Village President’s Message

Hello Everyone! Happy New Year! It’s hard to believe that it’s already 2020! Well it was another busy year here in the Village of Cherry Valley. Here is just a quick recap of some of the many projects completed in 2019:

• We repaved our Newburg Village Neighborhood Streets, both North and South of Newburg Road.
• We removed and repaved the Baumann Park Path around the lake and the lower parking areas. We also replaced the surface on our Tennis Courts and added the addition of Pickleball Courts to Baumann Park. It’s a lot like table tennis except you’re “standing on the table”. It’s a lot of fun!
• We repaved Tebala Blvd., including ADA modifications to the adjacent path at the intersections.
• We repaved the western portion of Vandiver Road.
• We built (2) new small Pavilions, one at the Baumann Park Ball Diamond and one in Fisher Park. Our own Public Works crews built these pavilions and they are very fantastic!

We start 2020 with the village trustees and I busy working on the continuation of our capital improvement plans for the upcoming budget. Some of the projects that we are discussing for the 2020-2021 budget are:

• Installing storm sewer inlets at the east end of Clayton Street to improve drainage. These inlets will be connected to a new lift station to allow release into the existing storm sewer on South Lawrence Street.
• Repaving all or a portion of the Swanson Park Recreation Path.
• ADA sidewalk improvements in our Valley Woods Neighborhood.
• Repaving the Village Hall Parking Lot and possibly the Parking Lot downtown (behind the Post Office Building).
• The first phase of the South Bell School Road Project – widening to a four lane road.

At our Village Board Meeting on November 19, 2019, the village trustees passed Resolution #2019-19 to ask you, the residents of Cherry Valley, on the March 17, 2020 Primary Ballot to authorize the village to levy a Sales Tax at a rate of 1% to fund expenditures on Municipal Operations, Expenditures on Public Infrastructure or Property Tax Relief until June 30, 2030. This is the 1% sales tax that we have been using since first approved in 2010 and then again in 2015 to assist us with road, park and drainage improvements throughout the Village of Cherry Valley. In the past nine years we have worked hard to improve streets throughout every neighborhood; our primary roadways, improvements to the village’s parks and funding our General Operations but there’s still more to do. This question really is asking for you to extend the current sales tax, as it’s not an increase and does not apply to food, medicine and titled property. As you all know the village does not levy a property tax, we rely on sales tax from our commercial areas to fund the village’s expenditures. We will be hosting an Informational Open House in February to describe these projects clearer and answer your questions regarding this needed extension.

So, please stay safe and warm, keep in touch with your families and friends, watch out for those snowplows, and enjoy the Winter Season in the Valley. As always if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Jim E Claeyssen
Village President
Back by Popular Demand! The Cherry Valley Recreation Board, along with the Cherry Valley Area Men’s Club, will be sponsoring an open jump night at the Gymnastics Academy of Rockford South (GAR South), 1949 S. Bell School Rd., just east of the CherryVale Mall. The event will be from 5:30 to 6:30 on Sunday, January 19, 2020 and is open to the first 100 kids up to 16 years old. Doors open at 5:15 pm so you can get registered and start bouncing away!

DISCLAIMER: GAR requires that a parent or guardian of all minor jumpers sign a waiver prior participating. This waiver can be completed the night of the event or anytime prior to the event by visiting their web site garsouth.com. If you have previously visited GAR South and signed a waiver, you will not be required to sign another one as they will already have record of it.

The Ninja Warrior Gym has it all from walls, ropes, high elements, low elements, trampolines and more! To participate, a new waiver form must be completed for your child (even if you have already filled out a waiver form in previous years). Only clean gym shoes can be worn in the Ninja Warrior Gym. Shoes that have been worn outside will not be permitted.

2019 HOLIDAY LIGHT DISPLAY WINNERS

The Village of Cherry Valley is pleased to announce the 2019 Holiday Light Display winners. The addresses of the winners, which were selected from a long list of nominees, are:

- 1265 Butler
- 3458 Valley Woods
- 102 S. Van Buren
- 3850 Swordfish
- 3351 Mill Road

Congratulations to all the winners! Thank you for your nominations and thank you to everyone in the Village of Cherry Valley who decorated this holiday season.

CHERRY VALLEY ON ICE NIGHT!

Skate on over to Carlson Ice Arena on Saturday, February 29, 2020, for the Cherry Valley Skate Night. Open skating is from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Check-in begins any time after 6:00 pm.

This event is organized by the Cherry Valley Recreation Board and sponsored by the Cherry Valley Men’s Club.
**2020 ADULT FUN BOWL**

Grab your bowling shoes and come on out to the Cherry Bowl on **Saturday, January 25, 2020** for the fourth annual Cherry Valley Adult Fun Bowl. **So get a sitter and find yourself a date because you must be 18 or older to participate!**

Check-in will begin at 6:00 pm, with bowling starting at 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm. The cost for the event is $10.50 per person (cash only) which includes shoe rental and as many games as you can bowl in two hours, Scotch Doubles of course. There will also be prizes galore.

Please register by calling the Village Hall at 815-332-3442 or email to hriley@cherryvalley.org with your name and/or the names of people in your group.

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**WINTER PARKING REGULATIONS**

The Police Department would like to remind all vehicle owners of the village’s snow removal ordinance. It says, in part, that **it is unlawful to park on any residential village street when the National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning.**

Any dwelling that does not have off street parking may apply for a seasonal parking exemption with the Police Department.

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**WHEN WILL MY STREET GET PLOWED?**

Snowy mornings are always an added challenge to our daily routines. We know that we will have to shovel our driveway and possibly clean the snow off the car if it is not garage kept.

Traffic will be moving slower meaning a longer commute. On those mornings, Public Works crews start at 3:00 A.M. The goal is to have all of the main roads plowed and salted for the morning rush. Depending upon the severity of the snow storm and the time that the storm hits, our goal may or may not be achievable. The Village has about **63 lane miles** of roads to plow, not including alleys, walking paths and parking lots. The Village has six trucks capable of plowing snow. Roads are plowed and salted in the order of importance determined by the volume and speed of the traffic. The optimal time for any resident to have their street plowed is just shortly after the snow has stopped falling. No one can answer when that will be. Also, the rotation in which neighborhoods are plowed is changed storm by storm. You may be first today and last the next time. Please be patient, we will get to the street you live on.

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**2020 EASTER CANDY SCRAMBLE**

Mark your calendars for the annual Easter Candy Scramble, which will take place on **Saturday, April 11, 2020** at 2:00 pm at Village Hall, with the arrival of the Easter Bunny at 1:30 pm. In case of inclement weather, the event will take place inside Village Hall.
SNOW DELIVERED TO YOUR MAILBOX:

Just as sure as we can expect snow, we can expect damaged mailbox calls. Here are some quick facts about the snow removal process.

The average water to snow ratio is 10 inches of snow equals 1 inch of rain. We all know that the snow can be wet and heavy or dry and powdery, but for the following calculations we will use the ratio above. We also know that a gallon of water weighs 8.34 lbs. per gallon. A vehicle traveling 60 miles per hour is traveling 88 feet per second. The Village uses an 11 foot wide snow plow on the big trucks. With all that said and a long mathematical equation, we can calculate the approximate amount of snow being discharged from a moving snow plow.

Therefore: for every 1 inch of snow times the miles per hour (mph) the snow plow is moving times 8.4 lbs. equals the total weight of snow being discharged from the snow plow per second.

**Example:** 6 inches of snow * 20 mph * 8.4 lbs. = 1008 lbs. of snow per second.

Mailboxes also come in different types and styles. The new one piece mailboxes may look durable, but in reality they can be a real problem. That particular mailbox has approximately 700 square inches of flat surface to catch the snow being discharged from the plow. A basic wood post and mailbox has approximately 475 square inches of surface area. The less surface area the mailbox has, the more likely it will survive snow removal. Proper placement of the mailbox in relationship to the curb is crucial! No matter what size or style your mailbox is, if it hangs out past the curb it is no match to the snow plow itself. The Village does not replace mailboxes that are improperly placed or damaged by the weight of the snow. **No portion of the mailbox should be closer than 6 inches from the Back of the curb.**

STORMWATER DETENTION

Any debris or chemicals that are present on the roadway or in the gutters end up in the nearest waterway during or after the next rain fall.

This is where the public must help.

- **Do not allow oils or other fluids that are leaked from automobiles to be washed into the street or storm sewers.**
- **Keep grass clippings and leaves from blowing into the street and washed down the sewer. Protect newly placed loose soils from washing out to the roadway and sewers during heavy rain conditions.**

By keeping these basic activities in mind, residents can help minimize the pollution of our nearby waterways.

The Village does have ordinances in place to prove legal remedies to those who ignore this important issue. If the Village fails to meet State standards, your local government is fined by the IEPA. These fines affect each of our citizens by reducing the amount of funds available to perform other necessary local services. Protecting the environment is everyone’s business.
SPRING FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULE:

The Department of Public Works will be flushing fire hydrants starting the week of Monday, April 20 through Friday, April 24, 2020. Flushing will be completed during the hours of 7:30 am and 3:30 pm.

Flushing fire hydrants serves several purposes; it systematically moves fresh water throughout the system and removes iron and sediment deposits from the sidewalls of the pipes. This will help to improve water quality and maintain fire flows as well as making sure fire hydrants are in proper working order.

Look for flushing signs posted in your area. Please keep in mind that on windy days, a great deal of drift will occur. Therefore, all windows in both your home and vehicle should be kept closed. Also, please do not wash laundry while hydrant flushing is going on.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

(RESIDENTS ONLY)

Please help us select the 2020 Cherry Valley “Citizen of the Year”.

The “Citizen of the Year” is chosen for his or her dedication and involvement in our community.

The Cherry Valley Recreation Board is now seeking nominations for the recipient for this year. We are asking residents to consider the following criteria when thinking of your nomination:

1. Someone who has significantly improved the quality of life for the residents of Cherry Valley.
2. An individual who has volunteered to share his or her own time to help out the community in someway.
3. Someone who has gone above and beyond to better the community at large.

PLEASE NOTE: NOMINEES MUST LIVE WITHIN THE VILLAGE LIMITS: SORRY, CHERRY VALLEY TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.

Please include a letter of 300 words or less explaining why you are nominating this person for “Citizen of the Year.” Include achievements, community service, community involvement, etc.

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE VILLAGE HALL BY 5:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020.

Nominations may be dropped off at the Village Hall either in the drop box out in front of the Village Hall or in person at 806 E. State St. You may also mail your nomination to: Village Hall, 806 East State St., Cherry Valley, IL 61016.
PAY WATER BILL ONLINE!

The village has implemented an easy way to pay your water bill. It’s as simple as going to www.cherryvalley.org and clicking on “Pay Water Bill”. You can use MasterCard, Visa or Discover. Follow the instructions. Your account number is always 10 digits. Please contact Village Hall if you need your account number.

Looking Ahead!

Mark Your Calendars!! Save the Date!!

Village Wide Garage Sales will be held May 15 & 16, 2020, 8AM – 4 PM both days. Rain or Shine.