



News & Current Events

May 2025

From the Desk of the Interim Mayor

The month of May brought many administrative changes to the Village Board. Mayor Mike James and Clerk Julie James completed their elected terms of service to the Village of Downs on May 8th. Mike served as mayor for 12 years and an additional four years as streets trustee. Julie served 12 years as the clerk. I want to thank them for their contributions and successes in making Downs a better place to live.

Re-elected trustees for four years are Sarah Gassaway and Maureen Roach and newly elected trustee Diana Reynolds, who were sworn in by McLean County Clerk Kathy Michael on May 6. Also, new to the role of clerk is Rachel Eagles, who will be serving a two-year appointment. In addition, I was appointed by the Board as the Interim Village President until a mayor is appointed. Mike James was approved to serve as consultant on an as-needed basis to help provide his knowledge and experience on several complex projects in the works which will benefit the Village and ensure a smooth transition.



Pictured left to right: Maureen Roach, Sarah Gassaway, Diana Reynolds



MSA has submitted the operating permit to IEPA for the water treatment plant improvements, and they are currently reviewing the permit. The water plant construction phase is completed and ready to go operational, pending the final approval from the IEPA. Upon approval we will then be able to pump clear water into the system.

The Downs Crossing water main extension project is progressing with most of the pipes to be installed in the ground by the end of May. The tank tower is finished being painted (blue) and next is painting the Downs logo on it. There is 1500 ft. left to mark. We will need to acquire storm sewer easements and move to the south side of Rt. 150 for the remaining 500' of pipe installation for a total of 3000' of pipes in the Village. Remaining work will be onsite electricity and fencing installed with the project to be completed and operational by September.

Downs Streetscape bids were held on May 1, 2025, with two bidders. The low responsive bidder is Knapp Concrete Contractors at \$1,721,712.12 which was \$70,737.93 below the engineers' estimate. Knapp's bid also included alternative bids for 8 benches, 5 trash receptacles and 4 planters for \$27,000. If these items are purchased and the project finishes at the bid price, the congressional grant and McLean County Highway funds dedicated to Seminary Street overlay, should cover the full construction amount and engineering costs incurred after 2/17/23 for a total of \$1,748,712.12. MSA's professional services agreement for construction administration, staking and observation was approved for \$199,035. The Streetscape project should be completed by Labor Day.

The Village Market will relocate to Dooley Park this year due to the Streetscape construction.

Other legislative action included ordinance updates on fencing, fee schedules, municipal codes for chapters 14-zoning, chapter 11-building, and a revised Village zoning map. Yearly employee increases and new hires were approved. In addition, the single audit was completed for FY 2024. The (first-time) single audit was required due to receiving federal funds of over \$750,000 and the report will be filed with the IEPA.



A reminder that the **Community Wide Clean Up Day is Saturday, June 7, 7am-2pm with dumpsters located at the Police Department Building**, located behind Prairie Wood Works. Large dumpsters/containers will be available for disposal of bulk items. Public works staff will be available with a mini excavator to move large items into the dumpsters and to assist with unloading vehicles if needed. Call the Village Hall at (309) 378-3221 if you have large items to be picked up at the curb that morning. More information is included in this newsletter.

I look forward to working with the Board through this transitional period and working through the completion of projects that will enhance the resources and quality of life for Down's residents.

Best regards,

Maureen Roach, Interim Village President

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

The Events Committee is once again seeking nominations for the 2025 Grand Marshall for the 4th of July parade. 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.

Downs Freedom Run Saturday, June 28th, 2025

Join us the Saturday BEFORE the 4th, for a fun morning with friends! Gun start at 8:00AM. New to the Downs Freedom Run? Enjoy one of the flattest 5k courses in the area, with a route that runs through our community with cheering spectators to greet you along the way.



Visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Downs/DownsFreedomRun> to signup and participate in the event!



Village of Downs Board of Trustees Meeting Overview May 8th, 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. President Pro-Tem Maureen Roach called the May 8, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:02 PM.
2. Roll Call was taken. Trustees present were Maureen Roach, Stephanie Adkisson, Sarah Gassaway, Brian Warfel, Diana Reynolds and Toby Twyford. There was a quorum present. Also present was Village attorney Dawn Wall.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. A motion to Approve Maureen Roach Interim Village President for the Village of Downs was made and approved.
5. A motion to Approve Trustee Assignments was made and approved.
 - a. Diana Reynolds – Building Trustee/FOIA Officer, Insurance and Services
 - b. Sarah Gassaway – Finance Trustee
 - c. Maureen Roach – Public Safety Trustee
6. A motion to Appoint Rachel Eagles as the Village of Downs Clerk for a Two Year Term Effective today, May 8, 2025 and set to expire May 9, 2027 was made and approved.
 - a. Rachel Eagles was sworn in as the Village of Downs Clerk by Maureen Roach and then Eagles was asked to take minutes for the current board meeting in progress.
7. A Motion to Approve Agenda and Order was made and approved.
8. Reports can be found in the flyer.
9. Public Comment (no comments)
10. A motion to Approve Items Contained within the Consent Agenda was made and approved.
11. A motion to Approve Consent Agenda (O17 R19) was made and approved.
 1. Motions
 - a. Motion to Approve the April 10, 2025 Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. Motion to Approve the April 10, 2025 Village Board of Trustees Executive Meeting Minutes
 - c. Motion to Approve Renewal of Membership with AWWA
 - d. Motion to Approve Amended Village of Downs Fee Schedules as of May 1, 2025
 - e. Motion to Approve Wages Increases for Village of Downs Employees
 - f. Motion to Approve FY2024 Single-Audit
 - g. Motion to Change Employment Status and Title of Caleb Smith to Full-time Public Works Maintenance Worker for the Village of Downs Reporting to Public Work Supervisor and Hourly Wage to \$18/hour Starting 2025-05-01 with Full Eligibility of Benefits per the Village Handbook



- h. Motion to Hire Vincent Vedra as a Part-Time Public Works Seasonal Maintenance Worker for the Village of Downs at \$15 per hour Starting May 19, 2025, Reporting to the Public Works Supervisor
- i. Motion to Hire _____ as a Part-Time Public Works Seasonal Maintenance Worker for the Village of Downs at \$__ per hour Starting _____, 2025, Reporting to the Public Works Supervisor this left empty—(no action in item i.)

2. Ordinance

- a. Ordinance 2025-17 Amending the Municipal Code of The Village of Downs – Chapter 14 Zoning
- b. Ordinance 2025-18 Amending the Municipal Code of The Village of Downs – Chapter 11 Building
- c. Ordinance 2025-19 Approving the FY2025 Zoning Map of the Village of Downs
- d. Ordinance 2025-20 Approving Street Name of Burr Oaks Lane In Burr Oaks Lake Subdivision

3. Resolutions

- a. Resolution 2025-R19 Authorizing and Approving Revised Mutual Aid Agreement Between Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN) and the Village of Downs
- b. Resolution 2025-R20 Authorizing and Approving Award to Lowest Bidder to Knapp Concrete Contractors Inc – (pulled this out of consent agenda to vote on separately due to possible conflict of interest.)
- c. Resolution 2025-R21 Authorizing and Approving Construction Administration and Observation Contract Between MSA and the Village of Downs

12. New Business

1. Motions – motion to approve was made and approved.

- a. Motion to Approve Ad in the Tri-Valley Yearbook for \$320 –full page, black and white.
- b. Motion to Approve Village of Downs Zoning Board of Appeals Appointments for 4 Years as May 1, 2025: Eric Thompson (Chairperson), Dave Bach, Bert Clark, Greg Curtis
- c. Motion to Approve Village of Downs Zoning Board of Appeals Appointments for 2 Years as May 1, 2025: Darren Habben, Julie Huezo, Julie James

2. Ordinances (none this meeting)

3. Resolutions

- a. Resolution 2025-R22 Authorizing and Approving Temporary Easement Between BWLW LLC and the Village of Downs
 - i. Motion to approve was made and approved.

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- b. Resolution 2025-R23 Authorizing and Approving Temporary Easement Between Michael and Diana Reynolds and the Village of Downs
 - i. Motion to approve was made and approved.
 - c. Resolution 2025-R24 Authorizing and Approving Consulting Agreement Between the Village of Downs and Michael James
 - i. Motion to approve was made and approved.
 13. Item 15. 3. b. was removed from Consent Agenda at the request of the board due to possible conflict of interest and voted on separately here. Motion to approve was made and approved.

Resolution 2025-R20 Authorizing and Approving Award to Lowest Bidder to Knapp Concrete Contractors Inc.
 14. Old Business (No Action was taken on old business)
 - a. Motion to Continue the Village of Downs Regular Board of Trustees Meeting on _____, @ 7 pm at the Village Hall
 - b. Ordinance 2025-__ Amending the Municipal Code of The Village of Downs – Chapter 2 Village Board, Officers and Employees
 - c. Ordinance 2025-__ 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
 15. A Motion to Approve Payment of Bills was made and approved.
 16. No Motion to Enter Executive Session
 17. No Action on Executive Session Items
 18. Other Business.
 1. Thank you to Michele Tocco for all she did with IT to help our meeting be successful. And welcome to Diana Reynolds, our new Trustee.
 19. Interim Village President Maureen Roach called the May 8, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting to adjourn at 9:10 pm.
 - a. Roll Call was taken. Trustees present were Maureen Roach, Stephanie Adkisson, Sarah Gassaway, Brian Warfel, Diana Reynolds, and Toby Twyford. There was a quorum present. Also present were Clerk Rachel Eagles, and Village attorney Dawn Wall.
 20. A Motion to Adjourn at 9:10pm was made and approved.

Tips to Avoid Common Ordinance Violations!

Common ordinance violations in the Village are overgrown grass/weeds and garbage/refuse on the property. Failure to comply with the ordinances is subject to fines. Please keep our community safe and healthy. Tall weeds and garbage/refuse can draw unwanted animals hiding within these conditions.

Weeds

It is unlawful to permit any weeds, grass or plants other than trees, bushes, flowers or other ornamental plants to grow to a height exceeding twelve (12) inches anywhere in the Village (Chapter 16, Art. 1. Sec. 1).

Garbage/Refuse

The owner, occupant or lessee of any premises shall remove from their premises or otherwise dispose of all garbage, ashes, debris, rubbish, refuse and trash, and shall keep the premises free and clear of any accumulation of such garbage and debris (Chapter 4, Article II, Sec. 4).

Speeding

We've had a number of complaints about drivers speeding. Please note that most speeds in the Village are 25 mph. With warmer weather there are more walkers, children riding bikes, dog walkers and strollers on the roadways. We are increasing traffic enforcement. Follow the speed limits and avoid a ticket. Please slow down and keep our streets safe for everyone!

Grass Clippings on the Streets

A reminder when mowing to not blow grass clippings onto the street. It can be extremely slippery and dangerous for riders on bikes, scooters and motorcycles.

Let's work together and have a fun and safe summer!



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, 2025-April 30, 2026

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 **must be 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.

An officer will schedule an inspection time with you. Valid Permits must be located in a visible location as pointed out by the Officer during your inspection. Just a reminder that these vehicles are not to be driven or parked on Seminary St. which is a county roadway. You could be ticketed.

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.

2024 Consumer Confidence Report

The CCR report is available on the website

You can find the 2024 CCR on the Public Works Department page located on our website at www.villageofdowns.org/public-works.htm or https://media.rainpos.com/1071/2024_ccr.pdf

Garbage Service increase

May 2025

Bills received in June will show a garbage service increase to \$15.00.

BNWRD User increase

May 2025

Bills received in June will show a BNWRD User increase to \$11.78 for the first 2000 gallons and \$3.26 for each additional 1000 gallons.

Downs Clean-up Day

June 7: 7 am — 2 pm

The Events Committee is holding the 11th Annual Downs Clean-Up Day. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this once a year opportunity.

We will have a trash and recycle dumpsters. Please take advantage of this free service to our residents.

The drop-off location will be at:

The Police Department @ 315 S Lincoln

Hours: 7 am to 2 pm

Junk Car?

If you have a car you want to dispose of, please contact the Village Hall
(309) 378-3221.

We will not be accepting Electronics. You can take these to the recycling center for McLean County. See the following website for more information:

<https://www.normal.org/484/Electronics-Recycling>

For residents who can't haul your items to our site, we will pick up at your house (curb-side). Please call the village hall to arrange for a pickup time. Donations for this service are appreciated for the 4th of July fireworks.

We WILL Accept Any Of The Following Items:

- ⇒ Tires (\$10 each for no rims, \$15 for with rims; No Tractor)
- ⇒ All Metals
- ⇒ Batteries
- ⇒ Dried Paint
- ⇒ Construction Material
- ⇒ Mattresses and Furniture

We WILL NOT Accept Any Of The Following Items:

- ⇒ Appliances
- ⇒ Oil Based Paint (paint dried out is ok)
- ⇒ Hazardous Liquid
- ⇒ No Tractor tires
- ⇒ Vehicle Batteries
- ⇒ Electronics

Food Vendors and Mobile Food Trucks

Requires A Permit

It is unlawful for any vendor, solicitor or temporary merchant to engage in such business or to employ another in such business within the Village without first applying for and receiving a permit from the Village.

Vendor permits and fees vary depending on whether the vendor is participating in a Village event such as the 4th of July, a different Village sponsored event, or if the vendor is selling or offering to take order in a mobile type fashion.

If a vendor is applying for participation in a Village sponsored event, please contact the event sponsor/committee.

The following are general vendor rules and regulations for all other vendors:

- **Application and Permit** - A fully completed application with all required fees and attachments must be submitted to and approved by the Village, and a permit issued to the vendor.
- **Fee** - There is vendor permit fee of \$100.00 for a permit for vendors that are for-profit. There is no fee for nonprofit vendors. The fee listed is per day.
- **Additional Licenses or Permits** - If a vendor is required to have additional permits or licenses, such as from the McLean County Health Department, that license or permit must be submitted with the application.
- **Permit Displayed** - All vendor must carry on their person and show upon request a copy of the permit issued by the Village.

Exempt Parties - The following are exempt parties that are not required to obtain a permit:

- Persons selling agricultural food products on commercial or private property with written permission of the property owner. At no time shall they operate in a public street or right-of-way without written permission from the Village.
- Vendors of prepared foods who are invited to sell their products as a part of a private or public special event or festival sponsored by a nonprofit or public organization.
- Non-Profit groups selling prepared foods who are invited to sell their products by a commercial or private property owner for a temporary fundraising event. At no time shall they operate on a public street or right-of-way.

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

Water Sewer report for March 2025.

The average iron concentration for the finished water was **0.98** 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 **3.823** million gallons, averaging **127,444** gallons per day. The sewer lift station pumped **2.6886** million gallons for the month, averaging **89,600** million gallons per day.

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| • 1 Water shut off | • 24 JULIE tickets within Village |
| • 5 outdated water meters/transmitters replaced with updated units | □ 7 Streets/Water Department |
| | □ 17 outside companies |
| • 4 Water leak repairs | • 19 JULIE tickets outside Village |
| • 3 Curb Stop repairs | |

With mowing season in full swing, please welcome Caleb Smith to the team as our newest Full-Time Maintenance worker. We will be adding a couple of seasonals in the next few weeks to complete our summer crew. More to come as we grow.

The water department has been replacing the outdated water meters and transmitters with updated units. We have a list of the residents with the older versions and will be contacting 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.

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 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.

Jill Kasprzak
Supervisor of Public Works & Maintenance

Monthly Brush Pickup Continues

April thru November 2025

Debris pickup will continue, based on the Streets Trustee's direction, the first MONDAY of each month (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
May	9th	10th
June	6th	7th
July	11th	12th
August	8th	9th

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



Looking Ahead

Quick Glance at Upcoming Village Events, Activities and Meetings

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
- 29th – Garbage Collection

June:

- 1st – Grand Marshal nominations close
- 2nd– Brush Pickup by Village
- 5th – Garbage Collection – GFL Monthly Bulk pickup
- 7th – Village of Downs Annual Clean-up Day, 7am – 2 pm, See flyer info or Facebook
- 7th – Dooley Park Cruise-In, 3 – 7 pm @ Dooley Park
- 10th – Events Committee Regular Meeting, 6 pm, @ Village Hall
- 12th – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall; Video/Audio via Zoom
- 12th – Garbage and Recycle Collection
- 17th – Parks Committee Regular Meeting, 6:30 pm @ Village Hall, Video/Audio via Zoom
- 19th – Garbage Collection
- 26th – Garbage and Recycle Collection

July:

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| • 3rd – Garbage Collection – GFL Monthly Bulk pickup | • 10th – Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, 7 pm @ Village Hall; Video/Audio via Zoom |
| • 4th—Independence Day Celebrations | • 17th – Garbage Collection |
| • 7th– Brush Pickup by Village | • 24th – Garbage and Recycle Collection |
| • 10th – Garbage and Recycle Collection | • 31st – 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 help.

Door-to-Door Sales

Permit Required

Door-to-door solicitation permits are needed 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=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ%3D%3D>

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

FY2026 (May 2025 – April 2026) 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.

Dooley Park Cruise-In – This event will be held on the first Saturday in June in Dooley Park from 3 – 7 pm. There will be no rainout date.

Village Cleanup Day – This event will be held on the first Saturday in June each year. We hope to have containers for garbage, recycle, electronics, batteries, tires (extra fee). Home pick up can be arranged for a donation.

Freedom Run – The Freedom Run will be held June 28 (Saturday before July 4) and is a 5K Run, 1 Mile Walk & Kids Fun Run. Event will start and end at the Tri-Valley Middle School & High School. See Facebook/Meta for more information.

4th of July – This event will be the first of two large events for the Village. This year will be a one-day event.

Creepy Car Cruise-In – This event will be held the first Saturday in October at Dooley Park from 3 – 7 pm. There will be no rainout date.

Downs Haunted House – This event will be the second of the two large events. This event will be every Friday and Saturday in October until Halloween. The Un-Haunted House for kids will be on the last Sunday in October.

Cookies with Santa – This very popular family-oriented event providing free picture(s) with Santa for the family and/or kids, cookies, and drinks. Cookies with Santa will continue to use the ticketing system used last year. The event will take place the first Saturday and Sunday in December in several sessions to be announced later.

Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt – This event will be hosted in Dooley Park on Saturday, March 28, 2026, and will involve the areas Churches for the egg hunt. The host for the family breakfast before the egg hunt in the park is TBD and we are open for any business to volunteer to host.

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

Downs Village Garage *Sales*



JUNE 5-7, 2025

Complete form <https://forms.gle/9CyBdoVWaDgzGWj4A>
to participate

Thursday 2 pm – 7 pm
Friday 8 am – 4 pm
Saturday 8 am – 2 pm





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608 North Huff Road, PO Box 345, Downs, IL 61736

LivingHopeDowns.com



Downsumc.org

309-378-2651

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 for Jr Hi only this summer 6-7pm, starts 6/4
- Sr High is 10:45am on Sundays Starts 6/1 for summer
- Wednesdays at 6:30pm: (Summer time) Choir in the Chapel
- *YOUTH WORSHIP during the regular worship service. It is a service geared for the 4th through 8th grade students and they meet in the Youth Room.*



VBS
July 27-31
6-8pm

for PreK-5th Grade
Check website for
more info soon

Worship Service

Sundays 9:30am In Person

Online at www.downsumc.org

Current Sermon Series

***Comeback Series through
May 25th. (Study on
Philippians)***

June 1-June 15

Getaway Series



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Village Of Downs

Officials & Contacts

Mayor	Open		mayor@Villageofdowns.org
Clerk	Rachel Eagles	541-390-6709	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	Sarah Gassaway	309-261-2540	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	Diana Reynolds	309-498-8361	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 Dingler	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	