

# AUGUST 26-29, 2021



Franklin Avenue between Rose Street / 25th Avenue and Ruby Street  
9600 Franklin Avenue

## FREE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT MUSIC LINE-UP

### Friday, August 27

6:30-8 PM - Petty Union: The Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers Tribute

8:45-10:30 PM - Chicago Tribute Anthology

### Saturday, August 28

3:30-5 PM - The Moods

5:45-7:45 PM - One Of The Boyzz

8:30-10:30 PM - Kashmir: The Led Zepplin Concert

**VOFP.COM**

### Village-wide Garage Sale - August 20, 21 and 22



It's time to clear out your clutter and sell it to someone else! This is your chance to shop for one-of-a-kind treasures and bargains! The Village's three-day event will be held on August 20, 21, and 22 from 8 AM to 7 PM daily. If you would like your address to be included in the sale, please email [clerk@vofp.com](mailto:clerk@vofp.com) or call (847) 671-8242. Register no later than August 15 to be included in the list of addresses that are participating. The list will be available just prior to the sale.

### Community Celebration & Fireworks Display - August 13

Leyden Township and the Veterans Park District will present a night of fireworks, food, and fun! The event will be held on Friday, August 13 at 6 pm at West Leyden High School located at 1000 Wolf Road in Northlake. Admission is free.

**CARNIVAL OPENS DAILY  
AUGUST 26 & 27 AT 5 PM**

**AUGUST 28 AT NOON**

**AUGUST 29 AT 2 PM**

**BEER & WINE GARDEN  
& FOOD VENDORS  
ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY**

NO Bikes NO Dogs NO Skateboards

THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK

# Village News

August 2021



## Mayor's Desk

### Trail Redevelopment Will Bring New Opportunities

Last month, I was pleased to join Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle and State Representative and Rosemont Mayor Brad Stephens at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the Des Plaines River which connects to the Des Plaines River Trail in Rosemont.

For years, the Des Plaines River Trail has been impacted by chronic issues of flooding, disrepair, and unsafe road crossings. I serve as Chair of the Trail Advisory Group, hosting meetings and helping to identify trail improvements and potential route options.

The Trail Advisory Group is advocating for the creation of a continuous trail network in Northeastern Illinois and that allows for biking, walking and horseback riding and that provides connections between local communities. Currently the trail terminates at North Avenue, but the planned expansion would expand and connect it to the Illinois Prairie Path and Miller Meadow near Forest Park. It would also provide connections to other trail systems that extend from the Wisconsin border to the Stevenson Expressway, a distance of over 50 miles.

Franklin Park is strongly committed to supporting new opportunities that offer cyclist and pedestrian alternatives and that sustain our environment. The trail offers more educational and recreational options for our residents and families and adds to the wellness of our region. Our connection to the natural environment is vital to our physical, mental, and emotional health.

The Des Plaines River Trail project, along with other planned improvements, will create more opportunities for vibrant public spaces and offer safer access to destinations around Franklin Park. The trail will also spur economic development as more people will be able to visit our Downtown District, and have access to the Metra Stations, Pace Bus stops, and their jobs without relying on a car.

The River Trail Improvement Project is another impressive result of intergovernmental cooperation. Among those contributing funding and support for the project are Cook County, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Village of Rosemont, the North Central Council of Mayors, the West Central Municipal Conference, and the Chicago Community Trust.

### World Headquarters Relocates to Franklin Park

Life Fitness, the world-wide leader in commercial fitness equipment, will relocate its global headquarters and construct a new facility in Franklin Park. The company currently has a facility in Franklin Park at 10601 Belmont Avenue, but plans to significantly renovate and expand it, consolidating corporate offices there and adding staff. Construction will begin this month. When completed, the location will feature a state-of-the-art fitness showroom and an Experience Center to facilitate product development. The renovations are expected to be completed in 2023.

Mayor's Desk Continued on Page 2. ►



Barrett F. Pedersen  
Mayor

April Arellano  
Village Clerk

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

9500 Belmont Ave.  
Franklin Park, IL 60131  
847-671-4800  
[www.vofp.com](http://www.vofp.com)  
[villagenews@vofp.com](mailto:villagenews@vofp.com)

Emergency 911

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

**Village Hall  
will be  
closed  
Monday,  
September 6  
for  
Labor Day**



### ◀ Mayor's Desk Continued from Page 1.

The relocation of this prestigious global headquarters demonstrates Franklin Park's strong desirability as a business address.

Life Fitness is known for their commitment to wellness, for their employees, their clients, and their community. They will be another great corporate citizen for Franklin Park.

We look forward to the investment and energy Life Fitness will bring to our community.

### McDonalds to Revitalize Vacant Lot

Another new business will be calling Franklin Park their business home. McDonald's will locate a new restaurant at Edgington and Grand Avenue. The lot, already commercially zoned, has been vacant for over 30 years. McDonald's is investing considerably in the lot by providing new lighting and extensive landscaping that will significantly upgrade this previously empty, unattractive lot. McDonald's is also constructing, with no Village funding, a new alley that will greatly benefit the residents in the immediate area. Additionally, Washington Street will remain a one-way street.

McDonald's neither required, nor requested, any tax breaks, zoning changes, or street changes.

The Village is hopeful this will spur more investment and clean-up the area.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

**Barrett F. Pedersen**

### Save the Date – Community Shred Event

The Village will host a Shred Day event for Franklin Park residents and businesses on Saturday, October 16. Plan to drop-off unwanted documents to be safely shredded and electronics and expired medications to be disposed of properly. Watch the Village website and Facebook page for more details.

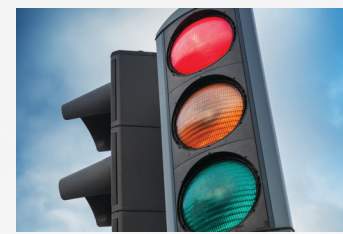


◀ Mayor Pedersen joined Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and State Representative and Rosemont Mayor Brad Stephens at the opening of a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the Des Plaines River connecting Rosemont and Chevalier Woods on East River Road in Chicago.



▲ Guests at the ribbon cutting event included Forest Preserve Superintendent Arnold Randall, Franklin Park Mayor Barrett Pedersen, State Representative and Rosemont Mayor Brad Stephens, State Senator Robert Martwick, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, and Cook County Commissioner Peter Silvestri.

### Robinson Road and Des Plaines River Road Intersection Improvement



The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has begun making intersection improvements at Robinson and Des Plaines River Roads. IDOT expects to complete the improvements by the end of October.

Des Plaines River Road, which is a state road, will be widened and reconstructed to provide a northbound left turn lane. An eastbound right turn lane will be added on Robinson Road and a new traffic signal will be installed at the intersection of Des Plaines River and Robinson Roads. The project will also include installation of a 7-foot-wide concrete sidewalk on the south side of Robinson Road and 10-foot-wide hot mix asphalt shared use path.

The greatly anticipated enhancement will benefit the residents in the Robinson Road area by providing safe in and out access to their community. This project will also facilitate the free flow of traffic to ensure safety to the motoring public in general.

At this time, the Village does not believe that road closures or detours will be required.

### Franklin Avenue Closure Extended

Franklin Avenue will remain closed to traffic from Williams Drive to Wolf Road through August 16. Please watch for detour signs posted in the area. Local traffic will be able to access the project area and all driveways will have access. To learn more about the project: <https://www.villageoffranklinpark.com/departments/engineering/>.

### Help Keep Our Community Clean and Tidy

Residents are encouraged to take these simple steps to help keep our community clean and tidy:

- Securely fasten garbage can lids and keep the area around your cans free of trash, food scraps and spills.
- Regularly mow your lawn and eliminate the weeds in alleys and areas behind homes. Tall grass and weeds are a hiding and breeding place for rodents and mosquitoes.
- Maintain a clean backyard including removing clutter, debris and dense shrubbery which can provide critters with shelter and places to breed. Firewood stacks should be elevated off the ground.
- Clean-up after your pet in your own backyard. Dog waste is a food supply for rodents.
- Do not leave pet food or water bowls outside and pick ripe fruits and vegetables to eliminate a food source. Keep your barbeque grill clean and free of grease.

If you are disabled or elderly and need assistance complying, please call (847) 671-4800. Also, if you see properties that need to be maintained, please call the Village.

### MWRD Subsidizing Rain Barrel Purchase

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District's (MWRD) rain barrel program promotes local green infrastructure to capture rainwater from roofs and save it for use later, such as watering gardens and flowers. To help encourage the use of rain barrels, the MWRD is subsidizing 50% of the cost of rain barrels for all Cook County residents and 75% of the cost of the rain barrels for Cook County residents over the age of 65.

- Cook County Residents \$21.96
- Cook County residents over the age of 65: \$10.98

Free shipping and any accessories ordered are included in the purchase of rain barrels. Each rain barrel includes a 2-foot flexible downspout pipe. Order soon because delivery may take up to 30 days. To order your rain barrel go to <https://rainbarrel.ca/mwrld/>



### Blood Drive – September 3

Give the gift of life by donating blood on Friday, September 3 from 3:00 to 7:30 PM in the Community Room of the Police Station.