



# The Villager

April 2025

## Special points of interest:

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- Godfrey's Building and Zoning Department Implements New System
- Good Neighbor—Kevin Wuthrich
- Godfrey Recognizes Area's Young Ladies
- Alton High Girls Varsity Basketball Recognized
- Minimize Your Credit Score
- Meet Falisa Rabozzi
- Featured Business of the Month — Mid Illinois Gymnastics and Dance

If you would like to receive the monthly issue of "The Villager" by email, please contact Jim Mager at: [jmager@godfreyil.org](mailto:jmager@godfreyil.org)

### Village of Godfrey Office of Economic Development

6810 Godfrey Road

Phone: 618-466-3325

E-mail: [jmager@godfreyil.org](mailto:jmager@godfreyil.org)

**You can see your future from here.**



Michael J. McCormick

Mayor



### Village of Godfrey Adopts A "Transient Merchant DO NOT KNOCK REGISTRY"

*"All persons, businesses and organizations wishing to solicit in the Village of Godfrey sale of goods/services immediately or in the future; delivery of hand-bill/activity/goods or services; canvassing and pamphleteering are required obtain a license. Religious organizations, youth fundraising, and political advertisement are exempt from obtaining a license with the Village of Godfrey and this registry does not apply."*

Upon license approval, commercial solicitors will be issued permanent ID cards and will be required to keep them displayed at all times. Noncommercial and charitable organizations are not required to obtain a license.

All solicitors are prohibited from soliciting at any location listed on the Do Not Knock Registry or at any location with a sign posted prohibiting solicitation. Village of Godfrey Ordinance 14-2025 requires all solicitors to obtain a current Do Not Knock Registry list upon approval of a Transient Merchant License. The Do Not Knock Registry works similarly to a "Do Not Call" list; it prohibits solicitation at registered addresses. For your protection, only addresses will appear on the Do Not Knock Registry. If you would like to be added to the list, please complete the Application Form Below (available at [www.godfreyil.org](http://www.godfreyil.org)) and bring or mail to the Godfrey Village Clerks Office. Village of Godfrey Attn: Susan Robbins, Village Clerk 6810 Godfrey Rd. Godfrey, IL 62035 Your Registration will become effective on the first day of the month. All transient merchants will be given an updated list at the start of the month.

To report a violation, please call Madison County Sheriff's Department 618-692-4433. Violations of this section shall subject the licensee, solicitor, peddler or canvasser and/or their corporate entity to revocation of the license issued by the Village, denial of future license applications, a fine of not less than \$125.00 nor more than \$750.00, per occurrence, and potential additional civil or criminal penalties. If you have any questions on the Do Not Knock Registry, please call the Godfrey Village Clerks office 618-466-3381.

### Godfrey's Building and Zoning Department Implements New System

The Building and Zoning Department is using an online community development platform called Cloudpermit® for building permits and inspections. One can now complete the entire permit process online with a phone, tablet and laptop.



The following can be done online:

- Apply for building permits anytime and anywhere
- Check status of permits or inspections
- Schedule or cancel inspections
- Communicate with B & Z with time-stamped messages
- Request and submit changes to existing building permits

Contractors can also use the platform to apply for their license. Additionally, the system will allow contractors to:

- Check the status of the license application
- Communicate with B & Z with time stamped messages
- Pay fees online

To learn more or set up an account, go to <https://cloudpermit.com>

Village of Godfrey Building and Zoning  
618-466-1206  
[www.Godfreyil.org](http://www.Godfreyil.org)

## Godfrey's Good Neighbor – Kevin Wuthrich



Kevin was born in Germany as a child of a military family. Carrying on the tradition he enlisted in 2000 and served eight years in the Army. In that service, he did a tour in Iraq from 2005 to 2006. Eventually he and his wife, Sara, and children, Chance and Destiny, moved to the area and lived in Brighton for ten years. In 2020 they became residents of Godfrey.

Mr. Wuthrich enjoys working on vehicles and thought he would pursue a career in automotive repair. He completed the automotive program at Lewis and Clark Community College. While working in the automotive field, he had an opportunity to go work for the National Archives Research Room in St. Louis where he still works.

The Archival Research Room is dedicated to providing the public full and open access to the National Archives at St. Louis archival records holdings. In our Research Room, patrons have the opportunity to view records previously unavailable to the general public. Such access makes possible a fuller understanding of our nation's cultural heritage and allows genealogists, researchers and the general public a unique look into the individual histories of those who have served their country, whether in a military or civilian capacity.

When not assisting the patrons of the National Archives, Kevin is always willing to lend a helping hand to his neighbors. Below is what one of his neighbors shared:

*"My wife and I moved to Godfrey in October of 2023. Since the first day we moved in, our neighbor, Kevin Wuthrich, has been nothing short of incredible.*

*Kevin is the type of neighbor that will drop whatever project he is working on if someone is in need and will never expect a thank you in return for volunteering his time and help.*

*For example, Westwind Drive is a private road. Kevin works diligently (on his own unpaid time) to make sure that not only our road is clear of snow and debris after storms, but even goes as far as clearing our driveways and sidewalks with his own equipment so we can all get to work and other places."*

### Godfrey Seeks To Recognize Good Neighbors In The Community

Do you know an individual who has gone above and beyond as a neighbor in our community? Has the person, through selfless acts of kindness, made Godfrey a better place? If so, you can be the one to help in recognizing them for their deeds.

The nomination form can be found at [www.godfreyil.org](http://www.godfreyil.org). The form should be completed, saved as a PDF file and emailed to [jmager@godfreyil.org](mailto:jmager@godfreyil.org). For more information, contact:

Jim Mager, Economic Development  
618-466-3325  
[jmager@godfreyil.org](mailto:jmager@godfreyil.org)

## Arbor Day is April 26

Have you hugged a tree lately? Join the Village in celebrating the environment and all things trees on April 26, 2025 with the Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department at Glazebrook Park! The day kicks off at 9:00 a.m. (with a youth fishing derby, ages 4 – 12). 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](http://www.godfreyil.org).

## Godfrey Recognizes Area's Young Ladies



March 12, 2025 marked the 113th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA. Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois serves nearly 6,400 girls and engages over 3,600 adult members in 40 counties in Southern Illinois.

At the March 4 Board of Trustees meeting, Mayor McCormick declared the week of March 9-15, 2025 as Girl Scout Week.

## Alton High Girls Varsity Basketball Recognized



The Alton High Girls Varsity Basketball Team was recognized at the March 18 Godfrey Board of Trustee meeting. The team had reached the state finals for the first time in history where they came in third place! They had completed the season with an impressive 34-3 record. Each member of the team is an academic high-achiever and is on the Honor or High Honor Roll. The ladies were honored by having Mayor McCormick proclaim the week of March 23 through March 29, 2025 as "Week of the Lady Redbirds" in the Village of Godfrey.

### Godfrey 311 Electronic 311 Smartphone App

Easily report potholes, broken street lights and other problems.  
Call or email local officials, the police department, city offices and others.  
Access activity calendars, receive village alerts and more.

## Maximize Your Credit Score Today!



1<sup>st</sup> MidAmerica Credit Union has a powerful tool designed to help take control of your financial future: Credit Score, which is easily accessible.

### Maximize Your Score. Minimize the Hassle.

Their Credit Score solution simplifies the process of understanding and improving credit scores. With just a few clicks, one can access the score, monitor changes, and gain valuable insights into the factors that influence it the most.

### Analyze and Optimize

Understanding what makes up a credit score is the first step toward optimizing it. Their tool provides a detailed breakdown of score components, helping to identify areas for improvement.

### Your Credit Score. Simplified

1<sup>st</sup> MidAmerica has made it easier than ever to enroll in its Credit Score solution. Simply log in online or the mobile banking and sign up to start monitoring your score today. No hassle—just straightforward access to the information needed to make informed financial decisions.

Empower your financial future—enroll in Credit Score at 1<sup>st</sup> MidAmerica Credit Union today and start boosting your score with confidence.

## Meet Park and Rec Assistant, Falisa Rabozzi



If you visit the office of Park and Rec, you may be assisted by Falisa Babozzi. She has been with the department since August 2023 as part-time assistant. She will be moving to full-time when replacing Jacki Clayton, who will become the Village Clerk.

As an assistant, she answers questions about sports registrations, inputs registrations and assists Jacki, Jordan and Chris with their daily duties. Falisa says, “I love the residents I get to help and I love my coworkers — they make me laugh every day.”

Aside from assuming a full-time position, other life changes include getting married in August. She is the mother of three children, ages 14, 17, and 20.

Ms. Rabozzi owns and operates Rabozzi Photography. Examples of her art can be found at <https://www.rabozziphotography.com/>

## Master Gardener Plant Sale

May 3, 2025

9:00 to Noon

Homer Adams Park

6810 Godfrey Road

Annuals

Perennials

Vegetables

## Big Truck Day!

# May 7

## Glazebrook Park



“For a community to be a community there has to be a certain amount of its business within itself.” [(Wendell Berry from his book ‘Jayber Crow’)]

“The necessities of economic activity tie people together. When the sources of economic life move away from the local region, local culture unravels.” [Walker Larson, “Fostering a Strong Local Economy at Home”, Epoch Times, March 19, 2025]

A note of thanks to the following in preparing these newsletters (alphabetical order):

Mayor McCormick, Judy Peipert, Sharon O’Neal and Karen Sinks

A promotional graphic for Godfrey, Illinois. It features a teal archway with the text "Visit GODFREY ILLINOIS". Below the archway, it says "What is going on in Godfrey? Go to [www.visitgodfrey.com](http://www.visitgodfrey.com) to get up-to-date information about all the things the Village of Godfrey has to offer." At the bottom, there are icons for "LIVE THE MUSIC" (a purple circle with a musical note), sports equipment (a basketball, baseball bat, soccer ball, and football), and a family (a woman and a man sitting at a table with a child).

[www.visitgodfrey.com](http://www.visitgodfrey.com)

## Featured Business of the Month



For those interested in the sport, gymnastics and dance are perfect pathways toward physical fitness. A great place to explore getting involved in the sport is Mid-Illinois Gymnastics and Dance.

Mid-Illinois Gymnastics and Dance was established in 1969 and is the oldest private gymnastics club in the St. Louis Metropolitan area. It is the only school in the Alton/Godfrey area that has USA Gymnastics and USTA tumble teams.

The school was first created by Larry and Louise Moehn at the YMCA in Alton. After four years, it was relocated to Elm Street. As the program continued to grow, it was moved to 3100 Belle Street until it transferred to the current location in 1996. As a USA GYMNASTICS CLUB, they offer graded classes on Olympic specification equipment taught by highly qualified, safety oriented staff.

When the couple started the gym, neither had any direct experience in gymnastics and dance. Larry was a professor at SIUE in the Athletic Department. Louise was a nurse. Still, they had a

strong interest in the sport. Eventually, their only daughter, Kristin, out of 5 children got involved in gymnastics and dance. Mom and dad have, for the most part, retired and Kristin has taken on the duties of day to day management. Many long-time employees like Judy Johnson-Durr and Brendan Lawson provide teaching, coaching and programming. With a family-oriented environment, all the staff members are committed to helping their students and athletes be all they can be.

In addition to great teachers and coaches, there is the newest technology available for tumbling. The equipment includes carpeted spring and foam floor, foam and solid pits, special mats, tumble-track, rod, floor, balance beams, uneven bars, vault horses, trainer bars, pre-school play shapes and a hardwood floor dance room with balcony overlooking the gym. Gymnastic or dance classes provide high-level physical fitness as well as recreational fun.

Mid-Illinois Gymnastics and Dance emphasizes basic movement and progression that leads to an improvement in agility, flexibility, strength, endurance, coordination, confidence and self-esteem. The physical, mental and emotional discipline, while so essential in a good gymnastics and dance environment, becomes a great asset in any other sport or physical training that the student pursues.

Students can train for serious competition. If a child with the special talents and attitudes to consider team gymnastics,

their child can try-out for participating on a team.

Multiple competitive programs for girls include Xcel and USA Gymnastics competitive team Levels 2 through 10-Elite. There is also boys and girls competitive "Tumble Teams."

Mid-Illinois gymnasts and tumblers have a proud tradition of winning. The gold stars displayed in the gym area represents a State, Regional or National Champion.

Gym Rentals are available for a truly unique and fun birthday party or event! For information about reserving space for a party visit their website or call.



1032 W. Homer M. Adams Parkway  
Godfrey, Illinois 62035  
<https://www.midillinoisgym.com/>  
(618) 466-7878



### One Simple Way to Be a Good Steward of the Planet

We've all heard it...recycling isn't working. Yep. And it's a much bigger problem than we can address in this little space. YET, there is one thing every household can do to help--**Refuse** to use certain plastics.

Yes, we can **refuse** to use plastic bags to bring our groceries home. We can bring our own bags. Paper bags (Schnucks offers those!), straw baskets, canvas bags, burlap bags. But, you say, why bother when we can recycle the bags right back at the grocery store?

Well, here's the ugly little secret. It's true that the recycling of plastic film including grocery bags is sometimes one of the few recycling success stories. Companies turn plastic film into outdoor living products--like playground equipment, deck "wood," plant pots, and so on. NEVERTHELESS, ALL these ultimately still end up in a landfill.

**The ONLY way out of this vicious cycle is to refuse to partake in it.** Refuse to use plastics, to Reduce our amount of garbage, by either having less to throw away, or by finding ways to Reuse packaging. You'll get a GIANT pat on the back AND a warm fuzzy feeling.

**So, let's change** "Reduce. Reuse. Recycle." And start doing this ONE THING: *bring your own bags to the grocery store.* Pro tip: Keep your bags in the trunk of your car so you won't forget them.

And now you can say: **Refuse. Reduce. Reuse.**

*Brought to you by the Godfrey Sustainability Commission.*

## Dear Business Owner,

Godfrey and its businesses have many things to offer. The Mayor and the Trustees value local business and want to support them in whatever ways may be possible. As such, the Village of Godfrey partners with Big Z Media and Riverbender to promote the many attributes of Godfrey to residents and visitors. Part of the campaign is to promote events being held by the Village and its local businesses/organizations. The promotional messages are accomplished through radio advertising, social media platforms and our exclusive "VisitGodfrey.com" website.

If your Godfrey business or organization is having a special event, perhaps it could be promoted as part of this campaign at no cost to you. Please let me know by providing the following information:

1. What contribution have you made to the community that you are most proud of?
2. What message would you like to share with the community to encourage them to shop locally?
3. What is one thing you wish more people knew about your business?
4. Do you have any special offers or events planned for the next 5 months?



Jim Mager, Economic Development

618-466-3325

[jmager@godfreyil.org](mailto:jmager@godfreyil.org)

### A Message from the Mayor:



I'd like to thank the residents of the Village of Godfrey for having confidence in me when casting their votes in last week's election. I fully intend to keep our beautiful community moving in the right direction.

Thank you to my many supporters and those who wished me well, and to my wife, Linda, for helping me through this campaign. I plan on working hard to make the residents of Godfrey happy with the outcome of this election.

Thank you,

Michael J. McCormick

Mayor, Village of Godfrey

**Village offices  
will be closed  
in observance  
of Good Friday**

