



Village News



YOUR FRANKLIN PARK NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 2015

FROM MAYOR BARRETT F. PEDERSEN



Mayor's Desk



The Village of FRANKLIN PARK
Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor

Tommy Thomson
Village Clerk

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Village Hall
will be closed on
APRIL 3rd & 4th

QUIET PLEASE!

Quiet Zone Status Is A Top Priority

I wanted to update you on the aggressive steps that Franklin Park is taking to secure a 'Quiet Zone' designation for our Village. With multiple rail crossings in Franklin Park and trains traveling through our town all night long, it has become an absolute necessity that we receive consideration as a Quiet Zone. This designation would stop the requirement for trains to use their horns as they approach the grade crossings.

We have partnered with the Village of River Grove and are working together to achieve this status. Unfortunately, it is a somewhat complicated and lengthy process. We have met with, and will continue to meet with, all the approving agencies, or Diagnostic Team, comprised of representatives from the Federal Railroad Administration, the Illinois Commerce Commission, Illinois Department of Transportation, METRA, Canadian Pacific, Canadian National and Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad.

Through the course of many meetings, we have been provided with several additional safety measures that would be required to attain Quiet Zone status. These include adding pedestrian

crossing gates at Calwagner. They also suggest extensive safety measures at the Metra pedestrian crossing, which could be expensive.

Conforming to these requirements is extremely expensive. That is why it is so important that we work closely with our partners to share costs, leverage resources and seek grants if available.

Attaining approval is a lengthy process, with considerable expense. But I assure you that obtaining this designation is of the highest priority to me and the Board. We will continue to update you on our progress, in the newsletter and our website.



▲ Janet Kaiser, Owner of Ex-Cell Kaiser was honored by the Village Board for her work with Gadget Girls, (Girls Adventuring in Design, Engineering & Technology), a program designed to introduce female youth to the world of manufacturing. Mayor Pedersen stopped by when Ex-Cell hosted a summer event.

Community Blood Drive Scheduled For March 13

The next Blood Drive will be held on March 13 from 3 to 7 PM at the Franklin Park Community Center. The drive is held in partnership with LifeSource and the Village's Senior Commission. Blood is needed daily for surgeries, emergencies, medical procedures and cancer treatments. Blood Drives help to save millions of lives each year! The actual donation process is quick, easy and painless! Please take the time out of your busy day to donate blood and give the gift of life.



Park District of Franklin Park Save the Date

Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, April 25 12-2 p.m.
Location: North Park, 10040 Addison Avenue

Our annual Earth Day is a community celebration featuring music, interactive booths, vendors, nature crafts, games. This fun, family-oriented event is free to attend and is held outdoors at North Park. Take time to learn how to keep our earth clean! Free kites are available on a first come, first served basis.



For more information contact
the Park District at 847-455-2852





◀ **Mayor's Desk** Continued from Page 1.

Franklin Park's Financial Management Makes the Grade! It's A+ Again!

Standard & Poor's Ratings Service has assigned an A+ long term rating to the Village of Franklin Park's 2015 General Obligation (GO) bonds. The agency also reaffirmed the Village of Franklin Park's A+ for previously issued GO Bonds.

The rating underscores the Village's strengthening financial position and allows the Village to pay lower interest rates, lessening the burden on the taxpayer.

The agency noted the Village's on-going efforts at stabilizing its financial position, its sound cash position and the strength of the local economy when assigning the rating.

We are proud that our fiscal discipline and excellent financial practices are paying dividends for our taxpayers.

I thank the Village Board for upholding strong financial principles and our staff for its continued dedication to controlling costs.

Fall, Winter, Spring & Construction

Those are the four seasons we have in the Midwest.

The Village's construction season will begin soon. To make navigating this 'season' easier for our residents, businesses and visitors, we will post updates on our website and our Facebook Page on projects, possible road closures and detours.

Our Citizen's Advisory Committee on Infrastructure, along with our staff, prioritized these improvements and upgrades to our water and sewer systems and our roads and streets.

These much needed improvements will increase safety in our Village and save wear and tear on our automobiles. They will also protect the safety of our water / sewer system as well as enhance accessibility throughout our Village.

If you are interested in learning more about the infrastructure improvement schedule or if you think there are places in your area that need attention, we would like to hear from you. We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Citizens Advisory Committee for Infrastructure. Please contact my office if you are interested.

BARRETT F. PEDERSEN
MAYOR

Free Energy Assessment When You Host A House Party

Did you know that 70% of all energy is lost between your ceiling and your roof? Want to learn some simple energy efficiency tips to help save you money on your energy costs? Invite friends, family, and neighbors over, and an Energy Impact Illinois program expert and certified contractor will use your home to demonstrate energy efficiency concepts and conduct a simple energy assessment.

Normally, this service costs \$400 or more. For a limited time, an energy assessment is only \$99 for a single family home through Energy Impact Illinois, or you can get it free by hosting a house party!

During the house party, the contractor leads participants through an energy assessment of the host's home, using special tools like blower doors and infrared cameras to point out areas where the homeowner is losing energy and what kind of projects can help them save money. The host doesn't need to provide anything – their only responsibility is to have at least 5 other homeowners attend.



▲ Energy consultants explain where a homeowner is losing energy and what kind of projects can help them save money.

Energy Impact Illinois can connect you with certified contractors to make upgrades and link you to rebates available to offset the cost to make your home more comfortable and to help you save on energy costs. Call 855-9-IMPACT to learn more and schedule your own house party for friends and neighbors.

Scholarship Opportunity For Area Students



The Chamber by O'Hare is now accepting applications for its annual scholarships for the 2015-2016 academic years. The Chamber is providing two scholarship opportunities for the upcoming year. Both are open to all Franklin Park, Schiller Park, and River Grove residents. One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a full-time student accepted at an accredited college, university, or community college; with a minimum GPA of 2.8. The second \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a full-time current or incoming Triton College student with a minimum GPA of 2.8 and pursuing a degree in an engineering technology/manufacturing-related area.

Applications for these scholarships may be obtained by contacting the Scholarship Chair, at info@chamberbyohare.org or patzinga@triton.edu. Please include a contact phone number with your email. The Chamber must receive completed applications and all required information by May 1, 2015. The award selection will be completed by June 1. Please direct any inquiries to info@chamberbyohare.org or patzinga@triton.edu.



▲ Recently, Mayor Barrett Pedersen visited Eklind Tool Company, located at 11040 King. Eklind Tool manufactures and supplies products to a variety of companies including aerospace and motorcycle companies. Many of the employees are local Franklin Park residents.