

The



Stickney Times

SPRING
2026



From the Desk of MAYOR JEFF WALIK

I would like to start by welcoming spring to our 2026 calendar.

Moving on I would like to give a huge shout out to one of the hardest working Trustees that just retired from the Village of Stickney Board, Jeff White. Trustee White spent fifteen years on our board overseeing our finance team and other committees throughout the years. He was a very knowledgeable man.

Jeff, along with Sam Savopoulos and Tim Kapolnek, watched over our expenses, so for the least eight years we did not have to raise the Stickney portion of your taxes. I want all the residents of Stickney to know it is not always easy narrowing down our choices of officials, but I would say we have some of the top trustees and department heads in the area.

We've got some events coming up including Wednesday evening Music in the Park. Also, this year's Family Day we will celebrate 50 years! So, save the date, Sunday, September 6th for a day of celebrating this great family event.

We have some new businesses opening soon in town so stay tuned for information.

I would like to conclude by thanking you all for the well wishes to Trustee White and the support of this board.

I'll see you in the upcoming months at one of our Great Events.

Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy summer.

Mayor Jeff
Village of Stickney

Your Village Officials

Mayor
Jeff Walik

Clerk
Mitch Milenkovic

Trustees
Jim Hrejsa
Tim Kapolnek
Brian Klouda
Debra Johnson
Ron Smith
Lea Torres

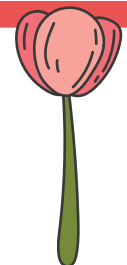
Fire Chief
Jeff Boyajian

Chief of Police
Jerry Chlada, Jr.

**Interim Director of
Public Works**
Sam Alonzo, Jr.

**Village
Finance Director**
Michael Ochsner, Jr.

Editorial Board
Tim Kapolnek
Mitch Milenkovic
Beth Lukas





From the Desk of Clerk,
MITCH MILENKOVIC

Due to an increase in block party requests, The Mayor and Trustees passed an ordinance on January 6, 2026, to help regulate block parties throughout the village. The purpose of the ordinance is to improve safety and enjoyment for all Stickney residents. This ordinance will assist our Public Works Department to manage street closures utilizing existing equipment and personnel. It will also help prevent impeding of emergency vehicles with excessive street closures and will reduce noise violations. Listed below you will find key elements of the block party ordinance.

- 1) A permit is required for a block party
- 2) Only two permits are allowed for any location on the same day
- 3) An application must be submitted to the Village at least 30 days in advance of the proposed date of the block party
- 4) You must provide the following information with the application
 - a. A Hold Harmless agreement that waives any and all liability of the Village of Stickney for this event and must be signed by a minimum of 60% of the households on the block in question
 - b. A written statement from the organizer identifying their name, address and telephone number and the organizer agrees to remain at the block party for the duration of the block party
 - c. You must identify on the application whether a band and/or disc jockey will perform at the block party
- 5) Upon receipt of the application, the Village Clerk will then check to see if the date requested is available. Once the application is reviewed by the Clerk, they will place the application on the Village Board agenda for the next available Village Board meeting for approval by the board of trustees. Applications will be submitted to the board of trustees in the order they are received.

You can refer to Adoption of Chapter 74, section 74-15 of the municipal code, Village of Stickney Illinois, for additional information on this ordinance.



From the Desk of Trustee,
LEA TORRES

We had a very rough winter. This had been the coldest weather in a few years, I hope everyone survived. Looking forward to Spring and Summer. I had a couple of surgeries and am now on the way to being my old self.

It is very important to have all your affairs in order. Your will, power of attorney, bank accounts, medical power of attorney. These are all very important. If you get sick, you won't have to worry about it, everything will be done. I have seen too many people get sick, die, get in an accident and do not have their affairs in order. PLEASE DO THIS TODAY!

I am in the process of planning our Cinco De Mayo Fest which will be JUNE 7TH 2026 FROM 2 TO 7 PM this year we are calling it the CINCO DE MAYO /MEX FEST. I'm hoping that the weather will be better in June. I am looking for donations and volunteers, so let me know if you are interested, we are always open to new ideas. Save the date and come out for good music, food and entertainment for the kids.

This year will be 50 years for FAMILY DAY we will be planning great things!

Music In the Park will begin June 3rd on all Wednesdays through August 19th. Remember to start saving your items for our VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALE on July 25th and 26th.

Enjoy your spring and summer and read your newsletter for all current information.

God bless all and everyone stay healthy.



From the Desk of Trustee,
TIM KAPOLNEK

This winter has been worse than we have had in a while. The big snow in November was a surprise. The cold snap after Christmas was bone chilling. I'm hoping that we did not get any major storms since. We can get snow into April, so this is an updated reminder to be aware of where to park in case of snow for the streets to be cleared. On April 1st weekly street cleaning will be back, with police issuing tickets or cars being towed, so please be prepared for this also, and if we do get snow, that would take precedence over the street cleaning.

Also on April 1st, yard waste will be picked up once again by Waste Management. Yard waste such as grass clippings, leaves, tree branches (less than 3" in diameter) and brush will be collected. **Brush and branches must be cut into 4-foot lengths and bundled with string or twine. Bundles must not exceed 2 feet in diameter or 50 pounds in weight. Sod, dirt, rock, tree branches greater than 3" in diameter and stumps are not acceptable in the yard waste program. Unbundled logs and brush will not be picked up.** Yard waste must be placed in biodegradable brown paper bags or containers with handles clearly identified as yard waste. It should exceed 32-gallon size or 50 pounds in weight. Yard waste pickup is on your regular garbage day.

The Village website is being upgraded to be compliant with government requirements here in 2026. These requirements need to be in place by 2027, so we are getting ahead of it and doing it now. Please keep a lookout for the new upgrade and as always, use the website for all kinds of Village information, paying for your water bills, permits, tickets etc. villageofstickney.com.

Hope to see everyone out enjoying the fun things around the village this spring, summer and fall.



From the Desk of Trustee,
JIM HREJJA

This winter was a bit more challenging than the last few have been.

An early heavy snowfall hit before the leaves were done falling from the trees. Public Works went from leaf removal to plowing and salting overnight. Despite sub-zero temperatures, more snow and a few weeks that never got above freezing at all, they kept our streets clear and safe for the season. Thank You Public Works.

April 1st, street sweeping Check the signs that are posted in the beginning and middle of every block in the village. Please move your cars. Ticketing and towing cars that don't comply with is an unfortunate necessity to ensure we can

keep our streets clean for everyone.

If you are planning a trip this summer, you can contact the Stickney Police Department and request a vacation home watch. If you have guests staying with you, remember to get them an overnight parking pass. You can get either on in person or online.

Again, this year we will have a summer full of fun. Please save the calendar of events posted in this newsletter.

A few of the highlights:

Music in the Park will be on Wednesdays from 7:00pm-9:00pm June 3rd through August 19th.

Due to bad luck with the weather the last few years, we will celebrate Cinco de Mayo on Siete de Junio. Fingers crossed for better weather this time.

Stickney Family and the best fireworks show in Chicagoland will be held again on Sunday, September 6th.



From the Desk of Trustee,
BRIAN KLOUDA

ARBOR DAY

Arbor Day, the annual international celebration of planting and caring for trees originated in Nebraska in 1872 by J. Sterling Morton. Arbor Day for 2026 will be on Friday, April 24, 2026. We celebrate Arbor Day every year with our children at our schools in the Village. Arbor Day is very important for our future.

ENVIRONMENT

Trees contribute to the environment by providing oxygen, improving air quality, preserving soil, and supporting our wildlife.

TREE LOTTERY

If you're interested in a tree in the parkway at no cost, you can participate in our tree lottery. We will be accepting applications from May 1st through September 1st. Applications are available at the Village Hall and on our website at www.villageofstickney.com.

I wish all our residents a great spring. Enjoy the growing and blooming of our beautiful village this spring.



From the Desk of Trustee,
RON SMITH

As spring is almost here it's time to think about replacing damaged sidewalk squares. After the long harsh winter of snow and ice, our sidewalks have taken a beating. It causes them to crack and crumble.

The Village offers a 50-50 sidewalk program where the village splits the cost of the sidewalk replacement with the homeowner. If you have sidewalk squares that need to be replaced, we encourage you to participate in this program. Applications for the 50-50 sidewalk program are available at the Village Hall, or you can download one from the comfort of your own home through our website at www.villageofstickney.com. Applications will be accepted through May 31st.

We are looking into hosting a blood drive with Vitalant. If anyone is interested in donating blood, which there is always a critical need for, please contact me at rsmith@villageofstickney.com or you can leave a message at 708-749-440 X515.

Once we guarantee 20 people that would like to donate, we can schedule the blood drive.

As soon as we have more detailed on location and times, we will share it with you.



Arbor Day

April 24



From the Desk of Police Chief,
JERRY CHLADA, JR.

With spring around the corner, I would like to remind everyone about the Village of Stickney's street cleaning operation.

Beginning April 1 through November 30, the Village conducts street cleaning and maintenance on all streets throughout the community. Signs are posted on each block advising residents of the specific days and times parking is prohibited on one side of the street. Vehicles parked in violation of Ordinance Chapter 14, Section 14-148 of the Municipal Code, Village of Stickney, Illinois, are subject to ticketing and towing by the police department.

The Village takes great pride in keeping our community as clean as possible. Vehicles not moved on scheduled street cleaning days impede these efforts. Please do your part by following the posted street signs on your block. Clean streets are a benefit to all residents.

Residents are also encouraged to stay up to date on important police and Village alerts by signing up for CodeRED, a free notification system used by the Village to share critical information. You can register by visiting the Village's website at www.villageofstickney.com and clicking on the CodeRED icon.

If you have guests staying at your residence who intend to park overnight on Village streets, they are required to register their vehicle through the Frontline Public Safety Solutions overnight parking portal. This can also be accessed through www.villageofstickney.com by clicking on the Frontline icon and completing the registration for overnight parking permission.

Please note that overnight parking on all Village streets is restricted to residents only between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Parking permission is limited to three consecutive days and a maximum of ten days per month. If you require additional overnight permissions or do not have internet access, please contact the Stickney Police Department at 708-788-2131 to determine whether additional accommodations can be authorized.

In closing, I ask all residents to report any suspicious activity in their neighborhoods. "See something, say something." Law enforcement cannot do it alone, we rely on residents to be our eyes and ears. If you observe something suspicious or out of place, please notify us so we can investigate. No concern is too small. As always, call 911 in any emergency, or contact the Police Department at 708-788-2131 for non-emergency assistance.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep our community safe and clean. I hope that everyone has a safe and healthy spring!



From the Desk of Fire Chief,
JEFFREY BOYAJIAN

Spring is here in Stickney — a time for warmer days, outdoor activities, and community pride.

Safety starts at home. As you enjoy spring projects and outdoor cooking, remember to test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, review escape plans, store flammables safely, and clear debris from your property. Prevention benefits us all.

As we head into the warmer months:

- 🔥 Keep grills at least 10 feet from structures
- 🔔 Test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms
- 🌿 Clear dry debris from around your home
- 📄 Practice your family escape plan
- 🚰 Store gasoline in approved containers



SEVERE WEATHER

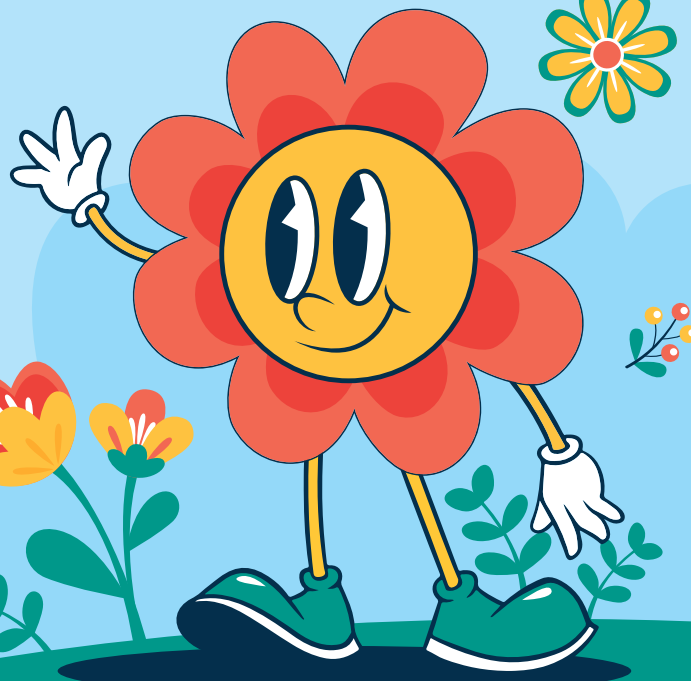
As we transition from winter to spring, we need to consider the threat of severe weather in our area. We can never predict when heavy rains, flash flooding, and tornadoes may happen. Be prepared by having flashlights with extra batteries, fresh water, and a plan for everyone in your family is critical.

- **Watches**-The ingredients for severe weather (tornadoes, thunderstorms, flash floods) are in place, but the event is not yet happening. (Be Prepared)
- **Warnings**- A dangerous, weather event has been reported or indicated by radar. (Take Shelter)

OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN-Outdoor warning sirens are intended to alert people who are **outdoors** to immediate dangers, such as tornadoes, severe storms, or, in some cases, hazardous material incidents. When you hear a siren, immediately go indoors, take shelter, and tune in to local media for information; do not call 911 for information.

- **No "All Clear"**: Sirens typically do not sound an "all clear" signal; listen to local, official radio or TV for updates.
- **Testing**: Happens on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM.
- **Warning Siren Location**: Located in O'Reilly Park at 4228 Oak Park Avenue.

Welcome
SPRING





From the Desk of Public Works Director,
SAM ALONZO

Public Works Updates & Community Reminders

The Village of Stickney Public Works Department would like to share the following important information with residents. Your cooperation helps protect our infrastructure, prevent costly repairs, and keep our community clean and safe.

Sewer Drainage Information

If you are experiencing any drainage or sewer issues, please contact the Public Works Department immediately.

Residents are responsible for maintaining the main sewer line that runs from their home to the trunk connection at the main sewer line. If you are unsure where the problem is located, Village staff will gladly assist in determining the source.

Help Prevent Sewer Backups

To protect your home and our sanitary sewer system, **do not place foreign objects into your drains**, including:

- Paper towels
- Diapers
- Wipes (including “flushable” wipes)
- Sanitary products
- Rags

In addition, **never dispose of** the following in your drainage system:

- Paint
- Motor oil
- Antifreeze
- Hazardous chemicals

These materials can cause dangerous backups, damage infrastructure, and create environmental hazards.

Maintenance Reminder: Residents are encouraged to have their sewer lines cleaned at least every two years, especially in larger households that generate greater amounts of wastewater.

Illegal Dumping in Storm Sewers

It is illegal for any person to dump gasoline, benzene, or other volatile liquids into any public sewer within the Village. No materials that could damage the sanitary sewer system may be discharged.

Additionally, it is unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to discharge or allow sanitary or industrial waste or pollutants — as defined under 35 Ill. Admin. Code 301.101 et seq. — into any public or private storm sewer.

Violations may result in penalties and fines. These regulations are in place to protect our community’s sewer infrastructure and local waterways.



FREE DOCUMENT SHREDDING



Residents Only
Saturday, August 15th, 2026
9:00am - 12:00pm
41st and Ridgeland Ave.
Rain or Shine

Take advantage of this free event to securely dispose of sensitive documents.
This is a great opportunity to protect your personal information.

STREET CLEANING BEGINS APRIL 1

Street cleaning will begin on April 1 and continue through early December.

Parking Restrictions in Effect:

Mondays and Tuesdays
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Please observe all posted parking restrictions during these times to avoid citations and to allow crews to thoroughly clean Village streets.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in keeping the Village of Stickney clean, safe, and well-maintained. If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department.

Waste Management will be observing the following holidays:
Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day

When your collection falls on or after one of these holidays your garbage/recycling/yard waste collection will be delayed one day during the holiday week.

Mission Statement

The Building Department's mission is to enforce the adopted codes governing the construction, renovation, and maintenance of all buildings and structures within the Village of Stickney. Our goal is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of residents, business owners, and visitors. We remain committed to providing high-quality inspections, exceptional customer service, and continuous education for our staff to better serve the community.

A Message from Building Inspector Joshua Brniak

Spring has arrived, and with it comes another busy season of home repairs, improvements, and new projects throughout the Village of Stickney. Our Building Department remains dedicated to assisting residents, property owners, and business owners as they navigate the permitting and construction process.

To better serve you, the Building Department continues to expand and update online resources. Many common forms, permit packets, and informational guides are available at the Village of Stickney website under Building Department → Forms.

If you are unsure whether work on your property requires a permit, please contact us by phone, visit Village Hall, or email us anytime at building@villageofstickney.com.

Spring 2026: What to Know Before Starting Your Project

Your home or business is one of your greatest financial investments. Improvements such as roofing, additions, remodels, and structural repairs can add significant value—but only when performed safely and in compliance with Village building codes.

Typical Spring Seasonal Tips

- Inspect your roof, gutters, and downspouts for winter damage and clear any debris.
- Check exterior drainage to ensure water is flowing away from your foundation.
- Examine decks, porches, and exterior stairs for loose boards or railings.
- Test outdoor lighting and replace damaged fixtures or bulbs.
- Service air conditioning units early to avoid seasonal delays.
- Check smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors and replace them if needed.
- Inspect fences, garages, and sheds for needed repairs before summer storms arrive.

We Are Here to Help

If you have questions about permitting, inspections, contractor requirements, or other project-related concerns, please reach out.

Phone: 708-749-4400 ext. 524

Email: jbrniak@villageofstickney.com

I look forward to assisting you and supporting our residents and business community. Have a safe and productive spring season!



CONCERT SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FROM 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

- June 3rd | Deep Cuts - Classic Rock
- June 10th | Croozin the Loop - Hits from 60's, 70's, 80's
- June 17th | Lupo Band - Classic Rock
- June 24th | Crosstown Classics - Motown, Classic Rock

41st and Ridgeland
Stickney, IL 60402

- July 1st | The Dixon Bandits - Southern Rock
- July 8th | Parkside - Motown
- July 15th | Eddie Korosa Jr. - Polka
- July 22nd | Frienz - R & B, Santana
- July 29th | Deep Cuts - Classic Rock

There will be different organizations selling food each week.
The Menu is To Be Determined!

- August 5th | Hardwire - Rock N' Roll
- August 12th | Stingrays - 50's and 60's
- August 19th | Jolly Ringwalds - Best of the 80's pop and rock

Spring/Summer 2026 Community Calendar



May

- May 9 – Little League and Soccer Parade at 12:00pm
- May 25 – Memorial Day Ceremony - 11:00am at Veteran's Memorial Park at 39th and Ridgeland

June

- June 7 - Cinco De Mayo Fest - 2:00pm-7:00pm at 43rd & Ridgeland
- June 8 - Senior Picnic - 11:00am at 41st and Ridgeland
- June 3, 10, 17, 24 - Music in the Park - 7:00-9:00pm at 41st and Ridgeland

July

- July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Music in the Park - 7:00-9:00pm at 41st and Ridgeland
- July 25 & 26 – Village Wide Garage Sale - 9:00am-2:00pm

August

- August 5, 12, 19 - Music in the Park - 7:00-9:00pm at 41st and Ridgeland
- August 15 – Paper Shredding (*residents only*) 9:00am–Noon at 41st & Ridgeland

September

- September 6 - Stickney Family Day - 2:00-9:00pm at 43rd and Ridgeland, Fireworks to follow
- September 12 - Pet Fest - 1:00-3:00pm at 41st and Ridgeland

Village Hall and Public Works will be closed for business on Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Fourth of July and Labor Day

2026-2027 Vehicle Stickers and Pet Tags on sale May 1st

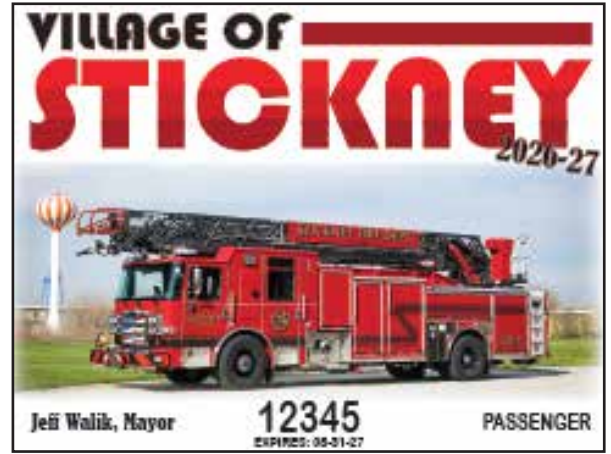
Vehicle stickers will go on sale starting Friday, May 1st – June 30th, 2026.

Vehicle stickers must be displayed by July 1st. Late fees are an additional \$20.00 per vehicle.

You will need to provide a vehicle registration if you add a new vehicle.

Your pet must have a **current rabies vaccine number and expiration date** to obtain a pet license. Late fees are an additional \$5.00 per pet.

The Village will have additional hours on Saturday, June 27th from 9:00am – 3:00pm.



Village of Stickney Honor Blood Drive

Saturday, May 2nd

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Stickney Police Dept. Village Hall Board Room
6533 W. Pershing Rd, Stickney, IL 60402

To schedule an appointment call Vitalant at 877.258.4825 or visit Vitalant.org and use **Blood Drive Code: ORD00727** or scan the QR code.



Donate May 1-31 and you'll be entered for a chance to win one of three \$10,000 gift cards from Vitalant! Details vitalant.org/SpringGiveaway



GIVE BLOOD TODAY | vitalant.org

Eligibility questions? Call 877.258.4825

SCAN HERE TO
SCHEDULE



Prepare: Eat well, hydrate, and bring your photo ID. Appointments are encouraged. Walkins are welcomed.



vitalant.
Blood Donation

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Sam Savopoulos

Village of Stickney would like to hold our May blood drive in memory of Sam Savopoulos. For nearly 12 years, Sam brought his voice, his time, and his heart to the board. His work has left a lasting impact on this community, and his presence will be deeply missed. He loved Stickney, and it showed in everything he did.

- Mayor Jeff Walik

Village of Stickney

6533 W. Pershing Road

Stickney, Illinois 60402-4048

Tel: 708-749-4400

Fax: 708-749-4451

contact_us@villageofstickney.com

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PERMIT NO. 928

We're on the Web
www.villageofstickney.com

New Date, Same Great Experience!

Cinco
de Mayo/
Mex
Fest

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, June 7th, 2026

from 2p.m. - 7 p.m.

43rd and Ridgeland Ave. Pavillion

A Fiesta for Everyone!

**Bring your family & friends to enjoy delicious food,
games, live entertainment & cultural performances**

**Food and Drinks will be available for sale
Admission is FREE!**