

Village News



YOUR FRANKLIN PARK NEWSLETTER

MAY, 2014

Mayor's Desk

FROM MAYOR BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

RAILROAD DAZE - RAILROAD DAZZLE

We are welcoming summer to Franklin Park and that means it's time for our Annual Railroad Daze Festival! This fun-filled event will be held on June 12th through June 15th at the B-12 Tower on Franklin Avenue and Calwagner Street.

For train enthusiasts, the highlight will be the very popular train viewing on Saturday from 10AM until 3PM. There will be over a dozen trains, coaches, and engines to view, many that you may walk in to and view the interiors. Train fans from around the region flock to Franklin Park every year to view these one-of-a-kind railroad cars. We will also have an amazing assortment of train memorabilia and collectibles. I urge everybody to come out and "GET ON BOARD!"

Train enthusiasts can volunteer to help work the event, get a first look at these unique and vintage cars and get a fabulous souvenir t-shirt. Please call Pam at 847-671-8258 if you would like to volunteer!

This year's four day festival will be better than ever with food vendors from Franklin Park's great restaurants, an attractive Beer & Wine Garden and a carnival beginning Thursday evening. Each day, the carnival will feature ride specials so that families can affordably enjoy all that we have to offer. We will also feature some of the best rock, pop, jazz and contemporary music concerts beginning Thursday evening at 5PM, Friday evening beginning at 6:30 PM and all day Saturday starting at 11AM. As always, admission is free.

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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

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

Village Hall will be closed
Monday, May 26 in
observance of
Memorial Day





Mayor's Desk

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All That Jazz

A special feature this year will be our all new Jazz Night. On Thursday, June 12th we will feature some of the top jazz bands in the region. At 5PM, our very own Hester Wildcats Jazz Ensemble will kick-off our Jazz Night followed by The Chicago Skyliners Big Band from 6:30-8PM and Chévere, a high voltage percussion Latin/Jazz/Blues band will entertain 9-10:30PM.

Many Railroad Daze attendees have requested an evening of jazz and we feel this will soon become a 'new' tradition in Franklin Park. For the complete entertainment lineup, please see the flyer on page 4 and 'like' us on Facebook to get updates.

Jacob Suarez – Mayor for a Day

One of my favorite projects every year is the Mayor for a Day writing contest. School children from District 84 in grades 3 through 5 are invited to write an essay detailing what they would do if they were 'Mayor for a Day'.

It is inspiring to read these essays and to learn how our school children see our community and our world. One of the overarching themes was respect for our environment. I was proud these young people understand the value of sustainability and are looking at ways to expand our recycling efforts and beautify our community along with other environment protecting measures. It was also inspiring to feel the compassion in their essays. They understand the devastating effects of bullying. They genuinely care about people affected by the recession; whether it is joblessness, families not having enough food or even homelessness. These children care for their fellow man and I believe that is a bright note for our future.

This year's runners-up were Melissa De La O, a 5th grader from North School and Isabella Herrera, a 5th grader from Pietrini. Jacob Suarez, a 5th grader from North School is our winner. All three will read their essays at an upcoming Village Board Meeting. I will be going to Jacob's school to read to his class. Jacob will also come to Village Hall to shadow me for a day and to learn about being a Mayor.

I want to thank everyone, teachers and students, from District 84 who participated. I also want to extend a very special thank you to Rosanne Zuccaro, from Passow School, who inspired this annual event and is a tireless advocate on behalf of her students and the promotion of literacy.

See you at Railroad Daze!!


BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

Memorial Day Observance

Everyone is invited to attend Franklin Park's annual Memorial Day Observance on Monday, May 26, at 11AM at the Village's Veteran's Memorial located at 9500 Belmont Avenue. The ceremony will pay tribute to our deceased Franklin Park veterans from all branches of service branches. The event will feature the military formalities by the American Legion Franklin Park Post 974, a ceremonial Laying of The Wreath, a 21 Gun Salute and a reading of the names of the departed veterans. For information, contact the Mayor's Office at 847-671-8236.

Innovative Solar Trash Can Installed on Franklin Avenue

Franklin Park has joined cities around the country by installing an eco-friendly solar trash can in our public space on Franklin Avenue. Using solar energy, the unit will compact trash therefore creating a greater capacity than a standard trash can, which results in no unsightly overflows. The unit also collects items to be recycled. Additionally, the unit notifies the Village when it needs to be emptied so it helps to reduce fuel costs and staff time needed to check on public cans. The units are fully enclosed and eliminate problems caused by wind, rain and animals.

"These tech-savvy units are attractive, will cut down on overflowing litter problems and contribute to the sustainability of our community," said Mayor Barrett Pedersen. "Overall, the unit is more efficient and will help us maintain a cleaner and greener public space."

The new solar trash can also offers a unique space for advertising on the side of the unit for our local businesses at a highly visible location on Franklin Avenue. The unit features an 18" by 30" panel to deliver your message to the community. To learn more about advertising on the unit, please call 847-671-8292.



 This new eco-friendly solar trash can will be installed in the public space on Franklin Avenue.



Kids to Parks Day – May 17

The National Park Trust has designated Saturday, May 17 as Kids to Park Day and hopes it will inspire everyone to take time to get outdoors and visit a national, state or local neighborhood park. The Park District of Franklin Park manages several parks and recreational areas in our Village that can help to foster an interest in nature. Also, the Franklin Park Walking Path located behind our Police Station, is an ideal place for our families to participate in physical exercise and help combat childhood obesity. Get out and enjoy our parks!

Village to Utilize ComEd

After a thorough review of market pricing, the Village has determined that it is in the best interest of residents to return our municipal aggregation program accounts to the ComEd default rate starting in May. The new pricing will be reflected on your June bill. Market electricity rates have trended upward and program savings against the ComEd default rate have narrowed over the past year.

To be clear, the Village’s municipal aggregation electrical program remains intact. The Village is merely electing ComEd to be our electricity supplier for the near term. The Village will continue to evaluate pricing from alternative suppliers over the next 30-45 days. If competitive pricing can be found prior to mid-June, the Village will have the option of considering switching residents to the alternative supplier.

As part of the transition, ComEd will send a letter in early May advising residents that their accounts will revert to the ComEd default rate. Residents will continue to have the option of selecting another supplier for up to two billing cycles, just like they were able to do under the program. However, residents that remain on the ComEd default rate for more than two billing cycles will be required to remain with ComEd for an additional 10 billing cycles (for a total of 12 months).

Residents can view a list of available alternative provider offers on the Citizens Utility Board website at: www.citizensutilityboard.org/ciElectric_cubfacts_alternativesuppliers.html.



▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen planted trees in our community to commemorate Earth Day.



▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen participated in Career Week at Pietrini Elementary School in the 1st grade classroom with teacher Sarah Matticks. ▲



AT CALWAGNER STREET & FRANKLIN AVENUE

CARNIVAL HOURS & SPECIALS

Thursday, June 12
5 TO 10 PM
UNLIMITED RIDE SPECIAL - \$20

Friday, June 13
5 TO 10 PM
UNLIMITED RIDE SPECIAL - \$20

Saturday, June 14
NOON TO 10 PM
UNLIMITED RIDE SPECIAL
\$20 FROM NOON TO 5 PM

Sunday, June 15
NOON TO 8 PM
UNLIMITED RIDE SPECIAL - \$20

All-Star Entertainment

THURSDAY, JUNE 12
First Annual Railroad Daze Jazz Night!

5-5:30 PM Hester Wildcats Jazz Ensemble

6:30-8 PM The Chicago Skyliners Big Band
The music of Count Basie, Buddy Rich, Stan Kenton, and more!

9-10:30 PM Chévere
Latin/Jazz/Funk Band with high voltage percussion.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13
6:30-7:45 PM Recycle The Day
High-energy, dance hits from the 70's to today.

8:30-10:30 PM 7th Heaven
The #1 drawing Chicagoland festival band.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14
11 AM - 12:15 PM Serendipity
Teen girls perform pop, country, and rock hits.

1 - 2:30 PM Brock & Abrams
Mike Brock formerly of Herman's Hermits and Bob Abrams formerly of The Buckingham's perform pop hits from the 60's & 70's.

3 - 4:30 PM The Max Clark Band
A quintet of musicians dish out tasty Latin flavored tunes.

5:30-7:30 PM American English
The Country's #1 Beatles Tribute Band.

8:30-10:30 PM Hi Infidelity
Performing 80's classic rock Voted Best Rock Cover Band.

TRAIN VIEWING

WALK-ON DISPLAYS

Saturday, 10 AM - 3 PM

Free, unique, one-of-a-kind opportunity to view an impressive display of dozens of trains and to walk on and view interiors.

TRAIN MEMORABILIA & COLLECTIBLE VENDORS

ALL ABOARD!

Free Admission • All-Star Entertainment
Carnival • Great Variety of Food • Beer & Wine Garden



ATM Available • NO Bikes • NO Dogs • NO Skateboards • For More Information 847-671-4800 or www.vofp.com