



The Village link

A WORD FROM OUR MAYOR...

Village Stickers will expire on

Dec. 31, 2013!

Stickers are available at the Village Hall during regular business hours, Monday-Thursday 8:30am-5pm and Fridays, 8am-4pm. The cost is \$2.00 per sticker. Don't delay, get yours today!



In preparation for our 25th Anniversary Celebration, the Village is asking for your help!

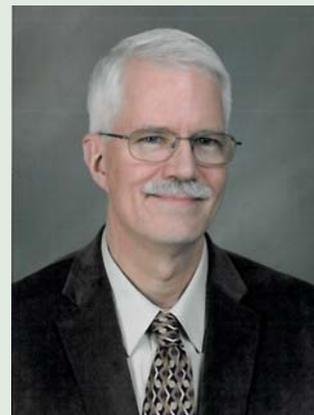
If you have any pictures, stories, articles or artifacts of any kind that you would like to share please contact the Village Hall.

The Old Farmer's Almanac is calling for a "snowy" winter in the Great Lakes region this winter. Will it happen? Only time will tell. But one thing I can tell you is that our superb Public Works team is ready to move any snow that does fall out of our way so we can get to work or school or wherever we need to go! The equipment has been well maintained and it is all ready to get to work. Personally I am hoping for a mild winter but whatever comes is no match for our team.

Your Village Board will soon be embarking on the annual Strategic Plan & Budget season. We will be meeting with staff to discuss our upcoming priorities, determining the timing of improvements and what new programs should be

rolled out. All of this work will result in a plan that will cover not only this coming year but three to five years into the future. The strategic plan is incorporated into the budget process to continually update our Capital Improvement Budget. Your Board and Staff will be quite busy in January with all of this, in order to have it approved through Board adoption before the start of our Fiscal Year in May.

Speaking of planning... this coming year we will be celebrating the Village of Beach Park's 25th Birthday! We are all excited as we are planning for the big event. Initial thoughts include the possibility of a parade and a large celebration at Founders Park. If anyone has any old photographs or memorabilia



they would like to share with us in preparation for the party, please contact staff at the Village Hall. As information on the event becomes available it will be shared with everyone via our website, social media and more.

As the New Year approaches, I often reflect on how the year went, personally, in my business and in our Village. I can honestly say that it was a good year so far. Our family is doing well and Carrie and I are excitedly anticipating our third

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE ...

grandchild. This one to our daughter Amy and her husband Ryne (who live in South Africa), the little one should be arriving in late March. Over all our businesses have been doing well this year and we continue to work hard for them. But mostly I am so happy to say

that our Village is in excellent shape! We have a staff that impresses me over and over again. What a privilege it is to work with such a quality group of people. We are on budget and on track with our plans and there has been no major problems. We plan, we budget,

we work our plan and measure our results; that leads to happiness all around. The Village has recently received its forth consecutive budget award, in addition to maintaining our AA stable bond rating. I can proudly say even without a municipal

property tax, the village remains financially healthy.

I want to close with my sincere wish for the holiday season, that you and your family have a blessed Christmas & Happiest of New Years!

Mayor John Hucker

ORDINANCE REMINDERS



The Village of Beach Park would like to remind you that now is the time to keep your ditches free from leaf build-up to allow for free water flow and during the winter months, to respect the “no parking” after snowfall ordinances. The streets need to be clear for our snow removal crews.

Ordinance 15.28.10: OBSTRUCTIONS; states that it is unlawful to create any obstruction to the ditch. It is the homeowner’s responsibility to maintain the ditch/culvert area and to keep it free from debris.

Ordinance 10.08.050: PARKING AFTER SNOWFALL, states that it is unlawful for any person to park or permit to be parked or to leave standing, any motorized vehicle on any street or shoulder within the Village limits at any time after a snow begins to fall, and for a period of eight (8) hours after snow stops falling when the snow on the streets exceeds two inches (2”) in depth, or until snow removal operations are completed. Failure to comply with these ordinances could result in a violation ticket being issued with daily fines.

The Lake County Sheriff’s Office as well as our in house Code Enforcement Officer will be looking out for the best interests of the residents when it comes to drainage village wide and the safety regarding the snow removal on village streets. They will be issuing tickets for non-compliance.



ESDA CENTER

Winter weather in Illinois may be inevitable, but being prepared will help you to handle whatever weather hazards may come our way. Some of the most common terms used in winter weather are:

Winter Storm Watch =

Severe winter weather is very possible.



Winter Storm Warning =

Heavy snow in excess of 6 inches or sleet are highly likely to occur.

Blizzard Warning = Strong winds of 35 mph or greater will produce blinding snow and zero visibility that can create life threatening conditions.

In order to prepare for the upcoming winter, one should create a family disaster and travelers storm survival kit. Have at least 3 days of supplies per person. For more details and helpful hints, go to www.Ready.Illinois.gov.

During the winter months, the Village of Beach Park is ready to open a warming center at the Village Hall located on Wadsworth Rd., when needed. The warming center will be open during normal business hours. This is not a permanent shelter. For more information on how this center works, please contact the Village Hall at 847-746-1770.

We hope this information will be helpful in getting you prepared for the 2013-2014 winter season.

COMMUNITY SERVICE- DRUG TAKE BACK

The Lake County Sheriff's Office again participated in the DEA's semi-annual "Drug Take Back Program". On Saturday, October 26, 2013 from 10 till 2 pm, members of the Sheriffs Office Community Services Division along with members from CID and Highway Patrol staffed two drop-off locations, one at the Beach Park Village Hall and the second at the Volo Village Hall.

The program allows residents and Lake County Police Departments to drop off unused prescription medication offering an environmentally safe way to dispose of the drugs. Residents along with local police departments expressed positive comments that the Sheriffs Office was participating in such a valuable event.

The sheriff's Office collected a total of 486 pounds of medication throughout the day, 78 pounds from the Beach Park location alone.

On Monday, October 28th, Deputy Buchberger transported the 486 pounds of narcotics to the DEA drop off site located at the Arlington Heights Police Department. Last year the DEA collected 23,585 pounds of drugs in Illinois. 8000 pounds of which came from Lake County alone. The DEA will then transport the drugs to a licensed disposal site in Indiana for destruction.



S T O R M W A T E R P O L L U T I O N P R E V E N T I O N

Stormwater is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or at low points on the sides of streets. Collectively, the draining water is called stormwater runoff and is a concern because of the pollutants it carries.

Stormwater that does not evaporate or seep into the ground drains into underground storm sewer pipes that carry surface runoff, and the pollutants it picks up, to nearby creeks and drainage ways. Every time it rains, thousands of gallons of stormwater runoff enter the storm sewer system.



Many believe that stormwater pollution is a result of industry only. However, industry is only half of the contributor to stormwater pollution to our water bodies. The other half of stormwater pollution comes from residential and commercial contributions such as detergents, pesticides and fertilizers for lawns and gardens, paints, oil, grease, road salts, pet waste, and other household hazardous waste.

There are serious problems associated with polluted stormwater. The pesticides, bacteria and chemicals that may be present in polluted stormwater can pose a health risk to people. Aquatic plants and animals living in streams and rivers may become sick or die from contact with polluted storm water. Adverse effects are inevitable to our ecosystem if we do not do our share to alleviate stormwater pollution. Please visit the following webpages for further information on proper disposal of hazardous household waste and educational material. Solid Waste Agency of Lake County at www.swalco.com or Village of Beach Park Stormwater Management page at www.villageofbeachpark.com.

PARKS & RECREATION

With summer behind us and the cold weather beginning, I sure hope everyone was able to get out and enjoy some of the great events the Parks & Recreation Department held.

Here are a few event dates to keep in mind:

- Senior Holiday Party—12-04-14
- Children's Holiday Party—12-07-14

- Annual Luck-O-Irish Party—Call after the 1st of the year for date and time.

Please have a Safe & Happy Holiday Season.



Richard Gust, Chairman

COLORING CONTEST FOR KIDS!

All Beach Park Kids! Go to the Kid's Page of our website, www.villageofbeachpark.com, and click on the link to print out a Holiday picture to color, or come to the Village Hall and pick one up. Submit the colored picture to the Village for display in the lobby during the Holiday Season. Age groups will be set up and a prize will be awarded for the best picture in each group (age limit is 12 years old). The deadline to submit is December 20, 2013. Be sure to include name, age and contact information. Happy coloring!

WHY IS MY WATER BILL SO HIGH?



Many people get their water bill and wonder "where does the water go?" Here are some fun facts from the water department.

- Faucets in sinks flow at about 6 gallons per minute. Washing hands with water running may use 2 to 5 gallons.
- Washing dishes by hand with the tap running uses 10 to 30 gallons of water. The average dishwasher uses about 9 to 12 gallons of water.
- A full bathtub uses about 36 gallons of water. A 5 minute shower with an older showerhead uses about 40 gallons of water. With water saver showerhead, average usage is 15 to 25 gallons.
- A conventional toilet uses from 5 to 7 gallons of water per flush. A water saver toilet, about 1.5 to 3.5 gallons per flush.
- Washing a load of clothes

uses from 25 to 50 gallons of water.

- Water a garden and/or lawn: A half-inch garden hose can deliver more than 600 gallons per hour, a 5/8 inch hose about 650 gallons per hour.
- Toilet leaks, dripping or partially turned off faucets, and leaks in your water system can be costly and contribute to high water bills. A leaking toilet can waste as much as 12 gallons per hour. A small slow steady drip from a faucet can waste about 12 to 20 gallons of water per day. A continuous leak 1/16 inch in size would, over a two month period, waste water in the amount of 49,000 gallons. If you suspect a leak in your water lines, do the following checks:

Make sure all water faucets are turned off before you go to bed. Record the water meter reading. Check the meter reading before any water is

used in the morning. If your meter reading has changed, you may well have a leak.

Toilets are the most common water wasters but its leaks tend to be less noticeable than faucet leaks. Although water may not be seen or heard running, your toilet may have a slight leak. An easy way to check your toilet for leakage is to drop a little food coloring into the tank. DO NOT FLUSH. Wait to see if it shows up in the bowl of the toilet. If it does you may have a leak at the plunger-ball, either because the ball may need replacing, or because the mechanism is out of alignment.

A leak may also occur at the overflow pipe. Take the tank lid off and flush. The water level should come up to about one half inch or so below the overflow pipe. Adjust the float level control screw, if necessary, so the valve shuts off the water at that lever. If the valve itself is leaking, you may need a plumber to fix it.



Holiday Wishes from Trustee Wells

I'd like to extend a heartfelt Thank You for allowing me to continue to serve and represent you and your interests on the Beach Park Village Board. May you and your family be blessed with the joy and the magic that the holiday season brings.

Wishing you and yours all the best today and throughout the coming year.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



Trustee Larry Wells


BENTON TOWNSHIP NEWS

Early Voting—will be held at the City of Zion Municipal Building beginning March 3rd thru March 5th for all Benton Township residents (29th St. & Sheridan Rd., in Zion). We will no longer be an Early Voting site. You can vote by mail, go online to www.lakecountyclerk.info or call 847-377-2314.

Seniors need Assistance fueling your car? Beginning Nov 1st thru April 1st on Wednesdays, from 9 am till 1 pm, a station attendant will assist you by filling your tank (you pay for the gasoline). Stop in at the Township office, Winthrop Harbor Village hall or the Village of Beach Park office for your placard listing participating stations.

Attention Homeowners: Need repairs you can't afford? National Rebuilding Day is April

26, 2014. To see if you are eligible, apply online at: www.rebuildingtogether.nsc.com or call 847-869-0900.

Socks for the Soul: Drop off packages of new socks for children, infants, men & women. Preferably crew socks designed for warmth for our residents in need.

Save MONEY with Free Discount Prescription Drug Card: Pick up a card at the Township office or at www.coast2coastrx.com to print card. This card allows all Township residents—regardless of income, age, or health status—to save on the cost of medications.

Electronic Recycling: Zion Public Works Building at 3220 27th Street on the 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month from 9am till noon. No Fee.

Dial-A-Ride Expansion: for ALL Benton Township residents. Service available Mon thru Fri, 8:30 am till 5:30 pm. Must call 1-800-201-6446 one (1) day in advance to secure a seat. Area served: anywhere in Benton or Zion township. For medical appointments you can call one (1) week in advance to reserve a seat. Medical appointments must be Tuesday or Thursday only. Hours: 8:30 am till 3:30 pm. Medical appointments include Waukegan & Gurnee locations.

FREE Amplified Phone application: Neither age nor income is a requirement. Pick up at Township Office.

Accepting non-perishable food, health/beauty products & used eye glasses.

Meals on Wheels: call 847-546-5733 and ask for the Meals on Wheels program.



Jan Suthard,
Benton Township Supervisor



Benton Township office is located at the NW corner of Greenbay Road and 29th Street.
847-746-2100
www.bentontownship.com

FROM THE LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Just a few reminders regarding safety in our community.

Child/Public Safety—

With summer gone and school back in session, it is more important than ever that we remember certain rules for the safety of our children. Never leave your child unattended and always do your best to know where your child is at all times. Never assume that you know where they are or what they are doing. Remind your children that adults should never need a child's

help unless it's for the police or fire services. Talk to your children about their safety often and with conviction. Reinforce kids that it's ok to talk about things that frighten or confuse them. Parents are always the best resource in safeguarding your family. Stay alert, stay focused and stay informed.

Neighborhood

Watch is instrumental in keeping communities safe and informed not only to the village and Sheriff's office,

but with the folks you live around. Participation in this group within your communities and neighborhoods is vital to everyone to be as safe as possible and informed about activities in your area. The Village of Beach Park and the Lake County Sheriffs Office strongly encourage everyone's participation in this program. It not only helps to protect your property but your family as well. Watch members are the eyes and ears for law enforcement and

Village administrators for their communities. If you're already in a watch group, pass on to others the benefits of joining a watch group. If you're not presently in one, please consider joining or starting a watch group of your own. If you would like more information on this subject, or just have questions, please contact the Lake County Sheriff's Office at 847-377-4211 or the Beach Park Village Hall.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The Village of Beach Park is exploring the benefits of having a single garbage hauler in our community through a solid waste franchise agreement. The goal of a solid waste franchise is to guarantee the best service to residents at the best possible rates. Through the franchise agreement the Village can in-

crease recycling and trash collection efficiency. It provides a uniform collection service for residential recycling and trash collection. Having a single garbage hauler will reduce the number of trucks on our Village roads, which not only decreases wear and tear on our roads, but greatly reduces the amount

of noise and pollution that is generated from multiple garbage trucks, thereby improving the quality of life for our residents. As most of our residents know, the garbage trucks are deteriorating the edges of the roads all over the Village. If the Village does opt to only allow one garbage hauler, the village would so-

licit competitive bids from multiple waste haulers for the various services they provide, which means that residents get the lowest prices available for recycling and waste collection. Look for additional updates on this possibility on our website or in upcoming newsletters.



The Village Board has spent a good deal of time recently wrestling with what has been one of the most challenging issues since the Village was incorporated.

Twenty-five years ago, one of the Village Board's first projects was dealing with the perennial issue of spot-water shortages in the southeastern part of the Village. Every summer some residents' wells would slow to a useless trickle or dry up altogether while their neighbors worked just fine. This resulted in a constant lowering of wells and drilling of new ones, as well as hard feelings when some residents watered their lawns while neighbors could not launder clothes, shower or even flush toilets. The obvious solution seemed to be a public water system.

As the saying goes, "*the devil is in the details*". While residents experiencing well problems were desperate for a public water supply, those who had recently spent thousands of dol-

lars improving their wells, or who had never experienced water shortage, were not interested in participating in the cost of installing a public water supply. As time went by, those with failing wells invested thousands to deepen or drill new wells, while some who had not previously experienced shortages, now did. It was an endless cycle, which adversely impacted the property values of all. Who wants to buy a home in a neighborhood known for dry wells?

It was clear that it was impossible to make all parties happy and that the best long-term solution was a public water supply. After public hearings and much acrimony, this system became a reality that those of us who it serves now, take for granted.

In the west-central portion of the Village, this history is being repeated. Once more, we see neighbors desperate for water and others opposed to installation of a public water system.

Your Village Board members and Village staff have identified multiple potential Special Service Areas (SSA) that would provide a public water system to the areas most impacted by well problems. In laying out such an SSA there are practical considerations to take into account such as proximity of existing water infrastructure, number of impacted residents benefited and the per-resident cost. Because it is impractical to extend a water main blocks to serve a small number of homes, system improvements are designed to serve a large enough number of homes to make it as cost effective as possible.

Your Board members have explored these SSA's in response to real neighborhood problems. There is no other agenda or plan. The chief duty of Village government is to provide for the public benefit including public safety, roads and water & sewer services. The laws governing SSAs provide

a number of steps including public hearings, enabling ordinances (considered publicly at Village Board meetings) as well as an objection provision. Should 51% of the electoral and 51% of the property owners in the proposed SSA file a petition opposing creation of the SSA within 60 days of the Public Hearing, the SSA will not be created.

In the event that the Board decides to proceed with the creation of one or more SSA's, more information about the process & objection process will be made available to the affected residents. I urge those living in the proposed SSAs to attend the SSA meetings, Village Board and/or Public Works Committee meetings to obtain information and make your voice heard on this important matter.

For more information or to see the governing state law, check out our website.



Trustee Don Jensen



From the Mayor and staff at the Beach Park Village Hall and Milton C. Jensen Public Works Facility.



The Mayor, Village Board & Economic Development Commission would like to welcome Buena Vista Restaurant & Bar to the community and wish them great success! Buena Vista is located at the north east corner of Wadsworth Rd., and Lewis Ave., in Beach Park!

GREEN BAY & WADSWORTH ROAD INTERSECTION WIDENING AND IMPROVEMENTS

As you may have noticed by now, the intersection of Green Bay and Wadsworth Road is under construction. This project consists of asphalt reconstruction and widening of the intersection. The improved intersection will have two through lanes with right and left turn lanes on Green Bay Road in each direction, and two through lanes with left turn lanes on Wadsworth Road in each direction with a modernized traffic signal. The intersection of Wadsworth Road and Cambridge Drive will also be reconstructed with a permanent traffic signal installed. How did we get here? The Wadsworth Road and Green Bay Road Improvements have been in process for the past 10 years. The project began

with scope of the problem being determined in October of 2003. The next step including preliminary design and considerations was started in 2004, along with public meetings for community input. Phase 2, or final engineering design, was started in 2008, and finished in 2012. There were again public meetings held at the new school in Wadsworth, when the construction began in May of 2013. This project is expected to take approximately 18-20 months. If everything stays on schedule, hopefully this project will be completed just in time for the 2014 winter. This project is being led by the Lake County Division of Transportation. The overall construction cost of the project is approximately \$7.5

million. The Village's financial contribution to this project has been limited to infrastructure relocations, while the majority of the roadway improvements are utilizing state and federal monies.

The same number of lanes that exist now will be available for use during the entire construction project resulting in a similar traffic flow to what currently exists. There may be occasional times where daytime lane closures resulting in one lane traffic flow may be necessary. Flaggers will be used to facilitate one lane traffic flow.

Please remember that talking on your cell phone in construction

zones is not only illegal but also very dangerous for you and the workers. Please also note that the speed limit in this construction zone is 35 mph. For more information on this project please visit the Village website at

www.villageofbeachpark.com
or www.wadsworth131.com

Additionally, you can contact the project manager at (224)828-4596. For your own safety, please be patient as the project is being completed.



COMED'S OUTAGE ALERTS PROGRAM ALLOWS TWO-WAY TEXTING

ComEd's Outage Alerts program allows participants to report outages via text messaging. Subscribers can simply text the word "OUT" to 26633 (COMED) to report an outage at



the location ComEd has associated with their cell phone number, and they receive regular updates on the status of their outage until service is restored.

Non-subscribers who text "OUT" to 26633 will be invited to subscribe to the Outage Alerts Program. New subscribers will receive a confirmation text-message that they successfully subscribed, and will immediately be enrolled to receive notifications on their cell phones or pagers when an outage has been reported at their address. To subscribe, customers will need either their ComEd account number, the account holder's social security number or the prima-

ry phone number on the account. Customers can also now enroll in the text messaging program thru the VRU using their account number, SSN or phone number.

Please note that ComEd does not charge customers for this notification, but their wireless carrier may have message and data fees. To learn more about Outage Alerts, visit ComEd.com

EMERGENCY CALLS REGISTRATION



If you have heard about, or received, the Emergency Call System that the Village of Beach Park as well as the Beach Park Fire Department utilizes to get information to our residents, **this is to remind you to make sure you keep the information we have on file up to date.** If you have an unlisted telephone number, or a cell phone number, you most likely are not in the database. If you would like to register your name and number with the Village or the

Fire Department, there are many ways to do so. First, you may log onto our website at www.villageofbeachpark.com and "opt in" there, or you may call the Village Hall at 847-746-1770 or the Beach Park Fire Department at 847-662-2642 to register your name and number. Don't forget, if you move or change numbers, to also inform us of the change.... Information is only essential if you can get it!



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Beach Park, IL 60099
847-746-1770 Phone
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The Village of Rural Spirit



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PLACE YOUR AD HERE
CALL 847-746-1770 TO FIND OUT HOW

DIRECT DEBIT NOW AVAILABLE!

The Village continues to strive for better customer service by adding convenient ways to pay your Village bills. With our free Direct Debit Payment service you can have your Village Water/Sewer bill automatically paid from your bank, savings and loan, or credit union account. The sign up forms are available on our website and at the village hall. The Village also offers EPAY through our website and absorbs the fees associated with this service. You can pay your utility bill online at your convenience, saving postage and avoiding late fees. The Village recently expanded the EPAY options on our website to facilitate online payment of more than just a resident's utility bill. Now you can pay for ordinance violations, business license renewals, building permit fees, zoning certificates and certificates of occupancy online by visiting our website at www.villageofbeachpark.com. If you would like your Water/Sewer bill emailed to you, please contact us to learn more about going paperless.

