

Countryside CONNECTIONS

SUMMER 2011

www.countryside-il.org



Ready To Serve CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECTED

At the April 5, 2011 Consolidated General Election, the following individuals were elected to the City Council for a 4-year term, and received the oath of office from Judge Peter Felice on May 11, 2011.



Ed Krzeminski
NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR



Sharon Sweeney
RE-ELECTED CITY CLERK



Steve Jasinski
RE-ELECTED TREASURER



Jim Jasinski
NEWLY ELECTED - Alderman
(Ward 1)

Karen Michalczyk
RE-ELECTED - Alderman
(Ward 2)

Wayne Straza
RE-ELECTED - Alderman
(Ward 3)

Mayor's Message *By Mayor Ed Krzeminski*

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the Countryside residents who voted on Tuesday, April 5th. It was a record turnout and more people voted this election than even in the last election.

Over the months prior to the election, it was refreshing to meet so many friends and neighbors who are engaged and dedicated towards making Countryside such a great place to live and work. I gathered many good ideas and insight from all of you, which I will keep in mind as I oversee the City Council proceedings. During my visits with residents, everyone was very welcoming and made our discussion of our concerns of Countryside an enjoyable experience.

It is now time to get down to business and I am confident that the City Council can work together for the benefit of the whole City. We have already made some significant progress in the City, but there is still more work that needs to be accomplished for the betterment of all.

I cannot thank you, the residents, enough for this opportunity to represent all of Countryside and I will not let you down. I would also like to thank my wife, Cathy, for her love and support and picking up the slack for me during these past few months.

Countryside is a great city and has so much potential, and I truly look forward to serving as your Mayor. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. My door is always open, so please feel free to call, e-mail, or stop by at any time.

Thank you for this opportunity and I'll do my very best.



Economic Development

Harley Davidson is Coming . . .

Council is pleased to announce that after several months of negotiating, a final agreement to relocate the Illinois Harley Davidson in Countryside has been finalized. This agreement was approved by the City Council at the May 11, 2011 meeting. It provides for the renovation of the old Circuit City property. This unique opportunity provides for the consolidation of the Illinois Harley Davidson facility in Berwyn and the Oak Lawn Harley Davidson's markets here in Countryside. This new location will boast a 33,000 sf. facility offering merchandise, motorcycle service, and the riders' edge driving course. Look for the grand opening in spring of 2012.



Development Update

The Economic Development Committee decided after much discussion at their May 10th meeting not to proceed with the final site plan presented by Bradford Real Estate for the remainder of the development. The committee will continue to meet over the next several weeks to review development options. One option which the committee already approved is to proceed with environmental and demolition work on its own. The City will be soliciting bids shortly.

Annual Street Resurfacing Program

The City of Countryside will be contracting road resurfacing on two streets in the City and construction will begin mid to late August. The project includes curb replacement as needed, roadway base repair, and replacement of asphalt surface from curb to curb.

The road work is part of the City's 5-year street resurfacing program to improve the road system throughout the community. The funding for the project will be from the City's Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds and there will be no direct charge for the property owners on these streets.

- ◆ Lorraine Drive from 71st Street to 67th Street
- ◆ Merry Court from 59th Street to the Cul-de-sac

The City will notify the affected homeowners prior to the work beginning.

Triangle Area Park



On July 1, 2011, the City applied for an Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. During the application phase, the City held two public hearings at City Hall, where resident input was sought on the development of the park.

The City purchased property at 5539 Peck Avenue for the purpose of removing a piece of property from the floodplain. The OSLAD Grant application for the Triangle Area Park seeks to create a passive park which will include rain gardens, flowerbeds, benches, and possibly a small tot-lot.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is currently reviewing applications and will announce grant award recipients in early 2012.

In the meantime, the Pleasantview Fire Protection District is using this property to help train approximately 50 firefighters in search and rescue techniques. Every house and business in our district is different, and they are using this property to reinforce basic search techniques with their senior firefighters and also teach new techniques to the recently hired firefighters. These search and rescue techniques are a basic tool that firefighters will use at every fire that they respond to, and to also better their personnel so that they can safely serve the residents of Countryside and other communities that they protect.





Welcome to Countryside

Each newsletter will feature the names and addresses of retail and service businesses that have recently opened. Please consider shopping locally and contributing to the Countryside economy. Shopping in Countryside is an investment in your neighborhood and community.

Dude Testing & Locating
6475 Joliet Road, A900
Electrical testing and Utility locating

ATI Physical Therapy
705 W. Plainfield Road
Orthopedic rehabilitation provider

Lookin' Good Hair Salon
6527 Joliet Road
Hair Salon

NAPA Auto Parts
9943 55th Street
Retail Automotive Parts

Magic Nails Salon
705 W. Plainfield
Acrylic nails, pedicures and manicures

Five Below
30 Countryside Plaza
Retail merchandise \$5 and below

RAC Acceptance (Rent-A-Center)
1 Countryside Plaza, Suite 300
Rent to own store, offering furniture, appliances, electronics and computers

A-Team Tire & Auto Body
6514 Joliet Road
Tire & Body Shop

Cari G's Hair Salon
6534 Joliet Road, Suite 2
Hair Salon

Ben Mruk Insurance Agency
7023 Willow Springs Road, Unit 102
State Farm Insurance Agent

FloodPlain/Floodway Update

The City held a public information meeting in May, 2011 to present the final results of the MWRD Study of the "Peck Avenue Ditch". Results of the study reveal a virtual elimination of the floodway and a significant reduction of the floodplain. The City will use the MWRD models to formally submit a Letter of Map Revision to FEMA and change the flood map for the "Triangle Area". We are hopeful to have the FEMA flood map revised by the summer of 2013.

Keep a Look Out ...

Watch for these other business openings pending review and approval:

Greenside Design Build is a carpentry contractor. The opening is scheduled summer of 2011.

Hertz Local Edition is a rental car agency. This business plans to open summer 2011.

Flaunt is a hair salon. The opening is scheduled summer of 2011.

Orchard Electric Inc. is an electrical contractor. This business plans to open summer 2011.

Young at Heart is a senior daycare facility. The opening is scheduled summer of 2011.



Help cutting the ribbon at Heirloom Furniture Gallery on June 10, 2011 are (from left) Police Chief Mike Ruth, Alderman Von Drasek, Mayor Krzeminski, Owner Ray Miller, and Assistant City Administrator Sharon Peterson.

Congratulations Little Joe's



Little Joe's was welcomed into the Vienna Beef Hot Dog Hall of Fame. Little Joe's has been in business in Countryside for over 40 years.

Finance Department

City Adopts Budget For New Fiscal Year

On April 14, 2011, City Council approved the Fiscal Year 2012 budget covering the period May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012. The budget consists of eight Funds and totals just over \$21 million dollars for all expenses. A summary by Fund is presented in the following table:

	General Corporate	Emergency Telephone System	Motor Fuel Tax	Hotel/Motel	Commercial TIF	Drug Forfeiture	Water	Sewer
Revenues	11,741,671	153,500	157,500	311,200	4,500,000	214,000	3,785,077	28,700
Expenses	11,741,671	183,183	450,000	160,615	4,500,000	214,000	3,785,077	57,466
Surplus (Deficit)	-	(29,683)	(292,500)	150,585	-	-	-	(28,766)
Applied fund balance	-	29,683	292,500	-	-	-	-	28,766

Of the eight Funds, half have balanced budgets. A balanced budget occurs when the expected (budgeted) revenues equal budgeted expenses. One Fund of the eight has a budget surplus, meaning that revenues are expected to exceed expenses which will add to that Fund's accumulated reserves, or the "savings account", for that Fund. Finally, the following three Funds: Emergency Telephone System (ETS), Motor Fuel Tax (MFT), and Sewer, have budgeted deficits for the fiscal year. When a deficit is budgeted, it should not necessarily have a negative connotation and it just means that the City is using some savings, or reserves which have accumulated from previous years and during better economic times to help pay for current year expenses. In the case of these three Funds with budget deficits, non-routine capital purchases or projects (i.e. equipment or infrastructure improvements) have been planned for the year and all three Funds have sufficient reserves, or savings, on hand to pay for such expenses. This is indicated in the above table as "applied fund balance". Overall, the City is in very sound financial condition at the present time and for the foreseeable future.

The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut

The City participated in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut 2011 on April 28th to raise awareness of what to do during an earthquake. Today, a major quake in our region would threaten over 11 million people. Being prepared is the best way to survive any disaster.

Scientists estimate that there is a 25-40% probability of a damaging earthquake occurring in the Midwest within the next 50 years. Citizens and communities need to take preparedness steps to physically and financially survive a damaging earthquake. People should be aware of what to do before, during, and after an earthquake.

What should people do during an earthquake? There are 3 steps:



DROP to the ground (before the earthquake drops you), take **COVER** by getting under a sturdy desk or table, and **HOLD ON** to it until the shaking stops. Visit www.shakeout.org/centralus for details.

Public Works Reminds You . . .

Water Conservation Tips:

One easy way to start conserving water is to take stock of how much water you need versus how much you use every day. Listed below are 10 easy, but effective, water conservation tips you can use to significantly cut back on the 80 gallons of H₂O that the average American uses every day.



1. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill the sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
2. Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
3. We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
4. Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
5. Collect water from your roof to water your garden.
6. Don't use running water to thaw food. Defrost food in the refrigerator for water efficiency and food safety.
7. Turn off water while brushing your teeth and save 25 gallons a month.
8. Make sure there are water-saving aerators on all your faucets.
9. When you give your pet fresh water, don't throw the old water down the drain. Use it to water your trees or shrubs.
10. When you are washing your hands, don't let the water run while you lather.

Results of Spring Clean-Up	
Spring clean-up was held May 16th - May 18th.	
Tons picked up: 54	
Cost to City: \$8,245	

Frustrated by Potholes?

While the City is responsible for maintaining the majority of Countryside's 17 miles of roadways, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) (800) 452-4368 and the Cook County Highway Department (708) 485-7130 are responsible for plowing, maintaining, and repairing potholes on approximately 11 miles of Countryside streets. These typically include more heavily used roads such as Willow Springs Road, Joliet Road, La Grange Road, 55th Street, East Avenue, Brainard Avenue, 5th Avenue Cutoff, and Plainfield Road.

Residents are always encouraged to report pothole problems to the City. If the pothole is on a street that the City maintains, a Public Works crew will be dispatched as soon as possible, often even the same day, to repair the problem. If the pothole is on an IDOT or Cook County Highway Department road, the information is passed along to the proper jurisdictional agency.

Commonwealth Edison Outages

Whenever you experience a power outage in your home, please call ComEd at (800) EDISON-1 or (800) 334-7661 to notify them of the occurrence. You should call even if your neighbor has already called to notify ComEd of the outage. Calling in the power outage will not only notify ComEd to dispatch a repair truck, but also helps them to track ongoing problems in your area.



Let us know if your street light is out!

For neighborhood safety, please contact the Public Works Department at (708) 354-3390 if a street light is not working or if the lens is broken. Have the location and/or address near the pole available when you call.

Building Department



Building Permits

Now that summer is here, many people take on home improvement projects. If you are having work done on your home, please remember the following building permit and code requirements:

- ◆ Construction activities are limited to the hours of 7 a.m. - 6 p.m., 7 days a week.
- ◆ New construction sites are required to be fenced and secured until structures are nearly complete.
- ◆ All residential or commercial building permits must include the name, address and phone number of the general contractor and all sub contractors.
- ◆ All building permits must include at least one 24-hour contact number.
- ◆ All building permit applicants must acknowledge that they read, understand, and agree to all the terms and conditions set forth in the Building Code.
- ◆ A temporary construction sign, issued by the City, shall be placed at all residential and commercial construction sites. The sign shall include the name and phone number for the general contractor, permit information, and general construction rules established by the City.
- ◆ All permit holders are responsible for the cleaning of the street within 250 feet of the work site every day.
- ◆ Every permit issued shall become invalid unless the work authorized by such permit is completed within 365 days after issuance, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days after the time the work is commenced.
- ◆ The Building official is authorized to grant one or more extensions of time for periods of no more than 180 days each.

The purpose of the building permit and the reason the City requires the contractor to be licensed and bonded is to protect residents. Building Department staff monitors these locations to review the impact on traffic flow and access while working closely with the Police Department to hold contractors accountable for complying with approved plan requirements.

Should you need to report building permit concerns or possible violations, please contact the Community Development Department at (708) 354-1860.

Code Corner

The City would like to notify all residents and businesses of these newly passed ordinances. Please review and note as the ordinance is effective immediately.

11-14-0: Residential fences four feet or less in height must be at least 50% open. Fences four feet to six feet tall must be 80% open.

11-22-0: Effective May 1, 2011 the Countryside Vehicle Fuel Tax was reduced from \$0.04 to \$0.02.

11-35-0: Amends the Countryside Fair Housing Ordinance to add: Parental Status, Retaliation, Aiding/Abetting, and Willful Interference to the existing 14 protected classes.

10-44-0: Increases the maximum number of Class T liquor licenses to five.

For more information on these and other ordinances, please contact the City Hall at (708) 354-7270. ☎

Code Enforcement

Our Code Enforcement program is underway and our inspectors are driving through the neighborhoods looking for items in need of attention. The big items this spring have been: grass or weeds in excess of 10 inches, accumulation of "items" in and around the yard, dead or dying trees, and recreational vehicles (boats, trailers, campers, etc.) improperly stored on the property.

For more information or to answer any questions you may have, please call the Community Development Department at (708) 354-1860.

City Services

Block Party Request: An application must be completed and returned to the Clerk's office at least 3 weeks in advance of the event. There is no charge for this service.

Garage/Estate Sale: A permit is required. There is no charge for this. Two garage/estate sales are permitted per household per calendar year, for two consecutive days totaling four days. Applications are available at the City Clerk's office.

Library and Pool Reimbursements: Countryside offers its residents a 50% reimbursement (one per household, up to a maximum of \$100) towards the cost of membership in the public library of their choice. To apply, bring your library card, valid driver's license, and the paid membership to the City Clerk.

Residents are also offered a 50% reimbursement (one per household, up to a maximum of \$100) towards the cost of membership at any outdoor swimming pool. Health Clubs and YMCA memberships are *not* eligible. To apply for the reimbursement, bring your paid membership receipt and valid driver's license to the City Clerk's office. 2011 pool memberships must be presented by December 31, 2011 to be eligible for reimbursement.

Selling Your Home or Business: All property sales in Countryside require a pre-sale inspection. In addition to the pre-sale inspection, requirements of a property transfer include:

- ◆ A completed Real Estate Property Transfer Declaration form.
- ◆ A final water meter read.
- ◆ A paid sewer receipt.

The cost of the stamp is \$50 (no personal checks), and is the responsibility of the seller.

For more information about these services, please contact the Clerk's office at (708) 354-7270. Forms are also available on our website.

Upcoming Holidays

Please note that City Hall will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

Fourth of July

Monday, July 4, 2011

Labor Day

Monday, September 5, 2011

Upcoming Meetings

July

5	Senior Citizens Club	6:30 p.m.
5	Plan/ZBA Commission	7:30 p.m.
13	City Council	7:30 p.m.
19	Senior Citizens Club	6:30 p.m.
20	Flagg Creek Administrative Board	7:00 p.m.
27	City Council	7:30 p.m.

August

2	Senior Citizens Club	6:30 p.m.
2	Plan/ZBA Commission	7:30 p.m.
10	City Council	7:30 p.m.
16	Senior Citizens Club	6:30 p.m.
17	Flagg Creek Administrative Board	7:00 p.m.
24	City Council	7:30 p.m.

September

6	Senior Citizens Club	6:30 p.m.
6	Plan/ZBA Commission	7:30 p.m.
14	City Council	7:30 p.m.
20	Senior Citizens Club	6:30 p.m.
21	Flagg Creek Administrative Board	7:00 p.m.
28	City Council	7:30 p.m.

50-50 Tree Removal Program



City Council recently approved re-implementing a tree removal cost sharing program for the remainder of its fiscal year ending April 30, 2012. Under this program, the City will match dollar for dollar, up to \$500 per household, for the removal of dead, diseased, or storm damaged trees on private property. Removal of the Emerald Ash Borer is *excluded* under this program. A total of \$20,000 of City funds is available under this program on a first come, first served basis. For more information, please contact the Clerk's office.



It's Time To Give Something Back!

The City of Countryside will be hosting a blood drive, sponsored by Heartland Blood Centers.

Where: City Hall (Council Chamber)

Date: Saturday, July 30, 2011

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Mayor Krzeminski will be on-site to welcome and meet all donors.

All donors will receive a t-shirt and a gift card for a free quart of Oberweis ice cream.

Please call (708) 354-7270 to sign-up.

Police Updates

Bike Patrol Unit

The Police Department's Bike Patrol Unit is back through September. You will see them at city events such as Concerts in the Park, as well as patrolling in your neighborhood. Officers on bicycles can patrol in areas where regular patrol cars do not have access, such as some residential areas and parks.



Police Department Launches New Programs

Citizen's Police Academy

The Countryside Police Department is pleased to announce that they will be hosting the first Citizen's Police Academy. This program provides insight into law enforcement techniques and classes are geared to assist citizens in understanding laws and police practices within our city. The program is 12 weeks long and is open to anyone who works or resides in the City of Countryside. The curriculum includes information about: the canine unit, criminal and civil law, crime prevention, juvenile law, evidence, traffic stops, 911 telecommunications, use of force, investigations, gangs and drugs, scams and confidence games, etc.

Attendees of the Citizen's Police Academy represent a variety of backgrounds. The Countryside Police believe that the entire community benefits when residents take a personal interest in the protection of their neighborhood. The academy also provides an opportunity for students to get to know the men and women who protect their community.

There is no charge to attend the Citizen's Police Academy and materials are provided by the Countryside Police Department. To enroll in the program or if you want additional information, please call the Countryside Police Department at (708) 485-4018 or e-mail police@countrysidepolice.org.

Neighborhood Watch Program

The Countryside Police Department invites the community to participate in the Neighborhood Watch Program. By participating, residents have the opportunity to feel a strong connection to the community and contribute to neighborhood safety. The Neighborhood Watch program is one of the most effective crime prevention strategies a community can utilize. By participating, residents are kept up to date on City ordinances, state laws, tips to prevent crime and how to get to know your neighbors. Many neighborhoods also hold block captain meetings to exchange information about current happenings and events, and often plan a block party or other social events. The Countryside Police Department invites anyone interested in the program to call (708) 485-4018 or e-mail police@countrysidepolice.org.

Business Watch Program

This is a free program offered to local businesses which keeps owners and employees informed of current crime trends and alerts. The police department also offers a Business Security Survey and presentations on: shoplifting awareness, robbery prevention, and workplace violence. This program helps businesses to prevent themselves from becoming the victim of a crime.

Fleet Watch Program

This program utilizes public works and utility workers as an extra set of eyes in the community. The Police Department trains these workers to be alert for any suspicious activity. They are encouraged to take note of important information to assist officers in the event of a crime.



School's out . . . but careful's in.
Practice summer safety. Slow down and look out for children.

Ward Reports

WARD 1

Alderman James Jasinski
Alderman Robert Pondelicek

- ◆ Ledo's Pizza will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary with a tent celebration this summer on July 10th from 2:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m. The celebration will appeal to all during the day as there will be a dunk tank, moonwalk, balloonist, and a local teenager band for the kids. During the evening, a Countryside Band (Kickback City) will be performing at 5:30 p.m. Ledo's Pizza has been a cornerstone business in Countryside, so please come and help us celebrate their 50th Anniversary. It will be a night to remember!
- ◆ Commercial redevelopment along La Grange Road in Ward 1 is picking up steam. The Taco Bell restaurant and former Midas building will be torn down at the end of the summer and be replaced with a new larger Taco Bell restaurant.
- ◆ The Illinois Harley Davidson motorcycle dealership is coming to Ward 1 on Joliet Road in the former Circuit City building.
- ◆ We would like to welcome NAPA Auto Parts to Ward 1.
- ◆ Ideal Park went through an extensive upgrade. Enjoy this wonderful park!
- ◆ The retail shop (Food of the Vine) within Formella & Sons is now open at 411 Plainfield Road.
- ◆ You may have noticed digging along 55th Street in front of Harry's Sports Bar and What A Deal. The purpose of the digging is to provide a water service line to NAPA Auto Parts & Pepe's Restaurant for the installation of a water sprinkler system in the buildings.
- ◆ I would like to thank each of the Ward 1 residents for electing me as your Alderman in the recent election. I want to assure each of you that I will work hard for you and all the residents of Countryside. Please feel free to contact me at (708) 354-7270 or e-mail me at jjasinski@countryside-il.org.—Jim Jasinski

WARD 2

Alderman Karen Michalczyk
Alderman John Von Drasek

- ◆ Please welcome the relocation of Ettleson Hyundai to 6420 Joliet Road in Ward 2. We would like to thank Ettleson Hyundai for continuing to stay in Countryside along Historic Route 66, America's Byway.
- ◆ At the May 25th City Council meeting, a special use zoning request to operate an adult daycare facility at 6502 Joliet Road was approved. The business, named Young at Heart, plans to open in late summer.
- ◆ Welcome: A-Team Tire and Auto Body to 6514 Joliet Road, Ben Mruk Insurance Agency to 7023 Willow Springs Road, and Cari G's Hair Salon at 6534 Joliet Road.
- ◆ Lorraine Drive from 71st Street to 67th Street will be resurfaced this year.

WARD 3

Alderman Sean McDermott
Alderman Wayne Straza

- ◆ Dunkin' Donuts at 5500 S. La Grange Road is currently closed for remodeling, look for them to re-open by the end of summer with a "fresh" look.
- ◆ Welcome: Lookin' Good Hair Salon at 6527 Joliet Road, Dude Testing at 6475 Joliet Road, Five Below at 30 Countryside Plaza, and Heirloom Furniture Gallery at 40 Countryside Plaza.
- ◆ The Autobarn Volkswagen dealership at 6191 Joliet Road will be submitting building plans to remodel their future home of 6161 Joliet Road (former property of Ettleson Hyundai).

Emergency Management News



Outdoor Warning Sirens

As we move from the cold of winter into the warmth of summer, once again we enter the season of thunderstorms and severe weather. Probably the most common and widely recognized method of warning for severe weather is through the use of outdoor warning sirens. In the City of Countryside, there are two outdoor warning sirens which are used for the following purposes:

- ➔ **Testing** - (1st Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.)
 - This is a requirement by law
- ➔ **Tornado Warnings**

The City of Countryside maintains the two outdoor warning sirens that are activated via the Pleasantview Fire Protection District at the following locations:

5900 Block of LaGrange Road – behind Ideal School and adjacent to Continental Honda
6700 Block of Willow Springs Road – across from the City’s ESDA facility

Also adjacent to the City of Countryside, the Village of Hodgkins, the UPS facility, and the Village of Western Springs operate outdoor warning sirens that can be heard within the boundaries of Countryside. Should any of these sirens be activated, appropriate protective actions should be taken.

During emergencies, residents will hear a 3 to 5 minute steady signal of the sirens. When you hear the siren and are unsure what they are sounding for, **go indoors and tune your radio to one of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) Stations**, and listen for essential emergency information.

PLEASE DO NOT call local fire or police agencies to ask why the sirens are sounding. If it is an emergency, they are busy getting equipment and manpower to the emergency scene.

A word of caution, the city’s outdoor warning sirens are just that, an outdoor warning. These sirens are meant to be heard outside to signal you to go indoors and tune your radio or television station to the local Emergency Alert System (EAS) Station. As homes continue to become more energy efficient and sound proofing enhanced, outdoor warning sirens that once could be heard decades ago inside of a home can no longer be heard. This is why other means of warnings, such as EAS radio alerts and scroll lines, are placed on commercial and cable television stations.

In the City of Countryside, sirens will not be activated for a weather watch or to issue an “ALL CLEAR” signal.

Prevent Mortgage Fraud

The Cook County Recorder of Deeds Office has created a Mortgage Fraud Prevention unit for those properties located in Cook County. This program will ensure that property owners are not the victim of property and deed fraud. To protect this fraud from happening, one can register their property at www.cookcountypropertyfraudalert.com.

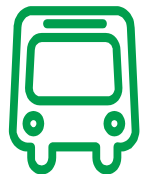
This registration will provide a mechanism where one is alerted to any recording that is placed upon their property. Should you have any questions, contact the Recorder of Deeds’ 24 Hour Fraud Hotline at (312) 603-4000.



Would you like to become an organ/tissue donor? For more information, go to www.donatelifellinois.org.

Seniors Ride Free Program

The RTA is working with CTA, Metra, Pace and the Illinois Department on Aging to help ensure seniors are well informed to the program changes, effective September 1st.

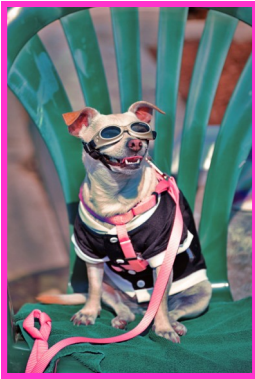


Seniors that are in the Illinois Department of Aging Circuit Breaker Program will continue to receive free rides and those who are not eligible can ride for half fare. The RTA will contact all seniors who hold a senior pass this summer to replace their passes.

For more information, please call (312) 913-3153 or visit their website at www.RTAchicago.com.

Community Events

Pet Parade



Cool Pooch!



Families and their "furry" friends joined the parade!



The 65th Annual Pet Parade on June 4, 2011 with City Officials.

Helping Hand Special Olympics Basketball (Wildcats) Team



In January, the team went to the Area 5 sectionals and took first place with two victories. The win qualified the team to participate in the statewide tournament at Illinois State University in March, where they took home the bronze medal.

Summer Concert Update

Missed one of our weekly summer concerts? No worries, the 2011 Summer Concert Series, "Musical Trip Down Route 66" is far from over! Concerts last through August 4th. The City will be raffling off two scooters donated by Westfield Ford. The first raffle will be at the July 7th concert, and the second raffle will be at the final concert on August 4th.

A Special Thank You To...



All of our sponsors for this year's concert series. It is only with community sponsored support that we are able to present these **FREE** concerts to the Countryside community.

Presenting Sponsor Westfield Ford

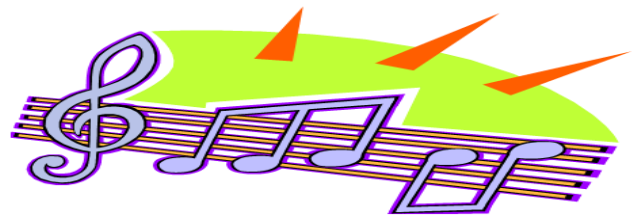
Gold Sponsors
Autobarn
Vulcan Materials

Silver Sponsor
AT & T

Bronze Sponsor
Continental Motors

Logo Sponsors
Hunt Printing & Graphics
Inland Bank
State Bank of Countryside

Media Sponsor
The Doings



Concerts in the Park

Where: Countryside Park
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Day: Thursday

Mark your calendar for Countryside's Thursday Concert in the Park Series.

July 7 Special Consensus
July 14 The Ragtops
July 21 Rico Band
July 28 Standing Room Only
August 4 Johnny Russler & The Beach Bum Band

Grab your lawn chairs and bring the entire family out for a relaxing evening of musical entertainment.



City of Countryside
5550 East Avenue
Countryside, IL

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
So Suburban, IL
Permit No. 928

Officials:

Mayor

Ed Krzeminski

Clerk

Sharon Sweeney

Treasurer

Steven Jasinski

Aldermen

James Jasinski
Sean McDermott
Karen Michalczyk
Robert Pondelicek
Wayne Straza
John Von Drasek

Websites to Know

City of Countryside

www.countryside-il.org

Cook County Clerk

www.cookcountyclerk.com

Pleasantview Fire Protection

www.plvw.org

West Suburban Chamber

www.westsuburbanchamber.org

Flagg Creek Golf Course

www.flaggcreekgolfcourse.org

City Hall Contacts

City Hall:

Main: (708) 354-7270

Fax: (708) 354-9445

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Police Dept.:

Main: (708) 352-2171 (non-emergency)

Fax: (708) 352-1032

Emergency: 911

Clerk's Office:

Main: (708) 354-7270

Fax: (708) 354-9445

Public Works:

Main: (708) 354-3390

Fax: (708) 354-9445

Water Billing:

Main: (708) 485-2465

Fax: (708) 354-9029

Community Development:

Main: (708) 354-1860

Fax: (708) 354-9029

Recreation:

Main: (708) 485-2595

Fax: (708) 354-9445