The Buzz

Resident Profile:
Pam Fantus, Village Treasurer

Pam Fantus plays a very important role in keeping the Village finances on track. Pam and her family have lived in Mettawa for twenty-five years, and since 2015 she has served as the Village Treasurer, a crucial volunteer position. During most of the year, Pam donates about 10-15 hours per month to the Village, but this commitment increases to about 20 hours per month during July, August and September when she manages the tax rebate process.

Pam holds a Master’s degree in nursing and administration. Prior to becoming Village Treasurer, her experience included serving as a member of the Rondout School Board for five years, and she was involved with the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) for many years, including taking on the responsibilities of Treasurer for four years, and President for three years. She works for Chicago Trauma and Critical Surgeons, managing an outpatient office and accounting. She’s also a member of

Continued on page 2

Below: Richard and Pam Fantus

Mayor’s Note

By Casey Urlacher
Welcome to spring! It’s great to see a little sunshine and green. The good news this spring is that the Village has projected a surplus of $800,000 for this fiscal year, even after deducting a total of $500,000 in tax rebates provided to residents. I’m very happy about that. We are especially to the Finance Committee and Village Treasurer Pam Fantus for providing such great oversight of our finances.

Don’t forget to get out and vote in the primary election on March 20th. Looking ahead to the summer, beach passes will be available on April 2nd (see page 3)!

As always, I am here for you. Don’t hesitate to contact me at any time with your questions, comments or ideas.

curlacher@mettawa.org
(847) 573-1460
Pam Fantus, continued from page 1

the Advocate Charitable Foundation for Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago.

As the Village Treasurer, Pam attends the Finance Committee meetings which occur every third Tuesday prior to the monthly Village Board meeting. Trustee John Maier chairs this group that also includes Trustees Mary Brennan and Tim Towne. The Finance Committee discusses a variety of topics, ranging from the year-to-date budget to contracts and service.

Prior to each Finance Committee meeting, Pam reviews the Treasurer’s Report prepared by Dorothy O’Mary, checking for any inconsistencies, and making any necessary corrections. She compares written checks to received bills, and paying close attention to incoming and outgoing funds; for example, income arriving from sales revenue taxes and bills paid to contractors. If the details don’t match, she notices, and makes sure that all of the numbers are in alignment. Trustee Maier, Bob Irvin, and Dorothy O’Mary also work with Pam to oversee the annual financial audit that keeps our Village in good standing with the State of Illinois.

If you have received a rebate check from the Village in recent years, it is because of Pam’s significant efforts. She personally retrieves the applications from the post office, individually reviews the numbers for each application, follows up if there are any questions, and authorizes the checks for the approved applications. She notes that first two weeks of “rebate season” are especially busy as the early bird rebates applications arrive, and then again as a lot of applications roll in closer to the deadline.

Pam and Richard attend most Village meetings, and enjoy spending time together outdoors. They like to go on dog walks, ride bikes on the trails, and attend local festivals. Pam says, “Doing this job has helped me get more involved in the Village. It’s good, and and it’s been fun to get to know people.” Thank you, Pam, for your valuable contributions. You help make our Village a better place! 🌿

Beach Passes

Parking passes for the upper lot at the Forest Park beach in Lake Forest will be available to Mettawa Residents for $85 on April 2nd. For more information, visit mettawa.org or the Lake Forest Public Services Building at 800 N. Field Drive in Lake Forest. 🌴

MOLA Spring Social Event

Mettawa residents, neighbors and friends are invited to join MOLA on Sunday, April 8, 2018, 3:00—5:00 p.m. for complimentary appetizers and drinks at Knauz Auto Museum, 755 Rockland Road, Lake Bluff (Knauz auto dealership). The featured speaker, Lydia Scott of Morton Arboretum, is Director of the Chicago Region Trees Initiative and Manager of Community Trees. She will discuss Oak Tree Preservation and Planting. 🌴

MOLA Spring Social Event

“SAVE OUR OAKS”
Sunday, April 8, 2018, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
rsvp@mettawaopenlands.org
Administrator’s Report
By Bob Irvin, Village Administrator

As we approach the end of Fiscal Year 2017-2018, preparations for the next year are in process. Fiscal year 2018-2019 begins on May 1st. The draft budget will be proposed to the Finance Committee at its March 20th meeting, and will be presented for approval at the Village Board meeting on April 17th.

The new budget contains few changes from the previous year’s budget. We have noted a nice increase in projected sales tax revenue. There are no new or proposed increases to taxes, and the Village will continue to provide the same level of administrative services. A good portion of the budget is dedicated to the Parks and Recreation and Public Works activities, and both Committees reviewed budget options at their January and February meetings.

Zoning Code Amendments

The Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission (ZPA) has completed its recent series of zoning review workshops. The recommendations were presented at a special Village Board meeting on February 7th, and discussed further at the regular Board meeting on February 20th. Following a suggestion to have the recommendations reviewed by an external expert, the Village submitted a Request for Qualifications to several Chicago-area zoning consulting firms. The Board will discuss the submitted statements of qualifications at the March 20th Village Board meeting before making a decision.

VILLAGE BOARD ACTIONS

Highlights of recent Village Board actions during the last quarter are listed below. For a complete list of actions, please refer to the meeting minutes which are always available online at mettawa.org.

1. Approved the 2018 tax levy at $135,000 (for the 20th consecutive year)
2. Approved a two-year maintenance agreement with V3 for Oasis Park
3. Approved a contract with Sikich for three years of auditing services
4. Approved a two-year agreement with ILM for maintenance of Whippoorwill Park

Bradley Road Bridge: Construction Begins this Summer

If you frequently use the bridge on Bradley Road to cross I-94, plan to choose an alternative route during the coming summer and fall. In June 2018, the Illinois Tollway Authority will begin construction work to replace the 60-year old bridge.

The bridge should re-open by the end of September, with additional landscaping work to follow that may extend into 2019. After extensive evaluation, the Tollway Authority decided it would be smart to entirely replace the bridge instead of just repairing the existing issues. During construction, St. Marys Road will serve as a detour to IL-176 and IL-60 with detour signs providing directions to the alternate routes.

Other Construction Projects

Some other smaller construction projects will also be taking place within the Village this summer: Lake County plans to resurface St Marys Road between Route 60 and Everett Road, and Everett Road, between St. Marys Road and the I-94 bridge. This one-week project will take place in late summer or early fall, and will include the safety feature of wider, bike-friendly shoulders on either side of the road. Later this year, the Village plans to repave the portion of Riverwoods Boulevard between Bradley Road and Route 60. Bids for this project will arrive during the next month, and schedule for this project will be set after a contractor is selected. Work on the Oasis Park trail relocation project will begin soon after the contractor finalizes the schedule.

Get ready for summer!

BEACH PASSES
$85 (resident rate)

Available April 2, 2018
Lake Forest Public Service Building
800 N. Field Drive, Lake Forest
Village of Mettawa
26225 North Riverwoods Boulevard
Mettawa IL 60045

Casey Urlacher, Mayor
Denis Bohm, Trustee
Mary Brennan, Trustee
John Maier, Trustee
Jan Pink, Trustee
Pam Sheldon, Trustee
Tim Towne, Trustee
Pam Fantus, Treasurer
Bob Irvin, Village Administrator
Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk
www.mettawa.org

The Village of Mettawa strives to preserve and nurture our authentic rural and horse-friendly environment and to ensure the highest quality of family life for our residents.

MEETING CALENDAR

Tuesday, March 20
6:30 p.m. Finance Committee
7:30 p.m. Village Board

Wednesday, April 11
6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee
7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, April 17
6:30 p.m. Finance Committee
7:30 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, May 1
7:00 p.m. Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission (ZPA)

Wednesday, May 9
6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee
7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, May 15
6:30 p.m. Finance Committee
7:30 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, June 5
7:00 p.m. ZPA Commission

Wednesday, June 13
6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee
7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, June 19
6:30 p.m. Finance Committee
7:30 p.m. Village Board

NOTE: The April ZPA meeting has been cancelled (i.e. there will be no ZPA meeting on Tuesday, April 3rd).

PLEASE NOTE: This list may be incomplete and some meetings may be cancelled. For updates, check the calendar online at mettawa.org or contact the Village Clerk.

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:
March 20, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

CONTACTS

Casey Urlacher, Mayor
Bob Irvin, Village Administrator
Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk
(847) 573-1460

PUBLIC SAFETY:
DIAL 911 FIRST

NON-EMERGENCY:
Lake County Sheriff:
(847) 377-4000

Village Security Patrol Car:
(847) 404-6272

GARBAGE & RECYCLING
Lake’s Disposal Services, Inc.
(847) 366-8582 or (815) 675-0400

VILLAGE WEBSITE:
http://www.mettawa.org