

We Need Your Help to Deter Rodents

The Village of Franklin Park has been working to deter rodent activity and has retained Orkin to set and regularly maintain more bait boxes throughout town. **The Village has recently doubled the number of bait boxes in alleys, now totaling nearly 800. DO NOT MOVE BAIT BOXES OR PUT THEM IN YOUR YARDS - ONLY ORKIN TECHNICIANS SHOULD HANDLE BAIT BOXES.**



The problem cannot be solved without your help - Please eliminate sources of food and hiding places on and around your property.



Garbage bins should always be closed with lids securely fastened to prevent critters from reaching a food source. Keep the area around your garbage bins free of trash, food scraps and spills.



Dog waste is a food supply for rodents so please clean up after your pet while on walks and in your own backyard immediately.



Do not feed wildlife - rats are attracted to food left out for birds and squirrels. Do not leave pet food or water bowls outside.



Mow your lawn on a regular basis and eliminate weeds in alleys and areas behind homes. Overgrown lawns and weeds are breeding grounds for rodents and insects.

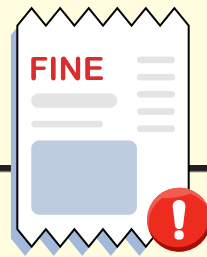


Pick ripe fruits and vegetables in your garden right away to eliminate a food source for pests and insects.

If you are disabled or elderly and need assistance complying, call (847) 671-4800. If you see properties that need to be maintained, please call the Village. **Residents can rent an additional trash bin for \$3.66 per month. Call (847) 671-8258.**

The Village is issuing tickets to:

- ❗ Properties where trash is overflowing, on the ground, and not in closed containers
- ❗ Pet owners who do not clean up after their pets
- ❗ Property owners who do not eliminate debris in yards
- ❗ Homeowners if grass is over six inches high



Library Hosts Family Multilingual Night – September 23

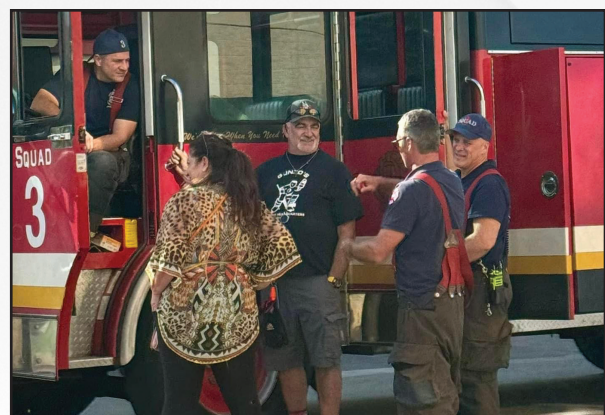
Attend the Library's Multilingual Night on Monday, September 23 from 5 until 6 PM. Enjoy treats and games while you learn about resources for your bilingual family!

Medicare 101 – September 16

This free and educational seminar will explain what Medicare covers, what it does not, and highlight potential out of pocket exposure. The program will also cover Supplements, Medicare Advantage Plans, Part D Prescription Plans, and cost saving strategies. The seminar will be held on Monday, September 16 from 7 until 8:30 PM at the Franklin Park Library located at 10311 Grand Avenue.

Senior Health and Resource Fair – October 18

The Village's annual event will feature vendors who provide important health care information, sample products, giveaways, and FREE medical testing. Get your vaccinations and renew your driver's license too! Watch for more details soon!



◀ The hit television program Chicago Fire filmed an action-packed episode in Franklin Park in August. We can't wait to watch it in the upcoming season!

THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK

Village News

September 2024

Mayor's Desk

September



Des Plaines River Trail Improvements - Connect With Nature

I am excited that Franklin Park will now have safer and more direct access to the Des Plaines River Trail with the completion of the new pedestrian trail bridge constructed over Lawrence Avenue.

In partnership with neighboring communities, West Central Municipal Conference, and the Forest Preserves of Cook County, grant funding was obtained, and construction was completed on three segments of the trail. Funding has also been secured for construction of Segment 4 from Lawrence Avenue to Irving Park Road.

The \$12.5-million investment project along the Des Plaines River Trail improved three segments, a 4.4-mile stretch from Lawrence Avenue to Touhy Avenue. Improvements and upgrades included:

- Installation of the pedestrian bridge over Lawrence Avenue
- Repair of unpaved trail surface
- Relocation of portions of this trail away from the river and out of the floodplain
- New boardwalk to raise the path in a section prone to flooding
- Signal and ADA improvements.
- New amenities include benches, lighting, and signage

Once completed, the Des Plaines River Trail Improvements project will become the keystone link in a network of trails that spans 50+ miles from the Wisconsin Border to North Avenue.

We are grateful to all our local Mayors and regional partners, especially Rosemont Mayor and State Representative Brad Stephens and to Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle for helping bring this tremendous project to fruition.

This is a wonderful enhancement that will support the health of our community. Take advantage of the nice weather and explore what the trail has to offer.

Visit our website to watch the video that highlights the trail upgrades and discusses how it helps to create a continuous trail network in Northeastern Illinois, connecting local communities with well-maintained trails that support low-stress biking, walking, kayaking, and horseback-riding.

I hope to see you on the River Trail soon!

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



Mayor Barrett Pedersen presented Justin Richter, Omar Ocampo, and Joseph Saenger with the Police Chief's Award for their bravery at the August Board meeting. "I am proud to present this award to these courageous individuals who took immediate, brave, and selfless actions to save lives. They have illustrated the commitment of being part of a community and part of a compassionate and caring civilization."

Last February, a horrific car accident occurred on the bridge at Mannheim Road. A vehicle jumped into oncoming traffic, struck another vehicle, and burst into flames. As flames started to engulf the vehicle, three brave bystanders quickly jumped into action. While one used a fire extinguisher to break the car window, the others pulled the six-year-old boy from the car, saving his life as he escaped the flames.

This award is granted to any community member in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the Franklin Park Police Department, law enforcement, or public safety. Daniel Schoedel Jr., who was rescued, and his father, Daniel Schoedel, also attended the Board Meeting.



Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor

April Arellano
Village Clerk

Village Trustees:
Irene Avitia
Gil Hagerstrom
John Johnson
Bill Ruhl
Karen Special
Andy Ybarra

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847-671-4800
www.vofp.com
villagenews@vofp.com

Emergency 911

Police & Fire
(Non-Emergency)
847-678-2444

Blood Drive
September 20
3:30 - 7:00 PM
in the
Community
Room





▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen helped to cut the ribbon for the new pedestrian bridge constructed over Lawrence Avenue which will give area residents safe access to the Des Plaines River Trail.



Park District to Host Fall Parade and Pumpkin Fest

The annual Eddie Biondo Fall Parade will be held on Sunday, October 6 starting at 1 PM at the intersection of Grand Avenue and Scott Street. The parade will include floats, marching bands, local schools, and area organizations. To see the entire parade route, go to fpparks.org.

The fun isn't over after the parade! Continue celebrating from 2 until 4 PM at North Park. Pumpkin Fest will feature family-friendly activities including music, food, games, and of course pumpkins to be painted and taken home!

Tree Canopy and Pollinator Seminar – October 12

The Franklin Park Tree Preservation Commission and Bee Committee will host a special event on Saturday, October 12, from 1 until 4 PM at the Community Room located at 9451 Belmont Avenue. Join us for an informative fall seminar focused on tree canopy expansion initiatives, tree health, and the role of pollinators in our urban environments. Speakers will include Kelsey Shaw of Possibility Place Nursery, Brandie Dunn, Xerces Society Ambassador and more. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Andy Smolen at: Asmolen@vofp.com



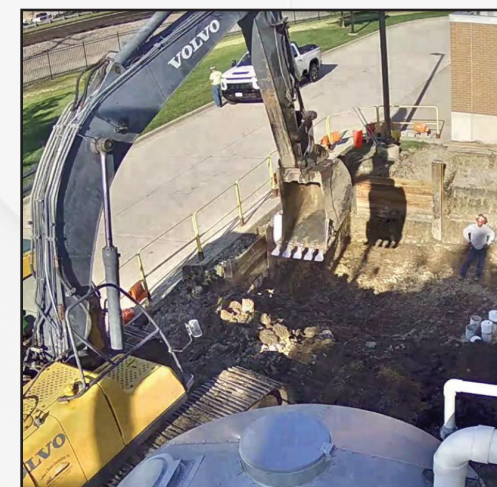
Village Supports Electrical Aggregation Program

Letters were mailed to residents recently announcing the Village's support to continue with the electrical aggregation program that guarantees residents will pay the exact price equal to the ComEd rate for one year beginning in October 2024. In turn, the Village will create over 6,000,000 kWh of renewable energy, equal to removing the emissions of 595 gasoline powered vehicles driven for one year. This aggregation program was approved by Franklin Park voters in a 2012 referendum.

Several versions of the program announcement letter were mailed to different households, so please read your letter for specific information. Not all residents will be included in the program, so many of the letters will just be informational. While you may receive a different letter than your neighbor, you will not pay a rate that is one penny more than your neighbor's rate.

MC Squared Energy Services, LLC (mc2), was selected to serve eligible residents and small business customers with an electric supply price equal to the ComEd rate and you may opt out at any time with no termination fees. To opt in or out, email FranklinPark@mc2energyservice.com. If you have questions, call our consultant Adam Hoover at (224) 255-5135.

No one from ComEd, MC Squared Energy Services, or the Village will call or visit your home to ask you to enroll. If you are contacted and told that you must enroll, you may file a complaint with the Illinois Commerce Commission.



▲ The Police Department completed the removal of old analog antennas and replaced them with two new, modern, digital antennas now located behind the Police Station (for Police and Fire frequencies) and at the Public Works facility. This important public safety communication modernization project was funded entirely by the Public Safety 911 surcharge.

Shred and Recycle Event October 5

The Village will host a free shred and recycle event on Saturday, October 5 from 9 AM until Noon at the Police Station. Drop off old documents that contain your financial or personally identifiable information so they can be safely eliminated. The Village will also recycle electronics and collect expired or unused medications for safe disposal. There is a two-box limit per household for shredding accepted until the truck reaches capacity. Remove clips and staples. To see a complete list of electronic items that will be accepted, visit the Village's Sustainability Page at vofp.com.



The Village is partnering with CMAP to better understand travel trends in and around our community and help support local planning efforts, Select Franklin Park residents will receive a letter in the mail from CMAP and will be asked to share daily or weekly travel activity (for their household) via an app downloaded on their phone, an online form, or over the phone.