

City of Loves Park presents....



**Saturday, July 29, 2023**

A publication of  
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2023

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**Mayor Greg Jury**

**On behalf of Mayor Greg Jury,  
The City Officials and  
Staff of the City of Loves Park  
you are invited to the  
2023**

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of family fun!!*

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# LOVES PARK:

## THE CITY WITH A HEART FOR 76 YEARS

**T**he City of Loves Park incorporated as a municipality on April 30, 1947...76 years ago. The referendum to incorporate passed by a vote of 808 to 515. Population at that time showed a total of 4,505 residents.

Homer E. Burton was the city's first mayor (1947 to 1949).

For 24 years previously the community had debated the issue before it came to a vote!

One issue involved the fact that the area had changed from a rural community to a urban area. Facilities and infrastructure were needed to meet the burgeoning community as a post-war boom in population was underway.

The city was named after Malcolm A. Love, a Rockford industrialist, who purchased the Francis N. Weldon 236-acre farm in 1901 located along the east side of the Rock River, three miles north of Rockford.

A whole history of Loves Park gives so much information on the city's past. It was written by Craig G. Campbell, and was published under the title of *"History of Loves Park, Illinois."*

The book was dedicated to Mayor Joseph "Joe" Frank Sinkiawic.

Campbell noted that Love used his property as a retreat and recreation area and it came to be referred to as "Love's Park" or "Grove," hence the name of the city. A popular site known as the Harlem Amusement Park along the river became very popular with area residents.

By Margaret  
Downing  
REPORTER

By 1900 the Rockford, Beloit and Janesville organized and began construction of an Interurban system that ran up what is today Highway 251 or N. Second St., on through Roscoe, Beloit and Janesville.

The city grew. By the late 1940s, North Suburban Woman's Club members were very involved in having a library in Loves Park, later known as the North Suburban Library District, which today has its main location on N. Second Street and a second location in Roscoe.

With the population boom came new churches, new businesses, new schools and subdivisions. Many long time residents are sure to remember Kiddieland along what was then Route 173, today Forest Hills Road.

Sherwood Lodge was a popular venue nearby and many events were held there. Meadowmart, the shopping center on N. Second St., was built in the mid-1950s, named for it being located "in a meadow." By 1948 and '49, Loves Park had its own Bell Telephone central office and telephone exchange, which was located on N. Second St.

Long time residents will also recall Franklin Junior High School where the Harlem Center shopping center is located today. The current city hall was originally Marshall Junior High School.

*\*St. Bridget's Catholic School and Parish, Clifford Ave.*

From St. Bridget's website comes this information: "Founded in October 1953, St. Bridget School began in the basement of a temporary Church with 33 Kindergarten

students. The following year first grade opened with 65 pupils. The 2nd-6th grade students were bused to classes at the Verdi Club in Rockford, which had graciously donated the use of its building.

"The St. Bridget School building was finished in September of 1956 and an enrollment of 496 students in grades Kindergarten through 7th grade began the school year on September 3rd. The school was staffed by the Adrian Dominicans who arrived in August 1955, and in 1957 an 8th grade was added, bringing enrollment to 580 students. When the Dominican Sisters arrived there was no convent, so they resided at the Muldoon Convent. A convent was completed in 1961 for the Sisters, and that building currently serves as the rectory/parish offices.

"In the fall of 1957 work was completed on the second, northern wing of the school, which added 5 classrooms, a kitchen, and the social hall. In 1959 the social hall was divided into 4 classrooms to accommodate enrollment, which had grown to over 900 students. The first graduation at St. Bridget School was held in 1958 for 25 eighth grade students."

The city's first subdivision had lots selling for \$200 to \$600 with "20% cash required" with a balance due in six, 12, 18 or 24 months, "Taxes prepaid for two years."

One selling point highlighted in a "Loves Park Subdivision Suburban Home Sites" poster was that the area was "located on the Beloit Interurban between N. 2nd St. and Rock River, one mile from the city limits and across from

country club grounds above Harlem Park."

It stressed how the "soil is unexcelled for fruit, garden vegetables, cucumbers, poultry, bees and a score of other home supplies...and healthful to a high degree. The river offers delightful boating and good bathing, the ideal all-the-year summer resort."

"No city taxes to pay" was a strong selling point also. The poster was printed by Eastwood & Stokburger, Winnebago Bank Building.

## Rhythm of the Heart

LOVES PARK - THE CITY WITH A HEART FOR 76 YEARS!

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# Rhythm of the Heart Festival Schedule of Events

**JULY 29, 2023**  
1 PM-10:30 PM

**FREE Admission**

**RHYTHM OF THE HEART MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**Hard Rock CASINO**  
ROCKFORD

**BRINGS THE MUSIC**

**long-shot**  
1:00-2:30 PM

**Gentlemen Car Club Show**  
1:00-5:00 PM

**LynSkynyrd**  
3:00-4:30 PM

**Abbey Road**  
(Beatles Tribute)  
5:30-7:00 PM

**BIG SUIT**  
(Talking Heads Tribute)  
8:00-10:20 PM

**The City of LOVES PARK**  
100 Heart Boulevard, Loves Park, IL  
Loves Park Festival Grounds (located East of City Hall)  
[RhythmOfTheHeartFest.com](http://RhythmOfTheHeartFest.com)

**Food Trucks • Local Artisans  
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**FOOD TRUCKS:** Mario's Taco Express, Carlito's Munchie Station, Anjan Eats, Kona Ice, Windsor Pizza Parlor, Vintage Goose, The Vice, WEH PAH – Puerto Rican Food Truck, The Olive Branch, Teppan Xpress, The Dessert Shop 815, Rascals Bar & Grill, EASY Tiger Food Truck.

**FIREWORKS 9:40**





## City with a Heart

Welcome signs greet residents and visitors to Loves Park, the City with a Heart.

COURTESY PHOTO  
*Rhythm of the Heart*





## LynSkynyrd – A Tribute and Musical Dedication to Lynyrd Skynyrd

A dedication to authenticity and showmanship LynSkynyrd is the Midwest's premier Lynyrd Skynyrd Tribute band.

"We dedicate ourselves to replicating the Classic Lynyrd Skynyrd sound and performances of years gone by - replicating the nuances and stage presence of the band behind such classics as That Smell, Gimme

Three Steps, Sweet Home Alabama, and the Timeless and Epic.....Freebird," the band's website states.

"We strive for authenticity in every aspect of our stage show, from the clothing, to using only period correct instruments, and even amplifiers just like the vintage Skynyrd band.

"Comprised of nine seasoned professionals from the local rock scene, including two backup vocalists - our beautiful Honkettes!

"We've crafted the songs and the show - and promise to deliver an entertainment experience that harkens back to that classic 70's groove, in all its southern glory!"



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## An evening with BiG SUIt: Inspired by Talking Heads

BiG SUIt is a collective of nine musicians drawn to the cerebral adventures, infectious rhythms, and pioneering music known to the world as Talking Heads. BiG SUIt began when a Chicago-area producer reached out to Deacon Blues founder Steve Kikoen with a request to form a Tribute to Talking Heads.

With enormous respect and admiration for David Byrne, Tina Weymouth, Chris Franz and Jerry Harrison, the idea of forming a tribute to these musical innovators was intriguing. Kikoen proceeded to put together what has ultimately become “an amazing

replication” of Talking Heads.

BiG SUIt is heavily inspired by the film *Stop Making Sense*, and has recreated it within a live stage format. Additionally, the SUIts incorporate many of the infectious, non-film Heads songs into their repertoire as well. Front man Jason Krause brings an astonishing take on David Byrne. From the eye-catching and flamboyant routines of dancer/singers Jennifer Hall and Jessica Hornsten to the incredible percussion and afro-celt rhythm section of Larry Beers, Tom Hipskind, Janis Wallin and Megan

Thomas, this Tribute to Talking Heads is the real deal. Rounding out the personnel are Paul Mutzabaugh and Cash Michaels on keyboards; with all of the “SUIts” under the direction of Kikoen, guitarist for BiG SUIt and founder/guitarist/singer of Deacon Blues. Guest artists include Chicago world percussion phenom Kalyan “Johnny Bongo” Pathak, Chicago drum icon Phil Brines, and Minneapolis drum legend Austin Lee. This funk-rock ensemble of stellar musicians offers up a truly inspirational, *Once In A Lifetime* connection.



## Abbey Road to pay tribute to the Beatles

With their tight harmonies, flawless note-for-note renditions of Beatles hits, custom-tailored costumes, vintage instruments, Liverpudlian dialect and precise attention to every detail, Abbey Road has honed their show to become one of the most musically and visually satisfying Beatle tribute acts in the world.

Abbey Road recreates the magic, music, wit and charm of the Beatles, including the Fab Four's cheeky personalities, familiar onstage banter and patter between songs.

Three costume changes cover the full range of the Beatle experience and beyond, with authentic early black Beatle suits, Sgt. Pepper's regalia and Abbey Road attire.

Hear the piccolo trumpet solo on Penny Lane and the full orchestration of A Day in the Life. Relive the emotional intensity of Paul's moving Yesterday solo, as well as the high energy of stadium songs like Twist and Shout and other Beatle hits.



## Long-shot

Rockford-based Long-shot is twin brothers Brad Long (vocals, guitar, harmonica), Dustin Long (drums) and Darren Corirossi (bass) playing music together since childhood and as long-shot since 2010. Long-shot is a mix of Indie Rock, Outlaw country and Acoustic Blues, has released two albums, the self titled "long-shot" and "Feeling Lucky" and has played music venues throughout the Midwest.

COURTESY PHOTO *Rhythm of the Heart*



Many long time residents well remember this building at Harlem and Forest Hills Roads. This picture was taken in 1989, the building no longer stands but the Harlem Village School, as it was known, later became a town hall.

COURTESY PHOTO *Rhythm of the Heart*

## The Loves Park area has a great school system, Harlem School District 122...with a history going back over 100 years!

### Local school district formed in 1910

From an article titled "The Harlem Consolidation" on file in the Arthur Anderson Local History Room at the Loves Park Library comes the following background on the Harlem Consolidated School District. The one-room schools of the Free Soil, Lovejoy, Bruner and Union School Districts all consolidated under that name.

In 1906, Winnebago County School Superintendent O.J. Kern proposed a merger (consolidation) of these schools.

"On March 12, 1910, majorities of the legal voters of Winnebago County School Districts no. 49, 52, 56 and 61 petitioned their trustees to consolidate their districts... The new consolidated school was built on the" (southeast) "corner of the highway going from Rockford to Roscoe (now called North Second Street) and Harlem Road.

"This was located on the property that formerly was the site of the Free Soil

By Margaret  
Downing  
REPORTER

School, District no. 56. Two additional acres of land adjoining the site were purchased.

"After the new school was built, the old Free Soil School building was utilized for a shed to shelter the horses that the students rode or drove to school. Most students, however, came to the new school on the Rockford-Beloit-Janesville Interurban Railroad, which ran parallel to the Rockford/Roscoe highway. These students had a special five-cent fare from any point in the district."

### Harlem schools "squeezed" by 1954 • Growth evident in area, according to period newspaper writings

Predecessor of the Post Pilot and Journal newspapers in Loves Park in 1954 was the "Monday Morning Mail."

The issue that was printed in the first week of April 1954 included the following item:

"LEGAL APPROVAL GIVEN FOR

APRIL 10 VOTE ON TWO NEW HARLEM SCHOOLS. Approval of legal details of a \$450,000 bond issue election to be presented to Harlem district voters Saturday, April 10 has been received by the Board of Education. The funds to be raised will provide two new grade schools in the district, one adjacent to the Windsor road high school. Each building will have 12 or more rooms.

"Tremendous growth of the Harlem District confronts school officials with the necessity for 17 more rooms for the 1954-'55 term. Even with the new construction approved, adequate facilities will not be available when the new term starts.

"Superintendent Carl E. Dannenfeldt, with authority of the board, is preparing data on the Harlem district's construction problems. 'The new high school building recently completed houses students of grades nine through twelve, inclusive of the district. In addition, ten rooms are

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



# Tri-County Korean War Memorial at Anderson Peace Park

By 2004, members of Chapter 272 of the Korean War Veterans Association had begun working on a Korean War Memorial to honor the 59 men from Winnebago, Boone, and Ogle Counties who died during the Korean War.

Those 59 men who gave their lives had never had any kind of a memorial erected locally to honor their memory and their buddies with Chapter 272 dedicated themselves to the project.

They had quite a task before them in raising the funds needed to meet their goal, which at that time was to raise \$150,000 for a memorial. (They ended up raising over

\$185,000! No small task.)

On July 27, 2008 the dream became reality at the Arthur Anderson Peace Park in Loves Park where the memorial was dedicated before a large crowd.

Keynote speaker at the event was General James Cartwright, who flew to Rockford from Washington, D.C. that day to be present.

Just a side note; General Cartwright came from Rockford and graduated from Rockford West High School.

After four years of hard work to raise the funds for the memorial, members of Chapter 272 did see their dream become

reality on July 27, 2008. The Memorial was dedicated with hundreds in attendance.

Chapter 272 members and their spouses put a lot of work, a lot of time, and a big part of their hearts into raising the money needed for the memorial.

As we all know, the sacrifices put forth by our veterans should always be thankfully remembered, especially by those of us who were fortunate to be born in this country and who benefit today from the many blessings we share that are realized because of the sense of duty in which our veterans so strongly believed in and stood up and died for.

## SCHOOL SYSTEM • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

presently being used for classes of grades one to six, inclusive. According to present conservative enrollment predictions, the entire Windsor road school will be used for high school classes only in the fall of 1957.”

### New contract at Harlem in 1954 In the “Monday Morning Mail” Post

*newspaper of April 5, 1954 Loves Park city budget issue was reported upon:*

“HARLEM FACULTY, BOARD DICKERING ON NEW CONTRACT. Representatives of the Federation of Teachers, AFL Local number 952 representing the faculty of the Harlem district and board of education, are reportedly \$50 apart on an agreement for

the 1954-‘55 school year.

“The present contract calls for a faculty-wide increase of \$102 with the board offering a raise of \$150 to bring the total increase to \$252.

“Teachers representatives, who asked originally for \$400, are repeating requests for a minimum raise of \$302 after a union rejection of the \$252.”



## Field of Honor

Located in the Arthur W. Anderson Peace Park near the Loves Park City Hall, the Field of Honor was conceived by Mr. Anderson as a memorial to honor veterans who served in the five wars of the 20th century. Five vertical columns and eight resin-composite life-sized statues are set before a series of 40 American flags. A small column honors civilian contributions to the war efforts. Christopher Bennett of Keosauqua, IA, is the artist. Designed by Gene Horvath with landscape design by John R. Cook & Associates. Maintained by the Rockford Park District. Dedicated Nov. 10, 1995.

JESSE FOX PHOTO *Rhythm of the Heart*



## LP Officer featured with Justin Fields

Loves Park Officer Aaron Johnson was selected to be featured in a photo shoot with Chicago Bears Quarterback Justin Fields, to be used in the promotional material for Special Olympics and Dunkin' Cop on Top. What a great opportunity to support a great organization. Officer Johnson does an amazing job with this every year!

LOVES PARK PD PHOTO  
*Rhythm of the Heart*



## The Interurban

An interurban car and repair crew are pictured, circa 1911. This interurban barn was located at 5001 North Second Street in Loves Park. The interurban was a popular means of conveyance for quite a number of years for area residents who wanted to travel anywhere between Rockford and Janesville. Part of its route ran alongside of what is today Highway 251. The interurban tracks that ran up Main Street in Roscoe, are said to still remain beneath the pavement.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ILLINOIS DIGITAL ARCHIVES *Rhythm of the Heart*

## Loves Park Lions Club



Whenever Loves Park Lions Club gets together, problems get smaller and our communities get better. That's because we help where help is needed right here in Loves Park and Machesney Park with unmatched integrity and energy.

We welcome new members to join in our support of the Center for Sight and Hearing, Diabetes Awareness and other local Lions Club activities.

**We meet the 1st Wednesday of each month  
at Noon for lunch at  
Loves Park City Hall, 100 Heart Blvd., Loves Park  
For information  
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440606



The Knights of Columbus earned first place costume honors while donning a fun Elvis theme at the 2023 Polar Plunge at Olson Lake in Rock Cut State Park in early March.

MARIANNE MUELLER PHOTO *Rhythm of the Heart*



Congratulations are in order for Detective Daniel Johnson, the recipient of the 2022 VFW Officer of the Year award! Johnson was nominated for the award by his sergeant for his outstanding work in the past year. Department officials would also like to thank the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9759. "The precious freedoms we live by every day come at no small price to our veterans, yet they still take the time to honor others in the community. Also, thank you to all the attendees and congratulations to the other award recipients."

LOVES PARK PD PHOTO *Rhythm of the Heart*

# Darryl Lindberg served Loves Park for 54 years

Former Loves Park Mayor Darryl F. Lindberg, after serving in that position for 20 years, announced in 2016 that he would not seek reelection the following April. He said he was ready to retire.

Lindberg moved to Loves Park in 1968, and has been there ever since. He began his city career in 1971-'72 as a volunteer firefighter and when an option to join the police department as a part time police officer opened up for weekends and evenings he applied and was hired while still working full time at Barber-Colman.

A full time patrolman's position became available in 1975, and Darryl was offered the job, which he held for about a year and half.

He went on to join the city's detective bureau for another year and a half (at the time, the city had two detectives) before applying to Mayor Joe Sinkiawic for the police chief's position in 1978. "I was brought in as Police Chief in September of that year," he noted.

In 1997, Mayor Sinkiawic retired and Darryl was elected mayor in April of that year. "All together, I worked full time for 54 years," he pointed out.

Accomplishments in his time as mayor included being a founding member of the Enhanced 9-1-1 Board (E 9-1-1) in the early 1980s. He also served on the Salvation Army Advisory Board, was Chairman of NILEC (Northern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission), and Chairman of SLANT (State Line Area Narcotics Team), just to name a few organizations he was involved with.

Lindberg was and is proud of the fact that Loves Park "weathered the great recession, no one was ever laid off – we trimmed any excess off the budget, built reserve accounts and are pretty conservative – not overstaffed - and we do not waste dollars. Loves Park has stayed within its budget since its inception in 1947. For the past 48 years we have had no property taxes."

Mayor Lindberg was also very pleased with the placement of the Woodward, Inc. complex in Loves Park. Credit for the city's success, Lindberg stresses, "is the incredible staff this city has and any success we have, credit must be shared with them, they are very hard working."

A few people close to the mayor or who worked with him offered some very nice comments upon Lindberg's retirement:



Greg Jury



Darryl Lindberg



Joe Sinkiawic

## Loves Park City Clerk Bob Burden

"As Loves Park City Clerk, it has been an honor and a pleasure to work with Mayor Darryl Lindberg these past 20 years. He is a dedicated public servant in every sense of the word, and has worked tirelessly over the last two decades as Mayor to keep Loves Park strong, solvent and always moving forward.

"As Mayor, he exhibited a tremendous work ethic and is probably the most decisive leader I have ever known. He always seemed to know exactly what to do and how to handle the most difficult of situations with calm professionalism and great energy – always doing what was in the best interests of Loves Park.

Throughout his 20 years, he never lost enthusiasm for the job and for making Loves Park a better place. I am proud to have served with him and know that Loves Park is a far better community because of his efforts.

## City of Loves Park Treasurer John Danielson

"As Loves Park City Treasurer it has been my privilege to serve with Mayor Darryl Lindberg for 20 years.

"It would be easy to list his many accomplishments, but his achievements are better understood if you look more closely at the man. Leadership is a word that comes immediately to mind. Darryl's leadership style can be characterized as confident and consistent with a firm eye on his goals.

"But more than that, Mayor Lindberg has a well-earned reputation for honesty and integrity. When faced with the right thing to do or the easy course, I have always witnessed him taking the best

course, without regard to public opinion or personal sacrifice. His dedication to staff and the city workforce is unwavering. His service as Mayor, Police Chief, fireman and more, shows his true love for the city and its people.

"Most of all, however, I have come to know him as generous and concerned and someone to be counted on personally and professionally. For me, Darryl has become more than a co-worker, more than Mayor, but someone I'm proud to call a friend. "

## Dan Jacobson, Director of Public Works and Development, City of Loves Park

"The City of Loves Park is regarded as one of the most successful municipalities throughout the entire State of Illinois, and for good reason. This doesn't happen by accident. It has taken dedicated leadership and sound fiscal management. This leadership has been provided in the highest professional and ethical manner in the last twenty years by Mayor Darryl Lindberg. It has been an honor, privilege, and blessing for me to have been a part of Mayor Lindberg's team during most of those years.

"The benefits to the Loves Park citizens and businesses during the Mayor's tenure are plentiful, but the biggest, and most important, has been the delivery of efficient, quality services without the need for a corporate property tax. This is no easy task. Mayor Lindberg has led the perpetual effort to realize this goal for the last twenty years, through good times, and through some not-so-good times. Careful management of revenues and expenses has provided for a balanced growth of the city, as well as the continuous improvement of existing infrastructure.

“Mayor Lindberg’s involvement in economic development in Loves Park has been key in major wins such as Woodward, Anderson Toyota/Lexus, Valli Produce, expansion of Sportscore 2/Mega Sports Complex, and the redevelopment of the former K-mart property, just to name a few. His willingness to invest in business expansion and retention, with the support of the city council, has resulted in job creation and private investment that has helped Loves Park maintain the delicate balance necessary to keep costs to citizens and businesses as low as possible.

“As a result of Loves Park’s reputation for success, other regional agencies have tapped Mayor Lindberg’s knowledge and experience to lead efforts to improve their services. Mayor Lindberg has chaired the policy committees of the Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning (RMAP), the Winnebago County Geographic Information System (WinGIS), Crimestoppers, and has served as the President of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Municipal League.

“Mayor Darryl Lindberg leaves a lasting legacy of integrity, professionalism, honesty, and love for the City of Loves Park. Mayor, on behalf of the entire staff, it has been the greatest pleasure to have worked for and with you to make Loves Park a better community. Enjoy your retirement!”

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**Loves Park City Attorney  
Gino Galluzzo, Nicolosi &  
Galluzzo LLP**

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“I have known Mayor Darryl Lindberg since 1997. He had just been elected to his first of what would be five terms as Mayor of the City of Loves Park. Before being elected Mayor in 1997, he was with the Loves Park Police Department for 25 years, 18 of them as Chief of Police, and was a Loves Park volunteer firefighter before then.

“During the last 20 years of working with Darryl, I was able to witness his connection with the citizens of the City and his tireless commitment to improve the City. He was always accessible to all with his office located just feet inside the front door of City Hall. If you called into City Hall, there was a good chance he would answer the phone. As a true public servant, he went out of his way to demonstrate to his constituents, both individuals and businesses, that they were his top priority.

“Darryl assembled and molded a team with a similar commitment to service. There was never any red tape to be found. Things were done quickly and efficiently. He is a consensus builder, shepherding initiatives through the City Council, usually by unanimous vote and without

political infighting. People are amazed at how smoothly and quickly Loves Park City Council meetings go, but this stems from putting in the work before the meetings to listen and build trust.

“Darryl is not afraid to stand up for what is right, even when the given issue was not politically popular. He has also shown great vision in capitalizing upon development opportunities for the City. He has been a skilled negotiator and able to get things done because people trusted him and knew he would deliver on his commitments. As Mayor, he was able to bring his leadership skills to bear to make a substantial and sustained difference for the City which will continue to be realized for decades to come.

“Darryl is also devoted a family man. His lovely wife, Judy, his children and grandchildren are the centerpiece of his life. He is also an active member of St. Bridget’s Church. I am sure he will enjoy retirement, spending more time traveling and being with his family. I will miss working with him as the Mayor of the City of Loves Park, but am sure we will all see him around town actively involved in something for the good of the community!”

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**Sagar Patel, President,  
Woodward, Inc. Loves Park**

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“It has been a pleasure to work with Mayor Lindberg. He is always well informed, in touch with the community, businesses and knows what’s good for the region. I am frequently asked ‘How is it working with local government?’ My response always is ‘It is the best I have seen of all places.’

“A lot of credit goes to Mayor Lindberg’s leadership qualities – he is humble, personable, knowledgeable, cares for the Rock River region and builds trusting relationships. I must highlight one of his unique abilities – he is one of the best at envisioning creative solutions between multiple intergovernmental and business entities. As a result, he made doing business and investing in this region much easier for us. I wish him the best of health and happiness – we will surely miss him.”

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**Tim Dimke, Executive Director,  
Rockford Park District**

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“Mayor Darryl Lindberg has been a true Champion for the city of Loves Park, the Park District, and the broader region for decades. His community vision has been the game-changer in development projects such as those undertaken by Woodward Governor and many projects along the I-90 corridor.

“His vision and actions have been

focused on what was best for his City, but he was always aware of how the City of Loves Park affected the quality of life in the region. His leadership has been invaluable in helping the Rockford Park District to Champion projects such as the Carlson Ice Arena, Loves Park Playground, and MercyHealth Sportscore II, including the Reclaiming First sports facility expansion.

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**Mayor Greg Jury at  
the helm since 2017**

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After 20 years as the mayor of Loves Park, Darryl Lindberg stepped down in 2017. In the April 4, 2017 consolidated election Greg Jury (Ward 1) was elected mayor.

Greg Jury explained at that time that, “Loves Park is now at a crossroads, and it is crucial that we continue to build on the successes that have been achieved under his leadership.”

As Jury pointed out, “I have the experience; knowledge and the desire to best serve the people of Loves Park. With our excellent staff we will continue the day-to-day operation of providing the finest municipal services available.

Jury has striven to improve the city, including keeping Loves Park free of a property tax.

The city, under Mayor Jury, continues to grow the sales tax base and aggressively pursue retail businesses and encourage economic development of all types knowing that the revenue generated continues to make a property tax unnecessary.

“By maintaining the utility tax as the least expensive alternative to a property tax, we can continue to balance budgets, provide full city services and guard against the fiscal uncertainties of state budgeting and potential loss of revenue from Springfield.

Jury has also committed to developing a street and infrastructure plan so residents “will know when and where street and bridge repairs will take place. In addition, continue to provide excellent fire and police coverage for residents and business to the eastern portion of the city.

He believes that public safety “must continue to be at the top of any list of priorities, and ensure that our fire and police departments are fully staffed, trained and equipped with the necessary tools to keep the public safe.

“Elected officials need to know that they are stewards of the public trust. When wrong or irresponsible statements break that trust it erodes that trust and does damage to our local government. I think politicians should not promise more than they can deliver and should deliver what they promise.”



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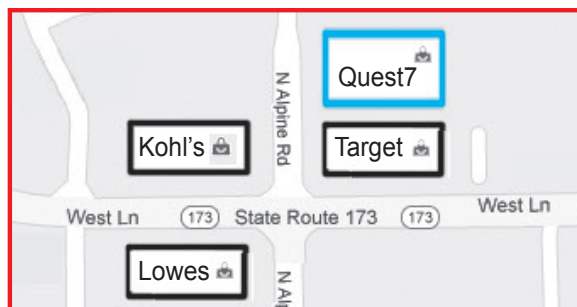
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