



# THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK Village News

December 2015



Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



**Barrett F. Pedersen**  
Mayor

Tommy Thomson  
Village Clerk

Village Trustees:  
James Caporusso  
John Johnson  
Cheryl McLean  
Bill Ruhl  
Karen Special  
Andy Ybarra

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Franklin Park, IL 60131  
847-671-4800  
www.vofp.com  
villagenews@vofp.com

Emergency 911

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

**Village Hall  
Holiday Hours  
December 23 -  
Closes at 3:30 PM  
Dec 24, 25, 26  
& 27 - Closed  
January 1, 2  
& 3 - Closed**

## Paul G. Ruch Food Drive – December 12

If you would like to participate in this year's event, please place a bag or box of non-perishable food items on your front doorstep by 9 AM on Saturday, December 12. Area scouts will collect the food and bring the donations to the Leyden Family Services Food Pantry. If you cannot donate food for this event, you can still donate to the Leyden Family Services Food Pantry by visiting their office at 10200 W Grand Avenue or by calling 847-455-5688. Thank you to Franklin Park Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troops for continuing to provide assistance to support the Paul G. Ruch Food Drive, one of the largest food donation events in Franklin Park!



## Village Will Recycle Christmas Trees



The Village will pick-up discarded Christmas trees (real trees only!) on January 4 and 11. Put your tree on the front parkway by the curb. Do not put trees in the alleys. Please be sure to remove all lights, ornaments, tinsel and other decorations. The Village's Street Division will pick up and then chip and mulch the trees and use it to support our landscaping.

## Winter Parking Restrictions in Effect

The Village's No Parking on designated Snow Route policy is in effect. Parking is not allowed on designated streets after a 2" snow fall until snow clearing operations are complete. Secondary streets have a No Parking restriction after a 2" snow fall from 9 AM to 9 PM on the odd address numbered side of the street and 9 PM to 9 AM on the even address side. Check signs in your area for restrictions. If you are unsure if snow operations have been completed, you can call the police department's non-emergency number 847-678-2444 for assistance.



## Food Collection at Village Hall

Please donate non-perishable food items to support the Leyden Township Food Pantry's Holiday Food Drive. A drop-off box was created by a local company Ex-Cell Kaiser and will be located at Village Hall through-out the holiday season. Thank you for helping those in need during the holidays.



## Toys for Tots

Please bring an unwrapped toy to the Franklin Park Police Department and drop it off in the lobby at 9451 Belmont Ave. Toys will be accepted through December 14. Thank you for donating!



## Mayor's Desk

### Holiday Sparkle, Holiday Glow!

One of the greatest joys of the holiday season is seeing the decorations and lights that grace Franklin Park. Once again, the Village will hold our Annual Best Decorated Home for the Holidays Contest. We encourage residents to light up our town and light up our spirits with joyful, fun and festive spectacles.

Our contest judges will drive through the Village looking for creative and imaginative displays. Each year, more and more homes participate in Franklin Park and we are hoping to become a destination as one of the best decorated Villages in the region. Winners will receive a prize and special recognition from our Board of Trustees for demonstrating true holiday spirit.

### Season's Greetings

Whether it is our decorating contest, or our fun-filled, family-friendly Tree Lighting and Winterfest, Franklin Park comes together as a community to celebrate and enjoy the holidays. We celebrate the season in many ways including our Police Department's Annual Toys for Tots Drive and by supporting food drives that help to keep the Leyden Township Food Pantry stocked throughout the holiday season. More information is available on our website and on Page 4 of this newsletter.

We cherish holiday time, whether it is reliving joyous holiday memories or

creating new traditions with family and friends.

I hope that all in our community will share their joy with others. Please consider volunteering or donating through your place of worship, a local charity, or programs that Leyden Township offers to make sure everyone in our Village has a Happy Holiday.

The term "peace on earth and good will towards men" seems to be especially meaningful this year as we have just experienced the terrorist attacks in France. The Board and I ask that you join with us in praying that the peace of the season replace hate and terror across the globe.

May all our holidays be filled with love, health, joy and peace.

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen





▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen welcomed the Block Group to Franklin Park at the company's newly-renovated facility at 10632 Grand Avenue. The German-based and family-owned Block Companies manufacture transformers, reactors and other products for international markets and have made Franklin Park their first home in the U.S.



▲ Shining Smiles has opened its doors at 9704 Grand Avenue in Franklin Park. Mayor Barrett Pedersen, Clerk Tommy Thomson, Village Trustees James Caporusso, John Johnson, Bill Rubl, Karen Special and Andy Ybarra attended a ribbon-cutting to celebrate the grand opening. The dental company has three other locations in Chicago area.

## Fire Safety Tips

The Franklin Park Fire Department reminds everyone that the holiday season is one of the most dangerous times of the year with more than double the number of open-flame fires on Christmas Day than on an average day, and about twice as many on New Year's Day.

To keep your household and family safe during the holidays, remember to put safety first. Cooking is the top cause of holiday fires, and the most common culprit is food that's left unattended. Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen and check that smoke detectors are working. If you're planning to deep-fry your holiday turkey, do it outside, on a flat, level surface at least 10 feet from the house.

Never leave candle flames unattended. Check each room to make sure candles are blown out before going to bed. Consider using flameless LED candles. To minimize fire risk,

buy a fresh Christmas tree with intact needles, get a fresh cut on the trunk, water daily and keep away from heat sources. Artificial trees don't pose much of a fire hazard; just make sure yours is flame-retardant. Check light strings and throw out any with frayed or cracked wires or broken sockets. If you have a fireplace, have your chimney inspected to see if it needs cleaning. Screen the fireplace to prevent embers from popping out onto the floor or carpet, and never use flammable liquids to start a fire in the fireplace.

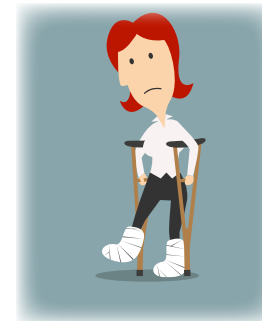
From January through March, 13% of fire deaths are the result of children playing with fire. In December, that percentage doubles. So keep matches and lighters out of kids' reach. Let's do our best to have a safe holiday season! To see more safety tips, go to the Fire Department Page at [vofp.com](http://vofp.com).

## 'Buckling Down' On Those Not Buckled Up

The Franklin Park Police Department has received a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation for \$29,346.00. The traffic grant will allow the Police Department to provide traffic enforcement for child restraint, seat belt, speeding, and alcohol related violations and is aimed at educating drivers who violate traffic laws. The goal is to reduce the amount of fatal crashes and impaired driving incidents and to persuade everyone to use their seat belt. Throughout the holidays, between the hours of 10 PM and 6 AM, officers will conduct DUI roadside safety checks focused on seat belt use and impaired drivers.



## Village Loans Medical Equipment



Have you recently had surgery or an accident? Do you need crutches or a walker? The Village of Franklin Park maintains a Community Closet filled with medical appliances like canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, bathing seats and more all available to be loaned out to area residents. If you are interested in borrowing an item, know someone who is in need, or would like to donate any equipment please call the Village at 847-671-8282.

## Blood Drive - Donate on December 11

The last Blood Drive of the year will be held on December 11 from 3-7 PM at the Franklin Park Community Center. The drive is held in partnership with LifeSource and the Village's Senior Commission.





# Holiday Recycling Guide





### Nice (recyclable)

- Gift boxes
- Tissue paper
- Shoe boxes
- Christmas tree (non-artificial)
- Holiday cards/envelopes
- Gift bags (if paper)
- Wrapping paper (non-metallic)

### Naughty (not recyclable)

- Bubble wrap (consider reusing)
- Foam peanuts (Some UPS stores will accept and re-use)
- Ribbon and bows (consider reusing)
- Anything on the tree
- Sticky gift labels
- Gift bags if coated, laminated, dyed
- Metallic wrapping paper (consider reusing)
- Soiled disposable tableware