

Village of Summit, IL.

Winter, 2025

Founded in 1890

A Village on the Rise

THE SUMMIT



FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR SERGIO RODRIGUEZ

While we know it's the holiday season, the past few months have been a time of stress and anxiety for many due to the ramped-up immigration enforcement.

As the grandson of immigrant grandparents, I know that many who came to America arrived with the same aspirations they did. They came here seeking a better life for themselves and their families. They were willing to work hard, make difficult sacrifices, and all they ever asked for was an opportunity to make a living. I am living proof of that, as are many others.

This is the story of Summit, which has been home to migrants since its earliest beginnings. As a Village, we have taken steps to ensure we are a welcoming community, such as authorizing sanctuary city status in 2017.

While many communities face the same challenges, there is very little that local municipalities can do alone. The best thing one can do is be informed, share reliable information, and ensure one's affairs are in order. We've included some helpful resources on page 7.

I encourage everyone this holiday season: please find time to give back, check on each other, and help out in any way you can. It is important that the community comes together and lend a helping hand. The resilient character of our people is what makes Summit a very special place.

CONTINUED SUCCESS IN 2025

Mayor Rodriguez and the Village Board are proud that the Village has made significant progress towards improving your infrastructure in 2025. This year, the Village successfully completed many infrastructure initiatives, such as Phase 1 of our lead line replacement. The Village also welcomed many new small businesses and improved the vibrancy of our community through façade enhancements.

Embarking on these projects takes time, effort and resources. We would like to highlight a few particular initiatives of many in 2025. There will be more to come in 2026! See **COMMUNITY**, page 3.



DESIGNER BEHIND NEW VILLAGE LOGO HAS LOCAL ROOTS

For decades, the Village of Summit's logo depicted an illustration of a mountain representing the highest point of the Chicago Portage between the Chicago and Des Plaines River. Despite that connection, a mountain as the primary logo seemed peculiar for a small, populated Midwest town – let alone the Southwest side of Chicago. It was time for a change. See **LOGO**, page 2.



Mayor Rodriguez was named President of the WCMC — the first Latino and Summit mayor. Read more about it on **page 7**.

2026

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SPECIAL END OF THE YEAR EDITION
Newsletters timelines:
January - Winter Edition
March - Spring Edition
May - Summer Edition
August - Fall Edition



The Official Publication of the Village of Summit



Office phone: 563-4807

Email: clambert@summit-il.org

Letters to Santa

Wish List Letters to Santa!!

Santa loves getting letters from boys and girls of all ages. Our newsletter includes a special letter you can fill out [PAGE 6] or you can write your own personalized letter. **Send your letters prior to December 12th** and make sure you include your return address so Santa can send you a personalized letter back.

You can drop the letters off at the Village Municipal Center or mail them to:

Santa Claus
The Village of Summit
7321 West 59th Street
Summit, IL 60501

Santa Parade

Bundle up kids of all ages...Santa Claus is coming to town!

Santa will be making a brief stop in the Village of Summit on Saturday, **December 13th**. Santa will be joined by the Village Board, Fire and Police Department and will ride through town departing from the Summit Fire Department at 10:00 a.m.

Included in our newsletter is the route Santa will be taking and stops he will be making to take pictures with children [PAGE 5]. Since Santa is on a tight schedule — as he has many stops to make no matter the weather— the parade will go on. Let's all come out and show Santa and his elves the true Village of Summit Holiday Cheer!



LOGO

FROM PAGE 1

Bill Concannon, the architect behind the new Village logo design, grew up in Hickory Hills and is an alum of St. Laurence High School. Upon graduation, he decided to join the U.S. Navy where attended boot camp in San Diego, California, and stationed in Boston, Massachusetts.

Once his service concluded, he was presented with an opportunity to work for the *Southtown Economist*, operating out of 5959 S. Harlem Ave across the street from Summit.

While at the newspaper, Concannon developed a passion for graphic design by being tasked with layout and design of the entire newspaper as well as playing a key role in changing the name and brand of the paper to *The Daily Southtown*.

"I really enjoyed my time around in Summit at *The Southtown Economist*," Concannon said. "The role gave me an opportunity to learn about the community while also developing my graphic design skills at a young age."

Concannon also credits his love for graphic design to another fellow artist, his late brother Jim.

"Jim inspired me to have a career in art," Concannon said. "He was an amazing artist who pushed me to be bold with my art and not shy."

It didn't take long for Concannon to start his own graphic design business, Fulcrum, which he co-founded with his best friend. His career, however, eventually lead him back to Boston working for **Hasbro** as a Senior Art Director. This opportunity ultimately made a huge impact on the trajectory of his career where he would be tasked with developing the artwork for Lucasfilm's game packaging and toys.

"Star Wars opened a lot of doors and I found myself traveling frequently back to the West Coast in San Francisco meeting and working with the Lucasfilm team on the design of their packaging."

The success of Lucasfilms presented opportunities to design different brands, such as Hot Wheels, Transformers, John Wick and Saw. Concannon built off of this success, eventually co-founding a graphic design firm called Pilot. His growing clientele prompted a permanent move back to the West Coast and his current company, Concannon Art, was established 5 years ago.

As for his project designing a new Village logo, Concannon approached the challenge with the same meticulousness and diligence that brought him success designing the nation's top brands.

"I understood the relevance of Summit and the icon of a mountain may not have been a good depiction of the town so my research lead me to the river," Concannon said. "I dug into the waterway and Summit's reputation of a being a trading post so I thought it [the river] was essential to illustrate."



The design of the logo underwent many sketches and color palettes, eventually settling for a simple, yet conspicuous look.

"As for the color scheme, I wanted something that was going to be graphic and easy to read — a good contrast, but also a richness to it. The bronze and black I thought was a perfect combination."



As winter settles in, the Summit Police Department would like to remind all residents to stay safe, stay warm, and look out for one another during the cold weather months.

Check on Our Seniors

Cold weather can be especially challenging for our senior citizens. Please take a moment to check in on elderly neighbors, friends, and relatives to ensure they are safe and have what they need during freezing temperatures. A quick visit or phone call can make a big difference.

Parking Restrictions Reminder

Residents are reminded to follow all posted parking signs throughout the Village. Please note that **“No Parking 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.”** signs are in effect based on the designated time frame, regardless of whether street sweeping or snow plowing has already passed by.

Holiday Safety for Local Businesses

During the holiday season, our local businesses can become more vulnerable to theft and other crimes. Please remain alert and report any suspicious activity immediately to the Summit Police Department. If you see something, say something — your vigilance helps keep our community safe.

Warming Centers Available

For anyone in need of a warm place to go during extreme cold, there are several warming centers, including: **Summit Public Library; Village Park facilities; Fire Department; Police Station.** These locations are open to help ensure everyone has a safe and comfortable space during the coldest days.

Celebrate Responsibly

As we enjoy the holiday season, please celebrate safely and responsibly. If you plan to drink, don't drive — arrange for a designated driver, call a friend, or use a rideshare service. Remember, with legalized adult-use cannabis, driving under the influence of marijuana is also considered a DUI offense. Let's keep our roads safe for everyone this holiday season.

Wishing You a Safe and Happy Holiday Season! Let's continue to look out for one another and keep our community strong this winter!



Office phone: 563-4830
Anonymous Tip Hotline: 563-8100
Email: mortiz124@summitpd.net

IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY IN 2025 AND BEYOND!

Sewer Televising and Jetting Project

- Village-wide initiative to clean our sewer lines from blockages and debris.

Sewer Lining Project

- Completely rehabbed sewer lines on the west side of town fully paid for via Build Up Cook Grant.

Lead Line Replacement

- Successfully replaced water service lines with new copper lines from the water meter to the water mains.

Reduction in Community Blight

- Improved community vibrancy by demolishing deteriorated, unsafe buildings on 63rd Pl, 64th St, and Archer Rd.

Romo Furniture — 6245 Archer Rd.

- Grand opening November 2025

Dunkin' Donuts — 3910 S Archer Rd.



Emmett Till Walkway Memorial — 6450 S. 76th Ave.

A new circular walking path memorializing Emmett Till was unveiled in July outside of the Emmett Till Center.



- New facility on Archer Rd.

Star Buds — 5436 S. Harlem Ave.

- A new dispensary set to open December 2025.

NAMI — 7602 63rd St.

- Completed a new façade on their facility on 63rd Street.

Catholic Charities — 7424 Archer Ave.

- New facilities under construction, set to open early 2026.

Marisol Torres Farmers Insurance — 5818 Archer Rd.

- New insurance agency which opened in July

Dedication of Patricia H. Ticheck Lane

In July, the corner of 74th Ave and 59th St. was re-named in honor of Patricia H. Tichacek and her 40+ years of service to our community.



Launched of Bridgepoint Development Project — 7955 W 59th St.

The site will be home to a 340,000 square foot building accommodating up to three tenants and is expected to be completed the first quarter of 2026



Tony Anderson, Fire Chief

As snow settles in and holiday lights glow across the village, your friends at the Summit Fire Department want to help keep your season merry, bright, and safe. We'd much rather wave at you in a parade than respond to your living room!



Christmas Trees

- Real trees need water daily. A dry pine tree lights up faster than holiday wrapping paper in a fireplace. Check your lights for frayed cords and turn everything off before heading to bed or leaving home.

Space Heaters

- They're fantastic for warming your feet, but not for warming your furniture. Keep them at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn—and plug them directly into a wall outlet, not a power strip (trust us on this one).

Holiday Cooking

- Unattended cooking is the #1 cause of holiday fires. And if you're deep-frying a turkey, keep it outside, far from your house, garage, deck, porch, and anything else you don't want to ignite.

Candles

- They're festive — until they're not. Keep them away from decorations, curtains, and overly curious pets. Flameless candles give you the glow without the "call the fire-department" part.

ALS-Capable Engine Announcement

We're proud to share that the Summit Fire Department is making our engine ALS-capable. This means our firefighters will be able to provide advanced life support care when our ambulance is on another call and we're waiting for mutual aid.

This improvement ensures faster care, better outcomes, and stronger service for our residents when seconds count.

New Ambulance Coming in April 2026

We're excited to announce that a new ambulance will be arriving in late April 2026! Even better, our new ambulance has been selected to be showcased at FDIC 2026 in Indianapolis.

For those who don't know, FDIC is an international showcase of the world's top fire and EMS innovations. Having our ambulance selected is an incredible honor for the Summit Fire Department and reflects the professionalism and pride of our crews.

A huge thank you to the Summit Village Board for continuing to support our department and ensuring our residents receive the best, most modern emergency care possible.

Newsletter Winter Weather Reminder

Please keep hydrants near your home clear of snow. A few minutes of shoveling can save precious minutes in an emergency.

From All of Us at the Fire Department

We love your holiday spirit — just keep the "light show" limited to your decorations, not your electrical outlets.

From all of us at the Summit Fire Department, we wish you and your family a safe, warm, and joyful holiday season.

Stay safe, stay festive, and remember: the only thing roasting this winter should be chestnuts.



Office phone: 594-3894

Email: tanderson@summitfire.net

Jerry Rosales, Superintendent of Public Works

As winter approaches, please do not blow leaves into the street because that will cause problems for our sewer system. Residents must follow the street sweeping signs so be mindful of the signs posted regarding parking. We keep that schedule to have efficient and safe plowing throughout the winter.

Parking should be as close to the curb as possible, folding mirrors in. Be aware of any fire hydrants that may get buried in due to snow or plowing and help keep them clean and visible for our fire department.



Code enforcement will continue through the winter, including overflow of garbage, maintenance of property, and debris in yards. Keeping properties maintained in the winter will also keep rodents away.

Preparing and maintaining your home on the outside is important but residents should also prepare their homes from the cold winter months. A few ways to prevent freezing pipes is to insulate the pipes, keep the heat on, have the faucet drip slightly, and have your cabinets open where pipes are. If they do happen to freeze, use a blow dryer to unfreeze. Never use fire to unfreeze a pipe.

Last yard waste pickup will be Saturday, November 28th. Once residents are done with Christmas trees the garbage company will take them from the alleys so please put them next to your garbage tote.



Office phone: 563-4800

Email: jrosales@summit-il.org

Santa is Coming to Town Saturday, December 13th!



The fun begins at 10:00 a.m. at the Fire Department
Santa will also be making four stops to take pictures:

St. Joseph's parking lot

Hanover Park

St. Blase parking lot

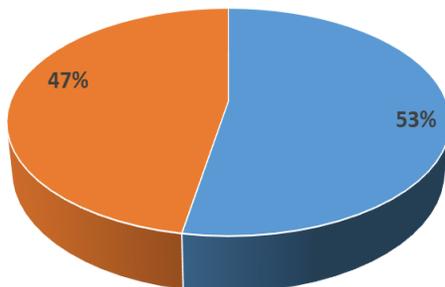
Argo High School west parking lot

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SURVEY RESULTS



The Village of Summit conducted a community survey beginning in late August to gauge residents' opinions on having bars open until 3:00 a.m. instead of 2:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Roughly 536 residents participated and the survey was closed at the end of October, lasting for about 65 days. Here are the results:

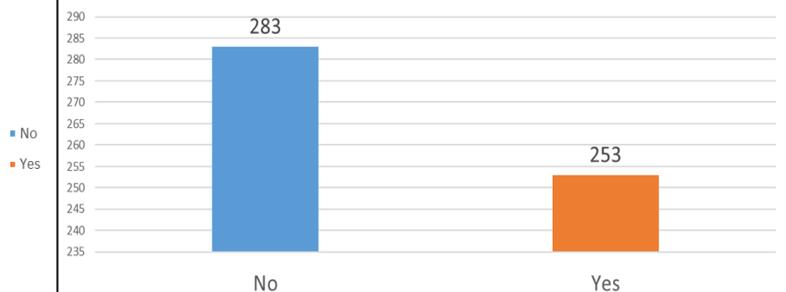
Should bars operating in the Village of Summit remain open until 3:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays from their current curfew of 2:00 a.m.?



Are you a resident of the Village of Summit? ▾

Count of ID

Should bars operating in the Village of Summit remain open until 3:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays from their current curfew of 2:00 a.m.?



Should bars operating in the Village of Summit remain open until 3:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays from their current curfew of 2:00 a.m.? ▾



Dear Santa,

Hello! This Christmas, I will be years old, and my teacher is at School!

I know this year has been different, but I have been...



- Good all of the time
- Good some of the time
- Naughty (but I can explain)

I am proud of myself, because this year, I did some nice things - including:

What I would like most for Christmas this year is and , and I promise to leave out for you!

Merry Christmas Santa!



Love,
First Name Last Name
Address (or email)

P.S. Please tell I said hello!

*Sample letter also available on Village website

HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT

Mayor Sergio Rodriguez was named the president of the West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC) on Friday, October 24th, at the organization's annual banquet dinner.

The **WCMC** is a coalition of local mayors and government administrators to provide services in a fiscally responsible manner that promotes improvement of local government to help enhance the quality of life for residents in the region. The WCMC membership today totals over 51 entities, including 40 municipalities, 5 townships, 2 community colleges, Brookfield Zoo, and over 600,000 residents.

Rodriguez previously served on the organization's Executive Committee and was Vice President last year. At the banquet dinner, he was joined by colleagues from the Village as well as his father, whom he acknowledged and thanked during his acceptance speech. He is the first Summit mayor and Latino to serve as the organization's president.



The Village of Summit understands that these are very challenging times for many in the community regarding reported ICE activity in the area.

There has been seen a sharp rise in federal immigration enforcement, resulting in uncertainty and fear across our communities. We want to reassure our community that the Village of Summit remains committed to protecting our residents.

If you believe you are witnessing ICE activity, please call ICIR-R's 24-Hour Family Support Hotline at 1- 855-HELP-MY-FAMILY (1-855-435-7693) to report it.

If you find yourself interacting with an ICE officer in any location including your workplace, or out in the community, remember that you:

- Have the right to remain silent when questioned or arrested by immigration officers should remain calm and keep your hands where the officer can see them.
- DO NOT: discuss your immigration or citizenship status with the police, immigration agents, or other officials sign anything you do not understand. You should state that you wish to speak with an attorney.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Know Your Rights

Protections & Resources for Immigrants and Refugees



Referral Hotline for Resources.

Call 2-1-1 for resources to access food, housing, and more.



Protection Against Discrimination.

If you believe your rights are being violated, you may file a complaint with the Cook County Commission on Human Rights.

All immigrants, regardless of status, are protected from unfair treatment at work or being denied access to housing based on citizenship status, country of origin, the language(s) they speak, or their cultural practices/traditions.



COOK COUNTY INTERPRETATION & TRANSLATION SERVICES

If English is not your first language, you can request a translator when you visit Cook County offices. Printed materials may also be requested in additional languages, including Spanish, Polish, Arabic, Chinese, Urdu, and Tagalog.

For more information about Cook County resources for immigrants, visit our Immigration Resources Webpage.



2025 PROJECT RESULTS RELEASED

The Summit Community Network announced the results of their 2025 community assessment needs project on November 19th.

The project was designed to gauge community needs and priorities, such as the state of housing, senior services, schools, youth programs and much more in Summit.

The organization has now taken this information and constructed a holistic, detailed plan for the community.

Read more about it by following the QR code to the right.

SUMMIT COMMUNITY NETWORK VILLAGE OF SUMMIT NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS | 2025



The Summit Community Network is a coalition of local service providers, public servants and residents, whose mission is to enhance the quality of life for Summit area children, youth, and families by working together to increase partnerships and resources that support positive personal, educational and social outcomes for residents.

In March 2025, the Summit Community Network launched a 6-month community needs assessment designed to capture the voice of Summit residents and guide future collaborative action by the Summit Community Network.

The assessment utilized a four-phase, community-driven process: a review of existing public data, a multi-lingual survey, listening sessions, and interviews. These strategies helped the network identify the community's top three priority areas: community engagement, youth programs, crime and safety.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO READ THE FULL REPORT



VILLAGE OF SUMMIT
Strzelczyk Municipal Center
7321 W. 59TH Street
Summit, IL 60501

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
1ST Saturday of month: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Summit Village Hall (708) 563-4800
Village Clerk (708) 563-4807

FOR SERVICES CALL:

Emergency 911
Police Department non-emergency (708) 563-4830
Fire Department non emergency (708) 594-3894
Public Works Department (708) 563-4809
Water / Sewer Billing (708) 563-4817

OFFICIALS:

MAYOR **SERGIO RODRIGUEZ**
CLERK **COLLEEN LAMBERT**

TRUSTEES

Setki "Sam" Dardovski Marvel Parker
Sonia Ponce Lorena Manriquez
Mayra Ortiz Aurora Rodriguez

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



WEBSITES TO KNOW

Summit Park District
www.summitparks.org

Summit Public Library District
www.summitlibrary.info

Cook School District 104
www.sd104.us

Argo Community High School District 217
www.argohs.net

Township of Lyons
www.lyonstownshipil.gov

Illinois Department of Public Health
www.dph.illinois.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 1ST: Village Board Meeting

December 12TH: Santa Letters due

December 13TH: Santa Parade

December 15TH: FY24 Budget Hearings

December 15TH: Village Board Meeting [Last of 2025]

December 24TH & 25TH: Closed, Xmas Eve & Xmas

December 31ST & January 1ST: Closed, New Years

January 3RD: Coffee with the Mayor

January 5TH: Village Board Meeting

January 15TH: Neighborhood Watch Meeting

January 19TH: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Village Closed

January 20TH: Village Board Meeting