

Village Voice



YOUR FRANKLIN PARK NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 2011



Mayor's Desk

FROM MAYOR BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

The Village of FRANKLIN PARK

Barrett F. Pedersen
MAYOR

Tommy Thomson
VILLAGE CLERK

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POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY)
847-671-8270

FIRE (NON-EMERGENCY)
847-678-2400

VILLAGE HALL HOURS
Mon. Tues. Thurs. Fri.
8-4:30 pm
Wed. 8 - 6 pm
Sat. 9-12 pm

VILLAGE HALL CLOSED
February 21
Presidents Day

Congratulations to our neighbor River Grove in becoming a Home Rule community

Home Rule communities can be more competitive when attracting new businesses and jobs. A Home Rule community has more tools available to help them compete in economic development projects. For instance, if Franklin Park had voted to adopt Home Rule status, we would have been able to offer more attractive inducements to Meijer Foods. Instead of locating at Grand and Mannheim, Meijer will be opening in Melrose Park. As a Home Rule community, Melrose Park could offer a more varied package of incentives. If Franklin Park were Home Rule, we would have more flexibility to quickly fill vacant retail space, like the soon to be closed Kmart site. Not being Home Rule puts us at a competitive

disadvantage in an already difficult economic climate.

Our staff has been working tirelessly to uncover resources that can help support and enhance Village operations and programs. We are working closely with state and federal officials to find funds to alleviate our flooding, repair our streets, revitalize our neighborhoods and enhance and develop our public safety programs. Franklin Park is fortunate to have such dedicated staff who work to serve the citizens of our Village. I am proud to work with such committed individuals.


BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

Kmart Closing, But Developers Show Interest in Location

The Village has confirmed that the Big Kmart store in Franklin Park will close on April 3. Kmart does not own the property and leases the site from a California-based firm. The store is located on Grand Avenue near Jewel Foods, which will remain open. Kmart closed approx. 13 stores last year and announced plans to close six more under-performing stores this year, nation-wide, after posting lackluster earnings in 2010. Village officials have contacted the property owner to help determine future development plans for the site. There are no plans for the Village to purchase the property.

"The good news is that we have interest from several developers about this property," stated Jeff Eder, Director of Community Development. "I am optimistic that we will be able to find a retail venue to fill this property in the near future."

Despite Kmart's plans to close its Franklin Park store, our Village has been showing signs of economic recovery. Over 60 business licenses have been applied for in the last year, creating over 500 new jobs, reflecting a healthy mix of industrial users, service businesses and retail offerings.

Leyden Township Reassessed

Recently, the Office of the Cook County Assessor reassessed Leyden Township residential properties. The result was that the overall median assessed value for Leyden Township was decreased by 14.01%, with 94% of single family residential parcels receiving a lower reassessment value. This reassessment should be reflected in your property tax bill next fall.



Trustee Cheryl McLean Wins Prestigious Award

The Loyola University Chicago Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing has named Village Trustee Cheryl McLean as its Spirit of Ignatius Award recipient, citing her tireless commitment to the care of others and contributions to the health of communities here and abroad.

Cheryl received two nursing degrees (BSN 1996; MSN 1999) from Loyola University Chicago, and worked at the Loyola University Medical Center for 27 years. She is currently a Nurse Practitioner in women's health at Nye Partners in River Forest. In 1996, she began traveling to Central America with Loyola nursing students to provide health care to women and children in Belize. In those early years, she too was a student working on her Master Degree. In addition to providing health care, the Loyola team provides staff education to the hospital nurses in CPR, hypertension, diabetes and pregnancy concerns. The team also conducts health screenings in the schools, villages and towns by hosting health fairs.

"This experience has been tremendously rewarding for me," said McLean. "I love

working with the children there and mentoring young nurses who are eager to serve their community. I am excited to be making my 15th trip to Belize this March."

McLean believes that the health of the community is as important as the health of the individual. As Chair of the Board of Trustee's Health and Human Services Committee she works to promote public health issues in Franklin Park by co-sponsoring the Village's Blood Drive with LifeSource, creating an award-winning bike safety program for children and developed a domestic violence awareness campaign.

"I love being a nurse," said McLean. "As a nurse you care about the health, safety and general well being of the entire community. I look forward to continue working with the Village Board and to initiate a Healthy Community Program which will include educating the community about healthy lifestyle choices and promoting an active community."

Village Trustee, Cheryl McLean wins the Spirit of Ignatius Award.



FEMA Grant Awarded to Fire Department

During this difficult economy, Village personnel have been working diligently to uncover supplemental funds to keep our firefighters well equipped. Their grant writing efforts paid off with a \$157,611 grant award by the federal government to purchase 28 new air packs. This equipment will not only allow our firefighters to perform their jobs better, but it will also help keep them safer in the process. The new air packs screen out more toxins and include a tracking device to help locate firefighters in smoke-filled buildings. Additionally, the new air packs allow for a second tank to be added without taking off the face mask which protects against the searing heat. Last year our Fire Department made 3,000 calls and averaged a response time of 3 minutes and 55 seconds, meeting the national recommended time of 4 minutes or less.

Village Receives Energy Efficiency Grant

Cook County has awarded The Village of Franklin Park a \$75,000 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. The grant will allow the Village to conduct an energy audit of Village facilities and to make important energy efficiency retrofits by replacing out dated florescent lamps with energy efficient T8 lamps. In addition, the grant will fund the conversion of high pressure sodium street lighting to the more energy efficient LED street lights. Approximately 114 lamps will be converted near the Grand and Martens and Grand and Scott intersections.





Community Notes

Beware of Solicitors

Just Energy IL Corp. does not have a permit to solicit in our Village and was investigated by the Illinois Commerce Commission for deceptive business practices and fined \$90,000. Please call the Police at 847-671-8270 if they come to your door so they can be fined locally and escorted from the Village.

Electronic Recycling Program

Leyden Township accepts most electronic items including computers, monitors, printers, keyboards/mice, phones, TVs, video game consoles, DVD & VCR players, copiers, fax machines, scanners, most electronic business equipment, electronic components & tools, microwave & toaster ovens and hair dryers. Bring to 2501 N. Mannheim, Monday thru Friday, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM. Only computer back-up batteries are accepted. All other batteries and light bulbs are not accepted. For a complete list of items accepted, call 847-455-8616.

Over Night Guest Parking

Residents must call-in vehicle information for overnight guests who will be parking on any Village street between the hours of 2:00 AM – 6:00 AM. Call the Police Department at 847-671-8270 to avoid a fine.

Cool Tips for Winter Safety

Did you know that infants, under a year old, should never sleep in a cold room because they lose body heat more easily than adults. Unlike adults, infants are unable to make enough body heat by shivering. Check our Village website at vofp.com for more winter safety tips.



February Meetings

February 1

Library Board – 7:30PM

February 3

Adjudication Court – 10AM
Senior Citizen Commission – 6PM

February 7

Police & Fire Commission – 6PM
Board of Trustees – 7PM

February 8

ETBS 911 Board - 9AM

February 9

Zoning Board of Appeals - 7PM

February 17

Adjudication Court – 10AM

February 22

Park District Board – 7PM
Board of Trustees – 7PM

February 23

Plan Commission – 7PM

February 24

Economic Dev Commission – 8AM

2011 Election Calendar

For election information or to request an application for an absentee ballot, visit the Village Clerk's Office during regular business hours or call 847-671-8242. You can also call the Cook County Clerk's Office at 312-603-0946 to request an application by mail. You can download an application at www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections.

February 24

First day Absentee Ballot
Applications accepted

March 8

Last day to register to vote

March 14

First day of Early Voting

March 31

Last day of Early Voting

April 5

Election Day



Community Contacts

Your Village Government

www.vofp.com
Email: villagevoice@vofp.com

Emergency: 9-1-1

(Police / Fire / Paramedics)
Village of Franklin Park 847.671.4800
9500 Belmont Avenue

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Wednesday 8:30 AM - 7:30 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00PM

Dial Direct To Village Offices

Mayor's Office 847.671.8236
Clerk's Office 847.671.8242
Comptroller's Office 847.671.8223
Water Billing 847.671.8292
Human Resources 847.671.8240
Water Dept. 847.671.8256
Street Dept. 847.671.8252
Building Dept. 847.671.8245
Overcrowding 847.671.8245
Zoning Dept. 847.671.8792
Recycling 847.671.8240
Community Dev. 847.671.8278
Village Hall Switchboard 847.671.4800
Police: Non-emergency 847.671.8270
Fire: Non-emergency 847.678.2400

Leyden Animal Control

847.451.2777

Leyden Family Services

847.451.0330

Meals on Wheels

847.455.3929

Dial-A-Ride

888.699.6999

AT&T

800.288.2020

ComEd

800.334.7661
www.comed.com

Nicor

888.642.6748
www.nicor.com

Comcast

866.594.1234
www.comcast.com

Franklin Park Public Library

www.franklinparklibrary.org
10311 Grand Ave., Franklin Park

Mon - Thu 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Fri & Sat 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 PM
847.455.6016

Park District of Franklin Park

www.FpParks.com
Community Center
9560 Franklin Ave
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131
847.455.2852

Administrative Hours:

Mon - Thu 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - Noon

Ice Arena

www.fpice.com
9711 Waveland Ave, Franklin Park
847.671.4268

Pool on Pacific

9715 Pacific Ave, Franklin Park
847.928.8480

North Park Centre

10040 Addison St, Franklin Park
847.928.8478

Veterans Park District

www.veteransparkdistrict.org
44 W. Golf Dr., Northlake 60164

Offices:

Mon - Fri 8:30 AM - 10:00 PM
Saturday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sunday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Closed 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
708.343.5270

Gouin Pool

Scott and Fullerton, Franklin Park
847.541.0399

United States Post Office Franklin Park

9760 Franklin Avenue
Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
847.455.5396

Franklin Park / Schiller Park Chamber of Commerce

www.chamberbyohare.org
P.O. Box 186, Franklin Park
708.865.9510

Triton Community College District 504

www.triton.edu
708.456.0300

Leyden Community High School, District 212

www.leyden212.org
East Leyden 847.451.3000
West Leyden 847.451.3122

Elementary Schools School District 81

www.sd81.org
Lincoln 847.678.2916
Kennedy 847.671.0250
Washington 847.671.1922
Administration 847.671.1816

District 83

www.d83.org
Mannheim 847.455.5020
Roy 708.562.6400
Scott 847.455.4818
Westdale 847.455.4060
Administration 847.455.4413
Enger 847.455.5299

District 84

www.d84.org
Hester Jr 847.455.2150
North 847.678.7962
Pietrini 847.455.7960
Passow 847.455.6781
Administration 847.455.4230
St. Maria Goretti 847.678.3988

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