

Established 1869

The Village of Minooka

www.minooka.com

St. Mary's Catholic Church

CORNER BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY
MARCH 3, 2024

SERVING FROM NOON - 6:00PM

Great food & desserts,
LOCAL CRAFT BEER,
WINE & BOTTLED WATER AVAILABLE FOR DONATION



PARISH CENTER
300 W. ST. MARY'S ST.
MINOOKA, IL, 60447

QUILTERS' RAFFLE

\$1 per ticket 6 for \$5

"Season's of St. Mary's"

Great line up of Irish Music and entertainment all afternoon!

Special Thank You To:

Jewel-Osco

INSIDE FEATURES

State of the Village Lunch Pg. 2

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Annual Street Maintenance Pg. 5

Issue 66
March - April 2024

To Serve You Better Welcome to Your Newsletter

Mayor's Message

Minooka State of the Village Luncheon

Join the Chamber and the Village of Minooka for the annual State of the Village Address. Mayor Ric Offerman will speak on some of Minooka's recent successes, plans for the future, and share why so many call Minooka a great place to call home!

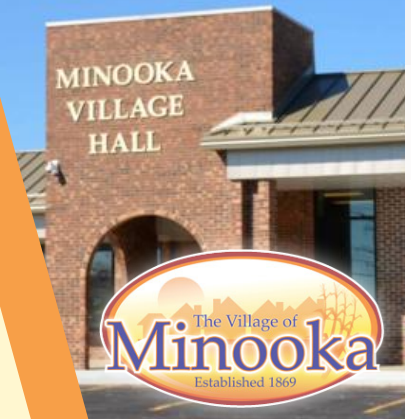
CHANNAHON MINOOKA
Chamber
A Division of Grundy County Chamber of Commerce

GRUNDY COUNTY
Chamber
of COMMERCE

**Minooka Village Hall
Community Room**
April 18, 2024
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
**121 E. McEvilly Road,
Minooka**

The cost is \$30, please RSVP to
Events & Marketing Director Lena
Wickens at
lena@grundychamber.com.
Registration is required in advance.

**You're
Invited!**



The Village Administrator

Dan Duffy, Village Administrator

New Business Spotlight

Rooted

Rooted opened in late December and is a farm to table restaurant featuring Midwestern American cuisine. It is located at 125 W. Mondamin St. in one of Minooka's most beautiful historic buildings. The restaurant offers a full-service bar with an emphasis on wine, bourbon, and craft cocktails. The food and beverage menu will change seasonally, and Rooted prides itself on supporting local meat and produce purveyors. All the pasta, bread, sauces and syrups are made in house.



Rooted is owned by Chef Eddie Duracka and Brenda Keener, both of whom have been residents for many years and have roots in Minooka, which reach back for generations. Hours are Tues-Thurs 3-9 and Fri/Sat 3-10. The bar opens at 3 and kitchen opens at 4 on all days they are open. The restaurant is small, and reservations are encouraged but not required. Eddie and Brenda are excited to bring a new dining experience to their hometown. Visit their website rootedminooka.com and follow them on Facebook and Instagram at @rootedminooka.

Making Minooka Proud

The TownePlace Suites Minooka received Marriott International's highest honor, winning **Hotel of the Year** for their respective hotel brand.

The Hotel of the Year award is one of the most prestigious of the Marriott awards. The criteria for this award requires the property to be in the top 5% of their brand for Guest Service Scores, receive a Brand Standards Audit in the green, utilize Marriott's many tools and resources, and lead the brand in supporting the brand culture. Additional consideration is given to overall profit, operational excellence, sales leadership, and team building.



Congratulations to the TownePlace Suites Minooka team!

Save the Date

2nd Annual Senior Expo in

CELEBRATION OF SENIORS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22ND 2024
10AM - 2PM

JENNIFER'S GARDEN BANQUET
555 GORE ROAD | MORRIS, IL 60450

Hosted by:

Senior Programs of the Grundy County
Health Department

Vendors | Seminars | Door Prizes | Bingo

Sponsored and Catered by

Jennifer's Garden Banquet and Convention Center



<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grundy-county-senior-expo-tickets-823993144677?aff=ebdssbdetssearch>

ALL ARE WELCOME • FREE ADMISSION
For more information call: (815) 941-3121 or email: seniors@grundyhealth.com

Calling All Boys & Girls Ages 5-12!

MINOOKA Summer CAMP

7 WEEKS
June 11th to July 25th



\$180

Join us for fun filled themed weeks, new entertainment, special guests, along with some of your favorite activities from camps past, and so much more!



Optional Field Trips Available

Registration

Residents: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at the Village Hall on Saturday, April 6th

Non-Residents: 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm at the Village Hall on Friday, April 12th

****Anyone who signs up after May 12th will pay a \$25 late fee per child****

For More Information, contact us: Dawn.Niner@minooka.com

Camp Dates: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
June 11th - July 25th, 2024 Camp Hours: 9:00 a.m. to Noon on days listed above
Registration Fee: \$180.00 Maximum Enrollment 220 Campers

All campers will receive a t-shirt.
Field Trips are optional and are not included in the price of the camp registration.

Around TOWN



The Minooka American Legion Post 1188 would like to invite all area Businesses, Churches, & Social Organizations to participate in this years Memorial Day Parade, 10:00am Monday, May 27th, 2024.

Go to our website minookalegion1188.org and click on the Memorial Day Parade, fill out the application and email it to legionpost1188@hotmail.com. Please return your completed form before May 10th.

There will be a Memorial Service immediately following the completion of the parade, at Veterans Park. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

PARK PAVILIONS



LIONS PARK AND SUMMIT PARK

Pavilion Reservations Begin:

RESIDENTS

March 1, 2024

8:00 AM

\$50 Damage Deposit

NON-RESIDENTS

April 1, 2024

8:00 AM

\$100 Damage Deposit

More info at www.minooka.com

Be Our Guest

at Minooka Community High School's

Welcome Reception & Musical Matinee



Community members ages 55 and over are invited to join us for a reception with refreshments and for the musical, "Beauty and the Beast".



Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Welcome Reception • 1:00PM

Performance • 1:30 PM

Performing Arts Center, Central Campus
301 S. Wabena Ave., Minooka

Reservations Required; Limited Tickets Available

*RSVP to Anne Seidel at (815) 521-4108 or aseidel@mchs.net



YARD WASTE

curbside pickup begins

APRIL 1, 2024

FAMILY FEST 2024

FREE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDING DAVE DINASO'S TRAVELING WORLD OF REPTILES!

FAMILIES WILL ENJOY ENTERTAINMENT SUCH AS GIVEAWAYS, GAMES, VENDOR EXPO, RAFFLES, BOUNCE HOUSES, FACE PAINTING, BALLOON ART, & MORE!

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

9AM-1PM

Minooka Jr High School

Free to Attend!

Event Sponsor:



Minooka Junior High is set to present the play "Bedtime Stories (As Told By Our Dad)(Who Messed Them Up)" on Friday, April 5, 2024, at 6 pm and again on Saturday, April 6 at 11 am. Join us for the performance at the Minooka Community High School, Central Campus, in the Performing Arts Center!

Special Event:

Library Road Trip: All Ages

March 23-April 30, 2024

Make time this spring for a Library Road Trip! Plan visits to the participating libraries to see the sights and their unique offerings. Collect fun souvenirs and stamps on your library passport along the way for entry into gift basket raffles. Mark your calendars for March 23 when the Library Road Trip begins!

Family and Youth Programs:

Storytime: 0-5 years

Tuesdays, March 5-April 30, 10:30-11am at Channahon Library
OR Thursdays, March 7-May 2, 10:30-11am at Minooka Branch
Enjoy traditional storytime with books, fingerplays, songs, and a take-home craft. *Registration is required for these in-person programs.*

Drawing Club: 6-11 years

Fridays, March 8, 22, April 12 & 16, 4-5pm at Minooka Branch
Complete a drawing challenge, engage in free drawing, and show off your artwork. *Registration is required for these in-person programs.*

The Craft: Art Club: 12-17 years

Sundays, March 22 & April 26, 4:30-5:30pm at Channahon Library
Create a one-of-a-kind piece of artwork each month. We provide the supplies; you bring the creativity. *Registration is required for these in-person programs.*

Read with Fin the Dog: All Ages Youth

Thursdays, March 28 & April 25

4:30-5:30pm at Minooka Branch

Join Fin on a new day & time to read! Sign up for a 15 minute time slot to read with him. *Registration is required for these in-person programs.*

Perler Beads

6-12 years- Sunday, April 7, 1:30-2:30 at Minooka Branch

13 years+- Sunday, April 7, 3-4pm at Minooka Branch

We have the beads! Use a template or come up with your own design to make keychains, pins, and jewelry! *Registration is required for these in-person programs.*

Earth Day Terrariums: 5 years+

Monday, April 22, 4:30-5:30pm at Minooka Branch

Make a tiny terrarium to celebrate Earth Day.

Registration is required for this in-person program.

Adult Programs:

Coffee & Crafts: Adults 18+

Fridays, March 1 & April 5, 10am-12pm at Minooka Branch
Enjoy conversation and simple beverages with other crafters as you work on your own projects. *Registration is required for these in-person programs.*

Mahjong Club: Adults 18+

Tuesdays, March 5, 19, April 2 & 16, 1-4 pm at Minooka Branch
Experienced and beginners players are invited to learn and play together. *No registration is required.*

Three Rivers Book Club: Adults 18+

Wednesdays, March 6 & April 3, 7-8:30pm at Arrowhead Community Center, 24856 W Eames St, Channahon
New members are welcome for lively discussions of contemporary literature. *No registration is required.* March- *The Bandit Queens* by Parini Shroff April- *In the Upper Country* by Kai Thomas.

Shred Day: Adults 18+

Saturday, March 9, 10am-12pm at Channahon Library
Bring up to 3 boxes of documents to be shredded on the spot! *No registration is required.*

The Founding Mothers: Adults 18+

Wednesday, March 27, 6:30-7:30pm at Minooka Branch
Learn about the women who stood behind the founding Fathers and their hidden contributions to American independence. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Conquering the Camino: Adults 18+

Monday, April 8, 6:30-7:30pm at Minooka Branch
Soak up the sprawling coastal beauty as globetrotter Brian Michalski leads us through the many challenges and rewards of the 174-mile Portuguese Camino de Santiago. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Cutting the Cable Cord: Adults 18+

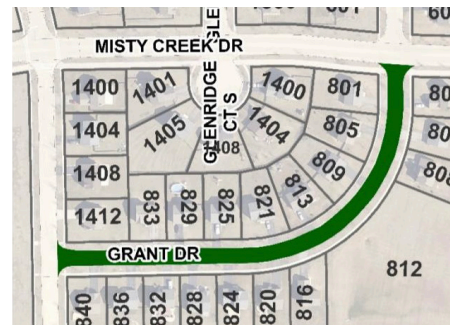
Thursday, April 18, 6-7:30pm at Minooka Branch
Learn about some of the different streaming services as well as the best devices to needed to rid yourself of standard cable. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

PUBLIC WORKS

2024 Annual Street Maintenance

The 2024 Street Maintenance Program will be completed this summer. The program includes resurfacing, along with various crack sealing locations, patching and a limited amount of curb replacement throughout the Village. These areas will also have sidewalk ramps updated to the latest revisions of ADA compliance standards.

801-840 Grant Drive



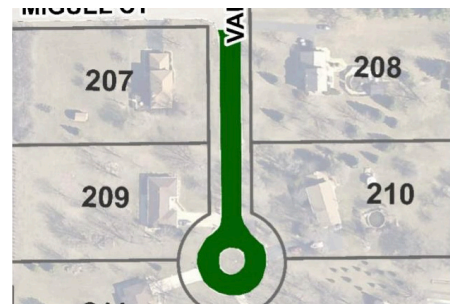
Midpoint Road



600-705 Mahoney Drive /
Clennon Drive



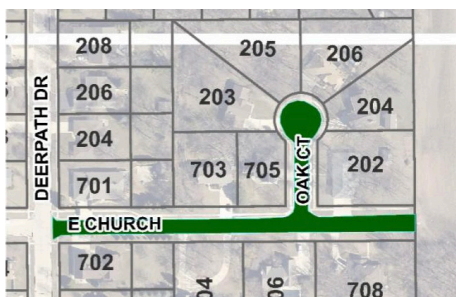
207-212 Valle Vista Court



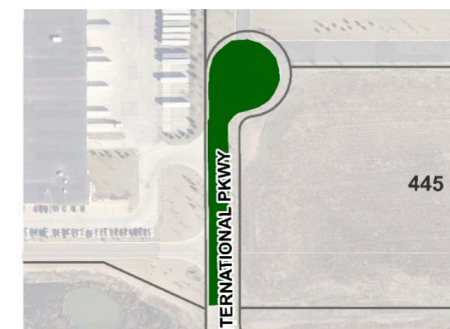
Brian Court



701-708 E Church Street /
Oak Court



North International Parkway



GRUNDY COUNTY LAND USE

PAINT RECYCLING

Grundy County Land Use Department latex and oil paint recycling March through October 2024. Please call (815) 941-3228 to determine the charges for recycling your paint and for scheduling a Friday date and time to bring your paint for drop off and a receipt.



Electronic Waste Recycling AND Shredding Event

April 13, 2024 • 8AM-Noon
Call office for location (815) 941-3229

TVs Charged (cash or check)
\$25/All TVs EXCEPT Projection
\$50 Projection TVs

All other electronics are free to recycle:

- Monitors
- Phones
- PDA/MP3
- Electronic Cables
- Electronics
- Computer Equipment
- Laptops
- Printers
- Computer Towers
- Printers/Fax/Scanners
- Microwaves
- NO WHITE GOODS
- OR HUMIDIFIERS

ALL SHREDDING

2 Box Limit • No Plastics or Metals

TRASHFORMATION SCULPTURES

Young artists from kindergarten through 8th grade in Grundy County are welcome to compete for the best Trashformation Sculpture. A \$50 Walmart gift card will be given to the winner of each grade represented. All participants will receive a promotional gift bag and certificate. Sculptures must be received by March 25 to be considered. For more information, please call (815) 941-3228 or email hmiller@grundycountyil.gov.



March 23rd is Earth Hour sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund. For one hour, from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM, we ask that Grundy County residents participate by not using their lights or unnecessary electrical equipment. For more information and fun ideas for the family, please visit earthhour.org.

MINOOKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chaplain's Corner



Exploring to Understand

Maybe it's me, but I think this is a human nature thing: we dismiss, or otherwise, avoid people we don't understand. It can be difficult to communicate across generations, cultural traditions and core beliefs and values. For years I have heard the call go out for all of us to "get along." For all of us to "work together." For all of us to be "tolerant" and accepting. This call has gone out from religious leaders, artists (all you need is love), academia, politicians, civil leaders, etc. However, I don't remember hearing a call that points us in the direction of how to get along, work together, and bring some kind of unity amidst all of the diversity.

I tend to lean towards judgmentalism. Without knowing anything about a person, I may judge them on any number of things. Most of that assessment is based on external cues and not on any real knowledge of who a person is.

So, as we enter this crazy election cycle and have the occasional interaction with people we don't understand or with whom we may disagree, let's try a better way. What if we put on this attitude instead:

- * Why am I judging this person? What does that say about me? About my character?
- * Why can't I disagree without being disagreeable? That's my issue and I need to work on it.
- * What if I sincerely "explored" this person by asking questions about their background, their ideas, their dreams, not for the purpose of coming up with a good argument against them, but for the purpose of understanding? For the purpose of communicating to this person that I want to get along... work together... be accepting...

"Being heard is so close to being loved that for the average person they are almost indistinguishable." - David Augsburger

The Apostle Paul was a prideful Jewish man who was an intellectual and extremely judgmental towards others. He worked diligently to cancel others and their beliefs, and have them punished. After God changed his heart, he wrote the following. It's a good way to explore others: "... you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another whenever any of you has a complaint against someone else. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you. And to all these qualities add love, which binds all things together in perfect unity." - The Letter to the Colossians.

As always, if you want to discuss this or anything else on your mind, I would be glad to buy you a cup of coffee. Chaplain Carlos Garcia: carlosgarcia@missionbible.church

Carlos Garcia, Chaplain

NEWS FROM WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

This St. Patrick's Day



Sunday, March 17, 2024 – don't forget to wear your green to avoid getting pinched, and leave the driving to a sober driver. While there are many St. Paddy's Day traditions to embrace and sham-rockin' activities to partake in, it's critical to remember that Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving.

RUN WITH US!



MINOOKA HIGH SCHOOL
SUNDAY - APRIL 21, 2024 - 10:00 AM
RUN 4 RESPECT

Come out, join our officers, and help a great cause. We will be participating in the 5K "Run 4 Respect" that will be held on April 21st at the Minooka High School (Central Campus) at 10am. This run is to support Special Olympics to help spread the word of inclusion!
To Register, visit: <https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Minooka/RunForRespect>



April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Thousands of people are killed and hundreds of thousands more are seriously injured in distracted driving crashes each year. Distracted driving has become a deadly epidemic on our roads. Cell phone use – specifically, texting, talking, and social media use – has become the most common distraction.



Follow us to stay up to date!

Don't forget to follow the Minooka Police Department on Facebook and/or Instagram to stay up-to-date with events and news happening in our area.

Also, sign up to receive Notifications, Alerts and Events from us – find out how to subscribe to Everbridge by visiting our website, Minooka.com.



MINOOKA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



JUST A REMINDER OF OUR SAFESITTER BABYSITTING CLASS DATES:

March 25th (Monday) **Minooka Fire Station #1** 8a-3pm
Registration deadline: March 18, 4pm
**This class is during Spring Break for Minooka and Channahon schools*

June 7th (Friday) **Channahon Fire Station #1** 8am-3pm
Registration deadline: May 28, 4pm
Visit www.channahonfire.com to register for this class.

June 3rd (Monday) **Minooka Fire Station #1** 8am-3pm
Registration deadline: May 28, 4pm

NEWS FROM LOCAL CHURCHES



MISSION BIBLE CHURCH

We are excited to invite you to Mission Bible Church where we believe in being Real with God, Real with Each Other and Real in the World.

Mission Minooka

Saturday 5:00 pm • Sunday 9:00/10:30 am
412 N. Wabena in Minooka

Mission Morris (meeting at Saratoga School)

Sunday 9:30 am
4040 N. Division St, Morris - Door #16



missionbible.church



Mission Bible Church



Mission Bible Church



412 N Wabena Ave, Minooka, IL 60447

Good Friday Experience

Join us for this combined campus event! From 4-7pm on Friday, March 29th, the Minooka Campus will be transformed into an immersive experience that will help us contemplate all that Jesus accomplished on the cross. This is an open house style event. Feel free to arrive anytime between 4:00 and 7:00 to start this hour-long experience. This event is open to families!

Easter Services

Mission Minooka

Saturday 3:00 / 5:00 pm • Sunday 9:00/10:30 am • 412 N. Wabena in Minooka

Mission Morris (meeting at Saratoga School)

Sunday 9:30 am • 404 N. Division St, Morris - Door #16

THE VILLAGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sundays at The Village Christian Church

You're welcome to join us for In-Person church at 8965 South Bell Road in Minooka. Service times are 9 and 10:30 am. Kid Village and Pulse classes are open during both services.

If you're not able to meet in person, you can view the Live service online at 9 and 10:30 am on Sundays 3 different ways: the Live Service Website <https://www.thevillagechristianchurch.com/the-village-live-online-campus>, YouTube Channel [youtube.com/c/TheVillageChristianChurch](https://www.youtube.com/c/TheVillageChristianChurch) or The Village Christian Church Facebook page. We encourage you to participate in the Live chats that are a part of service just as if you were there in person. If you can't watch live you can view at your convenience on any of these platforms. Check out thevillagechristianchurch.com for more information.

Helping Feed Hungry Families In Minooka

The Village Christian Church is partnering with Northern Illinois Food Bank and will host a Mobile Food Pantry at 8965 South Bell Road in Minooka on **Monday, March 25, 5 pm**.

Distribution will be first come first served and usually lasts about an hour or until all the food has been distributed. There is no registration, proof of income or I.D. required.

Future Mobile Food Pantries: 5/6, 6/17



thevillagechristianchurch.com



TheVillageChristianChurch



8965 South Bell Road, Minooka Illinois 60447



The Village Christian Church

Celebrate Easter At The Village Christian Church

Spring is coming and we are looking forward to it! Bring your family to Easter Services at The Village Christian Church, 8965 South Bell Road in Minooka.

This year we will celebrate Easter services on 2 days. All services will be the same. You can choose which day and time will be better for you and your family.

Saturday, March 30 at 5 PM will be a service for the whole family, Kid Village will be closed during this service.

On Sunday, March 31 at 9 or 10:30 AM all the Kid Village rooms will be open for both services.

If you're not able to meet in person, you can view Live online for all 3 services or at your convenience.

Dance The Night Away

The Village Christian Church loves to celebrate our community! Dance The Night Away, a free prom for guests with special-needs will be hosted at the church, 8965 South Bell Road in Minooka on **Friday, April 19 from 4:30-9 pm**.

Registration will be open for guests and volunteers from **February 18-April 12**. Stay tuned for registration details at: thevillagechristianchurch.com

ST. MARY'S PARISH

Weekly Mass

Saturdays: 5:00pm
Sundays: 7:30 am, 9:00am and 11:00am

Confession

Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45pm

Stations of the Cross

Friday Mornings: 9:00am



stmarysminooka.com



St. Mary's Minooka



StMarysMinooka



303 W. St Mary's Street, Po Box 456, Minooka IL 60447

March 23 - Easter Egg Hunt

10:00am in the Parish Center

March 23 - Anointing of the Sick

During 10:30am Mass

March 24 - Pancake Breakfast

8-11am in the Parish Center

Holy Thursday - Mass 7:00pm

Good Friday - Passion of our Lord 3:00pm

Good Friday - Shadow Stations 7:00pm

Holy Saturday - Vigil Mass 7:30pm

Easter Sunday Masses

7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am

MINOOKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP AT OUR NEW BUILDING ON RIDGE ROAD

We expect to begin offering worship experiences at our new building (1210 S. Ridge Road—next to the water tower) in March. **Worship service time will be 9:30AM.** Check our website for the most up-to-date information! www.minookaumc.com.

LENT BIBLE STUDY

All are welcome to join us for our 6-week study based on Made for a Miracle: From Your Ordinary to God's Extraordinary by Rev. Dr. Mike Slaughter. Together we explore the two components of every miracle: divine action and human responsibility. Sessions are in-person with groups meeting on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays beginning February 15th. Contact the office or visit our website for details.

SENIOR LUNCHEON "Forever Young"

On the third Wednesday of the month, we will hold a free luncheon at St. Mary's Minooka for ages 55 and better! Join us on February 21st, March 20th, and April 17th at 11:30 AM. Make a reservation by calling 815-467-2322.

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

March 24th at 9:30 AM (In-person & online)

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

March 28th at 7:00 PM.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

March 29th at 10:00 AM - Ecumenical Cross Walk
March 29th at 7:00 PM - Good Friday Service

EASTER SERVICE

March 31st at 9:30 AM (In person & online)



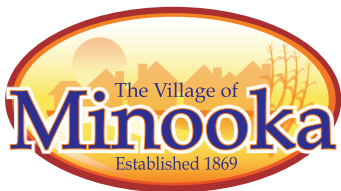
1210 S. Ridge Rd.
Minooka, 60447



Minooka United
Methodist Church



minookaumc.com



121 E. McEVILLY ROAD
MINOOKA, ILLINOIS 60447

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POSTAL CUSTOMER



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper using soybean ink.

This newsletter is being delivered to you as a postal patron of zip code 60447. Although much of the information included in this publication may be of interest, some of it directly affects only those who live inside the corporate limits of the Village of Minooka.

VILLAGE INFORMATION

The Village of Minooka encourages all residents to visit and participate in the Village Board and Committee meetings. Regular meetings of the Village Board are held the 4th Tuesday of each month. They are scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall. Committee of the Whole meetings also take place at the Village Hall on the Wednesday before the Village Board Meeting. To verify a meeting date, please call the Village Hall at (815) 467-2151.

Village President

Ric Offerman (815) 258-5270

Village Administrator

Dan Duffy (815) 467-2151

Village Trustees

Terry Houchens (815) 467-4605

Barry Thompson (815) 353-9188

Dennis Martin (815) 693-6596

Gabriela Martinez (815) 216-7000

Ray Mason (815) 954-0762

Robin White (815) 671-6008



Village of Minooka Citizen of the Year Award!

The Village of Minooka will present its inaugural **"Citizen of the Year" Award** at the 2024 State of the Village Address in order to begin honoring individuals who have, through their selfless giving of time and talent, positively affected Minooka and the lives of its residents.

The nomination form, along with more details and guidelines, can be found on the Village's website at minooka.com or inside Village Hall at 121 E. McEville Road. **2024 submissions are due by Friday March 15.**

Thank you!



EVERBRIDGE MOBILE APP

*New Way to Receive FREE
Village of Minooka Alerts!*



Aim your camera at the QR code to download the Mobile App from Google Play or iOS App Store.

By downloading the Everbridge Mobile App, you can select to receive notifications concerning community events, time-sensitive alerts and/or emergency info that may impact your area.

- Allow Everbridge to send Push Notifications
- Select "Find an Organization or Subscription"
- Search "Minooka"
- Select "Village of Minooka"
- Log in with your Everbridge username and password. If you don't have credentials, create them now.

ONE DELIVERY METHOD MUST BE PROVIDED (PHONE OR EMAIL) IN ORDER TO RECEIVE ALERTS



Get the Everbridge App!

