



Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



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Mayor

Irene Avitia
Village Clerk

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John Johnson
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**Village Hall
will be closed
on Monday,
January 21**

Franklin Park Celebrates Winterfest

The Village's Winterfest was full of good cheer and old fashioned fun! Mrs. Dahl and District 84 school children sang carols and helped Mayor Pedersen and our Village Board to light our Village Christmas tree in the gazebo. This year's beautiful tree was donated by Northern Insurance. Thanks to our Fire Department, Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in style! They took photos with area children and handed out chocolate treats donated by our good friends at Nestle.



Recycle Your Christmas Tree

Public Works will remove discarded Christmas trees and chip and mulch them to support landscaping efforts. Pick up is scheduled for January 8 and 16. Please put your tree on the front parkway by the curb and do not place them in the alley. Please remove all lights, ornaments, tinsel and other decorations. Thank you!

Oh the Weather Outside is Frightful!

Winter has arrived! Please remember to take precautions in the cold weather to avoid frostbite when spending time outdoors. Wear several layers of lightweight clothing and always wear a hat! You lose as much as 50 percent of your body heat through your head. Wear mittens rather than fingered gloves. Cover your ears and your mouth with a scarf to protect the lungs. Remember also to limit the time your pets spend out of doors too.

Also, a few simple steps can help you to protect your pipes from freezing. Start by opening the cabinet doors to help warm up the pipes. You can prevent freezing by keeping a small trickle of water running through the pipes on extra cold days.

If you have a fire hydrant in front of your home, please consider clearing snow in a three foot radius around the hydrant. In an emergency, every second counts!

Parking is not allowed on designated streets after a 2" snow fall until snow clearing operations are complete. Secondary streets have a no parking restriction after a 2" snow fall from 9 AM to 9 PM on the odd address numbered side of the street and 9 PM to 9 AM on the even address side. Check signs in your area for restrictions. If you are unsure if snow operations have been completed, call the Police Department's non-emergency number 847-678-2444 for assistance.

Also, remember to check our Village website to get information regarding Warming Centers in Franklin Park and watch our Village Facebook Page to see updates on snow removal efforts during storms.

Mayor's Desk

Happy New Year! Let's Make It a Year of Giving

It has been a great year in Franklin Park and I hope everyone had a healthy and happy holiday season. I was privileged to participate in several events throughout the season that demonstrated the power of volunteerism.

I joined the Franklin Park Manila Lions Club to serve a holiday meal to our seniors and other community members. I am proud to see volunteers from all ages and walks of life coming together to give their time and energy to make the holidays brighter for all.



I visited Enger School to read a story about construction and gave five lucky students the same reflective backpacks worn by our Franklin Park water meter readers.

Knowing how volunteerism strengthens a community, as well as how generous and compassionate our citizens are, I am declaring 2019 **A YEAR OF GIVING** in Franklin Park!

It was my honor to be joined by my sons as we served dinner to 200 naval recruits from Great Lakes Training Command. Our American Legion Post 974 hosted the Thanksgiving feast in partnership with Post 159. After dinner, the recruits were able to make phone calls to their families. Volunteers from throughout the community joined me at this event which gave us a chance to thank these young men and women for their service.

Throughout 2019, we will be encouraging and challenging organizations and individuals to expand their volunteer opportunities and to find ways to partner together so that we may meet even more needs.

We will be highlighting these activities in our newsletter and on social media. We will also make it the subject of our annual "Mayor for a Day" essay contest.

I encourage everyone to share your time through volunteering. You will learn that there is no gift greater than the one of giving to others! Please share your ideas, activities and photos with us by emailing to villagenews@vofp.com.





◀ Mayor's Desk Continued from Page 1.

Strengthening and Protecting Our Sewer Infrastructure

The public health and safety of our residents is one of our highest priorities. Carefully managing taxpayer dollars is also one of our main priorities.

Our new infrastructure improvement effort will satisfy both of those goals.

The Board has initiated a program to gradually strengthen aging sewer infrastructure by lining over 8,000 feet of existing pipes with polyester. Lining them will extend the lifespan of the pipes, save money on costly repairs and replacements and also help protect the water system.

The \$500,000 project will begin in March in the O'Hare Industrial Corridor from Mannheim Road west to the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. The effort should take approximately two months. No road closures are expected.

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Meeting on the Franklin Avenue Improvement Project - January 23

The Village will host a public information meeting regarding the Franklin Avenue Improvement Project, which will explore improvements along Franklin Avenue from Runge Street to east of Mannheim Road. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 23, from 4 - 6 PM at the Centre at North Park, located at 10040 Addison Avenue. This meeting will continue the conversation from an initial public meeting held in June 2018. Members of the community will be able to view design concepts and learn more about the proposed improvements and construction plans. This is the final opportunity for the public to provide written feedback on the project.

The Franklin Avenue Improvement Project will improve infrastructure, access and safety and reduce congestion along this important industrial corridor.



Ridge Development held a ribbon cutting ceremony at their new 178,516 square foot building at 9100 Belmont Avenue. Ridge Development purchased the site from multiple owners. One of the parcels was formerly a brownfield, but was assessed under funding from the Cook County Brownfield Assessment project.

Recently we asked our talented art students at Hester School to paint a festive holiday scene on a snow blade. Their beautiful work of art was on display at the Village's Winterfest.

On behalf of Mayor Pedersen, the Village Board and staff, we wish everyone a happy, healthy and joyous New Year in Franklin Park.



Welcome 2019!

Neighborhood Watch Meeting – January 24



The next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held on Thursday, January 24 at 6:30 PM at the Franklin Park Police Station.

Did you know that over 80% of calls made to 9-1-1 come from mobile phones? But when you dial 9-1-1 from a mobile phone, call takers have very little information to help you – only your phone number and a very general sense of your location. When seconds count, this could be a problem.

At the meeting, there will be a presentation on the new Smart 911App which provides call takers and first responders with critical information needed in an emergency including your address, medical information, home information, description of pets and vehicles, and emergency contacts.

Please plan to join us for this informative session. The Village's Director of Public Safety will be available to answer your questions.

Chamber by O'Hare Offers College Scholarships

The Chamber by O'Hare is accepting applications for its annual scholarship program. The program is open to all Franklin Park, Schiller Park, and River Grove residents.

Two \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded to a full-time student accepted at an accredited college, university, or community college. A third \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded to a full-time current or incoming Triton College student pursuing a degree in an engineering technology/manufacturing-related academic area. This year the Chamber is offering a fourth \$1,500 scholarship in partnership with Digital Realty, a member of Franklin Park's business community. This scholarship is for a full-time student pursuing a technology related program at an accredited college, university, or community college.

Completed applications and all required information are due by February 8, 2019. You can request information and applications by emailing info@chamberbyohare.org or patzinga@triton.edu. Remember to include a contact phone number with your email.



American Legion Hosts Veterans Event – January 13

The American Legion Post 974 will host a stand down to support homeless veterans on Sunday, January 13 from 11 AM to 3 PM at their facility at 9757 West Pacific. A hot meal will be served and toiletries, clothing, food and blankets will be distributed to anyone in need. The VA will be onsite to provide counseling and housing assistance. Anyone interested in donating or volunteering should call 847-560-0459.

Leyden Family Services Available at Village Hall

Leyden Family Services will be at Village Hall to help residents apply for government assistance programs from 9 to 11:30 AM on the following Wednesdays: January 9 and 30, February 13 and 27 and March 13 and 27. They can also help you make sense of your medical bills, provide prescription assistance and assist you in applying for license plate discounts and free train and bus passes. Before visiting, see the document checklist at vofp.com.

