

# VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS

# TRUSTEE TOPICS

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

November/ December 2016

Message from the President—

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Happy Fall! After a hot summer, it's great to finally grab a sweater and enjoy all of the fall sports and activities. I'm looking forward to the holidays, and all of the great family time that they entail. Lots of news here at the Village, some good, and some not so good.

Let's start with the not so good news. Despite starting construction last month, the 88 Park Ave lawsuit once again will summon the Village to court. The plaintiffs have asked the Illinois Supreme Court to hear the case even after the Village won at both the Circuit Court and Appellate Court levels. This project followed the correct, transparent process that allowed for review by the Village's professional staff, community input, approval by our volunteer-led Zoning Board, Downtown Design Review Commission and the eventual approval by the elected Village Board. Nevertheless, a few residents continue to attempt to overpower the will of the community using the expensive legal system.

While I am confident that the Village will eventually prevail, this is a clear attempt to delay the project and cause the most financial damage to the taxpayers of Clarendon Hills as possible. Not only has this cost the Village and the Developer more than \$120,000 in legal fees, the Village and school districts continue to miss out on years of increased property taxes. These are property taxes that could have been used to support education, infrastructure projects and reduce the burden on our current residents and businesses.

This lawsuit also sends the message to future developers that Clarendon Hills is not open for business. When developers need to budget for possible legal challenges, they may look elsewhere to make an investment. Despite these headwinds, I feel we are still going to get some exciting new development in the downtown which will bring in additional residents to support retail and restaurant establishments throughout the community.

One consistent comment I hear from residents is that the tax burden is too high. While the Village only makes up about 12% of your property tax bill, we play an important role in allowing and promoting development. Every new luxury condo and apartment provides funding to our local governments without burdening our infrastructure and schools. To achieve development, many other communities have used Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts in their downtowns. While this can be an effective tool to make improvements, it also denies new property growth revenue to the other taxing bodies. We have been able to avoid using TIF or other public financing methods which means that every new tax dollar goes directly back into the schools and other taxing bodies.

Downtown development is not the only area we as a Village Board are looking at to increase development and subsequently lower your tax burden. In the upcoming months, the Village will complete the South of 55<sup>th</sup> Area Master Plan study which will explore any opportunities for development in this area, both in unincorporated and incorporated Clarendon Hills. As I mentioned last month, the Village continues to look into sharing maintenance facilities with the Park District. In addition to that as a possible cost savings, we continue to look for other ways to work together.

Enjoy the holidays and Merry Christmas! Hopefully you can join me at this year's Christmas Walk for the tree lighting on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 PM. See you around town!



Village President  
Len Austin

Len Austin  
Village President

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

# Construction Wrap-up

The 2016 Roadway Improvement Program, which consisted of the following streets: 56<sup>th</sup>, Colfax, Harris (Western - Walker), Hudson (Richmond - Western), Richmond (55th - Park), Ridge (Richmond - Western), Ruby (Richmond - Walker), and Western (56th - Park) is substantially complete. This project added an additional 3 miles of streets to the upgraded Village concrete shoulder standard. The majority of the roads were last resurfaced as part of the 1999 SSA with four segments dating back to the 1995 SSA. Coordination with the Village of Westmont and the Clarendon Hills Park District was required for the successful completion of this project. Thank you to both partners.

Thank you to all effected residents for your patience during what can be a little bit of a hectic time. One of the great aspects of the new curbs is that they should last around 50 years and will keep the asphalt in place, and in good condition longer. We are also hopeful that the ditching and re-ditching we did along the route will help alleviate some of the nuisance flooding issues some residents have been experiencing. While there is no such thing as a storm water solution, the Village takes every opportunity to make cost effective storm water improvements.

There remains some restoration issues related to Nicor's gas main and service replacement project which they performed in conjunction with our project on Colfax Ridge and Walker. We continue to work with Nicor to ensure that they make the necessary restoration and that their work is completed as quickly as possible.

## Winter Parking Reminder

Residents are required to park off the Village streets if the weather predicts 2 or more inches of snow fall. This is to allow for proper snow removal.

Please note, no person shall dump snow onto any public road, public sidewalk or fire hydrant. (*It's recommended snow be removed from the top of your vehicle prior to driving!*)



## J. Kenneth Sloan Triangle

2017 reservations are now being accepted for the Triangle. The Triangle is a very popular place to hang banners for community events and fills up months in advance. Requests can be submitted via email to [vpries@clarendonhills.us](mailto:vpries@clarendonhills.us) or on-line at [www.clarendonhills.us/triangle](http://www.clarendonhills.us/triangle)

## Snow Shoveling Technique



Keep feet wide apart. Put weight on front foot close to shovel and use leg to push shovel straight ahead.

Shift weight to rear foot and keep shovel-load close to body. Lift with arms and legs, not back.

Turn feet in the direction of throw and pivot entire body rather than twisting at the waist.

## Around Town

### Board Meetings

November 7th at 7 PM  
November 21st at 7 PM  
December 5th at 7 PM  
December 19th at 7 PM

### ZBA/Plan Commission

November 17th at 7:30 PM  
December 15th at 7:30 PM

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

### 55th St. Sub-Area Plan

Open House  
November 10th at 6 PM to 7:30 PM  
At Christian Church of C.H.

### Library

Movie - November 28th at 1:30 PM  
Registration Required  
*The Shop Around the Corner (1940)*  
with James Stewart and Margaret Sullavan

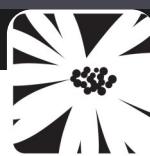
December 15th at 7 PM  
Family Lego Night

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

### Park District

December 20th at Noon  
Holiday Luncheon (Age 50+)  
Free (Bring \$10 non-gender gift)  
Registration required

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



## Village Hall Closed

November 11th in observance of  
Veterans Day

November 24th and 25th in observance of  
Thanksgiving

December 23rd and 26th in observance of  
Christmas Day

January 2nd in observance of  
New Year's Day

## Internet Transaction Safe Zone

Buying or selling for the holidays? The Clarendon Hills Police Department located at 448 Park Avenue, has designated the police station parking lot and the police station lobby as safe zones for online transactions.

Anyone is welcome to meet buyers or sellers in the Police Department lobby during business hours. The lobby is open Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. After hours, the front parking lot offers a police presence, surveillance cameras, good lighting and an emergency phone. Staff will not get involved in any transactions but can quickly respond to any situation requiring police intervention.

## Winter Vacation Tips

Keep your home safe while you're away by doing these simple things: Set timers for lights so they turn on shortly after it gets dark. A snowed in home is a sure sign you're not home so arrange to have snow removed from the driveway and walk ways if it snows. **Inform the police department you will be gone by completing a VACATION WATCH/UNOCCUPIED RESIDENCE / BUSINESS FORM at the Police station or online at [www.clarendonhills.us/vacationwatch](http://www.clarendonhills.us/vacationwatch).** Stop deliveries of newspapers and mail. Most importantly, don't post on social media that you are out of town. The fun pictures and stories can wait until you are home.

## Electronics Recycling

Have electronics to recycle? Good news! A new residential electronics recycling drop off site has opened in Burr Ridge. Launched on September 22 and located at 451 Commerce St, the site is open to all residents and small businesses. Collection times are Monday to Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. While dropping off most items is free, CRT, flat screen, and projection screen TVs and monitors are charged a fee of \$25 if the screen is under 21 inches and \$35 if the screen is 21 inches or over. Proceeds from collection benefit the developmentally disabled. Recycling guidelines change periodically so for the most current location /information check the Village website at: [www.clarendonhills.us/Refuse-Recycling](http://www.clarendonhills.us/Refuse-Recycling)

## Holiday Refuse Pickup

The following holidays alter the collection schedule: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Christmas Day. If any of these holidays fall on a Monday or Tuesday, all refuse, recycling and yard waste will be collected on Wednesday of the same week.

## Holiday Lights Recycling!

The Police Department is accepting worn out strings of holiday lights and extension cords starting December 1st until February 1, 2017. You can find the collection bin in the lobby of the Police Department located at 448 Park Avenue. This program is part of the Elgin Recycling program. This is their 8th year of running a holiday light recycling program along with 49 Villages. Last year, Elgin Recycling recycled 112,458 lbs of holiday lights that would have otherwise ended up in landfills. You can find out more at [www.elginrecycling.com](http://www.elginrecycling.com)

*Your lights may have lost their twinkle but they can still help make for a bright future!*

**Trustee Topics****Village of Clarendon Hills**

1 North Prospect Avenue  
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Clarendon Hills,  
Illinois 60514  
Permit No. 45

## Annual Christmas Walk is December 2nd!

The Clarendon Hills Christmas Walk will be held Friday, December 2nd. This tradition begins with the Tree lighting at 6 pm in front of the Village Hall. Afterwards, stroll through town where the shops stay open late. The Christmas Walk features refreshments, cookies, a visit from Santa, caroling and sleigh rides. Everything needed to kick off the holiday season. Event ends at 9 pm. Find more info at [www.clarendonhillschamber.com](http://www.clarendonhillschamber.com)



## Luminaria Sales

The Clarendon Hills Auxiliary Chapter of the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago (CHIW) invites you to participate in the annual tradition of Luminaria Lighting this Christmas Eve. Once again, the CHIW will donate hundreds of Luminaria to the Village and the members of Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troops #51 will light the luminarias in downtown Clarendon Hills on Christmas Eve.

CHIW luminaria kits will be sold in December during the Christmas Walk; regular business hours at the Clarendon Hills Bank and Kramer Foods; as well as the Lions pool parking lot during specific hours; Check for times at the Lions Pool parking lot. [www.clarendonhillsinfantwelfare.org/Luminaria.html](http://www.clarendonhillsinfantwelfare.org/Luminaria.html)

Standard kits consist of five candles and bags being sold for \$6.00. Decorated gift sets are also available.

The funds raised through the sale of CHIW Luminaria in Clarendon Hills help support the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago's full-service clinic for mothers and children that cannot afford health insurance. Please join the community and light each candle for a child on Christmas Eve.

## Christmas Clean Up

Republic Services offers free recycling for Christmas Trees and other live garland during the first two collections in January. All decorations must be removed. Place trees and greenery for recycling at the curb.

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

## Contact Us

**Village President:**

Len Austin 630-286-5420

**Village Trustees:**

Don Knoll 630-286-5421  
Greg Jordan 630-286-5422  
Eric Stach 630-286-5423  
Carol Jorissen 630-286-5424  
Paul Flood 630-286-5425  
Don McGarrah 630-286-5426

**Village Clerk: (Tues & Fri AM)**

Dawn Tandle 630-286-5403

**Village Hall:** 630-286-5400

Finance Dept.: Press 2  
Building Dept.: Press 3  
Administration: 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.)