

Village of Mokena, Illinois Newsletter

Mokena e-News

April 20, 2018

Clean Sweep

Ready to pack away winter and all its ugliness for good?

Now's your time.

Tomorrow morning, Mokenans will honor the rich environmental heritage of our community with the town's 28th Annual Clean-Up Day.

Come be a part. Join us at Village Hall (11004 Carpenter Street) at 9:00 a.m. armed with a pair of work gloves. Together, we'll clean throughout the community and plant trees and wildflowers.

Individuals and civic groups are both invited to participate in the fun. A free lunch will be provided following the morning's activities.

See you tomorrow!

Opportunity, Transitions Coming to Downtown Station Area

If you're a regular user of Mokena's downtown station, opportunity and transitions are just around the bend.

Forty-nine additional parking spaces in the unpaved lot located just south of the Rock Island tracks are being opened up in early May for commuter use. These spaces, which will be available for lease at a rate of \$120 per quarter, are being allocated via a random lottery system. If you are interested in leasing one of these spaces, you can enter the lottery now. Simply visit "Latest News" on the Village of Mokena's website at www.mokena.org, follow the instructions, and submit your application.

Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, and all lottery entrants will be notified of their status by Friday, May 4.

Those selected through the random lottery will have the opportunity to begin utilizing their new space starting Monday, May 7, contingent upon their signing of a lease and submittal of their initial quarterly payment. Consistent with conditions that apply to existing parking spaces already being leased by commuters in this area, use of the new space cannot be guaranteed beyond March 31, 2019.

Minor changes are additionally coming soon to the paved lot located parallel to Front Street, just north of the Rock Island tracks. In this area, fifteen commuter parking spaces are being transitioned to business parking in support of downtown development, including the Tribes Beer Company's new brewery and beer garden. You can expect this transition to also occur Monday, May 7.

Jillian Hersted Appointed Trustee

The recent resignation of long-time Trustee John Mazzorana from your Mokena Village Board created a vacancy on the Board, and that vacancy has been filled by former Village Clerk Jillian Hersted.

Formal action to ratify Ms. Hersted's appointment as Trustee came at the Board's April 9 meeting, following shortly after the resignation of Mr. Mazzorana.

Ms. Hersted has been a resident of Mokena since 2005. Originally from the southwest suburbs and a 1997 graduate of Lincoln-Way High School, she went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2001.

Over the next ten-plus years, Ms. Hersted was employed with The Northern Trust Company in Chicago as an analyst, sales associate, and product manager for Northern's institutional investment outsourcing business. Her team created customized investment solutions for public and corporate defined benefit plans. During this time, she also earned a Master of Business Administration from DePaul's Kellstadt Graduate School of Management (2004) and was inducted into the Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in Business Administration.

Ms. Hersted left Northern Trust in 2013 to focus on raising her three children. In 2015, she and her family took ownership of Creamery stores in Mokena, Frankfort, and Orland Hills.

Appointed to the Village of Mokena's Economic Development Commission in 2005, Ms. Hersted served on that advisory body for twelve years. In April, 2017, she was elected Village Clerk, where she continued to serve the local community by working to make Mokena an enjoyable place to live, work, and raise a family.

Ms. Hersted and her husband Scott have three children. Together, they are actively involved in community sports and activities including basketball, soccer, and dance.

Melissa Martini Appointed Village Clerk

Subsequent to last week's appointment of former Clerk Jillian Hersted as Trustee on your Mokena Village Board, Melissa Martini was selected to fill her slot.

Authorizing action to approve Ms. Martini's appointment as Village Clerk came at the Board's April 9 meeting after Ms. Hersted was named to John Mazzorana's former Trustee position.

Ms. Martini, who is originally from the western suburbs, has been a resident of the Mokena area since 1990. Along with her husband Curt, she owns and operates two companies focused on the trade show and exhibit business. Precision Trade Show Services, Inc. was started in 1991, and Precision Exhibit Management, Inc. was launched in 2010. The former company provides installation and dismantling services at trade shows, while the latter warehouses, builds, and repairs exhibit properties.

Involved in the area community for many years, Ms. Martini has organized numerous activities for the Mokena Girl Scouts, including roller skating parties, bowling parties, and Daddy/Daughter dances. She has further served as a Board Member for the Mokena Burros organization over a series of several years, ultimately being elected as the group's Treasurer.

Ms. Martini has two step children, four children, and four grandchildren.

Trustee Joseph Siwinski Named Mayor Pro-Tem

Following in the footsteps of John Mazzorana, his Board colleague of many years, Trustee Joseph Siwinski has been named to the position of Mayor Pro-Tem on your Mokena Village Board.

Mayor Frank Fleischer recently recommended that Trustee Siwinski be designated to the position to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Trustee Mazzorana.

Action to formally confirm Mayor Fleischer's recommendation came at the Board's April 9 meeting.

Trustee Siwinski has served on the Board for 21 years, having been elected or re-elected to six (6) four-year terms. He was most recently re-elected to the Board in 2017.