

## What's Inside

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## Shop Local, Dine Local, Give Local

With the holiday season upon us, the search for great deals and savings is on. However, before you look online, make sure to visit Gurnee businesses first. Celebrate accordingly in Gurnee from Saturday, November 30th to Sunday, December 1st, 2019 for "Small Business Saturday".

According to research firm Civic Economics, for every \$100 you spend at a locally-owned store or restaurant, \$68 of that remains in the community and supports everything from jobs to government services (including police and fire services and road maintenance). Almost every dollar spent online leaves the community and has no direct benefit to you after you spend it. So, make a wise investment and ensure that your dollars keep working for you - shop and dine local this holiday season and see the dividends pay out throughout the entire year.

For a searchable list of local businesses, visit the Village's website at [www.gurnee.il.us/business](http://www.gurnee.il.us/business).

## Breakfast With Santa

Santa Claus is coming to Gurnee! Enjoy pancakes, sausage and Canadian bacon with your family at this annual holiday breakfast.

Visit with Santa and his Elf, share your holiday wishes and take home a special gift. Don't forget to bring your camera to capture the unforgettable holiday memories!

Breakfast with Santa Claus will take place on Saturday, December 14th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. at Viking Park (4374 Old Grand Avenue).

There are two separate seatings for this event: Seating 1 at 8:30 a.m., and Seating 2 at 10:15 a.m. The fee for this event is \$8/resident or \$10/non-resident. For more information on this breakfast event and to register, visit [www.gurneeparkdistrict.com](http://www.gurneeparkdistrict.com) or call (847) 623-7788.



# Upcoming Events

## Village Meetings

### Village Board

Dec.

**2**

7:00 p.m.

Dec.

**16**

7:00 p.m.

Jan.

**6**

7:00 p.m.

Jan.

**27**

7:00 p.m.

### Planning & Zoning

Dec.

**4**

7:30 p.m.

Dec.

**18**

7:30 p.m.

Jan.

**15**

7:30 p.m.

Feb.

**5**

7:30 p.m.

### Other Boards

Dec.

**17**

7:00 p.m.

All Village meetings are held at Village Hall (325 N. O'Plaine Road) unless otherwise noted. Schedule subject to change. Meetings in red and outlined in black are Committee of the Whole meetings where no formal action is taken. Meetings in purple are Civil Service Commission Meetings.

## Community Events

### Canadian Pacific Holiday Train

Monday, December 2nd  
5:00 p.m.

Viking Park  
(See back page for details)



### Frosty Fest 2020

Saturday, January 11th 2020  
10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Bittersweet Golf Course



### Looking for more events?

Check out the Gurnee Park District ([www.gurneeparkdistrict.com](http://www.gurneeparkdistrict.com)), Warren-Newport Public Library ([www.wnpl.info](http://www.wnpl.info)), and Warren Township ([www.warrentownship.net](http://www.warrentownship.net)) websites for even more events and information!

# Electronics Recycling

On January 1, 2012, the Illinois Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act landfill ban for certain electronic devices became effective. Electronic items such as televisions, monitors, computers and printers are some of the most common items that are no longer allowed in the regular trash.

On Wednesday, December 11th from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. SWALCO will have a residential electronics recycling drop-off location at Gurnee Public Works (1151 Kilbourne Road, Gurnee, IL 60031) that will be free of charge for Gurnee residents. Proof of address is required.

The following are accepted residential electronic items:

- Cable Receivers
- Cameras
- CD Players
- Computers (including tablets)
- Computer Drives
- Cords and Cables
- Digital Converter Boxes
- Digital Video Disc Players
- Digital Video Disc Recorders
- Electronic Keyboards
- Electronic Mice
- Facsimile Machines
- Holiday Lights
- Mainframes
- Modems
- Monitors
- PDA Organizers
- Portable Digital Music Players
- Printers
- Satellite Receivers
- Scanners
- Shredders
- Small Scale Servers
- Stereos
- Tablets
- Telephones
- Televisions
- Video Cassette Recorders
- Video Game Consoles

When recycling at the residential electronics drop-off locations, there is a limit of seven items per visit (excluding miscellaneous cords and cables).

Please contact the Gurnee Village Hall at (847) 599-7500 with any questions.

## Protect Your Home from Cold Weather

As a friendly reminder from the Building Safety Division and Fire Department, winter can be extremely hard on your home. To help protect your property and keep your pipes from being damaged, take the following steps before temperatures sink below freezing:

- Find your main water shutoff so you can turn off the water to your home quickly in an emergency. Locations vary – look in the crawlspace or basement. In case of broken pipes during the day, please contact our Public Works Department at (847) 599-6800 or the non-emergency dispatch number (847) 599-7000 to report the problem;
- Disconnect garden hoses from the exterior faucets to prevent water from freezing in the hose and rupturing the faucet. Drain your hoses and store them where they are protected from the weather to prolong their life-span;
- Insulate your outdoor faucets with foam faucet covers;
- Fix broken basement windows. Please remember that if you need to replace a window, a permit is required;
- Open cabinet doors under sinks to let warm air flow around your water supply lines (be careful of small children and keep chemicals out of reach while the doors are open);
- In case of severe cold weather, check the water flow periodically to make sure there is not a drop in pressure, which could be a sign of a frozen pipe. Leave the faucets open slightly to keep water flowing; and
- If you are leaving town – do NOT turn off the heat to your home.

For any questions, contact the Building Safety Division at (847) 599-7550.

## Mayor's Message

Dear Residents,

The holiday season is a wonderful time of year filled with family, friends and community. The whole community is brightly lit in every neighborhood and this year we added lights at the Richard A. Welton Village Plaza. It's a delightful location in the heart of our community to enjoy some hot chocolate (and free WiFi) while enjoying the view of the new holiday lights.

The season of joy is a time to give thanks for the blessings that we enjoy, as well as a time to share. It is a time to focus on what we have and the accomplishments we can be proud of in our homes, neighborhoods and in our community. I am truly thankful for the honor and opportunity to serve the Village and all the wonderful residents and businesses I interact with daily. It would not be possible to have a community we are all proud to call home without the leadership of our Village Trustees and dedication of Village staff and I thank them for everything we did together this past year. I deeply thank every resident for your trust, faith and support as I navigate the daily responsibilities as Mayor.

Looking back, it was truly a productive year in the Village. In compiling the State of the Village address this year, it hit me just how much we did get done. The Village was very focused on delivering quality services and cultivating creative growth and expansion opportunities. While we have had a productive past year, our work is not done. Strategic planning is just ahead of us as we enter a new decade.

I hope to see many of you during our holiday planned events. Celebrate the season, celebrate with friends and family and celebrate our community we are blessed to call home. Look out 2020 – here we come!

Sincerely,

Mayor Kristina Kovarik



## Seasonal Reminders

### Adopt-a-Hydrant

The Fire Department is looking for volunteers for its "Adopt-A-Hydrant" program. Residents can "adopt" a fire hydrant near their home and ensure it is visible throughout the year in case of a fire. For more information, visit [www.gurnee.il.us/adopt-a-hydrant/](http://www.gurnee.il.us/adopt-a-hydrant/).

### Holiday Waste Management Schedule

All solid waste and recycling collection will be delayed by one day following the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays. Holidays will be observed on December 25 and January 1, therefore there will be no solid waste or recycling collection on both Wednesday's. All collection will be delayed one day from customer's normal pickup day.

### Christmas Tree Collection

Waste Management will collect Christmas trees on the following dates:

- Wednesday, January 8, 2020
- Wednesday, January 15, 2020
- Wednesday, January 22, 2020
- Wednesday, January 29, 2020

In order for a tree to be collected, it must be placed at the curb or the edge of the street by 7:00 a.m. on the pick-up day. All lights and decorations must be removed. Failure to remove decorations or placing the tree in a plastic bag will result in the tree not being collected that week and, consequently, the resident will have to wait until the following week. Trees placed out after January 29, 2020 will not be collected.

### Drunk Driving Awareness

To ensure that everyone has a safe holiday season, the Gurnee Police Department will be increasing enforcement during December's "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign. Ensure holiday guests have a safe ride home.

## Volunteer Fair - January 15th

In an effort to connect volunteers to local organizations serving Gurnee and the nearby community, the Village of Gurnee is hosting our 5th volunteer fair on Wednesday, January 15th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Viking Park Dance Hall (4374 Old Grand Avenue).

The event is free for all participants and is family friendly. This is a great opportunity to explore local organizations in need of volunteers.

If you are part of a non-profit organization that is in need of volunteers and would like a table at the event, contact the Village at (847) 599-7514 or email at [comments@village.gurnee.il.us](mailto:comments@village.gurnee.il.us). The event is free to non-profit organizations serving the Gurnee-area, but it does fill up early so reserve your table ASAP!



Volunteers at the 2018 Volunteer Fair

# Plowing Reminders

Keeping the Village's roads and sidewalks safe and clear of snow and ice is a major job. While the Public Works Department does most of the work, a little help from everyone can make a major difference. Below are some friendly reminders on what to do (and not do) during a snowstorm:

## Clear Your Sidewalk

One of the biggest obstacles after a winter are impassable sidewalks. While the Village does not require shoveling within a certain time frame, all residents should recognize that shoveling is an important part of keeping sidewalks safe for the public and that the Village strongly encourages residents to clear their sidewalks within 24 hours of a snowfall.

## Place Shoveled Snow On Your Yard

The Village's plowing system is designed to handle most snow and ice events with relative ease. However, one variable that even the best system cannot control is when snow is thrown back in the street. This works against plowing and can lead to hazardous, icy conditions for drivers and pedestrians. Please place snow from your driveway and sidewalk on your lawn or parkway instead of in the street. Failure to do so may result in warnings or fines. Residents wishing to report thrown snow can report it to the Code Enforcement Division at (847) 599-7550.

## Park Vehicles Off Village Streets

Under Village Code, it is illegal to park a vehicle on a Village street within 12 hours of a two-inch or more snowfall OR until snow has been removed from Village streets. This is done to ensure that plowing can be completed as quickly and efficiently as possible and to minimize unnecessary damage to property. Any vehicle found to be in violation of this ordinance may be ticketed or towed at the owner's expense.

# Understanding the Village's Snow & Ice Control Program

Each year, long before snow and ice begin falling, the Public Works Department is diligently preparing for the snow season. Winter storms impact all Village residents, businesses, institutions and the motoring public, and the safety and well-being of the general public is highly dependent on the work of the Department before, during and after each storm event. Understanding how plowing works can be a great help in navigating winter weather. This article is intended to give the public a snapshot of the work that goes into managing roads during each winter event.

Planning for a storm event can begin several days in advance of the first snowflakes falling. Since each event is unique, the Department modifies its strategy depending on variables such as the type of snow (sleet, wet snow or fluffy flakes), temperature (rising or falling as well as air temperature versus surface temperature), time of day (day, night, weekend and/or rush hour), event duration and post-storm weather predictions. The general goal, however, remains the same for each event during the winter.

During an event, the Department will clear the Village's roads using a pre-defined route plan. Each route divides the local streets into three categories: collector streets (first priority roads such as Almond, Dada, Lawson, Southridge, Manchester and Belle Plaine), local streets (second priority) and cul-de-sacs and dead-ends (third priority). Typically, depending on the event, a full run of each route takes between four to six hours. In heavy snowstorms, however, crews will make two passes down each street and a single pass into cul-de-sacs to make streets and cul-de-sacs accessible. Final clean-up operations, such as cleaning from curb to curb, are normally completed after storms begin to diminish.

It is important to understand that the Village manages only Village-owned streets as part of the snow plan. Plowing of major roads such as Grand Avenue (Rt. 132), US 41, Route 21 and IL Route 120 are managed by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and roads such as Washington St., Delany Rd., O'Plaine Rd. and Hunt Club Rd. are managed by the Lake County Division of Transportation (LCDOT).

During and after a snow event, the Department's goal is to keep roads open and passable to the greatest extent possible. This means that while motorists will be able to travel on roads, these roads may not be completely clear of snow or ice, especially in extremely cold conditions. Again, the Department manages its resources wisely and encourages all drivers to build in extra travel time and drive safely and slowly when the snow starts to fly.

For any questions, see the full Snow & Ice Control Plan on the Village's website at [www.gurnee.il.us/public\\_works/street/plowing](http://www.gurnee.il.us/public_works/street/plowing) or contact the Department at (847) 599-6800.



Gurnee's Snow Plow Fleet is ready for the winter season. The Village Snow Fleet includes 23 trucks on 11 routes and 4 trucks on standby

# Best of Gurnee 2019 Award Winners

Inspired by Village of Gurnee Trustee Tom Hood in 2016 as a way to recognize businesses that go above and beyond to support their customers and the community, nominations are accepted year-round for businesses that exemplify the absolute Best of Gurnee. The program is managed by the Village's Economic Development Committee under the leadership of Trustee Karen Thorstenson. Nominations are accepted in two categories - "Bringing Me Home" and "Pay It Forward". The businesses below were awarded "Best of Gurnee" awards during the Gurnee Chamber of Commerce's Annual 2019 Mayor's Breakfast.

## "Bringing Me Home" Winner: Mission BBQ

The Bringing Me Home award is intended to recognize a business that fosters community pride by infusing excellence into its business operations with evidence of long-term, sustained commitment to its customers and the community. Opened September 11th, 2011, 10 years after our world changed forever, Mission BBQ set out to remind everyone what makes the United States unique - its heroes. They found nothing more American than BBQ and serve it to their customers in a patriotic dining room filled with tributes to our soldiers, firefighters, police officers, first responders, and all of our loved ones who serve including our local organizations like the Lake County Honor Flight, Wreaths Across America and the Gurnee American Legion Post 771. Congratulations, Mission BBQ, and thank you for your immediate contribution to your customers and the Gurnee business community!



*MISSION BBQ Accepting their Best of Gurnee Award*

## "Pay It Forward" Winner: Honey Orthodontics

The Pay It Forward award acknowledges a business that is recognizing needs within its community and is meeting them head on. Nomination forms submitted to the Best of Gurnee committee noted that Honey Orthodontics supports the Warren Township Food Pantry, local animal rescue organizations, Toys-for-Tots, Feed My Starving Children and provides an annual scholarship to a Warren-Township High School senior looking to go on to a medical-related career. Owner, Dr. Honey has also traveled with her team to Kenya three separate times to provide dental care to orphaned children. Congratulations, Honey Orthodontics, and thank you for your contribution to the Gurnee community and beyond!



*Dr. Honey and Staff accepting their Best of Gurnee Award*

## Frequently Asked Questions

*Where can I recycle needles?*

As part of the residential refuse and recycling contract, the Village has partnered with Waste Management to provide a community MedWaste kiosk at Village Hall. Residents who use sharps, syringes or lancets to inject medications can use this kiosk to dispose of this medical waste. Medical waste is disposed of separately from other refuse in order to prevent it from ending up in the environment, where it can pose a risk of injury or infection to others.

*What do I do if I see a streetlight outage?*

The Village has a network of more than 2,100 streetlights throughout the community to keep residential neighborhoods and businesses safe and illuminated. The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of 1,675 of these streetlights and the remaining 425 streetlights are owned and maintained by Commonwealth Edison (Com Ed). If you know of a streetlight outage, please contact us at (847) 599-6800 so that we can schedule the repair or notify Com Ed. We will attempt to respond to outages within 72 hours of the initial call.

*How can I pay my water bill?*

Residential customers may pay their water bills online using a Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover credit card or debit card, through enrollment of the Automatic Bank Debit program, by mail, via the Night Deposit Box at the Village Hall and in person at the Village Hall.

*What do I do if my mailbox is damaged?*

If your mailbox was damaged by the Village snow plow during plowing operations, please call Public Works at (847) 599-6800 to report the damage.

*Will a red light violation show up on my record?*

No, a red light violation will not show up on your driving record. However, a person who has accumulated five or more unpaid citations can have their drivers licensed suspended by the Illinois Secretary of State.

# Keeping Posted

KRISTINA M. KOVARIK, MAYOR  
Andy Harris, Clerk

## VILLAGE TRUSTEES

Jeanne Balmes                      Quin O'Brien  
Greg Garner                        Cheryl Ross  
Thomas Hood                       Karen Thorstenson

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR  
Patrick Muetz

## VILLAGE DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

**Police, Fire and Medical Emergencies: 9-1-1**  
Police Non-Emergency: 847-599-7000  
Fire Non-Emergency: 847-599-6600  
Village Hall: 847-599-7500  
Utility Billing: 847-599-7525  
Community Development: 847-599-7550  
Public Works: 847-599-6800

Visit us online at [www.gurnee.il.us](http://www.gurnee.il.us).

## Keeping Posted

325 N. O'Plaine Road  
Gurnee, IL 60031

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Gurnee, IL  
Permit No. 45

Postal Patron  
Gurnee, IL 60031

## Canadian Pacific Holiday Train

As mentioned on page 2, the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train will be arriving at Viking Park (4374 Old Grand Ave) on Monday, December 2nd, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. This year's event will feature performers Meghan Patrick, Tanika Charles, and Kelly Prescott. Everyone is encouraged to arrive early to see the train pull in. Those attending the event are also encouraged to bring a non-perishable food or cash donation to support the Northern Illinois Food Bank. For more information, visit the Village's website at [www.gurnee.il.us/holiday\\_train](http://www.gurnee.il.us/holiday_train).

## Village Updates

### Recreational Cannabis Sales Ban

- On Monday, November 18th, the Village Board approved an ordinance banning the sale of recreational cannabis in Gurnee. Under the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, private recreational cannabis use will be legal for adults 21 and over. Communities were provided the option to opt-in or opt-out. Gurnee joined nearby communities including Libertyville, Grayslake, Lake Bluff, and Lake Forest, to name a few, that have opted out of sales.

### Ethylene Oxide

- The Village of Gurnee, the Lake County Health Department and the City of Waukegan are currently undergoing ninety days of ambient air monitoring around Vantage Specialty Chemical (3938 Porett Drive) and Medline in Waukegan to monitor levels of ethylene oxide in the air. This data will be sent to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) for a health risk assessment of the community. To follow updates on ethylene oxide, visit [www.gurnee.il.us/eto](http://www.gurnee.il.us/eto).

### Vaping Moratorium

- On Monday, November 18th, the Village Board approved a moratorium on allowing additional vaping and e-cigarette stores from opening in Gurnee. This moratorium will not impact businesses currently in operation, but will prevent future stores and kiosks from operating in Gurnee.

## Be in the Know

Curious about new businesses or projects in the Village? Be in the know with this listing of new and upcoming projects!

### New Businesses:

Aldi (7520 Grand) • All on Target (Gurnee Mills Entry E) - air soft shooting gallery • Claudette Washington Insurance (5455 Grand) - Farmers Insurance Agency • Luxor Furniture (1001 Tri-State) - office furniture • Maple Flooring Manufacturers' Association (1425 Tri-State) - sports flooring systems • North American Title Co. (1800 Nations) - real estate settlement services • Shepherd Premier Senior Living (5631 Manchester) - senior living home • Specialized Accounting Services LLC (Saratoga Square) - accounting services • US Computer Recyclers (3864 Swanson) - computer recycling facility • Waddell & Reed (1800 Nations) - financial advisory services

### Coming Soon:

Bushido Martial Arts (6021 Washington) - martial arts instruction • Dearbone Counseling (135 N Greenleaf) - counseling practice • Five Below (Gurnee Mills) - value retailer • Generaciones Home Loans (401 N Rt 21) - mortgage services • Gurnee Nails and Spa (6541 Grand) - nail salon • Gurnee Ortho (7900 Rollins) - orthopedic healthcare services • Launch Trampoline Park (880 Lakeside) - formerly Jump America, adding new amenities/cafe • Lisa Wolf Partners (1350 Tri-State) - real estate staging • Meraki Nails (401 N Rt 21) - nail salon • Northwestern Medicine (6155 Grand) - new construction, medical professional office building • ParkerStore (3608 Grand) - motion and control systems • Sherwin Williams (6300 Grand Ste C) - paint supply store