



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

WE ARE ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE FUTURE OF THIS VILLAGE

A strong community depends on daily interaction with its citizens. That's a fact.

That doesn't mean you need to

show up at every Village Board meeting. Or attend every event we schedule. It means all residents are aware of what is happening locally and know where to access the information they need to live and thrive in this community.

Your Village Board and administration have made that goal a top priority. Absolutely, we want to be transparent about our actions on your behalf. In fact, we think we do a pretty good job at that. However, representing your interests goes beyond simple accountability.

It requires a commitment to effective communication – about safety, about regulations and ordinances, about Village services provided, about community events, and a lot more. It's the mundane as well as the exciting - the information you need to live here, own a home, and raise your families.

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

To that end, we're using electronic and print channels to reach every resident in this community. We've overhauled our website to make it easier to navigate and we've included many more features. The new website might be the best tool



of all for getting your information. Even more immediate is our social media effort. We are on Facebook -@villageofsherman and Twitter -@Shermanillinois - with

a total of almost 1,800 followers so far. That's where you will find out news in real time - event invites and cancellations, locations and deadlines for baseball/softball registrations, parking restrictions when a snowstorm is coming, and more.

ALERTS AND NOTIFICATIONS

We've invested in services to keep you connected, including Sherman Elert - the electronic Emergency Alert System. If



you haven't already, I strongly encourage you to sign up to receive e-messages on your phone or email. This is how we let you know about weather emergencies, road closures, boil orders, and much more.

Sherman 311 is another app for your phone

(it's on the website, too) that allows you to immediately report an incident in the

Village - a downed tree, a blocked road, fly-dumping, big pothole, broken streetlight things we can address quickly. You can even take a photo and include it in your report!









OLD SCHOOL

This **newsletter** you're reading is another tool. We know not everyone is online every day and they don't care to be. The newsletter is also a tremendous venue for sharing, through pictures and stories, the joys of being part of an active community.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

I'm also available to come and speak to your neighborhood or



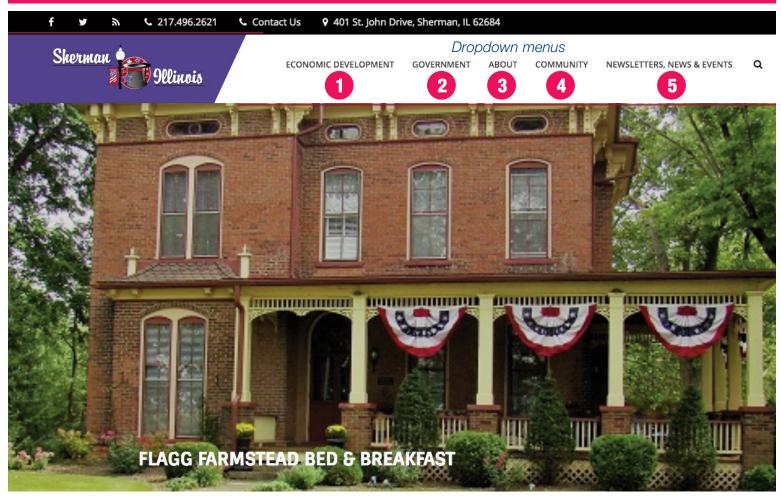
organization. I'm ready to answer your questions, but I also love hearing from you about living in Sherman. You can find information about the Speakers Bureau on our website.

Last but not least, our doors - literally and figuratively - are always open.

Visit Village Hall (401 St. John Drive) or contact us directly. The Administrative email is: info@shermanil.org. The emails and phone numbers of every administrator and every trustee are readily available on the website. Let's stay in touch!

Check out Page 2 for a guide to our new website features.

SHERMAN'S ONE-STOP SHOP - THE NEW VILLAGE WEBSITE



1-Economic Development

This is where the Village's Comprehensive Plan resides, as well as current planning studies. This is also where you can locate and download all the permit and license forms you need – building permit, sign permit, demolition permit, and more.

4-Community

This drop down menu is chock full of good information about Sherman's best features – our parks, our businesses and Chamber, our schools, our library, our 25 thriving subdivisions, and all about Sherman M.O.V.E., including how to donate trees or park benches to make our Village exceptional!

2-Government

All the contact information you will need is here – Mayor and Trustees, Public Works, the Police, Emergency Management, and more. You can also find out about grinder pump repair, authorized burn dates, branch pick up, police vacation watch, used prescription disposal, and more.

5-Newsletters, News & Events

All the news you need to enjoy your community. Never miss an event! You can also submit your organization's event to Village Hall for consideration.

3-About

Our wonderful, rich Village history is here – check it out! – but so are the links you need to download the Sherman Elert and Sherman 311 apps. This is also where all the Village Codes and Ordinances reside, in an easy to use format.





SNAP FITNESS EXPANDING UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

JILL RUBENACKER PLANS UPGRADES IN EQUIPMENT, WIDE RANGE OF NEW SERVICES



On a recent Thursday evening, things were humming at Sherman's Snap Fitness gym. Owner Jill Rubenacker was onsite, combining a work out for herself with encouraging some of the 25 or so people who were there.

Jill, who purchased the local franchise last June, can often be found coaching her customers, both informally and by appointment. She is a Certified Health Coach with multiple credentials that underscore her expertise, including a degree in Community Health Education. The single mom of two teenagers – a SIUE freshman and a WHS junior – is a personal trainer, a Reiki healer, and a full-time labor and delivery nurse at Memorial Medical Center.

Running a gym adds countless hours to her busy schedule but she said it also supports her passion – helping others discover the mind/body/spirit connection that she swears is the key to good health.

"There are no quick fixes," said Jill. "That's not how you change your life. A healthy mind and body begins by finding what drives you and where your fears lie."

Jill said she encourages her customers to start slow and be mindful about what they want to achieve. For the predictable crush of brand new post-New Year fitness enthusiasts, that's even more important.

"The goal is to keep people engaged," said Jill. "Making fitness and wellness a habit is how long-term success happens."

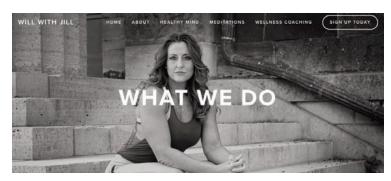
She didn't always take her own advice and is open and honest about the years she struggled with self-esteem and even an eating disorder. About five years ago, she said she'd had enough and became determined to free herself from her old story and face the future with courage.

"Learning to love myself, including my flaws, was life-changing," said Jill. "Now, I want to share that with others."

Her plans for Snap Fitness reflect her personal optimism, with new equipment coming, and a new Training Center that will create a Cross-Fit feel and will focus on wellness as much as fitness.

Jill said she also wants to run some new one-hour group training sessions, as some people feel more comfortable working out as part of a group. She still offers individual personal health coaching/training. Her personal brand – Will with Jill – offers wellness plans, mindset building, personalized fitness plans for all ages, meditations, and coaching sessions that promise body & mind transformations.

"Putting in the work can be fun if you're open to small steps," said Jill. "It's all about seeing the process in a new light."



WillwithJill.com is Jill Rubenacker's website, where you can sign up for a variety of fitness and wellness services.

FREE NOTARY SERVICES TO SHERMAN RESIDENTS

The Village of Sherman now offers Notary services FREE to all Sherman Residents.
Call the Village Administrative Offices at 496-2621 to schedule a time to come by the offices located at 401 St. John's Drive, Sherman, IL.



PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S. POSTAGE PAID EDDM RETAIL

Local Postal Customer

THE VILLAGE BOOSTS ITS COMMITMENT TO GREEN INITIATIVES

SHERMAN LAUNCHES 2019 LED EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

The Village of Sherman Public Works Department in conjunction with Springfield Electric, Ameren and Menard Electric are launching a 2019 Efficiency Program to save light and power energy by converting street lights from the current incandescent lighting to LED lighting.

In the past, the Village has made strides to save energy costs through various grant awards through the State of Illinois, such as slowly changing out failed incandescent lighting with LED alternatives over the past few years.

"That has saved us thousands of dollars annually and reduced the draw on energy and natural resources," said Mayor Trevor Clatfelter.

This new and more proactive program allows the Village to move forward light by light and subdivision by subdivision to replace inefficient light standards with new, more efficient LED light. This will provide cost savings to the Village and, also, provide brighter lighting for safety, security and night time visibility. Light kits have been purchased through Springfield Electric that are rebated by 50% or more through programs by Ameren and others.

The average lifespan of an incandescent bulb is 1,200 hours while LED is 25,000 hours. Total watts used by incandescent light of a 60w bulb is far more than the LED which is at 10W

for 60W of power, thereby limiting the draw on local power and natural resources. It takes 21 incandescent bulbs to equal 1 LED. The old bulbs require additional labor and parts replacement (ballasts) up to \$200 per change or \$4,200 per light standard, thereby saving the Village thousands

upon thousands of tax dollars annually. Total cost of electricity used for one incandescent bulb over the life span of an LED is 6 times the cost.

"The Village of Sherman is proud to be part of this proactive movement to save tax-payer dollars on energy/utility bills, reduce the draw of power on our local utilities and to save us from depleting our natural resources more rapidly," said Clatfelter.

The Village has about 250 street and decorative light standards including ones owned by Ameren and Menard Electric.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, February 16 • Softball Registration • 9 – 11am • UCB Community Center
Tuesday, February 19 • Village Board Meeting • 6pm • Village Hall
Tuesday, February 19 • Cyber Bullying/Social Network Presentation • 7pm • UCB Community Center
Tuesday, March 5 • Village Board Meeting • 6pm • Village Hall
Saturday, March 16 • Rail Luck of the Irish 3-Club Open • 10am • The Rail Golf Course