



March 2019  
 Village of River Grove, Illinois  
**Newsletter**

From the  
**Mayor's  
 Desk**



David B. Guerin Mayor    Tracy D. Aller Trustee    Roger V. Sewell Trustee    Michele M. Obaya Trustee  
 Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk    Lynn Bjorvik Trustee    Bob Thomas Trustee    Michael L. Konwinski Trustee

**Good Things Are Happening In River Grove**

The **River Grove Food Pantry** got an unexpected donation. The second grade teaching team from **Rhodes School** stopped by the River Grove Food Pantry and dropped off lots of goodies collected from their students. They had been reading a story called *Change Makers*, it was about how kids can make a difference and help others. **Ideas + Action = Change.** The kids then led the direction to collect the food for the River Grove Food Pantry. Way to go kids and thank you teachers for all you do too!



Rhodes School teachers from left to right: Linda Bartkowicz, Haley Goers, Ashley Gunville, Alyssa Tarpey and Noris D'Agostino

**Tax Rate Comparisons (2017) Leyden Township Municipalities**

Municipality	2017 Tax Rate	Levy Per Capita
Rosemont	2.678	\$ 2,990.91
Hillside	4.857	\$ 1,310.97
Maywood	11.601	\$ 1,017.19
Bellwood	7.548	\$ 921.23
Franklin Park	2.284	\$ 841.55
Schiller Park	2.433	\$ 675.20
Stone Park	6.927	\$ 659.41
Melrose Park	2.558	\$ 626.27
<b>River Grove</b>	<b>2.820</b>	<b>\$ 556.22</b>
Elmwood Park	2.739	\$ 505.92

**Dear Friendly Neighbors,**

Although February is the shortest month, it is an eventful one with Black History Month, the Super Bowl, Valentine's Day, President's Day and more. Last month, we included the first-ever "State of the Village" address. If you missed it, please review it on our website: [www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov). I am positive you will have great confidence in the direction our Village is headed, and I am happy to say for the first time in many years, we have a balanced budget moving forward.

Now, March Madness is here, accompanied by what seems to be the month-long celebration of St. Patrick's Day. A day which started as an Irish-American holiday and has transformed into a holiday where all ethnicities wear a little green, prepare some corned beef and cabbage, and possibly sip a wee bit of cheer. This is such a wonderful thing about our town. No matter who you are, where you are from, or where you are going, we all hold the same values and want the best for our families. Once you live in River Grove, you are always a River Grover and proudly represent yourself as a friendly neighbor who embraces our diverse community for life.

Homeowners and property owners alike have recently received their first installment of their property tax bills. I encourage all residents to appeal their taxes and review their bill to be sure all exceptions are properly applied. It amazes me how many people do not appeal their taxes and leave their hard-earned money on the table. This free service is available to all Leyden Township residents through our township assessor's office. Township Assessor Al Biancalana and his team do a great job answering questions and reviewing tax bills. I have included a chart so you can see where our town's tax rate compares to other communities.

Whether you are celebrating the great Polish General Casimir Pulaski or enjoying a feast celebrating a year of blessings at St. Joseph's table, live your life, cherish your loved ones, and above all...laugh!

*Warm Regards, Mayor David B. Guerin*  
 E-mail ([mayor@rivergroveil.gov](mailto:mayor@rivergroveil.gov))

**Please Remember**  
**STOP** Speeding...**STOP** Littering...and **STOP** at Stop Signs...**FOR OUR KIDS!**



## From Our Recreation Director

The following programs and events are taking place in March:

- **Teen Basketball from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., River Grove School gymnasium, open to all teens who live in River Grove. (please bring High School ID)**
- **Open Gym at Rhodes School, McNally Gym:**  
4th & 5th grade 7:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. and 6th, 7th & 8th grade 8:00 p.m.– 9:00 p.m
- **Mom & Son Dance on Friday, March 22nd at the American Legion Recreation Center**  
Please check the website at [www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov) for more details.

Please go to [www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov) and be sure to sign in and create an account so that you may receive updates and notifications on upcoming events. Also, check the website for confirmation of dates and times, as there are some holidays and spring breaks that will not allow programs to take place.

## Shout Out!

This month the Village of River Grove would like to send a shout out to retiring Public Works Director Corey Beck. Corey started with the Village in 1975. He had worked his way up the ranks and has led our Public Works team since 2012. Corey has seen it all in our village of friendly neighbors. Floods, fires, fests, weather events and has worked hard as a major contributor to keeping the streets and grounds of River Grove safe and in working order. On Thursday January 17, Corey was recognized with a Resolution read at the Board Meeting in his honor. On January 25, 2019 the village had a luncheon to honor Corey and his dedication to River Grove.



## New Development - Starbucks!

On Friday February 15 Mayor David Guerin and the River Grove Village Board, along with Avalon and the Starbucks Corporation, broke ground for the construction of the new Starbucks store coming to the River Grove community. The ground breaking took place on the site of the new development at the corner of Grand Avenue and Thatcher Avenue in River Grove. Also in attendance were members of the Grand Corridor Chamber of Commerce, Chamber by O'Hare, many municipal employees and Cook County Commissioner Peter Silvestri. The hope is that the new Starbucks facility will be open for business sometime in September of 2019.

