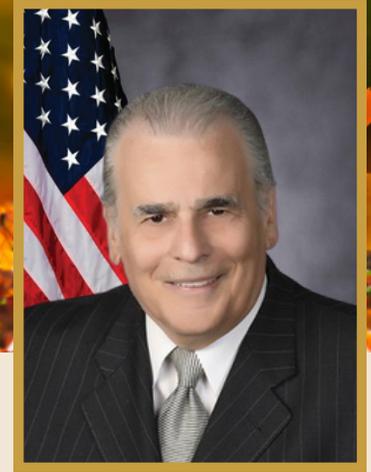


LEYDEN TIMES

September 2025, Volume 14



Dear Resident:

We know what you're thinking — how are we already in September? It seems summer passed by in the blink of an eye! Despite record-setting heat waves, Leyden Township made the most of the season with several exciting accomplishments and improvements across the community as we celebrated our 175th Anniversary year.

We hope you had a chance to cool off at the brand-new splash pad at Westdale Park, were able to join us for one of our many special events, or experienced the spectacular fireworks at this year's Community Days celebration.

This summer, we also hosted an Open House for our Township's Comprehensive Plan. We were thrilled to welcome residents who shared their ideas, voiced concerns, and helped shape a collective vision for the future of Leyden Township. Your input is vital in guiding responsible development, enhancing services, and building a stronger community for generations to come.

Behind the scenes, we've been hard at work on several key infrastructure and community development projects. On the next page of this newsletter are several projects, updates and improvements we have been able to accomplish during the past few months.

As we transition into fall, there are still numerous free community events we will be hosting. Please bring your family, friends and neighbors and join us as we close out the year 2025 together!

- **Community Garage Sale and Craft Fair:** Saturday, September 13th, 9:00am - 3:00pm at Westdale Park
- **Senior Homecoming:** Thursday, October 9th, 12:00pm at Carl Fiorito Senior Center
- **Boo Fest:** Friday, October 17th, 6:00pm - 9:00pm at Westdale Park
- **9th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony:** Friday, November 21st, 6:00pm - 8:00pm at Westdale Park
- **Senior Breakfast with Santa:** Thursday, December 4th, 10:00am at Carl Fiorito Senior Center
- **Lunch with Santa:** Saturday, December 13th, 11:00am and 2:00pm at Community Center
- **Drop and Pop Celebration:** Wednesday, December 31st, 10:30am - 12:30pm at Community Center

We remain committed to improving our community through smart investments, thoughtful planning, and your continued support. Thank you for being part of everything we do here in Leyden Township. I look forward to seeing you at our next event!

Rocco D. Biscaglio
Township Supervisor

Serving the Communities of:

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



TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Al J. Biancalana, C.I.A.O

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

Bina Conte, Deputy Assessor: BConte@leydentownship.com
Abby Nowak, Assistant Assessor: ANowak@leydentownship.com

The Leyden Township Assessor's Office is here to assist residents with all their property tax related needs. We can assist with filing for exemptions or with filing for Certificates of Error for exemption refunds. We provide assistance with filing appeals to both the Cook County Assessor and the Cook County Board of Review. We can answer questions regarding assessments, exemption requirements, tax bill calculations and property sales within our Township.

Leyden Township hosted a Property Information evening workshop on August 20th. This event was designed to accommodate our Township residents who work during the daytime an opportunity to sit down with our team for assistance with their appeals. Thank you to all our supporting Mayors and the Cook County Assessor's Office for their collaboration on this event.

2025 APPEAL UPDATE

In 2025, the north suburbs of Cook County were reassessed. Each property owner was mailed a Reassessment Notice, which contained the property address, its characteristics, and its updated estimated fair market value. The period to Appeal that assessment is now closed. If you need to file a Certificate of Error, our office is available, Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 5:00pm. For more information or for updates regarding the Cook County Board of Review 2025 filing dates, please visit our website or contact our office.

PROPERTY TAX BILLS

When your 2025 Second Installment Property Tax bill arrives, please check that you have received the property tax exemptions you are eligible for. If you are missing an exemption or have questions, please call or email our office.



Unincorporated Leyden Updates From Cover Story

Leyden 311: In the beginning of the year, we introduced Leyden 311, a modern, streamlined service request platform designed to improve how residents connect with local government. Leyden 311 simplifies the process of reporting non-emergency issues and enhances communication between the Township and its residents. With Leyden 311, users can easily submit service requests for common concerns such as potholes, damaged signs, graffiti, and more. Each request can include photos, location details, and is tracked from submission to resolution - ensuring residents stay informed every step of the way.

Leyden 311 is now available for download on both iOS and Android devices. Residents can also access the system directly through the Township's website at: www.leydentownship.com.

Water Bills Moving to Monthly Due Date: Effective September 1st, 2025, water bills will be sent on the 10th of each month with a due date of the 25th of each month for water customers. If you have any questions, please contact our office at: (847) 455 - 8616.

Moving Mannheim Forward: As we continue to Move Mannheim Forward, we are working diligently with developers, investors, realtors and an urban planning consulting group to ensure we are bringing high quality opportunities that will benefit our residents to their doorsteps.

Senior Citizen Seasonal Programs: Over the 2025 summer season, we proudly serviced over 125 seniors through our Senior Lawn Maintenance Program. Registration for our Senior Snow Removal Program will be open beginning October 1st. For more information or to register, please contact our Town Hall at: (847) 455 - 8616.

Westdale Park: Residents were able to enjoy the first summer with the brand-new splash pad, along with the new state-of-the-art playground installed at Westdale Park. With record setting days of heat, we were happy residents had a place to cool off.

Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation: Major improvements were completed on Armitage Avenue (between 25th and Mannheim) and Fullerton Avenue (between Geneva and Mannheim), including cured-in-place pipe lining, rehabilitation, cleaning, and televising of sanitary sewers.

Water Main Projects:

- **Montana Avenue:** Installation of 1,370 feet of new 8" diameter water main, five new fire hydrants, 1,400 feet of cured-in-place sanitary sewer lining, six epoxy-lined manholes, and full road repaving. This project was supported by \$107,515 from the Cook County Invest in Cook Program and \$200,000 from the Community Development Block Grant. Estimated cost of project: \$920,000.
- **Nevada Avenue:** Installation of 670 feet of new 8" water main, three new fire hydrants, 620 feet of cured-in-place sanitary sewer lining, and four epoxy-lined manholes. Estimated cost of project: \$480,000.

Fleck Park Enhancements: Four new decorative Sternberg light poles and lamps have been installed to restore park lighting, along with a new electric control cabinet. Estimated cost of project: \$75,000.



TOWNSHIP CLERK

Jamie Losurdo

2501 N. Mannheim Road, Franklin Park, IL 60131

(847) 455 - 8616, Ext: 5119

JLosurdo@Leydentownship.com

Happy Fall Leyden Seniors!

I hope you all had the most wonderful summer and were able to join us for one of our many events throughout the season. We had some GREAT trips and luncheons. Our annual Ice Cream Social was themed, "Let's Glow" and the entertainment was MAGICAL! We took a trip out to Four Winds Casino, the Japanese Gardens, watched some great movies, made beautiful pictures at Diamond Painting and danced like nobody was watching with Benni and our Line Dancers!

We have an excellent line up for Fall and Winter! Be sure to follow our website, call our office and register for a trip, sign up for a new class or join us for one of our luncheons.

Annual Open Enrollment Period, October 15 - December 7, 2025

Medicare health (Part C) and drug plans (Part D) can make changes each year- due to things like cost, coverage, and what providers and pharmacies are in their networks. October 15 to December 7 is when all people with Medicare health plans and prescription drug coverage can make changes for the following year to better meet their needs.

People in a Medicare health or prescription drug plan should always review the materials their plans send them, like the "Evidence of Coverage" (EOC) and "Annual Notice of Change" (ANOC). If their plans are changing, they should make sure their plans will still meet their needs for the following year. If they're satisfied that their current plans will meet their needs for next year and they're still being offered, they don't need to do anything.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at: (847) 451 - 5119.



Senior and Disabled Residents

**Registration is required for ALL programs, events and trips!*

TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Four Winds Casino Resort
Wednesday, September 17th
New Buffalo, Michigan
Call for more information

Senior Craft Day
Wednesday, September 17th
Carl Fiorito Senior Center
Call for more information

Morton Arboretum
Lunch at Wild Fire
Tuesday, September 23rd

Senior Homecoming
Thursday, October 9th
12:00pm
Carl Fiorito Senior Center

Teatro ZinZanni Chicago
Lunch & Show
November 20th
Downtown Chicago

Breakfast with Santa
Thursday, December 4th
10:00am
Carl Fiorito Senior Center

Botanical Gardens
Christmas Lights & Tour
December 2025

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

Lending Closet
Medical supplies available

Senior Farmers Market
Coupons Available
Call for more information
Limited quantity available

Aging Care Connections
Advisors on all matters related to
the issues facing older adults as
they age - Walk-ins welcome!

1st Wednesday of the Month
9:00am - 12:00pm
Leyden Township Town Hall

3rd Wednesday of the Month
1:00pm - 4:00pm
Leyden Township Town Hall

Senior Exercise
Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:00am - 10:00am
Bradley A. Stephens
Community Center

Senior Knitting Club
2nd and 4th Tuesdays
12:00pm - 2:00pm
Carl Fiorito Senior Center

Senior Line Dancing
Wednesdays and Fridays
10:00am - 1:00pm
Carl Fiorito Senior Center

Senior Movie Day
Thursdays
12:00pm
Carl Fiorito Senior Center

Diamond Painting Club
1st and 3rd Tuesday
Every Month
Carl Fiorito Senior Center
Call for more information

What is A Matter of Balance?

A Matter of Balance is an evidence-based program that emphasizes practical strategies to reduce fear of falling and increase activity levels. Participants learn to view falls and fear of falling as controllable, set realistic goals to increase activity, change their environment to reduce fall risk factors, and exercise to increase strength and balance. If you restrict your activities due to a fear of falling, then join our A Matter of Balance workshop to keep moving and stay active! To register please call: (847) 455 - 8616.

*Please remember that registration is required for **ALL** programs, events and trips.
Call: (847) 455 - 8616 for more information.*

Leyden Community Updates



Remembering Rodney Tole

It is with deep sadness we announce the passing of our former employee and Leyden Township Trustee Rodney Tole. Rodney was a proud US Army veteran. Rodney served as a Schiller Park Trustee from 2003 - 2015, and then Trustee of Leyden Township from 2017 until 2021. We thank Rodney for his many dedicated years to the entire Leyden Township Community. We are sending all of our love and support to Rodney's loved ones, especially his wonderful wife of over 65 years Katina. We will miss you Rodney!



Leyden Township Celebrates 5th National Night Out with the Cook County Sheriff's Department

National Night Out 2025 with our friends from the Cook County Sheriff's Department was a huge success! Over 350 residents came out to meet with our local patrol, a few of our K9 friends and enjoyed taking pictures in the helicopter! Thank you to all the wonderful agencies that shared important safety information with our residents. We hope you were able to grab a free Support Our Sheriff's t-shirt and had a great time!



Supervisor Biscaglio Sworn In as Treasurer of Township Officials of Cook County at Spring Conference

Congratulations to Supervisor Biscaglio who was sworn in as the Treasurer for the Township Officials of Cook County on June 26th at the annual Spring Conference. The new TOCC officers: Calvin Jordan - President, Bob Alberding - Vice President, Jerome Hoynes - Secretary and Rocco D. Biscaglio - Treasurer.

LEYDEN COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE & CRAFT FAIR



Vendor Spaces

\$20 Residents

\$35 Non-Residents

Table Rentals

\$6 per table

WESTDALE PARK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

9:00AM - 3:00PM

3045 Sandra Ave. Melrose Park, IL 60164

A food truck & play zone for the kids will also be available for vendors & shoppers!

Leyden Community Updates



National Association of REALTORS® and the Mainstreet Organization of REALTORS®, Present \$15,000 Check to Leyden Board

Thank you to the National Association of REALTORS® and the Mainstreet Organization of REALTORS®, for presenting our board with a \$15,000 check at the July 8th board meeting. "A total of \$15,000 has been set aside for the development and analysis of a comprehensive plan. Mainstreet is excited that your project will have the funding to move forward and will help to make a difference in your community." - Michael Bailey, Local Government Affairs Director (GAD), Illinois REALTORS®

LEYDEN TOWNSHIP

BOO FEST

FOOD ENTERTAINMENT GAMES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17TH
6:00PM - 9:00PM

WESTDALE PARK
3045 SANDRA AVE, MELROSE PARK, IL 60164

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Leyden Community Food Pantry



LEYDEN TOWNSHIP

LEYDEN COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

Bring joy to a child this holiday season!
Your gift will make the season brighter for a child in our community. Thank you for helping us spread holiday cheer!

Most Needed Items:

- Toys for ages 0-12
- Board games & puzzles
- Books & art supplies
- Dolls, cars, and action figures

Donation Tips:

- Please keep toys new & in original packaging
- No toy weapons or violent imagery
- Gift cards for teens also welcome

Join us in collecting new, unwrapped toys for local children.
Starting November 1st, 2025

Drop-off Location:
Leyden Community Food Pantry
2501 N. Mannheim Rd.,
Franklin Park, IL 60131

For questions or large donations contact Dayana at:
(847) 451 5136 or email: drustrian-gali@leydentownship.com.

Donations:

Food and Hygiene

Donations may be dropped off during business hours at:
2501 N. Mannheim Road
Franklin Park, IL 60131



Monetary Donations

Please make all monetary donations payable to:
Leyden Community Food Pantry

Donations may be dropped off or mailed to:
2501 N. Mannheim Road
Franklin Park, IL 60131

BUSINESS HOURS:

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

HOW TO QUALIFY?

- Must be 18 and over
- Live in the service area zip codes, provided

CONTACT US:

(847) 455 - 8616

Extension: 5136

2501 N. Mannheim Road
Franklin Park, IL 60131

SERVICE AREAS

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

Veterans Affairs Office

VETERANS BENEFITS

What Is A Presumptive Condition?

If the VA presumes that certain illnesses are related to your military service, you don't need to prove the exact cause—only that you served in a specific location or during a certain time.

Examples:

- Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange may qualify for conditions like diabetes, ischemic heart disease, and certain cancers.
- Gulf War veterans may qualify for chronic fatigue, fibromyalgia, or respiratory disorders.
- Post-9/11 veterans exposed to burn pits (PACT Act) may qualify for sinusitis, asthma, and cancers of the respiratory or digestive systems.



Featured Program

K9s for Veterans mission is to help veterans with post traumatic stress disorder transition back to civilian life once their military service has ended with the help of trained service dogs. We are committed to educating the public about the plight of veterans with PTSD and streamlining the process for them to get service dogs, so they get the help they need... Before it's too late.

VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR

Saturday, November 8th

10:00am - 2:00pm

Carl Fiorito Senior Center

2601 N. Mannheim Rd., Franklin Park , IL 60131

- Disability Compensation
- Military Records
- Education and Training
- Employment Benefits
- Healthcare
- Behavioral Health
- Veteran Vehicle Plates
- Illinois Veteran Homes
- Burial Benefits
- Surviving Spousal Benefits
- K9's for Veterans
- Heroes with Hearing Loss

**For more information about services available,
please contact our office: (847) 455 - 8616**

LEYDEN TOWNSHIP'S NINTH ANNUAL

Community Tree Lighting Ceremony

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

6:00PM - 8:00PM

WESTDALE PARK
3045 SANDRA AVENUE
MELROSE PARK, IL 60164

ENJOY FREE PICTURES WITH SANTA,
HOT CHOCOLATE, CANDY CANES,
COMMUNITY VENDORS AND MORE!

Leyden Township
2501 N. Mannheim Road
Franklin Park, IL 60131

Presorted STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Melrose Park, IL.
Permit #6



Township Offices will be closed:

October 13th - Columbus Day
November 11th - Veterans Day
November 27th - Thanksgiving
November 28th - Day after Thanksgiving
December 24th - Christmas Eve
December 25th - Christmas Day
January 1st, 2026 - New Year's Day



Rocco D. Biscaglio
Township Supervisor



Jamie Losurdo
Township Clerk



John E. "Bucky" Bjorvik
Highway Commissioner



Al J. Biancalana
Township Assessor



Ronald Klinger
Trustee



William Otte
Trustee



Nicholas J. Pecora
Trustee



Vincent S. Fiorito
Trustee