1980 was a big year for John O’Connell. It was also a big year for the Village of Hodgkins. In August of that year John was in the midst of his campaign for Illinois State Representative. It was also the month I hired John as our Village Attorney. He did get elected in November and went on to serve 8 years. During his four terms he distinguished himself as a dependable and energetic State Rep. He served as Chairman of both the House Judiciary Committee and a very important Committee on Debt Financing. He developed and passed into law significant changes in the way government and private business could work together for the benefit of the people they each served. It was no coincidence that in just a few years after he was hired, the Village of Hodgkins began construction of the Quarry Shopping Center. That was followed by Target, Menards and Toyota. These successful projects were a result of utilizing Tax Increment Financing with a streamlined bond issuance system passed by John O’Connell while in the House of Representatives. The legislative programs passed by John and his colleagues worked. In 1980 the Village had only $30,000 in sales taxes annually. Now we receive $5,000,000 each year.

One other development tool John brought back from Springfield: the Enterprise Zone. In 1985 the Villages of Hodgkins and McCook created an Enterprise Zone that still exists. In 1990 we had only one business on River Road, Silbrico. Now we only have about 3 acres that remain vacant. In 1990 we annexed about 60 acres of land along Santa Fe Drive and south of LaGrange Rd. That annexation put us adjacent to the old Fisher Body plant that had just announced its closure. As everyone knows, that is now the UPS CACHE facility. The largest in the world. It was the Enterprise Zone that did it. We are proud of the thriving industrial community we have along River Road and Santa Fe Drive.

Unlike many other communities, we do not have a formal Village Administrator. We do have John O’Connell, who functions as our Village Administrator. Along with Melody Salerno, they run the day to day operations of the Village. We depend on the wealth of experience John has brought from his days as a legislator but also the 30 years he has represented many fortune 500 companies as a lobbyist in Springfield. He includes Microsoft, Fed Ex, Reynolds and Rivers Casino as some of his clients. His office, however, is at 8990 Lyons Street, Hodgkins. Back in 1980, when I asked him to be our Village Attorney, he stated that he had never worked as a municipal lawyer. I told him that I had never been a Mayor. I said: “We will learn together”. After 40 years together I think we did a pretty good job.
Dennis Folkerts retired after 30 years of service to the Village of Hodgkins. He was the Foreman of the Department of Public Work at the time of his retirement. Dennis grew up in Countryside. His family moved to Hodgkins in 1979 when they opened Al & Glor’s Tavern, named after his parents, now Bucks Pit Stop. He and his wife Janet raised their daughter Amanda. They now look forward to their retirement in Indiana where they recently purchased a home. He also looks forward to spending time golfing and fishing. Thanks Dennis for all your hard work and dedication! In your 30 years of service you always went above and beyond making sure our streets were clear from snow and the VOH was well maintained. We will all miss you!

Ken Tucker, Paul Gray, Matt Struve, Dennis Folkerts, Jody Kovel, Andrew Salerno
Our Deputy Clerk Sharon (Sherri) Wells recently retired after 25 years of full-time service. She began her VOH career in 1990 and went full time in 1993.

A lifelong resident of Hodgkins, her mother still lives in the house she grew up in. Her father Dallas, was a Hodgkins Police Officer. Sherri’s family includes her siblings, Randy, Star, Rhonda & Ron. She was baptized, confirmed and married at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, where she still attends.

Sherri and her husband Joe have two sons; Keith works in the medical field as an X-Ray Technician, Ryan works for FedEx as a manager. When the boys were younger, Sherri was very active with them in hockey. She served on the board and as president of Lyons Township Hockey Club. She is a big Hawks fan too!

Sherri has a vast knowledge of Hodgkins. She remembers names of residents, their homes, how long they lived there, who lived in the home before. She knows every business address and street in Hodgkins.

As a resident she entered different festivities at the Village. She loves to cook so it was only fitting when she entered the dessert contest. She also loves to sew almost as much as she loves to read. Sherri has been active on the Hodgkins Library Board. When her boys were younger she served 3 terms or almost 18 years on the board. She is presently on her third year after joining the board again.

Sherri said when she started she was the youngest person in the office and knew it was time to go when she was the oldest.

We will all miss you!
Hodgkins Reaching Out

I have created a program within our Village to help others less fortunate. We would be making and donating items for children in hospitals or for children through Children’s Advocacy. We would also donate items for seniors in nursing homes who don’t get visitors or have any family. This would be a Hodgkins community program where we would all be involved.

We have created a link on sign up genius www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4ba9af2ba185-easter where you can sign on and help us out. If you don’t have access to a computer you can contact the Village Hall and we will be happy to do it for you.

Our first program is to make Easter baskets for children through Childrens Advocacy. These children are between the ages of 3 – 17 years old and have allegations of sexual abuse, physical abuse and witnesses to homicides. Please open our hearts to these children and make sure all get Easter baskets.

If you aren’t financially able to purchase items you could donate your time to assemble. Any of our items needed may be purchased at The Dollar Tree Store.

The residents in Hodgkins have always been generous and kind and this is a way to spread our generosity.

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.**

**March 17, 2020**  Hodgkins Village, 9096 Joliet Road, (Fire Department), Hodgkins, IL 60525

April 21, 2020  Justice Village Hall, 7800 Archer Road., Justice, IL 60458

May 19, 2020  St. Blasé, 7438 W 61st Place, Summit, IL 60501

June 16, 2020  Justice Village Hall, 7800 Archer Road., Justice, IL 60458

Water Rate Increase

Starting March 1st 2020, but not reflected until the following billing cycle all water rates will increase by 15%.

- Senior Rates are going from $4.42 per 1000 gals to $5.08 per 1000 gals (Min charge 7000 gals)
- Residential Rates are going from $6.31 per 1000 gals to $7.26 per 1000 gals (Min charge 7000 gals)
- Commercial Rates are going from $8.30 per 1000 gals to $9.55 per 1000 gallons galls (Min charge 14000 gals)

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. We accept any non expired non perishable foods, paper products, diapers or gift cards in $25.00 increments. Please contact the Village with any questions or feel free to drop off your donation.

Other Local Food Pantries

**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

**St. Cletus**
600 W 55th St., Lagrange
708-215-5418
2nd Thursday  6:30pm-8pm
**Boundaries:** Lyons Township
Secretary of State Mobile Unit
Mobile Unit will be available from 10:00 am—2:00 pm on March 10, 2020
Proper identification will be needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services Offered</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Driver's License Renewal</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior age 69—74</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior age 75 &amp; Up</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>need to visit DMV to renew Drivers License</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State ID Cards (5 year)</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors age 65 &amp; up (N/C for State ID)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicate License</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corrected License</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vision Screening</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle Renewal Stickers</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

American Express, Discover, MC, Visa & debit card

Super Senior Rules of the Road
10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
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.

Annual Shred Event  May 16
The Village will be having our annual shred event for residents of Hodgkins. Shredding documents is a great way to get rid of items such as medical records, salary details, old bills or any other personal information and can protect you from identity theft.
10am—12pm at the Village Hall
Please contact the Village with any questions—708-579-6700

NOTICE
VACANT LOT SALE
The Village of Hodgkins owns one vacant residential lot (Zoned R-1) that will be offered for sale pursuant to a bid process. The address of the property is:

6510 Chester Avenue
(50x133*, feet, no alley)

*Lot size is approximate
**Storm sewer easement along south lot line

Starting bid for the lot will begin at $70,000. Successful bidder must commence construction within twelve months of the acceptance of said bid. Winning bidder must live in the home for three years. All bids, along with a refundable $5000 check payable to the Village of Hodgkins, must be presented to the Village Clerk at the Village Hall, 8990 Lyons Street, Hodgkins, IL 60525 by 10:00 am on Monday April 13, 2020. All bids will be opened beginning at 1:00 pm on April 13, 2020.

Individual lot information packets will be available at the Hodgkins Village Hall. If there are any questions regarding this bidding process please call the Village at 708-579-6700.

February 26, 2020
Stephanie Gardner, Village Clerk
POLICE LIEUTENANT CHRIS MILOJEVICH
BEGINS WELL DESERVED RETIREMENT

BY: CHIEF PHIL KRINGLIE (RET)

On January 3rd, 1991 Chris Milojevich began his career with the Hodgkins Police Department.

His interest in Law Enforcement came early, he had two uncles who were Chicago Police Officers. While he was in High School. His older brother, Kirk, was killed by a drunk driver while serving in the Air Force.

After graduating from Lyons Township High School, he attended Western Illinois University and studied Criminal Justice. He received his Bachelor Degree from Western Illinois University and started searching for police jobs. While testing for police departments, he was able to get a police dispatcher job with the Countryside and Indian Head Park Police Departments.

Once hired by the Hodgkins Police Department, he attended the Cook County Sheriff’s Police Academy. Soon after graduation, Officer Milojevich was made a Juvenile Officer. A new program had started in Illinois, based after a Drug Program started in Los Angeles California. The program was looking for officers with 5 years of street experience to teach the curriculum that would help elementary school age children to learn and stay away from drugs.

Chief Stewart and Deputy Chief Rhodes wanted to send an officer and agreed to sign the required waiver so Ofc. Milojevich would be accepted to the program. So in 1993, the Hodgkins Police Department started our DARE Program with the Hodgkins Elementary School. It would be focused on the Sixth Grade students. Officer Milojevich was our First DARE Officer.

During his time as DARE Officer, Milo would dedicate much of his personal time to help our local students, of all grades. He started programs for the DARE Class that would not only teach them the hazards of drugs and alcohol but also teach them community involvement and mutual respect.

Ofc. Milojevich would teach DARE for the next 9 Years. His involvement with our local youth was truly amazing and sincere. He started and participated in Youth Sports Leagues, multiple fund raisers for the DARE program that included car washes to Police Basketball games. His goal was to show our kids that Police Officers were good and that they could always count on the police to help them. Officer Milojevich was a tremendous teacher and a great representative for the Hodgkins Police Department.

In 1998, the Youth Division put together an Annual Anti-Gang Day at the Hodgkins Elementary School. This event was welcomed by then Principal Paul Vorwick and would allow for our Police Officers to spend the day with the students and
Officer Milojevich was promoted to Sergeant in 2007 and was the Hodgkins Police Youth Division Supervisor, in addition to his shift supervisor duties.

In 2015, Sgt. Milojevich was promoted to the Rank of Lieutenant. He was responsible for all training on the police department. He was also the Department Instructor for the A.L.I.C.E. Active Shooter Preparedness Program. The A.L.I.C.E. acronym stands for “Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate.” This program is designed for training police and area organizations, schools, hospitals, businesses, and government on what to do during certain emergency events such as an Active Shooter.

Lt. Milojevich married Joanne in 1988. They have three children, Kirk, Ryan, and Jessica. The newest addition to the Milojevich family are two grandkids. The newly retired Lieutenant plans on staying busy in his retirement by babysitting those grandkids. LT. Milojevich begins his retirement on February 28th, 2020, what will he do?

He is an avid golfer and sports fan. He played Rugby in college and coaches rugby today. He also plans on staying involved with kids by Substitute Teaching a few days a month.

Lt. Milojevich reflected on his time on the Department,

“I could not have found a better place to serve a community, but here in Hodgkins. My family and I are sincerely grateful to this Village.”

Congratulations on your retirement LT. Milojevich! It is well earned and most of all, Thank You for your dedication and service to our community. Your contribution to our Village will be felt and appreciated for years to come.
BIG PROMOTION NIGHT FOR HODGKINS POLICE

For four members of the Hodgkins Police Department, the Monday night Village Board meeting of January 13th, 2020, was a very important and happy occasion. With friends, family, and community members gathered around, not to mention a sizeable contingent from the police department itself, the Village Board voted to approve three promotions, and to recognize a new officer joining the force.

Luis Calderon, who beat out a number of other police officer candidates in the Civil Service hiring process, was present with supportive family members and friends in attendance, as the board recognized and congratulated him as the newest member of the department. An officer with two years’ experience working at the Clarendon Hills Police Department, Luis was officially sworn in on January 2nd, and has now completed a Field Training Program in order to acclimate to the policies and procedures of the Hodgkins Police Department.

Officer Frank Beran, whose career at the department has spanned 28 years, was promoted to the rank of Sergeant by a unanimous vote of the board. With family looking on, he was sworn in as the department’s newest Patrol Sergeant, where he will supervise a shift of officers working the street. As a member of the department command structure, Sergeant Beran will be assuming special court duties, and also continue in his role as a trainer of the officers for empty-hand combat scenarios.

Sergeant Michael Cimino, who first joined the force in 1997, and has served in numerous roles, from Juvenile Officer and DARE Officer, to Taser training officer and member of the Pension Board, among his many other duties, was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. With his family in attendance, he took the oath before the assembled masses of Hodgkins and assumed the mantle of Patrol Division Lieutenant.

And finally, the Village Board voted to appoint Officer Joseph Klotz to the position of Deputy Chief. With his family assembled about him, Joseph’s wife Holly proudly performed the traditional ceremonial honor of pinning on his new badge. In his new position, Deputy Chief Klotz will supervise the Records Division and the FTO program. He will also be attending the Northwestern University School of Staff and Command for the next few months, alternating two weeks on and two weeks off, while he adjusts to his new duties.

I know you will want to join me in congratulating each of these officers in their auspicious new roles!
Village of Hodgkins Communicator

Aging Well

Consider joining our Aging Well team. We meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Larry Rice Community Room at lower level of The Village Hall.

We have may fun events scheduled for 2020. Come join us!

The trick to aging gracefully is to enjoy it!

The annual Aging Well December event held at White Fence Farm. The members enjoyed a great luncheon with their famous crispy chicken and delicious sides dishes and wonderful corn fritters! Next we were treated to a great show featuring Christmas with Elvis. The entertainer did a great job of impersonating Elvis Presley in singing an array of Elvis’s hit songs. It’s always a favorite to kick off our Holiday Season.

Thank you for Supporting Seniors!

At our regular January membership meeting two of our associate members were recognized for their supporting Seniors in our community, recognized were Sgt. Todd Miller and Rodney Cummings Both of the Hodgkins Police Department.

Services offered to Seniors

Elder Help Desk
Free legal advice for seniors 60 + and their caregivers
Monday—Thursday 9am–1pm
Walk in or by appointment—Call 312-986-4105

Clinic March 13 and March 27
Free service to draft Medical & Financial Power Attorney
By appointment only - Call 312-986-4105
Elder Justice Center at CL-16 * Daley Center
50 W. Washington, Chicago

Medicare Fraud and Genetic Testing
Senior Medicare Patrol—Thursdays March 12
Noon—1:30pm
• Durable Medical Equipment Phone Scams
• How to Protect yourself from Medicare Fraud
• How to read your Medicare Summary Notice
To Register (312) 603-9233
Daley Center - 50 W. Washington, Chicago
Concourse Level / Room CL-115
Hodgkins Park District Annual Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 11th, at 9:30am sharp.
Children in 4th grade and younger are welcome to participate.
FREE for residents and $7 for non-residents.
Wristbands are available for pick up any time between now & Thursday, April 9th.

Meet Our New Library Director
Tim Prendergast started with Hodgkins Public Library in January. He comes to Hodgkins from Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights. Tim has worked in the area as well as a Jr. High librarian in nearby Hickory Hills. “I am very excited to lead Hodgkins Library. In my short time, I have partnered with Hodgkins School, and I hope to create partnerships with other community organizations.” Please come in to welcome Tim!

Pet Supply Drive in May
In honor of National Pet Month, we will be collecting supplies to support the Hinsdale Humane Society. For a list of supplies check our new organization of the month table.
Each donated item removes $1.00 in library fines up to $10.00 per card. All items must be new, in unopened packages, with factory tags attached. No expired food will be accepted. Fine waivers cannot be applied to lost/damaged items or collection agency fines. Questions? Call us at (708) 579-1844.

Hodgkins PTO
SAVE YOUR BOX TOPS!
If your package has a traditional Box Tops clips, cut it off and send it to school, making sure it has a valid expiration date. If your package has a new Scan Label, there’s no need to clip; just use the New Box Tops app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. The app will find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your schools earnings online.

SAVE THOSE COCA-COLA CODES
Hodgkins School has started the CocaCola Rewards program. Before you throw away those Coca-Cola Boxes, clip the code off the inside of the box! Send it to Hodgkins School or log on to www.coca-cola.com/give and enter the code yourself. Be sure to choose Hodgkins School in Hodgkins, Illinois, NOT Hodgkins School in Colorado!
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.

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

CPT Sneed, Cody
PSC 1300 Box 282
APO, AA 34042
Grandson of Ruth Sneed

E-5P02 Giancarlos Arenas
Wanker Way Apt. C
Bremerton, WA 98312
Son of Carlos Arenas

1LT Desmond Handson
Taskforce Southeast
AP Lighting
APO, AE 09354
Officer Hodgkins P.D.

Cook County residents are now eligible to apply for Surviving Spouse Tax Abatement.

The Cook County Board of Commissioners and the Chicago City Council have passed ordinances to authorize a property tax abatement in their jurisdiction for the surviving spouses of Cook County’s fallen heroes. The program serves surviving spouses of a fallen police officer, soldier or rescue worker. This program will recognize and honor the ongoing impact of this sacrifice of these families.

The program can abate up to 100% of a surviving spouse’s Cook County and City of Chicago property tax liability. The Cook County Board of Review will administer the program, and surviving spouses apply for the abatement with us. The Board of Review will consider applications and supporting evidence—hold a hearing if needed—and recommend qualifying applicants for final approval. If approved and admitted into the program, the surviving spouse may reaffirm the facts remain the same and continue in the program yearly.

Please contact the Board of Review of Cook County—312-603-5560, 118 N. Clark St, Room 601, Chicago, IL 60602

Attention!!!

Senior Enrichment Seminar Participants

Please mark your calendar and be sure to register for the next two March 2020 seminars. The seminar discussions will include: What is Medicare fraud and how to fight it (or report it) and also helpful information for Veterans, their family members and friends to get the help and support they need to identify benefits and services. Both seminars will be held at the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. on the dates and at the locations indicated below:

March 12 / Concourse Level Room CL-115
“Medicare Fraud and Genetic Testing / Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)”

March 26 / Courtroom 2005
“Veterans’ Benefits: What Am I Entitled To?”

New To the Communicator . Business Advertisements—Please email Jodi Ellsworth - jellsworth@villageofhodgkins.org with information on your business. We will print a promotion for your business. This is a first come first serve— room in the Communicator providing.

Crestway Klassic Flooring

Offering all Hodgkins Residents, Police and Fireman a 20% discount on carpet and pad. Open by appointment only. Call 708.354.2200 to make an appointment to view the hundreds of carpet samples from several different carpet companies in our showroom at 6880 River Road unit #10.

John Price, President of Klassic Home Building & Remodeling saw an opportunity and took it when he acquired Crestway Flooring in Lyons, a company which was in business for 40 years. Seven years ago Price merged the carpet company with his own Home Building & Remodeling Company and renamed the new entity Crestway Klassic Flooring. Give Crestways a call today and make an appointment to take advantage of this super deal. jprice@klassicinc.com 708.354.2200
### Dates to Remember:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 2—15</td>
<td>Early Voting at the Village Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Secretary of State Mobile Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Rules of the Road Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>Village of Hodgkins Food Pantry</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
<td>Easter Egg Hunt 9:30am</td>
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<td>May 16</td>
<td>Annual Shred Event 10am—2pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Residential Vehicle Stickers Are Now Available!**
Please come to the Village Hall with your current registration.

**Hodgkins Celebrates 125 years!**

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**Contact Us**

Village of Hodgkins  
8990 Lyons Street  
Hodgkins, Illinois 60525  

- Phone: 708-579-6700  
- Fax: 708-579-6707  
- Website: [www.villageofhodgkins.org](http://www.villageofhodgkins.org)

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

**Board Meetings:**  
2nd Monday of the month