

Hi-Lighter

MARCH/APRIL 2026



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
Thursday, April 3rd 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

**EGGHUNT
FOR GOOD DOGS!**

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH
2:00PM - 3:00PM
1900 ONTARIOVILLE RD
HANOVER PARK

LIMITED REGISTRATION BEGINS MARCH 2ND AT
HPIL.ORG/EGGSTRAVAGANZA * \$5.00 PER DOG

Calendar of Events

Sonya Crawshaw Branch Library

4300 Audrey Lane
Hanover Park
630-837-6800

Tai Chi for Beginners Mondays, March 9 & April 13 10:00am-11:00am

Practice Tai Chi, a moving meditation of gentle exercises for a healthy mind and body.

Agatha Christie - A Body of Evidence, Saturday, March 21 2:00pm-3:00pm

Join performance artist Debra Miller as Agatha Christie in Beit Agatha as she reminisces with you about her childhood, her life as a writer and adventurer.

Interview Success Secrets Wednesday, April 1 10:00am-11:30am

Business and Career Services will lead this workshop covering successful interview techniques. Discover how to fine-tune your responses, enhance your

presence, and develop the confidence to stand out.

Scrap Gardening Thursday, April 16 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Discover how to utilize kitchen scraps to cultivate food in containers in this engaging presentation and workshop. Learn how certain vegetables can regrow themselves, such as green onions, carrots, and romaine lettuce, and also how you can utilize kitchen scraps to the max with composting ideas, as well as delicious broth recipes. Participants make small planters with green onion roots, so come ready to work with soil.

AI Spot the Bot April 20 1:00pm-3:00pm

Learn strategies for identifying AI-generated text, images, audio, and video. Learn about AI detection tools and strategies for protection against AI scams.

Hanover Park Branch Library

1266 Irving Park Road
Hanover Park
630-372-7800

Visit www.schaumburglibrary.org for the latest updates.

Game Night for Friends, Family & People with Disabilities Tuesday, March 10 5:30pm-6:30pm

This game night offers a fun environment for friends, family, and people with disabilities ages 16 and older to gather and enjoy themselves. Simple games are provided such as chess, checkers, Uno, and basic playing cards. Please feel free to bring a game of your own. Please register each member of your group who will be attending.

Bone Density Testing Thursday, March 19 2:00pm-4:00pm

A nurse from the Village of Hoffman Estates Health and

Human Services conducts free bone density by appointment for anyone over the age of 18. Please register by calling the Village at (847) 781-4850. Registration is required. Please call with any cancellations at least 24 hours before your appointment.

New Parent Support Group Monday, April 6 10:30am-11:30am

This group provides a welcoming space for new parents to connect, share experiences, and find support during the early months of parenthood.

Each monthly session, led by licensed social worker Toria (Tori) Shaw Morawski, MSW, LSW, IICDP, FNAP, covers topics like self-care, resilience, and local resources. Gain practical tips, build community, and discover tools to navigate parenthood with support and confidence.

March

4	Special Events Committee.....	11:30 am / Room 212
5	Village Board Meeting.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
7	Veterans Committee.....	9:00 am / PD Comm Rm
10	Economic Dev. Committee....	12:30 pm / Room 214
12	Development Commission.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
14	Kids at Hope Event.....	10:00 am / Park District
17	CIDC Committee.....	6:15 pm / Room 123
19	Village Board Meeting.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
21	Water Bills Due	
24	Historical Committee.....	6:00 pm / Room 214
24	Environmental Committee...	7:00 pm / Room 214
26	Sister Cities Committee.....	7:00 pm / PD Comm Rm
28	Doggie Eggstravaganza.....	2:00 pm / Ontarioville Park

April

2	Village Board Meeting.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
3	Spring Holiday - Village Hall Closed	
4	Veterans Committee.....	9:00 am / PD Comm Rm
9	Development Commission...	7:00 pm / Room 214
14	Economic Dev. Committee..	12:30 pm / Room 214
16	Village Board Meeting.....	7:00 pm / Room 214
21	CIDC Committee.....	6:15 pm / Room 214
21	Water Bills Due	
23	Sister Cities Committee.....	7:00 pm / PD Comm Rm
28	Historical Committee.....	6:00 pm / Room 214
28	Environmental Committee...	7:00 pm / Room 214

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 welcome the spring season, our community begins the transition from winter into a season of renewed activity and opportunity. Spring brings with it longer days, warmer weather, and a full calendar of events that encourage us to come together and stay engaged.

In the coming weeks, residents can look forward to several community events and programs designed for all ages. There is truly something for everyone. I encourage you to check the events calendar in this newsletter and on our website, so you don't miss what's ahead. One of my favorite annual events is our Kids at Hope Health & Resource Fair. This event is designed to provide information and resources to the families in Hanover Park. It will be held on March 14th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Park District's Community Center. I invite you all to stop by!

I am pleased to report that while attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington DC, the Department of Labor again recognized our Village as a recipient of the HIRE Vets Medallion Award for the sixth consecutive year. We were honored to be addressed by Lori Chavez-DeRemer, Secretary of Labor, and Keith Sonderling, Deputy Secretary of Labor. This federal award program recognizes employers who successfully recruit, hire, and retain veterans. The Village has demonstrated a model of patriotism and an appreciation for the

value our veterans bring to the workplace.

On February 11, I delivered my annual State of the Village address. I was proud to report a historic low record in Part I crimes. Part I crime is the benchmark used by the FBI to determine crime rates in municipalities. In 2025, 175 Part I crimes were recorded. The Police Department reported a significant reduction in both property and violent crime. Part I crime has been on a downward trend in our Village over the past decade.

I also highlighted a number of projects planned for the year ahead, including multiple pedestrian & bicycle path improvements. As construction season approaches, residents may notice these improvements, along with road and utility improvements throughout the Village. I encourage you to sign up for our weekly eNews to stay informed about the status of these projects! These investments are essential to maintaining safe infrastructure and supporting future growth.

In February, I had the privilege to recognize the many volunteers who serve on our committees and commissions, as well as other members of the community who dedicate their time and talents to serving our Village. Their commitment plays a vital role in the success of our programs and events, and I am grateful for the spirit of service that continues to strengthen our community year after year.

It remains my honor 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, whether at our 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, reading 'Rodney S. Craig'.

Mayor Rodney Craig

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Troy Albuck



Yasmeen Bankole



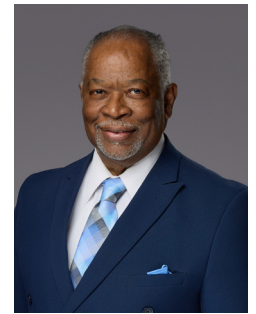
Jenni Broccolino



Liza Gutierrez



Jon Kunkel



Herb Porter

Clerk's Corner:



Kristy Merrill
Village Clerk

Your Vote, Your Voice: Illinois Elections 2026

Illinois voters will have the opportunity to participate in the 2026 elections, including the Primary Election on March 17, 2026, and the General Election on November 3, 2026. These elections will determine local, state, and federal offices and play an important role in shaping our communities.

Illinois offers several convenient ways to vote, including in-person voting on Election Day, early voting, and vote-by-mail. Voters may also take advantage of same-day registration, allowing eligible residents to register and vote at early voting locations or on Election Day. Completed mail-in ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day (March 17, 2026) to be counted under Illinois law.

Residents are encouraged to check their voter registration status, learn about their voting options, and plan ahead. Participating in elections is one of the most important ways to make your voice heard and support our democratic process.

Here are some important dates to remember:

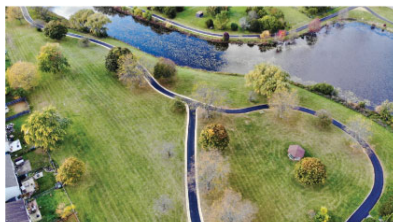
- **March 1, 2026:** Last day for online voter registration. Grace period registration is still available at election authority and early voting sites.
- **March 12, 2026:** Last day for election authority to receive vote by mail applications.
- **March 17, 2026:** Primary Election Day! Polls are open from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm

Enriching Lives

Enriching Lives means investing in spaces that support healthy, active, and connected communities.

Guided by resident feedback and a shared commitment to wellness, the Hanover Park Park District continues to enhance our parks with free, accessible outdoor amenities.

These new pathways, fitness stations, and activity features encourage residents of all ages to get moving, enjoy the outdoors, and make healthy habits part of everyday life—especially as spring approaches.



New Pathways at Harbors

The newly improved pathways at Harbors Park offer a great space for walking, jogging, or casual biking. Enjoy a simple and accessible way to stay active outdoors this spring.

3974 Sandpiper Dr., Hanover Park



Outdoor Fitness Station at Community Park

Community Park now features a free outdoor fitness station for strength and functional movement. Designed for all fitness levels, it's an easy way to work out without a gym membership.

1919 Walnut Ave., Hanover Park



Ninja Warrior Course & Walking Path at Discovery Park

Discovery Park's Ninja Warrior-style course and walking path provide fun and active options for all ages. Challenge your agility or enjoy a steady walk around the park.

4775 Whitney Dr., Hanover Park



hpparks.org
630.837.2468

Community Center
1919 Walnut Avenue, Hanover Park



Hi-Lighter

March/April 2026 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 Number630.823.5600
Police Information630.823.5500
Public Works Dept.....630.823.5700
Comm. Development....630.823.5780
Finance Department.....630.823.5790
Water Billing630.823.5799
Fire Department.....630.823.5800
Inspectional Services.....630.823.5860
Police Department fax ..630.823.5499
Public Works fax630.823.5704
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

Are you interested in serving on one?
Call 630-823-5609.

Curfew hours:
For those under 17 years of age -
10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursdays
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



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

SAVE THE DATE

Village Hall
PARKING LOT
2121 Lake St
Hanover Park

Wednesday
April 15th
2026

11:00am -
2:30pm

SERVICES PROVIDED BY:
VITALANT
BLOODMOBILE

WALK-INS WELCOME | APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED
SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE.



Breakfast with the Bunny – HP Lion's Club

Hop on over to the Hanover Park Park District to join the fun and enjoy breakfast with the Bunny. We will be serving a buffet-style, ALL YOU CAN EAT, pancake breakfast. Each person will receive a side of sausage and your choice of coffee, orange juice, or hot chocolate. There will be a FREE egg hunt in the gym between 10-10:40 am hosted by the Hanover Park Park District. (Please see below for the age group and specific times.) The Easter Bunny will be available for pictures and making memories with your family. Purchase your tickets early to make sure you get a spot, or you can also purchase tickets at the door. All fundraiser proceeds support programs serving Hanover Park.

Location:

Community Center Gym, 1919 Walnut Ave.

All Ages Saturday March 28, 2026 Time 8 am – 11 am

Pre-Ticket Sales		AT THE DOOR (Cash only)	
AGES	TICKETS PRICE	AGES	TICKET PRICE
0 – 12	\$7	0 – 12	\$8
13+	\$8	13+	\$9

Free Egg Hunt

3 & under with parent 10:00 am
4-6 without parent 10:15 am
7-9 without parent 10:30 am

2026 Brush Pick-Up Program

Green Spring Cleaning: Brush & Yard Waste Program

As the snow melts and the ground thaws, it is time to transition our landscapes for the growing season. The Village of Hanover Park is committed to sustainable property maintenance, and our seasonal Brush and Yard Waste programs are designed to divert organic material from landfills, turning winter debris into nutrient-rich compost and mulch. By participating in these programs, residents play a direct role in the Village's environmental stewardship.

2026 Curbside Brush Pickup: Supporting Local Mulch Cycles

The Village's curbside brush pickup program is an essential recycling initiative. All collected branches are processed through an industrial wood chipper, creating wood mulch that is repurposed for municipal landscaping or made available to the community. This "closed-loop" system reduces the carbon footprint associated with hauling waste to distant facilities.

To ensure an efficient and safe collection, please follow the schedule for your zone:

- **Area 1 (North of Lake Street & west of Barrington Rd):** Collection begins the week of April 6. Please have all materials at the curb by 7:00 AM on Monday.
- **Area 2 (North of Lake Street & east of Barrington Rd):** Collection begins the week of April 6. Please have all materials at the curb by 7:00 AM on Monday.
- **Area 3 (South of Lake St & north of Lawrence Ave):** Collection begins the week of April 20. Please have all materials at the curb by 7:00 AM on Monday.
- **Area 4 (South of Lawrence Ave):** Collection begins the week of April 20. Please have all materials at the curb by 7:00 AM on Monday.

Preparation Guidelines:

- **Placement:** Stack brush on the parkway with the cut ends facing the street to facilitate fast, safe loading into the chipper.

- **Size Limits:** Branches must be no longer than 10 feet, or shorter than 2 feet in length, and no more than 8 inches in diameter.
- **Exclusions:** We cannot process root balls, stumps, or lumber. These items damage the equipment and cannot be converted into clean mulch.

Weekly Yard Waste: Converting Waste to Wealth

Starting the first week of April through November 28th, our weekly yard waste collection resumes on your regularly scheduled refuse day. This program ensures that soft organic materials—such as grass clippings and leaves—are sent to professional composting facilities rather than being trapped in airtight landfills where they would produce methane gas.

- **Requirements:** Use biodegradable paper bags or a designated 95-gallon yard waste cart.
 - **The Problem with Plastic:** Plastic bags are a major environmental contaminant in the composting process. Yard waste placed in plastic cannot be collected.
 - **Sticker Program:** A 2026 refuse sticker must be affixed to each bag. Subscription-based carts do not require individual stickers.

Sustainable Gardening: "Wait for the Weight"

While the first warm weekend of March is tempting for a complete garden overhaul, the Village's environmental team encourages a "Slow Spring" approach.

Many of Illinois' native pollinators — including numerous species of bees, beetles, and butterflies — spend the winter sheltering in the hollow stems of last season's plants or beneath layers of fallen leaves. Clearing away this natural material too soon can unintentionally eliminate the next generation of these beneficial insects. If you can, wait until daytime temperatures are consistently at least 50°F before tidying up your garden beds. This simple pause helps provide the habitat our local ecosystem needs to flourish throughout the summer months.



Help us keep our neighborhoods looking their best! If you spot graffiti on public or private property, please report it. Quick reporting helps ensure it is cleaned up quickly, discouraging further tagging. To report, please use the Graffiti Hotline: 630-823-5705. Let's work together to keep our community clean and beautiful!



Business of the Year Award Winner

Congratulations to A&A Music & Art Academy (1975 E. Devon Avenue) - the winner of Hanover Park's 2026 Business of the Year! A&A Music started in Hanover Park in 1982 teaching music lessons for the Park District. Their goal has always been to allow students to express themselves through music and art; students that are exposed to the arts find that it fulfills their lives and empowers creativity. The academy has 10 classrooms and employs 15 people. Most instructors are professional musicians, and some have been there since they opened their doors. In 2023, the school did extensive remodeling of the building and combined the music and art studios into one academy. A&A Music & Art Academy won the Best Music Studio in DuPage County 2025 award. Anita Komorski (owner) and her staff have a deep love and passion to teach others and enrich lives with music and art. Stop by and visit or go to www.aamusicacademy.com for more information.



Anita Komorski pictured with Mayor Craig

Celebrating Arbor Day: Growing a Greener Tomorrow

Arbor Day takes place on April 24, 2026. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the beauty and importance of trees in our community. Trees do far more than enhance our landscape — they improve air quality, reduce stormwater runoff, provide shade that lowers energy costs, and create habitats for wildlife.

As we welcome spring, Arbor Day reminds us that planting and caring for trees is an investment in the future.

Whether you plant a tree in your yard, volunteer at a community planting event, or simply take time to appreciate the trees in your neighborhood, every effort makes a difference.



This year, we encourage residents to reflect on how we can continue strengthening our urban forest for generations to come. Together, we can grow a healthier, greener community — one tree at a time.

Mark Your Calendars for Restaurant Week

Get ready to explore global food without leaving Hanover Park. From March 20–30, Hanover Park Restaurant Week invites residents to Taste the Globe in 10 Days by dining at local restaurants offering special menu items and promotions.

Restaurant Week is the perfect opportunity to discover new favorites, revisit neighborhood staples, and support the local, family-owned restaurants that make Hanover Park unique. Whether you are craving comfort food, bold global flavors, or something new to try, this is your chance to experience the diversity of our community one plate at a time.

Just good food, local flavor, and a reason to try something new.

Mark your calendar. Bring your appetite. Taste the globe in 10 days!

Restaurant Week



March 20 - 30, 2026



Taste the Globe in 10 Days!



Dine at these participating restaurants - with more to come!

- BBQ Land** - 1234 Lake St. (630-855-6274)
- Briana's Pancake House** - 6680 Barrington (630-855-8092)
- Chicago Pro's Restaurant** - 7310 Barrington (630-855-6049)
- Country Style Donuts** - 1519 Irving Park (847-893-6222)
- Issa's Venezuelan** - 2360 Walnut (224-343-9779)
- Ke Chido Mexican & Venezuelan** - 1509 Irving Park (630-855-2397)
- La Michoacana Premium** - 1300 Irving Park (630-855-6991)
- La Perla Mexican** - 1816 Irving Park (630-483-8000)
- La Taqueria** - 1818 Army Trail (630-540-9320)
- Mariscos El Amigo** - 2184 Lake (630-736-9694)
- New Chapala Grill** - 1780 Irving Park (630-855-6117)
- Raki Restaurant** - 5678 Arlington (630-855-6727)
- Renate's German Restaurant** - 7213 Olde Salem (630-855-3596)
- Staco N Madre** - 2021 Irving Park (847-893-6220)

Find ALL participating restaurants & SPECIALS here - or in Hanover Park Eats on Facebook





Community Camera Sharing Initiative

In 2024, the Hanover Park Police Department launched the Community Camera Sharing Initiative, a collaborative effort aimed at enhancing public safety through the power of community and technology.

In our ongoing commitment to creating a safer environment for all residents, the Hanover Park Police Department is inviting you to participate in this innovative initiative. The Community Camera Sharing Initiative encourages residents and businesses to voluntarily register their security cameras with the police department, allowing us to create a comprehensive map of surveillance resources within our community.

How Does It Work?

1. **Voluntary Registration:** Residents and businesses with surveillance cameras are invited to voluntarily register their devices with the Hanover Park Police Department. Registration can be completed securely online through our dedicated portal.
2. **Mapping Resources:** Once registered, the information about the location of your camera will be added to a secure map maintained by our department. This map will assist law enforcement in quickly identifying potential sources of video footage in the event of a crime or incident.

3. **Ensuring Privacy:** It's important to note that the Community Camera Sharing Initiative is designed with privacy in mind. Participation is entirely voluntary, and the Hanover Park Police Department will not have direct access to your camera feeds. The information provided will only be used to contact you if there is a criminal incident in your area, and your footage may be requested to assist with an investigation.

Why Participate?

- **Enhance Public Safety:** By participating in this initiative, you contribute to the overall safety and security of our community.
- **Crime Deterrence:** Visible cameras act as a deterrent to criminal activity, making our neighborhoods less attractive to would-be offenders.
- **Faster Investigations:** In the unfortunate event of an incident, the Community Camera Sharing Initiative enables us to quickly identify potential sources of crucial video evidence, expediting investigations.

To register your camera or learn more about the Community Camera Sharing Initiative, please visit our website at <https://www.hpil.org/1184/Community-Camera-Sharing-Initiative>

Thank you for your continued partnership in making Hanover Park a safe and vibrant community. Together, we can build a stronger, more connected neighborhood.

Spring Exterior Property Maintenance Tips

The Hanover Park Code Enforcement Unit encourages residents to take proactive measures to avoid costly repairs in the future. The following tips can be made by many homeowners. If you feel that they are beyond your capabilities, please contact a local professional to assist.

- Clean your dryer exhaust. This will help the dryer in performance and reduce the risk of fire.
- Clean and repair the deck. After power washing, inspect your deck for loose or decaying boards. Replace boards as needed. Make sure you apply a waterproofing coating after cleaning. This will promote safety and ensure a longer life for the deck.
- Clean out gutters and window wells. Clearing debris assists with drainage and eliminates nesting spaces for unwanted animals.
- Inspect your roof. Replacing missing or damaged shingles will extend the life of your roof and reduce interior damage.
- Inspect the caulking around windows and doors. Reapplying caulk in needed areas reduces the chance of water damage. Additionally, proper caulking reduces the costs of cooling and heating.
- Inspect your driveway. Patch and fill cracks as needed. Asphalt driveways should be resealed every two to five years to extend longevity.



Spotlight on Excellence: Awards Dinner Winners Announced

On Thursday, February 12, 2026, the Village of Hanover Park held its annual Awards & Recognition Ceremony. 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 Business of the Year, Service to Hanover Park (Gurmeet Singh - not pictured), Service to Youth Award, Service to Veterans, and Citizen of the Year. Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to all the volunteers who give their time serving on the various committees and commissions.



Citizen of the Year Winner:
Erika Griesemer pictured with
Mayor Craig



Service to Veterans Winner:
Michele Salazar pictured
with Mayor Craig



Service to Youth Winner:
Michelle Roth pictured
with Mayor Craig & Julie Tarasiuk

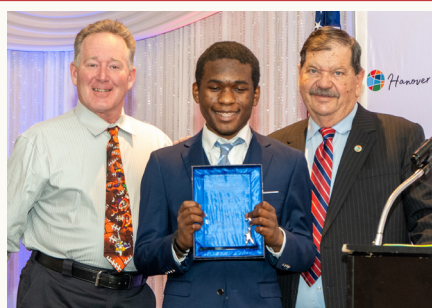
Michael H. Coleman Youth of the Year Awards

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 February 12, 2026 at the annual Awards and Recognition Ceremony. Congratulations to the 2026 Michael H. Coleman Youth of the Year, Samuel Harris, who received a \$1,200 Scholarship.

We also congratulate the Runner-Ups, Samuel Friedman, Gershon Acolatse, Martha Ibarra and Cecilia Jacobo (not pictured), who received \$700 scholarships.

Watch the Village's website for information on how to apply in 2027!



**Michael H. Coleman
Youth of the Year:**

Samuel Harris with
Mayor Craig & Pat Coleman



Youth of the Year Finalist:
Samuel Friedman and family with
Mayor Craig & Pat Coleman



Youth of the Year Finalist:
Gershon Acolatse and family with
Mayor Craig & Pat Coleman



Youth of the Year Finalist:
Martha Ibarra and family with
Mayor Craig & Pat Coleman

Severe Weather in Hanover Park: Preparing as Winter Transitions

March weather in the Chicago area often “comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.” As winter gives way to spring, residents may experience a mix of late-season snowstorms, heavy rain, rapid snowmelt, muddy roads, and localized flooding. This unpredictable transition can also bring an increased risk of severe weather.

Snowstorms and severe storms remain among the greatest early spring threats to Hanover Park. While winter conditions may begin to ease, hazards such as icy or slippery roads, power outages, and flooding can persist into the spring months. At the same time, northeastern Illinois enters a period when thunderstorms become more frequent, bringing the potential for damaging winds, large hail, heavy rainfall, and tornadoes. Understanding these risks and knowing how to respond can make a significant difference.

Stay Informed and Alert

Staying connected to reliable, up-to-date weather information is one of the most important steps you can take:

- Local Alerts: Sign up for Hanover Park’s emergency alert system and NIXLE notifications to receive real-time updates directly to your phone.
- NOAA Weather Radio: A battery-powered weather radio can provide National Weather Service alerts even during power outages.

It’s also important to understand the difference between alerts:

- Watch: Conditions are favorable for severe weather—stay alert and monitor updates.
- Warning: Severe weather is occurring or imminent—take immediate protective action.

Hanover Park’s outdoor warning sirens are designed to alert people who are outdoors. Do not rely on sirens alone; always use multiple sources to receive weather alerts.

Prepare Your Home and Family

As the seasons change, take time to review and update your emergency plans:

- Emergency Kit: Stock food, water, flashlights, batteries, first-aid supplies, and copies of important documents. Plan to be self-sufficient for at least three days.
- Safe Shelter: Identify the safest place in your home during severe storms or tornadoes—an interior room on the lowest level, away from windows

- Vehicle Readiness: Keep emergency items in your car, including blankets, jumper cables, an ice scraper, and a phone charger, as winter travel hazards may still occur.



Severe weather often arrives with little warning, and the transition from winter to spring can be especially unpredictable. Taking steps now to stay informed and prepared helps ensure you and your family are ready for whatever the weather brings.



Understanding Building Permits: What Residents Need to Know

The construction and home renovation season has arrived. Many remodeling projects, repairs, replacements, new structures and additions require permits before starting the work. Starting work without a permit will be subject to a penalty and a work stoppage.

Building permits are necessary to safeguard the safety and well-being of all Village residents, businesses and visitors. The enforcement of minimum construction standards promotes safety and quality for you and all occupants of your home or business, such as:

- Permits allow the Inspectional Services Division an opportunity to review your project for compliance with adopted building codes. These codes exist in many cases as a result of actual failures that have occurred. They seek to prevent similar failures from re-occurring.
- Permits ensure adequate fire suppression systems and/or notification systems are in place to give occupants the best opportunity to escape in an emergency and minimize damage to property. Permits also ensure that there is a clear path and that a minimum number of exits are available to escape a building in an emergency.
- Permits help to create accessible, barrier-free designs so that all occupants may enjoy your property.
- Permits help to guide a do-it-yourself project. Without a thorough knowledge of building codes, an otherwise handy person might unknowingly create an unsafe situation which could have been prevented during review of the proposed plans.

Continued on Page 11

Help Keep Our Village Beautiful: Seasonal Opportunities with Public Works

The Village of Hanover Park is seeking hardworking individuals to join our team. If you prefer the fresh air of the outdoors to a desk job and enjoy staying active, a seasonal laborer position with the Public Works Department might be the perfect fit for you.

Make a Direct Impact

Our seasonal crew plays a vital role in maintaining the infrastructure and aesthetics that make our Village a great place to live. No two days are the same, and your efforts will be visible throughout the community.

Typical responsibilities include:

- Beautification: Weeding flower beds and maintaining Village landscaping.
- Infrastructure Support: Patching potholes and assisting with essential utility repairs.
- Facility Maintenance: Painting and other projects to keep our public spaces looking their best.

Is This Job Right for You?

These positions are ideal for students home for the summer, retirees looking to stay active, or anyone who thrives in a physically demanding role. If you take pride in a job well done, we want to hear from you.

How to Apply

Opportunities are updated regularly as the season approaches. We encourage all interested residents to keep an eye on our official career portal for the latest openings.

Visit www.hpil.org

Join us this season and help keep Hanover Park running smoothly and looking beautiful!

Day of Service Notifications for Village Mosquito Control Applications

The Village’s mosquito control service, Clarke Mosquito Control, offers a “Day of Service Notification” that provides timely updates to residents about upcoming mosquito control applications. Simply visit www.clarkeportal.com/hotline to register for this alert at any time. Residents can also scan the QR code provided to sign up for notifications.

The 2026 mosquito control application schedule runs between May 1, 2026, and October 15, 2026. Its purpose is to manage mosquito populations and prevent disease outbreaks. Larvicide is applied from dawn to dusk, while adulticide is used from dusk to dawn.

The EPA-registered mosquito larvicides and adulticides can be safely applied in residential areas. According to the product labels, residents may remain outside during



the application, and no special safety precautions are required.

For questions or concerns, you can contact Clarke Customer Care at 1-800-942-2555.

The Village of Hanover Park remains dedicated to maintaining effective mosquito control while ensuring transparent communication with our residents.



Building Permits / Continued from Page 10

- Permits keep contractors from cutting corners to drive down their cost. A permit will require that inspections occur regularly as your project progresses. Work not meeting minimum code requirements will not be accepted.
- Permits help to maintain insurance coverage. An insurance claim for work that is revealed to have been completed without a permit may not be covered by your insurance company.
- Permits help verify that work completed on a property meets applicable requirements, which can assist during a sale. Buyers want to know that previous work performed was completed in a safe manner.

Visit the Inspectional Services Division at Village Hall or online at www.hpil.org for a complete list of what work requires a permit and to begin the application process. For questions or additional information, call 630-823-5860 or email iservices@hpil.org.



MAYOR RODNEY CRAIG'S KIDS AT HOPE COALITION PRESENTS

HEALTH & RESOURCE FAIR

HANOVER PARK PARK DISTRICT



SATURDAY
MARCH 14, 2026
- 10AM TO 1PM -

VISIT WWW.HPIL.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

LEARN ABOUT
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PERFORMANCES



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
Jennifer Broccolino, Trustee
Yasmeen Bankole, Trustee
Liza Gutierrez, Trustee
Jon Kunkel, Trustee
Herb Porter, Trustee

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