FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT
By: Larry Franks

“What are they building?” “Will there be a fence?” These are the most common questions we are fielding regarding the drainage project. Technically, we are not “building” anything, but constructing a detention pond with drainage system to help alleviate the flooding that happens in town all too often. We also now have a drainage maintenance schedule in place, so we hope residents can see improvement in areas that are prone to flooding. As for building a fence, it will not be necessary as the area will usually be dry and only contain water for a brief period of time.

“What’s next?” A sewer system is always at the top of our list. We continue to look for ways we can make this happen for the good of all residents.

I appreciate everyone who has stepped up and registered their golf carts. Keep in mind when the snow starts to fly, 4 wheelers and other all-terrain and utility vehicles are not permitted on Village streets and property. Persons under the age of 18 are not permitted to drive any golf cart, 4 wheeler or other all-terrain/utility vehicle in the Village of Philo limits.

On Behalf of the Village Board and Village employees, I would like to extend our wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe holiday season!

Village of Philo Online

Most households now have computers or multiple electronic devices. They use them for work, social media, news and information. The Village recently contracted with local business, Sourceline Media to update the website and hope it becomes a valuable resource for residents. If you do not have access to the internet, visit the Philo Public Library. They have computers available for public use.

Under the Latest News tab, Village Board meeting agendas are posted prior to the monthly meetings, approved minutes are also posted. The latest edition of the Newsletter can be found under this tab, as well as Announcements such as boil orders, garage sale weekend, and other happenings.

Businesses can submit their information to be listed in an online directory in the About Philo tab. Information regarding the parks and schools in Philo is also available. Contact information for Village Board and personnel are provided for easy access. Commonly used Ordinances are currently listed. This is an area under construction and the Board would like for this to grow so the public can search all Village Ordinances.

Interested in renting the R. E. Franks Meeting Center? Scroll through all of the online information and take a look at the calendar for dates you may be interested in. Click on the Contact Rental Coordinator tab for further information or to reserve a date.

The website is still a work in progress and your suggestions are welcome. Use the Contact Us tab to submit suggestions or provide information in the Announcements.

Find us online at www.villageofphilo.com.
IN OTHER VILLAGE HAPPENINGS

From the meeting minutes:

September - Concrete bids were reviewed for work to be completed at the entrance to the R. E. Franks Meeting Center. Lighting at the north entrance was updated and replacement of the lower glass with metal panels in the hallway was approved. Ballpark drainage project was also discussed.

October - The first payment request for the drainage project to Maulding Excavating was made in the amount of $64,125.80. Chris Payne updated the Board on the Planning Commission’s progress of updating the Zoning Ordinance. Trick or Treat hours were set. There was discussion regarding the locked gates around the R E Franks Center. The locks were put on because the kids waiting for the morning bus were seen “riding” the gate. Locks will be removed for R. E. Franks Center events.

November - Minutes will be approved at the December board meeting to be held Wednesday, December 13, 2017 in the Eileen Painter Room of the R. E. Franks Meeting Center at 6:30pm. Meeting minutes are posted on the Village web site www.villageofphilo.com under the Village Board tab after they are approved at the monthly meeting.

Rental Property Owners and Managers

The Village Office receives regular inquiries regarding apartments and homes for rent in Philo and the Unit 7 school district. To make it easier for interested parties to connect with housing sources, property owners and managers are encouraged to post their contact information on the Village website. Contact Janet at 684-2562, janet@villageofphilo or use the Contact Us tab on the web page at www.villageofphilo.com. The office also receives inquiries regarding space for businesses.

Recycling Rules and Brush Pick-up

Philo residents are fortunate to have a recycling service located right in town. Unfortunately, from time to time, regular garbage is put in the recycling dumpsters which means all contents of the dumpster must be disposed of as garbage. Recycling or unacceptable materials left outside of dumpsters is not picked up by the recycling vendor and creates extra cost to the Village. Around the holiday season, the vendor is contracted for extra pick-ups to help alleviate the overflow. Please be considerate and come back another time if the containers are full. Thank you for being concerned with the environment!

The Snow is Coming!

When there are two or more inches of snow on village streets, residents living on Washington Street in the downtown area are asked to park in the alley between the hours of 12 a.m. and 6 a.m. so that the street parking on Washington and Harrison can be plowed.

Philo Public Library Home Delivery

Home delivery service is available to anyone who is physically unable to visit the Philo Public Library. If you have a Philo Library card and have a temporary or long-term illness, injury, disability, limited mobility or are a senior citizen without transportation, you may be eligible for this service. Contact the Library at 684-2896 and ask to register for Home Deliver Services to get started.

From Dave Traxler, Village Maintenance

Last brush pick up for the season: Friday, December 1 (weather permitting)

Christmas tree pick-up: Monday, January 15

DO NOT PILE BRUSH IN ROAD OR ALLEYWAYS. KEEP IT ON YOUR PROPERTY.

If you have questions, please contact Dave Traxler at 684-2674.
Santa Breakfast

The annual Santa Breakfast hosted by the Philo Exchange Bank will be held Saturday, December 2 at the R. E. Franks Meeting Center. Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. with Santa arriving around 9:00 a.m. Breakfast is free - donuts, juice, milk and coffee will be available. There will be games, crafts, and 1 photo per family with Santa (or you can bring your own camera). Each game will require 1 or 2 tickets and can be purchased for .25 each. Please bring a new, unopened toy and you will receive 10 free tickets.

Philo Country Music Show

The Philo Country Music Show returns to the R. E. Franks Meeting Center at 108 W. Madison on Sunday, December 3 at 3:00 p.m. The event is hosted by Ed Clem & Chrissy Sparks. Special Guests will be Ron & Cindy (Peddycoart) Crawford and feature Dyke Corson, lead & steel guitar, vocals; Chrissy Sparks, piano, sax, vocals; Dave Ohlsson, drums, vocals and Ed Clem, bass and vocals. The show is country music talent in a Branson-Style music stage show. Tickets are $10 at the door and concessions are available. Questions: dorgibrin@aol.com or 217/390-2700.

Annual Christmas Brunch at Countryside United Methodist Church

All ladies are invited to the annual Christmas Brunch hosted by the Countryside United Methodist women. This annual brunch will be held on Wednesday, December 6 at 10:00 a.m. The church is located at 1807 County Road 1000 North, Urbana (on the Sidney slab). There will be a performance by Elizabeth & Patty Metzler.

R.E. Franks Meeting Center Serves a Wide Variety of Events

Are you looking for a facility for your family gatherings, holiday parties or just someplace to let the kids run off some steam? Do you coach a travel basketball or volleyball team and need a practice facility?

The meeting center is well-suited for weddings, receptions, family reunions, birthday parties, bridal and baby showers, anniversary celebrations and stage performances. Amenities include a kitchenette, stage, large projection screen and integrated sound system for everything from live bands to your MP3 player.

The space can equally accommodate informal or formal athletic events. Basketball and volleyball courts are available. For games there are bleachers, two locker rooms and scoreboard and announcing equipment.

Philo residents receive a 10% discount off the rental fee which is $25/hour or $250/day. A $500 weekend reception package is available and reserves the meeting center from 1:00 p.m. Friday through 1:00 p.m. Sunday. For rentals that would benefit the community, renters can apply for free rental.

The Board room is also available for small gatherings.

For more information and to schedule a visit or for reservations, contact Janet Decker, Rental Coordinator at 684-2562 or janet@villageofphilo.com. Further details and information are available online at www.villageofphilo.com.

Watch for Sign-Up Dates

At the time of printing we do not have the dates set. Watch the Welcome to Philo sign or visit our web site www.villageofphilo.com/parks for summer ball league sign-ups coming in February or March.

Comments and suggestions regarding the Philo Newsletter’s format and content are welcome.

Village of Philo
Attn: Newsletter
P.O. Box 72
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View meeting agendas & minutes on the Web at www.villageofphilo.com