



The Villager

April 2023

Upcoming Events At Glazebrook



Special points of interest:

- Upcoming Events at Glazebrook
- LCCC's Summer Music Calendar
- Ribbon Cutting at Kreative Kids
- Laura Dixon, Building and Zoning, Announces Retirement
- "GotoGodfrey" Winners
- Ribbon Cutting at Scooters Coffee
- Commercial Property Enhancement Grant
- Business of the Month – Joe's Market Basket
- Oh, and one more thing...

Village of Godfrey Office of Economic Development

6810 Godfrey Road

Phone: 618-466-3325

E-mail: jmager@godfreyil.org

You can see your future from here.



Michael J. McCormick

Mayor

Arbor Day

Have you hugged a tree lately? Join the Village in celebrating the environment and all things trees on April 29, 2023 with the Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department at Glazebrook Park! The day kicks off at 9:00 a.m. through 12:00 p.m. (with a youth fishing derby). Free redbud tree seedlings will be given away to the first 300 visitors.

Arbor Day Memorial Tree Dedication will occur at Glazebrook Park Concession Stand Area from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Please arrive 30 minutes early to ensure a good seat. It is suggested to bring a lawn chair. Contact the Village of Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department for further information, or to volunteer, at 618-466-1483, follow us on Facebook or go to www.godfreyil.org.

BIG Truck Day

Come out to Glazebrook Park for a family favorite and join in on May 3, 2023 from 10:00AM - 1:00 PM for BIG Truck Day! Let the kids explore, climb in or climb on a really BIG Truck! This event is FREE to the public and enjoyed by all! Visitors will see a Fire Truck, Dump Truck, Bucket Truck, Tractor, MCT Bus, ambulance and many more surprise vehicles!

Groups are welcome! For groups of 20 or more, please RSVP to 618-466-1483. Reservations accepted through April 28, 2023.

Movies in the Park

Grab a blanket, bring a lawn chair, set on the ground, or whatever – watch a movie in the park on a nice summer evening. Below is the schedule; so, mark your calendar.

- May 19th - Minions: The Rise of Gru

- June 23rd - Boss Baby: Family Business
- July 21st - Paws of Fury: The Legend of Hank
- August 18th - Lightyear

Movies will start at dusk.

Each month you can go to 'www.gotogodfrey' and register to win a \$100 gift card to one of our premier establishments around town. There is no obligation for registering; and, you have an opportunity to express your opinion on what you think would make Godfrey even better. The featured business for April is Shiver's Frozen Custard. Register now!

Did you know....On March 13, 2023, Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker signed the Paid Leave for All Workers Act (PLAWA) into law, guaranteeing all workers in the state of Illinois 40 hours of paid time off each year for any reason. The law goes into effect on January 1, 2024, so employers need to use the remaining months of 2023 to ensure they are prepared for compliance with the new law.

Illinois is now the third state to enact such a law, following Maine and Nevada.



Nothing like a warm evening and a frozen treat at Dairy Queen or Shivers?



**Lewis and Clark Community College—
A Source for Family-Oriented Music Entertainment**

Looking for something to do that can be enjoyable for young and old alike? Check out the April concert calendar for Lewis and

Clark Community College.

THURS., APRIL 20 @ 7:00 P.M. Spring Choral Concert **BLAME IT ON THE BOOGIE!** All Things Boogie and Classic Rock of the 70's Featuring the L&C Concert Choir with special guest Porch Cafe (Hatheway Cultural Center Ann Whitney Olin Theatre)

SAT., APRIL 22 @ 10:00 A.M. VIOLIN RECITAL Featuring the students of Sister Marie-Therese Swiezynski (Hatheway Cultural Center Ann Whitney Olin Theatre)

WED., APRIL 26 @ 7:00 P.M. L&C FACULTY CONCERT Free appetizers and cash bar (Benjamin Godfrey Memorial Chapel)

SAT., APRIL 29 @ 7:00 P.M. AN EVENING WITH THE MASTERS Featuring the *Alton Symphony Orchestra (Hatheway Cultural Center Ann Whitney Olin Theatre)

**Alton Symphony Orchestra ticket prices are as follows: Adult tickets - \$10, Children under 18 - \$5, Lewis and Clark Community College students, faculty, and staff Free with ID. Tickets available online at:*

<https://www.altonsymphonyorchestra.org/concerts> or at the door

MON., MAY 1 @ 7:00 P.M. L&C Jazz Band Concert **AN EVENING OF JAZZ** Featuring The L&C Jazz Band and JCHS Jazz Band (Hatheway Cultural Center Ann Whitney Olin Theatre)

TUES., MAY 2 @ 7:00 P.M. L&C ROCK ENSEMBLE CONCERT High Energy Rock Concert Free Pizza and Cash (Bar Benjamin Godfrey Memorial Chapel)

THURS., MAY 4 @ NOON BROWN BAG EVENT SPRING CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT Featuring the Mira Piano Quartet (Ringhausen Music Building)

THURS., MAY 4 @ 2:00 P.M. APPLIED STUDENT RECITAL (Benjamin Godfrey Memorial Chapel)

FRI., MAY 5 @ 7:00 P.M. PIANO RECITAL Featuring the students of Barbara McHugh (Ringhausen Music Building)

MON., MAY 8 @ 7:00 P.M. L&C ROCK ENSEMBLE CONCERT **ENCORE!** Featuring the L&C Rock Ensemble Cash Bar (Hatheway Cultural Center Ann Whitney Olin Theatre)

After 4:30 p.m. there is open parking on campus

All L & C music events are free unless otherwise indicated.

For more information call: 618-468-4731



Kreative Kids Learning Center held its ribbon cutting on March 31, 2023. The school has relocated from Alton's McKinley School to the former Alverita's building on Godfrey Road. Kreative Kids joins Little Knights School and Bright Tomorrow Learning Center as education and day care resources that are available in the Village of Godfrey.



A reminder.....Starting early summer, Godfrey Road will be resurfaced. The current plan is to start with the stretch from Homer Adams to Stamper. When that area is complete, the work will continue from

Stamper to Airport Road. Please plan for disruptions and have patience.

If you would like to receive the monthly issue of "The Villager" by email, please contact Jim Mager at;

jmager@godfreyil.org

Laura Dixon, Building and Zoning Director Announces Her Retirement



The Building and Zoning Director is announcing her retirement effective May 5. Ms. Dixon started her work with the Village in 1993, starting in the Supervisors office doing General Assistance. When the Village was incorporated, she transferred to the newly formed Building & Zoning. She became the director in 2013. As a requirement for the job, she has received certifications in the International Building Codes and has many hours of continued education to keep the certificates current.

"I've been with the Village for over thirty years. I've decided to retire while I'm young enough to enjoy retirement. I am anxious to spend more with my retired husband, get better at golf and being a full-time grandma!" said Laura.

While Jim Mager, the Village's Economic Developer was happy for Laura's sake for her retirement, but will miss working with her. "Laura was a great resource in helping with zoning questions as related to finding uses for properties in the Village," he said.

"Laura has served the Village of Godfrey well for a lot of years. We congratulate her on retirement." said Mayor McCormick.

Winners of 'gotogodfrey' Gift Certificates



Godfrey has many attractions available to families and individuals. With such an array, it is difficult to be aware of what is available. With that thought in mind, the Village has entered into a partnership with Big Z Media to promote Godfrey and its many assets. If you listen to radio stations WBGZ or MyMix 94.3 you will hear 30 second spots highlighting Godfrey attractions and businesses. You can also be watching for advertisements in both the Riverbend and Jerseyville Advantage. Perhaps you have seen spots on your Facebook and YouTube viewing?

Since January of this year, Big Z Media has been promoting businesses through a campaign called, "Gotogodfrey." Each month, people can register to win a \$100 gift card from the participating establishment. Through this effort, people have a chance to win the gift card and the business has special promotion to the community for a month. The cost of the certificate is covered by the participating business. To register for the gift card, people can go to www.gotogodfrey.com. At that site the winners of the previous month's contest can be found.

The featured business for April is Shivers Frozen Custard. Register today!



Scooter Coffee held its ribbon cutting on April 14. The new store is located at 5330 Godfrey Road and will be open 5:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday - Friday and 6 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The store is owned by Bob and Lindsey Semptimphelter, who also own a store in Glen Carbon.

Don't forget..... Commercial Property Enhancement Grant

Businesses located in the Godfrey Business District are eligible to take advantage of the "Commercial Property Enhancement Grant" program.

Funding: First \$5,000 — maximum grant is 50%; and, \$5,001 and above is 25% of eligible expenses. The grant limit is a maximum of \$20,000 per project.

Eligible Expenses: Significant facade renovations, signage, awnings, doors, windows. Landscaping if it follows Godfrey Ordinance No. 15-2007. Parking lots if brought up to ADA compliance and Village codes. All appropriate permits must be secured.

Ineligible Expenses: Regular repairs and maintenance, demolition, design, permit fees; and expenses incurred or contracted prior to grant approval.

Eligibility Criteria and Conditions: Owners and tenants of properties within Godfrey's Business District (at time of application). The property's primary use must be for commercial use. Tenants must provide written authorization from the property owner for the contemplated improvements and participation in the program. If the tenant or owner who receives grant funding should close, move, or remove work financed with a grant within five years of grant date, repayment of the grant may be required, pro rata for a period of the remaining three-year term. No additional grant funds are available for similar work at same space for a period of at least three years. Application for the grant does require three bids. *The grant must be approved prior to commencement of work.*

Featured Business of the Month: Joe's Market Basket— Godfrey



Spring has sprung. Grass is turning green, flowers will be blooming and gardens will be planted. As days warm and lengthen, outdoor living begins to take place. Joe's Market Basket in Godfrey stands ready to help get ready for spring and summer.

Before getting into the products and service provided at the Godfrey location, a bit of history of the overall company. In 1971, Joe and Linda Stevens started Market Basket by draining Linda's savings account, all \$411. Joe sold produce out of the back of a pickup truck in the location of the current Edwardsville store. Together they built the business into a successful landscape, garden and grocery store, now with five locations: Edwardsville, O'Fallon, Godfrey, Troy and St. Peters, Missouri.

Joe and Linda are fully retired and have turned over operations to their three sons. Jason has been working full time at The Market Basket since graduating from high school. He oversees the landscape and garden center for the business. Clay joined the business after college in 1996 and manages the grocery and oversees the financial dealings. Greg owns his own trucking company and hauls landscape materials for the Market Basket's landscape and garden centers.

The Edwardsville store retails a full line of

groceries, deli, landscaping and garden products. The other four stores provide a full line of landscaping and garden products with some available services.

The Godfrey store was established in 2001. Throughout the years, the family-owned operation helps Godfrey residents with products that enhance their lawns, gardens and outdoor living areas.

Be it plants, landscaping materials, bulk soils, rock and mulch, seeds, or trees, the Market Basket offers carry-out and delivery. They can even provide customers with custom planting of trees and container plants. All trees, shrubs, and roses have a one-year, 100% replacement only guarantee. They will offer a five-year guarantee, 1 time replacement on all trees and shrubs with purchase of MYKEs fertilizer

Customer must return the dead plant with original receipt. Only 1 replacement allowed. Annuals, perennials, hanging baskets and tropical plants do not have a guarantee. Guarantee does not apply to Landscape Contractors or Charge Account Customers.

Knowledgeable employees, who typically live in the individual stores' communities, are available to provide assistance to customers with questions. In the busy season each store will employ up to 15 individuals. In the off season, that employee level drops to two or three.

General manager, Andy Klos, said that Joe's Market Basket enjoys a great relationship with customers. He went on to say, "Customer service is one of our competitive advantages."

Because of the company's buying power

for all of its stores, it can offer competitive pricing comparable to the big box establishments.

Joe's Market Basket offers a "loyalty program." With that program customers can:

- Earn dollar rewards
- Receive monthly email coupons and news
- Receive a seasonal newsletter and coupons

Here's How it Works

- Earn 1 point for every dollar you spend
- Earn 500 points within the promotional period and receive a \$20 Reward credit on your card
- Points will convert twice per year – July 1st and November 1st

Each multiple of 500 points converts to a \$20 credit. Points that did not convert will carry over and continue to accumulate for the next conversion date.

Joe's Market Basket is located at:

6015 Humbert Road

Hours of operation:

Mon thru Sat. 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

618-466-7800

www.joesmarketbasket.com

Oh, and one more thing.....

Ah....., spring is here and summer is on the way! I hate winter. When I was young, I used to like the cold weather. I would wonder why all the older people would go to Florida in the winter. Now, I understand that concept perfectly.

With warm weather, it is time to get out of the house and go do stuff; and boy howdy, to we have stuff to do in Godfrey. I think there may be this notion that, to have fun, one has to leave town. That is not the case at all. As you have read this month's newsletter, perhaps you have noticed a theme. If not, I point it out to you..... There's a wealth of things to do right here in Godfrey!

There' are many public events out at Glazebrook Park. Maybe go play a round of disc golf at La Vista Park. Catch a concert at Lewis and Clark College. Take in some live music at Baker and Hale or Ropers. Or, maybe just chill out and take a walk on our miles of trails. Watch the sun set on the Mississippi River at one of your two riverside parks. And, that's just a few attractions.

Godfrey is the third safest community in Illinois. The price of gas is on the rise and expected to go higher. Inflation is everywhere. You don't need to spend a fortune to go somewhere else to have fun with the family. We hope to see you enjoying Godfrey, and oh by the way, tell your out-of-town friends and family the welcome sign is up.

While in town, please support our local businesses!

Good bye cold weather!



Jim Mager

Economic Development

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