

## News Release

City of Lockport, 222 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Lockport, IL 60441  
Contact: Amanda Pazdan, Communications Manager  
(815) 838-0549 x2101, [apazdan@lockport.org](mailto:apazdan@lockport.org)



**March 24, 2021**

### **Mayor Streit Dedicates Downtown Outdoor Fireplace at 921 S. State Street in Honor of Delores Feithen, Lockport's First Female Police Officer**

**Lockport, IL** – On Wednesday, February 24, 2021, the City of Lockport, Lockport Police Department (LPD), and Lockport Township Fire Protection District (LTFPD), held a dedication ceremony of the recently installed fire pit and chimney at 921 S. State Street in honor of Delores Feithen, the police department's first female Police Officer.

Ms. Feithen served on the LPD with honor and distinction as a Police Officer from 1957 to 1977. At the time, the profession had very few or no females in local police departments across the country. Her husband, William Feithen, served as an Alderman on the Lockport City Council and as a long-time Police Commissioner. Ms. Feithen's son, Bill Feithen was the former Police Chief of DeKalb, Illinois and Monmouth, Illinois.

In a public ceremony, Mayor Streit officially announced the dedication of the fire pit and chimney in honor of Ms. Feithen, as well as the many men and women who have served the Lockport community as members of the Lockport Police Department and Lockport Township Fire Protection District throughout their long histories. The outdoor fireplace will now serve as a public common space.

The building located at 921 S. State Street is currently home to the Rainbow Council, Boy Scouts of America. In 1936, the building was dedicated by Mayor Joseph Fitzgerald as the Lockport City Hall. The building initially housed the volunteer Lockport Fire Department established in 1895 after a catastrophic fire that consumed a large portion of the downtown and the Lockport Police Department.

In 1956, the Lockport Township Fire Protection District was created. In 1960, the LTFPD relocated to Station No. 1 at 9<sup>th</sup> Street (IL-Route 7) and 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Lockport. Established in 1853, the Lockport Police Department, moved to 921 S. State Street in 1956 and remained there until the current police station at 1212 S. Farrell was built and dedicated in 1997.

*The City of Lockport is a historic Will County community of 25,000+ residents, Conveniently located 35 miles southwest of Chicago. Known as the City of Historic Pride rich in history and due its contribution of the Illinois and Michigan Canal to the Midwest region, today, the City features a revitalized downtown, expanding commercial and new residential development, in addition to extensive recreational opportunities including parks, greenspace, and the I&M Canal Trail. To learn more, visit our website, [cityoflockport.net](http://cityoflockport.net); follow us on social media @cityoflockport; or call us at (815) 838-0549.*