



March 2025

News & Current Events

From the Desk of the Mayor

Great news today, the water plant has passed ALL its required tests for us to put it online. We are scheduled to have all the players in town the week of April 7th to take the steps needed. If everything works out, we should be going online the week of April 14th.

Once the plant is operational, we will start softening the water around 50% and slowly increasing it to around 75-80%. We will also start flushing the water mains to clear out as much sediment as possible, but this process will probably take time. We will communicate over our FB page and website as we progress. It will be left to the discretion of each homeowner and their preferences if they want to keep any current systems in their home. I am told once we are operating at our softener target you will no longer need a water softener. We will recommend a whole house filter to catch any debris in the water if you don't already have one installed. RO systems and other filtration systems will be up to each homeowner's preference.

Streetscape design will be final in March with a few changes that we received at the public hearing and feedback from the county highway department. We expect to bid around the end of March or beginning of April. Once bids are closed, contractor chosen, and contracts signed, we will be able to provide more details around the construction plan.

The streetscape project started in 2015. This project will complete the downtown transformation the development committee envisioned when it created the strategic development plan and updated the comprehensive plan for the Village and adopted by the Village Board of Trustees in 2014 as Chapter 18 of our Village Code. The following is the mission established for the Village:

Priority 1: Increase Residential Properties

Goal: Maintain and Attract Residential Development

Objective 1. Increase Single Household Residential Development with a controlled approach

Objective 2. Advance Senior Living Residential Development

- ☐ Priority 1 Action 1: Provide encouragement for Developers to explore Downs' development areas
- ☐ Priority 1 Action 2: Approach developers marketing potential residential areas



Priority 2: Maintain/Attract Commercial Development

Goal: Attract and Retain Entrepreneurs and Establishments

Objective 1: Maintain Existing Commercial Development with Incentives and Programs

- Priority 2 Action 1: Promote a day to host a Support your Local Businesses
- Priority 2 Action 2: Identify future needs for Existing Commercial Development

Objective 2: Attract Future Commercial Development with Incentives, Plans and Programs

- Priority 2 Action 3: Promote the use of the existing vacant buildings as a business startup
- Priority 2 Action 4: Identify needs for future Commercial Development
- Priority 2 Action 5: Prepare shovel ready estimates for commercial development properties

Priority 3: Promote the Village of Downs Development Plan

Goal: Village of Downs will respond to all appropriate development opportunities

Objective: Maintain the “Small Town” character and improve its appeal

- Priority 3 Action 1: Provide website outlining the opportunities for development within the Village
- Priority 3 Action 2: Identify the top 5-6 priorities for types of Commercial development
- Priority 3 Action 3: Partner with Economic Development Council to promote commercial development

Downs Crossing Water Main and Tower:

- 1) *Tower construction is progressing well with the pedestal being built and the bowl constructed on the ground. Around April 4th the bowl will be lifted on top of the pedestal.*
- 2) *The tower will be the same color and lettering as our current tower but will be a 150k gallon pedestal tower.*
- 3) *The yellow pipe on the north side of Rt 150 will be our water main going to Downs Crossing. It is in 500' sections and they plan to bore 1000' per day once they get started again. They hope to be completed in April/May weather permitting.*
- 4) *Pressure reducing stations are delayed but we still anticipate their coming in July. Once we have those systems and everything is tested and complete, we can begin operation. Tentative plan is for late summer or early fall.*

Once completed the tower will provide 150k gallons more water capacity. It will back feed water to the Village by looping dead ends for the highest areas of the village, increase pressure, and provide better water quality (circulation).



Village Of Downs

From the Desk of the Mayor

Annexation for Beecher East did not get voted on this month because no Trustee offered a motion. It will remain on the agenda for consideration for at least 60 days. The annexation request from Tony Soper also was not considered since the wrong Township taxing body was notified. We will correct that situation and have the ZBA revisit April 8th, 6 pm @Village Hall. They will also consider an ZMA from Hillard/Misch and possibly another annexation and ZMA from Hundman at that same meeting.

There are and will be the following openings on the ZBA and Village Board: 2 ZBA members, Village President (Mayor) and Village Clerk. Please apply to the Village Hall if interested.

Please reach out if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Please see the meeting overview for other action items considered by the Board.

In your service,

Mike James, Mayor

309-830-7374

Mayor@VillageOfDowns.org

Soper Annexation and Variance & Misch ZMA ZBA Public Hearing

April 8, 2025, 6pm @ Village Hall

The Village Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on the proposed annexations and zoning map amendments to hear evidence and facts on the new discovery of fact: Tony Soper property is requesting Annexation and Variance to continue to allow horses on his property. Property will remain Ag after annexation. Hillard/Mish are seeking ZMA from C2 with Special Use for Solar to R1. The hearing will be held on 4/8/2025, 6pm @ Village Hall. Consideration of these Annexations and ZMA will be at the Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting on 4/10/2025, 7pm @ Village Hall.



Village of Downs Board of Trustees Meeting Overview March 13th, 2025, 7 pm @ Village Hall & via ZOOM

Executive order **2021-9** by the Governor of Illinois allowed this meeting to be held via Zoom, telephone and at the Village Hall.

1. Mayor Mike James called the March 13, 2025, regular Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:15pm.
2. Roll Call was taken. Trustees present were Maureen Roach, Anna Milliken, Stephanie Adkisson, Sarah Gassaway, Brian Warfel and Toby Twyford. There was a quorum present. Also present was Clerk Julie James, Treasurer Julie Bakewell and Village Attorney Dawn Wall.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited
4. A Motion to Approve Agenda and Order was made and approved.
5. Zoning Board of Appeals
 1. Chairperson Eric Thompson ZBA Recommendation – Thompson was not present. The ZBA voted 5-1 to decline the petition for annexation/zoning.
 2. Ordinance 2025-__ Approving the Zoning of Parcel #22-33-353-007 from A, Agriculture, to R-2, Medium Density Residential. – No action taken.
 3. Ordinance 2025-__ Annexing the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed Between the Village of Downs and MM Bowers, Inc. – No action taken.
 4. Resolution 2025-R__ Authorizing and Approving Annexation Agreement with MM Bowers, Inc. and the Village of Downs – No action taken.
 5. Ordinance 2025-__ Annexing the Territory Set Forth in the Annexation Agreement Executed Between the Village of Downs and Tony Soper – No action taken.
 6. Resolution 2025-R__ Authorizing and Approving Annexation Agreement with Tony Soper and the Village of Downs - No action taken.
6. Reports can be found in the flyer.
7. Public Comment – There was a few public comments.
8. A Motion to Approve Items Contained within the Consent Agenda was made and approved.
9. A Motion to Approve Consent Agenda was made and approved.
 1. Ordinance
 - a. Ordinance 2025-09 Amending the Municipal Code of The Village of Downs Chapter 16 Miscellaneous
 2. Motions
 - a. Motion to Approve the February 13, 2025, Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting



Minutes

- b. Motion to Approve the February 13, 2025, Village Board of Trustees Executive Minutes
- c. Motion to Approve Members of the Village Market Committee: Claire Mikrut, Eric Thompson, Tom Pankonen, Sally Waller & Lisa Huff
- d. Motion to Approve FY 2023-2024 Audit – Moved out of Consent agenda.
- e. Motion to Approve FY 2023-2024 Annual Treasurer's Report - Moved out of consent agenda.
- f. Motion to Approve FY 2023-2024 Annual TIF Reports – Moved out of consent agenda.
- g. Motion to Approve Appointment of Rachel Eagles as the Interim Treasurer, Budget Officer and TIF Administrator in the Village of Downs at \$35/ hr. effective March 13, 2025, for a Trial Period to be Determined by Finance Committee
- h. Motion to Approve _____ as Village of Downs Zoning Board of Appeals Replacement for Loretta Terven Starting 3/13/2025 – Removed from consent agenda.
- i. Motion to Approve Streetscape Design and bid - Removed from consent agenda.

3. Resolutions

- a. Resolution 2025-R08 Authorizing and Approving the Proposal Between American Pest Control and the Village of Downs
- b. Resolution 2025-R09 Authorizing and Approving a Utility Easement Agreement Between BC Property Holdings LLC and the Village of Downs
- c. Resolution 2025-R10 Authorizing and Approving Community Benefit Agreement Between 6GM LLC and the Village of Downs

7. New Business

1. Motions

- a. Motion to Continue the Village of Downs Regular Board of Trustees Meeting on _____, @ 7 pm at the Village Hall - No action taken.

2. Ordinances

3. Resolutions

- a. A motion to approve Resolution 2025-R11 Authorizing and Approving Purchase of Land Between BWLW LLC and the Village of Downs was made and approved.

8. Old Business



1. Ordinance 2024-__ Amending the Municipal Code of The Village of Downs by the Addition of Article[Chapter] _____ Establishing Standards for the Construction of Facilities on the Rights-of-Way – No action taken.
9. A Motion to Approve Payment of Bills was made and approved.
10. Motion to Enter Executive Session for Development and Annexation Agreements - No action taken.
11. Action on Executive Session Items – No action taken.
12. Other Business - There was no other business.
13. A Motion to Adjourn at 10:17pm was made and approved.

New Downs Crossing Water Tower and Water Main Located on Corn Belt Energy Grounds and North side of Rt. 150

The Village of Downs is currently running a new water main along Rt 150. However, we are not in the position to offer water service to anyone currently outside of the village limits. We fully intend to offer this in the future. If you are interested, please let us know and we will add you to our list to contact when that time comes.

Proposed Budget

On April 10, 2025, 6 pm @ the Village Hall. The Village of Downs will hold a public hearing on their proposed FY2024 budget. The proposed budget will be posted on the Village Website and the Downs GPS Facebook page.

4th of July Grand Marshal Nominations Accepted until June 1, 2025

The Events Committee is once again seeking nominations for the 2025 4th of July parade Grand Marshal. Please use the form in the flyer or on the website, from now until June 1, 2025, to submit your nomination. Please be sure to write the required narrative to support your nomination, otherwise entry will not be accepted.

Dear Residents of Downs,

As I prepare to step down from my role as Village Trustee, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. Serving as your Trustee has been a great honor, and I am deeply thankful for the trust and support you have shown me throughout my tenure.

Over the past 4 years, we have faced numerous challenges and celebrated many successes together. The unwavering commitment to our community has been a constant source of inspiration for me. Whether it was through your participation in meetings, your volunteer efforts, or your everyday acts of kindness, you have demonstrated the true spirit of Downs.

I am proud of what we have accomplished together. We have made significant strides in improving the quality of life for all residents. These achievements would not have been possible without your active involvement and support.

As I move on to the next chapter of my life, I am confident that our community will continue to thrive under new leadership. I encourage you to remain engaged and to continue working together to build a brighter future for the Village of Downs.

Thank you once again for the privilege of serving you. I will cherish the memories and the relationships we have built. Please feel free to stay in touch, and I look forward to seeing the continued progress and success of our community.

With deepest gratitude,

Anna Milliken



GFL Environmental

Bulk Pickup—First Garbage Day Pickup of the Month

Do not forget that the first garbage pickup of each month is our contracted bulk waste pickup for the Village. If you have a large item or a lot, please call GFL customer service prior to the scheduled pickup. Sample of items not taken - electronics, appliance with a compressor, batteries, landscaping material, bricks, block, construction material. If you have questions call GFL customer service at 309-688-0760.

Dumpster Use

Please remember, Dumpsters at residences, businesses, and parks are private and not for public use. If you have a need for a dumpster you can call GFL customer service at 309-688-0760 to order one.

Public Safety

Applications for use of Golf Cart and Utility-Terrain Vehicles

May 1, 2024-April 30, 2025

Permits must be obtained to operate a qualified golf cart or utility-terrain vehicle. Permits shall be granted for a period of one (1) year and **renewed annually**. Applications are available on the Village of Downs website at www.villageofdowns.org. The cost of the permit is \$50.00 per golf cart or utility-terrain vehicle.

GOLF CART UTV INFORMATION/SPECIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS DEFINITIONS: Per Chapter 8 Article X of the Village of Downs Code are located on the website www.villageofdowns.org.

Applications along with payment and other listed documents need to be submitted to the Village Hall each year. An officer will schedule an inspection time with you.

Dooley Park Pavilion

Parks

To reserve the pavilion for an event or a meeting or to find/verify open rental dates, contact the Village Hall **between 8:30 am to 12:30 pm Monday through Friday** at 309-378-3221. You can also check the calendar on the website to see currently reserved pavilion dates.

The rental agreement and clean-up checklist can be printed from the village website. Click **forms and applications** on the homepage, then click **Pavilion rental agreement** and **checklist** separately to download and print the two forms. You can also pick the forms up at the Village Hall.

When you pay your rental fee and turn in your signed rental agreement form at the Village Hall, the pavilion will be reserved for you for that date and time.

Billing

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING BILLING ISSUES INCLUDING PAYMENT ARRANGMENTS NEED TO BE DIRECTED TO THE VILLAGE HALL AT 309-378-3221 DURING OFFICE HOURS MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:30 a.m.—12.:30 p.m.

REMINDER: *The billing due date is the **15th of the month**. Payments received after the 15th are subject to the late fees. If not paid by the 25th of the month, and the office has to call you regarding payment, there will be an additional fee of \$20. If not paid on the 26th, shut off of water can occur. To reconnect, there is a additional fee of \$30.*

The Village is using an **ACH** (automatic withdrawal) program. This program has NO FEE to you! If you sign up for this program, you will continue to receive your monthly bill. On the 15th of the month, the Village will withdraw the entire amount due from the checking or savings account you provided on the authorization form. Authorization forms are on the website and will need to be submitted to the Billing Office by the 1st of the month you wish your first payment withdrawal to be made.

Reminder: If an ACH comes back as NSF it is treated like a check, and cash or money order is needed to cover the \$25 NSF fee + the amount of the bill. A 2nd NSF will result in no longer being eligible for ACH and all payments will need to be in cash or a money order. Please put your service number on your payment.

Trash and Recycle carts Order Form

The Trash and Recycle Carts order form is available on the following page in this newsletter and on our Forms and Applications page on the www.villageofdowns.org site.

All Building Permits

All Building and Demolition Permit Applications must be processed, approved, and issued a permit number BEFORE WORK CAN BEGIN. This includes small projects, renovations, and new builds which could take up to 2 weeks to process. Please leave enough time before working on your project.

Our permits are revised and posted on the website throughout the year. Make sure to print out the latest forms. Permit Forms can be found on our [Forms and Applications page](#) on the Village Website listed under Quick Links.



2025
95-Gallon Trash and
Recycle Cart Sale
Due: April 25th at noon

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



This is a ONE-TIME sale sponsored by the Village of Downs and GFL Environmental for a new 95-gallon trash or recycle cart. Residents that purchase a cart now until April 25th through the Village of Downs, will have the delivery fees waived. Carts will be delivered to your home in May.

To purchase a cart through this program:

Submit the application below along with a check for full payment, with the number of "Trash" or "Recycle" carts to **Village of Downs; PO Box 18; Downs**. All requests MUST be prepaid and will not be accepted after 12 noon on April 25th. To prepay, **ONLY** check or cash will be accepted.

(For rental options available through GFL Environmental contact them at 309-688-0760 or gflenv.com)

95-Gallon Trash/Recycle Cart Application

Name

Street Address (Village of Downs)

Phone Number

Email Address

Trash Cart \$75.00 (each) _____ (Quantity)

Recycle Cart \$75.00 (each) _____ (Quantity)

Total amount due: \$ _____

Make check payable to Village of Downs.

For Office Use

Service ID # _____ Check Number _____

Date Stamp:

Water Sewer report for February 2025.

The average iron concentration for the finished water was 1.06 ppm. Monthly bacteriological testing on the raw, finished and distribution samples were all satisfactory, fluoride concentration was .5. The volume of water pumped for the month was 2.907 million gallons, averaging 103,828 gallons per day. The sewer lift station pumped 1.873 million gallons for the month, averaging 66,900 million gallons per day.

- 2 outdated water meters/transmitters replaced with updated units
- *2 Water leaks repaired
- 8 JULIE tickets within Village
 - *1 Streets/Water Department and *1 Homeowner
 - 6 outside companies
- 23 JULIE tickets outside Village (4 extended tickets)

The Streets department's year started off busy with water leaks and curb stop repairs. We are working diligently to get them all repaired/replaced.

You may have noticed a shiny "new looking" backhoe throughout town. Thank you to Randy Wert and Cali Whiteside for sanding, priming and painting her to give her a face lift over the winter. Great Job!

The water department has begun replacing the outdated water meters and transmitters with new and updated ones. We have a list of the residents with the older versions and will be reaching out in the future to schedule a time when our team can replace the old with updated versions. This will be at no cost to the homeowner as it is Village Property.

PSA: When driving, please continue to be cautious of our Village workers who are out and about. We want to make sure the Village is safe for the residents and ourselves.

We are very excited as the new water plant is getting closer to going online. With all new projects, there will be kinks to work out, but we are confident they will quickly be resolved. Once we have a more accurate date of officially going online, we will post it on Facebook, announce it in the Recent news section of our Website, and send out an email through the Notification system.

As always, your support means a lot. If you have any questions/comments, please contact me. Think Spring!!!

Jill Kasprzak , Supervisor of Public Works & Maintenance

Monthly Brush Pickup Starts in April

April thru November 2025

Each year, depending on our Streets Department ability, the Streets Trustee will put in the flyer if we are able to continue with this service. Debris pickup will continue, based on the Streets Trustee's direction, the first MONDAY of each month. Pickup will run from April through November (weather permitting). If the designated Monday pickup is not favorable, we will pick up on the next nice day following that Monday. The following are the rules we will follow with no exceptions.

- Items to be picked up must be burnable and free from all nails, screws, and metal (ex: Leaves, sticks, brush, branches, etc.)
- All items must be within the Village right away on curb, driveway or as close to the road as possible without creating a hazard in the road. (Note: Since we use a backhoe, in most cases, to do this work, we DO NOT want to tear up or rut yards or ditches. If we can't reach the debris from the road or a driveway, we WILL NOT pick it up.
- If you know you will have a larger than normal pile, please contact the office so they can make the streets department aware.

Please note that there is NO BURNING in the ditches or on the road. Doing this causes clogging and backup in the ditches and culverts. It can also damage the road surface causing us to spend what little tax dollars we have, to fix these issues.

Illegal Dumping

Please do not dump yard waste and ANY other items at the entrances to Kickapoo Park, Village storage yard, and/or along Huff Rd South of Main St. Violators will be caught and fined accordingly!

If you have questions or concerns, please call Brian Warfel at 309-261-0183.

Spring Cleanup

We will start working on spring projects such as filling holes, grade alleys and roadside edges, fix culverts and repair ditches. This also includes grade and repair for water main fixes during the fall or winter.



Village Of Downs Food Pantry



Our Mission

To serve the people of Tri-Valley School District who need food assistance by providing monthly food boxes and to be on call to assist in any emergency that involves a need for food and emotional support.

"Serving the residents of the Tri-Valley School District."

2025 Schedule

Month	Friday	Saturday
April	11th	12th
May	9th	10th
June	6th	7th
July	11th	12th

Distribution hours

10:00 am until Noon

Location

The Food Pantry is in the Youth Center located at the Washington St. entrance to Dooley Park.

2025 Food Pantry Distribution Schedule

Food boxes are distributed during the first Friday and Saturday after the first Monday of each month barring holidays when the distribution is usually the following week.

Contact the Food Pantry:

Linda Bowman:
309-261-3809
llbowman3@gmail.com

Bill Clark:
309-531-7884
downstwpclerk@aol.com

Parks News

Meeting Schedule

Dooley Park Pavilion @ 6:00pm

- April 15, 2025

Looking Ahead

Quick Glance at Upcoming Village Events, Activities and Meetings

March:

- 18th – Parks Committee Special Meeting, 6 pm @ Pavilion
- 20th – Garbage Collection
- 26th – Annual TIF JRB Meeting, 4 pm @ Village Hall
- 27th – Garbage and Recycle Collection

April:

- 1st – Election Day
- 3rd – Garbage Collection – GFL Bulk pickup
- 8th – TIF Joint Review Board Annual Meeting, 5 pm @ Village Hall
- 8th – ZBA Public Hearing, 6 pm @ Village Hall
- 10th – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 10th – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall; Video/Audio via Zoom
- 12th – Free Easter Breakfast, 7 – 10:00 am @ The Station – Downs
- 12th – Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 am registration, 10:30 Hunt @ Dooley Park
- 15th – Parks Committee Special Meeting, 6 pm @ Pavilion
- 17th – Garbage Collection
- 24th – Garbage and Recycle Collection

May:

- 1st – Garbage Collection – GFL Monthly Bulk pickup
- 5th – Village Monthly Brush Pickup
- 6th – Events Committee Regular Meeting, 6 pm, @ Village Hall
- 8th – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 8th – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall; Video/Audio via Zoom
- 15th – Garbage Collection
- 20th – Parks Committee Regular Meeting, 6pm @ Pavilion
- 22nd – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 30th – Garbage Collection

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

Video/Audio Information for Public Meetings which use Zoom

Broadcast for Village Board of Trustee Meetings Will Continue

Persons who wish to attend in person are allowed at the meeting location shown on the agenda without special consideration. Both Audio and Video are available using a computer or smartphone using the information below. If you don't have access to the internet you can dial-in for audio only using any telephone via the information below. Please keep your phone muted until called upon for your question or you need to make a follow-up comment during your 5-minute time (See rules for public comment).

You may submit comments or questions via the following methods:

- Online chat during the meeting
- During the "Public Comment" item on the agenda using conference call audio/video
- e-mail the clerk@villageofdowns.org
- Text the Village Clerk 309-830-7373

Video/Audio conference call information:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/uzvjsq6>

Meeting ID: 715 697 2265

Password: VOD2020

Dial by your location: (312) 626-6799 US
(Chicago)

Meeting ID: 715 697 2265

Password: 682969

Looking for Houses to Clean

Also do private
care in seniors
homes



Immediate
openings

call Trisha 309-273-8610

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

Let Us Know How We Can Use Your Expertise

Volunteer Registration

Often someone wants to help but doesn't know how. Often, I hear, "Let me know if I can help.", but I don't know how. See the dilemma? Our website contains a "[Volunteer Registration Form](#)". This registration will allow you to tell us where you can help and how we can utilize your talents and skills. I hope you will take the time to consider how you can you help.

Door-to-Door Sales

Permit Required

Door-to-door solicitation permits are PRIOR to doing solicitation door-to-door. No warnings will be granted. Please report anyone that does not have a permit to come to your door. Please try and get their name and car make/model/color. Solicitors without a permit will be fined.

Keep up to Date with Facebook and Village Website

Village of Downs Events

The Events Committee has put together a Facebook site for announcements, information and other social media interaction for the events within the Village. I hope you will find this useful and join ("Like") our Facebook group/site: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/DownsEvents/>. We also have information on our Village website: <http://www.VillageOfDowns.org>.

Other social media sites of interest are:

- You know you are from Downs FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/downsil/>
- Downs Citizens In Action (CIA) FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/115323465475046/>
- Downs Haunted House FB Page and Website:
 - ◇ <https://www.facebook.com/downs.hauntedhouse>
 - ◇ <http://www.downshauntedhouse.org>
- Dooley Park FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/108924229128032/>
- Downs Freedom Run: <https://www.facebook.com/downsfreedomrun/>
- Downs GPS (Grow, Play, Stay): <https://www.facebook.com/DownsGPS>
- Downs Village Market FB Page and Instagram:
 - ◇ <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090958995532>
 - ◇ <https://www.instagram.com/downsvillagemarket/?igshid=NTc4MTlwNjQ2YQ%3D%3D>

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

FY2025 (May 2024 – April 2025) Village of Downs Event Plan

Current Plan—Subject to Change

The following describes each planned event at a high level. Further details and changes will occur during final planning by the committee or sub-committee in charge of the event. Budgets have been estimated based on last year's expenditures and revenue. Some events have been eliminated due to lack of participation or they were merged with something else.

Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt – This event will be hosted in Dooley Park on Saturday, April 12, 2025, and will involve the area Churches for the egg hunt. Thank you to Kyle Boward from Downs United Methodist Church for organizing the hunt. The host for the family breakfast before the egg hunt in the park is at the Station.

Downs Zoning Board of Appeals

Seeking ZBA Members

We are seeking additional ZBA Members. We have one rolling off in March and another in May.

If you are interested in joining this committee, please reach out to Village of Downs (Info@villageofdowns.org) or Zoning Board of Appeals Chair (ZBACHair@villageofdowns.org).



Planning for the 2025 season is underway!

If you are interested in helping with the Downs Village Market, please reach out to the Village of Downs (Info@villageofdowns.org) or any of the current market committee members.

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



VILLAGE OF DOWNS ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT & BREAKFAST

Saturday April 12, 2025

@ The Station and Dooley Park

Free Family Breakfast:

7 – 10 am @ The Station

(See Events FB page for details)

Games and Registration: 10 – 10:30 am

@ Dooley Park Pavilion

Easter Egg Hunt: 10:30 – 11 am

@ Dooley Park Pavilion

Bring Your Own Basket!

Join us for family food and fun in the park!

**Sponsored by The Station, Downs United Methodist and
other area churches and the Events Committee**

Thank you to all our volunteers!



McLean County
Health Department
Healthy People • Healthy Places

**Mobile
Health Clinic**



Free Walk-in Mobile Health Clinic will be at Downs Dooley Park Pavillion on Friday, April 11, 2025, 9 am – 1 pm

McLean County Health Department is taking public health on the road!

The Mobile Health Clinic is currently staffed by our Health Promotions Team. We are proud to offer the following free services to all McLean County communities:

- Height, Weight, and Body Mass Index (BMI) measurements
- Blood Pressure Checks
- A1C Tests (no fasting needed)
- Heart Health/Healthy Lifestyle Education

Ellsworth/Tri-Valley Alumni Reunion

Saturday, April 5, 2025

Dinner at 5pm

Downs United Methodist Church

Special Recognition

Tri-Valley Class of 1975

----- All Alumni are welcome-Ellsworth, Downs, Tri-Valley -----

If you would like an Invitation, please call:

Jim Walters (309)261-3872 or Ruth Kagel Poppe (309)287-8214

Evening Highlights

- * School History Program
- * Meal
- * Class of 1975 Toast
- * Class Recognition
- * History of Ellsworth & Downs and Class Yearbook Display (Amazing display from Jim Walters)

"WILL YOU DO SOMETHING FOR ME?"

A NEW 11 WEEK SERMON SERIES

HOW DID JESUS RESPOND WHEN PEOPLE ASKED HIM FOR HIS HELP?

JAN 19 WILL YOU MAKE ME CLEAN? Luke 5:12-16

JAN 26 WILL YOU SAY THE WORD? Luke 7:1-10

FEB 2 MAY I GO WITH YOU? Luke 8:26-39

FEB 9 WILL YOU SAVE THIS PARTY? John 2:1-12

FEB 16 PLEASE, GO AWAY! Luke 5:1-11

FEB 23 CAN YOU HELP MY UNBELIEF? Mark 9:14-29

MAR 2 WE WANT YOU TO DO WHATEVER WE ASK.
Mark 10:35-45

MAR 9 WILL YOU MAKE ME SEE? Mark 10:46-52

MAR 16 WILL YOU TELL HER TO HELP ME?
Luke 10:38-42

MAR 23 WILL YOU GET RID OF HER? Matthew 15:21-28

MAR 30 WILL YOU COME AND HEAL MY BROTHER?
John 11:1-44

LIVING HOPE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

SUNDAYS @ 10 AM

608 N HUFF RD, DOWNS, IL 61736



Up and Coming Events

- Sunday morning Adult Sunday School 8:30am in Youth Room
- Sunday evenings at 6pm is in person Bible Study in the Chapel
- Tuesday mornings at 10am Bible Study in the Youth Room and on Zoom
- Next Gen Wednesday Night Ministries at 5:30pm.

K-3rd Grade

4th-6th Grade

7th-8th Grade



- Sr High is 10:45am on Sundays
 - Wednesdays at 6pm: Choir in the Chapel
 - 4/13 Palm Sunday Service 9:30am
 - 4/17 Maundy Thursday Service 7pm
 - 4/18 Good Friday Service 7pm
 - 4/20 Sunrise Service 6:30 am
 - 4/20 Easter Service 9:30am
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- ***YOUTH WORSHIP during the regular worship service will meet on 3/23 & 3/30. It is a service geared for the 4th through 8th grade students and they meet in the Youth Room.***

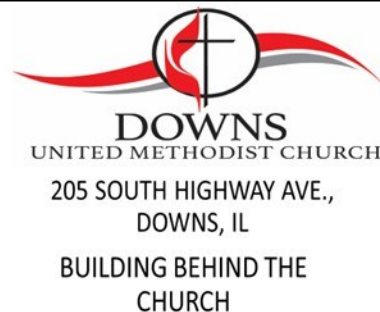
Worship Service

Sundays 9:30am In Person

Online at www.downsumc.org

Current Sermon Series

Kingdom to the Earth



Come Shop With Us

Open Every Sunday

10:45am - Noon

ALL ITEMS ARE PICK YOUR OWN PRICE.
100% OF PROCEEDS SUPPORT DOWNS UMC

- BOOKS
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- HOLIDAY DECOR
- & much more!



EMAIL QUESTIONS TO
SWAPROOM@DOWNSUMC.ORG



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR SNEAK PEEKS & NEW INFO!
[FACEBOOK.COM/DOWNSUMC](https://www.facebook.com/DOWNSUMC)

DOWNS BOY SCOUT TROOP 953

PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

Saturday April 26 • 7 am - 12 pm



All You Can Eat

Pancakes and Sausage

Coffee, Tea, Milk, Orange Juice

Dine In or Drive Through

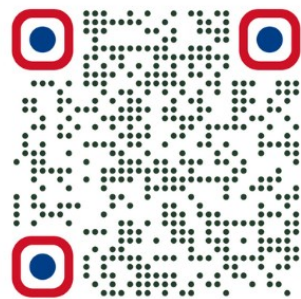
Cash and Card

Packaged Sausage

Baked Goods

get your tickets at
<https://troop953.simpletix.com>
and at the door

buy tickets



Downs United Methodist Church • Downs, IL



DOWNSCUB SCOUT PACK 53

Contact: Zack Barcus **Email:** zack@zteamsuperstore.com

<https://sites.google.com/site/wdboycepack53>



We volunteered at a local food pantry, had a camp-in, and some moved into Boy Scouts!

**Contact Zack for
more information!**

Coming up...



Soapbox Derby



Fishing Derby



DOWNSCUB BOY SCOUT TROOP 953

Contact: Chad Mirock **Email:** chad.mirock@gmail.com

<https://sites.google.com/site/wdboycectroop53>

The boy scouts have been ...



Camping (and eating well)
at Mammoth Cave, KY



Volunteering at Midwest
Food Bank

**Contact Chad
for more
information!**

Coming up...



Philmont Scout Ranch



Summer Camp

NEED MORE STORAGE?

BRAND NEW BUILDING JUST ADDED IN DOWNS!

Non-Temperature Controlled Units

5x10, 10x10, 10x15, 10x20, 10x25, 10x30

STARTING AT \$60



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DOWNS, IL

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**211 S Seminary St
PO Box 18
Downs, IL 61736**

«AddressBlock»



Village Of Downs

Officials & Contacts

Mayor	Mike James	309-830-7374	mayor@Villageofdowns.org
Clerk	Julie James	309-830-7373	clerk@villageofdowns.org
Public Safety Trustee - Pro Tem	Maureen Roach	309-830-4297	publicsafety@villageofdowns.org
Streets Trustee	Brian Warfel	309-261-0183	streets@villageofdowns.org
Finance Trustee	Anna Milliken	309-242-8980	finance@villageofdowns.org
Public Works Trustee	Toby Twyford	309-830-3448	publicworks@villageofdowns.org
Parks Trustee	Stephanie Adkisson	309-212-8345	parks@villageofdowns.org
Building Trustee	Sarah Gassaway	309-261-2540	building@villageofdowns.org
Treasurer	Julie Bakewell	309-378-3221	treasurer@villageofdowns.org
Public Works Supervisor	Jill Kasprzak	309-319-1010	PWSuper@villageofdowns.org
Police Chief	Joshua Dingle	309-622-2207	downs.Village.pd@gmail.com
Non-Emergency	MetCom	309-888-5030	
Emergency		911	
GFL Disposal	Customer Service	309-688-0760	
Village Hall		309-378-3221	info@villageofdowns.org
Zoning Enforcement Officer	Lyndall Cuba	309-378-3221	info@villageofdowns.org
Zoning Board of Appeals Chair	Eric Thompson	309-378-3221	info@villageofdowns.org
EMA Director	Travis Misch	309-378-3221	