From the Mayor’s Desk . . .

Where did the summer go? As I walk through the stores, all I see is fall apparel and halloween exhibits. I truly hope that you had an eventful summer with your family and friends. The City Concert series outdid itself again by increasing attendance each week, and also with a first time fireworks display in conjunction with the LaGrange Park District. As the heat begins to recede, many of us are looking towards the months to come and the changes they will bring. This opens an opportunity to change, by instead of looking down, take a look up. Go off schedule and have a Renew Day to feel the last rays of sunshine on your face and take pleasure in the day.

Countryside is very fortunate to have above average acres of parks that are located in 10 different locations around the City. Have you ever thought of what a park really is besides “a piece of ground kept for ornament and recreation”? A neighborhood park is typically considered an extension of neighborhood residents’ “out-of-yard” and outdoor use area. They also provide a sense of place and offer essential life-enhancing qualities that aid community and individual well-being. A park is an important part of our whole community that impacts everyone young and old. Make time to enjoy the stillness in our beautiful parks during these dwindling warm days by watching the colorful changes that will take place during the upcoming season. The best way to reconnect with your family, neighbors and friends is by taking time out of your busy schedule to visit our beautiful parks.

So by all means, contact me and let me know what you think (good, or not so good). Your opinion counts! We all work for you, the residents of Countryside. My direct line is (708) 485-2050 and my email address is ekrzeminski@countryside-il.org.

Mayor Ed Krzeminski
## Ward Reports

### WARD 1

**Alderman James Jasinski**  
(708) 828-3563  
jjasinski@countryside-il.org

**Alderman Robert Pondelicek**  
(708) 354-5001  
bpondelicek@countryside-il.org

- The Countryside Veterinary Center submitted building plans for the construction of a 20,000 sq. ft., 24 hr/7 days per week animal hospital. The full fledged animal hospital will offer every animal medical service available as well as a doggie hotel/boarding and a retail area. The project will be located at 9825 55th Street, adjacent to the Charter Fitness building.
- The Hertz Rental Car business is relocating back to 35 East Plainfield Road. The City Council approved the special use for the business to relocate to the property in August.
- Andy’s Frozen Custard is making progress and plans to open in November.
- Texas Roadhouse, Starbucks, and the Vitamin Shoppe all plan to open this fall.
- Hooter’s plans to open in early December.

### WARD 2

**Alderman Karen Michalczyk**  
(708) 917-2573  
kmichalczyk@countryside-il.org

**Alderman John Von Drasek**  
(708) 482-7663  
jvondrasek@countryside-il.org

- Westfield Ford plans to move back into their flagship automotive dealership in October. The property will not only have LEED certification but provide state of the art technology for automotive and customer service.
- Betty’s Bistro at Willow Springs Road and Joliet Road is anxiously awaiting to open but must first be approved by the Illinois Gaming Board (IGB). The business anticipates a fall opening.
- Construction of the lift station began on September 9th with an anticipated October completion date. Sewer rates for residents in Ward 2 serviced by this lift station will not experience an increase.

### WARD 3

**Alderman Sean McDermott**  
(708) 354-2350  
smcdermott@countryside-il.org

**Alderman Scott Musillami**  
(708) 334-5803  
smusillami@countryside-il.org

- Fuller’s Market and Lube is undergoing an extensive remodeling job to offer further automotive services at the location. The business is in the process of converting the convenience store into three (3) additional service bays.
- The former Flame Restaurant at 803 Joliet Road is in the process of becoming an Outriggers Restaurant. The restaurant will specialize in premium steaks and seafood.
- The CosmoProf, a retail cosmetics store in Countryside Plaza is currently under construction.
- The former Speedway Gas Station property is in the process of an environmental remediation. The property owner wishes to remove all contaminated soil from the property before marketing the location for redevelopment purposes.
- Construction of the Mitsubishi parking lot expansion will occur in the fall.

---

**Wishing our residents and their families a Happy Thanksgiving!**
Economic Development Update

Veterinary Center

On July 24, 2013 the City Council unanimously approved a Planned Unit Development proposal for the construction of the Countryside Veterinary Center, a 20,000 square foot, 24 hour/7 day, full service animal hospital at 9825 West 55th Street (just east of LaGrange Road, adjacent to Charter Fitness and NuMark Credit Union). The project will provide state of the art clinical evaluations & treatments including diagnostics, on-site lab, digital radiology, ultrasound, and various dental and surgical procedures. Additional services will include animal emergency & critical care, physical & laser therapy, rehabilitation, retail area, day care, training, boarding and grooming. The project will provide 140 animal boarding suites, 9 exam rooms, 2 surgical suites, and 1 dental suite.

The owners will also work closely with rescue groups and humane societies to provide low cost services for the less fortunate. The project will create an initial 30 new full and part-time jobs to the area. Ground-breaking is scheduled for late September with a grand opening planned for May of 2014.

Illinois Office of Tourism

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Tourism embarked on a five-day Road Show around Illinois to share the economic impact of domestic travelers. On Friday, July 12th, Illinois Harley Davidson in Countryside hosted the kickoff ride to Chicagoland Speedway where the final presentation of this year’s Road Show was delivered.

Over 100 Eagle Riders also got their kicks on Route 66 which were led by Illinois State Troopers as they made their way to Chicagoland Speedway.

Important City Water Code Changes

City Council recently adopted changes to the City water code as recommended by the Water Committee, chaired by Alderman Von Drasek. The following code changes will become effective January 1, 2014:

a) The water bill late payment penalty will be reduced from 10% compounded monthly to 1.5% compounded monthly. The new lower rate is expected to help those facing financial difficulties and more closely mirror monthly interest rates typically assessed by credit card companies.

b) If the City disconnects a customer’s water for non-payment, the water turn-on fee will be increased from $50 to $100 during normal public works business hours (typically 7:00AM-3:00PM), and $200 after hours and on holidays.

The timeline and due dates for paying water bills remains unchanged but in exchange for a significantly lower monthly penalty, the City will begin much stricter enforcement for disconnecting water on delinquent water accounts. Customers’ are assured that prior to a water disconnection, the City will send out a second past due notice and at least forty-eight hours prior to disconnection, a third and final notice will be posted on the customer’s door.

On a somewhat related note, the City anticipates at least another 15% increase in the cost of water effective January 1, 2014 passed through from its supplier, the Village of McCook. Further discussion on possible water rate increases to Countryside customers next calendar year will take place in October. If you have any questions, please call (708) 354-7270.
**Police Department - Chief’s Corner**

Believe it or not, it has been 5 months since being appointed as the Chief of Police. As I write my first (of I hope many) “Chief’s Corner” articles I want to get everyone up to speed on the continued progress of the Police Department. As a new Chief coming from another agency you first must learn the system and the personalities of the agency you have become a member of and fix things that are broken and improve on things that work. I am happy to say without reservation that the citizens of Countryside have a well trained and very professional police department. I will continue to work to maintain and improve the professionalism and efficiency of the department while reinforcing the ideal of community policing and strengthening our partnership with the citizens and businesses of the City of Countryside.

One of our first “missions” was instituting a new Mission Statement and Law Enforcement Oath of Honor to be the guiding principle for our officers and civilian employees. Both the Mission Statement and Oath were hung on the walls of the police station for our employees to see on a daily basis.

**Mission Statement**

“Our mission is to serve and protect the Countryside community, while building strong relationships based on mutual trust and respect. We will carry out our mission with the highest level of professionalism, integrity, fairness, and excellence.”

**Officers Oath of Honor**

“On my honor, I will never betray my badge, my integrity, my character, or the public trust.

I will always have the courage to hold myself and others accountable for our actions.

I will always uphold the constitution, my community, and the agency I serve.” *

(*International Chiefs of Police Oath of Honor)

Prior to my arrival, the City had made the decision to outsource our communications center. This is not unique to Countryside as police departments and dispatch centers across the nation are realizing the benefits of consolidation in many areas of policing. The benefits are both economical and in some instances paramount to the safety of the officers on the street with regard to improving radio communications. During the last few months we have experienced a high level of interest in filling the role of our new Community Service Officer (CSO) positions. We have since hired a total of 10 CSO’s whose primary responsibilities will include the handling of walk-in customers and answering non-emergency calls for service. The list of candidates hired have an impressive collective resume. Of the ten hired, four CSO’s already earned Bachelor degrees, one is working towards earning a Doctorate, three others are in school working towards their Bachelor degrees and the remaining two have some college. Three of the ten are bilingual which will assist in Arabic, Polish, and Spanish translation and a total of six have some type of law enforcement experience. They will also be trained to assist with our records division, data entry, and prisoner watch. As the position grows, these roles will expand and greatly benefit our police function. The front desk will continue to be manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week including holidays.

The anticipated date for the actual changeover is set for October 1, 2013. The radio and data improvements should all be completed and tested by the third week of September. Along with this we are training officers in the use of the new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) software and retraining them on the use of our Records Management System (RMS) to make better use of technology. I have been involved in policing for over 30 years and I have witnessed the change in policing from the old “pen and paper” days to what has become the new norm. The use of computers in police work has made all aspects of policing and crime fighting more efficient and provides our officers the new tools of the trade to carry out their job.
**Building Department**

We would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the more common issues we face every year. Temporary signs, portable signs, balloon/blow up signs are not allowed within the City unless you first obtain a forty (40) day special event sign permit. It is as simple as filling out the form, which is available on our website [www.countryside-il.org](http://www.countryside-il.org) and submitting it to the Building Department. The first four permits are **free** each year. Regardless of a permit, signs are never permitted in the right-of-way along roads. These signs are considered trash and will be immediately disposed of by City staff.

Please make sure your address is clearly visible on the front of your building, unit, or storefront. This is very important for Police and Fire officials to be able to quickly respond in an emergency. All businesses are required to have properly identified handicapped accessible parking spaces, regardless of the existing conditions.

Finally, most work and repairs in commercial buildings require a construction permit. If you are in doubt, please call first and we will be happy to discuss it with you.

If you have any questions about signs, accessible parking spaces, etc., please contact the Community Development Department at (708) 354-1860.

**Pre-Sale Home Inspections**

Did you know that the City of Countryside has a Presale Property Inspection Program? A real estate transfer stamp will not be issued unless the seller furnishes the buyer with a report of a presale inspection. The report must be issued no more than 120 days prior to the closing and no later than the date of the closing or the sale of the property. The presale inspection is conducted by the Building Official, who also prepares the inspection report. This report states that the building complies with all applicable building and zoning regulations of the City, or the report will list the building and zoning violations which need correction.

The seller of the property will not transfer the property as long as there are outstanding violations. If the seller is unable or unwilling to fix the outstanding violations, the purchaser of the property shall file a statement with the Building Official, duly sworn before a notary public, that the purchaser has received a copy of the inspection report and shall be responsible for any and all violation corrections.

- If in the Building Official’s estimated cost of correcting the outstanding violations is $3,000 or more, the purchaser will place the sum of $1,500 in escrow with the City; or
- If in the Building Official’s estimated cost of correcting the outstanding violations is less than $3,000, the City will accept an attorney’s letter, executed by the purchaser and the purchaser's attorney and properly notarized. If the purchaser is unable to obtain the attorney’s letter, then an escrow shall be established in the amount of $750 or less, as deemed by the Building Official.

Program forms (including an application, program description and common compliance examples) are available on our website [www.countryside-il.org](http://www.countryside-il.org). If you have any questions on the Presale Inspection Program, please call 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 which are effective immediately.

13-34-0: This prohibits any sign or banner to be placed on, set, or tethered to the roof of any building in all zoning districts.

13-17-0: Permits Class E Liquor License holders to stay open one (1) hour longer to 3 a.m. on St. Patrick’s Day, Thanksgiving Day, and New Year’s Day. Those establishments affected are: Rolling Lanes, Kenny’s Tavern, Tavern on LaGrange, Time Out Sports Bar & Grille, Via Bella Restaurant and the William Tell Café 66. If interested, please contact these establishments for the hours they will be open on these specific days.

For more information on these and other ordinances, please contact City Hall at (708) 354-7270.
Illinois Harley-Davidson “ILHD” is more than just motorcycles. It is a business devoted to giving back to the community. ILHD has held several events benefiting local organizations including an open house for the LaGrange Area Department of Special Education, an ILHD send off for the Grace Lutheran Youth Group of LaGrange and an Adopt a Pet event. See www.illinoishd.com for a complete listing of events.

ILHD opened its doors to the LaGrange Area Department of Special Education. Employees gave a tour of the dealership and allowed the students to see how it feels to sit on a Harley. Brittany Johnson from ILHD said, “We hope to have some of the kids come shadow employees” in the future.

On July 5, 2013 ILHD riders provided Grace Lutheran Church Youth Group of LaGrange a bike escort to Sturgis South Dakota for their annual mission trip. The Youth Group raised traveling money by selling food at ILHD events. They served the less fortunate of Sturgis by rehabbing homes, painting, roofing and building wheelchair ramps to provide safe housing and hope to the Sturgis community. “We love providing assistance to charitable organizations such as this,” said Carole Ferguson, General Manager of ILHD “and view our contributions to the community as a big part of what we do as a Company”.

On July 28th they hosted an Adopt a Pet Event aiming to find homes for dogs, cats and ferrets from 11 area rescue and adoption centers. Starfish offered $25 microchipping, and Ludwigs Feed Store and Fine Quilts brought homemade toys and clothes. An estimated 300 people attended. There were 10 adoptions completed that day and many people followed up with the shelters on a later date.
C.J. Wilson, pitcher for the California Angels now owns two dealerships in Countryside, the Mazda and BMW motorcycles. However, he is known for more than his professional baseball career and love of racing. C.J. Wilson gives back through his Children’s Charities.

Micah (pictured below with his father and Eric Yates, General Manager of the Countryside dealerships) when he was playing for the Texas Rangers. Micah, who has severe hemophilia, Asperger’s, cyclic neutropenia and human growth hormone disorder was the inspiration for C.J. Wilson’s Children’s Charities (CJWCC) as they raise funds, awareness and most importantly youth participation in community service and charitable giving that will impact families affected by chronic life-threatening illnesses, or dealing with financial and social challenges.

All proceeds benefitted the CJWCC who continue to get more involved in the Illinois Children’s Hospital communities. The CJWCC sponsored 2 trips of 9-12 patients and their families from Hope Children’s Hospital in Oak Lawn to enjoy an evening of baseball, one trip to suites at Comiskey Park and another to box at Wrigley Field. For many of the kids this was their first trip to a ball park. These trips provide families facing difficult situations with a much needed day of relaxation and fun.

For more information or to make a donation please see their website at www.cjwcc.org.

The Countryside Business Association “CBA” was established in 2009 to promote a healthy business environment in Countryside. Members come from all business sectors to exchange ideas, network, and trouble shoot problems. The CBA supports events that bring businesses together with the community.

Businesses Give Back contributed $7.7 million in 2013 to the General Fund. This sales tax pays for various governmental services including police, fire, libraries, parks, public works, and the courts. These same businesses give back to their community in various ways, a few of which are listed on this page. Please support our Countryside!

The Festival in June at City Park. There were amazing rides and games for all ages. Entertainment included Magician Frankie Ace, bands including Infinity, Maggie Speaks and Too White Crew, and Bingo sponsored by the Countryside Rotary. Food and beverages were served including a long time favorite Ledo’s Pizza at a new location in Marks on 66. The proceeds from this event will be used by the CBA for programs for their members and community events.

The City will match dollar for dollar on funds raised for its annual Thanksgiving dinner for residents in need. To sponsor this event or get more information please see their website at www.countryside-il.org.
Public Works Reminds You . . .

Fall Leaf Pick-Up (October 14 - December 6)
Crews will be collecting leaves on a continuous cycle throughout the entire program period. The leaf collection program provides residents with an alternate way to dispose of leaves. Instead of bagging, or for those who do not mulch leaves, residents may rake leaves onto the parkway.

In order for this program to be successful, we ask all residents to observe the guidelines listed below.

- Leaves SHOULD be raked onto the parkway.
- Leaves should NOT be raked into the street.
- Do NOT deposit branches, sticks, garbage, or other debris into the leaf pile.

Please allow 7 to 10 working days between pick-ups as it typically takes a week or more to do a full cycle of the City. Please call the Public Works Department at (708) 354-3390 with questions.

Brush Pick-Up
Branch and brush pick-up will be provided through October 25th. Public Works crews will be covering the City on a weekly basis. If you have questions, please call the Public Works Department at (708) 354-3390.

Keep Storm Sewer Covers Clear To Prevent Flooding
The Public Works Department is requesting that residents with a sewer cover near their homes help prevent street and parkway flooding by keeping the cover and inlets clear of leaves and other debris throughout the year. Clearing the sewer covers also helps prevent storm water backup into homes.

Pleasantview Fire Protection District - Improved PPC Rating
The Pleasantview Fire Protection District has improved its Public Protection Classification (PPC) from a Class 3 to a Class 2. The Insurance Office (ISO) reviewed every aspect of their ability to handle and receive emergency calls, available water supply, and a top-to-bottom review of their operations including their ability to respond and mitigate all types of emergency incidents.

A lower PPC rating means lower insurance premiums for business owners and depending on the insurance company, residents may realize savings as well. More important than the cost reduction, is that this rating quantifies the exceptional services that they provide to all of their communities. A Class 2 rating places them in the top 1.25% of all fire departments nationwide. They are among the top 550 departments out of 47,250 fire departments across the country.

The water supply accounts for 40% of their total rating, and the Pleasantview Fire Protection District could not have accomplished this without the hard work and effort of each participating community Water Department. A plaque recognizing the efforts of the Countryside Water Department is shown above.

50-50 Tree Removal Program The City will match dollar for dollar, up to $500 per household per year for the removal of dead, diseased or storm damaged trees on private property. In addition, the City Council has deemed the Cottonwood, Willow and Mulberry tree species as being nuisance trees and eligible for the program. Stump and chip removal are not eligible for reimbursement. A total of $20,000 of City funds is available for the program through April 30, 2014. Reimbursement is on a first come, first serve basis.

REVISION: Ash trees are now eligible for the program provided the stump and chips are removed simultaneously.
Someone You Should Know …

George Meyers, a 95 year old gentleman who has resided in Countryside for the last fifty-seven years, experiencing much during his lifetime and has contributed a great deal to society. George is the proud parent of three children and a grandparent of seven. George came from very humble beginnings and experienced many challenges growing up on an Indiana farm during the Great Depression. His parents passed away ten years apart when he was only a young child, making his early life that much more challenging. Fortunately, he was close with his siblings who helped take care of him until he was sixteen when he decided to go out on his own.

George’s first job was as a steel construction worker and he later proudly enlisted in the Navy during World War II and served as a 1st Class Petty Officer. At such a young age, the courage that George portrayed during those times was truly amazing.

The City of Countryside is proud to have George Meyers as a long time resident who is a true patriot in every sense of the word. George participated in an interview related to his military endeavors from long ago and a copy of this was placed in the archives of the National Museum of the Pacific War which can be viewed at www.pacificwarmuseum.org.

George Meyers is a man that has experienced all the challenges of life with a positive attitude, and along with raising a wonderful family with his wife Cathy of 65 years who unfortunately passed away in 2007, he courageously served his Country which allows all of us to have the freedoms we may sometimes take for granted. Please join the City in honoring and saying “thank-you” to George for all the great things he has done!

20 Year Celebration (Flagg Creek Golf Course)

Flagg Creek Golf Course celebrated their 20th Anniversary over a period of 3 days, starting with Friday, July 12th through Sunday, July 14th. The first day was a cocktail party with local dignitaries from the City of Countryside and Pleasant Dale Park District. The second day offered special rates for green fees and carts. The final day was the Golf Ball Drop. The helicopter came to pick up the numbered balls (all 850 of them) then took off and dropped them on the range. The closest ball to the designated pin won free golf for a year. The winner was Kamille Krupka, who resides within the Pleasant Dale Park District. All proceeds, which amounted to $2,400 went to the Wounded Warrior Project.

In Memory

Michael Smetana (1945 - 2013)

Retired Alderman, Mike Smetana, who loyally served the City of Countryside passed away on September 9, 2013. Mike was the longest serving Alderman with 20 years of service and was the Chairman of many committees during his tenure with the City, including the Police Committee.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

Billy Rosinia (from left) Linda Koldenhoven, Susan Smith and Chrissy Roti from Flagg Creek Golf Course were all instrumental in the anniversary preparations.
City Services

Pool Reimbursements: 2013 outdoor pool membership to any outdoor swimming pool needs to be presented by December 31, 2013 to be eligible for reimbursement. Fitness Clubs and YMCA memberships are not eligible unless a separate “outdoor pool” rate was established from Memorial Day through Labor Day and you must produce a letter of cancellation.

To apply for the reimbursement, bring your paid membership receipt and a valid driver’s license to the City Clerk’s office.

Driveway Apron Snow Removal: Senior citizens and disabled Countryside residents may sign up each year to have their driveway aprons plowed if more than 2-inches of snow falls. This removal will be done after all City streets are cleared. The City is not responsible for any driveway damage. To receive this service, please call the City Clerk’s office.

Selling Your Home or Business: All property sales in Countryside require a pre-sale inspection and the following information:
♦ 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.

Speak Out!

“Speak Out” provides a way in which YOU can communicate with the City of Countryside elected officials and administration. Your advice, suggestions, questions and opinions are appreciated and will receive a response. If you need more space, please attach a separate sheet.

Full Name: ____________________________ as a citizen/business owner of the City of Countryside, it is my opinion that: __________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
Date: ___________ Address: ___________________________ Phone: ______________________
Mail to: “Speak Out” City of Countryside, 5550 East Avenue, Countryside, IL 60525 or e-mail to: cityhall@countryside-il.org

Full Name, mailing address, or e-mail address are required for a response.

Upcoming Holidays

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

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 28, 2013
Friday after Thanksgiving
Friday, November 29, 2013
Christmas Eve
Tuesday, December 24, 2013
Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 25, 2013
New Year’s Day
Wednesday, January 1, 2014

Daylight Savings Time

Don’t forget to set your clock back one hour at 2:00 a.m. on November 3rd. The time now becomes 1:00 a.m. This is where the saying “Fall Back” comes from.

When you turn your clock back, also change the batteries in your smoke alarms. This simple habit takes just a moment, but it is the best defense your family has against the devastating effects of a home fire.
**Community Happenings**

**Fall Leaf Raking For Countryside Seniors**

The Countryside Aging Well, a program of Aging Care Connections will be sponsoring this service. The service is **free** and is provided by local youth groups as a community service for adults in need of assistance with their leaves. Leaf raking will take place:

**DATE:** November 16, 2013

**TIME:** 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Resident must be home at the time the leaf raking service is being performed.

To sign up for this service, or for more information, please call (708) 354-1323 ext. 245. Registration ends on Friday, November 8, 2013.

---

**Reminder...**

**Children’s Christmas Party**

**Date:** Saturday, 12-7-13

**Place:** Park Place Banquets

6240 Joliet Road

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

For more information, please call 354-7270.

---

**Trick-Or-Treating**

The City has set trick-or-treat hours from 3 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 31, 2013.

---

**WANTED**

The Countryside Women’s Club is seeking women in the community as members. Join us as we support local charities and learn from Community guest speakers.

Our club meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the City Hall on the second floor. Please join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2013.

For more information, please contact Mary Sobecki at (708) 352-5229.

---

**Summer Concerts Update**

The City of Countryside’s Summer Concert series concluded on Thursday, August 8th. Over the course of eight weeks, there were approximately 2,400 attendees, averaging 300 visitors each week (this is based off of raffle tickets given away) a 41% increase from last year. In 2012, there were approximately 1,700 visitors to the concerts in the park, averaging out to 215 attendees each week.

At the end of the concert series, participants rated their favorite bands, the top three were American English (29%), Spoken Four (20%) and Piano Man (17%). New this year was the fireworks show held on August 1st. This was made possible from the partnership between the City and the Park District of LaGrange.

Westfield Ford was the Presenting Sponsor and donated either a scooter or a $1,000 Visa Gift Card to be raffled off as a grand prize at the end of the series. Tickets were $5.00 each and all proceeds went to the Kelli Joy O’Laughlin Memorial Fund. This year the City raised $1,477 for the Fund, compared to $1,220 in 2012.

**Congratulations** to Richard Perry, the **Visa Gift Card** Winner!

---

Carm Scarpace from Westfield Ford presented the $1,000 Visa Gift Card to Richard Perry, a resident of Indian Head Park at the August 8th concert.

---

**FYI**

In 2012, we had 67 new residential property transfers. As of September 1st this year, we have 45.

Welcome new residents!
"Speak Out" provides a way in which YOU can communicate with the City of Countryside elected officials and administration. Your advice, suggestions, questions and opinions are appreciated and will receive a response. If you need more space, please attach a separate sheet.

Full Name: as a citizen/business owner of the City of Countryside, it is my opinion that:

Date: Address: Phone:

Mail to: "Speak Out" City of Countryside, 5550 East Avenue, Countryside, IL 60525 or e-mail to: cityhall@countryside-il.org

Full Name, mailing address, or e-mail address are required for a response.

Pool Reimbursements: 2013 outdoor pool membership to any outdoor swimming pool needs to be presented by December 31, 2013 to be eligible for reimbursement. Fitness Clubs and YMCA memberships are not eligible unless a separate "outdoor pool" rate was established from Memorial Day through Labor Day and you must produce a letter of cancellation.

To apply for the reimbursement, bring your paid membership receipt and a valid driver's license to the City Clerk's office.

Driveway Apron Snow Removal: Senior citizens and disabled Countryside residents may sign up each year to have their driveway aprons plowed if more than 2-inches of snow falls. This removal will be done after all City streets are cleared. The City is not responsible for any driveway damage.

To receive this service, please call the City Clerk's office.

Selling Your Home or Business: All property sales in Countryside require a pre-sale inspection and the following information:

- 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:

- Thanksgiving Day Thursday, November 28, 2013
- Friday after Thanksgiving Friday, November 29, 2013
- Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24, 2013
- Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25, 2013
- New Year's Day Wednesday, January 1, 2014

Daylight Savings Time
Don't forget to set your clock back one hour at 2:00 a.m. on November 3rd. The time now becomes 1:00 a.m. This is where the saying "Fall Back" comes from. When you turn your clock back, also change the batteries in your smoke alarms. This simple habit takes just a moment, but it is the best defense your family has against the devastating effects of a home fire.