



THE VILLAGE LINK



Mayor Milt Jensen

A WORD FROM OUR MAYOR.....

Spring is here again and the Village of Beach Park is gearing up to move forward on several fronts. We've had a good winter and we can be thankful for that! The mild winter cut back our costs for plowing and salting of our streets, which was truly a blessing comparing it to the previous winter.

Most of us are well aware of the tough economic times that we're experiencing right now and the Village, like each of us, has had to take steps to maintain our financial equilibrium. Fortunately, as we entered this recession, we had a healthy financial reserve which we have been able to maintain, fairly well, so far. Spending our money wisely and making good investments has helped us to maintain this financial advantage in a time when others are not doing as well. As you all know, the Village of Beach Park levees no real estate tax whatsoever and our livelihood is dependent primarily upon sales tax. With a robust economy surrendering to a recession,

we find sales tax receipts dwindling extensively. Facing that situation, we are not turning to run, but rather concentrating and doubling our efforts to attract retail business to the community.

In spite of the tight money and sagging sales, we do find entrepreneurs considering Beach Park as a place to do business and we offer them every incentive possible to help them make that decision to join us. You have seen some of the results particularly on Sheridan Road. Anna's Market and the CVS Pharmacy are the two that are outstanding, however, as you read this article, several other business establishments are moving forward to plant their roots in our community.

The Business Development Commission (BDC), staff & consultants are working diligently to expand the TIF District on Greenbay Road that lies in Beach Park. Most of the activity, business wise, is focusing on the intersection of Wadsworth &

Greenbay Rd. The hotel on the south east corner of that intersection is still alive and proceeding at a snails pace, primarily because of the lack of venture capital in this market. However, we do still have financial prospects that are interested in this facility but are moving very cautiously. The northeast corner of that same intersection will be hosting a strip mall and possibly a restaurant. The southwest corner is being eyed by a developer of an indoor athletic and fitness center with commercial outlots. At Greenbay and Kenosha Roads, the Village will be abandoning the old Public Works Facility and are actively seeking developers to join us in some business development at that location.

Of particular interest to those of you who do business in Beach Park, is requested by the BDC to get your input concerning a Beach Park Business Association. We are not suggesting a Chamber of Commerce, but rather an association that can act in concert with the BDC to invite more activity to our community. If this ,

PARKS & RECREATION

- **MARCH 17TH LUCK-O-IRISH PARTY AT IL STATE BEACH RESORT. CALL FOR TICKETS.**
- **APRIL 3RD ANNUAL EGG HUNT. GEO-KARIS PARK. 9AM SHARP.**
- **JUNE - OCT FARMER'S MARKET FROM 2PM TO 7PM, EVERY TUESDAY. S.E. CORNER OF LEWIS AVE & WADSWORTH RD NEXT TO BRIDGEVIEW BANK.**

CONTINUED FROM THE PAGE ONE.....

MANAGING OUR VILLAGE BUDGET

There is no doubt that with the down turn in the U.S. economy, the Village of Beach Park is not immune to the financial crisis that we are all experiencing. We would like to assure our residents that we are keeping a watchful eye on our finances. As you are all aware, the Village does not levy a municipal property tax and with the declining State shared revenues coming into the Village, it makes it more difficult for us to make ends meet. Therefore, to overcome declining revenues, the Village has made several cuts to our annual operating budget and we are continually looking for more ways to trim our budget.

In closing, we can assure Beach Park residents that the Village is financially sound, and we will endure!

idea is of interest to you, you will find a survey on the back page that you can fill out and return to the Beach Park BDC. I think that your participation can be a tremendous benefit to the economic viability of our Village.

There is one clinker that really aggravates me and that is the lack of interest and action by our state elected officials in moving forward rapidly to widen Greenbay Road! With the advent of the "Fielders" baseball facility north of us, and the sports complex south of us presently being built, there is going to be a tremendous impact on Greenbay Rd. It seems to me that we are second class citizens when it comes to repairing and rebuilding highways that are so necessary to our economy and to our daily commute. It is practically impossible to exit or enter Greenbay Rd. in the morning or afternoon, but that's only half the problem. At intersections on this highway that present tremendous hazards and extreme delays, we are not permitted to install

traffic signals even though we have the money to do so. Illinois Department of Transportation simply says "no" and that's as far as we can get. It seems strange that on State Line Road, west of Greenbay Rd, in Zion, at the Trumpet Park entrance, they are installing traffic signals and streetlights. There is no traffic there! There are no buildings there! Yet on this state highway they are permitted to install traffic signals. This is something that I cannot explain and I doubt that our state elected representatives can explain it either!

This is an election year and our state representatives are running for re-election. I think it's time for us to demonstrate, in numbers, our displeasure with them and their actions. We don't need more silly public meetings at schools where we choose green, red and yellow teams to play games like school kids to determine what we want on this highway! This is costly, a waste of time and an insult to our intelligence. I

urge you to contact our representatives not once, but more than once, and let them know that we mean business and that we might further demonstrate our displeasure at the polls in November.

This is serious business and it's time that something be done. Not only is Greenbay Road choking traffic and causing us much consternation, but it is also detouring viable business to other locations. In fact, our state hammering of business and industry with higher taxes, bureaucratic bullying and impossible traffic congestion is making Kenosha County look mighty attractive. Check Highway 50, west of Greenbay Rd. to confirm my statements. I would appreciate your comments on the matters that I discuss here or any other matters, at any time. I always attempt to make myself available to you!

Have a great spring & summer!

Mayor Milton C. Jensen

BEACH PARK BUYS OUT RECAPTURE

As you may all have read in the newspaper, the Village of Beach Park has purchased the recapture fee on water and sewer utilities from DRH Cambridge. The recapture fee was a fee paid to DRH Cambridge for any resident that hooked up to the municipal water or sewer system on the west side of town. The fee was com-

pounded on a daily interest rate, which means that daily, the rate increased. The Village thought it to be wise to purchase this fee before it became cost prohibited for our residents to connect to the municipal system. Now is the time to connect to the public utilities..... Don't waste anymore time!



JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE

The Village of Beach Park recently built a new Public Works Facility on Glendale Road between 27th St. & 29th St., in Beach Park. The new facility has been needed for many years. Thanks to LeRoy Bolt, our Building & Zoning Administrator, the building was put up very cost effectively.

The new buildings will house the Public Works Department as well as the Water & Sewer Department. All vehicles and equipment will be able to be stored indoors.

The Village will be hosting an "Open House" on Saturday,

May 1, 2010 from 8 AM to 3 PM. Please try to stop by and check out the new facility. Coffee and treats will be provided and the first 100 visitors will receive a free Beach Park coffee mug.

Hope to see you there!



US Census

The US Census is taken every 10 years in the United States to get a better idea of the number of households and residents across the Country. The next Census will be taken this year, starting in March.

March, the Census forms are mailed or delivered to households. In April, the National Census Day is April 1st. Residents are urged to use this day as a point of reference for sending completed forms back in the mail. April thru June, 2010, Census takers will visit households that did not return a form by mail. December, by law, the Census Bureau delivers population information to the President for apportionment. The Village of Beach Park would like to see each and every resident of Beach Park counted, so please do not forget to complete the Census and return it by mail.



Benton Township News

Jan Suthard Supervisor 847-746-2100

**Office Located at the NW corner of
29th St. & Greenbay Rd. Beach Park**

CARE COACH:
Thursday, April 8th
from 2:30 pm till 4:30
pm at the Township
parking lot offering
free blood pressure,
blood sugar, and cho-
lesterol screenings.

**SENIOR RE-
SOURCE DAY:**
Wednesday, April 28th,
8:30 am till noon at
Zion Park District
Leisure Center. Over
40 exhibitors, door
prizes, donuts, coffee,
lunch provided at no
charge.
Call (847) 746-2100 to
sign up.

**TechnoZoo for Sen-
iors** Weds. May 5th
from 10 am till noon at
Zion Benton Public
Library.
Learn about various
technologies such as
IPOD Touch, MP3
Players, E-Book, etc.
Space is limited so call
to sign up. No cost.

**Mama's 4th Annual
5K Run:** May 8th
All money raised goes
to support 2 non-profit
community organiza-

tions: Coalition for
Healthy Communities
and Community Re-
sources for Education
& Wellness, Inc
(CREW)
Contact Deborah Will
at 847-731-9475 or
email wild@zbths.org

**AARP Driving
School:** June 8th &
June 9th 10 am till 2
pm. Call to sign up,
space is limited.

**Drop off non perish-
able food &
health/beauty products**
for local food pantries

**Dial-A-Ride Bus Ser-
vice** for Benton Town-
ship residents. Service
Hours: Tuesday &
Thursdays; 8:30 am till
4 pm. To schedule a
ride call 1-800-201-
6446 one day in ad-
vance.

Senior Circle: Seniors
50+ pick up application
to join activities,
events, & trips. Spon-
sored by Vista Health
System.

Meals on Wheels call
(847) 546-5733 ask for

Meals on Wheels pro-
gram.

**Drop off used eye
glasses** for refurbishing
at township office.

Free Rules of the Road
booklets & Illinois
State maps available at
Township office.

**Benton Greenwood
Cemetery:** Cemetery
plots available. Call for
more information.

Any questions regard-
ing any of these activi-
ties, please contact the
Benton Township Of-
fices.

Thank you!



*Jan Suthard
Supervisor*



BEACH PARK EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM; BIG HIT WITH RESIDENTS.....

Have you ever received a personalized automated call from Mayor Milt Jensen or other Village personnel informing you of various emergencies, situations or events? If so, you have encountered the Village new Emergency Notification System and although this system has played an active role in our fine Village for several months, its popularity continues to grow among Beach Park residents. This exciting new communications system enables residents & businesses to receive time sensitive information regarding a variety of issues including, mosquito spraying, natural disasters, special or unforeseen events or other emergency or informative information. Within minutes, through a single phone call, Village officials can notify all, or a portion of all, registered members with important information.

Also, by choosing to add a cell phone number or an email address, members can be assured that we will still be able to reach you even if you aren't at home or in your office.

This system also allows current members to "opt-out" and remove your information from our data base at anytime.

For residents interested in registering for future notifications, you may do so online by visiting our website at www.villageofbeachpark.com or for more information, you may contact us at 847-746-1770.

Wishing you & yours the very best.....

*Trustee
Larry Wells*



RESERVE THE SHELTER AT GEO-KARIS PARK...

If you are having a party and would like to utilize your Geo-Karis Park located off of Beach Road, please stop in the Village Hall to fill out an application. For residents of Beach Park the rental fee is \$75.00 for the large shelter which holds a maximum of 75 people. There is an additional refundable \$250.00 fee. You may also reserve the softball field, soccer field, tennis court or basketball court for an additional \$25.00 each. Non Beach Park residents pay a \$150.00 rental fee for the large shelter with the same other applicable fees. Reservations are not finalized until a Village representative signs the request form and all money due is paid in full.

During the summer months, the park reservations fill up quickly, so make sure to reserve your date now!

Thank you and have a wonderful & safe summer!

The Parks & Recreation Committee

Village of Beach Park
11270 W. Wadsworth Rd.
Beach Park, IL 60099
847-746-1770 Phone
847-746-1797 Fax

Visit us on the Web
www.villageofbeachpark.com

Jane's License Service

Jane Hall
Notary Public

Full Service License & Title Agency

38482 N. Sheridan Beach Park
mail: 9600-17th St Zion, IL 60099

INSTANT RENEWALS

ph: 847.599.8919 AgentJaneHall@AOL.com
fx: 847.599.9545

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President

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SERVING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SINCE 1982
YOUR SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR WE'LL
COME BACK!

SURVEY

Please reply to Mayor Jensen's survey as to whether you would be interested in seeing a Business Association formed. Please let us know your thoughts by filling out this coupon and mailing it back to the Village of Beach Park, 11270 W. Wadsworth Road, Beach Park, IL 60099 or faxing it back to the Village at 1-847-746-1797 Attn: Business Development Commission.

Name _____

Phone number _____

Comments

Yes

No