



THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK Village News

January 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

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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
will be
closed on
Monday,
January 15

Franklin Park Celebrates the Holidays

Families came together to celebrate the season at the Village's Tree Lighting event. Santa and Mrs. Claus wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Mrs. Dahl and the children of District 84 sang carols and helped Mayor Pedersen to light the beautiful tree which was donated by the McKas family. Our Trustees and Village Clerk served hot chocolate donated by our friends at Bean Express and Two Chefs. Thank you to the Kiwanis Club for donating peanuts for the children and to the Holmes family for providing another Christmas tree at our Water Garage.



◀ Karolina Jasko, the current Miss Illinois, grew up in Franklin Park and was happy to join in the fun at the tree lighting.



▶ Art students from Leyden High School and Hester Junior High decorated the windows at the Crossings on Franklin Avenue. Their beautiful paintings helped everyone get in the holiday spirit!

Mayor's Desk

What Makes a Community Great?

Though we have had a mild winter thus far, if you have lived here long enough, you know the wind will blow and the snow will fly.

Our Public Works staff does a great job clearing our Village streets. But nothing takes the place of neighbors helping neighbors. If possible, when you are out shoveling snow for your property, consider helping others to clear their path too. Some senior citizens are not able to participate in the Village's subsidized snow removal and need help clearing sidewalks and driveways. Making sure sidewalks are cleared throughout the town will help everyone. Many residents, including the elderly walk on the sidewalks to get to school, work or to access public transportation. Cleared sidewalks allow postal workers and delivery people to move around with ease. It also means that our emergency responders will have quick access to homes.

Clearing around hydrants can save time for firefighters and could possibly save a life.

Winter weather can be isolating for some, so visit a lonely neighbor, share a favorite recipe or a good story and let the holiday spirit be present in our community throughout the year!

If you have concerns about someone, call the Village and request a well-being check. Meals on Wheels are also available in Franklin Park and can be arranged for someone who cannot easily get out of their house.

Albert Schweitzer said that genuine progress is made hand-to-hand and heart-to-heart. Franklin Parkers demonstrate that spirit every day. We are a generous, caring community. Our dedication to family-friendly neighborhoods has made us a safe, welcoming and pleasant Village. What Makes a Community Great? **YOU DO!**

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



▶ Mayor Barrett Pedersen attended the annual holiday celebration sponsored by the Cook County Housing Authority at the Senior Tower.

Recycle Christmas Trees

Public Works will remove discarded Christmas trees and chip and mulch them to support landscaping efforts. Pick up will take place on January 8 and 16. Put your tree on the front parkway by the curb and do not place them in the alley. Please be sure to remove all lights, ornaments, tinsel and other decorations. Thank you!





HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We look forward to a wonderful New Year in Franklin Park. As your Village Board, we wish you a healthy, happy and fulfilling year. We are committed to maintaining Franklin Park as a safe, affordable and thriving community.

Barrett Pedersen, Mayor
 Irene Avitia, Village Clerk
 Trustees - Jimmy Caporusso, John Johnson,
 Cheryl McLean, Karen Special, Bill Ruhl, Andy Ybarra



▲ State Representative Camille Lilly and Miss Illinois joined Mayor Barrett Pedersen, Village Clerk Irene Avitia and Trustees Karen Special, Bill Ruhl, John Johnson, Andy Ybarra and Jimmy Caporusso in lighting the Village Christmas tree.



▲ River Grove Mayor Dave Guerin celebrated the season with Trustee Cheryl McLean and Police Chief Mike Witz.

Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year Honored

The Franklin Park-Manila Lions Club honored our Police and Fire Department members and thanked them for their service to our community at a dinner last month. A special award was presented to Police Officer of the Year, Rob Emmett, an 18 year veteran of the department. While attending a Fourth of July celebration, Officer Emmett found a man lying on the ground. He and his wife Michele, who is a nurse, performed CPR and were able to resuscitate the person who was in full cardiac arrest. Had it not been for their efforts, the man would have died.

Lt. Tim Monroe was named Firefighter of the Year after recently retiring with more than 27 years of dedicated service. He was known to be a fair and impartial leader who prided himself on hearing all sides before making a decision. Educating his crews was his highest priority and he often went on emergency calls to use the incidents as a training opportunity. He will remain in the community and will run the Park District's hockey program.

Knox Box Program Allows Entry During An Emergency

The Village of Franklin Park's residential Knox Box program provides non-destructive access to a residence in the event of a fire or medical emergency. The Knox Box fits over the top of an entrance door and contains a resident's entry keys that are locked inside the box to allow the Fire Department to access your home during an emergency. This approach offers many benefits including speeding up response times and reducing patient stress. It also spares the homeowner the expense of replacing a door that had to be broken down in order for emergency personnel to gain access to their home.

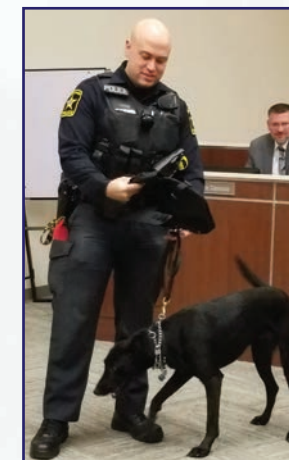
Knox Boxes work together with medical alert alarms to assist residents to remain in their homes. It is especially helpful to residents who, due to a physical challenge may require emergency services, but may not be able to get to the door. The system also provides peace of mind for relatives or care givers who may not be able to contact a resident and need assistance to check on their well-being.

Knox Boxes are available on loan from the Fire Department at a cost of \$175. Fire Department personnel will install the box and insert your keys in the box. When you are finished with the box, the Fire Department will refund your \$175 deposit. Only single family homes qualify for this program. For more information, contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 847-671-8798.



Clear Snow Around Hydrants

The Village is asking residents and business owners to clean around fire hydrants when cleaning snow from their properties and driveways. If a hydrant is buried in snow, firefighters will have a difficult time locating the buried hydrant during a fire when every second counts. Please clear an area of about 3 feet around each hydrant to allow firefighters to effectively connect to and open a hydrant. Please do not dump snow into the street or onto a neighbor's property. If you cannot participate, please contact the Fire Department at 847-678-2400. Thank you for your cooperation!



▲ A grant from the Professional Law Enforcement Association (PLEA) provided a vest for our K9 officer Voodoo which will help protect her while she serves our Village.

The homes selected as the winners for this year's Best Decorated Home for the Holidays are...



1st Place
 3629 Emerson St.
 Kubik Family



2nd Place
 2724 Riverside St.
 Colon Family



3rd Place
 3510 Dora St.
 Ventrella Family

Thank you for spreading cheer throughout the town!