



Construction Update

Major infrastructure improvements have been completed for the Robinson Road subdivision, including installation of new water mains. Lead service line replacements are also complete but required longer than expected coordination with residents causing project delays. Therefore, the pavement on Robinson Road will be completed in the spring. In the meantime, residents will continue to have full access, and garbage services will resume their normal trash schedule throughout the winter. A new green space was added at the corner of the subdivision at River Road and Robinson

Road. We appreciate everyone’s patience throughout the construction process.

Progress was made on the work on Washington Street between King Avenue and Belmont Avenue. New water and sewer mains have been installed, and new rain gardens and trees will be planted on the east side of the street to improve stormwater management. Roadway resurfacing and plantings will be completed in spring 2026.

WELCOME TO FRANKLIN PARK!



▲ The Owlyn Group is located at 9701 West Grand Avenue and provides notary and apostille services, paperwork form preparation, and tax assistance for home purchases and refinancing.



▲ After a year of successful operation in our community, the ribbon was officially cut to welcome Goal Line Pizzeria and Sports Bar at 9700 Franklin Avenue! This family-friendly restaurant is your ultimate destination for fast-casual dining.

Congratulations to the 2025 Best Decorated Home for Halloween Contest!

1ST PLACE
The Morales family at 2801 Elder Lane

2ND PLACE
The Peacock - Chung family at 2707 Elder Lane

3RD PLACE
The Wilson family at 3048 Scott Street

The final Community Blood Drive of the year will be held on Friday, December 12, from 3 PM to 7 PM in the Community Room of the Police Station. Please donate if you are able!

THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK
Village News

December 2025

Mayor’s Desk



As you prepare for the New Year, please take time to remove anything from the floor of your basement that could be damaged because of unexpected flooding. Super storms that produce intense downpours with little warning are happening with more regularity in areas quite close to Franklin Park. This includes during the winter months.

There is no amount of stormwater management that will protect us from destructive super storms. Prepare your home now before one arrives by picking up anything you have on the floor of your basement and placing the items on shelves. Relocate valuables to another level of your home. Check that your sump pump and emergency power flood control system are in good working condition and determine if they should be replaced.

Also, clean your gutters and downspouts of any remaining leaves or debris. Please do not sweep the leaves into the street because they will clog the sewers causing street flooding.

You have heard me say this before, but it is worth saying it again: we cannot control the weather, but we can control how to prepare for a super storm. It is not a matter of “if” but a matter of “when.” Please act now.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

As a reminder, the Leyden Food Pantry is requesting non-perishable food items to distribute to those in need. If you can donate, a drop-off box is available at Village Hall through December. An enduring spirit of caring makes a community strong. As we approach the New Year, let us resolve to keep that caring spirit going by attending veterans’ events, helping a neighbor shovel, clearing snow around hydrants to allow our first responders get to a home quickly, or by visiting an elderly or disabled neighbor in need.

Finally, on behalf of the Village Trustees, Clerk, and staff, I wish you a warm and wonderful Holiday Season and a happy and peaceful New Year.

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

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▲ Mayor Barrett Pedersen congratulated the newly sworn in Auxiliary Officers Marianne Lopez, Jessica Krause, and Frank Nocita at the November 17 Board Meeting.



▲ The Village participated in the Leyden township tree lighting and provided a decorated tree to the annual event. Franklin Park celebrated our Bee City USA status with the theme Bee Kind.

*Help us light up Franklin Park
and make it sparkle!*

BEST DECORATED HOME CONTEST

To enter your home in the Home For the Holidays contest, email your family's name, address, phone number, and photos of your decorated home by December 18 to salarcon@vofp.com. Photos will be posted on our Facebook page and the winner will receive Board recognition and a prize! If you have questions, please call Sandra at (847) 671-8236.



Please help area families in need this holiday season!



Donate non-perishable food items to the **Leyden Food Pantry**. There is a drop-off box at Village Hall available for your convenience through the end of the year. The Franklin Park Police Department is collecting unwrapped toys for their annual **Toys for Tots** campaign at the Police Station through December 15.

Seniors – Reapply NOW for Free Garbage Removal Services

Qualified senior citizens and disabled low-income homeowners are required to reapply each year to avoid receiving a bill for garbage removal service. Senior citizens aged 65 years or older who own a single residence must provide a copy of their most recent Cook County Property Tax Bill which indicates they are receiving the Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption to receive free garbage removal services. A copy of the tax bill can be mailed, emailed, or brought to Village Hall by Tuesday, December 30 to guarantee you will receive free garbage removal for 2026.

Disabled and low-income property owners must provide proof of qualifications for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to be eligible to receive the reduced garbage collection fee of 50 percent. Please email, mail, or bring your LIHEAP award letter to Village Hall to qualify for the reduced fee by December 30. Emailed documents can be sent to prodriguez@vofp.com or mailed to Village of Franklin Park, 9500 Belmont Avenue, Franklin Park, IL 60131. For more information, call (847) 671-8258.



Thank you to our friends at Osco Drugs for their support at our recent Senior Health and Resource Fair. It's not too late to get your flu and Covid booster vaccines at your doctor's office or at a local clinic. Thank you also to our event Cosponsor Illinois Senate President Don Harmon.

LIHEAP offers programs for heating and electric assistance to area residents. Please visit the Village's website at vofp.com to review eligibility requirements and information on how to apply.



▲ We had a great turnout for our Veterans Day event. Thank you to all the men and women who have served our country in times of war and peace.



Village Hall will close on Tuesday, December 23 at 3 PM and will be closed on Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December 25 for Christmas. Village Hall will close on Wednesday, December 31 at 3 PM and will be closed on Thursday, January 1 for New Years Day.