or a year-and-a-half ago, and we came often to visit," he said. "My mom grew up in their old house and went to Hinsdale Central, so there's definitely a family connection to Clarendon Hills."

While Hutchins doesn't live in the village, he is looking forward to being a police officer.

"It is a small town and a small department, so you're not just another officer here," he said. "I know that community service is very important in this community, and I like that part of the job. I enjoy interacting with people in the community and doing what I can to help them."

Hutchins graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in criminal justice. He most recently worked in loss prevention for a retail chain.

Police Chief Ted Jenkins said Hutchins' enthusiasm is one of his positive qualities. Hutchins was one of five officer candidates interviewed by the Clarendon Hills Police and Fire Commission, which narrowed the field to three before choosing Hutchins.

"This job is public service, and he definitely shows that he wants to be part of that in Clarendon Hills," Jenkins said.

Jenkins said the hiring of Hutchins gives Clarendon Hills 13 sworn officers, including the chief.

"We were at 14 a couple of years ago, but we're budgeted now for 13," Jenkins said, adding one of the department's officers has been gone since May 2012 as a member of the Army Reserve. Jenkins does not yet know when that officer will return to work.

Hutchins is scheduled to begin 12 weeks of police academy training April 8. He then will spend three months of field training in Clarendon Hills before working on his own on patrol.

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# The Doings Clarendon Hills

## Clarendon Hills restaurant offers more than sushi

BY CHUCK FIELDMAN | cfieldman@pioneerlocal.com April 3, 2013 12:46PM

Updated: April 3, 2013 1:55PM

CLARENDON HILLS — Veronica Klazura had just spent five years as the owner/operator of a gift shop for children in Yorktown Center in Lombard when she decided it was time for a change of business scenery. Klazura had heard from a friend that the owner of a Clarendon Hills sushi restaurant was looking to sell the business. Klazura bought Bistro Nami 11 years ago.

**Q. Why did you decide to buy a restaurant?**

A. I love to eat and love to cook. I never had any experience in the restaurant business, but I went and took a look when I heard the previous owner wanted to sell.

**Q. Did it take you long to decide you wanted to purchase and operate Bistro Nami?**

A. I had a feeling this was it as soon as I walked in. There weren't many Japanese restaurants in the area at the time. I also liked the location. Clarendon Hills is a small town that's very cozy, and Hinsdale and Oak Brook are very close.

**Q. Have you made many changes since taking over the business?**

A. The biggest change was adding hibachi tables in January 2012. That was a way to add something new and different. The idea was to try to bring in some different clientele.

**Q. How have the hibachi tables worked out?**

A. OK. The biggest problem is that not many people know that we have hibachi. Even before that we have more than only sushi, but many people think sushi is all we have.

**Q. Does that perception create problems for the business?**

A. People do have misconceptions about sushi. There is the issue of people saying they don't want to eat raw fish. We have much more than that. We have steak, and we have outstanding seafood. Our Chilean bass is one of our specialties, and people just love it. It's my favorite, too.

**Q. How did the downturn in the economy in late 2007 effect your business?**

A. It hurt quite a bit. We have very loyal regular customers, and they are people I have gotten to know and care about very much. The problem has been that regulars account for about 80 percent of our business now. There's a lot of competition out there. It's been very difficult at times, but I'm very passionate about the restaurant business, and I love interacting with people.

**Q. Is running your restaurant very different than running your gift shop?**

A. I'm much more interactive here with the employees and the customers. At the store, it was pretty much the kids and their moms, and they would come in, buy something and leave. I get to know people here much more, and I really enjoy that.

**Q. What is the biggest key in keeping the restaurant successful?**

A. You have to do a great job with the things you can control. You have to be pleasant to people, and you have to have great food. And it has to be consistent.

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# The Doings Clarendon Hills

## Longtime Clarendon Hills Park Board member comes full circle to retirement

CHUCK FIELDMAN | cfieldman@pioneerlocal.com April 4, 2013 6:44PM

Updated: April 4, 2013 6:54PM  
CLARENDON HILLS

*John Steeves has come full circle in his 25 years on the Clarendon Hills Park Board. Just as he was elected in April 1983 to his first term, the first of his two daughters, Kelly, was born. Now, Steeves, 63, is retiring from the Park Board, just as Kelly had her first child, making dad a grandfather.*

**Q. Why did you initially decide to run for the Park Board?A.**

I didn't think the parks here had much to offer. The playground equipment was not in good shape at all, and there basically was one park district employee working. I wanted to get involved so that we could improve our parks.

**Q. Did you ever think you would remain involved on the Park Board for as long as you did?A.**

Not at the beginning. I've worked with more than 50 other commissioners over the years, and we have gotten a lot done with our parks here. Once I get involved in something I tend to be very involved. I never was a passive commissioner. There were times that I put in 20 hours a week on work with the parks.

**Q. What type of work did you do for a living?A.**

I worked for 37 years in sales for Kimberly-Clark. I was able to work out of my house, so that worked out very well. I retired three years ago.

**Q. You first became a Park Board member 30 years ago, but were on the board for 25 years. What happened during those other five years?A.**

I respected the caucus system, and you couldn't be endorsed for a third consecutive term, so I didn't run after my first two six-year terms. I ended up replacing someone who left the board after that. We changed to four-year terms, and I stepped down again for a bit after another two terms.

**Q. Why should anyone not expect you seek election again in the future?A.**

I'm done this time, really. With a new grandchild, I'm going to want to have a lot of time for that.

**Q. What are you most proud of from your time on the board?A.**

We have a community center. That took a lot of negotiation with Hinsdale-Clarendon Hills Elementary District 181 when they built Clarendon Hills Middle School. We had never had a home before that.

**Q. Will you miss being on the Park Board?A.**

My wife thinks I'll go nuts. I think they're in good hands. If I didn't think that, I might have run again.

**Q. About 13 years ago, the former Eastern Park was renamed Steeves Park in your honor. What's it like to go past that park and see the sign with your name on it?A.**

It's very humbling. A friend who had been away for a while called my wife and asked what had happened to me after she came back and saw the sign at the park. She thought maybe I had died because they had named the park for me. I'm looking forward now to taking my grandkids down to the park.~

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# The Doings Clarendon Hills

## Clarendon Hills Park District ready for spring

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BY CHUCK FIELDMAN | cfieldman@pioneerlocal.com April 1, 2013 10:50AM

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*Updated: April 1, 2013 2:10PM*

CLARENDON HILLS — Spring means the start some new programs and facilities for the Clarendon Hills Park District.

Renovation of the four tennis courts and one basketball court at Prospect Park is about 90 percent finished, said Executive Director Don Scheltens.

"We're hoping to be finished by Memorial Day," he said. "We dug everything up to the ground, so the courts should be very nice when we finish up."

Scheltens said work is scheduled to start in May on an interior pathway at Prospect Park, which will connect all the facilities there.

The pavement pathway will be about 10-feet wide and nearly one mile long. It will be suitable for walking, running and biking.

"We're hoping to start that work in May, and it should take two or three weeks to complete," Scheltens said.

Improvements for the 2013 swimming season at Lions Park Pool include a new diving well with a 1-meter diving board, a 3-meter diving board and a baby pool has been replaced with a bubbler splash pad, featuring pop jets, a fog jet, and an upstream jet.

The pool is scheduled to open May 25.

Three afterschool programs are scheduled to begin April 9 or April 11 at Prospect School, 100 N. Prospect Ave. Each program has a \$60 registration fee.

Afterschool Sports and Nutrition is offered for children in first through fifth grades from 3:10 to 4:10 p.m. Tuesdays, April 9-May 14; and from 3:10 to 4:10 p.m. Thursdays, April 11-May 16.

The program offers a chance to make new friends, try new games and learn to be healthier by incorporating health, nutrition and fitness into fun sessions.

Afterschool Hoops includes instruction on the basketball basics, such as dribbling, passing, shooting, and defensive positioning. This program is for children ages 6-11 from 4:10 to 5:10 p.m. Tuesdays, April 9-May 14.

For those interested in football, Afterschool Fun With Football is for those ages 6-11 from 4:10 to 5:10 p.m. Thursdays, April 11-May 16.

Along with the three afterschool programs at Prospect School, the park district also is offering Instructional T-Ball for children ages 4-5 at Prospect School. Registration is \$40 for Clarendon Hills residents; \$80 for non-residents.

The instructional program will educate participants on the fundamentals of throwing, catching, hitting, and running the bases. Participants are asked to bring a glove or mitt to each class.

For more information on any of the spring programs, call the park district office, (630) 323-2626.

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# The Doings Clarendon Hills

## District 86 hopefuls call for more transparency

By KIMBERLY FORNEK | kfornek@pioneerlocal.com April 2, 2013 1:22PM

HINSDALE — Transparency, it seems to be the buzzword for local government officials.

The public wants more, the government maintains it already is transparent.

The slate of Claudia Manley, Edward Corcoran and Victor Casini have made it one of their top priorities as they campaign to fill the four seats on the Hinsdale High School District 86 Board that will be up for election April 9.

Transparency is also the battle cry of Roger Kempa of Darien, who is running for a seat as an independent.

Kempa and the slate that includes Corcoran also have urged the district to eliminate "no bid" contracts.

Kay Gallo, who has served on the School Board since 2009 and is running for reelection, said the renovation work done at both high schools over the summer was all put out to bid.

What was not bid was the contract for project manager, Gallo said. District officials preferred to go with Gilbane Construction Management, the firm that had prepared cost estimates for different renovation options the district had considered.

Gilbane was already up to speed on the project. To have sought requests for proposals from other firms would have delayed the work and most likely would have caused to construction to continue into the school year, Gallo said.

The individual jobs that comprised the renovation were bid, Gallo said. Although due to the tight timeframes the district required, "there wasn't a plethora" of companies bidding for the work, she said.

Another way to improve transparency would be to post online the reports and documents that will be discussed at each School Board meeting prior to the meeting, Manley, Casini and Corcoran suggest.

Until recently, the documents were not available online even after the meeting. Most of the information is usually posted online the day after the meeting.

"We have taken a step a little bit closer," said Gallo, who is campaigning with two other incumbents running for reelection, Deirdre (DeeDee) Gorgol and Dennis Brennan, and newcomer Roseanne Rosenthal.

Manley advocates for more community collaboration.

"Reactivate and energize the committee structure by establishing roles for community and staff. There are people who are willing and able to serve on committees," Manley said.

She favors individual committees that meet regularly to discuss fiscal issues, policy, technology and operations and facilities.

"It would result in smarter decision-making and a better informed public."

Gallo said committees with a broad range of representatives have been used in the past. Most recently, the Master Facilities Steering Committee discussed the future of the district's facilities for decades to come.

"We took out ads in the papers inviting the public to tour the facilities and join the committees," Gallo said.

Before she was elected to the board, she served on a committee to choose a new assistant principal for Hinsdale Central.

The district seeks public input through committees, Gallo said, but the administrators that lead the committees do not have unlimited time. They were involved with the master facilities plan and now are concentrating on meeting the Common Core standards and providing services for students in special education previously served by the La Grange Area Department of Special Education.

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~ April 2013 ~							May 2013 ▶
◀ Mar 2013	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7 p.m. - Village board meeting	2	3 7 p.m. - Special Events Committee - Board Room	4	5 8 a.m. - Downtown Master Plan Update Steering Comm. - Conference Room	6	
7	8 8 a.m. - DTMP Land Use Subcommittee - Conference Room	9 7 p.m. - Mosquito Abatement - Conference Room 7 p.m. - Downtown Design Review Comm. - Bd. Room 8 p.m. - DTMP Update Design Subcommittee Mtg. - Bd. Room	10	11 9:30 a.m. - DTMP Economic Development Subcommittee meeting - conference room	12 9 a.m. Fire Pension Bd. Mtg.	13	
14	15 5:30 - Police Pension Bd. Mtg. 7 p.m. - Village board meeting	16	17 9 a.m. - Chamber	18 7:30 p.m. - ZBA	19	20	
21	22	23 24 6 p.m. - Downtown Master Plan Update Joint Subcommittee Meeting - Clarendon Hills Middle School 7 p.m. - Downtown Master Plan Update Kick off Community Event - C.H. Middle School	25	26	27		
28	29	30	Notes:				

◀ Apr 2013 ~ May 2013 ~ Jun 2013 ▶						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7 p.m. – Special Events Comm. Mtg. – Bd. Room	2	3	4
5	6 7 p.m. – Board Meeting	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 7 p.m. – Mosquito Abatement – Bd. Room	15 9 a.m. – Chamber	16 7:30 – ZBA	17	18
19	20 Annesty Day (north of 55 <sup>th</sup> St) 7 p.m. – Board Meeting	21	22 Annesty Day (south of 55 <sup>th</sup> St.)	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day Village offices closed	28	29	30	31	Notes: