



# The CEDARPOST



Summer, 2011

Volume 48, Issue 2

Cedarwood Cooperative, Inc. 63 Cedar Street, Park Forest, IL 60466 708-747-3833 info@mycedarwood.com www.mycedarwood.com

## President's Report

I was unfamiliar with cooperative living until I saw an ad several years ago, for Cedarwood's open house. After visiting the property, and viewing several units, it quickly became clear to me where I would call home. It continues to baffle me why we have any vacancies, especially in this economic time. How can you help? If you know of someone looking for an affordable housing option, its not too late to mention Cedarwood to a friend or family member, and receive a \$100.00 finders fee, for doing so. One of the biggest advantages of cooperative living is the economic savings, so help spread the word. Park Forest will soon become home to another cooperative, South Suburban Food Coop-

erative, that is. They have relocated from Matteson, and their new space is located in the downtown area, next to Tower Cleaners. Their existence is a unique alternative to the conventional health food store. As a cooperative, they encourage member involvement, much like Cedarwood. The South Suburban Cooperative opened its doors on June 1, 2011. Lets support this wonderful, healthy business addition to Park Forest. Speaking of member involvement, I would like to acknowledge the 7 volunteers who volunteered at the most recent Cedarwood open house, held on May 14th. We had a record turnout, and without the time and effort of the volunteers and Cedarwood staff, it

would not have been a success. Thank you. Member involvement is not limited to volunteering at the open house or in other areas. The annual Cedarwood Pool Party is scheduled for July 9, 2011 at the Park Forest Aqua Center. Get your sunscreen and swimsuits ready and come mingle and meet your neighbors. Volunteers are needed to assist with collecting tickets, serving food, etc. If you would like to volunteer for the Pool Party, please contact the Management Office. In closing, as the newly appointed President of Cedarwood, I look forward to continuing to serve you in my new capacity. Have a safe summer.

Jacquie Smith, President

## Around Your Court

**Blown Garbage:** Recent storms and winds are the cause of blown garbage that we've seen on the property lately. Our maintenance department has scheduled times to walk the property and pick up garbage but we often see blown garbage on or near the member's lawns for a day or two. Please be kind, and if you see garbage on the grounds, even though its not yours, please pick it up. Cooperation, responsibility, and being neighborly is the key to successful communities. Let's keep ours distinguished from the rest!

**Pets:** Please continue to help keep our beautiful community safe and clean by properly securing your pet while outdoors and cleaning up any dog waste. Thanks to those members who registered their pets by the May 31st deadline.



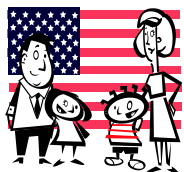
**In Observance of Independence Day, the office will be closed on Monday, July 4th**

### Important Phone #'s

- Emergency Maintenance 708-748-4422
- Emergency Police/Fire 911
- Non-Emergency Police 708-747-4700
- NICOR 708-756-5100
- COM ED 708-339-9700
- VILLAGE HALL & WATER DEPT. 708-748-1112
- J.U.L.I.E. 800-892-0123
- Jolly Trolley 708-748-4433

### Inside this issue:

- President's Report 1
- Around Your Court 1
- Management Report 2
- Maintenance Report 2
- In Other News 3
- Publishing Policy 3
- Upcoming Events 4



# Manager's Report

## Board of Directors

Jacqueline Smith  
President

Robert Baggot  
Vice-President

Laurie Miller  
Secretary

Donna Fitzgerald  
Treasurer

Vera Barber  
Director At Large

Susan Parker  
Director At Large

## Administrative Staff

Mary Arroyo-Ortiz  
Property Manager

Diana Jankus  
Accounts Receivable/  
Payable

Gina Tagli  
Sales/Member Services

## Maintenance Staff

Rick Tidd  
Maintenance Supervisor

Ralston Davis

Jack Hobbs

Robert Lulis

Scott Pearce

Charles Ricci

**OPEN HOUSE:** Our May 2011 Open House was a huge success! The weather was cold, wet, and miserable, but in spite of this, we had a great turn out. Approximately 60 people attended and loved all the units. We received five applications that Saturday and two offers to purchase! A total of 10 units sold as a result of our Open House. I want to commend, Bob and Sandy Baggot, Connie Erickson, Donna Fitzgerald, Laurie Miller, Cindy Peterson, and Wanda Reid. These volunteers were amazing. Each volunteer took their time, care, and patience with our Open House attendees. I'd also like to thank our Flower Planter Volunteers (Tim Anderson, Donna and Tom Fitzgerald), who worked diligently to beautify our property just in time for our Open House. Thank You!

**MEMBER SURVEY:** At our Annual Meeting, we issued a survey. A total of 144 surveys were received. When asked "Why did you choose Cedarwood", 81 mem-

bers said carrying charges and 45 members said curb appeal. When asked "What can Cedarwood do to retain more members", 105 members said to keep carrying charges low and 42 said to make property improvements. When asked "What can Cedarwood do to sell more units", 65 members said make more interior improvements, and 43 said to change the application criteria. For a complete report, you can stop by the office to see the full results.

**WEB SITE:** Our new website has been launched! Please take the time to look at it. It is more colorful, inviting, and user-friendly. There's a new section called "Members Only", "News and Events", and "Capital Improvements". If you don't attend the board meetings, you may find these sections useful. Members who want to sell their units can now place ads and include flyers, pictures, or Youtube videos for a dramatic impact.

**PORCHES:** We have completed court C-3, and it looks amazing.

We are now working in Court D-8 and will be there for about 6 weeks (weather permitting). When completed, we will continue to Court D-4.

**OTHER PROJECTS:** We have gone out for bids to complete our summer projects that include Roof Replacement for six buildings (101-115 DW, 117-123 DW, 126-132 DW, 134-140 DW, 177-187 DW, 221-231 DW), Sealcoating of five courts (C-1, C-5, D-1, D-4, D-10), and Reconstruction of Court D-8. These will all be action items for our July 21st Board Meeting.

**STAFFING:** Sara Martire is no longer at Cedarwood and she will be missed. We wish Sara well in her future endeavors.

*Mary Arroyo-Ortiz,*  
*Property Manager*

## Maintenance Report

For the month of June, we have completed 515 work orders. Many work orders are generated with severe weather. We are focusing on the severe gutter problems first, as they tend to cause further problems with water seepage. The number of basement epoxy repairs has risen due to this year's record rainfalls. Window well drain work orders are also on the rise. In addition

we have had to install a few outside air conditioning condenser units. We have hired two young men as our summer help.

We recently repaired and sealcoated the parking area of the Cedarwood Center. The energy conservation project with Com Ed and Nicor has been completed. The Rear Porch Project in Court C-3 is also complete and we

have started rear porch construction in Court D-8.

We want to thank our members for their patience as we get to all the work order requests.

*Rick Tidd,*  
*Maintenance Supervisor*



"Happiness does not consist in pastimes and amusements but in virtuous activities."  
Aristotle

## CLASSIFIEDS

PLACE YOUR AD HERE!  
FREE TO CEDARWOOD  
MEMBERS SELLING  
PERSONAL ITEMS.



# *In other news...*

## Board Reorganization

The reorganization of the Board was held on May 5, 2011. the Board was reorganized to reflect the following:

- Jacqueline Smith, President**
- Robert Baggot, Vice President**
- Laurie Miller, Secretary**
- Donna Fitzgerald, Treasurer**
- Vera Barber, Director At Large**
- Susan Parker, Director At Large**

## Need More Information?

Although we appreciate each and every member who takes the time to attend the monthly board meetings, you do not have to wait until then to have your concerns or questions addressed. The Management Office is available to answer any questions or concerns at any time throughout the month. Simply call, write or email the office and the staff will be more than willing to assist you.

## **“Seasonal Rains”**

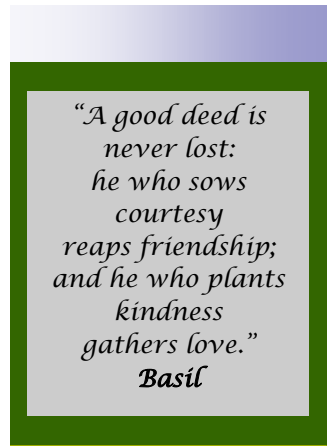
Due to record rains this season, we are experiencing more calls in reference to water seepage. When the ground is wet, there’s no place for the water to go. Even though most calls are seepage, some problems are due to clogged window wells drains. Be sure your window wells are free and clear of leaves, twigs, and all debris. Water will find its way to the lowest point, and the only way to stop it is to divert it. Sometimes changing the grading of your exterior, is sufficient. If you see water seepage, mark the area and give us a call. Please be patient with the final work as the area must be completely dry in order for seepage issues to be addressed.

## Long Time Member Recognition

At the Annual Meeting, held this past April, five (5) members who have resided and been members of Cedarwood for 30 years were acknowledged. These members are:

- Larry & Rhonda Davis*
- Brenda Franklin*
- Carol Johnson*
- Anthony & Carolyn Kennedy*
- Chiketa Tolson*

Congratulations and thank you for continuing to call Cedarwood home!



## *Cedarpost Publishing Policies*

The Cedarpost is published seasonally. All submissions should be 250 words or less and must be signed by the member. You may request that your name be withheld from actual publication. The deadline for submitting articles, even information, recipes, and photos is as follows:

<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>
Friday, August 26, 2011	Fall Edition, September 2011
Wednesday, November 30, 2011	Winter Edition, December 2011
Wednesday, February 29, 2012	Spring Edition, March 2012

The Cedarpost staff reserves the right to edit for content and form. Submissions may be sent in writing or emailed to [info@mycedarwood.com](mailto:info@mycedarwood.com). Ads placed for grass cutting, and selling of personal items are free to Cedarwood members. Advertisements for profit making businesses and services will be placed upon receipt of payment in the following amounts:

Full Page \$50	1/ 4 Page \$18.00
1/2 Page \$30	Less than 10 lines \$10

# Upcoming Events

Event Date Time & Place

New Website Launched	June 28, 2011	www.mycedarwood.com
Office Closed	Monday, July 4, 2011	63 Cedar Street
Cold Blooded Creatures & "Soda"	Wednesday, July 6, 2011	7 pm @ Downtown PF Village Green
Cedarwood Pool Party	Saturday, July 9, 2011	7-10 pm @ Aqua Center
Little Tykes Cheerleaders & Rich East Drumline	Wednesday, July 13, 2011	7 pm @ Downtown PF Village Green
Fieldcrest School of Performing Arts & PSC Jazz	Wednesday, July 20, 2011	7 pm @ Downtown PF Village Green
Monthly Board Meeting	Thursday, July 21, 2011	7 pm @ Cedarwood Center
Magician B. Alexander & Creole Stomp	Wednesday, July 27, 2011	7 pm @ Downtown PF Village Green
Farmer's Market	Every Saturday	7-12 pm 271 Lakewood behind Theatre



## CRAFTERS NEEDED

Cedarwood Cooperative is planning a craft show later this year. Members eager to sell their crafts must commit to the 3-day sign up.

Cedarwood will advertise for this special event.

Space is limited and filling up fast, so contact the office today!



## The real deal behind 3 popular grocery store myths.

It's time to get supermarket savvy! Here's the real deal behind 3 popular grocery store myths. So you can be the smartest shopper wandering the aisles. This comes from Quick and Simple Magazine.

- Grocery myth #1: Fresh vegetables are always better than frozen vegetables. Not true! Researchers at Tufts University found that frozen vegetables are just as good as fresh ones. In fact, sometimes frozen veggies are better for you! Why? Because they're flash frozen right after they're picked, which helps preserve their nutrients. But since fresh veggies aren't flash frozen,

they start losing their nutrients the minute they're exposed to air. So don't feel bad if you grab a bag of frozen peas for dinner

- Grocery myth #2: It doesn't matter which carton of milk you pick. This is false! Grocery stores often hide fresher milk at the back of the dairy case because they want to get rid of the old stuff first! So always check the printed expiration date on the milk cartons in the back before you buy. You'll probably score yourself some fresher milk.

- And a final grocery store myth: Buying bagged salad is a waste of

money. Not necessarily. A package of bagged lettuce serves 4 people, and costs about 3 dollars. A head of lettuce, on the other hand, serves 8 people, and only costs about a dollar. But although a head of lettuce is cheaper, the odds that you'll use it all before it turns brown are pretty slim - you'll end up wasting half the lettuce, and half your money. So if you have a small family, opt for the bagged lettuce. If you're feeding a lot of people, then go for the un-chopped stuff.

by John Tesh

