

Hi-Lighter

MARCH/APRIL 2025



Hanover Park^{USA}
America's Global Village

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Editor in Chief - Sue Krauser
skrauser@hpil.org

Holiday Closure

Village Hall will be closed Friday,
April 18th for Spring Holiday.

Police & Fire will remain open
24/7.



Select the "Notify Me" icon on the Home page of our website to stay informed of current events and happenings in the Village by signing up for our eNews.



Hanover Park^{USA}

DOGGIE EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, April 5, 2025

2:00-3:00 pm

1900 Ontarioville Rd., Hanover Park

**TAIL-WAGGING, GOOD OLD-FASHIONED EGG HUNT
FILLED WITH DOG TREATS!
\$5.00 PER DOG**

**REGISTER AT WWW.HPIL.ORG/EGGSTRAVAGANZA
(REGISTRATION BEGINS MARCH 3, 2025)**



Calendar of Events

Sonya Crawshaw Branch Library

4300 Audrey Lane
Hanover Park
630-837-6800

Family Concert Series

Parkwest Strings
March 16 • 2 p.m.

Morgan Pirtle Duo
April 13 • 2 p.m.

All ages welcome to our free Sunday concerts. To register, visit pclub.org/events or call 331-808-3515. Concerts take place at the Main Library, located at 1405 S. Park Avenue in Streamwood.



Spring Market
March 9 • 12 p.m.

Local vendors will be on-site for you to purchase handmade crafts, jewelry, food, and more. For a list of participating vendors, visit pclub.org/spring-market. This event will take place at the Main Library, located at 1405 S. Park Avenue in Streamwood.

National Bookmobile Day
April 9 • 3 p.m.

Celebrating National Library Outreach & Bookmobile Day! Discover how the Mobile Library brings book, resources, and joy to your neighborhood! Step on board our Mobile Library, the "Library on Wheels," play games, and take a tour. For additional details, visit pclub.org/mobile-library.

alive
HANOVER PARK

FREE DROP-IN FOR 5TH - 12TH GRADERS

EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY
2:30 PM - 6:00 PM

1211 CATALINA DRIVE, HANOVER PARK, IL
(INSIDE GREENBROOK TANGLEWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER)

ALL are welcome! FREE tutoring every Wednesday 2-6 pm, activities, special guests, snacks, events and so much more!

For More Information
www.alivecenter.org or info@alivecenter.org

March

1	Veterans Committee.....	9:00 am / PD Comm Rm
5	Special Events Committee.....	11:30 am / Room 212
6	Village Board Meeting.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
11	Economic Dev. Committee....	12:30 pm / Room 214
13	Development Commission.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
18	CIDC Committee.....	6:15 pm / Room 123
20	Village Board Meeting.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
21	Water Bills Due	
25	Historical Committee.....	6:00 pm / Room 214
25	Environmental Committee...	7:00 pm / Room 214
27	Sister Cities Committee.....	7:00 pm / PD Comm Rm

April

3	Village Board Meeting.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
5	Veterans Committee.....	9:00 am / PD Comm Rm
5	Doggie Eggstravaganza.....	2:00 pm / Ontarioville
8	Economic Dev. Committee..	12:30 pm / Room 214
10	Development Commission...	7:00 pm / Room 214
15	CIDC Committee	6:15 pm / Room 123
17	Village Board Meeting.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
18	Spring Holiday - Village Hall Closed	
21	Water Bills Due	
22	Historical Committee.....	6:00 pm / Room 214
22	Environmental Committee...	7:00 pm / Room 214
24	Sister Cities Committee.....	7:00 pm / PD Comm Rm

Subscribe to the Hanover Park eNews! Don't miss the latest news, events, and headlines in the Village. Sign up TODAY and stay connected. The eNews is published every Friday afternoon with the local happenings for the upcoming week. Visit our website at www.hpil.org, click on the Notify Me icon and sign-up.

MINUTE WITH THE MAYOR



As we step into the fresh bloom of spring, our community is ready to embrace the season with renewed energy and a spirit of togetherness. The longer days and warmer weather provide the perfect opportunity to enjoy all that our town has to offer. I am excited to share that we have a wonderful lineup of events planned in the coming months. These events not only bring us together, but also showcase the heart of our community—our residents. Spring is also a time of renewal, and I encourage everyone to take a moment to appreciate the beauty of our parks, support our local businesses, and get involved in making our town an even better place to live.

This past year has been one of Hanover Park's best, with many accomplishments. We had a 0% property tax levy increase for the ninth year in a row, completed a new Fire Station #16, paved roads and replaced watermains. I encourage you to watch my State of the Village event, that took place on February 12th and showcased all we did this past year. The video is available on the Village's YouTube channel.

2025 will be a busy year for the Village. We are focused on updating our Comprehensive Plan and developing a new Strategic Plan. Visit our Comprehensive Plan Project Website for updates about the process and how to provide your feedback. Whether it is attending a community meeting or completing an online questionnaire, we want your input!

In early February, we were proud to report a historic low record for 2024 Part I crimes. I presented the Police Department with a proclamation to honor this record. Part I crime is the benchmark used by the FBI to determine crime rates in municipalities. 192 Part I crimes were recorded in 2024, which was a 22% year-over-year drop compared to 2023. The Police Department reported a significant reduction in thefts, thanks to their focused implementation of several deployment measures and the use of technology, such as license plate reader cameras. Part I crime has been on a downward trend in our Village over the past decade.

The evolution of Hanover Park into the great community that it is today has been a rewarding process involving our entire Village coming together. Our Police Department has continued its commitment to community policing strategies, which strengthen our community partnerships. We encourage our residents to stay connected by attending ART meetings and events, as well as follow the Village on social media.

In mid-January, I attended the 93rd U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington, D.C. Thanks to our friends at IML, Highland Park Mayor Rotering, Sterling Mayor Diana Merdian, Moline Mayor Sangeetha Rayapati, North Chicago Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr. and I had the opportunity to meet with Senator Dick Durbin's staff on Capitol Hill. Among the items we discussed, the transit fiscal cliff was at the top of the list. For our water distributing communities, funding to cover costs created by federal PFAS removal regulations was also addressed.

Finally, it continues to be my pleasure to represent the people of Hanover Park, our hometown. We cannot do it without you! Take time to volunteer and give back to our wonderful town, at the schools, churches or assisting on the playing field. We are a Village that believes all youth will have hope and achieve success without exception. Together we are finding ways to believe in our youth and together we can make a difference in Hanover Park!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rodney S. Craig".

Mayor Rodney Craig

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Troy Albuick



Yasmeen Bankole



Liza Gutierrez



Jon Kunkel



Herb Porter



Bob Prigge

Clerk's Corner:

Get Out & Vote! April 1, 2025 Municipal Election Information



Kristy Merrill
Village Clerk

Early Voting

Registered voters may cast a ballot prior to Election Day without having to provide a reason for voting early. This ballot is cast by personal appearance at the office of the election authority or at an Early Voting Center in Cook County or DuPage County. The period for early voting begins the 40th day preceding an election, February 20, 2025, and extends through the end of the day before Election Day.

Vote by Mail

Any eligible registered voter may Vote by Mail beginning 40 days prior to an Election. A voter must obtain an application for a vote by mail ballot, either by mail, in person or online. Upon obtaining the application and completing it, the application must be returned to the election authority, either the Cook County Clerk's Office or the DuPage Election Commission, within the

appropriate time frame.

You may obtain an application for a vote by mail ballot at the Village Clerk's office or online.

Additional provisions and requirements apply to Military and Overseas Citizens.

Health Care Facility Voting

Any qualified voter that has been admitted to a health care facility (hospital, nursing home, or rehabilitation center) not more than 14 days before the election or, if released, is expected to be homebound on the day of the election and unable to travel to the polling place, shall be entitled to personal delivery of a ballot.

Election Day Voting

Registered voters can only vote in their home precinct on Election Day.

Residents who are not registered to vote may register and cast a ballot on Election

Day thanks to same-day registration and voting. Those who wish to register on Election Day must present two qualifying forms of ID. You may verify your home precinct by contacting the Office of the Village Clerk or through your election authority: Cook County Clerk's Office 69 W. Washington, Suite 500 Chicago, IL 60602 DuPage Election Commission P.O. Box 1087 Wheaton, IL 60187 Note the important dates below:

Key Dates:

- March 4, 2025 - Last day to register to vote
- March 27, 2025 - Last day to apply for a mail in ballot
- March 31, 2025 - Last day for early voting
- April 1, 2025 - Election Day

Celebrate Arbor Day!



Get ready to dig in and celebrate trees! The Village of Hanover Park's Environmental Committee is excited to announce our Annual Arbor Day event, which will take place on Friday, April 25, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am at Einstein Elementary School, 1100 Laurie Lane.

Did you know that Arbor Day has a fascinating history? The first Arbor Day was celebrated in 1872 in Nebraska City, Nebraska, where an estimated one million trees were planted! J. Sterling Morton, a pioneer and nature lover, proposed the holiday to emphasize the importance of trees in our lives. Today, Arbor Day is celebrated worldwide, encouraging tree planting and care. Arbor Day is observed in the spring in the United States, but globally, dates vary depending on the region's climate and planting season. Its purpose is to encourage people to plant trees and take a moment to build a brighter future.

the Village of **Hanover Park**
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Join us in creating the roadmap
of the Village's future!

Scan the QR code to visit our
project website & complete the
community survey.

Hi-Lighter

March/April 2025 Issue

The Hi-Lighter is published bi-monthly by the Village of Hanover Park
2121 W. Lake Street
Hanover Park, IL 60133

Important Telephone Numbers: Police, Fire & Ambulance: 9-1-1

Main Number 630.823.5600
Police Information 630.823.5500
Public Works Dept..... 630.823.5700
Comm. Development.... 630.823.5780
Finance Department..... 630.823.5790
Water Billing 630.823.5799
Fire Department..... 630.823.5800
Inspectional Services..... 630.823.5860
Police Department fax .. 630.823.5499
Public Works fax 630.823.5704
Municipal Building fax ... 630.823.5786

Code Enforcement Hotline 630.823.5572

Village Board Meetings:

Meetings are held the first and third Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2121 W. Lake Street. The public is encouraged to attend.

Call the Village Clerk's Office at 630-823-5601 or visit our website for dates, times and locations of the following regularly scheduled meetings:

- Cultural Inclusion & Diversity Comm.
- Development Commission
- Economic Development Committee
- Environmental Committee
- Historical Committee
- Sister Cities Committee
- Special Events Committee
- Veteran's Committee

Curfew hours:

For those under 17 years of age -
10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday
11:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Neighborhood Watch:

Interested in becoming a Neighborhood Watch block captain? Contact 630.823.5635 for more information.

For questions or concerns regarding Village services, call 630.823.5600.

www.hpil.org



The Village's Finance Department plays a crucial role in maintaining the fiscal health of the Village, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and accountability in all financial matters. The department is responsible for managing the Village's financial resources, safeguarding assets, and providing accurate and timely financial reporting. With a strong commitment to serving the community, the Finance Department supports both internal and external stakeholders by overseeing revenue collection, utility billing, financial reporting, and budget planning.

Collections

The Finance Department is responsible for the efficient and secure collection of all Village revenues. This includes processing payments for a variety of municipal services such as permits, licenses, utility bills, taxes, and fines. The team ensures that transactions are recorded accurately, and that residents and businesses have convenient payment options. By maintaining a streamlined collection process, this function helps fund essential services throughout the community.

Water Billing

Managing the billing and customer service operations for the Village's water and sewer utilities is a vital function of the Finance Department. This team ensures that residents and businesses receive timely and accurate water bills, handles inquiries about usage, and processes payments. Whether you have a question about your water bill or need assistance setting up a new account, our friendly staff is here to help. Additionally, they assist customers with resolving billing discrepancies and addressing service concerns. Their efforts help maintain the integrity of the Village's utility infrastructure by ensuring proper revenue collection for continued maintenance and improvement.

Accounting

The Finance Department also serves as the financial record-keeper for the Village. This function manages payroll, accounts payable, and financial reporting, ensuring compliance with all applicable financial regulations and policies. The team produces the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which provides a detailed overview of the Village's financial condition. Their meticulous work ensures that every financial transaction is accurately recorded and that all financial statements reflect the Village's financial health with transparency and accountability. The department's commitment to excellence has been recognized by receiving the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 38 consecutive years, demonstrating its dedication to high-quality financial management.

Budgeting

The Finance Department plays a strategic role in the financial planning of the Village through budgeting. This function is responsible for developing the annual budget, forecasting revenues and expenditures, and working closely with Village leadership to effectively allocate resources. The team provides financial analysis to support decision-making and ensures that taxpayer dollars are wisely spent. Through careful planning, they help the Village maintain a balanced budget and continue providing high-quality services to residents. Their dedication to financial stewardship has also been recognized with the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 35 consecutive years, highlighting their commitment to excellence in budgeting and financial planning.

Together, these functions form the foundation of the Finance Department, working diligently to uphold the Village of Hanover Park's financial stability. Whether you need help with a payment, have questions about your water bill, or just stop by to say hello, our team is here to assist you. Their efforts ensure that resources are managed responsibly and that the Village remains on a strong financial footing, prepared to meet both present and future challenges.



Business of the Year

Orale Mexican Bar & Grill
 7219 Orchard Lane
 630-855-5736
www.orallemexicanbarandgrill.com



Congratulations to Orale Mexican Bar & Grill as our 2024 Business of the Year! Owned and operated by Carlos and Nancy Palacios, they pride themselves on offering the finest Mexican cuisine with the friendliest service.



At Orale Mexican Bar & Grill, their talented chef combines traditional Mexican flavors with contemporary innovation to create dishes that look as delicious as they taste. Their menu features classic Mexican dishes such as tacos, burritos, and enchiladas plus many creative one-of-a-kind dishes!

Inside you will enjoy a stylish and modern atmosphere with a vibrant full bar and very friendly staff. Don't miss out on a truly unique Mexican dining experience! Located at the intersection of Irving Park and Orchard Lane. Open Tuesday thru Sunday, 11am – 9pm (closed Mondays). Catering is also available.

This year, a total of 14 Hanover Park businesses were nominated and then interviewed by members of the Economic Development Committee. Businesses were judged in several categories including Community Involvement, Customer Service, and Positive Image and Appearance. Members of the Economic Development Committee evaluated nominations to determine a winner.

RESTAURANT WEEK

MARCH 7-16, 2025

Enjoy specials from these local restaurants!

Visit hpil.org for an updated list of participating restaurants

Country Style Donuts
 1519 Irving Park
\$2.00 off a dozen donuts
\$1.00 coffee any size
\$2.99 2 donuts+med.coffee

Issa's Venezuelan
 2360 Walnut
15% off any order

Krazy Cups
 3003 Irving Park
Mon: \$7.99 Ham torta & cola
Mon-Fri: FREE popsicle w/any purchase
Sat-Sun: \$4.99 small frozen mangoneada (frozen drink)
Daily raffle prize w/purchase

La Michoacana De Alvarez
 2103 Irving Park
FREE small ice cream cone with any purchase

Los 2 Brothers
 2011 Irving Park
\$8.00 margaritas

La Taqueria
 1818 Army Trail
FREE chips & salsa w/orders \$30 or more
\$15 quesabirria tacos
\$14 enchiladas
\$12 chimichangas
\$14 chicken quesadilla

Renate's German Restaurant
 7213 Olde Salem
\$11.95 Bratzel Special
\$11.35 Schnitzel Special

Time Out West Sports Pub
 1130 Lake Street
FREE appetizer w/2 entrees
 (excludes wings + combo platters)

Priscilla's Ultimate Express
 1840 Army Trail
FREE dessert w/any meal purchase

Orale Mexican Bar & Grill
 7219 Orchard
\$20 - 3 Al Pastor tacos, rice, beans, 6 churros, ice cream
\$20 - 3 Pescado tacos, rice, beans, 6 churros, ice cream
\$18 - 3 Vegetales tacos, rice, beans, ice cream

Neehee's
 1850 Army Trail
Buy One Get One 1/2 Off

Sweet Basil Cafe
 7600 Barrington
Buy any size pizza, get one 1/2 off
\$9.99 - 1/2 tuna or chicken sandwich w/cup of soup
\$9.99 - 2 pancakes, 1 bacon or sausage, coffee
\$9.99 - 2 eggs, hash browns, 1 bacon or sausage, coffee

small business SPOTLIGHT



Hanover Quick Wash
 Serving community since 1985

6736 Barrington Road
 630-213-7179

www.hanoverquickwash.com

The Hanover Quick Wash you've known for decades has been through an exciting transformation! Experience an updated, clean facility, with plenty of room for you to wash, dry and fold your laundry. They also offer FREE pick-up laundry service -

they will pick up, wash-fold-dry, and delivery your freshly cleaned clothes right to your door! Located in the Hanover Square shopping center next to Dino's and Gymkhana. Come in to see their new look and upgraded laundry services that include:

Brand-new washers and dryers – their cutting-edge machines guarantee faster, more efficient washes that leave your clothes cleaner and fresher than ever along with improved dry times.

Sleek modern environment – step into a bright, clean, and welcoming space that makes doing laundry a breeze. There is even an Express Lane!

Exceptional customer service – their dedicated team is ready to assist you to make your laundry experience smooth and hassle-free.

Families in Hanover Park have relied on Hanover Quick Wash for generations and they invite you to celebrate the newly remodeled facility with the new owners. Cash or card payments are accepted. Open 7 days a week from 5:00am – 10:00pm



A Brief History of the Hanover Park District

Written by Lisa Mueller, Poplar Creek Public Library Local History Librarian

From Little League in the 1960s to pickleball and futsal in 2025, the Hanover Park District has been offering a large variety of sports and activities since it was created in May 1964.

To house the many activities, the park district has had a variety of structures. Ahlstrand-Rinne Fieldhouse was named after Carl Ahlstrand, a Hanover Park police chief killed on duty in 1959 (along with two children in another car), and Emil Rinne, the park district's first commissioner. Programs held in the fieldhouse in the 1960s included Lions Club Pancake Days, weekly teen dances, Halloween parties, and a contemporary dance class for preschoolers. The Longmeadow Activity Center was originally a model home on Longmeadow Lane.



When Hanover Park's distinctive community center was finished in 1976, it was the largest park district facility in the state of Illinois (at 105,000 square feet).



You can learn more about Hanover Park history by visiting Poplar Creek Public Library's digital collection at pclub.org/localhistory, which shares images provided by the Hanover Park Historic Committee. Email history@pclub.org or call (331) 808-3535 with any local history research questions. If you are interested in helping preserve Hanover Park history, the Historic Committee meets at Village Hall every fourth Tuesday of the month.

Flood Preparedness & Drainage Maintenance

The combination of snow melt, heavy spring rains, and thawing ground can overwhelm drainage systems, leading to waterlogged streets and disruptions. Understanding the causes and solutions for springtime street flooding is essential for individuals and municipalities to prepare for and reduce its effects.

Why Does Street Flooding Occur in Spring?

Springtime street flooding is often caused by a combination of factors that are unique to the season:

1. **Snow melt:** As temperatures rise, accumulated snow and ice begin to melt, releasing large volumes of water into storm drains and waterways. In areas with significant snow pack, the rate of melting can exceed the capacity of drainage systems, causing water to pool on streets.
2. **Spring Rains:** Spring storms often bring heavy and prolonged rainfall, which can saturate the ground and add to the volume of water flowing into storm drains.
3. **Frozen or Thawed Ground:** During the transition from winter to spring, the ground may still be partially frozen, limiting its ability to absorb water. Even after the ground thaws, it may remain saturated from snow melt, reducing its capacity to handle additional rainfall.
4. **Clogged Storm Drains:** Debris such as leaves, dirt, and trash accumulated over the winter can block storm drains, preventing water from draining properly.

Drainage System Maintenance

Any debris that is deposited into any part of the Village drainage system can have a serious impact on flooding, and it is against Village Code. Dumping materials such as grass clippings, branch-

es, leaves, and garbage into creeks or storm sewers can decrease the ability of the drainage system. Street flooding and clogged storm sewers are challenges that require a combination of proactive maintenance and community participation.

The grated storm drains that you see on almost every street corner allows rain- water to drain from Village streets and surrounding properties. When storm drains get clogged the water can no longer be drained from the street. Water ponds along streets and can flood intersections and homes. Localized street flooding can be a hazard to the traveling public.

Community and Individual Actions

1. **Clear Debris:** Regularly remove leaves, trash, and other debris from storm drains near your home or business.
2. **Dispose of Waste Properly:** Avoid dumping garbage, yard waste, or chemicals into drains, as these materials can clog the system and pollute waterways.
3. **Adopt Rainwater Solutions:** Install rain barrels, redirect downspouts, and create rain gardens to reduce the volume of water entering storm drains.
4. **Report Issues:** Notify the Village about blocked or damaged storm drains to ensure timely maintenance and repairs.

Please help the Village keep the system clean and ready to accept water. Residents should contact the Public Works Department at (630) 823-5700 if they see debris that may potentially cause flooding problems.

Hanover Park Police Department Receives CALEA Accreditation



Chief Andrew Johnson is proud to announce that the Hanover Park Police Department has received reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA is the premier credentialing authority providing accreditation to police agencies. CALEA provides public safety agencies with an opportunity to voluntarily meet an established set of professional standards by demonstrating excellence in their policies, procedures, and practices. Chief Johnson, Deputy Chief Victor DiVito, and Accreditation & Grants Manager Debra Zelinka accepted the award at the CALEA Conference in Jacksonville, Florida.

To be accredited, a law enforcement agency must demonstrate compliance with hundreds of standards on an annual basis. The agency then undergoes a site-based assessment every four years. During this on-site assessment, the assessor conducts interviews with personnel and other municipal stakeholders and observes first-hand how well the agency complies with the CALEA standards.

The award is the eighth reaccreditation for the department, and was presented with Meritorious Designation, which recognizes agencies with at least 15 years of continuous accreditation. The Hanover Park Police Department has been continuously accredited since 2001 and is one of only approximately 40 accredited law enforcement agencies in Illinois.

“Members of the Hanover Park Police Department continue to strive for excellence in all that we do,” said Chief Johnson. “This recognition by the most prestigious accrediting body in the law enforcement profession is proof positive that we are following best practices as we carry out our mission. I would like to thank every member of the department, as well as our Hanover Park Village Board, Village Manager Juliana Maller, and Mayor Rod Craig for all of their continuing support.”

Mayor Rod Craig stated, “I am extremely proud of the members of the Police Department for achieving the 8th consecutive CALEA Accreditation award for our community. We remain committed to making Hanover Park a great place to live, work, and do business. Professional policing with excellent leadership, training, and dedication plays a critical part in achieving that end visit for our residents.”

Romance Scams Targeting Seniors

Romance /Elder scams are a type of confidence scheme. Scammers work to gain victim’s trust and provide false information to gain a financial benefit by relying on the compassion of the victim. These schemes are constantly evolving and becoming more innovative.

Some of the common schemes involve scammers creating fake profiles or general fake/AI generated photos. The scammer will provide excuses for being unable to make a video call or meet in person. Often the scammer will request the victim to start communication on a different app such as Telegram or Whats App . The scammer will build trust and manipulate the victims’ emotions. At a certain point, the scammer will ask for money to pay outstanding debt, medical expenses, or to buy travel tickets to visit the victim. The scammer will ask the victim to wire them funds in the form of gift cards or cryptocurrency.

You can take several precautions to avoid losing money in an elder/romance scam:

- Be suspicious of any unsolicited phone calls/text messages. Do not respond to unrecognized numbers. If you get a phone call or text from a reputable entity, such as a bank, with an attached link, do not click or open it. Go to their official website and contact customer service.
- Limit the information you share online. Scammers can use details shared on social media and dating sites to better understand and target you to form a connection and take advantage of what is going on in your life. In addition, requests for inappropriate photos or financial information could later be used to extort you.
- Don’t send money or cryptocurrency to anyone you have only communicated with online or by phone and that you have never met. Additionally, if you meet someone on a dating site, app, or social media and they want to show you how to invest in cryptocurrency, or ask you to send them cryptocurrency, it is a fraud.



If you or someone you know has been a victim of elder fraud, help is standing by at the National Elder Fraud Hotline, 833-FRAUD-11 or 833-372-8311

You can also visit ic3.gov, the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) to report romance scams.

Village Honors Awards Recipients

On Thursday, January 23, 2025, the Village of Hanover Park held its annual Awards presentation. Village President Rodney Craig presented his annual awards and recognized a host of Village volunteers and others who serve the community. Several awards were presented throughout the evening, including the Mayor's Choice Business of the Year, Service to Hanover Park, Service to Youth Award, Educator of the Year, Service to Veterans and Citizen of the Year.



**Citizen of the Year Tom Fortney
pictured with Mayor Craig**



**Service to Hanover Park Winner Don
Voss pictured with Mayor Craig and
Fire Chief Eric Fors**



**Service to Veterans Award Winner:
Jennifer Schwardt (Horizon Elementary
School) pictured with Mayor Craig and
her daughter.**

Unfortunately, the Educator of the Year Award winner Ana Arroyo (Principal at Parkwood Elementary School) and Service to Youth Award winner John Gustafson (Greenbrook Elementary School) were unable to attend. Mayor Craig will be presenting their awards to them at a later date.

Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to all the volunteers who give their time serving on the various committees and commission.

Michael H. Coleman Youth of the Year Awards



Named after Michael H. Coleman, a young Hanover Park resident who passed away in 2011, this scholarship program is designed to recognize and encourage excellence in the young people of Hanover Park. Students are selected based on academic initiative, career initiative, leadership initiative and community initiative.

Each year, a high school senior is selected as the Hanover Park "Youth of the Year." The Awards were presented on January 23, 2025 at the annual Awards and Recognition Ceremony. Congratulations to the 2025 Michael H. Coleman Youth of the Year, Nuren Maroof, who received a \$1,000 Scholarship. Also congratulations to the Runner-Ups, Syed Luqman, Yu X. Lin and Yu L. Lin, and Yaseen Khan, who received \$500 Scholarships.

Watch the Village's website for information on how to apply in 2025!



**Youth of the Year Finalist:
Syed Luqman and family with May-
or Craig & Pat Coleman**



**Youth of the Year Finalists:
Yu X. and Yu L. Lin and family with
Mayor Craig & Pat Coleman**



**Youth of the Year Finalist:
Yaseen Khan and family with
Mayor Craig & Pat Coleman**

Outdoor Warning Siren Upgrade - Spring 2025

Our Outdoor Warning Siren system is being upgraded! The Village of Hanover Park has six outdoor warning sirens strategically located throughout the jurisdiction in order to warn our residents of severe weather.

Have you ever heard the siren sound for a tornado, but the storm was on the other side of the county? That is because the current system will activate all sirens within the county at the same time, instead of a targeted siren activation based on radar and storm track. With this system upgrade, the Outdoor Warning Siren system will be able to distinguish specific sirens to be activated based on the national weather service tornado warned areas and provide a more targeted siren activation. This process will use advanced mapping capabilities, constant monitoring from the National Weather Service, and immediate activation once alerted.

Currently, our sirens are activated manually by our 911 Dispatch Center, DuComm. This automated upgrade should be completed this Spring 2025, just in time for severe weather season.

As a reminder, when the outdoor warning sirens are activated, they will run for 3 minutes to alert residents to seek shelter. There will not be an All-Clear siren. Be sure to seek additional information from the NOAA weather radio or local news media.

March is Severe Weather Preparedness Month! It's time for a refresher on our Outdoor Warning Sirens.

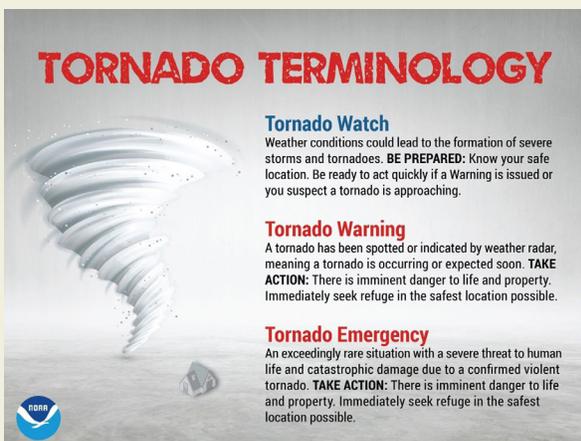
Did you know?

- Sirens are not only used to indicate a Tornado. They may be sounding for high winds +70mph and destructive hail.
- The sirens are not meant to be the main source of weather warning indoors.
- Hanover Park currently has six Outdoor Warning Sirens.
- Our sirens are tested on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 10am for one minute.
- The sirens will sound for 3 minutes during a Tornado Warning, stop, and re-activate after 10 minutes if the threat is still present.
- The National Weather Service does not have the capability to take over the radio airwaves in the Chicagoland area. Your cellphone may be your only way of receiving tornado notifications.

Here is a Basic Emergency Supply Kit list to keep on hand for this spring's severe weather season. Pulling these items together ahead of time can ease stress during an emergency. Store these items near your severe weather shelter location for easy access.

What is the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning?

- A Tornado Watch means that all of the ingredients exist to develop into a tornado, 70+mph winds and large damaging hail. Keep an eye out for additional information.
- A Tornado Warning means the tornado, 70+mph winds and large damaging hail is present. Time to take cover!



Smoke Alarms: Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries



Daylight saving time will begin on March 9, 2025. The Hanover Park Fire Department would like to remind the community to check your smoke alarms. If your home has battery operated smoke alarms, it is time to change the batteries. Many new alarms have batteries that last up to 10 years. Is it time to replace your alarm? We recommend testing your alarms every month and conducting an exit drill in the home (E.D.I.T.H.) for all family members.

Smoke alarms save lives. Smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. However, they must be installed properly and tested regularly. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

- Almost three of every five home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.
- More than one-third (38%) of home fire deaths result from fires in which no smoke alarms are present.
- The risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms.

Here are a few tips from the NFPA

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.
- Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area.
- Install alarms on every level of the home.
- Smoke alarms should be interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- When a smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.
- Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years.

For more information about smoke alarm safety, contact the Hanover Park Fire Department at 630-823-5800.

Seasonal Laborer Positions

Do you or someone you know enjoy a job involving physical activity and working outdoors? The Public Works Department may have an opportunity for you.

Seasonal laborer positions are available to interested individuals during our warm months. Tasks could include pothole patching, weeding flower beds, assisting with utility repairs, and painting. Check the Village's Job Opportunities Page at www.hpiljobs.org for job openings.

Holiday Solid Waste Collection Schedule

Please remember that your regular garbage collection day could be affected by the holidays listed below.

- **Memorial Day** – Monday, May 26, 2025: Pick up date delayed one day to Saturday, May 31st.
- **Fourth of July** – Friday, July 4, 2025: Pick up date delayed one day to Saturday, July 5th.
- **Labor Day** – Monday, September 1, 2025: Pick up date delayed one day to Saturday, September 6th.
- **Thanksgiving** – Thursday, November 27, 2025: Pick up date delayed one day to Saturday, November 29th.
- **Christmas** – Thursday, December 25, 2025: Pick up date delayed one day to Saturday, December 27th.
- **New Year's Day** – Thursday, January 1, 2026: Pick up date delayed one day to Saturday, January 3rd.

If one of these holidays falls between a Sunday and a Friday, then your regularly scheduled garbage pick-up day is postponed one day.

Please call Groot at (630) 469-1036 or Public Works at (630) 823-5700 with any questions.

2025 Brush Pick-Up Program

The Village's brush pick-up program will offer two collection dates per zone for 2025.

The Village's brush pickup program provides FREE curbside residential brush pick up and will take place in the spring and fall in accordance with the following schedule:

SPRING COLLECTION

April 7

- Area 1 (streets north of Lake St. & west of Barrington Rd.)
- Area 2 (streets north of Lake St. & east of Barrington Rd.)

April 21

- Area 3 (streets south of Lake St. & north of Lawrence Ave.)
- Area 4 (streets south of Lawrence Avenue)

FALL COLLECTION

October 6

- Area 1 (streets north of Lake St. & west of Barrington Rd)
- Area 2 (streets north of Lake St. & east of Barrington Rd.)

October 20

- Area 3 (streets south of Lake St. & north of Lawrence Ave.)
- Area 4 (streets south of Lawrence Avenue)

Brush must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on the day of your scheduled collection date to avoid missing your cycle. Residents are asked to follow the collection schedule listed above and on the Village's website at www.hpil.org

Residents are required to follow the brush preparation guidelines listed below. Please call the Public Works Department at (630) 823-5700 with any questions. Following the guidelines closely will ensure that your material will be collected as part of the program.

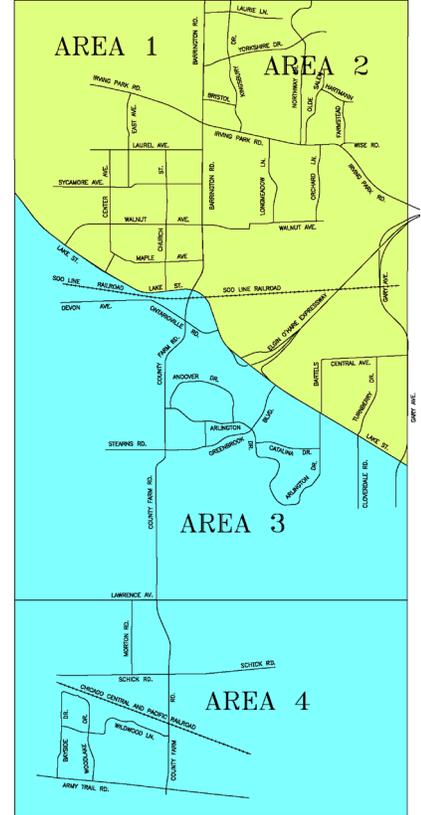
GUIDELINES:

The Village will collect branches with a minimum of two (2) feet in length and a maximum of ten (10) feet in length. The branches must be less than eight (8) inches in diameter.

What will not be picked up: small hedge or pine clippings; yard waste or brush in containers; brush or branches with thorns; stumps or tree roots; or unorganized or tangled brush piles.

How to stack brush: do not bundle; Neatly stack the brush in one direction with the butt/cut end toward the street; Do not block access to the brush pile with your vehicle.; No lumber, wire, rope, construction material or other material can be included with the brush; Do not block the sidewalk.

PLEASE REMEMBER: If you miss your scheduled brush pick up date you can utilize the yard waste collection provided by Groot Services once a week on Fridays, beginning April 4, 2025, through November 29, 2025. Yard waste stickers are required. The yard waste must be placed in a special yard waste bag or branches must be tied in bundles up to 48 inches long and up to 18 inches in diameter. Please call Groot Services at (630) 469-1036 with any questions.





MAYOR RODNEY CRAIG'S KIDS AT HOPE COALITION PRESENTS

HEALTH & RESOURCE FAIR

HANOVER PARK PARK DISTRICT

LEARN ABOUT RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS TO EARN RAFFLE TICKETS

VENDORS GAMES PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS HEALTH SCREENINGS STUDENT PERFORMANCES

SATURDAY MAY 3, 2025 - 10AM TO 1PM -

VISIT WWW.HPIL.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION



2121 W. Lake St., Hanover Park, IL 60133
www.hpil.org

Elected Officials

Village President - Rodney S. Craig

Village Clerk - Kristy Merrill

Troy Albuck, Trustee
Yasmeen Bankole, Trustee
Liza Gutierrez, Trustee
Jon Kunkel, Trustee
Herb Porter, Trustee
Bob Prigge, Trustee

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