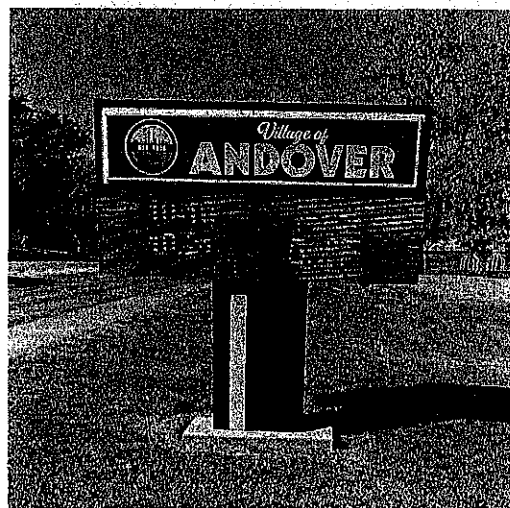


TALK OF THE TOWN

Village of Andover
PO Box 228 309-521-8116

3RD Quarter 2024



MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Greetings everyone,

Well, another summer has passed and here we are well into the fall season. It was a busy summer and it seemed to go by quickly. We took advantage of the nice weather to make several improvements within the village. Five new trees have been planted in the park in addition to one at the museum in memorial to Ron Peterson. We have lost several trees in the last few years due to old age, disease and storms. This was a much needed addition to our park and we plan to continue keeping up with the replacement of trees lost. The concession stand at the ball diamond received a new roof and coat of paint. Thanks to all the volunteers who took part in this project. Repairs were completed at the village hall. New gutters, soffits and siding have been replaced, a much needed facelift. Our annual street maintenance project has been completed. Thanks to our village employees Ken and Ron for getting this done.

There is not much to report as far as progress regarding our upcoming water system improvement project. We are still on hold waiting for the new round of funding to open up from the USDA so our engineering team can apply for the grants. Once the funding is in place, the project will be put out for bids. This process is carried out by our engineering firm, IMEG. We do have a generator on order for the water plant that is due to be delivered around February 2025. We are currently working on getting the concrete pad for the generator poured in addition to getting the electrical and gas supplies in place prior to the generator arrival.

We are currently under a village wide burn ban issued by the fire department due to the extremely dry conditions. This also includes the surrounding rural areas of the Osco Fire District. This ban will remain in effect until further notice. This includes burning of leaves and brush on your property. Unfortunately this will have an impact on fall yard cleanup efforts. Our disposal service, Peterson Disposal, does not accept yard waste or leaves as the landfill does not accept this material, so do not bag the leaves and set out for curbside pickup. Leaves will have to be held until the burn ban is lifted or taken up to the village yard waste site if you want to dispose of them.

Several events are soon approaching, including the annual village Halloween party and Christmas walk. More detailed information on both of these events can be found within the newsletter. We hope that everyone will come out to support both of these events and join in the fun.

Fall harvest is well underway and it is worth mentioning that we need to be aware of all the farm machinery travelling on the roads. We are a rural community so please be aware and patient while driving through town and on the country roads as the farmers move their machinery. The farm equipment is big and requires a lot of space on the road. I am sure they would appreciate your patience and cooperation. Give them time and space as they are doing their best to be safe on the roads. It can be hard to see smaller vehicles from the cab of the equipment if they are following too close.

Until next time, have a great Fall, enjoy the season, each other and be a good neighbor and always help those in need.

God Bless,
Mike Mielke

TRICK OR TREATING AND HALLOWEEN PARTY

Trick or Treating will be held on Sunday, October 27th from 3:00-5:00pm. Trunk or Treat will be held at the Lutheran Church, south side, during that time. The Halloween Party will; be held from 5:00-7:00pm at the Fire Station. Hot dogs, chips, dessert and drinks will be served. The costume judging will be held at 5:30pm. Categories: most original, scariest and Judges' choice. Age groups are: 0 – 2; 3 - 4; 5 - 6; 7 - 8; 9 – 11; 12 and up

PEOPLE'S PARTY CAUCUS

The People's Party will hold their caucus on Monday, December 2, 2024 at the Village Hall (Legion Building) at 6:00 pm. We will be filling nominations for the three Village Trustee positions, the Village Clerk and Village President. They are all 4-year terms to be filled. All registered voters may attend.

Movie Night in the Park

Thank you to everyone who came to Movie Night in the Park. We had a great crowd and beautiful weather.

We appreciate Denise Lilly who always finds time to help with our Andover Adventures. Also, Nancy and Matt Brandt solicited the toy cars and lighted balls that were available for the kids to take.

Special thanks to Jordan Balmer & his family, who came and set up video games, the movie screen, provided the movie and had a small concessions area. Jordan is the owner of Game Bois, a used game store in Geneseo. We hope to pair-up with Jordan for future events.

Concession Stand Roof & Baseball Dugouts

We would like to thank Dennis Gay for spearheading the project to replace the roof, soffits, fascia, drip edges and gables at the concession stand.

Dennis worked with Ken Estes, Jay Jones, Kevin Betcher, Conner Riddell, Doug Nelson & Keith Poppy. It looks fantastic and they used materials that should last for a long time.

And while they worked on the roof, Mouch Gay, Pastor Liz Kuster & Grant Mouglin scraped and painted the fascia boards on the baseball dugouts. After they finished painting, Dennis and Ken added drip edges to help preserve the wood underlayment and give it a more finished look.

If you get a chance, stop by and check it out. And while you're at the park, you can also look for the five new trees that were planted near the lake and the gazebo.

Volleyball in the Park

We appreciate Laney Fuqua for initiating volleyball games at the park this summer. The Village Board bought a new net, volleyballs, boundary lines and a storage container for the equipment. Although the level of participation for summer was not what she was hoping for, we now have everything available to use next summer, or for a winter league at Osco Church if anyone is interested.

Andover Christmas Walk 2024

Our Annual Christmas Walk will take place on Sunday, December 8th with activities starting at 3:00 pm and continuing until 7:00 pm. We invite you to join us for this fun-filled evening.

- 3:00 pm Augustana Lutheran Church-Fellowship Hall
Gingerbread Bash-spend the afternoon making a Gingerbread Nativity, listening to the Christmas story and other activities.
- 4:45 pm Andover Park Gazebo
Christmas Tree Lighting & Christmas Caroling
- 5:00 pm Andover Village Hall
Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus and have your photo taken
Christmas Crafts
Make Christmas Cards to give to residents at Resthave Nursing Home
Frost and Decorate Christmas Cookies
Story Corner-reading a variety of Christmas stories
Silent Auction-drawing for winners at 6:45
Soup Supper (we need volunteers to be able to have this event)
- 5:15 pm Andover Park-East Pavilion
Tractor-pulled hayrack rides will take you through the streets and around the park to see Christmas decoration (weather permitting)
- 5:30 pm Jenny Lind Chapel
A couple of groups will be performing a variety of music at the candle-lit chapel. Come sit, relax and enjoy the music.

Welcome Packet for New Residents

At the October 7th Village Board meeting, we discussed the need to get information about our town to new residents. President, Mike Mielke directed the Citizens Committee to come up with some ideas for a small welcome packet that can be given to new residents when they initiate their water service. It would include a list of Village Board Members, the most recent copy of our Talk of the Town newsletter, recycling dates, and other important information.

Andover 190th Anniversary Celebration: 190 Years of Driving Into the Future

A planning meeting for Andover's 190th Anniversary Celebration was held in June and generated a lot of great ideas for the event being held from Friday, June 6th to Sunday, June 8th, 2025. In order for this event to be a success we need your help.

Friday, June 6th

Evening Band Concert
Ice Cream Social
Dedication of Gazebo
Veteran's Memorial Service

Saturday, June 7th

Fishing Derby
Rope Bridge-Boy Scout Pack 123
Boomerang Display-Kendall Davis
Native American-Rudy Vallejo
OHS Robotics Team
Children's Activities
Touch-a-Truck
Vendor's Fair—crafts and food
Light lunch served in west pavilion
Car Show
Parade
Pork Chop Supper
Ice Cream Social
Band Concerts
Fireworks

Sunday, June 8th

Community Worship Service
Village-wide potluck
Family Activities
Children's Games
Kickball game @ the ball field
Face painting

Additional suggested activities

Remote control car races
Model boat demonstrations on lake
Petting Zoo
Drone Display
Narrated hayrack rides thru village
Pickleball tournament
5K Fun Run
Scavenger Hunt
Dunk Tank
Baseball/Softball Games
Large Bounce House/Maze
AGT-Andover's Got Talent

These are all great ideas, but we need people who are willing to step-up and take on one of these projects in order for them to happen.

We are also in need of people who could help with advertising, soliciting funds via phone, email, letters or grants. These funds will help cover the expenses for the weekend.

If you're willing to help with anything of the suggested activities or have a suggestion yourself, please contact:
Mooch Gay @ 309-738-6351
Denise Lilly @ 309-428-5055

BUILDING PERMIT ORDINANCE

Permit Required: No person shall construct or alter any building or structure in the Village where the cost of such construction or alteration exceeds five hundred dollars (\$500.00), including labor and materials, or where bearing walls of any building or structure or the roof is rebuilt or relocated, without first securing a building permit. **THIS INCLUDES ROOFING, SIDING, WINDOW REPLACEMENT, ETC.** Copies of the permit and fee schedule can be found at our website www.andoveril.org. They are listed under the documents tab and then the zoning tab. Copies of the permit are also available at the post office on the table in the lobby. **The permit must be acquired before construction begins or fines can be levied for each day of construction without a permit.**

Building Permits:

- Call Bev Josephson at 309-738-8211 if you have any questions or to get a permit if you do not have internet access.
- Please call at least 24 hours before your building project is to begin to get your permit.

WATER BILL ACCOUNT NUMBERS

Please be sure to include your water bill account number with your payment. Anyone who has had the auto-read meters installed was assigned a new account number to coordinate with the meter number. **If you wish to set up automatic payment withdrawal from your checking account, call Bev Josephson at 309-738-8211 or there are copies at the Bank and the Post Office.**

DOGS AND CATS RUNNING AT LARGE PROHIBITED ORDINANCE

No person who owns, keeps or harbors a dog or cat shall or permit such animal to run at large within the Village. All dogs and cats within the Village shall be kept confined within an enclosure or be kept confined by a chain or on a leash sufficient to restrain the animal within the property of the person who owns, keeps or harbors said animal, and in such manner as to prevent the biting of any person or animal. A dog or cat shall be deemed to be "at large" when it is off the premises of its owner's real property and not restrained by a competent person.

WEEDS/GRASS HEIGHT ORDINANCE

WEEDS: DECLARED A NUISANCE. It shall be unlawful for anyone to permit any weed, grass or plant, other than trees, bushes, flowers or other ornamental plant, farm crops or garden produced plant, to grow to a height exceeding eight inches (8") anywhere in the Village.

Andover Historical Society Meeting

Third Tuesday of April, June, September & November 1:00 pm at Women's League Building.

President of the Village Board

Mike Mielke (309) 945-8730

Andover Post Office

(309) 521-8242

Village Clerk

Bev Josephson (309) 738-8211
521-8116 (Village Hall)

Andover Legion Auxiliary

Denise Lilly (309)521-8132

Village Treasurer

Garrett Adamson
521-8116 (Village Hall)

Andover Township Supervisor

Gene Stromquist (309) 521-8386

Village Board of Trustees

Kevin Betcher (309)781-2159
Elma "Mooch" Gay (309) 738-6351
Dan Heiar (309) 945-3370
Jennifer Hirsch (309) 235-9945
Valli Putnam (309) 949-7049
Conner Riddell (309) 373-4849

Andover Township Cemetery Sexton

Tim Smith, 309-714-0201

Henry County Sheriff Department

Non-Emergency 309-937-3911

Village Employee

Ken Estes (309) 798-7748

EMERGENCY 9-1-1

Water Operator

Dave Riddell (309) 738-4147

Eagle Enterprises Recycling

(309) 932-2936

Building Inspector

Stuart Etheridge (309) 781-5585

Peterson Disposal Service

(309) 521-8323

HENRY COUNTY CRIME STOPPERS

1-800-227-2324 or 309-937-2324

Village e-mail address:

andover1835@gmail.com

HENRY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

309-937-3906