



# Village of Hodgkins Communicator

## A Message from Mayor Ernest Millsap . . .

Last week we attended the West Suburban Municipal Conference in Washington, DC. It was the first conference we attended and it was very productive for me as your new Mayor. As a result, I have a much better working relationship with our neighbors in Willow Springs, McCook, Countryside, Indian Head Park and LaGrange. We are bound together by a common responsibility of representing our residents in the best possible way. Coordination with fire, tornado or other human tragedy is not always contained in a single community in isolation. We have experienced this regional assistance most recently with the July tornado that impacted not only us in Hodgkins but also Countryside and McCook. We all pitched in to help. Any way we can work together can only benefit our own residents.

In addition to attending the conference we were also present for an honor given to our Village Attorney, John O'Connell. John was admitted to practice law before the United States Supreme Court. Along with John's wife Celeste, I was able to be present for his swearing in before all 9 Justices of the Supreme Court. It was truly

amazing. I will let John explain in his own words the experience. "After practicing law since 1975 and representing Hodgkins since 1980, I never expected this honor. My thanks to Rich Pelligrino, Executive Director of the West Suburban Municipal Conference for arranging for myself and 5 other local officials to be sworn in to the highest court in the land. To have my wife and the Mayor of my most important client throughout my legal career was most fitting. Anyone who is committed to their profession knows that a supportive spouse is critical to their success. Further, for me, I have been blessed with a client like Hodgkins that has given me an opportunity to practice my trade and find an additional family in the process."



**ERNEST MILLSAP**  
**VILLAGE PRESIDENT**



Top Left: Ernest Millsap, Village President of Hodgkins, Mark Kuchler, Village President of LaGrange, Rory Hoskins, Mayor of Forest Park, Terrance Carr, Mayor of McCook, Scott Levin, Mayor of Elmhurst, IL, and 2 Marine Veterans

Front Row: Spouse of Mark Kuchler, Spouse of Rory Hoskins, Melissa Neddermeyer, Mayor of Willow Springs, Rich Pelligrino, Executive Director of the West Suburban Municipal Conference, Celeste and John O'Connell



## Village Officials

*Contact any of these officials by telephone at:*

Hodgkins Village Hall  
579-6700

Village President  
Ernest Millsap

Village Clerk  
Stephanie Gardner

Deputy Clerk  
Rose Lopez

Trustees  
Larry Rice  
Vicky Moxley  
Dominic Misasi  
Lida Mills  
Tim Kovel  
Jorea Touranjeau

Village Comptroller  
Melody Salerno

Village Attorneys  
John T. O'Connell  
Pat Rogers

Chief of Police  
Joseph Klotz

## **Secretary of State Mobile Services** **October 25, 2023**

The Mobile Unit will be available from 10:00am—2:00pm on Oct. 25, 2023

Proper identification will be needed. An Appointment is also needed.

This is a great opportunity to up date your drivers license, state ID, or Real I.D. You can also renew vehicle plate stickers.

## **Super Seniors Rules of the Road** **10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.**



## **\$ Village Tax and Garbage Rebates \$**

At the Board meeting on August 14, The Village Board has voted to continue rebates this year.

The Residential Tax Rebates are paid to those residents who received property tax bills from Cook County. Proof of payment is required. This is obtained by a receipt from your bank or lender. The Village will reimburse you, The Village of Hodgkins portion listed on your tax bill.

Mobile Home residents and those residents that rent or lease an apartment are eligible for a garbage rebate as long as you have resided in Hodgkins as of January 1st, 2023 and still reside here. **You will need a valid photo ID with the correct address.** These rebates will be available starting Nov. 15, 2023—Dec. 15, 2023. If you have any questions or need assistance with this rebate, Please call the Village Hall at 579-6700 or stop by the office.



## **HELP WANTED:**

The Village is looking for a Crossing Guard to work Monday—Friday part time during the school season.

Mornings - 7:30am—8:30am Afternoons - 3pm—4pm

Starting pay is \$17.84 per

## **TAX APPEALS**

Lyons Township Assessors Office will be at The Village Hall on November 8th at 6:00pm to help any resident with their property tax appeals.

If you are interested and would like an appointment please call

The Village of Hodgkins to set up an appointment. (708) 579-6700

## HODGKINS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM NEWS

The Historical Museum is open the 1st Sunday every month from 1pm to 3 pm.

The museum is also open the third Thursday of the month from 6pm to 8pm.

Groups can call and make arrangements for tours on other days.

The museum is located at 6511 Kane Ave, old Village Hall and Fire station.



We are looking for handmade ornaments from residents past and present, for our Christmas display. We would like ornaments by October. They will be returned by January unless they are donated to the museum. During the months of November and December the Christmas exhibit will be on display.

"A Hometown Christmas" is the title for the exhibit.



### "Meet Mrs. Clause" December 8, 5:30-6:30

Mrs. Clause will be reading the night before Christmas and the Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett. Mrs. Clause will be answering children's questions about Santa and the North Pole! Gingerbread cookie treats will be available while supplies last. Mrs. Clause will start stories every 15 minutes.



Please join the Hodgkins Historical Society Facebook page! Information of events and upcoming exhibits are posted on the Facebook page.

## Property Tax Saving Exemptions

Meet one-on-one with a representative from the Cook County Assessor's Office to find out if you have all of your property tax saving exemptions.

**Monday, November 13**

10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



Hodgkins Village Hall  
8990 Lyons St.  
Hodgkins, IL 60525



Make an appointment at [bit.ly/ccao1113](https://bit.ly/ccao1113)  
or call (708) 579-6700



Homeowner  
Exemption



Senior Freeze  
Exemption



Persons with Disabilities  
Exemptions & Veterans  
with Disabilities



Senior Exemption

[cookcountyassessor.com](https://cookcountyassessor.com)



**Residents impacted by the  
June 29—July Flooding & Storms  
May apply for  
FEMA disaster assistance.**

A significant weather event happened this July that produced between 5" and 8" of rain across sections of Cook County. On Aug. 15 the President declared a major disaster in Cook County.

If you experienced flooding after the July rain storm contact:

Find in-person locations at [Cookgov.me/DRCs](https://Cookgov.me/DRCs)

Call: 800-621-3362

Apply online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov)

Download the FEMA app



Melody Salerno  
Village Comptroller



## Village of Hodgkins Fresh Produce Pantry

**December 19, 2023** 9096 Joliet Road, (Fire Department)

This is open to any person in Lyons Township. The Greater Chicago Food Depository drops off fresh fruits and vegetables along with non-perishable groceries.

The day after the pantry we offer the same fruits and vegetables that are leftover from the pantry to all residents of Hodgkins. This food is located at the Village Hall.

On the 3rd Wednesday of each month The Village will put out extra non perishable food in our lobby. This food will be for any Hodgkins resident. Items will be on a first come basis.



## Hodgkins' Food Pantry

If you are a resident in need of food the Village of Hodgkins has a food pantry located inside the Village Hall. Once a month you may receive a box of food. You will need to provide a valid state I.D. or drivers license. Please call us so we can have a box ready for you 708-579-6700.

We also take donations for our food pantry at the Village Hall. We accept any non-expired non-perishable foods, paper products, personal hygiene items, etc. Please contact the Village with any questions.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out when we host the Mobile Food Pantry.

If you would like to help out please contact The Village 708-579-6700.

**Our next Village Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Pantry is December 19, 2023**



### Mobile Pantry Free Fresh Fruit, Vegetables & Non-Perishable Groceries

Open to the public. All Lyons Township residents are encouraged to attend.

**Every Third Tuesday of the Month 3:30 p.m.—5:30 p.m.**

Nov. 21, 2023

Justice Village Hall , 7800 Archer Road., Justice, IL 60458

**Dec. 19 , 2023**

**Hodgkins Village**, 9096 Joliet Road, (Fire Department), Hodgkins, IL 60525

Jan. 16, 2024

Justice Village Hall , 7800 Archer Road., Justice, IL 60458

Feb. 20, 2024

St. Blasé, 7438 W 61st Place, Summit, IL 60501

**Mar. 19 , 2024**

**Hodgkins Village**, 9096 Joliet Road, (Fire Department), Hodgkins, IL 60525

Apr. 16, 2024

Justice Village Hall , 7800 Archer Road., Justice, IL 60458

## Other Local Food Pantries

### St. Cletus

600 W 55th St., Lagrange  
708-215-5418  
2nd Thursday 6:30pm-8pm  
*Boundaries:*  
Lyons Township

### Share Food Share Love

9030 Brookfield Ave.  
630-347-5390  
Tues. 7pm—9pm  
Sat. 10am—12 pm  
[www.sharefoodsharelove.com](http://www.sharefoodsharelove.com)

### St. Francis Xavier

124 N Spring Ave., Lagrange  
708-352-0168 Tues. 9:30am—11am  
*Boundaries:*  
Zip Codes 60525 & 60526

### Second Bap. Church of LaGrange

26 Washington Ave. (Back Entrance)  
708-354-5907 Monday 10am-12pm  
*Boundaries:* Maywood, Agro, Lyons, &  
Western Springs





Trustee  
Lida Mills

## Aging Well

Come join us !

We meet the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am  
in the Village Hall.

It's free to join. You need to be 55 years or older. It's a  
great way to make new friends!

In September, 19 members traveled from the Village Hall to  
the White Pines State Park by bus. We attended a musical  
show at the White Pines Playhouse and a buffet lunch.

The show we saw was a Little Bit of Country and a Little bit Rock and Roll.



Trustee  
Dominic Misasi



We started "The Lunch Bunch". We meet at a discussed location each month on the Tuesday before our regular meeting, on the following day. This is a great way to get to know each other in a more formal setting. Each month we pick a new location. Our very first lunch was held at The McCook Bohemian Restaurant & Lounge in McCook. We had 11 of us. It was a fun time!



At our October meeting we are planning a Witch's Tea themed party. Member are encouraged to wear Witch's and Warlock hats. A Prize will be given to the best hat.

We will have a story teller reading Witch and Warlock stories and a buffet lunch.



## Email phishing

The most common form of phishing, this type of attack uses tactics like phony hyperlinks to lure email recipients into sharing their personal information. Attackers often masquerade as a large account provider like UPS, Amazon or Google, or even a coworker.

Phishing emails and text messages often tell a story to trick you into clicking on a link or opening an attachment. You might get an unexpected email or text message that looks like it's from a company you know or trust, like a bank or a credit card or utility company. Or maybe it's from an online payment website or app. **The message could be from a scammer, who might**

- say they've noticed some suspicious activity or log-in attempts — they haven't
- claim there's a problem with your account or your payment information — there isn't
- say you need to confirm some personal or financial information — you don't
- include an invoice you don't recognize — it's fake
- want you to click on a link to make a payment — but the link has malware
- say you're eligible to register for a government refund — it's a scam
- offer a coupon for free stuff — it's not real
- The email says your account is on hold because of a billing problem.
- The email invites you to click on a link to update your payment details.



### Four Ways To Protect Yourself From Phishing

#### 1. Protect your computer by using security software.

Set the [software to update automatically](#) so it will deal with any new security threats.

#### 2. Protect your cell phone by setting software to update automatically.

These updates could give you critical protection against security threats.

**3. Protect your accounts by using multi-factor authentication.** Some accounts offer extra security by requiring two or more credentials to log in to your account. This is called multi-factor authentication. The extra credentials you need to log in to your account fall into three categories:

- **something you know** — like a passcode, a PIN, or the answer to a security question.
  - **something you have** — like a one-time verification passcode you get by text, email, or from an authenticator app; or a security key
  - **something you are** — like a scan of your fingerprint, your retina, or your face
- Multi-factor authentication makes it harder for scammers to log in to your accounts if they do get your username and password.

**4. Protect your data by backing it up.** [Back up the data on your computer](#) to an external hard drive or in the cloud. Back up the data on your phone, too.

### What To Do if You Responded to a Phishing Email

If you think a scammer has your information, like your Social Security, credit card, or bank account number, go to [IdentityTheft.gov](#). There you'll see the specific steps to take based on the information that you lost.

If you think you clicked on a link or opened an attachment that downloaded harmful software, [update your computer's security software](#). Then run a scan and remove anything it identifies as a problem.

### How To Report Phishing

If you got a phishing **email**, forward it to the Anti-Phishing Working Group at [reportphishing@apwg.org](mailto:reportphishing@apwg.org).

If you got a phishing **text message**, forward it to SPAM (7726).





## Celebrates 25 Years!

On September 10, 2023, Buck's Pit Stop celebrated 25 years of business.

There was a Neil Diamond and a Rod Stewart impersonator singing all the old classic songs.

They had a food truck with scrumptious BBQ Fair as well as a Chicago Hot Dog Cart, yummy!

It was a beautiful sunny Sunday.



Sue Azzarello toasts Dianne on 25 years!



Dianne thanked everyone for 25 year of patronage and friendship and to many more years!

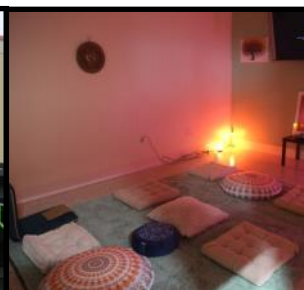


We Wish Dianne and the Team at Bucks, Best Wishes and another 25 Years!

## Namaste Cannabis & Wellness Grand Opening

On September 7, 2023 Namaste Cannabis & Wellness opened it's doors. Namaste is a center providing benefits like: Anti-Inflammatory, Anti Anxiety/Stress, Anti Cancer, Anti Emetic, Blood Sugar, Sleep Aide, Anti Fungal, Reduces Intraocular Pressure, and much more. For information please stop in. Namaste is located at 6119 A East Avenue, Hodgkins IL, (across from Menards)

708-402-4232 ♦ roshanmpatel3@gmail.com





## OFFICER PARKS JOINS THE FORCE

You may have noticed a new face on the streets of Hodgkins lately, perhaps out walking around the shopping center or making the rounds in a patrol vehicle. That's because the Hodgkins Police Department has made a recent addition, in the person of Officer Seth Parks.

Officer Parks comes to us from Indiana, where he has a background in law enforcement. Growing up in Anderson, Indiana (just outside of Indianapolis), he encountered a tough situation as a youth that galvanized his desire to get into law enforcement. When I sat down with him recently to interview him for the Communicator, he had this to say about it:

"I had a rough childhood. A police officer made a real difference for me in my teens, and I've never forgotten that. I decided that, if he could help change my life for the better, then maybe I could do the same for others."

Starting at age 21, Seth worked in corrections for seven years, starting at Madison County and continuing in Delaware County, Indiana. He later moved to Indianapolis, where he entered law enforcement at Indianapolis University Health, remaining there for three years until he saw an opportunity to come work for Hodgkins Police Department.

"I'm been involved with the sport of bodybuilding for ten years, and it was through those connections that I met Officer Rocco Giannelli and learned about an upcoming patrol officer list."

After successfully completing our testing and hiring process, Officer Parks was sworn in as our newest police officer. He then headed to Champaign for sixteen weeks of academy training at the Police Training Institute, starting in early May. He graduated from that course in August, and now he's going through our Hodgkins PD Field Training program.

Be sure to say hello to Officer Parks when you see him around town!



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## CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

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The Hodgkins Police Department and Countryside Police Department will be jointly conducting a Citizens Police Academy soon. This will be a 6-week course designed to equip interested members of the community with information about how police operations are carried out. This is a free course, starting November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, and held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Three classes will be held at the Countryside Police Department, and three classes will be held at the Hodgkins Police Department. Topics covered will include:

Patrol Operations ♦ Investigations Operations ♦ Criminal & Traffic Law  
Use of Force ♦ SWAT & Firearms ♦ Specialties ♦ Scenarios

Participants must be at least eighteen years of age, must live, work, or volunteer in Hodgkins or Countryside, and must submit an application. Applications can be obtained online at [www.hodgkinspd.org](http://www.hodgkinspd.org) or [www.countrysidepolice.org](http://www.countrysidepolice.org). For more information, contact Chief Klotz at [jklotz@hodginspd.org](mailto:jklotz@hodginspd.org) or Chief Klimek at [pklimek@countrysidepolice.org](mailto:pklimek@countrysidepolice.org).



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## Hodgkins Park District

[www.hodgkinspark.org](http://www.hodgkinspark.org) 708-354-6563



Children can drop off letters to Santa starting November 1st!

### Night Terrors Haunted House

Friday, October 27th, Saturday, October 28th, and Tuesday, October 31st

6pm-7pm Lights On \$5 per person  
8pm-10pm Lights Off \$10 per person



December 2nd  
9:30am-11:30am  
Free for Residents  
\$7 each for non Residents



### Holiday Happening

November 26<sup>th</sup> - 4-7:30pm

A fun time for the whole family!  
A Parade through the Village- 3:30pm  
The Village Tree Lighting at 4:30pm

Children's Train - Carolers  
Hot Chocolate & Refreshments  
Ornament & Cookie Decorating  
Pictures with Santa  
D.J. - Christmas Stories

Come kick off the Holiday Season!



### Halloween Carnival

October 31<sup>st</sup> at 6pm-7pm



### BUNCO

November 4th

6:00pm \$22 per person

For information on these or any of our many other programs please visit us on Facebook.



[www.hodgkinslibrary.org](http://www.hodgkinslibrary.org) 708-579-1844

### Family

Wacky Wednesday, Now—Nov. 29th

Monday Makers Kit - Dec. 4, 11, 18, Jan.

8, 15, 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26

### Teen & Adult Tuesday Craft Kit

Dec. 5, 12, 19— Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30

Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27



### Tuesday Movie Matinee - Tues. 1pm

Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 27

### Adults

Santa Camera Ornament - Dec. 4 at 6pm

Craft Night - Dec. 6, Jan 10/Feb 7 at 6pm

Grinch Wreath - Dec. 11 at 6pm

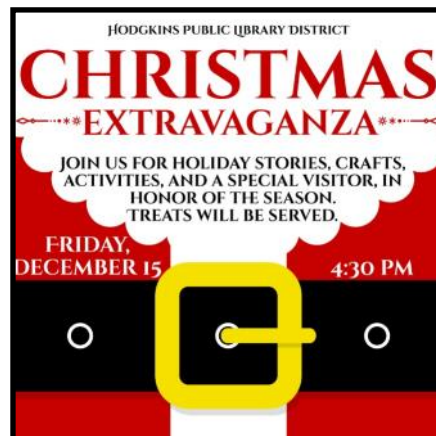
Holiday Bingo - Dec. 15 at 10:30am

Book Club - Dec. 23 /Jan. 27 at 12pm

### Chair Yoga Thursdays at 11:00 Am

Video Led Dec 7, Jan 4, Feb 1, 29

Instructor Led-Dec 14, 21, 28, Jan 11, 18, 25, Feb 8, 15, 22



For information on these or any of our many other programs please visit our website or stop in!

## Here are the addresses of some of our active duty military.

*If you have a family member you would like to include please call the Village Hall with the persons name and address.*



SPC Almeida, Mario

TF Fiking/BC01-125IN

CMR 1785

APO, AE 09807-02011

Son of Mario & Belem Almeida

Amn Sheldon, Michael James

177 E. Eglin Blvd.

Building 877, Unit 203

Eglin AFB, FL 32542-0000

Son of Ed Sheldon

Major Sneed, Cody

7103 Tropical Way

Savana, GA 31410

Grandson of Ruth Sneed



The Village of Hodgkins is now enforcing Ordinance No. 22-01

The following procedures shall be followed from November 1st through April when snowfall of 2" or more shall occur:

On odd numbered days there shall be parking only on sides of the street with odd numbers. *Example -* If 2" or more snowfall occurs on January 1st, all vehicles must be parked on the sides of street with odd numbers or in the owner's driveway.

On even numbered days there shall be parking only on sides of the street with even numbers. *Example -* If 2" or more snowfall occurs on January 2nd, all vehicles must be parked on the sides of street with even numbers or in the owner's driveway.

Residents parking on Cobb and Lyons Streets: on even numbered days there shall be parking only on the south side of the street. On odd numbered days there shall be parking only on the north side of the street.

**Please Remember to . . .**

**Keep Your Cars Off the Sidewalks**

**For Snow Removal.** When we get snow, the Public Works can not go around cars that are partially parked on the sidewalk. It is very important to keep our sidewalks clean so no one gets hurt!



**Hodgkins Trick or Treat**

**Tuesday, October 31st**

**3:00—7:00 p.m.**





**Village of Hodgkins**  
8990 Lyons Street  
Hodgkins, Illinois 60525

PRESORT  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
LAGRANGE, ILLINOIS  
PERMIT NO. 506

Designed & Edited By: Trustee Dominic Misasi, Rodney Cummings & Jodi Ellsworth

### ***Dates to Remember:***

**October 21— Trunk or Treat—Library**



**Oct. 25— Secretary of State / Rules of the Road**

**Oct. 27, 28, & 31— Night Terrors Haunted House—Park District**

**Oct. 31—Trick or Treat 3:00pm—7:00pm**



**Oct. 31—Halloween Carnival 6pm—7pm—Park District**

**Nov. 23 & 24—Closed for Thanksgiving**



**Nov. 26th—Hodgkins Holiday Happenings / Tree Lighting**



**Dec. 2—Breakfast with Santa—Park District**



**Dec. 15—Christmas Extravaganza—Hodgkins Library**



**Dec. 19—Hodgkins Hosts the Fresh Food Pantry**



**Dec. 25 & 26 —Closed for Christmas**



**Dec. 29—Noon Year's Eve Party—Hodgkins Library**



**Jan. 1 & 2—Closed for New Year's**

### **Contact us**

Village of Hodgkins  
8990 Lyons Street  
Hodgkins, Illinois 60525

708-579-6700

Fax: 708-579-6707

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



Join us on face book  
@villageofhodgkins

Regular Village Hall Hours:  
Monday—Friday  
8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Board Meetings:  
2nd Monday of the month  
7:00 p.m.

**Sign up on our website to receive your Communicator by email.**