



Returning expired or unused medicines to a take back location is the best way to dispose of unwanted medications and will keep them out of the hands of children. Never flush your medications down the toilet because they can pollute our waterways. Simply bring your unwanted medications to the Franklin Park Police Station. Drug drop-off is completely anonymous and available Monday through Friday from 6 AM to 10 PM. For more information call (847) 678-2444. Also, local pharmacies including Walgreen's and Osco will take back unused prescription drugs or unwanted medications.

## Don't Flush – Turn in Unwanted Drugs and Medications

Residents and businesses can also donate old cell phones at Village Hall to support the program. If you have any questions about the program or have an old cell phone to donate, please contact the Health Department at (847) 671-8240.

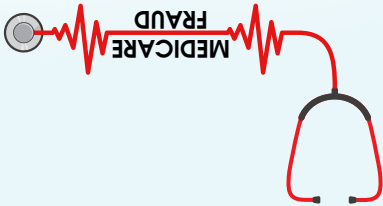
The Village has partnered with Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart's office to provide a free cell phone program for senior citizens. The phones are only able to dial 911 and are to be used only in an emergency. The cell phones provide the extra measure of security when seniors are traveling, taking public transportation, or participating in outdoor activities.

## Cellphones Available for Seniors

Village of Franklin Park  
9500 Belmont Avenue  
Franklin Park, IL 60131



Senior Commission members Mike Valone and Kitty Greenwood and Village staff member Barb Collins participated in the One Book One Leyden project by reading *The Light in Hidden Places* by Sharon Cameron.



Age Options is presenting a special workshop on how to prevent Medicare fraud on Tuesday, May 3 at 10 AM. This informative session will be held at the Schiller Park Recreation Center at 9638 West Irving Park Road. You must register in advance to attend the event at [seniorservices@schillerpark.il.gov](mailto:seniorservices@schillerpark.il.gov) or by calling (847) 678-8765.

## Tips on How to Prevent Medicare Fraud



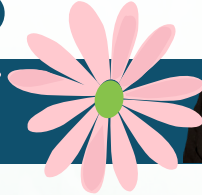
Leyden Family Services will be at Village Hall to help residents who have questions or need help applying for government programs like Medicare, Medicaid, LIHEAP and more. Staff can also help with understanding medical bills, prescription assistance, and more. Bring your Social Security award letter and paycheck stubs that show the amount of income you receive. No appointment is necessary. Scheduled Village Hall dates are from 9 AM to Noon on the following Wednesdays:

- April 20
- May 18
- June 15
- July 20
- August 17
- September 21

## Leyden Family Services at Village Hall

# Senior News

Mayor's Desk *Happy Spring!*



Barrett F. Pedersen  
Mayor

Roberta Johnson  
Village Clerk

Village Trustees:  
Irene Avitia  
Gil Hagerstrom  
John Johnson  
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

## Happy Spring!

It is always a pleasure to welcome spring. After months of cold, gray winter days, seeing blooming flowers, budding trees and sunny skies helps to lift our spirits. It is also uplifting to know that we can gather in-person once again.

**I hope you can join me on Wednesday, May 25 at 11:30 AM for the Franklin Park Senior Appreciation Luncheon.** This event, which will be held at Pescatore will be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with neighbors and friends. Seniors, 65 or older, who live in our Village are invited, free of charge but must register to attend.

I will be offering updates on new developments in our Village at the luncheon. Details will also be presented about the innovative, helpful programs available for our senior residents.

Franklin Park has joined towns across the country to save Monarch butterflies by planting milkweed, a prime food source for the butterflies. Our food supplies and ecosystems depend on this healthy pollinator population and unfortunately, the Monarch populations have declined by 90% in the last 20 years due mainly to changes in climate.

This spring we will continue to create safe havens for honeybees to further preserve our eco-systems. One bee colony can pollinate 300 million flowers a day. The hives we have placed on rooftops of Village buildings have the added benefit of producing delicious, organic honey.

We will have seed packets available at

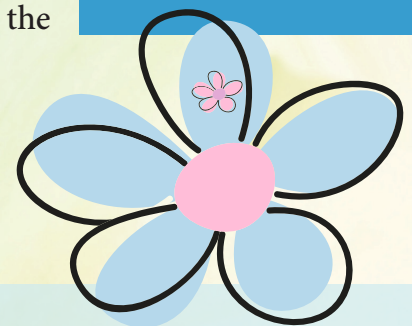
the luncheon for those of you would like to plant a butterfly garden this year. I look forward to seeing you at the luncheon!

## Spring Check-Up

Throughout the pandemic, many of us delayed routine health exams and tests. Besides spring cleaning, checking our air conditioners and readying our gardens for summer, we need to make sure we are healthy enough to enjoy the season. Check with your healthcare professional to determine if you are up to date on all your tests and vaccinations. Please check with your doctor or medical professional to see if another COVID booster is recommended. The CDC recommends a second booster for seniors.

Let's stay healthy so we can enjoy the season --TOGETHER!

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



## Franklin Park Senior Appreciation Luncheon Wednesday, May 25 at 11:30 AM

Pescatore Restaurant  
3400 North River Road, Franklin Park  
Complementary Valet Parking

Space is limited - Reserve your seat by May 19 at seniorservices@vofp.com or call (847) 671-8797.