



The Villager

March 2024

Special points of interest:

- Ground Breaking of Widman Bike Trail
- Godfrey's Comprehensive Plan
- Fire Department Moves to New Station
- Godfrey's Business of the Month: Cleta's Nutrition
- Oh, and one more thing...



Village of Godfrey Office of Economic Development

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You can see your future from here.



Michael J. McCormick

Mayor

Ground Breaking of Widman Bike Trail



Ground breaking of Widman Bike Trail. From left to right: Chris Logan, Park and Rec Director; Rich Beran, Village Engineer; Karen McAtee, Village Trustee; Mark Lorch, Park and Rec Board member; and Mayor McCormick. (Photo: Sydney Sinks)

With the sun shining brightly, a crowd had gathered at La Vista Park for the official ground breaking of the F.E. Widman Bike Trail. With the ground breaking commences the construction of Phase 1 that will take the trail from La Vista to Rocky Fork Road. Construction should be completed sometime this summer.

Design work is also being completed on Phase 3 that will run from Pierce Lane to the entrance of Camp Warren Levis. Near term activity will be to seek approval from the Board of Trustees to secure needed easements.

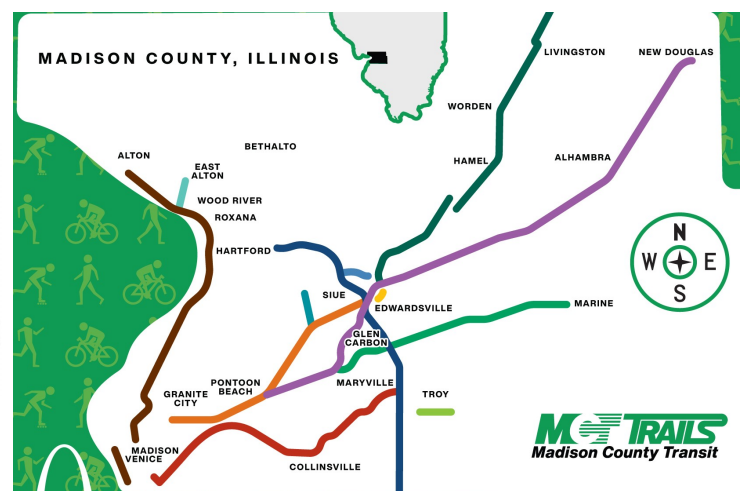
Looking further "down the trail," Phase 2 will be from Rocky Fork Road to Camp Warren Levis. Ultimately, the system will be complete with the connection from Pierce Lane to Stamper Lane.

The F.E. Widman Trail will make it easier for people to travel from Stamper Lane to IDOT's Sam M. Vadalabene Bike Trail on the Great River Road — linking the parks to the MCT Trails system in the region. Mayor McCormick noted that it will be possible to travel from Lewis and Clark Community College to SIUE on the trails once the F.E. Widman Trail is complete. The Phase I project is estimated to cost around \$1,225,960.55 (the total costs for a four phase is \$3.5M). Approximately 46% of this funding will come from grants from the Metro East Park and Recreation District, Madison County Transit Trails System, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Madison County Park Enhancement Program. (source: Sydney Sinks, Riverbender.com)

The Benefits of Biking on Bike Trails

- Enhanced muscle strength and endurance
- Reduced stress and anxiety
- Weight management and calorie burning
- Low impact on joints and reduced risk of injury
- Opportunity for outdoor recreation and connection with nature

For more detail go to: <https://tacbikes.com/benefits-of-biking/>





Back in 2021, The Village approved the current comprehensive plan. Development of the plan took over a year and was the work of a committee made up of various stakeholders and public input.

While the comprehensive plan is a detailed document, below is an excerpt that gives the vision statement and some general goals for the Village.

Godfrey's Vision Statement

Godfrey should be positioned as a community of highly-educated professionals and/or highly-skilled workers who are commuting to jobs in the St. Louis, MO-IL metropolitan statistical area (MSA). With the resulting increased population density, attracting businesses will become likely "down the road." A configuration of physical and non-physical environments will support the development and growth of local business start-ups.

- Godfrey should utilize its attributes of quality education systems, parks, bike/walk paths and natural assets to create a community attractive to the targeted demographic.
- A focus should be on developing housing, both single and multi-family that is above average price with a significant "homeowner association" control.
- As the physical attributes of this "bedroom" community are developed, an intellectual infrastructure should be created. This infrastructure should include access to capital, higher education, social and entertainment assets and an entrepreneurial climate.

In support of the Village's Vision Statement the following general goals are as follows:

- Continue to develop, maintain, and expand utilities and infrastructure to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of the community.
- Continue growing and developing at levels that do not overwhelm the infrastructure systems, school system, and parks system.
- Provide infrastructure of adequate capacity in order to attract and develop high — quality land uses of the type and location that will facilitate a strong and diverse tax base while preserving the quality of life.
- Provide a safe, efficient, accessible, and reliable transportation system.

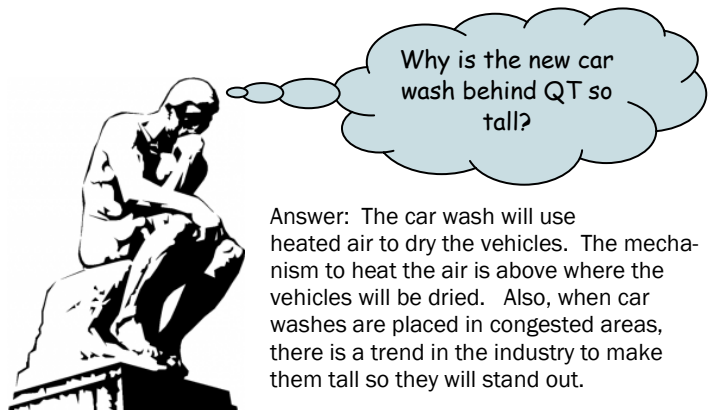
- Preserve the small town atmosphere, to the largest extent possible.
- Municipal growth shall be encouraged to increase the local tax base and to provide for local employment/business opportunities.
- Utilize "smart growth" principles to ensure that neighborhoods, businesses, agricultural, and public spaces accommodate growth in ways that are economically sound, environmentally responsible, and supportive of community livability. Growth and development should enhance the quality of life in Godfrey.
- Provide for a balanced mix of land uses to include residential, commercial, light industrial, and agricultural—planned in a pattern that facilitates positive, efficient, and functional relationships. Growth and development should encourage a mix of use types (such as residential mix of town homes, condominiums and single-family uses, or a mix of retail uses, such as restaurants, hotels, and daily needs stores.)
- Provide for and enhance the health, safety, education, and welfare of the general public.
- Include the educational system as an essential component of both the economic and social well-being of the community.

The complete comprehensive plan can be found at www.godfreyil.org under the Department of Economic Development.



The Village of Godfrey's yard waste drop-off location, located at 1433 Stamper Lane, is open exclusively to Godfrey residents. The site is open and accepting yard waste on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – noon.

Stickers for the bags are available for purchase for \$1.75 at St. Peter's Hardware in Alton and at Godfrey Village Hall in the Clerk's office. For details call 618-466-3324.



Answer: The car wash will use heated air to dry the vehicles. The mechanism to heat the air is above where the vehicles will be dried. Also, when car washes are placed in congested areas, there is a trend in the industry to make them tall so they will stand out.



**GODFREY
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
2024**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 PRESIDENT GERARD FISCHER
 VICE PRESIDENT/SECRETARY MATT HORN
 TREASURER JACK LEONARD

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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 DISTRICT COUNSEL STOBBS & SINCLAIR LTD.
 OWNER AGENT NORTHSTAR MANAGEMENT CO.
 CONSTRUCTION MGR S.M. WILSON & CO ARCHITECTS FGM ARCHITECTS

ALL OF THE DEDICATED FIREFIGHTERS WHO HAVE WORKED TO MAKE THIS DEPARTMENT WHAT IT IS TODAY



Godfrey Fire Protection Moves to New Facilities

On March 1, the Godfrey Fire Department officially moved into the new state-of-the-art fire house at 3023 Godfrey Road. The house is very modern and attractive. The station offers many improvements over the two former structures, but one thing

that really stands out is the modern training room.

“We have never had a training room before. We would just have to do the training in one of the bays,” said Chief Cranmer. When entering the administrative entrance, a visitor is met with a beautiful mural on the right wall of the hallway and the “Fireman’s Prayer” on the left.

Also available in the station is a very comfortable day room and sleeping quarters for the five firefighters (22 firefighters in the department) that are on duty per shift. An open house is being planned for the morning of April 6. The community is invited to come and view the Department’s new home.

FIREMAN'S PRAYER

When I am called to duty,
 God, whenever flames may rage,
 give me the strength to save some life,
 whatever be its age.

Help me to embrace a little child,
 before it's too late,
 or some older person from the horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout,
 and quickly and efficiently to put the fire out.

I want to fill my calling and give the best to me,
 to guard my neighbor and protect his property.

and if according to my fate, I am to lose my life,
 please bless with your protecting hand
 the special people in my life.



What is going on in Godfrey? Looking for some nightlife, attractions, activities for the kids, shopping?

Go to www.visitgodfrey.com to get up-to-date information about all the things the Village of Godfrey has to offer. Going to the site one will find the following information about:

- Events
- Festivals
- Live music
- Attractions
- Historical sites
- Recreation
- Shopping
- Restaurants
- Local services
- Links to local businesses' websites



www.visitgodfrey.com

“The Godfrey Fire Protection District sincerely thanks the residents for approving the bond issue to make the wonderful new fire station possible.”

Chief Eric Cranmer

**THE ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE
MOBILE DMV
Tuesday April 2, 2024
10:00am-2:00pm**



- New and Renewal Identification Cards
- Renewal of Drivers License
- Sticker Purchases
- Real ID



Mobile DMV
ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE
ALEXI GIANNOLIAS



Business of the Month:

Cleta's Nutrition

Many of Cleta's Nutrition's customers are cancer survivors. As such, a philosophy for the business is to consider looking at nutrition and natural treatments as a first alternative to good health. "When seeking wellness, there are natural routes available to healthy living," said Wendi.

Cleta's also offers healthy alternatives, such as homeopathic medicinal products, for mind and body, including beauty and hygiene products, such as fluoride-free toothpaste and hair and skin care.

Great care is taken to ensure the quality of the products carried. When researching potential offerings, Wendi requires answers to the following:

- Where do the products originate?
- How are the products processed?
- Why should Cleta's carry such products?
- Are all products tested for purity and potency? (If not, they won't be offered by Cleta's)

Beverly, Wendi, and Jennifer feel that staying healthy is fun. Working in the business is not about making money, but is about helping people help themselves to live healthier lives. Operating the business is one of a higher purpose. "I credit Cleta's success as being in the hands of God," said Ms. Roberts.

When asked about a concern that supplements are not regulated by the FDA, Wendi replied, "Thankfully, they're not."

Cleta's Nutrition can be found at:
3004 Godfrey Road
Ph.: 618-466-1659
cletasnutrition@gmail.com

Hours:

Tues—Fri	9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday & Monday	Closed

"The first wealth is health," said Ralph Waldo Emerson. Winston Churchill went on to say, "Healthy citizens are the greatest asset any country can have." When placing health at the forefront, think Cleta's Nutrition.

Beverly Roberts, 79, founded the business 1991. The company is named after Beverly's mother. The business was first located on 2603 State Street (current location of Logo It). Operations existed there for approximately five years when, in 1996, it moved to the current location on 3004 Godfrey Road.

Prior to starting Cleta's Nutrition, Ms. Roberts had some experience working in the health food industry. The inspiration to really make it a career was the fact that she had family members who were facing some serious illnesses. As they began to regulate their diet with "clean" foods and healthy nutrition, their health improved dramatically. That was the inspiration to start her business in order to help others in achieving the same benefits that her family members had experienced. Nutrition is critical to good health. "The body is designed to heal itself," says Ms. Roberts.

Throughout the years, there have been growth spurts, but as growth continued, Wendi Wittman (Ms. Robert's daughter) joined the business twenty years ago. Wendi spent the first five years doing general duty and learning the business. Since that time, she has continued to assume a role of managing and directing the business, allowing Beverly to step back from the day-to-day operations.

About 8 years ago, Jennifer Rulo joined Cleta's. Prior to joining the firm, she came to the store as a customer seeking relief from pain she was experiencing. "Jennifer has really absorbed the business," said Beverly. Like Beverly and Wendi, Jennifer considers it a personal mission to help people who are suffering from pain or seeking a more healthy lifestyle.

Oh, and one more thing.....

I went out to the ground breaking of the Widman Bike Trail. It was a very nice turnout for an event that kicks off the development of completing a great asset for the Village. A shout out to the Park and Rec, Village Engineering, Madison County Transit, Metro-East Park and Recreation, the Widman Family and State of Illinois IDNR for working to make the bike trail a reality.

There's been some "scuttlebutt" about comprehensive planning for Godfrey. Actually, there was a plan adopted in June, 2021. I thought I would offer a sampling of the plan in this newsletter. I would invite everyone to go check out the full plan on the Village website. I am hoping you find it informative.

The new firehouse is great. There is an open house planned for Saturday, April 6. The time is yet to be determined but, at least, mark the calendar. Grab the family and check it out. After all, what kid does not like a fire truck?!

When around town, I try to make point of thanking the business owners and operators for being a Godfrey business. Thank you to Cleta's Nutrition for providing Godfrey an outlet for hard-to-find, healthy, natural products! As we should work toward a healthier live style, Cleta's can be a wonderful asset.

Finally, thanks to the poll judges who worked to provide early voting at Village Hall. Democracy is a messy business. We need folks willing to step up and make the process work.



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