



THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK Village News

August 2018



Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor

Irene Avitia
Village Clerk

Village Trustees:
James Caporusso
John Johnson
Cheryl McLean
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

**Village Hall
will be closed on
September 1 and 3
in observance
of Labor Day**



Building Permits Required

In order to ensure that construction is done safely and in compliance with building codes, the Village requires that permits be obtained for nearly all residential, commercial and industrial work, including carpentry, concrete, plumbing, fencing, roofing, masonry, signage, electrical, fire safety and HVAC. Permits should be prominently displayed on the work site. If you suspect work is being performed without the proper building permits, please report the exact property address and nature of your concern to the Building Department at building2@vofp.com.

Maintain Lawns and Eliminate Weeds

Residents are encouraged to mow their lawn on a regular basis and eliminate weeds on their property including in alleys and areas behind your home. Grass and weeds cannot exceed six inches in height because mosquitoes and rodents can hide and breed there. The Village has begun issuing tickets to homeowners if their grass is over six inches high. If you are disabled or elderly and need assistance complying, please call us at 847-671-4800. Also, if you see properties that need to be maintained, please alert the Village. Thank you for your cooperation!



West Nile Virus Precautions

Summer heat and rain brings a threat of the mosquito-borne West Nile Virus. With this in mind, public health officials are reminding residents to take precautions to avoid bites and eliminate breeding sites. Limit your time outdoors at dusk and sunrise and carefully apply insect repellent with DEET, primarily applied to clothing. Remember to clean gutters and down spouts and to store all containers upside down, cover trash cans and empty birdbaths and wading pools regularly. Village inspectors are larviciding mosquito pools that are found or reported. Backyard catch basin can be treated by calling 847-671-8245. While the risk of contracting the virus is small, please take precautions through October.



▲ Kitty Greenwood, Ruth Schwab and Bernie Brown, members of the Franklin Park Senior Commission, took a break from their work on behalf of the Village to enjoy an afternoon at Brookfield Zoo thanks to Cook County Commissioner Jeff Tobolski.

Long Term Care Counseling Available



Leyden Family Services provides individualized counseling for seniors age 60 or over, people with disabilities and family members and caregivers who need help with long term care planning. An Options Counselor can connect you to the resources and support needed to allow you to remain in the community. They also provide assistance and referrals for matters relating to owning your own home, hospitals and nursing and rehabilitation facilities.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 847-451-0330.

Mayor's Desk

"Teach Your Children Well"

That was a lyric from a popular Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young song from when I was growing up. They are words to live by and learn from. While this concept is still true, I have come to learn that we are also taught by our children. In Franklin Park, I am amazed by the intelligence and passion of our young people.

These students are very well versed in the issues of the day. They address subjects of sustainability, immigration, affordable housing and school safety. There are also some great recommendations for ways to provide free ice cream and pool passes!

Each year, we hold a "Mayor for a Day" writing contest open to students in third, fourth and fifth grades. Students are asked to offer their ideas on specific subjects relating to the community and what they would do if they were Mayor of Franklin Park. Though we choose a winner, I believe that every child who enters is a winner. They have demonstrated one of the most important aspects of a working democracy- speaking their mind. Their perspective is unique and authentic. The Board and I welcome their input and we listen to their ideas.



▲ Contest Runner Up Kiley Dec, a 3rd grade student at Scott School and this year's winner Adela Struzouca, a 4th grade student at Passow School, were congratulated by Mayor Barrett Pedersen after reading their essays at the Village Board Meeting. Adela's essay discussed how to make our town more neighborly which included a plan for a community-wide recycling party.



▲ Contest Runner Up Michele Chaidez, a 3rd grade student at Pietrini School was presented with a certificate and gift card for her essay by the Mayor at a Village Board Meeting.

I am impressed with the depth and breadth of their understanding of our community's challenges, needs and opportunities.

Children are our future and keeping and attracting new families to Franklin Park is a mission of our Village Board. We have worked to keep our property taxes stable. We continue to improve our infrastructure and provide family-oriented events. We prioritize public safety because safeguarding our neighborhoods helps to keep property values high. Investing in our community will keep us a diverse Village that honors and respects its citizens of all ages.

Our Board also works closely with the school districts, the Library Board and the Park District to ensure that Franklin Park has



◀ Mayor's Desk Continued from Page 1.

the recreational, cultural and educational assets that will attract growing families.

A Rising Young Business Star

One of Franklin Park's young stars is Jeanette Chavarria Torres, just named by Crain's Chicago Business as one of 20 in their 20's. Jeanette is the founder, President and CEO of Franklin Park-based DCH Construction and Hauling. The firm moves dirt, sand and gravel to construction sites.

Jeanette persevered through economic downturns to build a successful company from one truck and trailer to nine vehicles and now services clients including Christy Weber Landscaping and METRA. Fewer than two percent of women-owned businesses achieve over \$1 million in annual revenue, which DCH has accomplished.

A former Village employee, Jeanette now serves on our Zoning Board of Appeals.

We congratulate Jeanette and we are glad she is part of our Franklin Park Family!

Franklin Park parents -- you have taught your children well. Keep it up! We encourage your participation in our community and look forward to hearing more from these talented young people.

Farewell Don Fulmer

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we want to offer our condolences to the family and friends of Train Guru Don Fulmer who passed away last month. For over 20 years, Don offered his leadership and guidance to our Annual Railroad Days Festivals. His tireless efforts brought unique and vintage train cars, along with countless train enthusiasts, to our community.

Thank you Don Fulmer for your years of service and dedication in honoring Franklin Park's rail heritage.

Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



Construction on Franklin Avenue
Please be aware that Franklin Avenue, west of Williams Drive, will experience reduced lanes and possible delays to facilitate water main work. Work will continue through the end of August. We will provide updates as needed on our website at vofp.com and on our Village Facebook Page.



▲ Thank you to everyone who came out on a rainy Saturday afternoon to donate food to the Leyden Food Pantry. Your generosity will help families in need. Also, thank you to those who volunteered to work the drop-off site outside Jewel-Osco!



▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen, Trustee John Johnson, members of the Village staff and Chamber by O'Hare held a ribbon cutting for Gianni's Ristorante and Pizzeria which is now under new ownership. The popular restaurant is at the same location at 9655 W. Grand Avenue and continues to pride themselves in bringing Italian home cooking to the table.

Free Shred and Recycling Event – August 18

The Village is partnering with State Representative Camille Lilly to host a free Shred and Recycling Event on Saturday, August 18, from 9 AM to Noon in the parking lot of the Franklin Park Police Station. Protect your identity by bringing documents that contain personally identifiable information such as old bank statements, tax returns, bills, receipts, credit card applications and outdated medical records to be safely shredded.

This service is free and open to Franklin Park residents only and is not available for business use. Two containers per person will be accepted. Residents cannot leave cardboard boxes at the event. Please remove all staples and clips. Material for shredding will be accepted until the truck reaches capacity.

Electronic devices are prohibited by law from going into landfills. Drop-off your electronics at the event so they can be recycled properly! Items accepted include computer equipment, televisions, stereos, game consoles, DVD & VCR players, copiers and fax machines. To see a complete list, go to vofp.com.

The Village will also collect old and unwanted cell phones that day to refurbish for seniors to utilize in emergency situations.

The Police Department will also be accepting unused and expired drugs including over the counter medication.

If you have questions, please call 847-671-8282.

Recycle Correctly

Recycling is one of the best ways for you to have a positive impact on the world. In fact, recycling one ton of office paper can save the energy equivalent of consuming 322 gallons of gasoline! But, it is also critical to recycle correctly.

Please do not put plastic bags in your recycling bin. Plastic bags get caught in the equipment at recycling centers, potentially breaking or stopping machinery. A wide variety of plastic bags, films and wraps can be discarded in bins at most local grocery stores.

Putting items in the recycling bin that can't be recycled can contaminate the recycling stream. After these unrecyclable items arrive at recycling centers, they must be sorted out and then sent to landfills, which raises costs for the facility (and therefore, the Village).

Never put the following items in your recycling bin: plastic paint cans and buckets, hazardous waste containers including containers for antifreeze, gas and motor oil, mirrors, window glass, Pyrex glass and dinnerware, cardboard and paper soiled with food residue, lumber, carpeting, pipe, roofing and siding materials, pots and pans, diapers, clothing, toys, electronics light bulbs and fixtures and plastic bags and wrap. Download our Recycle Guide at vofp.com

County Offers Low Cost Rabies Vaccines on August 14

Cook County pet owners can save money and protect their animals from rabies by taking advantage of Cook County's low-cost rabies vaccine clinics. The County's Mobile Rabies Clinic will be in Franklin Park on Tuesday, August 14 from 10 AM to 2:45 PM in the Jewel parking lot at 10203 West Grand Avenue.

The cost of a one-year rabies shot at the rabies clinics is \$7 for dogs and cats and a three-year rabies shot is \$21. Ferret vaccines, which last one-year, are \$9.

Rabies vaccinations are required by law and help to maintain good health for your pet. The rates represent a substantial discount in what is normally charged for these services, making the mobile clinic both affordable and convenient.

Only cash or checks are accepted for the rabies vaccine. Credit and debit cards are not accepted. The rabies shot is the only vaccine that will be provided at the clinic and no microchips will be given that day.

