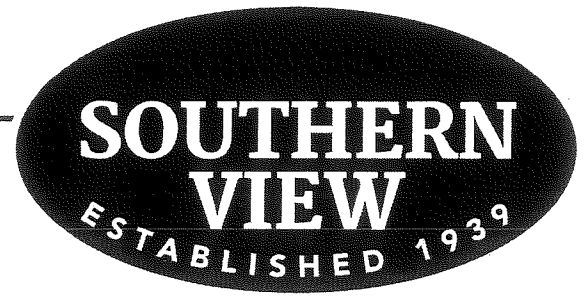


Village of Southern View

2021

Volume 1

SOUTHERN VIEW NEWS



Have you been vaccinated yet? If you are needing the vaccination, please call one of the numbers to the right to schedule a date and time. Sangamon County recommends you bring with you the COVID-19 Vaccination Administration Record to your appointment. Forms are available at the Village Hall for your convenience, or you can fill them out when you arrive.

This is a very critical time in our fight against COVID-19. Over 2 million Americans are receiving the COVID vaccinations every day. Fueling hope that the end of the pandemic is near. But since the SARS COVID 2 virus emerged in Wuhan, China 14 months ago, over 100 million people worldwide have been infected and with each infection the virus has a chance to mutate into genetic offspring called a variance. One of those variants first identified in the UK has spread across the US and is 50% more transmissible than the original virus and likely more deadly. Nationwide COVID 19 cases have fallen but Public Health officials are warning that if the variances continue to spread it could

Monthly Board Meetings

The Village of Southern View Board now meets once per month. The meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The Village has been and will continue hosting the Board Meetings via Zoom. There will be a link on the Village of Southern View's webpage at www.villageofsouthernview.us that will take you into the zoom meeting. On the Village website, go into archive, then board meeting dates, and you will see a link with the zoom meeting you can attend. The Southern View Board will continue hosting meetings via zoom until the state of Illinois has opened back up.

As always, we post the agenda at the Village Hall, on the Nextdoor app and the Village of Southern View Facebook groups for your convenience. If you would like to address the board, drop a note off at the office by 5:00 pm on the day of the meeting or you can send an email to office@southernview.us and the board will address it during the meeting.

COVID VACCINATION SITES

Orr Building (Illinois State Fairgrounds)

66 4H Road
Springfield, IL 62702
Phone: 217-210-8801
(Call for appointments)

Sangamon County Dept of Public Health

2833 South Grand Ave. East
Springfield, IL 62703
Phone: 217-321-2606
(Call for appointments)

trigger a new surge of infections. Scientists are learning a lot about each strand of the virus that has mutated. There are thousands of strands of this disease. Out of these thousands there are 3 strands that the scientists are monitoring closely that date back to September of 2020, the strand from UK, South Africa and one from Brazil. These strands are highly contagious. The CDC predicts that the UK variant will be the dominant strand in the US in the next month. The original COVID-19 virus changes each time it infects another individual.

In New York City, scientists began in January analyzing over 2,000 nasal swabs and discovered there is a home-grown variant strand that is not like the UK, South Africa or the Brazil variant, its brand new. The New York City strand is more dominating and rapidly growing by doubling every 2 weeks. City health official announced they found the NYC variant in 39% of the positive cases they recently sequenced. The CDC and other scientist have been studying the effect on the vaccines that are offered in the US against the South African variant and UK variant. The vaccines should help with protecting you from becoming infected with those strands of the virus, but the current vaccines do not help with being infected with the NYC strand, but could help against serious illness, disease, or death. They are creating booster shots to help keep up with the variant strands that are popping up.

Now is not the time to give up. Let's all remain diligent and do our part to put COVID-19 in the past. Get vaccinated, avoid large gatherings, and wear masks to prevent the virus from spreading and mutating!

Happy 103rd Birthday to Margaret Lee!!

On January 24, 2021 fellow residents met in the front yard of Margaret Lee to wish her a very Happy Birthday. Some friends sent her gifts to celebrate, and many braved the January air just to sing her happy birthday. Margaret Redfern Lee was born on a farm near Scottville, IL on January 24th 1918. She married Floyd Lee and moved to the Village of Southern View in 1947. Margaret worked for the Georgian Restaurant in the 60's and retired in the early 80's from Jansen's Grocery that is currently our very own Dollar General. Margaret may very well be our oldest village resident; we have no proof of this but to celebrate a total of 103 years is a feat many do not get the privilege. The Village of Southern View wishes Margaret Lee a very Happy Birthday and we look forward to celebrating more with you in the future!



Pictured with some coworkers, Don, Margaret Lee and Lyola.

Drainage

Have you noticed flags of different colors in front of your home? If so, JULIE has been called to mark underground utilities. Do not remove the flags. You may have noticed this fall that the Public Works Department had been very busy working on the drainage issues in the Village. Public Works have unclogged the main drains going out of the Village, and throughout the Summer and into the Fall they are digging out ditches that have filled up over the years and have also replaced various culverts to help the drainage. Of course, they have hit the problem areas first, but rest assure this is a project that takes time to complete. Some ditches may not need that much attention, but they are very few in the scope of this project. Residents will see a difference when the rains come, and the water is traveling out of the Village. Please be patient. Hopefully by this fall we will have this project complete. We ask that you keep your ditches always clean of debris, as this helps the water travel. DO NOT burn, pile leaves, pile sticks or limbs, or garbage in the ditch.

Fines if Debris is in YOUR Ditch

With all the repairs that the Public Works crew is doing for our drainage issues, it is important to remind residents not to place ANYTHING in your ditches. Debris in your ditch no matter what the size or what it is, stops the water from flowing where it needs to go. On June 23, 2020, the Village Board passed an Ordinance that revised the fines for littering in the Village. Littering as defined in Ordinance 20-06-02 includes but is not limited to depositing grass clippings or other debris in the ditches along village streets. A person found to be in violation shall be fined not less than \$250 and no more than \$1,000. Please remember to keep your ditch clean of all debris! Doing so helps you and your neighbors!

Building Permits

Thinking of changing a few things to your property? Before you alter any structure or make any changes contact the Village office at 217-529-3352 for any of your Residential Building Permits.

New Polling Place

As a reminder, Sangamon County Clerk Don Gray reached out to the Village of Southern View to ask if our Village hall would be available to hold the Elections. If you are used to going to the Unity Church to vote, you will now vote at the Village hall. Social distancing and masks are recommended. There is no early voting at the Village Hall. All early voting is at the Sangamon County Complex.

Sales Tax

When purchasing items online and you fill out your shipping address, make sure you list Southern View as your City. Southern Views current tax rate is 8% and the City of Springfield is 9.75%. Makes a big difference on your total purchase and keeps your tax dollars at work here in Southern View. If you use the City of Springfield, they will receive the tax dollars not us!! We have some great local businesses in our Village and wish them continued growth and prosperity. Please patronage our village businesses!



Municipal Rentals

The Village of Southern View hopes that as we move forward this year, we will be able to allow residents to rent the Village hall again. Currently we are not accepting reservations at this time, but the Board will meet again in June to discuss whether it is safe to rent the building out to residents for the remainder of the year. We look forward to hosting your events in a safe manner. The Village of Southern View has a large room that is available for rent for your next party or get together. The rental hours are 8 am to 10 pm. Residents receive a discounted rental rate of \$100.00. There is an additional deposit of \$100.00 that is returned once the building is clean, no damage and the key is returned to the Office. If you are planning a party or a major holiday, there is an additional \$50.00 rental fee for holiday rentals. The Village does not accept credit cards. Payment must be made by cash or check.

Census

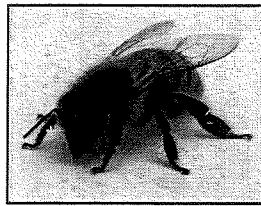
We wish to thank all of the Village residents that had responded to the US Census of 2020. With your support, the Region exceeded the National Self Response Rate of 67% and had the highest self-response rate among all regions of 69.8%. Way to go Southern View!!

Park Rentals

Currently we are not accepting reservations of the pavilions at this time, but the Board will meet again in June to discuss accepting reservations throughout the remainder of the season. The Southern View Park is open for your recreational activities but currently, there are no bathroom facilities available. The pavilions can be used as a first come first serve basis, just remember no facilities are available. The Village is targeting an opening of the bathroom facilities around June 1, 2021 if it is safe to do so. The Village Park is available for all your recreational needs, social distancing is advised.

Bee Swarms

If anyone sees bee swarms call Rick Hayden at 1-217-485-4158



Veteran

Are you a veteran? We would like to create a list of all village veterans. Call our office at 217-529-3352 to be added, or you can send an email to office@southernview.us. We would love to acknowledge your service.

Limb Removal

Starting this year, Public Works will pick up your branches year-round. No more waiting until April to dispose of them. Monthly pick up will begin the first Monday of the month. We ask that you DO NOT put limbs out at the curb until the weekend before pickup and never in your ditch. The Village Public Works Crew will pick up the following:

- Limbs or branches that have fallen from the trees and bushes.
- Only limbs or branches that have been trimmed from trees and or bushes as it pertains to normal tree maintenance.
- Limbs or branches must be less than 6 feet long and 4 inches in diameter.
- Restriction on the actual pile size is 6' x 4' x 4'
- We will not pick up whole trees that have been cut down.

Burning Rules

Burning is allowed on Wednesday and Thursday of each week and the first and third Saturday of each month between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm or dusk whichever is first. The fire must be constantly attended until it is extinguished and have a garden hose readily available. Burning is not allowed if wind speed is 20 mph or more. Burning barrels are prohibited. No person shall burn trash, rubbish, papers, garbage, general household waste, commercial waste, construction, or demolition debris. *No burning on the following holidays: New Year's day, July 4th, Veterans Day, Halloween Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.* Violations of this Ordinance can result in a fine of not less than \$250.00 or more than \$500.00.

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Mosquitos

The Southern View Public Works Dept would like to remind residents that you can help prevent the spread of mosquitos by a few simple preventive measures at home. Last year, we had begun using a water based eco-friendly spray that does not put a huge fog into the air. This chemical is supposed to work more efficiently and is better for the environment as the previous chemical. There is a difference in the spray that comes out. Help us by ensuring that you have eliminated any breeding grounds on your residence. The list below will help you determine what to look for on your property to stop the spread of these pesky insects.

- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well-trimmed around the house.
- Fill in any low places in the yard that puddles accumulate.
- Dispose of any tires.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers and garbage containers.
- Clear roof gutters of debris.
- Clean pet water dishes regularly.
- Empty out children's toys that have water accumulated.
- Repair leaky outdoor faucets.
- Change the water in bird baths at least once a week.
- Canoes and boars should be turned over.
- Avoid water collecting on pool covers.
- Empty water collected in tarps around the yard or on woodpiles.
- Plug tree holes.
- Do not allow water to collect in any containers. They can breed hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes (*bottles, barrels, buckets, overturned garbage lids etc.*).

Sidewalk Repair

Are you in need of sidewalk repair in front of your residence? If so, give the office a call and we will come out and evaluate the area. Trustee John McLaughlin calculates how much concrete will be needed to replace the existing sidewalk. The resident pays for the concrete and the Village Public Works crew provides the labor to put the sidewalk in. Concrete prices did go up this year, but it is still a great way to keep the Village residents safe while walking. Remittance of the project fee is expected within ten (10) days, upon receipt of the invoice.

Pets

Remember there is a Village Ordinance that requires you to put your pets on a leash when walking your pets off your premises. Whether you are walking down the street or walking your pet in the Village Park it is imperative that you have control of your animal. There are people that walk in our parks and roadways that are afraid of animals. Please be respectful and courteous to others. DO NOT let your dog out unattended to relieve themselves in your neighbors' yard. Pick up your dog's droppings. This is your responsibility!! If not picked up, you could be faced with a fine by our Village of Southern View Police Department.



KOPS CORNER

There have been a larger number of incidents where scammers have attempted to commit crimes in the village. Scammers use email, phone calls, or text messages to trick you into giving them your personal information. They may try to steal your passwords, account numbers, or Social Security numbers. If they get that information, they could gain access to your email, bank, or other accounts. This is called Phishing. Scammers launch thousands of phishing attacks like these every day — and they are often successful. If you believe you have been the victim of a scam, contact your local police. Then report it to FTC.gov

There is an ordinance which states you must have your address numbers prominently displayed conspicuously on the front of your house. It helps Law Enforcement, Fire and Ambulance find your house quickly in case of an emergency. Please check to see if your numbers are visible from the street. Help us help you.

Our agency is participating in the Illinois Department of Transportation Grant program enforcing seatbelts, DUI, speeding, and distracted driving. We have a Law Enforcement Liaison who keeps track of our activity and has, in our last conversation we are proud to say, called us a top tier (top five) performing agency out of the 39 agencies he manages.



Village Wide Garage Sale

The Village will not be sponsoring a village wide garage sale this spring. Residents may choose to host a garage sale any time, social distancing is advised.

We Will Have a Spring Pick Up

Unfortunately, last year we were unable to have our Spring and Fall pickups. The Village is planning on a Spring pick up this year. May 17th, 2021 the Public Works Department will begin picking up your unwanted treasures.

Safety guidelines are as follows:

All items must be in either a bag, box, carton, or some type of container. If the "pickers" go through your items and scatter them across your yard or ditch it is your responsibility to pick up these items and place them back in a container for our crew to remove them. Our crew will not pick up household garbage, feces, electronics, appliances, paints, tires, and landscape wastes just to name a few.

A complete list is at the office of unacceptable items given to us by the Sangamon Valley Landfill. If any of these items are in your pile, they will be left by Public Works and you will need to dispose of them yourself. The Village will pick up mattresses and box springs if they are in a Village approved bag. The Village sells the bags for \$10.00 each. Call the Village Hall at 217-529-3352 to arrange a time to pick up a bag. Cash or checks only.

Important Dates

May 17th, 2021

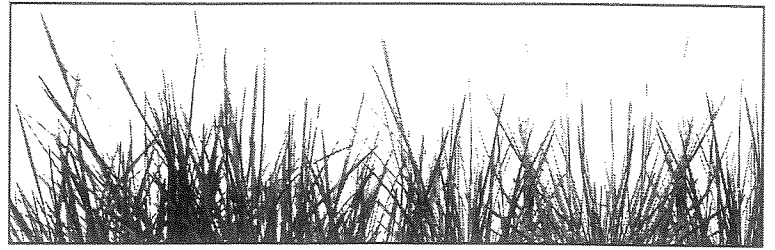
May 31st, 2021

Spring Pick-up

Memorial Day

Grass Clippings

Did you know that it's ILLEGAL to leave your grass clippings on the roadway? Not to mention it is very dangerous for any motorcycle riders, it is like driving on black ice for them. Please remove your grass from the roadway. If not, you could receive a fine!



Addresses

The Chief of Police would like to remind you to have your house number visible from the street. There are quite a few of our residences that do not have any house number. Displaying your number is VITAL in an emergency situation. Please make every effort to ensure your house number is visible from the street.

Street Signs

Public Works has begun replacing street signs with the required retroreflectivity signs. If a municipality is replacing a directional sign the sign has to meet certain guidelines, some of these for example are the hundred block of the street, the name of the street, spelled out with a capital letter and remaining letters are lower case along with the retroreflectivity on the signs. Makes it much easier to read in the dark.

Friends of Southern View Park

The Village recently received funds from a resident's estate that they had asked to be used primarily at the Village Park. This generous donation got our board thinking that maybe there may be other residents that would want to donate to certain departments within our Village. The donation could possibly be a write off on your tax return, although you may want to verify with your tax accountant first. The Village did set up a Friends of Southern View Park Account which the revenue is all donations, and all expenses will only be used in the park outside of what the Village has appropriated each year. The idea is that maybe we can update our Village Park with new playground equipment, parking areas, walk paths, trees, and bushes just to name a few. If anyone is thinking of donating to this account, make the check out to Friends of Southern View Park.

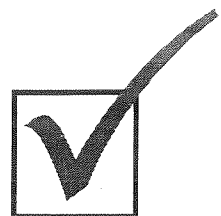
Dog Park

The Village has received interest from residents about expanding the Village of Southern View Park by offering residents a Dog Park. Currently the Village Board is considering installing an enclosure on the south end of the park to allow residents with dogs a place to run off a leash and enjoy some play time with other dogs. We do have a list of residents that have volunteered to help create this space and we would love your input. If you would like to help, call the office at 217-529-3352 or email office@southernview.us.

Friends of Southern View Police Department

When the Village Board created Friends of Southern View Park, they also created Friends of Southern View Police Department. We have had numerous business that would like to donate to the Village Police Department to help with equipment, computers, cars etc and at the time we really were not sure what to do with the funds other than put them into the General Fund. Having created the Friends of Southern View Police Department this will allow us the ability to track the donations that businesses and individuals have donated for specific police department needs. The State of Illinois just passed a bill that requires all Police Departments to wear body cameras. The software and cameras for our police department are over \$35,000. There will be annual expenses for the software updates because as we know nothing is free. This fund allows businesses that would want to donate an account to donate the funds. The Village of Southern View Police is a small department. We have currently a full time Chief of Police, two full time officers and four part time officers. The department is highly respected throughout the community of law enforcement and other first responders.

Don't forget to vote April 6th, 2021!





Village of Southern View
3410 South 5th Street
Southern View, Illinois 62703

Pre-Sort
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Springfield, IL
Permit No. 793

Sangamon Alert Messaging System (SAM)

Sangamon Alert Messaging System or SAM sends alerts to your mobile device or your landline via text message, phone call, or email if an emergency is happening in your neighborhood. Sign up to receive emergency alerts from your local Office of Emergency Management. Texting; SAM to 99411, will take to you directly to the SAM Community Notification Enrollment form.

Features & Benefits

Sangamon Alert Messaging (SAM) will allow County officials to be able to more effectively communicate time-sensitive messages using the SAM's robust dialing infrastructure that is entirely managed by its parent company, OnSolve. This access will allow calls to be delivered seconds after public safety officials launch a message. Additionally, the County will have the ability to better target notifications geographically, only notifying those community members impacted by an alert.

Personal Contact Information

Contact information accessed through Sangamon Alert Messaging (SAM) will only be used by Public Safety Officials for emergency notification purposes your information will not be shared or sold.

If you do not have a cell phone or a computer and would like notices called directly to your home phone call the Southern View Hall at 217-529-3352 and we will be happy to sign you up through the internet for you!

The office has received several notes over the past few months to our Police Department and our Public Works crew. We appreciate the notes and cards you have sent in acknowledging the work they have done. Each one has been passed on to the departments and the employees truly appreciate you, the resident, recognizing them for their outstanding performance! From keeping our Village safe, streets cleared of snow, limb, and leaf pickup they each do a great job! Thank you for acknowledging our staff!

Important Numbers

Village of Southern View Hall	217-529-3352
Village of Southern View Police	217-529-0255 (non-emergency)
Emergency	911
Sangamon Co Dispatch	217-753-6666

Locate our social media presence at

www.southernview.us
facebook.com/villageofsouthernview
Nextdoor app