

# insideDG

**Issue I  
2019**



**One of the  
GREENEST FLEETS  
Around**

**Mayor's Message**

**Excellence in Green Fleet Management**

**Is It A Scam?**

## VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday through Friday,  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

## MAYOR

Martin T. Tully

## COMMISSIONERS

Robert T. Barnett  
Greg Hosé  
William "Bill" White  
William Waldack  
Margaret "Marge" Earl  
Nicole Walus

[MAYORCOUNCIL@DOWNERS.US](mailto:MAYORCOUNCIL@DOWNERS.US)

## VILLAGE MANAGER

David Fieldman

Council meetings are held on  
the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Tuesday of  
the month at 7:00 p.m.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### Village Hall

630-434-5500

### Emergency

9-1-1

### Non-Emergency Police

630-434-5600

### Non-Emergency Fire

630-434-5980

### Public Works

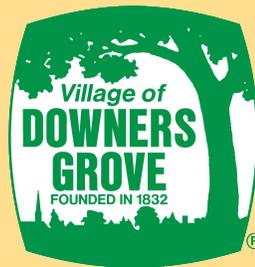
630-434-5460

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801 Burlington Avenue  
Downers Grove, IL 60515  
(630) 434-5500

[downers.us](http://downers.us)



# THANK YOU FOR EIGHT GREAT YEARS, DOWNERS GROVE!

As most of you know, I'm at the end of my second and final term as the Mayor of Downers Grove. Due to term limits adopted by the Village some time ago, I was unable to run for a third consecutive term. To be sure, departing as Mayor is bittersweet, but I see this as a good thing. I've always viewed my role as a local elected official as being all about public service, not the pursuit of a career. Having spent eight years as a Village Commissioner and, after a short break, another eight years as Mayor, it was time to move on. Regardless, I am very much obliged to all the people of the Village of Downers Grove for having placed their trust and confidence in me along the way, and for having allowed me to serve this great community.

Robert Baden-Powell famously said:

***"Try and leave this world a little better than you found it, and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate, you have not wasted your time but have done your best."***



**Mayor  
Martin T. Tully**



**Pierce Downer House**



Although I have no plans to shuffle off this mortal coil anytime soon, I am satisfied that I leave the Village better than I found it. Although there is surely more to be done, we have made great strides in economic development, historic preservation, land use and strategic planning, stormwater regulation and management, environmental sustainability, public infrastructure investment, technological innovation, and public communication and engagement. We have a thriving, authentic downtown and a robust business community that features national and international company headquarters. We enjoy exceptional working relationships with our peer communities and many other governmental entities, and we are viewed as leaders and innovators in DuPage County and beyond. We have benefitted from numerous examples of government cooperation, collaboration, and consolidation to enhance service and control costs. We have achieved and sustained a AAA municipal bond rating, consistently balanced budgets, and been recognized for award-winning financial reports. Our police, fire, and public works departments are all top-rated and award-winning, and yet the tax burden on our residents is among the lowest of comparable communities. Proving, again, that it is possible to deliver "win-win" solutions and do more with less.

Of course, none of this could have been accomplished without the collective dedication and weighty contributions of many others. I owe much thanks to my past and present fellow Village Council colleagues, the numerous community volunteers who have served on our boards and commissions over the years, and countless residents who have passionately engaged with the Village Council from time-to-time, helping to make us better public servants. Last, but in no way least, I am deeply grateful to all the extraordinary men and women who are and have been part of our Village staff. As a community, we are truly blessed to have some of the best municipal professionals in the nation working for us every day to make Downers Grove an exceptional place to live, learn, work, and play. I will miss working with you all.

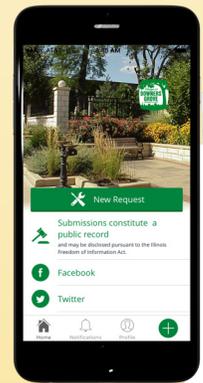
Change brings opportunity. N. R. Narayana Murthy once said:

***"When you run a part of the relay and pass on the baton, there is no sense of unfinished business in your mind. There is just the sense of having done your part to the best of your ability. The hope is to pass on the baton to somebody who will run faster and run a better marathon."***

I want to extend hearty congratulations to Mayor-elect Bob Barnett, Commissioners-elect Rich Kulovany and Leslie Sadowski-Fugitt, and returning Commissioner Nicole Walus. Together with existing Commissioners Marge Earl and Greg Hosé, they will form the 2019-2021 Village Council. I am confident that they will continue and build upon the strong leadership and positive accomplishments of the last eight years. Both the new Council and Village staff are well-equipped to face the obstacles and take advantage of the many opportunities that the future holds. I wish you all Godspeed in your journey.

Finally, while I will no longer be on the Village Council, this is not farewell. My family and I will continue to reside in Downers Grove for many years and we hope to see you around town at the many events and activities that our community has to offer. Please take a moment to say hello, if you do. A pleasant greeting between neighbors is one of the things that Downers Grove does best.

Thanks again for everything, and may God bless Downers Grove!



**DG CRC App**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Martin T. Tully'.

# New Council Will Take Office May 7

Congratulations to the newly elected members of the Downers Grove Village Council who will be sworn in to office on Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

- **Mayor-Elect Robert T. Barnett**
- **Commissioner Nicole Walus**
- **Commissioner-Elect Rich Kulovany**
- **Commissioner-Elect Leslie Sadowski-Fugitt**

A welcoming reception for the new Village Council will be held in the Committee Room at Village Hall following the meeting. All are invited to attend.

The Village would also like to recognize those leaving the Village Council and thank them for their time and dedicated service to making Downers Grove the outstanding community that it is.

- **Commissioner William Waldack**  
2005-2013; 2015-2019
- **Commissioner Bill White**  
2015-2019
- **Mayor Martin Tully**  
2011-2019



## Village Recognized for Excellence in Green Fleet Management

The Chicago Area Green Cities Coalition recently awarded the Village their *2018 Green Fleet Leadership Award*, presented in recognition of excellence in green fleet management, specifically for the most improved petroleum reduction in 2018 through the use of E85 fuel. E85 is a term that refers to high-level ethanol-gasoline blends containing 51% to 83% ethanol, depending on geography and season. It can be used in flexible fuel vehicles (FFVs). The Village's fleet includes 39 FFVs, which represents 23% of the overall fleet. Almost 50,000 gallons of E85 were used by the Village in 2018.

Approximately 84% of the Village's vehicle fleet uses some type of alternative fuel, earning Downers Grove recognition as one of the Top 50 Greenest Government Fleets in North America for the past six years.

Stan Balicki, Assistant Director of Public Works - Operations, and Vinnie Pasquinelli, Fleet Services Manager, attended the Chicago Area Clean Cities Annual Meeting, Awards Ceremony, and 25th Anniversary Kickoff Celebration to accept the award on behalf of the Village.

## Independence Day Parade



Applications to participate in the Downers Grove July 4th Parade will be accepted through June 18, 2019. Be part of this long standing Downers Grove tradition with your friends, family or neighbors by submitting a parade entry!

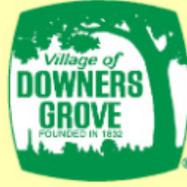
- Enter a neighborhood float depicting an American theme.
- Celebrate American history.
- Dress up as your favorite celebrity or character.



Be creative as you celebrate the Red, White and Blue! The parade application form is available at [downers.us](http://downers.us).

# Main St. Plaza to be Renamed for Linda Kunze

**DOWNTOWN**  
*Downers Grove*  
Management Corporation



## Dedication of Linda Kunze Plaza



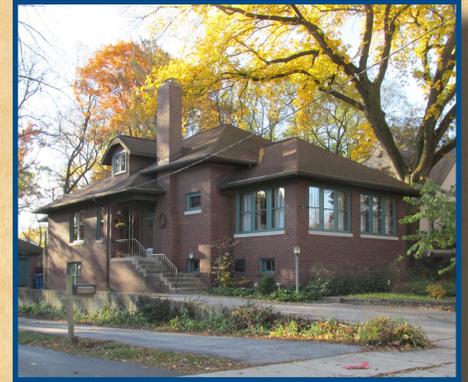
**The Village of Downers Grove and  
the Downtown Management Corporation  
cordially invite you to attend the dedication of  
Linda Kunze Plaza**

**Saturday, May 11, 2019  
10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
Main Street Train Station  
5001 Main Street  
Downers Grove, IL**

**No RSVP is required.**

## Preserving History Charles and Alice Engstrom House

The home at 1323 Maple Avenue has been designated as a local landmark for its unique blend of several different architectural styles. The residence combines features of a Chicago Bungalow and a Prairie Style home with elements of the Arts and Crafts movement.



Drawn from the Chicago Bungalow style, the home is one-and-one-half stories in height with a low-pitched, hipped roof and deep eaves. However, the home diverges from the typical Chicago Bungalow style with no front porch on the house and the main entry has been moved from the front to the side. This side entry is a common feature in Prairie Style homes.

In an attempt to develop a uniquely American signature, the Prairie Style brings together architectural elements of the Arts and Crafts movement with design forms from local Chicago architects. Other similar features include the 3-over-1 windows, deep overhangs and Jerkinhead gables, which make an appearance on the dormers facing east and west.

The home was built in 1924. Several original exterior features remain, including the original bead board tongue-and-groove wood on the porch ceiling and under the eaves, the front door that consists of mahogany wood and beveled glass, and the lead and stained glass windows on either side of the chimney. Other features of the interior include enclosed, leaded glass built-in book cases that flank the fireplace, natural finished hardwood floors, beveled glass doors and original woodwork.

# Gear Up for the Kids' Muster

**Don't Miss**  
**The Downers Grove**  
**Fire Department's**  
**Kids' Muster!**

**Fishel Park**

**Saturday, June 8, 2019**

**9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

Join the Firefighters for games and fun: bucket brigade, water ball fight, slide down the fire pole, Jr. firefighter combat challenge, and use a real fire hose to spray a small house!

**At the end of the event all kids challenge the Firefighters in a huge Tug-o-War!**

*Free event. Registration on-site. No rain date.*

*For more information call 630-434-5986*



## Trips and Falls are Serious Concern for Older Adults

Falls are the number one cause of injuries and deaths from injury among older Americans. Fire departments across the country are seeing the effect this has on Emergency Medical System (EMS) calls. The Downers Grove Fire Department's firefighters and paramedics respond to a high percentage of calls for older adults who need assistance for tasks as simple as getting from the floor back into their chair, to serious falls that require transport to the hospital emergency room. Older adult falls can be the cause of hip fractures and brain injuries. These can be very serious, especially if the patient is on blood thinners. Many people who fall become afraid of falling, causing them to cut down on their everyday activities. This inactivity causes them to become weaker and increases their chances of falling.

*(con't on page 7).*

# Is It a Scam?

The Downers Grove Police Department wants our community to be aware of some clues that will help you avoid being the victim of a scam. Here are some tips to remember:

## It's a Scam if....

- The person asks you to purchase any type of gift cards to make payment for anything (including IRS bills, utility bills, etc);
- The caller claims you have won a prize, but need to send money before claiming it;
- The caller claims that, if you do not send them what they want, the police will come and arrest you (police officers are not bill collectors and will NEVER get involved in bill collection);
- The caller identifies themselves as an authority figure (such as police) claiming to want you to send them money (or payment in gift cards) in order to get a loved one out of trouble;
- Someone calls identifying themselves as one of your loved ones that is in trouble and needs cash or some type of payment in order to come home.



If you receive this type of call STOP immediately and call 9-1-1 to get advice before you do anything. It only takes a few minutes to make sure you are not falling victim to a scammer.

Remember that the police department is here to serve you – please consider us a resource for you that is available 24 hours a day by calling 9-1-1.

## Trips and Falls (con't from page 6)

### Risk Factors for Falls

Most falls are caused by a combination of risk factors. Many risk factors can be changed or modified to help prevent falls. These risk factors include:

- Lower body weakness.
- Vitamin D deficiency.
- Difficulties with walking and balance.
- Use of certain medications such as tranquilizers, sedatives or antidepressants.
- Vision problems.
- Foot pain or poor footwear.
- Home hazards, such as broken or uneven steps and throw rugs or clutter.

### Preventing Falls

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers the following suggestions for older adults and their caregivers to prevent falls.

- Ask your doctor to evaluate your risk for falling and discuss with them specific things you can do.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist to review your medications to see if any might make you dizzy or sleepy. This should include both prescription and over-the-counter medicines.
- Inquire about taking vitamin D supplements.
- Do strength and balance exercises.
- Have your vision checked at least once a year.
- Make your home safer by getting rid of things you could trip over, adding grab bars inside and outside the tub or shower and next to the toilet, installing railings on both side of the stairs, and making sure your home has lots of light by adding more or brighter bulbs.



### Call the Downers Grove Fire Department for a Home Safety Visit

You can set up an appointment with a member of the Downers Grove Fire Department to assess the safety of your home by calling (630) 434-5986.

# SNIPPETS

## LOCK YOUR VEHICLES

The Downers Grove Police Department reminds residents of the following to avoid becoming an easy burglary target:

**Lock your car – even in your driveway.** Always lock your vehicle, even when it is parked in your driveway. An unlocked vehicle is an easy target for a thief, especially after dark. The quick entry and exit of a vehicle parked in the driveway with your valuables inside can easily go unnoticed, even if you are home.

**Don't leave valuables in plain sight.** Don't allow criminals to view valuables or packages inside your car when it is parked in your driveway or in public parking lots. Place valuables in the trunk or take them with you. Items stolen from cars have included cell phones, laptops, purses, and wallets. While thieves prefer the easy target of an unlocked vehicle, they will not hesitate to break a window to gain access to valuables inside. The Police Department urges you to lock your vehicle at all times and put valuables in the trunk.

**Lock your home at night – even when you are at home.** In several car theft cases, the offender gained entry to the home through an unlocked door and searched for the keys to the car parked in the driveway. Always lock your doors any time you leave your home and especially at night.



## LOOK INTO FLOOD INSURANCE TODAY



Downers Grove participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System (CRS). As a result, all residents (homeowners and renters, too) can get affordable flood insurance at a discount, even if your house is not in a flood plain.

Visit [FloodSmart.gov](http://FloodSmart.gov) or call 1-800-427-4661 to rate your risk level, obtain an insurance quote or find general information about what to do during a flood. According to the NFIP, 20% of flooding claims come from moderate-to-low risk areas. It typically takes 30 days to get an NFIP policy in place, so don't risk it; look into flood insurance today!

## IS YOUR PROPERTY IN A FLOODPLAIN?

Visit [maps.downers.us](http://maps.downers.us) and click on "Parcel Navigator" or contact our Stormwater Administrator at [Stormwater@downers.us](mailto:Stormwater@downers.us) or call 630-434-5460 for assistance.

## WATER CONSERVATION BEGINS MAY 15

Each year from May 15 to September 15, residents are permitted to use outdoor water based on an even/odd system. The last digit of an address determines the day. If an address ends in an even number, the resident can water on even numbered calendar days; if the address ends in an odd number, the resident can water on odd numbered days. Outdoor water usage is permitted between 4 a.m. and 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. and 11 p.m. on your watering day.

## BOOK YOUR BLOCK PARTY

What better way to celebrate with your friends and neighbors than with a block party? Block Party permits are issued for events between the first weekend of April and the third weekend of October each year. The approval process begins when all forms have been completed (resident signature form, agreement form, and block party request form). Please allow a minimum of three (3) weeks for your request to be processed.

A deposit of \$30.00 is required for barricades and must be received on the day of pickup in the form of a check. For more information, contact Public Works at 630.434.5460 or visit [downers.us](http://downers.us) and use the search term *block party*.