



**MANAGER'S REPORT FOR MAY 2, 2014
GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESPONSES TO MAYOR & COMMISSIONER REQUESTS**

Places to be this Week...

Village Council Meeting - The Village Council meeting will be held on **May 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers** at Village Hall.

Future Calendar Reminders...

Village Council Meeting - The Village Council meeting will be held on **May 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers** at Village Hall.

Barth Ceremony - The Barth Ceremony will be held on **Thursday, May 15 at 1 p.m.** at Barth Pond.

Coffee with the Council - The next Coffee with the Council will be held on **Saturday, May 17, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.** at Main Street Train Station

Mochels' Hardware Building - Dedication by Downers Grove Historical Society as a Downers Grove Historic Site, **May 17 at 10:30 a.m.** at 5122 Main Street

Upcoming Proclamations

May 6

- Exercise is Medicine Month to Good Samaritan Health and Wellness Center
- Municipal Clerks Week to April Holden, Village Clerk

May 13

- Police Week
- Public Works Week

Mochels' Hardware Building Dedication - Attached is an invitation to the dedication of Mochels' Hardware Building

Summaries of Public Meetings -

In the past week the Village hosted three public meetings to present information to residents about upcoming drainage and stormwater projects. The following is a summary of these three meetings:

Lincoln and Stanley Drainage Improvements, Thursday, 4/24/14, at PW

Chicago and Washington Drainage Improvements, Wednesday, 4/30/14, at PW

Staff provided information about the projects including a summary of the April 2013 Flood Report, the scope of proposed storm sewer improvements and the anticipated project schedule. It was also explained that the easements are needed from select residents to construct the improvements. The residents inquired about various

items relating to the design, construction and maintenance of the new system, and overall seemed please to know that the flooding issue in the rear yards is being addressed.

Forest Avenue, 39th to 41st, Storm Sewer Replacement, Thursday, 5/1/14, at PW

Staff provided information about the projects including a summary of the April 2013 Flood Report, the scope of proposed storm sewer improvements and the anticipated project schedule. The residents mentioned issues with the current storm sewer system, all of which seem like they can be alleviated with the replacement project. A few residents asked about installing curb and gutter on the block and staff explained that this project will not incorporate curb and gutter but the new system will be effective. The Village is considering implementation of traffic calming measures and residents agreed that speeding is an issue on Forest and on 41st. They also expressed concern about a site distance issue at 39th and Forest, and that Forest does not have enough one-way signs. They asked that the traffic issues be resolved as soon as possible. The residents were pleased with the information provided at the meeting and the storm sewer improvements.

A DOWNERS GROVE HISTORIC SITE

MOCHELS' HARDWARE BUILDING

Levi Mertz and Charles Mochel constructed the original building at 36 S Main (later renumbered 5122 Main Street), where the 2 partners opened their business, *Mertz & Mochel*, on June 25, 1884. The building consisted of a basement and 2 stories, utilizing wood columns, beams and floors, and was bordered by alleys on the south and west. Electricity was added in 1900.

In 1922, Mertz sold his interest to Charles Mochel, who formed a partnership with his son, John Mochel, Sr. The business was renamed *Charles Mochel & Son*. Also in 1922, by closing the alley to the south, the Mochels expanded the building for the first time. Next came the 1932 facelift that changed the store front to what is seen today.

After Charles' death in 1946, John Sr. renamed the business *Mochels Hardware*, establishing its legacy under that title. The ambitious 1955 expansion doubled *Mochels* building in size. The main and second floors were extended above the newly excavated basement addition, all reaching the west alley.

John Mochel Jr., joined his father, John Sr., as partner in 1957. In 1960, just a year after the store's 75th anniversary, John Sr. passed away. From that time, John Jr. was sole proprietor until *Mochels* closed in 1995, ending 111 years of serving residents of Downers Grove and neighboring towns. *Mochels* is the only centennial business on Main Street in the history of Downers Grove.

The *Mochels Hardware* building is a tribute to three generations of Mochels who were actively involved in local government, civic organizations, and community service, greatly influencing the development of the Village of Downers Grove for over a century.



DOWNERS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NOVEMBER, 2013

Dedication May 17 10:30AM