

# HEADLINES IN THE HEIGHTS



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VILLAGE OF PEORIA HEIGHTS | QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2019

## VILLAGE CALENDAR

- Departmental Meeting**  
Tuesday, Oct. 1, 6:00-7:00 PM
- Board of Trustees Meeting**  
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 6:00-7:00 PM
- Zoning Board of Appeals**  
Monday, Oct. 21, 5:30-6:30 PM
- Departmental Meeting**  
Tuesday, Oct. 22, 6:00-7:00 PM
- Haunted in the Heights**  
Saturday, Oct 26, 4:00-10:00 PM
- Departmental Meeting**  
Tuesday, Nov. 5, 6:00-7:00 PM
- Zoning Board of Appeals**  
Monday, Nov. 18, 5:30-6:30 PM
- Board of Trustees Meeting**  
Tuesday, Nov. 19, 6:00-7:00 PM
- Neighborhood Watch**  
Monday, Nov. 25, 6:30-7:30 PM
- Departmental Meeting**  
Tuesday, Nov. 26, 6:00-7:00 PM
- Departmental Meeting**  
Tuesday, Dec 3, 6:00-7:00 PM
- It's a Wonderful Heights**  
Saturday, Dec 7
- Zoning Board of Appeals**  
Monday, Dec. 16, 5:30-6:30 PM
- Board of Trustees Meeting**  
Tuesday, Dec. 17, 6:00-7:00 PM

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

In the interests of keeping Heights residents up to date on the Village we proudly call home, today we begin a new feature – a quarterly newsletter that aims to inform, educate, enlighten and perhaps even entertain.

We'll be posting information on local government topics relevant to your lives as citizens. We'll share the latest on new developments and businesses coming to town. We'll introduce you to the Village's decision-makers, and to the people who plow your streets and police your neighborhoods.

We'll provide news unique to the Heights. Maybe it's major funding from the state to tear up and rebuild a major artery through town. Maybe it's a section of roadway that is being repaved that you'll want to avoid for a few weeks on your way to work. Maybe it's an obscure ordinance you'll wish you'd known about before breaking ground on that new fence.

Now and again we'll feature a prominent local personality, or

one of those colorful characters about whom you've always wondered.

Mostly we just want to be more transparent so that you can be more engaged and we can be more accountable in the interests of a government that we hope you can trust. It's your government, after all.

To that end, I as your mayor will be hosting three town halls across the Village over the next few months. We'll talk a little, we'll listen a lot, and perhaps we can get a dialogue going. Hope to see you there! Mark your calendars!

### TOWN HALL EVENTS

#### Thursday, Sept. 12 at 7 PM

At the former Doran Building  
3710 N Boulevard Ave

#### Thursday, Oct. 10 at 7 PM

Hermann & Associates  
4603 N Galena Rd

#### Thursday, Nov. 14 at 5 PM

Peoria Heights Public Library  
816 E Glen Ave



**Mayor Michael Phelan**

**Term:** 2017-2021

**Phone:** 309-686-2373

**Email:** Michael.Phelan@peoria-heights.org

**Occupation:** Production, Journal Star; former Peoria County Board member; former Richwoods Township supervisor

**Priorities:** Increase transparency and trust in local government, grow the economy and population, balance budgets, commit to high-quality infrastructure and service delivery, raise the Heights' regional profile.

## COMMUNITY CONTACTS

**Ameren/Cilco**  
(888) 789-2477

**G & O Disposal**  
(309) 742-4177

**Greater Peoria Sanitary Dist.**  
(309) 637-3511

**Peoria Heights Fire Dept.**  
(309) 682-4217 (Non-Emergency)

**Peoria Heights Police Dept.**  
(309) 688-3461 (Non-Emergency)

**Peoria Heights Public Library**  
(309) 682-5578

**Peoria Heights School Dist. #325**  
(309) 686-8800

**Peoria Heights Village Hall**  
(309) 686-2385

**Peoria Post Office**  
(309) 692-9816

**Richwoods Township**  
(309) 688-2822

**Xfinity/Comcast Cable**  
(866) 886-6838

## WORD ON THE STREET

### HYDRANT FLUSHING

The semi-annual hydrant flushing program will begin on Monday, Oct. 7, 2019 and continue through Friday, Oct. 11, 2019 weather and schedule permitting.

#### Monday, Oct. 7

North of Seiberling, west of Prospect

#### Tuesday, Oct. 8

East of Prospect from Glen to Voss including Grandview

#### Wednesday, Oct. 9

Galena area below the bluff

#### Thursday, Oct. 10

West of Prospect from Hines to Toledo

#### Friday, Oct. 11

South of Hines, west of Prospect

Hydrant flushing will occur on these days from 7:30am to 3:30pm. Use of water for laundry purposes is not advisable during flushing due to the possibility of discoloration. This condition does NOT pose any health hazard. For further information, please call the Water Office at (309) 686-2375.

### WINTER IS COMING

With winter weather approaching the Public Works department would like to remind residents to park in driveways when possible and move cars off of designated snow routes during heavy snowfalls. The order of snow removal is main routes to allow safe passage of emergency vehicles, secondary roads, and alleyways. After snow has stopped and roadways are clear, public works returns for plowbacks which removes extra snow from the edges of the road.

# MEET THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**Trustee Sherryl Carter**

**Term:** 2017-2021

**Phone:** 309-657-5689

**Email:** Sherryl.Carter@peoria-heights.org

**Occupation:** Analyst, Consociate Health

**Priorities:** Economic development, balanced budgets, more parking in business district.



**Trustee Sarah DeVore**

**Term:** 2019-2023

**Phone:** 309-712-7332

**Email:** Sarah.Devore@peoria-heights.org

**Occupation:** Co-owner, Aura Salon; product line educator

**Priorities:** Help the Heights continue to grow while looking out for existing residents, neighborhood improvement.



**Trustee Jeff Goett**

**Term:** 2017-2021

**Phone:** 309-472-7114

**Email:** Jeff.Goett@peoria-heights.org

**Occupation:** Truck driver, Richards Building Supply; Teamster, shop steward

**Priorities:** Encourage more businesses/restaurants geared to modest incomes, invest in basic infrastructure (curbs, sidewalks), address eye-sore properties, represent all Heights residents.



**Trustee Beth Khazzam**

**Term:** 2019-2023

**Phone:** 309-868-0976

**Email:** Elizabeth.Khazzam@peoriaheights.org

**Occupation:** Former co-owner, Junction City Shopping Center; co-founder, AppsCo.

**Priorities:** Sustainable growth, environmental friendliness, prudent fiscal policy, and education.



**Trustee Diane Mariscal**

**Term:** 2017-2021

**Phone:** 309-635-4949

**Email:** Diane.Mariscal@peoria-heights.org

**Occupation:**

**Priorities:** Fiscal responsibility with local tax dollars, business expansion while recognizing that change is good and necessary but so are the residents, our schools, and our values.



**Trustee Brandon Wisenburg**

**Term:** 2019-2023

**Phone:** 309-453-8191

**Email:** Brandon.Wisenburg@peoriaheights.org

**Occupation:** IT system administrator

**Priorities:** Stay within budget, avoid tax and fee increases, focus on community development that strengthens schools and attracts families.

## HEIGHTS HITS HOME RUN IN STATE CAPITAL BILL

Galena Road from McClugage Bridge to Gardner Lane will get a \$68.5 million face lift, thanks to the state capital bill.

Gov. JB Pritzker traveled to Peoria on June 11 to announce the local winners in the \$45 billion Rebuild Illinois capital plan. The Route 29 appropriation, which will include widening and resurfacing the roadway, adding turn lanes and perhaps other amenities, was among the most significant for a single project in this part of central Illinois. That state Sen. David Koehler and state Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth – whose legislative districts include Peoria Heights -- prioritized the project played no small role in making it happen.

"It's incredibly important to me that we make investments here," said Pritzker, who's been a frequent visitor to this part of the state. "Downstate Illinois had been forgotten. It was time to change that."

The governor gave a shout-out to Peoria Heights Mayor Mike Phelan, with whom he chatted following the press conference, and called "the largest, most robust capital plan in state history" a "team effort."

"We in Peoria Heights have great plans for that Illinois River corridor, and we cannot emphasize strongly enough just how much of a boost this assistance ... will give them," said Phelan, who has been shepherding a renaissance of the Heights' Prospect Road downtown area but would very much like to create some connection between its long-neglected, underutilized waterfront area and the top of the bluff to create a cohesive, thriving community overall.

The timing could hardly be better given the work being done to expand the south span of the McClugage Bridge, which will include a protected bike lane, he said. At the very least, this work should enhance the safety of a heavily traveled, exceedingly tight and crumbling state route through the Heights. Pedestrian friendly, it is decidedly not, so perhaps that issue also can be addressed, indicated Phelan.

"We're thriving on War Memorial Drive and Prospect, but this will really enhance the ability for us to continue to have economic development on Route 29," Phelan later told the Journal Star. "We've got a lot of green space there, we've got opportunities for residential and commercial development ... so this just helps move those projects forward."



## PUBLIC SAFETY

### REGISTERED SOLICITORS

In the Village of Peoria Heights, it is unlawful for solicitors to conduct business without first receiving a license. Do not open the door for people you are not familiar with. If opening your door to a solicitor, be sure to ask them to present their license. Nonprofit organizations, such as churches, do not require a solicitation permit if they are not seeking sales. Unregistered solicitors can be reported to the PHPD by calling their non-emergency phone number at (309) 688-3461. For a current listing of approved solicitors, please check the Village's website at [www.peoriaheights.org](http://www.peoriaheights.org) under the Community menu or call the non-emergency police number listed above.

### HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Before heading out to trick-or-treat, consider these tips from the PHPD to ensure you have a fun and safe time in your neighborhood:

1. Make sure costumes fit properly. An oversized costume could cause your child to fall or trip.
2. Attach reflective tape to dark costumes and clothes so you and your child can more easily be seen by passing vehicles.
3. Never allow your child to eat candy until you have had a chance to check it over to make sure it wasn't tampered with.
4. Never eat candy, fruit, or homemade goodies unless you know where they came from and trust that family.
5. Before heading out, make a plan with your children what they should do if they get separated from you. Tell them to go to the nearest house with its porch light on and say they're lost. Most importantly remind them to stay in one place and have an adult call the police. Emphasize they need to stay still so you can come to them.



# KNOW THE NUMBERS

## DID YOU KNOW...

The Village receives about 49% of its revenues from sales taxes? Peoria Heights has always been known for its businesses, and we pride ourselves on being a business-friendly community. We take the concept of Shopping Locally very seriously with so much of the community's services dependent on the community's businesses.

Besides sales tax, the Village receives 29% of its funds from other tax receipts, 16% from permits, licenses, fees, and fines, and 3% from miscellaneous sources like investment income and sale of property.

Only 3% of the Village's operating funds come from property tax dollars. In fact, for every \$1 citizens pay in property tax, the Village

receives about 5 cents! Of that nickel, the Village is required to transfer about 4 cents to the Police Pension Fund. The Village retains just over a penny per dollar to help fund community initiatives and public infrastructure.



The 2019 Dream Home raffle raised a record \$850,000, and St. Jude leaders anticipate that next year's event will top \$900,000. The charity was created based on the idea is that no family with a child suffering from cancer should ever have to worry about the cost of that treatment, and fundraisers such as this one ensure that they don't have to.

## HEIGHTS TO HOST NEXT ST JUDE DREAM HOME GIVEAWAY

The 2020 St. Jude Dream Home Giveaway contest is coming to a mature neighborhood in Peoria Heights after several years on the north side of Peoria. The location is 1324 Samuel Ave, property owned by developer Katie Kim, and will be built by Scott Lewis Homes.

"We're honored to be a part of this," said Peoria Heights Mayor Mike Phelan. "I pledge to you as the mayor that the Village is going to do all that it can to make this a success."

The home will be part of a two-block residential development along Samuel Avenue by The Kim Group of Chicago-style, brown-stone-type townhomes, with construction beginning this summer. For Kim, it's personal, as she lost a childhood friend to leukemia. Her investment group didn't hesitate in contributing to the project which has a zero-cost goal this year - meaning no funds raised will go to the actual construction.

"This is different than what we've ever done in the past," said Scott Lewis. "It's just going to change the landscape here ... It warms my heart that St. Jude can be a part of it."

Tickets for the Dream Home raffle will be available for purchase early next year.

## JUST A REMINDER!

### YARD WASTE

Disposing of yard waste in roadways or ravines is not permitted. Bag, bundle, or otherwise contain the debris and place it at the curb or alley for pickup. Landscape waste pickup will continue through December 13th/14th. Check the Waste Disposal calendar on the Village's website for more information or call G&O Disposal with any questions. 309-742-4177.

