

# Village News



YOUR FRANKLIN PARK NEWSLETTER

JULY, 2013

FROM MAYOR BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

## Mayor's Desk



### The Village of FRANKLIN PARK

Barrett F. Pedersen  
MAYOR

Tommy Thomson  
VILLAGE CLERK

#### TRUSTEES:

John Johnson  
Cheryl McLean  
Randy Petersen  
Bill Ruhl  
Karen Special  
Andy Ybarra

9500 Belmont Ave.  
Franklin Park, IL. 60131  
847-671-4800  
villagenews@vofp.com

POLICE & FIRE  
(NON-EMERGENCY)  
847-678-2444

FIRE (NON-EMERGENCY)  
847-678-2400

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

Farmers' Market Open EVERY  
Saturday from 8 AM to Noon  
at Franklin and 25th

## Conserving Water Saves Dollars and Makes Sense

Regular readers of our newsletter and those of you who know me know I am passionate about sustainability and protecting our environment. Conserving our resources is vital to maintaining our quality of life now and for future generations. Conserving water is especially important. Now, thanks in great part to a rate increase from the City of Chicago, Franklin Park residents have another compelling reason to conserve one of our most precious natural resources.

As you may know, many Cook County suburbs purchase Lake Michigan water from the City of Chicago. Unfortunately, the City of Chicago can raise the rates without any input or consent from suburban communities.

The City instituted a series of substantial rate increases beginning with a 25% increase in January 2012 and an additional 15% this past January and another 15% in January 2014 and 2015. When compounded, that amounts to almost a 95% increase in water rates from Chicago.

In addition, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources has announced new water conservation requirements that will require mature communities such as Franklin Park to substantially reduce its unaccounted loss of water that occurs

through our deteriorating water mains. That means the Village will have to dedicate large amounts of our funds to repair, replace and upgrade our water distribution system. This will require the Village to undertake a comprehensive preventive maintenance program in order to meet our needs and keep our future costs down.

Prior to 2009, water and sewer system maintenance was deferred and not treated as a priority. This has placed us at a critical juncture, forcing the Village, over the next decade, to address projects that were long neglected. We can no longer 'kick the can' down the road.

Specifically, the two King Street water tanks are in immediate need of rehabilitation at an estimated \$2.1 million per tank.

Additionally, we had an Asset Management Study performed by a consulting engineering firm that evaluated the state of all of Village infrastructure. This initial study, which will form the basis of a comprehensive rate review and recommendations incorporating operating and maintenance costs and capital expenditures has identified more than \$275 million in needed infrastructure projects. We will be providing more information on this in future newsletters. Continued on Page 2. ▶

## Police Station Ribbon Cutting

The official Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the new Franklin Park Police Station will take place on Saturday, August 10 at 10:30 AM. Residents are invited to attend the event and to take a tour of the new state-of-the-art and environmentally-friendly facility that will serve our community. I hope to see you there. Please call to register to attend at 847-671-8286.

▶ Mayor Barrett Pedersen and Trustee John Johnson welcomed Nelly Salinas, owner of Ritmo Dance Studio, located at 9760 W Grand Avenue, Unit 1B to our Village. Ritmo Dance Studio provides classes in zumba, bachata, salsa, meringue, cumbia, waltz and ballet.

▶ Stephanie Sparks, owner of Dazz Boutique, located at 9774 W Grand Avenue is welcomed to Franklin Park by Mayor Barrett Pedersen, Trustee John Johnson and by Village staff. Dazz is a women's fashion accessory store featuring jewelry, purses, scarves, hats and other items.





### Mayor's Desk (Continued from Page 1.)

In the meantime, we will be convening a Citizen Advisory Committee for Infrastructure meeting later this month to help gather input from our residents. Please call 847-671-8236 if you would like to participate.

In order to meet the demands of the new rules coming from the IL Department of Natural Resources, to respond to the large water rate increases from the City of Chicago, and to continue to provide quality water to our residents, you will soon see a significant increase in your water bill on the order of 50%. We will do our best to minimize the impacts of these increases. We will keep you updated in the coming weeks and months.

  
**BARRETT F. PEDERSEN**  
 MAYOR



Thank you to our volunteer Don Fulmer for organizing another fantastic train display again this year!

### Below are steps that you can take to conserve water:



- Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation and lessen the amount of water needed.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and water is not wasted on your house, the sidewalks, or the street.
- Repair leaking faucets and toilets; this is the number one water waster in homes.
- Install a rain barrel to capture and re-use stormwater.
- Spread a layer of organic mulch around plants to retain moisture and save water, time and money.
- Check your shower to see if it fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds. If so, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model. If you shorten your shower by a minute or two, you will save up to 150 gallons per month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time. Please go to our website to get information on how to compost.

## 2012 RAILROAD DAZE SPONSORS

This year's Railroad Daze event was sponsored in part to the generous donations of the following companies and organizations.

### PLATINUM SPONSORS

- Allied Waste/Republic Services
- Bretford
- Canadian Pacific
- Centerpoint Properties
- Chicago Records Management, Inc.
- Clark Dietz, Inc. Engineers
- Digital Realty
- D.M.D. Demolition, Inc.
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- Mesirov Financial
- Odelson & Sterk, LTD
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### GOLD SPONSORS

- Alliance for Illinois Manufacturing
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- Franklin Park Plumbing Co, Inc.
- GW & Associates, P.C.
- Kane, McKenna and Associates, Inc.
- Krieter Construction
- Midwest Can Company
- Norcomm
- Reebie Storage & Moving Co.
- Victoria's Family Restaurant
- Windy City Limousine

### SILVER SPONSORS

- Agron & Mary's Family Hair Cuts
- Deluxe Stitcher Co, Inc.
- Franklin Park/Schiller Park Chamber of Commerce
- Just Manufacturing Co
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- Leyden Credit Union
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- N.S. Precision Lathe, Inc.
- Opticote, Inc.
- Precise Finishing Co, Inc.
- Senator Don Harmon
- Quality Cleaning Fluids
- Sam's 24 HR Towing Service, Inc.
- Wolf's Restaurant



# Beautifying Franklin Park

The Village of Franklin Park is in the final stages of officially becoming a Tree City. Becoming a Tree City provides the benefit of sometimes receiving preference over other communities when allocations of grant money are made for trees or forestry programs. This financial support for tree projects will allow us to remove more of the trees that have been affected by the Emerald Ash Borer and plant a new variety of trees throughout Franklin Park. Trees are important to our community and provide cleaner air, shadier streets, and aesthetic beauty for those that live or conduct

their business here.

Removal of dead trees and planting of new diverse trees on parkways and Village property will begin this Fall. If you are interested in having a tree planted on the parkway in front of your home or if you have an affected tree you would like to report, please call Andy Smolen at 847-671-8252.

For more information on the benefits we receive for being a Tree City, please visit the Arbor Day Foundation website.

# New Pay Boxes at Commuter Lots

The Village will soon begin to replace the non-electronic pay boxes at commuter parking lots surrounding the Franklin Avenue Metra station. They will be replaced with two new, streamlined electronic parking meters at no cost to Village taxpayers. These electronic pay stations will be quick and easy to use and will be more efficient, more accurate and more convenient to users.

The new boxes will not only accept coins and bills, but will also accept credit cards. It is expected that transactions for daily parking at either of the two new pay boxes will take only a few seconds. In addition, Parkmobile technology will allow users to download a smartphone app through which they can pay their parking fee, in remote locations without utilizing the pay boxes in the stations. The smartphone app requires a small convenience fee for remote transactions.

Municipalities including Naperville, Aurora and the City of Chicago have upgraded to electronic pay boxes. The pay boxes will facilitate easy reading for patrol officers and have been proven to be more accurate in recording

transactions. The new boxes will offer transactions in 13 different languages, including Spanish and Polish. All in all this upgrade will make parking services friendlier and more efficient in Franklin Park. The boxes are also built for toughness by incorporating a design that takes into consideration the extreme weather conditions of the Chicago seasonal climate changes.

The new pay boxes will be centrally located at the Milwaukee District / West Line train station at 3148 Rose Street. Users will not need to place the paid receipt in their cars as is required in Chicago. Please note that the addition of the boxes will not affect the price of a monthly parking pass which will remain at \$25 and can still be purchased at the Police Station. In addition, signs will soon be installed in the commuter lot reminding residents that parking is free on weekends and from 3 to 11 PM on weekdays.

For more information, please call 847-671- 8245 with questions. The parking boxes should be installed and operating by mid-summer.



# Relay for Life Event Aims to Support More Birthdays

The annual Relay for Life event will be held on Friday, July 19 at 6 PM at East Leyden High School. Teams of walkers will take turns in the relay to raise funds and awareness for the American Cancer Society, walking through the night, until 6 AM the next morning. Put your walking shoes on or just come out and cheer your team on! The event will feature plenty of fun-filled activities including a DJ, contests, raffles and MORE! Participate and honor those that we have lost and celebrate our survivors. For more information, call 312-279-7276.

# Representative Willis Hosts Free Phone Bill Clinic

Area Representative Kathleen Willis will host a free phone bill clinic on July 25 at 10 AM at the Addison Park District at 120 E. Oak Street in Addison. Representatives from the Citizens Utility Board, the state's leading consumer advocacy organization, will be on hand to review your current phone plan and show you how you can save money. Please be sure to bring a copy of your most recent bill to the event. If you have questions, please contact the Representative's office at 708-562-6970 or email [repwillis77@gmail.com](mailto:repwillis77@gmail.com).

# Low Cost Rabies Vaccines and Microchip Clinics

Cook County's Animal and Rabies Control provides an 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. A clinic is scheduled for Tuesday, July 30 between 10 AM. and 2:45 PM in the Jewel Parking Lot at 10203 W. Grand Avenue. Rabies vaccines will cost \$7 for a one year and \$21 for a three year. Ferrets may only be vaccinated for one year and the cost of the vaccine is \$9. Pet owners can have their pets microchipped for \$10; however, this does not include the national registration fee. Information is available on the Cook County Animal Control website at [www.cookcountygov.com/portal/server.pt/community/animal\\_rabies\\_control/247](http://www.cookcountygov.com/portal/server.pt/community/animal_rabies_control/247) or by calling 708- 974-6140.





The Village of Franklin Park's Annual

# CAR SHOW



Congratulations to Janet Kaiser, President of Century Metal Spinning and Ex-Cell Kaiser for being selected as the Manufacturer of the Year by the Alliance for Illinois Manufacturing. Based in Franklin Park, Century is a job shop serving aerospace, military, R&D and industrial manufacturers and Ex-Cell is a product line manufacturer of unique, high-quality recycling, hospitality and facility management products. Janet is pictured with Pam McDonough, President of the Alliance for Illinois Manufacturing.

# Street Dance & Car Show - July 26

The Park District of Franklin Park will hold its annual Street Dance on Friday, July 26 in downtown Franklin Park from 5 to 11 PM. The fun-filled event will include LIVE music, food vendors, a beer garden, and a Children's Area featuring face painting and a craft corner. The Village of Franklin Park will host its annual Car Show during Street Dance which will feature all types of antique, classic, custom, muscle and modified cars competing for trophies and cash prizes. Cars will line up at 5 PM and entry forms will be provided as participants arrive. Franklin Avenue, between 25th and Ruby Street, will be closed to traffic during this event. Admission to both events is free! Mori Milk and Ice Cream Company will provide free chocolate milk dispensed from an old fashioned Good Humor truck! For more information, call 847-671-4800.

The Park District of Franklin Park & The Village of Franklin Park present

# 22nd Annual Street Dance 2013

**Friday, July 26**  
**5:00-11:00 p.m.**  
**Downtown Franklin Park**

**Great Music:** 6:30 p.m. - Children's Entertainer  
 7:00 p.m. - 28 Days  
 9:00 p.m. - Final Say

**A Variety of Local Food Vendors**

**Classic Car Show**

**Beer Garden**

**Children's Area** featuring: kid's inflatables, Park District craft corner, an entertainer and face painting

**Show your patriotic spirit and wear Red, White, and Blue!**



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For more information, call 847-455-2852 or visit [www.fpparks.org](http://www.fpparks.org)