



Village of Franklin Park
9500 Belmont Avenue
Franklin Park, IL 60131

THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK Senior News



December 2021



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
villagenews@vofp.com

Emergency 911

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

Mayor's Desk

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

I hope you were able to enjoy our Christmas Parade as it made its way through town on December 4. Families lined the street to welcome Santa as he rode in style via a Franklin Park Fire Truck. After the parade, we lit the Village's beautiful Christmas Tree at the gazebo. I would like to thank Two J's Industries, Scott Shannon, and Yesenia Aviles for donating the tree to our community this year.

Medicare or insurance card too.

Tidings of Comfort and Joy

At this time of year, we look forward to being surrounded by the ones who are most dear in our lives, picking up on beloved traditions and creating new memories. This holiday season, the Village Clerk, Trustees, and I wish you a joyous holiday season and we hope it finds you and your loved ones happy and healthy.

May you be filled with the blessings of the season and spend the holidays in joy and peace.

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen

I hope you have seen some of the festive decorations and imaginative light displays your neighbors have created this year. We are always excited to hold the Best Decorated Home for the Holidays Contest because it inspires our residents to help light up our town in the spirit of the holidays. We are posting photos of the contest entries on our Village Facebook page and will have a list of homes available of all the entries on our website on December 17.

Take Care of Your Health

To stay healthy, residents should get a flu vaccination and a COVID vaccination. Vaccinations are available at local pharmacies and walk-in clinics to prevent the seasonal flu and COVID-19 with first, second and booster vaccine options. Remember to bring your CDC vaccination card and your



Donate to the Food Pantry



The Leyden Family Services' Food Pantry is collecting non-perishable and non-expired boxed or canned food items. They can be put in the box in Village Hall. They are also accepting donations of Jewel or Walgreen's gift cards in any amount. Thank you for helping others experience the joy of abundance this holiday season!

Meals on Wheels Available

Senior citizens, 60 years old and older, who are unable to get out to shop for themselves due to physical limitations or who are simply unable to drive, can receive a hot lunch delivered to their home. The program provides a hot lunch five days a week, delivered between 10 AM and 2 PM. A spouse or caretaker living in the household can also qualify even if they are not 60. In addition, frozen meals that can be easily prepared on the weekend, are available.



The Meals on Wheels Program works in partnership with Aging Care Connection and conducts a background check on their drivers. The cost of a daily meal is a suggested donation of \$3.25-\$3.50, but anyone in need of the program should apply. Call Aging Care Connection at (708) 354-1323, Ext 215 or contact Meals on Wheels at (847) 678-8777 to sign up. Also, **the Senior Cafe is open Monday through Friday for Bingo at 10 AM and lunch at 11:30 AM and they have Meals to Go on Tuesdays!**



Thank you to our friends at the Franklin Park Manila Lions Club for hosting their annual Thanksgiving dinner for our senior citizens and others in need in our community.



Do You Need Help Applying for Government Programs?

Leyden Family Services can help! Their staff will be at Village Hall to help residents who have questions or want to apply for programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and LIHEAP. They can also help you with understanding medical bills, prescription assistance, and more. Bring your Social Security award letter and paycheck stubs that show the amount of income you receive. No appointment is necessary, and facemasks are required

Staff will be at Village Hall from 9 AM until Noon on the following dates. Please note, the last person is seen at 11:30 AM.

- December 22
- January 19
- February 16
- March 23
- April 20
- May 18



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, please go to vofp.com.

Looking for Ways to Stay Active, Connected and Educated?

Aging Care Connections is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to making a difference in the lives of older adults and their families through community-based services that promote dignity, self-respect, and independence. Each week they provide fitness, educational, brain health, social and entertaining classes online for free via Zoom! Advance registration is not required. To view the extensive class list, go to agingcareconnections.org. For more information call (708) 354-1323.



Do You Need Transportation Assistance?

Leyden Family Services provides local transportation for medical appointments and necessary errands for seniors in Leyden Township. Drivers will provide door-to-door service which is currently available on Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 2 PM. Give them a call at (847) 455-3929 to schedule a ride or to get more details.

Seniors Must Reapply for Free Garbage Removal Services

Qualified senior citizens and disabled low-income homeowners are required to reapply 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 30.
- 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 the reduced garbage collection fee of 50 percent. Please bring your LIHEAP award letter to Village Hall to qualify for the reduced fee by December 30.

To guarantee you will receive free garbage removal for 2022, email your information to bcollins@vofp.com or mail to Village of Franklin Park, 9500 Belmont Avenue, Franklin Park, IL 60131 by December 30. For more information, call (847) 671-8240.

SIMPLY HAVING A WONDERFUL CHRISTMASTIME!

