

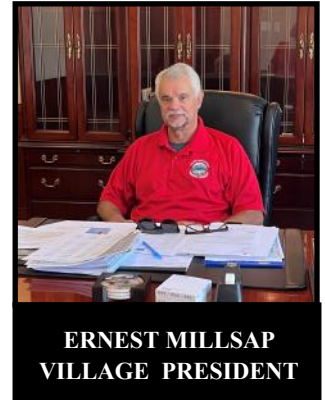


Village of Hodgkins Communicator

A Message from Mayor Ernest Millsap . . .

From Village Attorney John O'Connell:

As most of you know, Ernest Millsap is now the Acting Village President of Hodgkins. To those of you who know Ernie it is no surprise that he has been selected. He is a lifelong resident of the Village. His large family have not only been residents since the 1920's but have been integral to the growth of Hodgkins. Ernie is perhaps the most qualified person ever to assume the role of Mayor. Not only has he been a Trustee from 1995 to 2012 but he was Chief of Police from 2012 to 2022. He brings energy and ideas to the job. Anyone who has attended our Board Meetings or visited his office will realize the Village is in good hands.



From Acting Village President Ernest Millsap:

It is tough to follow a legend. Noel Cummings was our longest serving Mayor with 43 years of dedication to our residents. It is my goal to duplicate the progress he brought to the Village and hopefully serve our residents as well as he did.



Chief Millsap & Grandchildren



Ernest Millsap age 7
In front of old Village Hall



President Millsap and Family at his swearing in ceremony

I operate under the theory that if it is not broken don't try to fix it. We will keep the property tax and residential rebates and free garbage. We will continue the Beautification Program of buying out of code homes, demolish, sell the land for reasonable prices. We will continue our snow removal program which will continue with the driveways and aprons. Also, we will maintain a balance between a viable business community and a safe residential area. More security cameras. As your former Chief I will assure you of a solid police department response to the residents. We will provide you with the same unified Board of Trustees. Sure, there may be differences of opinion on the Board but in the end we will continue to be on the same team. There will be no controversies in Hodgkins. Ethics and respect among each other will remain the guiding principles of our officials and employees. I don't know whether I will make the 43 years Mayor Cummings achieved but while I am your Mayor every day in office will be dedicated to making Hodgkins the best place to live and work.

Village of Hodgkins Communicator

Page 2



Village Officials

Contact any of these officials by telephone at:

Hodgkins Village Hall
579-6700

Acting 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



Pictured above: Village Attorney John O'Connell, Senator Richard Durbin, Mayor Ernest Millsap, & Village Attorney Pat Rogers

Pictured upper right: Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias & Mayor Ernest Millsap

Pictured bottom right: Mayor Ernest Millsap, Senator Michael Porfirio, Village Attorneys John O'Connell & Pat Rogers



VOTE! **EARLY VOTING**

Village of Hodgkins will be hosting
early voting starting on

March 20 - April 3, 2023.

Monday—Saturday

9:00am—5:00pm

Sundays 10:00am—4:00pm

Regular Election
for Hodgkins residents only
April 4th, 2023

COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

SATURDAY
APRIL 29th

The village is hosting their annual
SHRED EVENT

Saturday April 29th

10:00am—12:00 pm.

This is a great time for you to dispose
of sensitive papers without
worrying about identity theft.

It is a free event to Hodgkins residents.



Get your Communicator Emailed.

Help the environment by saving on paper!

It's easy, just go to our website and follow the link.
You will also get email reminders on special events
that are happening in Hodgkins. We will NOT give your
email to any other business. This is for Hodgkins information only.

HODGKINS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM NEWS

Starting February 3rd, 2023 our Hodgkins Historical Society Museum will be opening the 1st Sunday of the month from 1:00 —3:00pm and the 3rd Thursday of the month from 6:00-8:00pm. We also can open for special group visits by appointment. For information or donations please contact Sue Cappa (708) 655-1819 or Ellen Diederich (331) 280-1929. You can also contact the Village Hall.



Wedding Photos Wanted

The Hodgkins Historical Society is looking for your wedding photos to use in a display for Valentines Day. This will be an annual display. For those interested in participating please email your photo to jellsworth@villageofhodgkins.org or bring them into the Village Hall so we can scan them and give them back to you.





Melody Salerno
Village Comptroller

Mobile Secretary of State Friday, April 28



Super Senior Rules of the Road

10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Super Senior Class

10am—11:30am

Mobile Unit from 10am—2 pm

Proper ID will be needed

Renewals

State ID Cards

Duplicate Licenses

Vision Screening

Vehicle Plate Renewal

The Rules of the Road Course is designed to give drivers the knowledge and confidence needed to renew or obtain a driver's license. The review course combines an explanation of the driving exam with a practice written exam. Please call to reserve your spot 708-579-6700.

Hodgkins' Food Pantry

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.

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 pantry is March 21.



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.

February 21, 2023

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

March 21, 2023

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

April 18, 2023

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

May 16, 2023

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

June 20 , 2023

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

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

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

Aging Well

Aging Well ended 2022 with a Christmas luncheon held at JC's Pub. It was a fun event with great food and company! At our January meeting we watched the Top Gun - Maverick movie and had snacks after the meeting. At our February meeting we will be celebrating Valentines Day with a box lunch and bingo.

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!



Trustee



Christmas Lunch at JC's Pub



Christmas Lunch at JC's Pub



Thank you Sgt. Miller

Shop with a Cop

One of the most famous programs, Shop with a Cop, is a program where local law enforcement takes donations and raises money for the purpose of providing presents to children in underprivileged circumstances. The Hodgkins Sam's Club #Club6384 provides the yearly donations needed to host this event. Children accepted into this program get to go shopping with employees from the Hodgkins Police Department and Village of Hodgkins. This year twelve children were chosen to participate in the program and got to shop at Sam's Club.





Hodgkins School Finishes Last Phase of Beautification

Article written by: Joan Millsap

Hodgkins School started to update the landscaping in the fall of 2019. The plan consisted of 5 phases. Because of Covid though, these projects took longer than expected.

- Phase 1. A new brick sidewalk was laid in the front of the school. Elias Lopez volunteered his time to install the sidewalk for the school. After the sidewalk was completed, a group of volunteers helped plant new bushes, perennials, and spread mulch, one rainy Saturday morning. After lots of hard work, Phase 1 was completed by the end of November.

- Phase 2 was the installation of a tree bench, new bushes under the cafeteria windows with river rock. Lumie Jones and Jimmy Carson designed and built the tree bench. It really adds character to the south side of the building! This project was finished in the fall of 2021.

- Phase 3 was the front of the building again, the original building. A bench to honor the retirement (June of 2020) of longtime resource teacher Leesa McHugh, was installed. The Millsap family also bought a lilac tree and purple bushes to be planted, in memory of their mother, Alida Millsap. This area was finished in the fall of 2020. Each spring annuals have been planted to give the area color.

- Phase 4 was the back of the building, along Conrad Ave. This area was started in the fall of 2021 and we just finished last fall, 2022. Old bushes were removed and new ones planted along with mulching and new perennials.

- Phase 5 was the north side of the building. Old bushes were removed and new ones planted. This project was also just finished last fall, 2022.



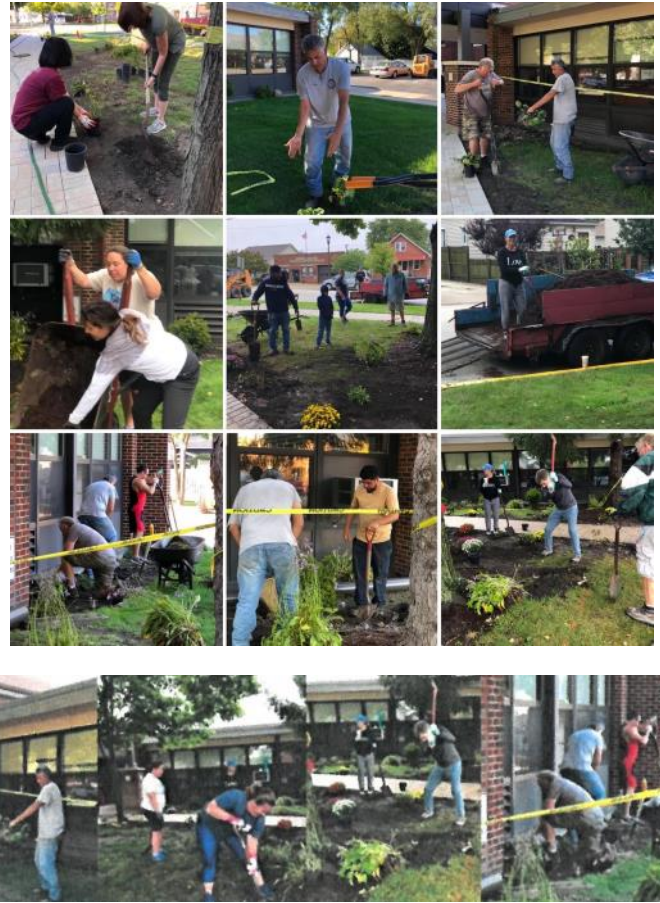
All this work was made possible through sponsorships. Some of the businesses in Hodgkins that generously donated funds were; The Village of Hodgkins, Republic Bank, Leesa & Mark McHugh, Advantage Chevrolet, Walmart, Sam's Club, UPS, and Hodgkins School PTO.

A very special thank you needs to go out to longtime resident, Elias Lopez. Elias donated not only his time but also his expertise in landscaping. Elias was involved in every project. Without his hard work and dedication to the project, none of this would have been possible. Thank you Mr. Lopez!

Thank you to all the volunteers who have donated their time to each of our phases. Sometimes there would be 8 volunteers, other times just 1 or 2. But each time, everyone always gave it their all! This past fall, Sam's Club volunteered their time when team members came to help pull weeds and do new planting.

You can follow our journey on Facebook @ Hodgkins School or Hodgkins School PTO for upcoming information. The team is dedicated to keep our school looking clean and updated.

Fresh flowers will be planted each spring and fall. Look for more changes coming this spring to the front of the building. If you'd like to volunteer your time or help sponsor by making a donation, please contact Joan Millsap or Elias Lopez. To contact either of them, you can call Beverly at Hodgkins School, 708-482-2740 and leave a message.



WELCOME Home 2 Home!

Janelle Towne and Home 2 Home were welcomed to Hodgkins by Mayor Millsap and the Board of Trustees at our December 12th board meeting.

At the meeting Janelle told the board about her organization and after her business license was unanimously given the thumbs up, she said, "Thank God, I already moved in!"

Everyone laughed and wished her well.

Home to home was founded by Janelle Town in 2016. Their mission: To transform the spaces of the formerly homeless by reclaiming and re-purposing gently used household items and furniture to create a "Home". Her and her volunteers have been doing this now for six years. It has been life changing for those they help.

H2H—Home 2 Home is located 6119 East Avenue. They accept donations of furniture and household items to decorate, but nothing that touches the skin. We have an Amazon wish list for those who would like to donate items such as towels, comforters, kitchen items, etc..

For more information or to volunteer, visit Home2Home Project on Facebook or info@h2hproject.org.



SERGEANT MILLER RETIRES

A longstanding fixture of the Hodgkins Police Department has moved on to the next phase of his life. Sergeant Todd Miller, after serving our community for twenty-five years (since June of 1997), has entered a well-deserved retirement.



Sgt. Miller first came to Hodgkins from Justice Police Department. After an initial stint in patrol, he became an investigator for a number of years, assisting the department in the prosecution of many important cases. He worked under the supervision of Lt. Mark Wilkans during this time.

Later, when Todd was promoted to sergeant, he returned for many years to the street as a patrol supervisor. He worked many long, tireless hours, and at all hours of the day and night, patrolling the community to help keep it safe and overseeing other officers in the performance of their duties. When circumstances allowed, he returned eventually to investigations as a detective sergeant, where he continued working on important ongoing cases. He was in charge of organizing and maintaining the Knox Box program for emergency services entrance into homes and businesses. He also played an important part in the Aging Well program by continually educating and informing our senior citizens about an array of current and ongoing concerns, such as personal safety and security practices.

On December 8th, Sgt. Miller's last work shift, he was joined by new and old friends and colleagues for food and an official send-off. Oak Lawn dispatch read out a fitting tribute to him from Hodgkins PD management over the airwaves during his final 10-42:



Thank you, Sgt. Todd Miller, for your 31 years of dedicated service to law enforcement and to the people of the Village of Hodgkins. Your service as a training instructor, a shift supervisor, and an investigator has been an especially important part of our operations. Thank you for working to honorably protect life and property in our community and for serving the members of our community with professionalism and dedication. Best wishes to you and your family as you begin a well-earned retirement and enter the next chapter of your life.

Next, Todd plans to work as head of security in a west suburbs school district. We know his great knowledge and experience will help him to be a success in this as well. But he says he will be back from time to time to check on us and maybe have a burger at Buck's Pit Stop. Be sure to congratulate him whenever you see him in town!



The Board of Trustees of the Hodgkins Public Library District has authorized an ordinance for a referendum seeking \$5.5 million dollars to construct a state-of-the-art building to last well beyond the next 40 years. We are seeking your support at the Consolidated Election on April 4, 2023 to construct a modern 10,500 square foot building that the residents of Hodgkins will be proud of. This new building will be energy efficient, ADA compatible, and compliant of all modern building code. Below is the question as it will appear on the ballot:

Hodgkins Public Library District- Proposition to Issue Bonds

Shall the bonds of Hodgkins Public Library District, Cook County, Illinois, in the amount of \$5,500,000.00 be issued for the purpose of erecting and furnishing necessary equipment for a new library building?

How did the Board come to the conclusion that the library needs a new building? It all started with a modernization plan to address significant deficiencies in the building and on the property. The building is having some issues to be expected in a 40 year old public structure, and the parking lot is starting to show significant wear. So, in 2019 the Library Board began to explore an opportunity to update the facility, and hired an architect to look at what could be done. Concerns about the pandemic put those plans on hold until Fall 2021. The decision was made to press forward and explore a renovation and modest expansion of the library. Spring of 2022 brought space analysis studies, and early Fall of 2022 was the discovery study on the building infrastructure.

During this study, engineers discovered three significant problems: (1) The primary problem, due to construction shortcuts and the long-term failure of the exterior cladding, is significant rust to our steel frame. (2) An inadequate vapor barrier has allowed moisture to constantly seep behind the cladding for most of the last 42 years. Without solving this issue, the structure will continue to weaken and eventually fail. (3) All of our insulation is water damaged, as well as the first layer of our drywall. Fortunately, we have been able to prevent mold growth because enough air has been able to sneak past the cladding.

The Library Board was given an estimate to fix the three primary issues with the building plus bringing the structure into modern building code, and the cost is essentially more than it would be to build a new structure.

Based on financial projections from our financial partner, we estimate the cost of the project to be:

\$27.83 per \$50,000 Assessed Value

\$55.65 per \$100,000 Assessed Value

The Library District will be looking to borrow these funds for 20 years

While difficult to hear, asking for the funds for a new building is the most financially responsible thing to do.

The Board of Trustees will be hosting a public hearing regarding this referendum on Monday, March 6 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm in the meeting room of the Library. We will also be continually updating our website with information as it becomes available. Additionally, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions via email, phone call, or coming into the library.

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees of the Hodgkins Public Library District
Email: tprendergast@hodgkinslibrary.org (Tim Prendergast - Director)
Email: trustees@hodgkinslibrary.org
Phone: 708-579-1844 www.hodgkinslibrary.org/referendum



Hodgkins Park District

www.hodgkinspark.org 708-354-6563

BIG FRIDAY

January 20th, February 17th,
March 17th, April 21st, May 19th

6:00pm-9:00pm

Kindergarten-8th Grade

Free for Residents

\$7 for Non-Residents

Open gym fun with **pizza**
and fun activities!

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

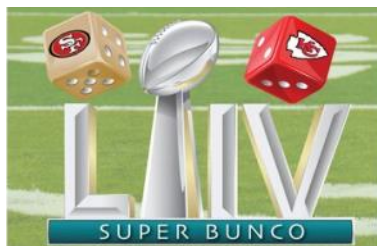


Four Winds Casino Trips

January 19th, February 16th,
March 16th, April 20th, and
May 18th

9:00am-4:00pm

\$6 per person



Saturday, February 11th
6:00pm

\$25 per person

**Food, prizes & fun
for everyone!**



Saturday, April 8th

9:00am SHARP

Babies to 4th Grade

Free for Residents

\$7 for Non-Residents

Get your wristbands today!



PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

www.hodgkinslibrary.org 708-579-1844

For information on these or any of our many other
programs please visit www.hodgkinslibrary.org
708-579-1844 or stop in at the library.



Winter Reading

Challenge

January 15—February 25

Stop by the library to pick up
your bingo sheets. All bingo
sheets must be submitted by
Saturday, February 25th to be
entered into the raffles.



Valentine's Day Programs

Feb 1—DIY Valentine's Sign - Teens & Adults

Feb 6—Monday Makers Kit—Kids

Feb 7—Totally Teen Kits—Teens

Feb 14—Valentine's Day Bingo—Family

Come into the library on February 14
to receive a Valentine's Day cookie!



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

Major Cummings, Brandon
412 Blackberry Drive
Elgin, OK 73538
Grandson of Ret. Mayor Cummings

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.



Driving Independence for Older Adults

Interfaith Community Partners is a local non-profit organization that works together with volunteers to provide accompanied transportation for older adults who no longer drive. People age 60 and better are able to register as clients and then request rides to places like physician appointments and therapies, grocery shopping and other important errands. We do not charge our clients and ask for suggested donations, when able. Interfaith Community Partners also offers Library Home Delivery Service.

We need volunteers to make this happen! By volunteering just a few hours a month, you'll make an immediate impact in your local community by bringing much-needed assistance, security, and kind companionship to older adults. We provide training and background check and offer VERY flexible volunteer hours where you select the rides you'll provide so it works for your life and schedule!

To learn more about becoming a client or volunteer, visit our website InterfaithCommunityPartners.org or contact our office at 708-354-9328 or CoordinatorCP@gmail.com.

Amy Watkins, Community Outreach Coordinator



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:

Early Voting—March 20th—April 3rd

Regular Voting - April 4th

Easter Egg Hunt—April 8th

Mobile Secretary of State—April 28th

Shred Event - April 29th

VOH Historical Society 1st Sunday & 3rd Thursday of the Month

Contact us

Village of Hodgkins
8990 Lyons Street
Hodgkins, Illinois 60525

708-579-6700

Fax: 708-579-6707

www.villageofhodgkins.org



Join us on face book
[@villageofhodgkins](https://www.facebook.com/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.