

YOUR FRANKLIN PARK NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 2011



## The Village of FRANKLIN PARK

Barrett F. Pedersen MAYOR

Tommy Thomson VILLAGE CLERK

#### TRUSTEES:

Juan Acevedo Paul Bellendir Tom Brimie John Johnson Cheryl McLean Rosalba Rodriguez

9500 Belmont Ave. Franklin Park, IL. 60131 847-671-4800 villagevoice@vofp.com

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



## Mayor's Desk

FROM MAYOR BARRETT F. PEDERSEN

# 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 acompetitive

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, diabetes and hypertension, 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."

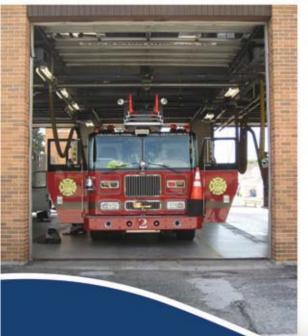
McLean believes that the health of the community is as important as the health of the individual. As Chair of the Board of Trustee's Health and Human Services Committee she works to promote public health issues in Franklin Park by co-sponsoring the Village's Blood Drive with LifeSource, creating an award-winning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



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** 

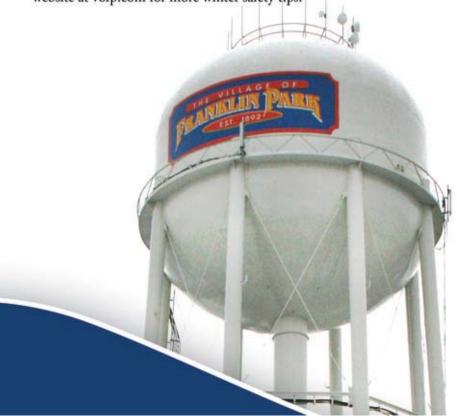
Leyden Township accepts most electronic items including computers, monitors, printers, keyboards/mice, phones, TVs, video game consoles, DVD & VCR players, copiers, fax machines, scanners, most electronic business equipment, electronic components & tools, microwave & toaster ovens and hair dryers. Bring 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

#### **Levden 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