



THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK Village News

January 2017



Mayor's Desk

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor

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Village Clerk

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847-678-2444

**Village Hall
will be closed
on Monday,
January 16**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Happy New Year!

I want to begin our New Year with a heartfelt 'Thank You' to our dedicated Village staff who work tirelessly to make our community safe, stable and secure.

I also want to commend our Board of Trustees for their commitment to protecting the taxpayer and making our Village government a model of efficiency.

Let It Snow!

January in Franklin Park means snow. It is a source of pride that Franklin Park's streets are cleared quickly, making it easier for our residents, businesses and visitors to safely get around.

To increase the efficiency of snow removal and to save taxpayer money, our Street Department has begun using a mixture of liquid salt brine and calcium chloride. Applying this ahead of a snowfall allows staff to begin removal operations earlier. This brining helps the rock salt activate and start working faster especially in arctic temperatures. Brining makes it harder for the snow to bond to the pavement, making removal easier.

This innovative process also saves the Village money by using less rock salt and taking less time to clear our streets. In fact, this process saved the Village approximately \$4,000 with the season's first snowfall in December.

This process also gives our Street Department more time to clear our alleys and crosswalks, remove snow around schools and make sure customers can access our stores and restaurants.

Can You Say "Quasquicentennial"?

It is not easy. It actually is pronounced kwos-kwi-sen-ten-ee-uhl! That is the official term for a 125th anniversary. That is what Franklin Park will be celebrating this year, commemorating our Village's incorporation on August 4, 1892. The Village is putting together ideas and plans to celebrate throughout the year.

We want our celebration to honor the traditions, values and heritage of all our citizens. If you have an idea for a Quasquicentennial activity or event please go to our website, www.vofp.com, click on Contact Us and submit your idea. We will publish updated information in the newsletter and on our Facebook Page.

Our New Year's Resolution to You!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and myself, we resolve to continue to work hard to make Franklin Park the safest, most compassionate, sustainable and stable town possible. We pledge to treat all citizens with respect and to make, you, the taxpayer, our highest priority. We will dedicate our efforts to upgrade our infrastructure, safeguard our neighborhoods and families and as always, be careful stewards of your taxpayer dollar.

We look forward to a great anniversary year in Franklin Park.

All good wishes for 2017!

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



Franklin Park Celebrates the Holidays

Local sponsors helped to make the Village's annual Tree Lighting event a fun evening for area families. Thank you to Mrs. Dahl and the children of District 84 for setting the mood by singing Christmas carols and helping Mayor Pedersen to light up our tree. This year's tree was donated by the Van Patten family, local residents who provided a beautiful evergreen to adorn the gazebo. Thank you to Nestle for donating candy for Santa and Mrs. Claus to hand out to the children and to our friends at Bean Express and Two Chefs who provided the hot chocolate served by our Village Trustees. Also, thank you to the Kiwanis Club for donating peanuts.

Shoveling Helps Everyone

The Village encourages residents to please clear the public sidewalks in front of their property in the interest of public safety. Many residents, including the elderly, walk on the sidewalks to get to school, work or to access public transportation. Please do not shovel snow into the street or onto your neighbor's property. Thank you for your assistance.





Property Tax Assistance for Senior Citizens

Remember to check your property tax bill to make sure you are receiving all the exemptions for which you are eligible. Information regarding the Senior Freeze Exemption and the Senior Homeowner Exemption is available from the Cook County Assessor's Office at www.cookcountyassessor.com or by calling 312-443-7550. As a reminder, the State Legislature passed a new law that states that senior citizens have to reapply annually for the Senior Exemption.

If you are over the age of 65, the State of Illinois has a Real Estate Tax Deferral program that allows you to defer your real estate taxes until the home is sold. Information and applications are available at www.cookcountytreasurer.com. You must apply each year. Applications are also available at the Cook County Treasurer's Office through the March 1 application deadline.

Telephone Town Hall – January 24

The Village has scheduled the next Telephone Town Hall for Tuesday, January 24 at 6:30 PM. If you do not receive a phone call from the Village at that time inviting you to participate, you can join the meeting by calling in at no cost to you. Simply dial 847-400-0841 and you will be connected to the call.

Listen in and learn more about important news and information on projects in Franklin Park. Participants will also be able to ask a question during the call.



▲ Franklin Park celebrated the construction of a new 367,000 square foot industrial speculative development by Molto Properties with a ribbon-cutting in November. The new building at 10501 Seymour Avenue will be followed by construction of a second 106,000 square foot facility. Molto founder and senior principal Todd Naccarato believes there is demand for newer buildings by businesses that are growing and want to expand.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting – January 19 at 6 PM

The next meeting of the Franklin Park Neighborhood Watch is scheduled for January 19 at 6 PM in the community Room of the Police Station. The meeting will include a presentation on the Police Department's Canine Division and on the situation regarding opiate addiction. The meeting will also include an over view of the Village's Neighborhood Watch Program which aims to foster community involvement with law enforcement to help protect our neighborhoods.

The meeting is open to all residents and refreshments will be served. If you would like more information, please call 847-671-8203 or email at neighborhoodwatch@vofp.com.



Lions Club Salutes Police Officer and Fire Fighter

Mayor Barrett Pedersen presented a special award to Police Officer of the Year, Todd Morin for his efforts to combat gang violence and Firefighter of the Year, Mike Vonesh for his 25 years of service in the department. The two men were recognized at the annual holiday dinner hosted by the Franklin Park-Manila Lions Club. The Mayor also paid tribute to all the members of the Franklin Park Police and Fire Departments and thanked them for their dedication and service to our community.

Environmental Clean-up Begins at Joslyn Property

Thanks to the Village's urging, Joslyn Corporation has started their environmental clean-up of a contaminated area where they utilized hazardous chemicals in their business practices many decades ago. When clean, the site which is bordered by Fullerton Ave, the CN Railroad tracks and Martens Street will be available for future development creating property tax revenue and jobs for Franklin Park. The site offers superior location advantages for a business including excellent access to highway and rail spurs and close proximity to O'Hare International Airport. Joslyn has also removed overgrown trees on the property and fenced and secured the area to discourage children from gaining access to the site during clean-up.

Best Decorated Homes for the Holidays



2724 Riverside



3536 Louis

Thank you for helping to light up our Village!