

**The future of transportation
includes you!**



Help shape the future of transportation in northeastern Illinois! Share your experiences and aspirations by taking our ten-minute questionnaire and contribute to the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan — your input will guide decisions that impact the next 20 to 30 years. Go to vofp.com to provide your input!



FRANKLIN PARK Senior HEALTH and RESOURCE FAIR



**Friday,
October 31, 2025
10 AM until 2 PM**

**Franklin Park
Police Station in the
Community Room
9451 Belmont Avenue**

**Sponsored by Mayor Barrett Pedersen,
and Illinois Senate President Don Harmon**



Osco Drugs / Vaccine Clinic – get flu and Covid booster vaccines.

No appointment is necessary!

Bring your Medicare card or insurance information.

- Local healthcare providers will provide information and give-a-ways
- Free healthcare checks
- Turn in unused and expired medications for safe disposal
- Register to vote

Area elected officials, Leyden Family Services, Leyden Township, and other local agencies including the Cook County Sheriff's Office will provide information about services and programs specifically designed to help older adults.

Refreshments will be served

For more information, go to vofp.com or call (847) 671-8282.

THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK

Village News

October 2025



Mayor's Desk

As Mayor, the safety and health of our community is my primary concern. What happened in Franklin Park recently, during an attempted ICE apprehension, shook our community to the core.

As of this writing, we are still awaiting the results of a thorough investigation into the incident and a complete accounting of the events. This was a tragedy, and to avoid future devastating incidents we ask for transparency and accountability. ICE agents, and all local, state, and federal officers must act responsibly and be fully aware of possible collateral damage that could occur.

I pledge to work with all elected officials and community leaders to find ways to increase safety and end reckless apprehensions.

I am asking everyone to remain calm in light of this tragedy. I urge all to act peacefully, lawfully, respectfully and with the concern we have always shown to our neighbors and neighborhoods.

On behalf of the Village, we offer our condolences to the family of the deceased and wish a speedy and full recovery for the injured officer.

For those of you who have asked, Illinois law strictly prohibits local law enforcement from cooperating or interfering with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on immigration enforcement matters and acting on federal immigration detainers. Our Franklin Park officers cannot assist or interfere in these situations.

Our Police and Fire Departments will continue to safeguard our community, residents, and our businesses.

Annual Health and Resource Fair

Please plan to attend the Village's Senior Health and Resource Fair on Friday, October 31 from 10 AM until 2 PM in the Community Room at the Police Station. You can get your flu and Covid booster vaccines and will also be able to visit with healthcare providers and local agencies, register to vote, and turn in unused and expired medications for safe disposal. There is more information available on page 4.

Climate Resiliency Plan Open House

Join the Village and its partners at an open house to gather feedback on planned improvements to the Grand Avenue Corridor on Wednesday, October 29, at 5 PM. Learn more about the effort to design and deliver innovative climate resiliency infrastructure projects that will reduce flooding and lessen the impact of extreme heat and air pollution in the corridor. For more information, please see page 3 of this newsletter.

Mayor Barrett F. Pedersen



**Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor**

**April Arellano
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**

**Village Hall
will be
closed on
Monday,
October 13.
Trash removal
will take place
as scheduled.**



HALLOWEEN

HOME DECORATING CONTEST

Franklin Park - Show Your Halloween Spirit

It's time to spook-tacularly transform your home this Halloween! Enter the Home Decorating Contest for a chance to win exciting prizes!

To enter, take a photo of your decorated home and send it to Sandra at salarcon@vofp.com. We will post all the photos on our Village Facebook page, and our Trustees will select the contest winner! Have questions? Call Sandra at (847) 671-8236.

Let your inner ghou! fly and delight us with funny, spooky, and scary decorations!

Teen Pumpkin Painting & Nightmare Before Christmas

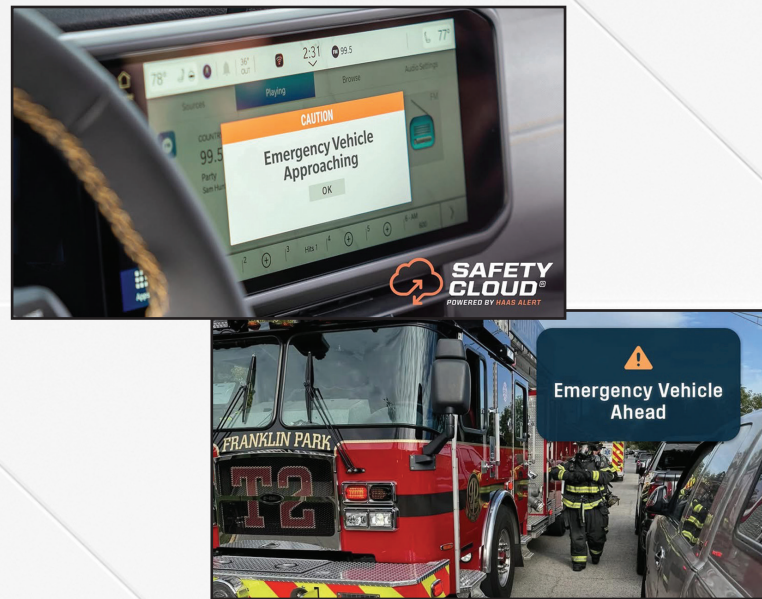
Join us at the Library on Saturday, October 18 from 12 -2 PM as we watch Nightmare Before Christmas (PG) and paint pumpkins! Each participant will get their very own pumpkin and paint supplies. Registration is required and this event is intended for grades 6-12.



For more information, go to fppld.org. The Franklin Park Library is located at 10311 Grand Avenue.



THE VILLAGE HAS ESTABLISHED THE HOURS OF 3 TO 7 PM FOR TRICK OR TREATING. BE SAFE AND HAVE FUN!



The Franklin Park Fire Department recently installed Safety Cloud® by HAAS Alert on three of their frontline units – Battalion 2, Truck 2, and Ambulance 1. This system digitally alerts nearby drivers when Fire Department vehicles are responding or working on an incident, helping to reduce collision risks by up to 90%! While Illinois’ Move Over law already requires motorists to slow down and change lanes, lights and sirens alone are not enough. Safety Cloud bridges that gap by delivering alerts directly to:

- Navigation apps like Waze and Apple Maps
- In-dash systems of 2018+ Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, RAM, and 2024+ Volkswagen vehicles

This means drivers get a critical heads-up before they even see or hear Fire Department units, making the roads safer for our firefighters, paramedics, and the public.



Did you know that the iconic candy bars Butterfinger and Baby Ruth are produced right here in Franklin Park? The candy manufacturer Ferrero provides Santa with the candy bars that his elves give to children at our annual Village Tree lighting event. Consider handing out Butterfinger and Baby Ruth candy bars to trick-or-treaters, at a Trunk or Treat event, or your Halloween party to show your hometown support!

Leaf Pickup and Yard Waste Removal Information

Leaf and yard waste removal service will continue through the first week of December. Leaves must be placed in brown biodegradable bags or in the Yard Waste container from Republic Services. Put your container or biodegradable bags out for pickup on Tuesdays. Leaves will not be removed if they are in plastic bags or placed in the street. Bags can be purchased at local stores.

Do not blow leaves into the street because it damages street sweeper equipment and can clog sewers causing street flooding. Burning leaves is not permitted.

The Department of Public Works will sweep curbs through late November. Check signs on your block for parking restrictions. For more information, call (847) 671-8252.




Community Open House

You're invited!

IN-PERSON EVENT
October 29, 5 to 7 p.m.

Police Station Community Room
9500 West Belmont Ave, Franklin Park, IL 60131

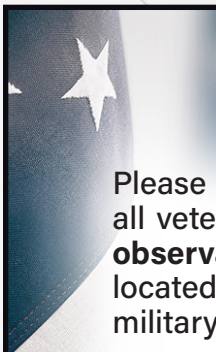
ABOUT THE EVENT

The Village of Franklin Park and its partners, Cook County and CIS, are hosting an open house to gather feedback on planned improvements to **Grand Avenue Corridor** from Louis Street to 25th Avenue. The aim of these improvements is to **reduce flooding, improve pedestrian and traffic safety, and beautify the corridor**. Please contact the project manager, Dr. Sarah Dobie, with any questions at Sarah.Dobie@cisolutions.com.

Let's build a more resilient Cook County together.

This project is brought to you by Cook County and CIS, a national leader in community-based programs and climate resilience-based solutions.





Veterans Day Event

Please Submit Names for the Monument Now

Please plan to join the Village of Franklin Park and the American Legion Post 974 as we honor all veterans who have served our country in times of war and peace. **The annual Veterans Day observance will be held on Tuesday, November 11 at 11 AM at the Village's Veterans Memorial**, located west of Village Hall. At the event, new names of Franklin Park residents who served in the military will be added to the Village's Veterans Monument.

The Clerk's Office is seeking new names for this year's event. To qualify, the veteran must have lived in Franklin Park, and you will need to provide a copy of their DD-214 form (Honorable Discharge Papers). **Please contact the Clerk's Office by October 15** to ensure the name will be engraved (pending weather constraints) on the Village's Veterans Monument in time for this year's event. If you have questions, call (847) 671-8242. Also, watch our Village website and Facebook page for updates regarding moving the event indoors if there is harsh weather.