

## Holiday Parade – December 4

The Village will ring in the holiday season with a parade which will feature festively decorated vehicles that will make their way through many of the streets in Franklin Park. The parade will take place on Saturday, December 4 and will kick-off at 2:30 PM from Fire Station 2 located at 10001 Addison Ave.

Everyone is invited to view the parade from their front yard or porch. Residents are encouraged to decorate their homes to celebrate the season. Children can hold up signs to greet Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the elves! The parade will conclude at Hammill Square and Mayor Pedersen, the Village Clerk and Trustees will light the Village Christmas tree.

The exact parade route will be available after Thanksgiving on our Village website and on our Facebook page.



## Who Will Be the Best Decorated Home for the Holidays in 2021?

The holidays are just around the corner and that means it is time for the Village's annual Best Decorated Home for the Holidays Contest. Let your imagination run wild as you create your sparkling, holiday masterpiece that will spread Christmas cheer throughout the town!

To have your home considered, please send an email to [villagenews@vofp.com](mailto:villagenews@vofp.com) that includes your family's name, address, phone number and photos of your decorated home by December 17. As we receive entries, we will post your photos on our Village Facebook page. The winners will receive Board recognition and a prize. Let's light up Franklin Park up!

If you have questions, please call (847) 671-8236.

## Blood Drive – December 3

The final Community Blood Drive will be held on Friday, December 3 from 3 to 7:30 PM in the Community Room of the Police Station. Thank you to everyone who has donated blood this year and to the volunteers from the Village's Senior Commission who help to staff the drives!



▲ Village Clerk April Arellano administered the oath of office to Firefighter Anthony Tricoci who was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant with the Franklin Park Fire Department and to Dan Morys who was promoted to the rank of Sergeant with the Police Department.

## Mayor's Desk

### Improving Our Village and Enhancing Our Quality of Life

Over the past year, it was easy to see construction crews hard at work throughout the Village. These projects are part of a comprehensive infrastructure improvement plan that addresses sewers, streets, downtown sidewalk improvements, pedestrian gates and traffic control devices at railroad crossings, LED lighting, and green infrastructure enhancements.

Infrastructure improvements are necessary to keep our property values stable and to allow our businesses to continue to grow and operate in our Village.

### Storm Water Management and Sewer Repair

You may have noticed that Franklin Park has not experienced much flooding after heavy rainfalls. That is due in part to the addition of millions of gallons of storm water detention over the last few years. The Village collaborates with developers to ensure they provide adequate storm water storage to their properties which reduces the likelihood that storm water runoff will end up in our neighborhoods.

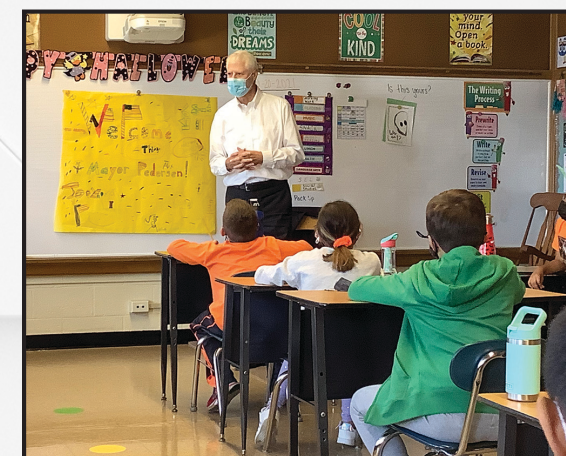
Each year the Village invests in the lining of a portion of the sanitary sewers in town. This work produces a uniform lining for the sanitary sewers ultimately making them brand new and extending the lifespan of the sewers. This cost-effective process eliminates the need to dig up the existing sewers and then having to restore the roadways. It also saves the existing trees in the parkways.

### Reuter and Naples Subdivisions - Phases 3 & 4

The Village is completing the final phases of a four-year project to upgrade the infrastructure in the Reuter and Naples subdivisions. The project incorporated the removal and replacement of all existing underground sanitary and storm sewers and water mains that were put in place shortly after WWII. Additional stormwater management improvements were incorporated to mitigate the flooding that has occurred in this area over the years because of undersized sewers. The project also included a new roadway and sidewalks, replacement of concrete curbs, gutters, and driveway aprons and enhanced parkway landscaping.

### Street Improvement Program

Roadway repairs add to the overall appeal and safety of our community and help to protect our vehicles from damage. While COVID caused us to delay our



Mayor's Desk Continued on Page 2. ▶



Barrett F. Pedersen  
Mayor

April Arellano  
Village Clerk

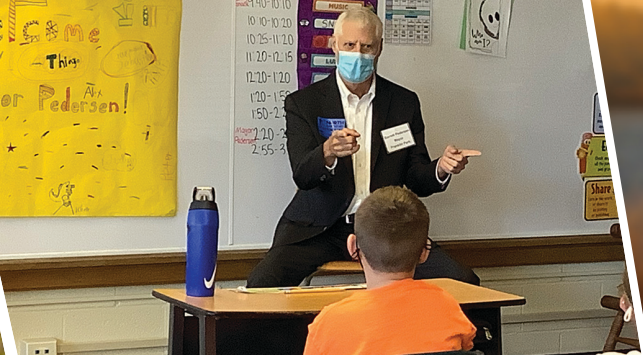
Village Trustees:  
Irene Avitia  
Gil Hagerstrom  
John Johnson  
Bill Ruhl  
Karen Special  
Andy Ybarra

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Emergency 911

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

**Village Hall will be closed on Nov 11 in observance of Veterans Day and will close at 3 PM on November 24 and will be closed on November 25 and 26 for Thanksgiving**



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annual street improvement program, we will be able to complete our residential roadway improvements this fall. The improvements include street re-paving, curbing and sidewalk repair on the following streets:

- Nichols Avenue from 25th Street to Britta Avenue
- Davis Avenue from 25th Street to Britta Avenue
- Britta Avenue from Nichols Avenue from 25th Street
- Addison Street from 25th Street to Britta Avenue
- Nerbonne Avenue from 25th Street to Leyden Lane
- Leyden Lane from Nerbonne Avenue to Britta Avenue
- Gustav Street from Pacific Avenue to King Street
- Hacke Court and Kimmy Court

The projects outlined above are just a few of the many infrastructure renewals and improvements that the Village completed this year. Each month this newsletter will continue to highlight specific infrastructure projects that are making Franklin Park more attractive to business and more desirable to homebuyers.

**Future Leaders**

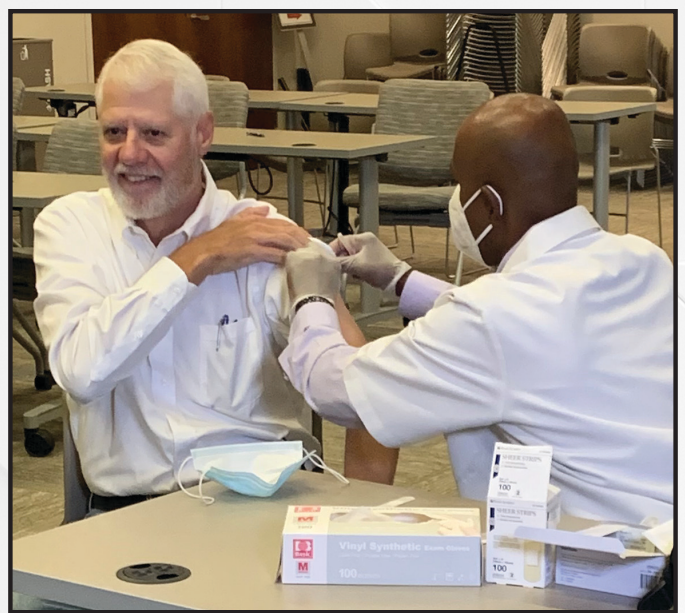
I had the privilege of speaking to third grade Social Studies students at North School about the duties of being a mayor and the importance of civic engagement. I was glad to share with them that public service is an honor and a sacred trust between those who are elected and those they serve. Thank you Ms. Christine Akdeniz for the opportunity to encourage our youth to become engaged.

**Count Your Blessings and Give Thanks**

The Leyden Family Services' Food Pantry is asking our residents to please consider donating non-perishable boxed or canned food items. They can be put in the drop-off box in Village Hall. They are also accepting donations of Jewel or Walgreen's gift cards in any amount. Let's do what we can to help others experience the joy of abundance.

On behalf of the Village Clerk and Trustees, I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving!

**Barrett F. Pedersen**



▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen got his flu shot at the Village's Vaccine Clinic in October. You can get a flu shot from your health provider, a local pharmacy or area walk-in clinic.

**How to Appeal Your Property Tax Assessment – November 16**

Mayor Barrett Pedersen invites residents to attend a workshop on how to appeal your property tax assessment on Tuesday, November 16 at 6 PM. Officials from Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Mike Cabonargi's Office will answer questions and help with filing an appeal. Bring your second installment tax bill and your PIN number. The workshop will take place at the Police Station in the Community Room. Face masks are required.

**Having Problems Paying Your Utility Bills?**

There are resources available for those who qualify to help pay for utilities including heat, electricity, and water bills. To learn more about the programs available, qualifications and the documents required to apply, go to Village's website at vofp.com. To apply, go to CEDAorg.net/pre-app.

**Seniors, You Must Reapply for Free Garbage Removal Services**

Franklin Park senior citizens and disabled and low-income residents must reapply annually to receive free garbage removal services. Qualified senior citizens and disabled low-income homeowners are required to reapply by December 31 each year to avoid receiving a bill for garbage removal service.

- Senior citizens aged 65 years or older who own a single residence or two-family property must provide a copy of their most recent Cook County Property Tax Bill which indicates they are receiving the Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption to receive free garbage removal services. A copy of the bill can be mailed, emailed, or brought to Village Hall by December 31.
- Disabled and low-income property owners must provide proof of qualifications for the low-income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) to be eligible to receive a reduced garbage collection fee of 50 percent. Applicants can apply at Village Hall, by mail or via email by December 31.

To guarantee you will receive free garbage removal for 2022, email your information to [bcollins@vofp.com](mailto:bcollins@vofp.com) or mail to Village of Franklin Park, 9500 Belmont Avenue, Franklin Park, IL 6013. For more information, call (847) 671-8240.

▶ Mayor Barrett Pedersen joined IDI Logistics in October to break ground on a 100,463-square-foot industrial building they are developing at 3500 Wolf Road.



**Yard Waste and Leaf Removal Ending Soon**

The Village's contractor will continue leaf removal services until December 6. Leaves cannot be picked-up if they are put in plastic bags or placed in the street. Please put leaves in brown biodegradable bags only and place them near your trash and recycling for pick-up.

Please do not put or blow leaves into the street. It can jam street sweepers and cause clogs in sewers. Clear leaves in front of your home that fall in the street away from sewer covers to prevent street flooding.

Consider mulching your leaves by mowing over them and leaving on your lawn to provide a protective blanket during the winter. Also, sprinkle over your plants and shrubs to help retain water and to add nutrients.

The final yard waste pick-up will be on Monday, December 6.

The last pick-up of branches for the year will take place the week of November 15. Please have your branches on the parkway by 7 AM on Monday and they will be removed sometime that week.

The Department of Public Works will sweep Village curbs through late November. Please remember to check signs on your block for parking restrictions.

For more information regarding any of these services, call (847) 671-8252.