



# THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK Village News

March 2018



## Mayor's Desk



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

### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING

Thursday, March 22  
6 PM  
Franklin Park Police Station,  
Community Room  
9451 Belmont Avenue

Village Hall  
will be closed  
on March 30  
and March 31.

## Triton's RSVP Offers Tax Counseling for Older Citizens



Triton College is offering the Internal Revenue Service's Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE), a free program for individuals age 60 and older from low- to moderate-income households. The program includes free income tax preparation including help with completing federal tax forms, 1040EZ, 1040A and 1040 and the state income tax forms. All tax returns are submitted electronically once completed.

Assistance will be provided at various locations including the Leyden Township Carl Fiorito Center in Franklin Park on Thursdays and other near-by locations throughout the week. After participants make an appointment, they will need to bring W-2 forms from all employers, Form 1099s (interest statements from banks), a copy of last year's tax return and any other relevant tax information to the appointment.

For more information on tax assistance and to schedule an appointment, call (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3895. The service will be offered now through April 14, but schedule early before they fill-up.

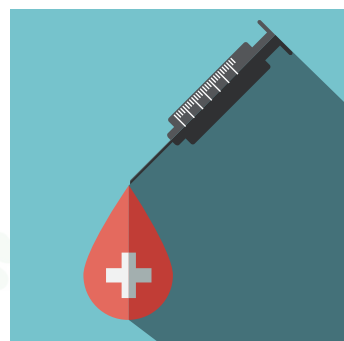
## Get Help Applying for Government Programs

Leyden Family Services is available to assist anyone who needs help applying for government assistance programs including, Medicaid, SNAP, Medicare Savings Program and LIHEAP. Staff can also help you with understanding your medical bills, prescription assistance, getting license plate discounts and free train and bus passes.



Staff will be at Village Hall from 9:30 to 11:30 AM on Wednesday March 14, and 28, April 11, and 25 and May 9 and 23. No appointment is necessary. Please remember to bring your award letter from Social Security and paycheck stubs that show the amount of income you receive. Please check our website at vofp.com to view the Document Checklist before you arrive to determine if additional information is required.

## Blood Drive - March 9



The next Blood Drive will be held on March 9 from 3 to 7:30 PM in the Community Room at the Franklin Park Police Station. The donation process is quick, easy and painless. Blood Drives help to save millions of lives each year!



Save the Date! The Village's annual Franklin Park Fest Featuring Railroad Day will be held on June 7-10, 2018. Watch this newsletter for updates!

## Our Mission Is Your Safety

The primary mission of government is public safety. In Franklin Park, we take that charge seriously. We have a highly-trained and well-equipped Police Department who works tirelessly to keep our families safe and our neighborhoods secure.

Our Fire Department continues to be on the cutting edge of emergency procedures, as well as utilizing state-of-the-art equipment to enhance rescue and response efforts.

Prevention and community participation are the keys to genuine public safety. Our successful Neighborhood Watch program was designed to help residents learn ways to safeguard their homes and how to recognize and report suspicious activity. We rely on residents to be aware of what is happening in our community and to work directly with our police officers to prevent and solve crime.

Our next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held on March 22 and will focus on several topics including how to recognize and report scams including door-door solicitations which often target our senior citizens. We will also discuss parking issues in the Village and code enforcement. Attendees will also get an update on school safety. As always, our Police Chief will be available to answer questions.

I urge you to attend this informative session which will highlight information about how to keep our families and our property safe. These meetings are an excellent way to become more involved with assisting our police officers in continuing to make Franklin Park a safe community.

## Suburban Election Judges Needed

A great way to be part of our democratic process is to serve as an Election Judge. Judges keep the polling place running smoothly, assist voters where needed and ensure the voting process is followed properly. Two positions are available for the upcoming March 20 Primary Election; Election Judge (\$190) and Equipment Manager (\$340). Experience is not necessary. Anyone applying for these positions will be trained. You can apply online at cookcountyclerk.com/work or via phone at 847-671-8236.

Get Involved!

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen presented at the kick-off meeting of the Des Plaines River Trail Coalition and discussed the history of the trail. French explorers named the river La Rivière des Plaines because the sycamore and red maple trees resembled the European plane tree.



▲ The Coalition is comprised of local municipalities, the Cook County Forest Preserve District and other organizations, who are working to provide improvements and access to the trail.

### Early Vote at Village Hall

Franklin Park’s Village Hall will host early voting for the upcoming March 20 Primary Election. Take advantage of this convenient and easy way to participate in our democracy. Simply visit the Clerk’s Office during the hours listed below. Early voting will be held in the conference room located behind their offices, which provides direct access from the parking lot.

Early Voting will run from Monday, March 5 through Monday, March 19, including weekend hours.

- Monday - Friday**
  - March 5 - March 9 – 9 AM – 5 PM
  - March 12 - March 16 - 9AM - 7PM
  - March 19 – 9 AM - 5 PM
- Saturday**
  - March 10 & 17 – 9 AM to 5 PM
- Sunday**
  - March 11 & 18 - 10 AM to 4 PM



### If you would like to receive information and updates in Spanish or Polish, please contact us!

Jesli chcielibyscie Panstwo otrzymywac nasz biuletyn lub inne informacje w jezyku polskim, prosimy o kontakt pod numerem (847) 671- 8252 lub na email ekubkowski@vofp.com.

Inscríbete para recibir las noticias de nuestra comunidad en Español llamando al 847-671-8236 o por correo al dhenriquez@vofp.com.

### Branch Pick-up Schedule for 2018

The Village will begin regular branch pick-up service on March 19. Residents are asked to please place all reasonably sized branches where you place your trash for collection by 7 AM on Monday of the pick-up week noted below. The Village will pick-up the branches by the end of the day Friday.

Please note that if your branches are put out late (after 7 AM on Monday of the pick-up week), it is possible that you could miss the pick-up. Village trucks begin promptly and if they have already gone through your section of town, your branches will not be collected until the next scheduled pick-up week.

Also, sometimes, due to unforeseen circumstances such as storm clean-up, the Village may need to delay a scheduled pick-up. In this situation, we will resume branch collection where we left off on the following week.

If you have any questions regarding the pick-up schedule or size and weight requirements, please call 847-671-8252. Pick up weeks are:

- March 19
- April 2, 16, 30
- May 14, 29
- June 11, 25
- July 9, 23
- August 6, 20
- September 4, 17
- October 1, 15, 29
- November 13 (weather permitting)



### Railroad Crossing Closure

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), in conjunction with Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad Company (IHB) will be making repairs to the badly deteriorated at-grade crossing on Mannheim Road, south of Armitage Avenue. Mannheim Road will be fully closed to through traffic at the IHB Railroad tracks. Check signs for detour routes. The tentative start date is Saturday, March 24 and work is expected to be completed by the end of the month. Check vofp.com for updates.

### Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day Safely

The Franklin Park Police Department is committed to safety this St. Patrick’s Day by stepping-up law enforcement activities from March 16 – 19, between the hours of 2 PM and 6 AM. During that time, officers will pay particular attention to seat belt use and impaired driving. Motorists will be stopped long enough to determine that they are not intoxicated, and to verify they possess a valid driver’s license and are wearing their seatbelts.

