

The Stickney Times

FALL / WINTER 2022



From the Desk of,
MAYOR JEFF WALIK

Let's Talk About New!!!

This Administration is constantly working hard for ALL our residents. As I have mentioned in the past, myself, the Trustees and our Department Heads Do Not Waste our Taxpayer's Money.

Here are some of the new items we have put in place, without raising taxes.

Fire Department

New Vent Saw
New Large Exhaust Fan
Fire Fighter Gear
One New Amazing Ambulance



Police Department

Four New Police Officers
Four New Police Vehicles
One New Police and Fire Command Vehicle
New Stop Signs and Speed Signs



Public Works Department

One New Truck
Street Paving (Gunderson Avenue) Much needed
Finished New LED Lighting in our Alleys
New LED Lighting in our Parks
New Waterline, Sidewalks, Grass on the 4100 & 4200 block of East Ave.

All departments are giving our residents the highest quality of services, again without a tax increase.

The Administration is working on bringing new businesses to our community. Most recently the brand-new Gas N Wash Fuel Center with an awesome car wash, convenience center and drive thru Dunkin Donuts, located on Pershing Road and Cicero Avenue.



And finally, our Village Officials have secured two million dollars and the property along Ridgeland Avenue at 41st St. for a brand-new Community Center. Thank you to Senator Tony Munoz and State Representative Elizabeth "Lisa" Hernandez for assisting with the grant monies for this Community Center project.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to contact one of your very friendly Village Officials.

Have a great holiday season and a spectacular New Year!!!!

Your Village Officials

Mayor
Jeff Walik

Clerk
Audrey McAdams

Trustees
Jim Hrejsa
Tim Kapolnek
Mitch Milenkovic
Sam Savopoulos
Lea Torres
Jeff White

Fire Chief
Jeff Boyajian

Chief of Police
James Sassetti

**Director of
Public Works**
Joe Lopez

**Village
Finance Director**
David Gonzalez

Editorial Board
Audrey McAdams
Mitch Milenkovic
Beth Lukas





From the Desk of Clerk,
AUDREY MCADAMS



VETERANS DAY



An armistice treaty between the Allies and Germany ending World War I (then called the “Great War”) was signed on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. The first Armistice Day was held on November 11, 1919, the one-year anniversary of this signing. On May 13, 1938 a law made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday called Armistice Day. This was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I. In 1954, after the American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress amended the Act of 1938 by changing “Armistice” and inserting in its place the word “Veterans”. On June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The important purpose of Veterans Day is a celebration to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

We will be observing Veterans Day on Friday, November 11, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at the Veteran’s Memorial Pavilion located in the 3900 Block of Ridgeland Avenue.

VETERANS MEMORIAL

★ ENGRAVING REQUEST ★

STICKNEY VETERANS MEMORIAL MONUMENT located on 3900 and Ridgeland is a tribute to the men and women who have answered our country’s call to protect our freedom. Stickney businesses, veterans or families of veterans can add a veteran’s name to the Stickney Veterans Memorial Monument. The veteran does not have to be a current resident of Stickney for their name to be added to the memorial. If you wish to add a name to this new granite marker, please contact Clerk Audrey McAdams at 708-749-4400 or at villageclerk@villageofstickney.com.

Please supply the following:

Person’s full given name: Branch of the service: Please supply the clerk with the conflict they were in (example: WWII, Vietnam, Iran, etc.) I ask the requester to bring documentation to the clerk to ensure accuracy. Once this information is provided, the information will be sent over to the engraver to get the cost.

Full payment must be made before the order is given to the monument engraver. At that time, you will make the check out to the Village of Stickney and the order will be placed. Cost is based on length of name, branch of service and abbreviation of conflict.

The weather must be warm enough to allow the monuments to be warm enough to cut the granite. Therefore, the schedule before the actual engraving may take months before the engraving can take place.

Thank you in your interest of Stickney’s Veterans Memorial.



**From the Desk of Trustee,
JEFF WHITE**

Back in 2016 my Spring/Summer article had to do with my beliefs that things in our Community were on the upswing. Six years later our Community is really flourishing. New businesses, new housing, plans for a new Recreation Center coming in the future. We have more Police for the safety of our residents. We have a brand-new ambulance. We are a 100 percent green energy community, doing

our part to help the environment. And we are looking forward to the new Casino that is still in the works.



Our parks are beautiful and well kept, thanks to our Public Works Dept. All of them work hard every day. I say it all the time that we have the best Police, Fire, Public Works, and Office personnel. I say it because it shows on a daily basis.

We have a board that works for you. Mayor Walik and the Trustees have the best interests of the residents at the forefront of our daily routines. Each Trustee Chairs different committees and works everyday on their assignments.

I am happy to say that with all the hands-on daily work of our board members we have balanced our budgets **without raising taxes** in the last 6 years as well. We watch our spending and do not spend money we do not have. We have a grant writer that applies for all the grants we may qualify for. We work to better Stickney for all of us. Please contact us anytime you have a question or concern.

As this newsletter comes out, fall is in the air. Kids are all back in school so please be aware of your surroundings. Slow down and keep the cell phones out of your hands. With Thanksgiving and Christmas on the horizon, I want to wish our residents and their families a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season.





**From the Desk of Trustee,
TIM KAPOLNEK**

Hello Stickney Residents! I hope you all had a wonderful summer! Well, Fall is upon us, and Winter is following right behind. I personally am not a fan of winter, so I will be counting the days until spring arrives again.

Please watch out for and help your neighbors, especially the elderly during really cold weather and snow events. Yes, if there is a senior on the snow shovel list, they do get their snow taken care of, but at this time not all seniors can be on the list, so, if possible, please help if you can. Always

make sure to clear the snow from the sidewalks in front and sides of your homes. Even if the snow is not deep, please clear your walks. The smallest amount of uncleared snow from a sidewalk can turn into a very dangerous hazard. What happens is that people will walk on this snow making footprints, which melt slightly in the sun and then refreeze causing treacherous walking that could end up causing someone to get injured or worse. Please clear your walks!

The Village received some grant money to purchase more of the solar stop signs and speed signs that are already around the Village. They are on order and will go up in the spring.



St. Pius X and St. Leonard churches have now merged into one parish as of July 1, 2022. Both are going through a unification process at this time. If you are a Bingo player, there is still Bingo every Saturday night at the St. Pius X campus. Please come out for a night of bingo, fun and tasty food. The doors open at 3:45pm and the early game starts at 5:30pm. Regular bingo starts at 5:45pm.

I would like to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.





From the Desk of Trustee,
MITCH MILENKOVIC



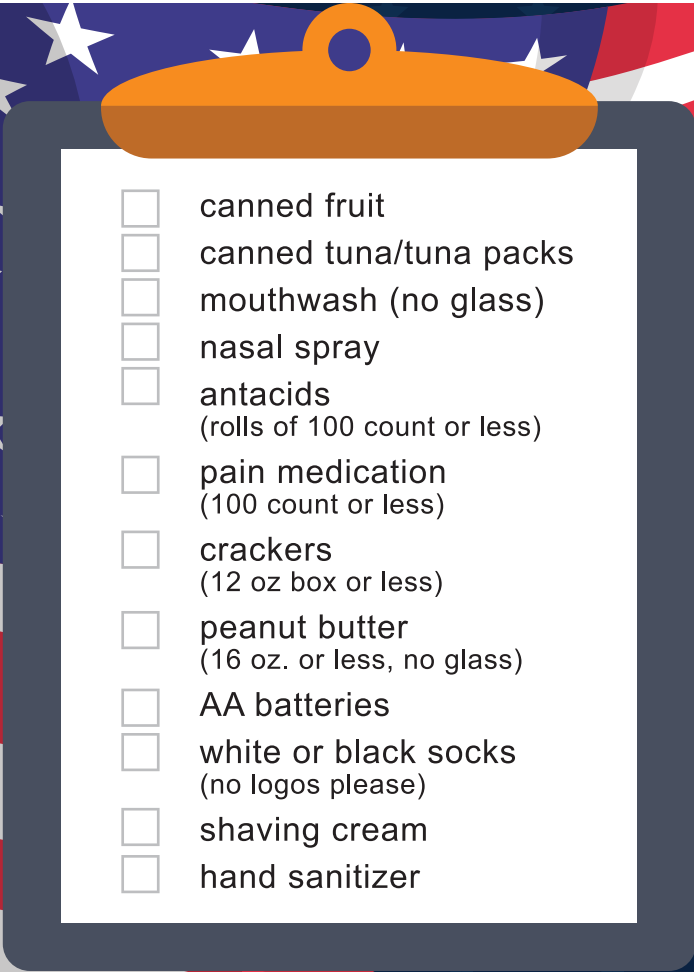
Operation Support
Our Troops-America

Operation Support Our Troops (OSOT)

Operation Support our Troops was founded in 2003. This has become one of the largest volunteer based military support organizations in the country. As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, they provide comfort and care at home and away to active duty military, families and veterans.

Their mission is to support the morale and well-being of American forces by providing comfort, resources and education to them and their families both while they are deployed in harm's way and after their return. This is accomplished by providing a link between the citizens and military personnel of items that are not readily available to the troops in their deployed locations along with personal letters, cards and notes of support from the community at large.

As has been done in the past, we will be collecting donations for the troops. Donations can be dropped off at the Village hall through November 30th. Please see the list below of the top 12 immediate need items. **The top five items are out of stock on the shelves at OSOT and are urgently needed to fill the boxes.**

- 
- ☐ canned fruit
 - ☐ canned tuna/tuna packs
 - ☐ mouthwash (no glass)
 - ☐ nasal spray
 - ☐ antacids
(rolls of 100 count or less)
 - ☐ pain medication
(100 count or less)
 - ☐ crackers
(12 oz box or less)
 - ☐ peanut butter
(16 oz. or less, no glass)
 - ☐ AA batteries
 - ☐ white or black socks
(no logos please)
 - ☐ shaving cream
 - ☐ hand sanitizer





From the Desk of Trustee,
LEA TORRES

I would like to start off on a personal note. This past year I went thru a tragedy and I learned a great deal about having things in your life in order. It is particularly important to have your name on all bank accounts, automobiles and to have a will. It will make for a smoother transition of assets.

It is important to know all computer passwords and pin numbers. You think it will not happen to you, but life has no guarantees, it is always better to be prepared and make a very difficult time a little easier.



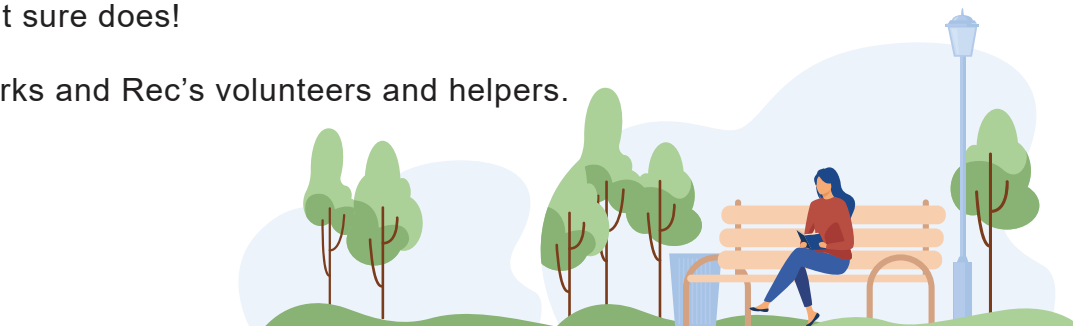
I have been working along with our new Trustee Jim Hrejsa planning activities in the Village. Jim has been a great asset to our board. A special thank you to our previous Trustee Mary for all her hard work and dedication over the past several years with our Parks and Recreation Department.

Our Activities would not run so smoothly if not for our Mayor Jeff Walik and Trustees. Our Administrative Assistant Beth Lukas handles EVERYTHING! We could not do anything without her expertise. Public Works Supervisor, Joe Lopez makes sure everything gets set up and his men work extremely hard to make all events run smoothly with setup and takedown. Police Chief Jim Sassetti and his department handles all the security and parking for our events. Fire Chief Jeff Boyajian has his department on standby for any emergencies.

Our ladies in the front office work hard to keep things going. Maria runs the water department and helps with credit card machines and monies at our events. Linda helps with all flyers, senior events, casino trips, setting up grass cutting and snow removal for seniors. Darlene manages all building permits and deals with the contractors, Marcella handles business licenses and real estate.

When they say it takes a Village it sure does!

A special Thank You to all our Parks and Rec's volunteers and helpers.





From the Desk of Trustee,
JIM HREJSA

I would first like to thank my wife, Mary, for her years of service to the Village of Stickney. She has stepped down from her role as Trustee and is enjoying a well-deserved retirement.

Next, I would like to thank Mayor Jeff Walik and the Board of Trustees for the opportunity to join the Board. I have been welcomed into an administration that works well. From Village staff to Police, Fire, and Public Works departments, everyone working together to keep Stickney friendly, clean and

safe.

Another summer has gone by way to fast. The Parks and Rec Committee has the fall and winter activities planned out as usual.

As you read this, Haunted Hayride will have come and gone. I hope you had the chance to enjoy it.

This November 11th the Village will honor the men and women of our military at our Veterans Day Ceremony. Join us at 11:00 am at Veteran's Memorial Park, 39th and Ridgeland.

December 10th we'll have Christmas parties for our residents at Stickney Township North Clinic, 40th and Ridgeland. Senior party from 11:00-1:00pm. Children's party from 2:00-4:00.

Pet Photos with Santa on December 17th, 1:00-3:00pm. Watch the Stickney website or Facebook page for location.

A big thank you to the members of the Parks and Rec Committee for all their effort to make these events happen!

Have a safe and healthy fall and winter, and a happy holiday season, and reach out to us here at the Village Hall if we can be of assistance.





From the Desk of Police Chief,
JAMES SASSETTI

Fall is upon us and the holidays are right around the corner, we here at the Stickney Police Department hope you and your families are well and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable holiday season.

To start off, there are a lot of great things happening in the Stickney Police Department. Just to name a few; we have recently welcomed seven new officers to the police department; Deputy Chief Jerry Chlada Jr., Officers Luis Gomez, David DeMato, Paul Bredemeier, Jorge Escobar, Eduardo Gonzales

Jr. and Nicole Godinez. These new officers range in experience from new police recruits to 20+ year veterans. We are excited about the range of knowledge, experience and mentorship some of these officers will contribute to our police department. With the addition of these officers, we are better suited to sustain the high level of police responses and services that our community has come to expect. Additionally, we have modified our patrol operations in order to provide increased police services in our residential area along with the east end of the Village where we are seeing substantial economic growth.

The Stickney Police Department is absolutely committed to the safety and well-being of the people who live and work in our community. One of the most effective ways to combat crime and suspicious activity is through a collective partnership between the police department and the community. We cannot solve crime alone – we need the commitment and participation of everyone in our community if we are to effectively report issues. One of the keys to a safe community is to know and communicate with your neighbors – talk to each other, be aware of what's going on in your neighborhood, and immediately report to the police any suspicious activity or vehicles that you observe. With your partnership in this effort, we are confident that we can make a huge difference. Let's work together to keep our community informed, safe for our families today, and for the future. You can submit not in progress anonymous tips through the Tip411 platform. The link to the Tip411 download can be found on the Village of Stickney website. If you see something, say something!

And last but not least, the holidays are quickly approaching and once again community safety is our priority. We are asking everyone to look over these safety tips to help you and your family enjoy a wonderful safe holiday season.

Many people like to keep their presents or gifts displayed in the home before and after the holidays. It gives most of us a warm feeling to enjoy the holiday this way. However, the time we spend shopping and visiting makes our houses vulnerable during the holiday season.

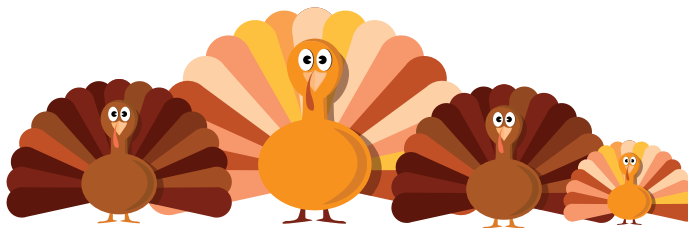
- Don't keep presents near windows where they can be seen from the street, especially after they've been unwrapped.
- Never hide presents in the garage! Garage locks are usually the weakest locks you have. A second story closet or attic equipped with a good lock is usually your safest storage area.
- Break up boxes, especially for purchases like TV's, stereos, or electronic equipment and put them in the garbage the night before collection.
- If you are going out of town for the holidays, you can call the Stickney Police Department at 708-788-2131 and request a vacation watch on your house. If you do this, our officers will periodically check the perimeter of your house to ensure everything is ok.

We remind you to follow the Stickney Police Department on Facebook where valuable information is provided. As always, please call **911** in all emergency situations or contact us at 708-788-2131 if we can assist in non-emergency situations.



From the Desk of Fire Chief, **JEFFREY BOYAJIAN**

I along with the men and women of the Stickney Fire Department would like to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Safe Holiday Season.



Here are some tips to keep in mind when preparing food, not just during the Thanksgiving and Holiday season.

- Never leave food that you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling unattended! If you leave the kitchen, even for a short amount of time, turn off the stove.
 - Ranges and cook tops account for almost three out of five reported home fires involving cooking equipment.
 - Ovens account for 13% percent of all those fires.
- Frying a Turkey has become more popular in recent years.
 - Make sure to not overfill oil in the fryer. Fill the pot you plan to use to fry the turkey with water and place the turkey in. This will help to determine how much oil is needed without causing oil to spill out when you are ready to fry.
 - Use the turkey fryer outdoors **ONLY!** Make sure the turkey is completely thawed before frying.
 - Use long cooking gloves that protect hands and arms when you handle the pot!
- Create a "Kid Free Zone" of at least three feet around the stove or anywhere you are preparing hot food or drinks.
 - Children under 5 were more likely to be hurt by touching hot cooking equipment or scalded by hot liquids than actual fire.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stove top.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you when food is ready.
- If there is a fire in the oven, keep the door shut and turn off the heat.
- Smother small flames in a pan by sliding a lid over the pan. Turn off the burner and leave the lid over the pan while it cools.
- If you have any doubt fighting a small fire, just get out! Call 9-1-1 or your emergency number from outside the home.
 - 55% of civilians injured in home fires involving cooking equipment were hurt while attempting to fight the fire themselves

Here are some tips to keep in mind to stay fire safe when decking the halls this holiday season.

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Make sure decorations are either flame retardant or flame resistant.
- Keep lit candles at least 12 inches away from decorations or anything that can catch fire.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Check to make sure your lights are rated for indoor or outdoor use or both.
- Replace any light strands that have worn or broken cords. Make sure to read the recommendation for number of light strings you can string together.
- If you have a real Christmas tree, make sure to check water levels daily! It is not unusual for a tree to drink two gallons of water the first day it is in the stand.
- Keep real Christmas trees away from a heat source. It can dry out the tree quickly.



From the Desk of Director of Public Works,
JOE LOPEZ

THE LAST DAY FOR YARD WASTE COLLECTION WILL BE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

Leaf Pick Up

Leaf Pick up will run the last week of October through the first week of December on Mondays and Tuesdays only. Leaves should be placed loose along the curb in front of resident's home.

This pick up is for leaves only - do not add any other kind of yard waste materials such as grass clippings, branches, flowers or any other kind of vegetation.

Monday: The North and West side (even address)

Tuesday: The South and East side (odd address)

Follow the street sweeping signs on your block. Snow plowing will take precedence if needed during leaf collection pick-up.

Please refrain from parking on the street on your designated pick-up day from 8a.m. until leaf pick up has been completed on your block. All violators will be ticketed and possibly towed at owner's expense.



Please note, this is a separate program from the yard waste disposal. If you still choose to bag your leaves, they must be put out on your yard waste pick up day. Leaves cannot be burned in the Village.

SNOW REMOVAL - WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT SNOWS?

- 1) First, main streets and main intersections are plowed and salted. This would include Ridgeland, Oak Park, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th and 45th, streets
- 2) Next all North and South streets and 40th place will be cleared
- 3) Public facilities which will include the parking area for businesses along Pershing Rd.
- 4) Parks and Bus stops
- 5) We do not do any snow removal on Pershing Rd. because it's a state route.

Winter parking restrictions are in effect when snowfall measures 2" or more. Please follow the snow removal signs posted at the beginning and end of each block. Please refrain from parking on the street until all snow and ice control efforts have been completed.



Alleys will **NOT** be plowed unless there is 6 or more inches of snow.

Public Works cannot be called to clear private property or driveways, and we are not responsible for rollover snow on driveway or sidewalks from snowplowing.

Please be courteous to your neighbors and motorists;
DO NOT SHOVEL SNOW BACK INTO THE STREETS.

Winter 2022-2023

Village Hall and Public Works Holidays

Friday, November 11, 2022 VETERANS DAY
Thursday, November 24, 2022 THANKSGIVING DAY
Friday, November 25, 2022 DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING
Thursday, December 22, 2022 CLOSING AT NOON
Friday, December 23, 2022 CHRISTMAS EVE
Monday, December 26, 2022 CHRISTMAS DAY
Friday, December 30, 2022 NEW YEARS EVE - closing at noon
Monday, January 2, 2023 NEW YEAR'S DAY

Waste Management Observed Holidays

Your garbage and recycling collection will be delayed one day during the week of the scheduled holiday.

Thursday, November 24, 2022 THANKSGIVING DAY
Monday, December 26, 2022 CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday, January 2, 2023 NEW YEAR'S DAY



Village of Stickney

6533 W. Pershing Road

Stickney, Illinois 60402-4048

Tel: 708-749-4400

Fax: 708-749-4451

contact_us@villageofstickney.com

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We're on the Web
www.villageofstickney.com

Save the Date Saturday, December 10th

Senior Christmas Luncheon, 11:00am – 1:00pm - Stickney Township Clinic

Children's Christmas party, 2:00pm - 4:00pm - Stickney Township Clinic

6721 W. 40th St.

These events are for Stickney residents only. Registration will be required.

Pet Photos with Santa Saturday, December 17th

1:00pm - 3:00pm

