



Village of Downs
 211 S. Seminary, PO Box 18
 Downs, IL 61736-0018
 Voice/Fax: 309-378-3221
 Email: Info@VillageOfDowns.org
 Website: www.VillageOfDowns.org

Mayor, Village Board and Clerk

Public Safety/Services/ President/Mayor	Public Safety/Services/ President Pro Tem	Public Works	Streets	Building	Finance	Parks/Youth Center/Food Pantry	Clerk
Mike James	Maureen Roach	Paul Messamore	Danny Lush	Mary Goveia	Open	Margaret Keylin	Julie James

From the Desk of the Mayor - December 2015

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Another busy month as we wind down to the end of the calendar year and work to wrap up our new TIF District.

This month we held the required Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) and public hearing for five annexations within the new TIF district. All five annexations and rezoning were approved unanimously by the ZBA and Village Board. This sets the stage for the final act needed before adoption of the new TIF, which is subdividing of existing farm ground contained within the TIF. These plats will be considered once completed and will push the adoption of the TIF out a few months because of posting and notification requirements.

We also passed out annual tax levy as presented and covered last month:

Fund Name	2014 Tax Levy	2015 Tax Levy
General Corporate	\$37,345	\$37,813
Audit	\$5,000	\$5,000
Liability Insurance	\$15,000	\$15,000
Parks	\$1,000	\$3,100
Social Security	\$14,000	\$13,649
Street lighting	\$0	\$1,400
Total	\$72,345	\$75,962

Activity is continuing at Downs Crossing. Corn Belt Energy held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new road "One Energy Way" and they soon will be contracting to install Phase 1 of the water main loop. Other business taken up: biweekly payroll, additional improvements on the new village building, and a revised redevelopment plan for TIF 1.

Finally, we are extremely proud of our Tri-Valley Viking football team that fulfilled their goal of "finishing" the business from 2 years ago. Congratulations to the Team, coaching staff and school on this fantastic accomplishment. The Village Board unanimously declared November 27, 2015 as "Tri-Valley Viking IHSA Class 2A Football Championship Day".

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, explanation or clarification. Please support your local business as they rely on YOUR support to stay in business. Thriving businesses will make Downs a more attractive place to live and invest.

In your service,
 Mike James, Mayor
 309-830-7374,
Mayor@VillageOfDowns.org

Other Positions and Committee Chairs

<u>Police Chief</u> Josh Dingler	<u>Public Works Superintendent</u> Kevin Whitehouse	<u>Treasurer and TIF Administrator</u> Julie Bakewell	<u>Zoning Enforcement</u> Lyndall Cuba	<u>Zoning Board Chairperson</u> Linda Bowman
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Attention:


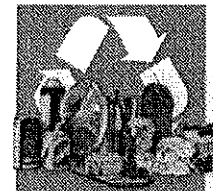
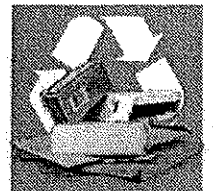
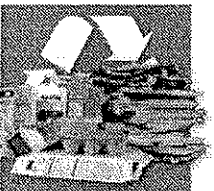

We are please to announce Casali & Son's Disposal Inc. (Casali) IS NOW Area Disposal Service, Inc. ("AREA").

Similar to Casali, AREA is a family-owned business that puts customer service first. AREA has been providing competitively priced, dependable solid waste collection in central Illinois since 1928.


Your service is undergoing a seamless transition to AREA. The service day for Downs will remain the same, every Friday of the month. The Recycle pickup will also remain the same: the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month.

HOW TO USE THIS
COMMINGLED RECYCLE CART

♻️ RECYCLING ONLY. VERIFY ITEM BELOW. PLACE IN CART.

 <p>PLASTIC CONTAINERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PET Soda, Water, & Flavored Beverage Bottles (#1 clear and green plastic resin) • HDPE Milk & Juice Jugs (#2 clear plastic resin) • HDPE Detergent & Fabric Softener Containers (#2 colored plastic resin) • PVC Narrow Neck Containers Only (#3 plastic resin) such as health & beauty aid products, household cleaners LDPE Grocery Containers • #4 plastic resin; such as margarine tubs, frozen dessert cups, six and twelve pack rings • #5 Grocery Containers (#5 plastic resin), such as yogurt cups, and narrow neck Syrup and Ketchup bottles • #7 Plastic Resin Narrow Neck Containers Only • #7 Plastic Buckets, such as kitty litter containers (5 gallon size maximum) 	 <p>METALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aluminum Cans, Trays & Foil (trays & foil must be cleaned) • Steel Cans • Tin/BI-Metal Cans 	 <p>CARDBOARD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flatten and cut down to fit in cart. • NO waxed cardboard 	 <p>PAPER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magazines, Catalogs, and Telephone Books • Office, Computer, Notebook, & Gift Wrap Paper (NO metal clips, spirals, binders) • Chipboard (ceceat cake & food mix boxes, gift boxes, etc.) • Newspapers • Carrier Stock (soda & beer can carrying cases) • Junk Mail & Envelopes (NO plastic cards, stick on labels or unused stamps) • Paper Back Books (NO hard cover books)
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 10px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">STOP</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">YES</p>  </div> </div>			

❗ DO NOT PLACE GARBAGE IN THIS CART.




THESE ITEMS SHOULD NOT BE PUT IN CART

- Garbage
- Motor Oil Bottles
- Pet Food Bags
- Plastic Bags
- Food-soiled Paper
- Light Bulbs and Fluorescent Bulbs
- Window Glass
- Frozen Food Boxes or Bags
- Plastics #6 (Styrofoam)

Rinse all food and beverage containers!

NO

NO



Lot #

REMINDER:

GARBAGE PICKUP DATES for

The Christmas and New Year days will be pushed back 1 day.

So, Saturday, 12-26-2015 and 01-02-2016 is when garbage will be picked up.

(ANY QUESTIONS, please call Village Hall at 309-378-3221.)

A Look Ahead

QUICK GLANCE AT UPCOMING VILLAGE EVENTS AND MEETINGS

December:

- December 10 – Events Committee Meeting, 6 pm @ Village Hall
- December 19 – Cookies with Santa, 9-11 am and 5:30-7:30 pm @ Dooley Park Pavilion
- December 20 – House Decorating Contest Judging Ends
- December 21 – Special Event Committee Meeting to decide contest winners, 6 pm @ Village Hall
- December 25 – Merry Christmas!

January:

- January 1 – Happy New Year!
- January 7 – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall
- January 14 – Events Committee Meeting, 6 pm @ Village Hall
- January 26 – Parks Committee Meeting, 6 pm @ Village Hall
- ZBA Public Hearing for commercial sub-division preliminary plans in Jan or Feb date TBA

February:

- February 4 – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall
 - February 11 – Events Committee Meeting, 6 pm @ Village Hall
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Christmas in Downs

COOKIES WITH SANTA AND HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

Events Committee has set the date and times for “Cookies with Santa”. They will have decorations, cookies and photo opportunity with Santa on December 19th from 9 – 11 am and 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Mark your calendar! Location Dooley Park Pavilion.

Once again we will hold a house lighting contest that will go until Dec 20th. This year everyone will be entered in the contest. We will have three categories: 1) Village Choice, 2) Committee Choice and 3) Largest Display. Voting for the Village Choice category will be online or via ballot that can be dropped off at the Village Hall.

One vote per person and all ballots or online votes must contain a valid resident name. Winners will again receive gift certificates to one of our local businesses. The Committee will make the final decision on the remaining two categories. Winners will be determined at the special Event Committee meeting on December 21st, 2015, 6 pm at the Village Hall.

I want to thank Dave Bach for helping me put up the banners and brackets. Thank you to Cyndi Miller and Jill Kasprzak for putting up the flags.

**** More information and registration forms are available on the Village website or at the Village Hall**

Events Committee Direction

BREAKING TRADITION VS. LACK OF VOLUNTEERS

Based on the second year of little volunteers for July 4th, the Events Committee set its future direction, but it must have not been clear. So we will be now. The committee will now ONLY plan for its events based on the volunteers it has at the time it starts planning for that event. However, if someone wants to plan, coordinate and do something in addition to what we have planned you are welcome, but the committee is no longer going to plan and hope/beg for volunteers to show.

FYI...Preliminary plans for July 4th 2016 are parade, vendors, some entertainment and fireworks.

If you want to organize and plan additional activity, we welcome and applaud the effort, but please communicate any plans for that activity to the Events Committee at least two weeks prior to the event.

Finance Trustee Position Open

PLEASE CONSIDER SERVICE TO YOUR VILLAGE

The Mayor will be accepting letters for consideration for only this position. Your term of office will be the remaining months until April 30, 2017. If you decide to continue, you will need to run for a four-year term in the 2017 April election. You will be paid \$125 per regular or special board meeting.

You are eligible to be a Trustee if you are a registered voter and a resident of Downs for at least one year prior to the date of the election. A person is not eligible to take the oath of office for a municipal office if that person is, at the time required for taking the oath of office, in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to the municipality or has been convicted in any court located in the United States of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony [65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(a)(b)]s.

TIF 1 Redevelopment Plan

REDEVELOPMENT PLAN HAS BEEN AMENDED

Please see the village website for the amended plan for TIF 1. It is located under the main page under the "Recent News" section and also under TIF Documents.

**** More information and registration forms are available on the Village website or at the Village Hall**




VILLAGE OF DOWNS BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING OVERVIEW
7:00 PM
December 3, 2015

Village Hall
211 S. Seminary St,
PO Box 18
Downs, IL 61736

1. Mayor Mike James called the regular village board meeting to order on December 3, 2015 at 7:01 pm.
2. Roll call was taken with Trustees Roach, Goveia, Keylin and Lush all present. Trustee Messamore was absent. Also present were Mayor James, Attorney Dawn Wall, Chief Dingler, Treasurer Bakewell and Clerk James.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was taken.
4. A motion to approve the agenda order was made and approved.
Some deletions to the agenda were made.
5. Zoning Board of Appeals
 - Chairwoman Linda Bowman represented the Zoning Board of Appeals. The zoning board voted unanimously that the village board accept their recommendations.
 - There was no public comment on the recommendations.
 - A motion to approve Resolution 2015-R17 Authorizing the Execution of an Annexation Agreement between the Village of Downs and McLean County Asphalt Co., Inc. was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-19 annexing the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed between the Village of Downs and McLean County Asphalt Co., Inc. was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-20 Approving the Rezoning of the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed Between the Village of Downs and McLean County Asphalt Co. (add agriculture) Inc. was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Resolution 2015-R18 Authorizing the Execution of an Annexation Agreement between the Village of Downs and Betty Williamson was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-21 annexing the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed between the Village of Downs and Betty Williamson was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Resolution 2015-R19 Authorizing the Execution of an Annexation Agreement between the Village of Downs and Virginia and Hurschel Reese Jr. was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-22 annexing the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed between the Village of Downs and Virginia and Hurschel Reese Jr. was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-23 approving the Rezoning of the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed between the Village of Downs and Virginia and Hurschel Reese Jr. from agriculture to C2 for special use single family residential was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Resolution 2015-R20 Authorizing the Execution of an Annexation Agreement between the Village of Downs and True-Line Wire Guidance, Inc. was made and approved.

- A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-24 annexing the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed between the Village of Downs and True-Line Wire Guidance, Inc. was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-25 approving the Rezoning of the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed between the Village of Downs and True-Line Wire Guidance, Inc. from Agriculture to C2 was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Resolution 2015-R21 Authorizing the Execution of an Annexation Agreement between the Village of Downs and Joseph and Sandra Bobst was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-26 annexing the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed between the Village of Downs and Joseph and Sandra Bobst was made and approved.
6. All trustee reports, committee reports and the mayoral report can be found in the flyer.
7. A break was taken at 9:29 pm-9:38 pm.
8. New Business
- Motions
 - Motion to Approve continuance of the Village of Downs Regular Board Meeting to _____, 7:00 pm at the Village Hall No action was taken.
 - A motion to approve the November 5, 2015 Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes was made and approved.
 - A motion to approve Biweekly Payroll Processing Effective January 2016 for all Employees was made and later amended to motion to approve Biweekly Payroll Processing Effective January 2016 for all employees, appointed and elected officials. Approved
 - A motion to approve not to exceed \$4000 for Sewer on the Village Shed payable from TIF 1 was made and approved.
 - Resolutions
 - A motion to approve Resolution 2015-R22 Proclaiming, Declaring, Dedicating and Naming November 27, 2015 - "Tri-Valley Viking IHSA Class 2A Football Championship Day" was made and approved.
 - Ordinances
 - A motion to approve Ordinance 2015-16 Adopting and Approving a 2015 Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and Project for the Downtown Redevelopment Project Area of the Village of Downs, McLean County, Illinois was made and approved.
 - A motion approving the Ordinance 2015-27 Approving the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Corporate Purposes of the Village of Downs, McLean County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year of May 1, 2016 thru April 30, 2017 was made and approved.
9. There was no old business
- Motions
 - Ordinances
 - A motion approving Ordinance 2015-15 Vacating the Alley Adjacent Downs United Methodist Church and 106 S. Seminary St. was made and approved.

- No action was taken on Ordinance 2015-___ Approving Changes to Various Chapters of the Village Code.
 - Resolutions
 - No action was taken on Resolution 2015-R___ Authorizing and Approving the Acceptance of Farmland Subdivision.
10. A motion to approve payment of bills was made and approved.
11. A motion to adjourn was made at 9:55 pm was made and approved.



Julie James, Clerk

BUILDING PERMIT REMINDER

Please remember to apply for a building permit **before** any construction, alteration, moving, structural repair or demolition, interior or exterior, of any structure, or any excavation within the corporate limits of the Village. If the estimated cost or proposed work and material exceeds \$2,000.00, then the application will need to be accompanied by plans or drawings and specifications sufficient to show that the minimum requirements of the building ordinance will be met.

Also, be aware that there is a Small Project Application available, which includes decks of 150 square feet or less, permanent or moveable sheds, fencing, and roofs.

Both the Building Application and Small Project Application are available on the Village website at VillageOfDowns.org.

Mary Goveia, Village of Downs Building Trustee

309-212-0594

Senior News

The November breakfast was well attended.

Everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving meal which was held at the fire station. We had so many delicious dishes and especially all the different desserts. Thanks to all who prepared the turkey. Money was collected for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets we prepare to be given to needy families. Mary Lawyer celebrated a birthday in November.

December 3rd breakfast was held at Bob Evans.

The December 16th Christmas meeting will be held at Jack's Café in LeRoy at 11:30. Please bring a \$10.00 gift if you wish to take part in the exchange.

Thanks to all who have helped throughout the year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR



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President/Mayor Mike James	President Pro Tem Maureen Roach	Paul Messamore	Danny Lush	Mary Goveia	Open	Margaret Keylin Julie James

Letter from the Chief

Hello all, this was another slow month. I will like to stress that you keep things locked up. Cars, garages, sheds, barns, and houses. Keep the presents you are giving away safe for those you intend to give them to. Remember not to keep gifts in the car, the more we can be proactive the better life will be.

The roads are getting more and more slick, please increase your distance between cars to provide more reaction time and longer stopping distance in case of ice. Please check your car supplies, make sure you have up to date emergency items, food, water, blankets, extra hats and gloves...

2016 will be an exciting year for Downs. Our department will be looking toward subtle positive changes. We are entertaining the thought of creating a Police Committee 2x's a year to get new ideas or changes to light. If you would like to be on the board, please contact Trustee Maureen Roach.

The Christmas Holiday lights are beautiful. I have enjoyed seeing them as I do my patrols at night. Keep it up. Be safe and have a wonderful Holiday!

Chief Joshua Dingler

Police Chief
Josh Dingler

Public Works Superintendent
Kevin Whitehouse

Other Positions and Committee Chairs

Treasurer and TIF Administrator
Julie Bakewell

Zoning Enforcement
Lyndall Cuba

Zoning Board Chairperson
Linda Bowman

Village of Downs Streets Department:

Our regular pickup for brush, yard waste, and tree limbs, etc. is now concluded for this season.

Our next scheduled pickups will begin the first Monday of each month beginning in April, 2016, and be ongoing until the fall of 2016.

With winter on the horizon, please be mindful of the snow removal needs, and park any vehicles well off the streets for easier snow removal.

Thanks, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

*Dan Lush
Street Trustee
309-838-6031*

Water and sewer report for November 2015

12/3/2015

The sewer lift station delivered 1,599,000 gallons to BNWRD for the month, averaging 53,300 per day. The total water pumped for the month was 2,018,400 gallons for an average of 67,300 gallons per day. The average iron concentration in the finished water remained the same at .39 PPM. The known service line leaks on Woodlawn and on Fox Run have been repaired along with another service leak on North Gadwall. The plant flows have stabilized around 62,000 a day. A possible storm water inflow to the sewer system was located by Mayor James, additional testing and possible repairs will follow. The (filter backwash water) red water filter is in need of media replacement, it is plugged and will no longer allow water to pass through. We are currently allowing to the solids to settle out then pumping the water out to the normal discharge location. The media replacement is being considered for in house work or bids will be sought.

Happy Holidays to all...

Kevin Whitehouse
309-319-1010
309-378-2137
downswaterplant@hotmail.com

Parks' Committee Report

At our November meeting, the Parks' Committee continued to refine the Dooley Park Rental Agreement and Checklist. When renting the Pavilion, you'll need to pay the rental fee and cleaning/damage deposit **separately** in order to get your refund back ASAP. After your event in the Pavilion, you need to return the key to the Village Office either in person between 8 AM and Noon Monday through Friday or by slipping it into the secure slot at the side of the Village Hall. We are offering a ½ price rental rate to non-profits who show 501c proof and also to village groups who help the community. All groups must pay the \$20.00 refundable cleaning/damage deposit. The spacious, clean, **HEATED DOOLEY PARK PAVILION is ACCEPTING RENTALS FOR EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE FALL AND WINTER MONTHS.**

The committee is planning on making repairs and improvements to both the Pavilion and Youth Center. In particular we hope to address some plumbing and electrical issues in the Youth Center and improve air circulation in the Pavilion.

We received some great monetary news this past month. The Village Board approved an increase of the property tax money allocation that goes to Parks for next year. We'll have \$3100.00 which will help us meet our basic bills without dipping into the general fund. Mediacom gave a \$500.00 grant to our parks for use this year. Thank you!

The committee discussed what we need to do to provide a safe fire pit area in Dooley Park. We looked at village ordinances and decided to consult the fire department about safety rules and regulation suggestions. An inquiry has been made to build a horseshoe pit in Dooley Park as an Eagle Scout project. We'll keep you posted on its progress. The Pavilion dumpster has been relocated farther away from the Pavilion for health and aesthetic purposes. Unfortunately people have still been dumping personal garbage into the Parks' dumpster. We ask you respectfully to stop this practice and find another solution that doesn't negatively impact your village.

The Food Pantry continues to meet needs in our community. Last month the Pantry created 40 food boxes and distributed 37 of them. As usual at Thanksgiving and Christmas, food baskets are given to families of TV students in need of help as a part of the Kid to Kid Program. The Food Pantry really appreciates all the generous donations it has received lately. The Downs Topnotchers 4-H Club has taken them on as a project this year. Each month a different 4-H family helps with the Pantry. In addition the club donated \$100.00 to the Pantry which it plans to use for garbage bags and other needed supplies. 4-H Club and the Methodist Church donated a supply of much needed personal hygiene items not available from the food bank. Cub Scouts donated lots of food from their Thanksgiving Food Drive. The Carr family donated 175 lbs of venison, and the Tri-Valley National Honor Society paid for its processing. This provides a nutritious and special addition to the food the Pantry can offer this month. For all of these gifts, the Pantry is truly thankful.

The next Park Committee meeting will be held on **Tues., January 26, 2016 at 6:00 PM** in the Dooley Park Pavilion. All are welcome to attend.

Respectfully,
Peggy Keylin,
Village of Downs Park Trustee

The Parks' Committee wishes you Compliments of the Season!

Downs United Methodist Church

Annual Cookie Walk

**Homemade
cookies!**

**Homemade
candy!**



**December 12, 2015
9:00 am until sold out!**

Cookies With Santa!

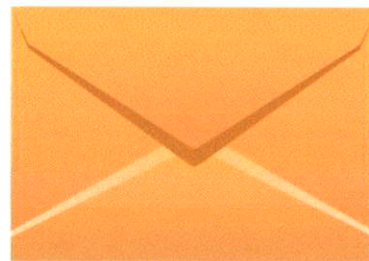


December 19, 2015
9:00-11:00 a.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m.

*Enjoy cookies and milk
We will have a photographer take your picture
with Santa*

*You will receive a letter mailed from Santa
with your picture from the event
\$5 per child*

Dooley Park Pavilion, Downs
Questions? Please call
the Village Hall at 309-378-3221



Your Home Town Self Storage Facility

Downs Self Storage

119 Shaffer Drive

P.O. Box 84

Downs, IL 61736-0084

962-3137

Rental Unit sizes Available:

6' x 10' with 4' x 7' door

10' x 12' with 9' x 7' door

10' x 18' with 9' x 7' door

10' x 24' with 9' x 7' door

From \$45/month

Village of Downs
 211 S. Seminary St.
 PO Box 18
 Downs, Illinois 61736

Current Resident
 Downs, Illinois 61736

Village of Downs Officials and Contacts

Mayor	Mike James	309-830-7374	Mayor@VillageOfDowns.org	
Clerk	Julie James	309-830-7373	Clerk@VillageOfDowns.org	
Trustee – Pro Tem	Maureen Roach	309-378-1477	PublicSafety@VillageOfDowns.org	Public Safety & Services
Trustee	Mary Goveia	309-212-0594	Building@VillageOfDowns.org	Building
Trustee	Dan Lush	309-838-6031	Streets@VillageOfDowns.org	Streets
Trustee	Paul Messamore	217-621-8127	PublicWorks@VillageOfDowns.org	Public Works
Trustee	Peggy Keylin	309-378-4098	Parks@VillageOfDowns.org	Parks
Trustee	Open		Finance@VillageOfDowns.org	Finance
Treasurer	Julie Bakewell	309-378-5677	Treasurer@VillageOfDowns.org	
Water Plant	Kevin Whitehouse	309-319-1010	DownsWaterPlant@hotmail.com	Public Works Superintendent
Police Non-Emergency Emergency	Joshua Dinger MetCom	309-378-2911x300 309-888-5030 911	Downs.Village.PD@gmail.com	Police Chief
Village Hall		309-378-3221	Info@VillageOfDowns.org	Park Pavilion Reservations
Zoning	Lyndall Cuba	309-378-3221	Info@VillageOfDowns.org	Zoning Enforcement Officer
Zoning	Linda Bowman	309-378-3221	Info@VillageOfDowns.org	Zoning Board of Appeals Chair
Committee Committee	Paul Messamore Mike James			Development Committee Chair Events Committee Chair