

The Nosy Neighbor

ORION FALL FESTIVAL IS BACK!

...AND CENTRAL PARK LOOKS BEAUTIFUL

The Village of Orion is pleased to announce that the Orion Fall Festival is back on this Labor Day Weekend starting Friday, September 6, 2021. For the first time in almost half a century, the festival was cancelled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some timely improvements were made to Orion Central Park in anticipation of this year's event. In August, the Village installed elegant new streetlights along 4th Street on the west side of the park. The streetlights are an extension of the downtown lighting project first spearheaded by Main Street Orion in 2006. The new streetlights were manufactured by Sternberg Lighting, a specialty lighting company based out of the Chicago area, and installed by Lakewood Electric. If you get a chance, take a stroll through Central Park at dusk to admire these beautiful new additions.

The Village would also like to acknowledge and thank the Orion Lion's Club for recently repainting the park's picnic shelter. We appreciate your labor, initiative, and interest in maintaining the appearance of our community.



Photo courtesy of Paul Lange

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INSERTS

Main Street Orion

IGA Grocery Deliveries

Orion Christmas for Kids



LOCAL SENIORS EVENT

Who: Single senior citizens

What: Coffee & Conversations

When: Tuesdays @ 9:00 a.m.

Where: Charged Coffee & Cocoa Shop (1022 4th St.)

Why: The pleasure of visiting with old and new friends and neighbors

Read more about
A Great Hometown

at
www.orionil.org

Email
vclerk@orionil.org

DOG PARK AND SPLASH PAD PROPOSED FOR LOVE PARK

Thanks to a grant generously awarded by the Wyman Coulter Trust, the Village of Orion recently added a parcel of land to Love Park. Jenny Eckhardt, a Village resident, has proposed that some of this new land should be earmarked for a splash pad and/or dog park. Ms. Eckhardt presented her ideas to the board at a meeting on August 16. She noted that many local and similarly-sized communities enjoy these amenities; their cost of construction and maintenance is reasonable; and affordable liability insurance is available.

Some board members were concerned however with the liability issue. In particular, Mel Drucker pointed out the risk of injury to children playing in the splash pad as well as to pets and pet owners in the dog park. Bob Mitton also expressed concerns about vandalism and other maintenance issues.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

What are your thoughts on the proposed splash pad and/or dog park? What do you think would be the best way to utilize the newly expanded Love Park?

Voice your ideas at local board meetings; mail your thoughts to Village Hall; or send an email to vclerk@orionil.org, dunlapmichael@me.com, or water@orionil.org.



COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

Here are some other highlights from this summer's village board meetings:

- ◆ Reconstruction project of road, curb, and sidewalk between 1500 and 1600th block of 7th St. began on June 1 and completed in August
- ◆ Federal ARPA funding was accepted and allocated for upcoming 11th Ave. water main replacement project
- ◆ Neal Nelson proposed and the board discussed applying for Safe Route to School funding for expansion and improvement of sidewalks
- ◆ After 45 years of outstanding service to the community, Lori Sampson announced her retirement as Village Clerk effective October 29, 2021
- ◆ In anticipation of Lori's impending retirement, the board hired two new employees, Erin Lange and Nadine Kroll, in August.

LANDSCAPE WASTE SITE OPEN THIS FALL

The village board recently approved a fall schedule for the landscape waste site. All of your fall yard waste is accepted at the site, excluding grass clippings and mulch. Bagged debris must be emptied and the bags removed.

The site will be open:

Mondays from 1:00-3:00 p.m. on September 20; October 4, 18; and November 1, 15.

Saturdays from 8:00-10:00 a.m. on September 18; October 2, 16, 30; and November 13.

The landscape waste site is located on the north end of 4th Street across from the waste water treatment plant.

Please note that use of the landscape waste site is limited to residents of the Village of Orion. Please be prepared to show a form of identification to the city employee or volunteer present at the site.



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