

THE VILLAGE OF MINOOKA IS FOREVER THANKFUL AND
GRATEFUL FOR THE DEDICATION AND BRAVERY OF OUR
GREAT NATION'S SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS!

Honoring All Who Serve



INSIDE FEATURES

Governor Pritzker Visits Pg. 2
Holiday Happenings Pg. 3
Electric Scooters & Bikes Pg. 6

www.minooka.com

Issue 76

November - December 2025

To Serve You Better Welcome to Your Newsletter

Mayor's Message

Hi Folks,

We're about halfway through fall, the leaves are changing and falling. One good windy day would help to blow them away, usually to the east. Don't tell Rockdale I wished for that.

On the good side of the ledger (no rakes involved), we have Veterans Day, Thanksgiving (my favorite holiday), and Christmas coming up quickly. Do you have your note to Santa ready to go?

And don't forget our Christmas Market at Veterans Park this December 6th. Bundle up and come see Santa. I will.

As always, let's be kind to each other.

Respectfully,
Ric Offerman



The Village Administrator

Dan Duffy, Village Administrator

Governor Pritzker visited Minooka on October 15th to celebrate a major milestone in the Reimagining Electric Vehicles tax credit program, administered by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Innovative Rail Technologies and Motive Power Resources have expanded their Industrial Drive facility, where 100% battery-electric, Illinois-built locomotives will be manufactured and distributed. Pictured: Governor Pritzker, Motive Power employees, and local Illinois suppliers involved in the locomotive assembly process. **The first train built through this program will be delivered to Fort Hood, Texas, where it will be used by the U.S. Army.**



Pictured here with Governor J.B. Pritzker are the endlessly capable men and women who actually did the work in assembling this major technical feat. Congratulations to everyone who had a hand in building this locomotive!

Happy Veterans Day!

The Village of Minooka is forever thankful and grateful for the dedication and bravery of our great nation's Service Members and Veterans!

Honoring All Who Serve

Village offices will be closed Monday, 11/11/2025 in observance

Wishing you and yours a very

Happy Thanksgiving

Village Offices will be closed November 27th & 28th, 2025

Thursday and Friday trash services will be delayed one day this week only.

Final Week!

November 24th - November 28th 2025

Final curbside yard waste collection will occur the week of November 24th - 28th, 2025. Monday through Wednesday service will be on schedule, Thursday and Friday service will be delayed one day due to the Thanksgiving holiday closure.

LOCAL CRAFTERS WANTED

CHRISTMAS MARKET

DECEMBER 6th 1:00PM-8:00PM

HANDMADE PRODUCTS & FOOD

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

AT THE CORNER OF MONTAINE AND WABENA AVENUE, MINOOKA IL

We are seeking vendors and crafters to participate in our 2nd Annual Christkindlmarket

Purchase a spot for \$50 Pop-up tent & tables are not provided

For more information visit: forms.minooka.com/2025-Minooka-Christmas-Market

Scan to Register!

NOVEMBER 21ST - DECEMBER 12TH, 2025

Santa's Mailbox has been delivered to the Village Hall! Be sure to drop off your letters by December 12th so Santa can write back to you before Christmas! Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your letter so Santa can send a response back!

121 E. McEvilly Road, Minooka, IL 60447

HAPPY Holidays

Village Offices will be closed Wednesday, December 24th & Thursday, December 25th

Monday - Wednesday refuse service will be on schedule, Thursday & Friday services will be delayed one day only this week.

Grundy County Land Use Department

Gently Used Toy Drive

NOVEMBER 17TH THROUGH DECEMBER 12TH, 2025

Please donate gently used children's toys, games, DVDs, and plush animals. All donated items will be distributed by Rotary International Toys for Joy by the Mazon Methodist Church and to needy children in Grundy County in time for Christmas.

Collection Locations:

Grundy County Admin. Building 1320 Union Street, Morris

Minooka Three Rivers 109 West Wabena

Morris Public Library 604 Liberty Street, Morris

Channahon Three Rivers Library 25207 West Channahon Drive

Coal City Public Library 85 N. Garfield Street

Fossil Ridge Library 386 West Kennedy Rd., Braidwood

Thank you for your generosity!

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO VIEW THE INFOGRAPHIC PUT TOGETHER BY THE VILLAGE ON THE DATA CENTER COMING TO TOWN.

HAPPY New Year 2026

Village Offices will be **CLOSED** Thursday, January 1st

Monday - Wednesday refuse service will remain on schedule this week. Thursday & Friday services will be delayed one day this week only.

Visit the library's events calendar at trpld.org/events to view the full range of events and to register for library programs. Both libraries are closed November 27, December 24, 25, & 31 for the holidays. The libraries also close early, at 5pm, on November 26 & December 10.



All Ages Programs:

GNOMEVEMBER: ALL AGES

November 1-30, All day at both libraries

It's all about gnomes this month with coloring sheets, a themed scavenger hunt, and take & make crafts while supplies last! *No registration is required.*

Smash Bros Tournament: Ages 7-Adult

Saturday, November 8, 2pm at Minooka Branch

Gamers ages 7-adult are invited to enter this competition to find the ultimate champion! *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Family Read Night: Dragons Love Reading: All Ages

Wednesday, November 12, 6-7:30pm at Channahon Library

You are invited to drop in for the adventure and to celebrate Family Read Night with crafts, games, trivia, a story corner, and more based on our favorite dragon stories! *No registration is required for this in-person, drop-in event.*

Jumpstart Developmental Screenings: Children under 3 years w/parent

Friday, November 14, 2-4pm at Channahon Library & Friday, November 21, 10am-12pm at Minooka Branch

Jumpstart is offering free walk-in screenings to give you a snapshot of your child's current development and what to expect next. *No registration is required for this in-person, drop-in program.*

Tiny Art Show: All Ages

Kit Pick Up December 13-January 3 while supplies last, All day at both libraries

Tiny Art Show returns! While supplies last, pick up a mini canvas kit to complete a masterpiece. Return your artwork to either library by January 3 to have it showcased in the Tiny Art Show display! *No registration is required.*

Youth Programs:

Holidays Around the World: Ages 7+

Mondays, November 3, 10, 17 & December 1, 8, 15, 4pm at Minooka Branch

Learn about holiday celebrations in different countries! *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Gingerbread House Decorating Contest: Ages 4-17

December 1-14, All day at Channahon Library

Build and decorate your house on your own with 100% edible ingredients, then drop off your creation for display! Winners will be announced December 29. *No registration is required.*

Story Explorers: Ages 5-10

Fridays, November 7 & December 5, 4:30pm at Minooka Branch

Read a book together, then bring the story to life with a craft inspired by the book. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

KPop Hunters Party: Ages 12-17

Saturday, November 15, 3pm at Minooka Branch

We're going up, up, up; it's our moment...to celebrate the movie everyone has been raving about! *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Adult Programs:

Movie Mondays: Adults 18+

Mondays, November 3 & December 1, 1pm at Minooka Branch

Enjoy a movie matinee and free popcorn! November: Home for the Holidays, December: Fantastic Four: First Steps *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Molly Zelko- The Search is Not Over: Adults 18+

Tuesday, November 4, 6pm at Minooka Branch

In 1957, newspaper editor, Molly Zelko, vanished and has never been found. Listen as experts reexamine this cold case and the evidence behind this local true crime mystery. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Will & Grundy Counties During the Civil War: Adults 18+

Friday, November 21, 2pm at Minooka Branch

Join Professor Dennis Doyle for a discussion on the roles Will and Grundy Counties played in the Civil War. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Shop Smart: Adults 18+

Friday, December 12, 3pm at Minooka Branch

Learn to navigate Consumer Reports for expert product reviews, ratings, and comparisons. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Completely Cracked Christmas: Adults 18+

Tuesday, December 9, 6:30pm at Heritage Woods,

701 Heritage Woods Dr, Minooka

Enjoy a hilarious musical performance of classic and parody holiday songs! *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Three Rivers Library has a Library of Things!

What is a Library of Things?

This is a diverse selection of nontraditional materials, including equipment, kits, tools, and devices that are available for loan to Three Rivers Library cardholders over the age of 18. Some popular items include: power washer, Cricut EasyPress, balloon pump, coin sorter, and two-way AI voice translator. View all the available items at www.trpld.org/lot



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

OPENGOV NOW AVAILABLE

The Village of Minooka is now using OpenGov, a new online portal that makes it easier than ever to take care of things like building permits, inspections, and business registrations. Just scan the QR code to visit our OpenGov Portal and get started right from your phone or computer!

Discover Online Services
Choose below to browse services by department



Community Development
Building Permit, Contractor Registration

Clerk / Licensing
Business Registration, Food Vendor Permit + more



RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE:

Village ordinance states that from October 30th until May 1st, recreational vehicles including boats, personal watercraft, travel trailers, campers, motorhomes, and other summer recreation items must be moved to an interior side yard, rear yard, or to a fully enclosed building so long as the entire area under the vehicle is open, impervious, and constructed of a hard, dustless material, such as concrete, asphalt, or brick pavers. The surface must be capable of supporting the weight of the vehicle, and access to the front/side yard must meet these same requirements. This must be no closer than five (5) feet to the property lines. Recreational vehicles cannot be parked in front yards, corner lot side yards, front yard driveways, or any public roadway or right of way.

9-1-24: PROHIBITED PARKING DURING SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS:

It shall be unlawful for any person to park any motor vehicle on any highway, street, or alley within the village when snow shall have accumulated to a depth of two inches (2") or more on such highway, street, or alley. It shall be unlawful to so park from the time of such accumulation until the snow has been removed. In addition to all other remedies, every person who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with this section shall be sentenced as provided in section 1-4-1 of this code for each offense. Each occurrence shall constitute a separate offense. Members of the police department are hereby authorized to cause any vehicle parked in violation of this section to be removed from the highway, street, or alley, at the expense of the owner of the vehicle, pursuant to applicable statutes. (Ord. 2011-29, 12-20-2011)



MINOOKA SCHOOLS

Minooka Community High School
invites
Local Veterans
to our
Veterans Day
Breakfast & Assembly
Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Breakfast @ South Campus 8 - 8:45 a.m.

South Campus	•	Central Campus
8:51 - 9:41 a.m.		10:18 - 11:08 a.m.
26655 W. Eames Street		301 S. Wabena Avenue
Channahon, IL 60410		Minooka, IL 60447

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

Coffee & Connection 

with Dr. Robert Schiffbauer, Superintendent
Minooka Community High School District 111

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7
9:00 - 10:00 A.M.
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
DISTRICT BOARD ROOM, 2ND FLOOR
201 S. WABENA AVE., MINOOKA

All are welcome to join us at this informal get-together to enjoy a cup of coffee with Superintendent, Dr. Robert Schiffbauer. Connect with us and chat about topics important to you.

Please RSVP to Aubrey Knight
Director of Community Relations
aknight@mchs.net • 815-521-4112



 YOU ARE INVITED TO
THE MCCHS CHOIR'S
29TH ANNUAL
**MADRIGAL
DINNER**

**MINOOKA HIGH SCHOOL
CENTRAL CAMPUS CAFETORIUM**

Join the Minooka High School Madrigal Choirs for a feast to remember with live music and theater!

**Ticket Sales
NOV 3 - DEC 9**

Visit www.mchs.net or
email rbenware@mchs.net
for reservations & details.

MINOOKA POLICE DEPARTMENT



Chaplain's Corner

Peace on Earth? Really? For some of us (most of us?) instead of "Lions, and tiger, and bears, oh my!" it might be, "Thanksgiving, and Christmas and family, OH MY!" And, added to the inevitable accumulating mound of expectations, planning, kids concerts, work gatherings, shopping — I'm getting anxious writing this! — we also are choosing to elevate our anxiety through social media and a lack of self awareness. Billy Graham once said, "The world doesn't give peace, for it doesn't have any peace to give. It fights for peace, it negotiates for peace, it maneuvers for peace, but there is no ultimate peace in the world. But Jesus gives peace to those who put their trust in Him." Until you and I address the unrest in our hearts and recognize that we must tend to the pain, and brokenness within us, we will remain at a distance from the peace that we want for ourselves and our world. So, the question is, What is forming you? What is informing you? What do you give yourself to? If you can answer those questions, the next question is, what is the result of that formation? What kind of person are you becoming? A person of peace? A person of unrest and hurried anxiety? Peace on earth? As the song goes, "Let it begin with me."

If you want to talk about this, or anything else on your mind, I would be glad to get you a cup of coffee: carlosgarcia@missionbible.church

Carlos Garcia, Chaplain



Toys for Tots Drop-Off Location

Tis' the season to help those that are less fortunate. Once again, the Minooka Police Department is proud to be a drop off location for Toys for Tots. Please stop by and drop off a toy starting November 1 – December 15.

NEWS FROM WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT



VILLAGE OF MINOOKA ELECTRIC SCOOTER & ELECTRIC BIKE RULES



The Village of Minooka is prioritizing education and encourages responsible electric scooter & bike use to help protect all roadway users. Please ride smart, stay alert and do your part to keep Minooka safe.

ELECTRIC SCOOTER

- A device weighing less than 100 pounds, with 2 or 3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, that is solely powered by an electric motor and human power.

ELECTRIC BIKE CLASSIFICATIONS:

- Class 1: 20mph Max: Pedal assisted, no assistance without pedaling
- Class 2: 20mph Max, throttle assisted, can be ridden without pedaling
- Class 3: 28mph Max: Pedal assisted/optional throttle, no assistance without pedaling.

ELECTRIC SCOOTER LAWS

- Must be 18 years of age (Illinois State Law)
- May not be operated in an area with a posted speed limit in excess of 35mph
- The Village does not have authority to adopt local regulations less restrictive than the state law.
- Obey the Rules of the Road

ELECTRIC BIKE LAWS

- No age requirements for Class 1 or Class 2 electric bicycles.
- Persons under the age of 16 may NOT ride a "class 3" e-bike.
- Classification label must be affixed.
- Obey the Rules of the Road

VILLAGE ORDINANCE FOR ELECTRIC SCOOTERS & ELECTRIC BIKES

- Electric bicycles and electric scooters are allowed to be ridden on bicycle paths.
- Electric bicycles and electric scooters are not allowed on sidewalks.
- Electric Bicycles, Electric Scooters, and Gas Bicycles shall be prohibited from being ridden on the street or sidewalk on Mondamin Street in the location from Wabena Avenue to the alley located west of Massasoit Street.

PENALTIES

- Any person who violates the electric scooter or electric bicycle ordinance shall be subject to the following fines:
 - First offense: Sixty dollars (\$60.00).
 - Second offense: One hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00).
 - Third offense: Two hundred forty dollars (\$240.00).

ELECTRIC SCOOTER SAFETY REMINDERS

- Wear a helmet
- Look both ways before riding through any kind of intersection
- Walk your e-scooter in crowded areas.
- Avoid distractions



ELECTRIC BIKE SAFETY REMINDERS

- Before riding your e-bike, please make sure that all safety and mechanical equipment is working properly.
- Wear your helmet.
- When riding at night, please make sure you are using the correct equipment.

815-467-2298/www.minooka.com

TRIVIA NIGHT IS BACK!!!

Time to dust off your thinking caps! Our last Trivia Night was back in 2019, so we've decided it is time to bring it back!!

Save the date: February 28th 2026



There will be food, raffle prizes, silent auctions and TONS OF FUN!!

All proceeds go towards Illinois Special Olympics.

Visit the Minooka Police Facebook & Instagram page to stay up to date with details as the date approaches.

NEWS FROM LOCAL CHURCHES

MINOOKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Minooka United Methodist Church Is On Ridge Road

Our new building is at 1210 S. Ridge Road, next to the water tower. Worship experiences are Sunday mornings at 9:30AM. All are welcome! Learn more about our welcoming and affirming congregation at www.minookaumc.com

Online maps still don't always get our new address correct, so your GPS may take you slightly off-course. Our church is on the east side of Ridge Road, next door to the Minooka water tower, south of Prairie Ridge Drive and north of Misty Creek Drive (in-between the Lakewood Trails and Prairie Ridge subdivisions).

WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children in PreK-5th grade meets at 10:45AM following our worship service. All our Sunday School teachers complete Safe Gathering training and a background check.

WEEKLY YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group for students in 6th-12th grades meets Wednesday evenings 7:00-8:00PM. Youth Group is a place to belong where students can show up just as they are, build friendships, and grow in their faith. All our Youth Group leaders complete Safe Gathering training and a background check.

WEEKLY CONFIRMATION COHORT

Our Confirmation Cohort is in full swing for students in 7th & 8th grades. Worship at 9:30AM; conversation immediately following worship. The purpose of Confirmation is to help students hear God's call in their lives and equip them as disciples of Jesus.

WEEKLY CHAIR YOGA

Meet in the multi-purpose room for gentle movement and mindfulness in this accessible yoga class, perfect for all ages and fitness levels. No fee; free-will offering collected. Chair Yoga meets twice per week: Mondays from 11:15AM to 12:00Noon with Instructor Lu. Thursdays from 5:15-6:00PM with Instructor Katie.

 1210 S. Ridge Rd., Minooka, 60447  minookaumc.com

CHRIST FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

AWANA Clubs:

Sunday, November 2, 9, 16 @ 4:30 - 6:00 pm

AWANA Clubs offer a fun, exciting environment where kids, 4 years old through 12th grade, are discipled using a proven Scripture-based program. Our awesome team of workers keep the children engaged through games and music while promoting spiritual growth through biblical teaching. Our goal is to lead children and families to Christ and develop a lifelong faith in God. Register online at christfirst.church/awana

Worship: 8:30am Morning Worship Service

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Main Worship Service

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, November 8 & December 13 @ 7:30 am

Men of all ages are welcome to join us for a free breakfast, fellowship, and a Bible Study.

Children's Recital: December 7 @ 10 am

The kids and teens of our church will showcase their instrumental and musical talents.

Good News! Christmas Program: December 14 @ 11 am

Everyone is invited to hear the Good News! Christmas Program presented by the children of the church.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: December 24 @ 5pm

Join us as we lift our voices in worship and celebrate Christ's birth.

 4295 Van Dyke Rd., Minooka, IL 60447

 christfirst.church



Christ First Baptist Church

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 at 8:00, 9:00 and 10:30 am. **Kid Village** classes will be open for 9 & 10:30 services, infant-grade 3.

100,000 Meal Pack

Serving is key at The Village Christian Church - in fact one of the 3 points to our mission is Life Purpose, and we want to equip you to live out your life purpose and serve others. The Meal Pack is an event where we are partnering with Lifeline Christian Mission to pack 100,000 meals to be sent to hungry families around the world. You can help!

When: Saturday, November 15. There are 3 serving times 9-10:30am, 11am-12:30pm and 1-2:30pm.

Where: The Village Christian Church, 8965 S Bell Road in Minooka.

Kids are encouraged to serve (with a parent). There are sitting jobs, standing jobs, light jobs, heavy jobs. Sign up for your spot today, scan the QR code!

 8965 South Bell Road, Minooka Illinois 60447

 TheVillageChristianChurch.com

 thevillagechristianchurch.com

 The Village Christian Church

Christmas At The Village

We are so excited to celebrate Christmas with you and your family this year!

The Christmas Service Schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, December 23, Christmas Eve Eve: 5:00 & 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve: 5:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Online Campus Services will be live for each service

- All services will be the same. (Each service will be by flameless candle)

- Kid Village will be closed for families to worship together.

- This is the 1 time of year that we dress up, but we encourage you to do what works best for you and your family and dress comfortably.

We look forward to seeing you for Christmas!

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 412 N. Wabena in Minooka

Saturday - 5:00pm Sunday - 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am (*Spanish translation available at this service*)

Mission Morris (meets at Saratoga School) 4040 N. Division St, Morris - Door #16 Sunday 9:30am

Christmas Eve Services: We'd like to invite you to attend one of our Christmas Eve services this year at our Minooka Campus at 1:30pm, 3pm, or 11:30pm.

 missionbible.church

 Mission Bible Church

 Mission Bible Church

 412 N Wabena Ave, Minooka, IL 60447



121 E. McEVILLY ROAD
MINOOKA, ILLINOIS 60447

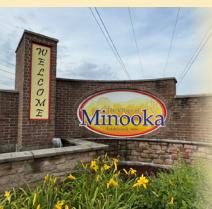
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POSTAL CUSTOMER

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

Dennis Martin (815) 693-6596

Gabriela Martinez (815) 216-7000

Ray Mason (815) 954-0762

Robin White (815) 671-6008

Barry Thompson (815) 353-9188

Josh Stell (630) 644-2335

**RESERVATIONS FOR AUX SABLE SPRINGS
PARK BASEBALL & SOFTBALL FIELDS WILL
OPEN ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

TOURNAMENTS
November 1, 2025

GAMES
November 15, 2025

PRACTICES
December 1, 2025



To register, scan the
QR code or visit:
register.communitypass.net/VillageofMinooka

GOLF CARTS IN MINOOKA

Here's how...

Apply at Police Department \$10

Residential Streets ONLY

PROHIBITED CROSSING AND ROADWAY RESTRICTIONS

VIOLATORS:
1ST OFFENSE: \$250
2ND OFFENSE: \$500
3RD OFFENSE: \$750

PLEASE CONTACT MINOOKA PD WITH ANY QUESTIONS 815-467-2298.
VISIT WWW.MINOOKA.COM TO READ THE ENTIRE ORDINANCE 9-1-30

HOLIDAY OF HOPE

GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE THIS SEASON

DONATE BLOOD

Saturday
November
29

7:30AM – 12:00PM

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.



1-800-7TO-GIVE

**Knights of Columbus
Blood Drive**

Location: St. Marys Parish Center

300 W. St. Marys Street
Minooka, IL 60447

Appointments appreciated; Walk-Ins welcome! To schedule, go to www.versiti.org/IL, load the Versiti Donor app, call (800) 7TO-GIVE, or scan the QR code



Photo ID Required

As a thank you, all donors with a valid email will receive a \$25 E-gift card!



versiti
Blood Center of Illinois