

Leyden Times

Volume 11: December 2024

Bensenville | Elmwood Park | Franklin Park | Melrose Park
Norridge | Northlake | Park Ridge | River Grove
Rosemont | Schiller Park | Unincorporated Leyden



Dear Resident:

Since our last newsletter to you, I am proud to announce that our Leyden Township team has been hard at work. We have officially obtained approval from the Cook County Building and Zoning Department to begin the demolition of the V Inn Kitchenettes located at 2540 Mannheim Road and the former carpet store at 2450 Mannheim Road. Demolition will begin late this November. Prior to demolition, rodent mitigation and asbestos abatement will take place. With the demolition of these properties, we can begin to Move Mannheim Forward.



View of the new 80 unit senior apartment building

I am excited to finally share our vision of the first phase of what Moving Mannheim Forward looks like with you. We have received the approval needed to begin building an 80-unit affordable senior housing complex and a brand-new state of the art senior center. This development will also feature a beautiful courtyard for residents to enjoy along with on-site aging care offices for their convenience. Developer, Evergreen Real Estate, and general contractor, F.H. Paschen, will be spearheading this project. These firms are experienced developers, managers, and builders of senior housing. We are planning to complete the senior housing project by spring 2026 depending on weather conditions. You will find more pictures of the proposed buildings included in this newsletter on the next page.

In addition, Leyden Township has retained planning consultant, Teska Associates, Inc., to perform a study of community needs for the commercial areas of Unincorporated Leyden Township along Mannheim Road and Grand Avenue. After completing the study, they will develop a comprehensive plan for the commercial areas. You will find information on the study included on the last page of this newsletter. Your input is not only encouraged, but also appreciated.

Next spring our residents will be able to enjoy two updated outdoor spaces in the community. We have installed all new playground equipment with poured-in-place safety surface and a splash pad at Westdale Park. Lee Street Park has also received a massive upgrade with new playground equipment and a poured-in-place safety surface. We know you will be pleased to see these beautiful new additions to our community.

I would like to thank you for your patience while we proceed with these projects.

A handwritten signature in black ink.

Rocco D. Biscaglio
Township Supervisor



View of the senior center from inside the court yard



View from Mannheim Road



View from Nevada Street looking South



AL J. BIANCALANA, C.I.A.O

TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR

☎ (847) 455 - 8616

📍 2501 N. Mannheim Road
Franklin Park, IL 60131

Mary Trzebny, Deputy Assessor
Bina Conte, Deputy Assessor
Abigail Nowak, Assistant Assessor

Our Leyden Township Assessor's office is here to assist you with all your property tax needs including assistance filing for your Exemptions and Certificate of Error, and researching comparable properties for your appeal to the Assessor and the Board of Review.

We are please to announce that from July through October 2024 our office processed the following Certificate of Errors, Permits and Appeals on behalf of our residents.

474 Certificate of Errors processed and submitted

748 Permits processed and submitted

2,112 Appeals processed and submitted

2024 EXEMPTION SEASON

Late January 2025

2024 senior freeze renewal applications will be mailed to every senior who had the senior freeze on their 2023 tax bill.

2024 senior freeze will be based on 2023 household income.

Mid-February 2025

Applications will be available to anyone born in 1959 for the senior exemption and/or senior freeze, and those that purchased in 2023 for the homeowner exemption.

The Cook County Assessor's Office issues the following exemptions: Homeowner, Senior, Senior Freeze, Persons' with Disabilities and Veterans' with Disabilities.

To ensure you are receiving the exemptions you are entitled to, please contact our office for the requirements.

Don't forget to appeal your assessment. Check our website www.leydentownship.com for dates or contact our office.



JAMIE LOSURDO

TOWNSHIP CLERK

☎ (847) 455 - 8616, Ext: 5119

✉ clerk@leydentownship.com

📍 2501 N. Mannheim Road
Franklin Park, IL 60131

Leyden Township Residents,

This upcoming year kicks off a very important election year. Over the last several months the Clerk's office has been preparing for the April 1, 2025 Consolidated General Election. Many local offices have candidates on the ballot making this a very significant election. It is extremely important to vote for your local officials! They make a notable impact where you live. We encourage those of you who are happy with your local officials to show your support and VOTE!

If you don't know your polling place, need to register to vote or are unsure if you are already a registered voter, please contact the Township Clerk's office at (847) 451-5119. We are happy to help you.

January starts with a brand, new empty calendar. View the Township calendar at www.leydentownship.com and add our events to your calendar so you don't miss all the fun! Township calendars are also available in the lobby of our Town Hall, located at: 2501 N. Mannheim Road in Franklin Park.

It will soon be time to Spring Ahead. Mark your calendar to turn your clocks forward on March 9, 2025.

Have a safe and cozy winter! We hope to see you out at the polls this April.

Veterans Affairs

VA Compensation & Pension
Employment Benefits
Education Benefits
Health Care Benefits
Burial Benefits
Woman Veteran Resources
ISOS DL Veteran Designation

Contact Your Local Veterans Affairs
Liaison Today

Jesus Segura

jsegura@leydentownship.com

847-451-5111



Senior and Disabled Residents

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS

Triton College's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) will offer FREE tax assistance to individuals (ages 60 or older) from low-to-moderate income households. This free service is made possible by a grant-funded IRS program called Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE).

This service is by appointment ONLY. Appointments can be made starting on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025. Call (708) 456-0300, ext. 3895 to make an appointment. Appointments are held at: Westdale Park, 3045 Sandra Avenue, Melrose Park, 60164.



Weekly Activities

Senior Exercise

Tuesday and Thursday | 9:00am - 10:00am
Bradley A. Stephens Community Center

Senior Knitting Club

Tuesday | 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Carl Fiorito Senior Center

Senior Line Dancing

Wednesday and Friday | 10:00am - 1:00pm
Carl Fiorito Senior Center

Senior Movie Day

Thursday | 12:00pm
Carl Fiorito Senior Center

Reservations are required for all programs and events.

For more information or to register, please call Jamie at: (847) 451 - 5119.



aging care
connections

Because Aging Well Matters

Advisors on all matters related to the issues facing older adults as they age.

Now at Leyden Township Town Hall

1st Wednesday of the Month

9:00am - 1:00pm

3rd Wednesday of the Month

12:00pm - 4:00pm

Walk-ins welcome!

DIAL-A-RIDE

You may be eligible for discounted PACE transportation.

One Way Fares

Adults: \$2.50

Reduced Fares

Seniors and RTA Disabled: \$1.25

EVENTS AND TRIPS

The Nutcracker and Hibachi

December 5th

\$42.00

*Reservations Required

Arts and Crafts

Tuesday, January 21st

12:00pm

Senior St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

Thursday, March 6th

12:00pm

*Reservations Required



General Assistance

The General Assistance program can provide monthly financial assistance to eligible Leyden Township residents, who currently have no income due to lack of employment or are awaiting a decision on their Supplemental Security Income (SSI) claim. The General Assistance office also offers referrals and information regarding eligibility for other assistance programs.

For questions or more information please call 847.455.8616 EXT: 5112.

El programa de Asistencia General puede proporcionar asistencia financiera mensual a los residentes elegibles del municipio de Leyden, que actualmente no tienen ingresos debido a la falta de empleo o están esperando una decisión sobre su reclamación de Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario (SSI). La Oficina de Asistencia General también ofrece referencias e información sobre la elegibilidad para otros programas de asistencia.

Para preguntas o más información llame al 847.455.8616 EXT: 5112.

Rocco D. Biscaglio
Supervisor

LEYDEN COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY



Thank you to the Chicago O'Hare Rotary Club for their \$1,000.00 donation to our food pantry along with 4 boxes of meals for our residents.



HOW TO QUALIFY?

- Must be 18 and over
- Proof of residency in one of the service area zip codes provided below

SERVICE AREAS

- 60016
- 60018
- 60019
- 60025
- 60053
- 60068
- 60131
- 60160
- 60164
- 60165
- 60171
- 60176
- 60631
- 60707
- 60714

HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY

9:00AM - 5:00PM

TUESDAY

11:00AM - 7:00PM

WEDNESDAY

9:00AM - 5:00PM

THURSDAY

11:00AM - 7:00PM

FRIDAY

1:00PM - 5:00PM

CONTACT

(847) 455 - 8616
Ext: 5136

2501 N. Mannheim Road
Franklin Park, IL 60131

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY



Supervisor Biscaglio, along with River Grove Mayor Dave Guerin, and Elmwood Park Mayor Skip Saviano were the Master of Ceremonies for the annual Columbus Day Parade held downtown on Monday, October 14.



Leyden Township was a proud co-host of the Digital Life Celebration. The event allowed community members to connect with local resources and receive information about digital literacy and navigating the digital world. Registrants received a laptop and 12 months high speed internet at no cost.



Leyden Township attended two ribbon cuttings in the community. To the left: Grand opening of the new McDonald's located on Grand Avenue. Representatives from local schools, Leyden Township, the Chamber by O'Hare and Cook County Commissioner Frank Aguilar also attended the event. To the right: The grand re-opening of Grand Eye Care, located at 8362 W. Grand Ave in River Grove. Congratulations to both businesses.





Leyden Township Supervisor Rocco D. Biscaglio was honored at the Leyden Family Service & The SHARE Program's Annual Gala. Supervisor Biscaglio was this year's 2024 Person of the Year. Leyden Township was also honored with a new sponsorship level, Diamond Sponsor, for the contributions and grants that are provided to Leyden Family from the Township.



Supervisor Biscaglio presented Chicago's Own Young Marines, located inside the American Legion in River Grove on Grand Avenue, with a check for \$4,000.00 toward their youth program.

Marine Lance Cpl. Nickolas A. Daniels
Breakfast with Santa Toy Drive
 Sponsored by the
Elmwood Park Neighborhood Civic Organization
and the Montclare Elmwood Park Kiwanis
Sunday December 8th 2024
9AM to 12PM
Enter through St. Celestine School Front Entrance
3017 N. 77th Ave. Elmwood Park, IL 60707



- *Please bring an unwrapped toy for a boy or a girl \$10.00 limit per toy
- *Breakfast will be served
- *There will be a visit from Santa
- *Bring a bag of canned goods for your visit with Santa

Live entertainment by:
 Turning Point Dance Studio
 Hugo's Elvis - Tribute Artist

Arts and Crafts
 Send a Letter to Santa
 Send a Holiday Card to the Military

Compliments of the following organizations









*Not a school sponsored event

Recreation Department

Leyden Township's Annual

DROP & POP

FREE Children's
New Years Eve Celebration

Tuesday, December 31
10:30am - 12:30pm

Food
Games & Prizes
Entertainment

Reservations are required one
week before the event by
calling (847) 451 - 5144



www.leydentownship.com

Bradley A. Stephens
Community Center
2620 N. Mannheim Rd.
Franklin Park, IL 60131

Leyden Township presents...

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE 2025

Food Dance Photo Booth

Friday, February 21

Doors open at 6:00pm

FREE EVENT

Couples must RSVP by February 14



MOTHER & SON DODGEBALL NIGHT

Friday, March 21st
6:00pm - 8:00pm



Free Community Event!
Food & drinks provided.

Bradley A. Stephens Community Center
2620 N. Mannheim Road, Franklin Park, IL 60131
(847) 451 - 5144

SHARE YOUR...



ideas



aspirations



concerns



wants

...for Leyden Township on the comment map!



LEYDEN TOWNSHIP

LOOKING AHEAD

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Look ahead toward Leyden's future! Share your ideas and priorities for our Township. Leyden Township is beginning the process of developing its first Comprehensive Plan. The Plan will define a vision and strategies for housing, economic development, transportation, and the built environment, with a focus on unincorporated areas of the Township which cover approximately 9,000 residents. We need your help to determine priorities!

The Township wants your input to ensure that the Plan addresses the issues most important to you. Please take a moment to explore the Interactive Comment Map and add your thoughts. Do you have a big idea for something you would like to see? Do you know of a place that needs improvement? What do you love and want to see more of?

Visit the online map today to share your ideas and help shape the future of your community. Don't forget to "follow this project" by filling in your contact information to receive project updates.



Leyden Township
2501 N. Mannheim Road
Franklin Park, IL 60131
Phone: (847) 455 - 8616

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm



LeydenTownship.com

Merry
Christmas
and Happy New Year!



Back row from left to right: William Otte, Trustee | Ronald Klinger, Trustee
Jamie Losurdo, Clerk | Vincent S. Fiorito, Trustee | Nicholas J. Pecora, Trustee
Front row left to right: Al J. Biancalana, Assessor | Rocco D. Biscaglio, Supervisor
John E. "Bucky" Bjorvik, Highway Commissioner

Our office will be closed
in Observance of the
following Holidays:

December 24, 2024
Christmas Eve
December 25, 2024
Christmas Day
December 31, 2024
New Years Eve

January 1, 2025
New Years Day
January 20, 2025
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 17, 2025
Presidents' Day