

# ALSIP Messenger



For up to date information, check the Alsip website or Facebook page.

[villageofalsip.org](http://villageofalsip.org)  
The Village of Alsip

## FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE



John D. Ryan  
Mayor

Hello Village of Alsip Residents & Businesses,

These are not ordinary times as we manage our way through a pandemic unlike anything we've seen in our lifetimes. I hope you and your families remain safe and well. If you have lost someone to this virus, or know someone in your life is sick or suffering from the effects of this crisis, please know that you are in our thoughts.



We're in this together and we very much want to re-open closed businesses, start the graduations & birthday parties, start the little league and day camps and pools and vacations, etc, but most importantly we need to get everyone back to work, so they have the best opportunity to support themselves, as everyone is "Essential". My priority is to protect people & property, maintain effective Village services and continue to attract and expand businesses during a pandemic, so I'm asking everyone to please be a great neighbor and help our senior citizens, or let me know who needs help.

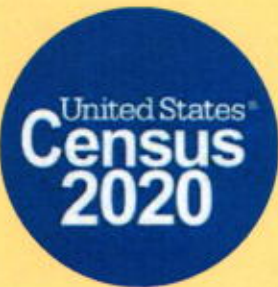
*"I am personally asking all citizens to shop local now, more than ever before, to again demonstrate why WE need these small businesses in Alsip and show our appreciation."*



The financial impact to our local businesses has been horrible, where owners were forced to fight with financial institutions and employees were denied paychecks to support their families and debts.

"I am personally asking all citizens to shop local now, more than ever before, to again demonstrate why WE need these small businesses in Alsip and show our appreciation."

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### The 2020 Census is happening now.

You can respond online, by phone, or by mail.

Visit [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov) for more information.

Let's make sure every Alsip resident is counted!  
#AlsipCounts

## 2nd Annual Appreciation and Award Dinner

On January 22nd, we held our 2nd Annual Appreciation and Award Dinner at the Village Hall.



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## Village of Alsip

4500 West 123rd Street  
Alsip, Illinois 60803

(708) 385-6902

[www.villageofalsip.org](http://www.villageofalsip.org)



Mayor  
John D. Ryan



Clerk  
Susan M. Petzel

### TRUSTEES



Richard S. Dalzell  
*Chairperson*  
Police & Traffic Safety Committee  
Information Technology Committee



Michael Zielinski  
*Chairperson*  
Building & Health Committee  
Ordinance & Legislation Committee



Monica M. Juarez  
*Chairperson*  
Public Works/Boat Launch Committee  
Planning & Zoning and License



Christine L. McLawhorn  
*Chairperson*  
Finance Committee  
Village Properties Committee



Christopher W. Murphy  
*Chairperson*  
Fire Committee  
Human Resources & Insurance



Catalina Nava-Esparza  
*Chairperson*  
Sewer & Water Committee  
Economic Development Committee



## LOCAL BUSINESS UPDATES

### FIRST: Welcome **Lynch**

Thank you again for selecting Alsip to locate your business at 4300 W 123rd Street. This 8-acre parcel is now stocked with a very large selection of tow trucks and wreckers of all sizes, including a parts department. **Lynch Chicago** is one of the Midwest's premier dealerships. Mike Lynch and Mike Mariner said they're excited as well for our Village. In addition, their plans are hiring more employees which could double their current staff.



*"There's no greater compliment then when a new business says 'It's been a pleasure working with you and your department heads, your efforts made our investment worth coming here.'"*

Moving to Alsip has allowed them to look at future plans that will include Instruction Classes to train people to become professional Tow Truck Operators. **We wish your business well!**

**NEXT:** "We see shovels in the ground", where the Village of Alsip will witness a former self-service gas station and restaurant, be transformed into a new modern designed 4,000sqft **7-Eleven convenience store** at 127th & Pulaski.



They're also pleased to have the opportunity to grow their business within Alsip, as a major part of their success is being able to offer express amenities including food & liquor items, gasoline and video gaming. **All the Best!**

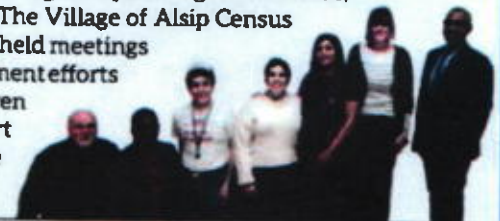
**PLUS:** **Coca-Cola** just purchased and leveled 10-acres of wooded property for water retention and additional parking for expansion at their Alsip plant, where they're building a 300,000 square foot warehouse that may reach 90 feet tall. We congratulate them on their success!



**LASTLY:** I met with the president of **LB Steel in Harvey, IL** and asked to pair him with a power-partner in Alsip, where he agreed to purchase a 16-acre parcel at 3350 W 131st Street, that was formally known as Blue Island Phenol chemical plant. **131st Street LLC** plans to remediate the site per EPA compliance and build a facility to refurbish containers for both semi-trucks and rail car. **Thank you!!**

## CENSUS UPDATE

If the people of Illinois are not counted during the upcoming 2020 Census, fewer resources will come to the state. The Village of Alsip Census 2020 Complete Count Committee (CCC) held meetings to strategize Census community engagement efforts for Alsip. Finance Director Kent Oliven showcased a vintage Census 2010 t-shirt and baseball cap to help committee members generate marketing ideas!



Alsip CCC members picture! left to Right: Alsip Mayor John D. Ryan, Christian Perry (Cook County Commissioner Donna Miller - 6th District), Kent Oliven (Village of Alsip), Sarah Cottonaro (Alsip-Merrionate Park Library), Trustee Catalina Nava-Esparza (Village of Alsip), Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks (Alsip Chamber of Commerce), Marcel Bright (Congressman Bobby Rush - 1st District).

# Update to Vehicle Sticker Sales



Susan Petzel  
Clerk

**Due to the hardships to families attributed to Covid 19 and our office being closed to the public, Mayor Ryan requested Village Trustees to extend compliance for Village Vehicle Stickers. The vote was approved for the extension to August 1st. Everyone can still purchase stickers online, or through the mail by check.**

The Mayor and Village Board agreed to discount Vehicle Stickers for One Active/Reserve Military or Veteran. Residents between the ages of



18 and 62, shall be permitted one vehicle license for a passenger vehicle or a Class B vehicle at a cost of \$5.00. To be eligible for the exemption the applicant shall present a valid driver's license and proof for Active/Reserve using CAC cards. Veteran status can be determined using Department of Defense (DD-2 form for retirees) (DD 2765 form) for Privileged Veterans. Veterans have also been able to get an updated driver's license/ID card with the "VETERAN" under the signature on the front of the card, or (VIC) Veterans Identification Card is acceptable.

Also new this year, if you have previously purchased a discounted vehicle sticker as a senior or disabled resident, you can now mail in your payment with the completed form or online by visiting [www.villageofalsip.org](http://www.villageofalsip.org) and click on the top toolbar where it says "Pay Water/Vehicle Sticker". You will no longer need to come to the Village Hall in person to get your vehicle sticker.



**Only one vehicle sticker per household shall be eligible for the discounted vehicle license be that senior, disabled or military/veteran.**

## Clerk's Office Family Updates

**Violet Regan** retired on December 1, 2019 after over 15 years of dedicated service to the Village of Alsip and its residents. Violet had extensive knowledge and was always willing to pitch in. We wish her a happy retirement.



**Tiffany Litoborski** welcomed a new baby boy named Jace on January 25, 2020. He was 8lbs 5oz and 21 1/2" long! Jace joins his big sister Brooklyn and proud dad Josh. Welcome to the world, Jace!



*Congratulations!*

## FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE - *continued from front cover*

Now, this public health crisis triggered a massive economic disruption, please know we'll need to make difficult decisions necessary for responsible spending. The reduction of revenues to the country, forced the State of Illinois' general revenue funds to be revised down \$2.7 billion in 2020 and \$4.6 billion in fiscal year 2021. This means Alsip's budget will

***"We'll budget within our means, but we won't sacrifice or reduce your Village services."***

need to be reduced as well and the revised budget I'm submitting, will eliminate most new purchases for all Village services and a much-needed asphalt replacement for all Village properties. Alsip must reduce its

spending and anticipate less revenues next year. The Board of Trustees will qualify and approve a reduced 2021 budget.

Lastly, please be optimistic and try to look forward to better times, as around the world, everything has changed. Everyone sympathizes with students/teachers who couldn't finish the schoolyear, or participate in proms, or graduation

ceremonies, soon friends & family will acknowledge your accomplishments. Travel, birthdays, bbq's, sports, day camps, band, dance, social events and even sitting down at your favorite restaurant or pub has been compromised, but we'll be ok and we'll remember what working together really meant, because we're blessed to have great services and resources in Alsip. Please take care of yourself and look after each other, especially the senior citizens, as many people are very proud and won't ask for help, so volunteer it, as you know to do what's right in your heart.

Please call my office when you have a question, or a problem, because we work for you and we want you to have accurate information, not social media opinions (708) 385-6902 Ext 317.

Sincerely

Mayor, John D. Ryan  
Village of Alsip



# A word from the Chief of Police



Jay Miller  
Police Chief

### New Patch

Several members of the Police Department recently re-designed the department's patch which had been in place for almost 50 years. The new patch includes the American flag as well as the Village flag



### Bike Patrols Coming Soon

Bike patrols will be used to patrol areas generally inaccessible to a patrol vehicle such as parks, bike paths, fests and sports complexes to enforce all ordinances and statues.



### DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶ A THIEF CAN STEAL VALUABLES FROM YOUR VEHICLE IN LESS THAN 30 SECONDS.
- ▶ IT TAKES LESS THAN 20 SECONDS FOR YOU TO REMOVE VALUABLES.
- ▶ IF YOU MUST LEAVE VALUABLE OBJECTS OR PACKAGES IN YOUR VEHICLE, LOCK THEM IN THE TRUNK.
- ▶ A VEHICLE WITH AN UNLOCKED DOOR OR AN OPEN WINDOW IS AN EASY TARGET.

Follow the Alsip Police Department on [facebook](#)

## Police Department Promotions

### Val Emich

*Promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant*

Val Emich has given 18 years of dedicated service to residents of Alsip. She started in the patrol division in 2002. She became an Evidence Technician in 2005. A certified Juvenile Officer in 2006. A Traffic Accident Investigator since 2006. She was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2007. She has been an evidence custodian for the Department from 2008 to present. She is a Certified Crisis Intervention Team Officer and Supervisor of the Alsip Crisis Intervention Team. A member of the Illinois Association of Property & Evidence Managers from 2018 to present. She recently became a Certified ALICE instructor for active shooting incidents. She is currently developing and organizing policies and procedures for the Department's Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.



### Mike Dollear

*Promoted from Detective to Sergeant*

Mike Dollear was sworn as an officer in May 1999. Mike became a Detective and Juvenile Officer in January 2002. Throughout his 18 year career as a Detective, he has worked numerous crimes including crimes against person's, financial crimes, homicides, exploitation of the elderly and identity thefts. Mike has been an Investigator and Supervisor for the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force. He has been on the advisory board of the children's advocacy center and a member of the CAIR (Child Abuse Investigative Resource) team which assists detectives throughout the Cook County 5th District on child sexual assault cases. Mike also maintained the sex offender and violent offender against youth registrations and has been a liaison for the Department of Children & Family Services. Mike has been an instructor with NEMRT teaching classes which include case review and sexual assault investigations.

**Have you registered for emergency alerts?  
Have you created your safety profile for you  
and your loved ones? It can save your life!  
Register for free at Smart911.com.**

**LOCK IT OR LOSE IT**

Keep your belongings safe.  
Lock your car.  
Don't be a victim.

# Update from the Fire Department



Thomas Styczynski  
Fire Chief

I am hoping when you are reading this article, we have returned to some normalcy after the Covid 19 pandemic. This virus is something that I'm sure none of us have ever experienced in our lives and hopefully won't experience again. This pandemic will change the course of our lives now and for the future. With that being said, we at the Alsip Fire department made numerous changes to our responses and how we protect our personnel. Our annual fire inspection



program was put on hold for several months as well as our public-education programs. We are hoping that both of these programs will be up and running around June 1st.

We have 2 firefighters retiring this spring, FF/PM Rick Haehnlein who will be retiring in June and FF/PM Bill Patterson who will be retiring in May. Both firefighters will be retiring with 23 years of service to the Alsip Fire Dept. We wish both of them a healthy and long retirement. We will also be hiring 2 new firefighters to replace them as well. They will be placed on days beginning May 4th and will be on shift during the last week of May. We welcome the new firefighters to our family.

Last year, October, we had the largest attendance yet for our annual Open House. We estimated over 600 people attended throughout the afternoon. We would like to thank everyone who came out and hopefully enjoyed the day. We will try to top it this year.



Follow the Alsip Fire Department on [facebook](#)

## It's not too late to participate in the Hometown Hero Banner Program

The Village of Alsip is proud to offer this program to honor current or former residents of Alsip who have served or are currently serving our country in a branch of the military.

Individuals to be recognized must be a current or former resident of Alsip, and must have served in any of the following branches of service:

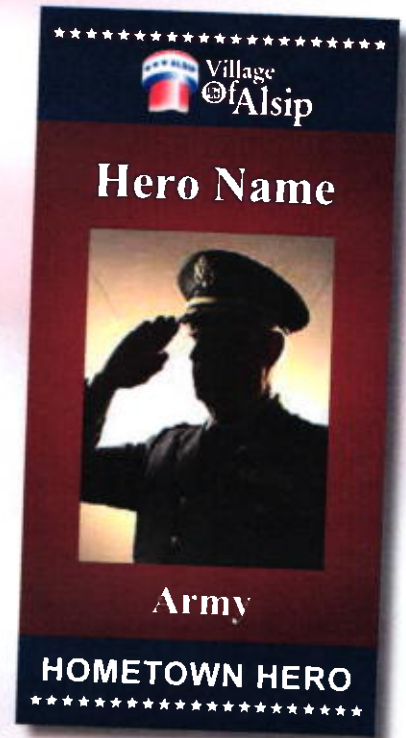
- Army ★ Navy ★ Air Force ★ Marines
- Coast Guard ★ National Guard

Banners will be placed on Cicero and Pulaski Avenues by Memorial Day weekend. To order a banner for your Hometown Hero, fill out the application on the Village's website. Return the completed form, photo of the individual in uniform, and fee to the Village Hall.

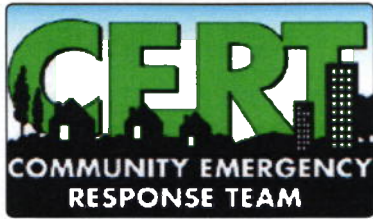
[www.villageofalsip.org](http://www.villageofalsip.org) or [www.alsipchamber.org](http://www.alsipchamber.org)

### Questions?

Contact the Alsip Chamber of Commerce at **708-597-2668**







The program incorporates life-saving and decision-making skills in order to decrease injury and mortality; providing help when an unplanned disastrous event unfolds which has the potential to overwhelm the existing response capability. Volunteers focused on disaster preparedness, practiced fire suppression, emergency operations, basic search and rescue techniques, organizing resources, basic medical operations, how to use a fire extinguisher and basic damage assessment.

The CERT program is part of a nationwide effort to empower citizens in preparedness and response to major emergencies. The training curriculum was developed and approved for the National CERT Program by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security. IMG 2864,2874,2873

Those interested in registering for the CERT Course should contact Charles Geraci, Department of Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Village of Alsip, (708) 254-2900 or cgeraci@villageofalsip.org. Class size is limited to 30.



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## 2nd Annual Appreciation and Award Dinner

Mayor John Ryan presented the **PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD** to six of our members for their hours of service.

Overall, we had major accomplishments for the last 2 years:

Training	1028 hrs
Events	319.50 hrs
Meetings	42 hrs
Assistance	35.5 hrs
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,424 hrs</b>



### Thank you, President Donald Trump, for the signed letters to each award recipient.

*“One of our Nation’s greatest strengths remains the compassion of our everyday citizens, who give so willingly of themselves and their lives for the benefit of others.”*

— *President Donald Trump*

Thank you also to all the members that served this past year. Total hours served for 2019 – 974.50 hours! Thank you for your dedication and commitment to make a difference in our communities.

Our very own **Presidential Volunteer Service Awards** recipients:

- Laura Braden
- Angel Feliciano, Jr.
- John Gray
- Arthur Petzel
- Patty Ridings
- Tammy Rose



Back row - left to right: Mayor John Ryan, Chuck Geraci, Arthur Petzel. Front row - left to right: John Gray, Angel Feliciano, Jr., Laura Braden, Tammy Rose, Patty Ridings