

Village News



YOUR FRANKLIN PARK NEWSLETTER



Mayor's
Desk

MAY, 2012

FROM MAYOR BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

The Village of FRANKLIN PARK

Barrett F. Pedersen
MAYOR

Tommy Thomson
VILLAGE CLERK

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VILLAGE HALL HOURS

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

Village Hall Closed
May 26 and 28 for
Memorial Day

Save the Date! Railroad Daze 2012

This year we will again honor our railroad heritage with our fun-filled family celebration. Mark your calendar and plan to attend our annual Railroad Daze event, scheduled for June 7-10 and held at the B-12 Tower located at Franklin Avenue and Calwagner Street. Admission is free! The carnival will open the evening of Thursday, June 7 and will run through Sunday, June 10. We will again be featuring the very best in live entertainment on Friday and Saturday, a Beer and Wine Garden and a wide variety of local food vendors. On Saturday, June 9 from 10AM to 3PM over a dozen trains will be on display and you will have the opportunity to

walk-on and view the inside of the trains as well. This is a unique, one of a kind opportunity for the area and there is no cost to participate.

Seating is available at all major attractions and areas of Railroad Daze, but you are also encouraged to bring lawn chairs or folding chairs. During Railroad Daze, visitors are welcome to park at any legal parking space in a lot or on the street anywhere in the Village. Parking for the disabled is available at the Franklin Park Post Office located at 9760 Franklin Avenue. Please see our flyer on page 4 of this newsletter to participate in this fun, family-focused tradition!

Student Government Day

We were happy to host 15 students from East Leyden High School this year at Village Hall as part of our annual student government program. The students spent the day shadowing our department heads, Trustee John Johnson and Tom Brimie and myself, to learn first-hand the duties and responsibilities of running our Village. The day ended with a mock Board Meeting where the students were able to participate in discussing important issues that our Village faces and debating policies and programs for Franklin Park.

► Mayor's Desk continued on page 2.



East Leyden student Ashley Boyte shadowed Mayor Barrett Pedersen as part of the Student Government Day and learned what it's like to be Mayor of our Village.

Village Wins Award for Green Infrastructure

The new Franklin Park Police Station will receive a grant for \$985,000 from the Illinois EPA to help fund permeable parking and pavement improvements which will help to reduce pollution running into the Des Plaines River as a result of stormwater sources. The grants are part of the State's effort to improve stormwater management practices and to help preserve and restore natural hydrology.





Mayor's Desk ▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Mayor Pedersen welcomes Sam Zahdan of Schiller Park Auto Sales to our village. The company recently located at 10251 Franklin Avenue in Franklin Park.

Village to Lose Trees

The Village will have to take down an estimated 200 Emerald Ash trees soon due to disease. This region-wide problem has caused the loss of thousands of trees in the western suburbs. The Village is weighing its options on how to remove and then replace infected and dying trees. We will keep you posted on our progress in future newsletters and on our website. If you would like to report a diseased tree, please call 847-671-8252.

BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

Franklin Park Breaks Ground on New Police Station

Mayor Barrett Pedersen, Police Chief Michael Witz and Village Trustees broke ground recently on the new Franklin Park Police Station and were joined by Congressman Michael Quigley and other area elected officials.

"This new facility will help our police department in their efforts to patrol our neighborhoods and will allow them to work toward stopping crime and vandalism before it happens," stated Mayor Pedersen. "I believe it is critical to help those who put their lives on the line for our citizens and that they have all the tools they need to help keep our community safe and well protected."

The new facility was designed to serve the Police Department, and the Village, for the next 50 years and will help officers to deliver high quality law enforcement services to residents and businesses. The new facility will also serve as regional center to allow the Franklin Park Police Department to collaborate with police departments in neighboring communities on area-wide task forces and to implement new crime prevention programs.

"This new facility will support our officers as they work to secure the safety of our neighborhoods and our families every day," stated Police Chief Michael Witz. "The new Police Station will allow us to increase efficiency and to apply best practices in police officer staffing and police procedures, resulting in continuing to provide the highest quality of service to our community."

The Village agreed to build a new Police Station on the former Unilever property at 9451 West Belmont because the current facility was determined to be functionally unproductive and potentially dangerous. The current 15,000 square foot Police Station was constructed in the 1930's and has had at least seven additions. Village officials report that the building has an antiquated electrical system, does not meet building code, has no sprinkler or fire alarm system and is not ADA accessible. The new Police Station will be developed in accordance with safety requirements to help protect police officers and visitors while in the building.



The new facility will also serve as a model for efficiency and sustainability. The 36,500 square foot building will incorporate high performance lighting and energy efficient systems that will help to keep energy costs down. In addition, it will utilize recycled materials in the design and construction of the building to reduce pollutants associated with transportation and fabrication and will include paving materials to reduce flooding.

The new Police Station is expected to be completed by summer of 2013.



State Senator Don Harmon, State Representative Skip Saviano, Congressman Michael Quigley, Mayor Barrett Pedersen, Cook County Commissioner Pete Silvestri, Schiller Park Mayor Anna Montana and Police Chief Mike Witz break ground on the new Police Station.



Memorial Day Observance

Please plan to attend Franklin Park's annual Memorial Day Observance on Monday, May 28, at 11:00 AM at the Village's Veteran's Memorial site at 9500 Belmont Avenue. The ceremony will honor our deceased Franklin Park veterans from all service branches and will feature the American Legion Franklin Park Post 974 doing the military formalities, the ceremonial Laying of The Wreath and 21 Gun Salute as well as a reading of the names of the departed veterans. For information, contact the Mayor's Office at 847-671-8236.



Fullerton Avenue Closed

The IDOT bridge project has closed Fullerton Avenue completely to traffic to perform reconstruction of the roadway between Ruby Street and Hawthorne Avenue. This closure will remain in place until the completion of the project. Access from Silver Creek Road and Westbrook Drive will be restricted and only residents affected by the project will be allowed to enter the construction zone to get to their driveways. IDOT will provide temporary driveways to all residents affected.

FULLERTON AVE

ROAD
CLOSED

Com Ed Text Alerts to Report and Track Outages

ComEd has instituted a two-way text messaging capability that allows customers to text their outage to ComEd and enables ComEd to text restoration information back to customers. The text message program will provide added convenience for customers and help improve their experience. The new program enhancements allows customers to text the company to report an outage, offers real-time information on outages, and allows customers to text ComEd to opt into the program. To report an outage, customers can text OUT to 26633 (COMED).

Sign up at: <https://www.comed.com/customer-service/outage-information/Pages/outage-alerts.aspx>.



Thank You Olson's Ace Hardware for Beautifying Our Village

Once again, Olson's Ace Hardware has made a generous donation of beautiful flowers to be planted in our Village. The colorful blossoms will be planted by our team of volunteers on Wednesday, May 9 at 9 AM along the parkway on Grand Avenue. If you would like to be participate in the planting and help make our Village beautiful, please call our Streets Department at 847-671-8252.



Be a Good Neighbor

Please report unsightly properties, including ones with tall grass that is not mowed in front of houses or in backyards and homes with code enforcement issues to the Village at 847-671-8795 or via email to lmanzo@vofp.com.



Trap Neuter Return – Helping to Control Feral Cats

CatVando is working to reduce the number of cats reproducing in our community and to establish a Community Based Trap Neuter Return (TNR) Program in Franklin Park. A TNR Program is the only effective, humane, economical method of caring for these cats while assuring their population doesn't grow. With the cooperation of the Village, its residents, organizations and businesses, CatVando completed 260 TNRs in the first year.

Their goal is to TNR at least 380 cats and will help put Franklin Park on the path to achieving the goal of zero or controlled cat growth. Please check their website for information on how you can help at www.Catvando.org. Follow them on Facebook at 'CatVando TNR'. If you have cats in need of TNR, email catvandttnr@yahoo.com.



Plan Your Garage Sale Now

Residents must register with the Village to hold a sale at 847-671-8242. There is no cost to register and garage or yard sale signs can only be placed on your property and must be removed by 7 PM the last day of the sale. Sales can be held for a maximum of 30 hours within a three day period. Residents are allowed two garage or yard sales per 12-month period, with at least a 3-month period between the two sales. Sale hours must be no earlier than 8 AM and must end by 7 PM. Signs cannot project higher than six feet above the curb, cannot exceed six square feet in height and cannot be nailed to utility poles or placed on the public right of way.



Railroad Daze Needs Volunteers

Volunteers are now being sought by the Village to help with activities at Franklin Park's annual Railroad Daze Festival scheduled for June 7 – 10. Volunteers are needed to help on Saturday, June 9th. For more information on volunteering or to sign-up, email djordan@vofp or call 847-671-4800.



Village News



RAILROAD DAZE



Thursday, June 7

5:00 pm till 10:00 pm (Carnival Only)



Carnival Unlimited
Ride Special \$ 20.00



HiFi Superstar - 6:30pm
Chicagoland break out band!

Friday, June 8

5:00pm till 11:00pm



ARRA - 8:30pm
Classic Rock!

**TOWER PARK
AT CALWAGNER ST. & FRANKLIN AVE.**
GREAT VARIETY OF FOOD | BEER & WINE GARDEN
TRAIN VIEWING & WALK-ON DISPLAYS
CARNIVAL | GREAT ENTERTAINMENT | FREE ADMISSION

JUNE 7-10, 2012

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 847-671-4800

WWW.VOFP.COM

Saturday, June 9

10:00am till 5:00pm

Train Viewing

10:00am - 3:00pm

Unique Walk-on Train
Display!

Carnival Unlimited

Ride Special

Noon till 5:00pm \$20.00

Saturday, June 9

5:00pm till 11:00pm



**Breach The Wall - 1:30pm & Franklin Park's Very Own-
Looney Train - 3:00pm**

Sunday, June 10

Noon till 8:00pm

Carnival Unlimited

Ride Special \$ 20.00

Ride the all new Freak Out!



American English - 5:30pm & 7th Heaven - 8:30pm