

# Village News



YOUR FRANKLIN PARK NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2012

## Mayor's Desk

FROM MAYOR BARRETT F. PEDERSEN



### The Village of FRANKLIN PARK

Barrett F. Pedersen  
MAYOR

Tommy Thomson  
VILLAGE CLERK

#### TRUSTEES:

Tom Brimie  
John Johnson  
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847-678-2444

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847-678-2400

VILLAGE HALL HOURS  
Mon. Tues. Thurs. Fri.  
8-4:30 pm  
Wed. 8-6 pm  
Sat. 9-12 pm

## Homegrown Heroes

Two Franklin Park firefighters, Lieutenant/EMT Robert Beuse and Firefighter/EMT and Village Clerk Tommy Thomson received the Medal of Valor Award by the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshall for heroically rescuing a civilian from a burning apartment.

Representative Angelo 'Skip' Saviano honored the Franklin Park Fire Department heroes with House Resolution 977 for their bravery.

"Lieutenant Beuse and Firefighter Thomson are two prime examples of the types of people that put their own lives in danger in order to protect and save the lives of the people around them. Our first responders often go unnoticed but they put themselves in harm's way every day," explained Representative Saviano.

Please join me in thanking both Lieutenant Beuse and Firefighter Thomson for their service to our community. And while we are thanking them for their selfless service, remember that all of our firefighters and law enforcement officers are here for us every day. Because of these brave men and women, our neighborhoods remain safe and our families are able to live with peace-of-mind.



Representative Angelo 'Skip' Saviano presents Metal of Valor Award to Lieutenant Robert Beuse and Firefighter Tommy Thomson.

## Mayor for a Day

Ever wonder what you would do if you were Mayor of Franklin Park for a day? In honor of Earth Day, we asked third, fourth and fifth grade students from District 84's Pietrini, North and Passow Schools to tell us what they, as Mayor, would do to make a positive difference in our community and to sustain our earth.

The essay contest resulted in dozens of entries that had excellent ideas including increasing recycling, planting more trees and conserving water and electricity.

The winning essay came from Kamila Trela of Passow School who suggested that our residents use electric timers in their homes to save on energy costs. Runners up in the contest were Janelle Caraballo of Passow and Claudia Reyes of North School.

Winners will be honored with a pizza party with their families and will read their essays at a Village Board Meeting. Kamila will spend time in my office observing what I do as Village Mayor, will assist me in planting a tree and I will read the book, "Mayor for a Day" to her class.

Mayor's Desk continued on page 2. ▶

## Farmers Market Opens June 30

The Franklin Park Farmers' Market will open its second season on Saturday, June 30. The Market will be held from 8 AM to 1 PM on every other Saturday (June 30, July 14, July 28, August 11, August 25, September 8 and September 22) at 9545 Belmont Ave. in the Police Station Parking Lot. In addition to a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables and plants, the market will include vendors specializing in baked products, specialty-food items and products for the home and other hand-made gift items. Plan to meet up with neighbors and make new friends while you shop for the very best offerings for that week's market. For more information, call 847-671-4800 or go to [www.vofp.com](http://www.vofp.com).



## Mayor's Desk ▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

### The Only Constant is Change

We know change is inevitable, but is always hard to say good-bye to friends. Jeff Eder, Director of Community and Economic Development, accepted a wonderful new opportunity as the Director of Development for Rock Island, Illinois.

Jeff has been with the Village for over 12 years and has helped us to welcome numerous companies including DHL, Frain and Midwest Can to Franklin Park and to facilitate the expansion of Hill Mechanical and Chicago Records Management. He was instrumental in the development of Grand & Mannheim and bringing Chase, Sonic & CVS to that location. He was a critical component of the \$45 million underpass project on Grand Avenue, the rejuvenation of Martens Street, and too many new construction projects to count. Jeff's work to make the Elgin O' Hare West Bypass become a reality resulted in many other benefits for Franklin Park, including the decision by the Illinois Tollway Authority to add additional storm water detention for our Village.

Jeff was a tireless worker who always put the community first. He was active with the Franklin Park - Schiller Park Chamber of Commerce as well as the Rotary Club. Jeff started our annual Business Appreciation Lunch, which brings together local business people with elected officials and staff to network and discuss current issues effecting Franklin Park businesses.

Jeff will be missed, but we wish him and his family all the best in their adventure. Jeff, don't forget to come back for Railroad Daze!

Our Chief Engineer, Dave Talbott, is cutting back his duties with the Village and going into a semi-retirement.

Dave has been a loaned executive with the Village since 2000 and been instrumental in Franklin Park addressing its flooding issues and increasing storm water retention. Dave provided invaluable expertise on countless projects and championed the Village's efforts to secure numerous grants to support our

infrastructure improvements. I am very pleased he will continue to work with us on a part-time basis because he is a vital member of our team. Dave plans to fill his extra time with more travel and we hope he enjoys it. He has certainly earned it.

### Your Village, Your Voice

It has been an on-going mission of my administration to increase our communication and transparency. I know we all live busy, often hectic, lives and it is not always easy to get to community or Town Hall meetings. But your voice and input into Village policies and programs is very important to us. So in order to increase your opportunities to participate, we are embracing some new technology.

On Thursday, June 21, at 6:30 pm, we will host a Tele-Town Hall meeting. The concept is very simple. An automated service calls through Franklin Park residential phone numbers. When a live person answers the phone, they will be asked if they would like to participate in a telephone Town Hall meeting. If yes, they are placed on a brief hold and then all the other callers join in to discuss the evening's topic and to ask questions of the Mayor.

If you are interested in joining this meeting, all you need to do is be at your home at the scheduled time, answer the phone and agree to join the call. But, we cannot call you if we do not have your phone number. Sign-up by sending an email with your name, current address and phone number to: [villagenews@vofp.com](mailto:villagenews@vofp.com). You can also write your phone number on the return portion of your water bill. Or feel free to contact my office at 847-671-8236.

Your opinion really does count and we hope you will join us in this new initiative.

  
BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

## Village Wins \$985,000 Grant to Fund Storm-water Management

Franklin Park's new Police Station has been awarded a grant for \$985,000 by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), to provide storm-water management improvements at the facility and to help reduce pollution flowing into the Des Plaines River and promote green infrastructure to the region.

"We are thrilled the new Franklin Park Police Station will receive close to a million dollars in grant funding from IEPA," stated Mayor Pedersen. "This will allow us to incorporate state-of-the-art storm-water management practices including utilizing green infrastructure to capture, filter, infiltrate and detain storm-water runoff. The new facility will be an example of sustainable living and design and will help us demonstrate our environmental commitment."

"Thanks to this grant, we can incorporate new storm-water management improvements and pollution prevention practices as we construct the facility," stated Police Chief Michael Witz. "The benefits of this grant will be not only be felt in our community,

but throughout the region."

Funding for this project provided, in part, by the Governor of Illinois and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency through the Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant Program. The grant will fund the use of permeable pavers and porous pavement in the parking lot which will limit runoff and therefore reduce sewer overflows. The grant also provides for a cistern, bio-swales and wetland detention basins, designed to improve water quality and reduce peak flows from the site. This reduces combined sewer overflows to the Des Plaines River. The project includes the use of native vegetation and engineered soil, which will act as a bio-filter to absorb toxic pollution from wet or dry deposition before it enters waterways.

The cistern will capture and store rooftop runoff to be reused later to water landscaped areas. The bio-swales will capture storm-water runoff along the railroad tracks to before it enters the wetland detention basins. The bio-swales also filter and absorb storm-water as it flows through native vegetation and remove pollutants. The native vegetation slows the flow of storm-water and



## Storm-water Management (cont.)

allows for infiltration, recharging groundwater and reducing detention needs. Storm-water runoff exceeding the capacity of the bio-swales will be routed to wetland detention basins. During larger storm events, the constructed wetland basins will provide storage for storm-water runoff, allowing suspended solids to settle while also utilizing the native vegetation and soil to remove pollutants.

The project will also help to reduce the heat island effect by reducing impervious surfaces, like parking areas. A wildlife habitat will be created with the native vegetation in the bio-swales and constructed wetland basins

The Police Station will be the location for Village Board Meetings, court room appearances, and police business. The site will feature a public recreation area with a walking path around the constructed wetland basins. The Police Station is expected to be completed by summer of 2013.

## Village Wide Garage Sale

The Village-Wide Garage Sale will be held on July 20, 21 & 22. If you would like to register your address for this sale, call the Clerk's Office at 847-671-8242. Registering will add your address to a participation list that will be posted on the Village website and available in Village Hall a few days before the sale weekend. Please remember that when having a garage sale, signs cannot be attached to any utility poles or placed on the public right-of-way.

## Let's Move

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 19, at 7 PM at Village Hall. For more information about Let's Move, go to [www.vofp.com](http://www.vofp.com).



## Park District Hosts Family Camp Out Event

Families are invited to campout over night on Saturday, June 23, from 5 PM until Sunday, June 24 at 8:30 AM at the North Park, near the Sunflower Nature Center. It's a great way to experience camping for beginners with easy access to indoor restrooms. Families should come out and join their neighbors and experience a fun-filled night including a bbq, campfire story-telling, night sports and many other activities. Pre-registration is required at the Community Center. For more information, call 847-455-2852.



## Village Consolidates Emergency Dispatch Center

The Village consolidated its 911 Emergency Dispatch Center to a single location, a move that will enhance Emergency Medical Dispatching assistance capacity and save costs.

The Village has partnered with Norcomm, Illinois' first private, 911 call center which serves police, fire and emergency medical dispatch for villages and fire protection districts. Norcomm provides state-of-the-art equipment and facilities and responds to emergency calls for the Village. Norcomm utilizes dispatchers who have been certified to provide first aid advice, over the phone.

"We made this consolidation a priority because we knew it would provide valuable assistance to our residents," said Mayor Barrett Pedersen. "It also allows us to utilize modern equipment we could not afford on our own and to phase out our old equipment that has become very expensive to maintain and replace. We estimate it will save the Village nearly \$200,000 per year on personnel and support." As part of the consolidation, the Police Department will also be changing the non-emergency phone number to 847-678-2444.

## Vehicle Stickers On Sale Now

The Village unveiled the design for the new 2012 vehicle sticker. Dozens of entries were submitted by the art students at East Leyden High School. Students were challenged to create a design based on the Let's Move Initiative, which promotes a healthy lifestyle in order to combat childhood obesity. The winning design was submitted by Alex Mennella and will be featured on this year's sticker.

Passenger car vehicle stickers need to be displayed on the lower right corner of the windshield by July 1. Passenger stickers cost \$30 and can be purchased online at [www.vofp.com](http://www.vofp.com) Living in Franklin Park/Resident Services or at Village Hall.



## Low Cost Rabies Vaccines and Microchip Clinics

The Cook County Animal and Rabies Control clinics provide affordable rabies vaccinations to help bring pet owners in compliance with the law while providing an essential public health protection for the public from a deadly disease. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, June 26 from 10 AM to 2:45 PM at Jewel, located at 10203 W. Grand Ave. Rabies vaccines will cost \$7 for one year and \$21 for a three years. Pet owners can have their pets micro chipped for \$10, but it does not include the national registration fee.

## Post Office Holds Meeting to Promote Direct Mail Program

The Franklin Park Post Office will discuss its new Every Door Direct Mail (EDDM) event on June 14, at 10:30 AM at Village Hall. The new direct mail program allows a customer to advertise to every address in a neighborhood without needing names or street addresses, thus eliminating the cost of purchasing a mailing list and printing addresses on the mailer. In addition, the postage rate is reduced from 45 cents for first class to 14.5. Learn more at the meeting or at [USPS.com/everydoordirectmail](http://USPS.com/everydoordirectmail).

## Blood Drive – Come Out and Donate!

The Community Blood Drive will take place on June 15 from 3-7 PM at the Community Center.



# FRANKLIN PARK FAMILY FUN DAYS

## Carnival · Ride Specials · Fun!

### JUNE 28 – JULY 1

Grand & Mannheim Shopping Center  
(next to Chase Bank)



#### Hours & Unlimited Ride Specials

Thursday, June 28 - 5:00 pm till 10pm \$20  
Friday, June 29 - 5:00 pm till 10:30pm \$22  
Saturday, June 30 - Noon till 10:30pm \$22  
Sunday, July 1 - Noon till Close \$20



#### AREA FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

Northlake Days Fireworks – Centerpoint Park, Wolf Road  
Saturday, June 23 at 9:30pm (Gates Open at 1:00pm)

**Looney Train & American English Performing – Food, Refreshments & Beer Available**

Leyden / Veterans Fireworks – West Leyden High School, Wolf Rd.

Saturday, June 30 at 9:30pm (Gates Open at 6:00pm)

**Karen Hart Band & Jesse White Tumblers Perform**

**Food & Refreshments Available (no coolers or alcohol allowed)**

Elmwood Park's Freedom Festival – Elmwood Park H.S., Thatcher & Fullerton

Wednesday, July 4 at 9:30pm (Gates Open at 6pm)

**Food & Refreshments Available (no coolers or alcohol allowed)**

**Lawn Chairs and Blankets Recommended for all Events**

