



JUNE 2019

Village of River Grove, Illinois

Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Lynn Bjorvik Trustee

Roger V. Sewell Trustee

Michael L. Konwinski Trustee

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Bob Thomas Trustee

Katie A. Muellner Trustee

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Friendly Neighbors,

Memorial Day has passed. I hope everyone enjoyed their extended weekend and took a moment to reflect on those who served our country and made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom. River Grove is proud of our many veterans and fallen heroes. I would like to take a moment and pay tribute to all those who have lost a loved one while in service to our great nation.

By the time you are reading this, I hope you took advantage of the Shred day event sponsored by the Village of River Grove, River Grove Lions, Senator Don Harmon, First Midwest Bank, and Roy Strom. This annual event allows residents to dispose of sensitive documents, outdated electronics and medicines. A big thank you to the sponsors and volunteers who make this day possible and remember: if it can be read, it must be shredded!

River Front Fest is right around the corner with great food vendors, a killer music line up, and a brand-new carnival. I encourage all residents to take advantage of the four-day mega pass available to our residents for \$50, which gives you unlimited rides. Now that is a value and frees up some cash to enjoy a cold one or some delicious food while showing your loved ones a great time!

On behalf of the village employees and board, we invite our friends with disabilities and their families out for free rides on Friday, June 28th from 2 pm to 4 pm. The Duck Race will be held at 5 pm on Sunday down the mighty Des Plaines river and tickets will be available all weekend. Proceeds will benefit the beautification committee.

Many events are going on in the month of June. Just a reminder that the village vehicle stickers can be purchased at the Village Hall and must be displayed on cars by June 30. With the weather warming up, I must compliment all the residents on their beautiful plantings throughout the town. It makes me so happy to watch growing families put additions on their homes and reinvest in our community. We truly have an amazing town with wonderful neighbors. I am so proud to call River Grove my home and I look forward to a great summer!

Thank you to the volunteers who came out on planting day! It was a big success. See you at the Front Fest!

Warm Regards, Mayor David B. Guerin E-mail (mayor@rivergroveil.gov), follow me on twitter @davidbguerin

River Grove Planting Day On Saturday May 18 the weather held out and the Village once again for the 31st year in a row, hosted Planting Day. This annual event works with the Beautification Committee, RG Public Work and volunteers from around our area. All come together to plant flowers around the village hall, the gazebo area and the bridge. Many families in town make this an annual event to bring the kids out and get a sense of community and pride in helping make the town you live in look better. We are so grateful to all who participated.



Finance and Economic Development A message from Trustee Michele Obaya

As the Village continues to be fiscally responsible to its residents the Finance and Economic Development Committee works diligently to make certain that all Department Directors follow the Financial Management Policies and Procedures Ordinance as well as the Procurement Policy Ordinance adopted by the Village Board. These Ordinances were adopted in 2015 at a time when Village Officials recognized that changes in the current procedures were needed to ensure the financial stability of the Village.

The Financial Management Policies and Procedures clarifies the roles, authority, and responsibilities for essential financial management activities and decisions. It spells out budget, revenue, expenditures, reserve, capital improvement, debt and financial reporting policies. While the goal of the Procurement Policy is to obtain quality goods and services at the lowest possible price. The purpose of this Policy is to establish guidelines to achieve this goal. These Policies along with enhancements to the Village's Finance Department have proven to be successful as we continue to see improvements in the Village's financial position.



The River Grove Recreation Department

The River Grove Recreation Department hosted a sold out crowd of Mothers and Daughters at their May event! They had fun creating a painting together which will be cherished for many years to come! Thank you to Tri Cafe Catering for an outstanding dinner and to Andrea from Scamp Studios for helping to bring out the artist in everyone! Kudos also to Laura Jardine our Recreation Director for all her energy and talent in bringing new programs to River Grove Recreation.



Mom, Jean Duran and her daughters Lilly and Lucy.



Shout Out!

Meet the newest addition to River Grove's front office staff; Evelyn Fonseca. Evelyn has been a delightful addition to the team. She is knowledgeable, kind, funny and would do whatever she can for the River Grove residents. Born in Chicago, Evelyn and her husband Ramon moved to River Grove in 2011. They have two beautiful little boys; Noah is 5 years old and just graduated from pre-K at Rhodes School, and Samuel is 2 and a half. Evelyn loves to garden, especially succulents like cactus. She also enjoys spending time with her family. On any given day you will find her at a tee ball game cheering on her son and River Grove Baseball.

She was very excited to learn that the village was hiring. She was ready to get back into the work force and wanted to be close to home for her kids. Evelyn brings experience and professionalism to our office team. She is fluent in Spanish and can assist all residents with their inquiries. Next time you are in the Village Hall make sure you stop and say hi to Evelyn.

River Front Fest is back!

Looking for some summer fun? Make sure to mark your calendar on **June 27-30** for River Grove's River Front Fest. While this is an old tradition in River Grove, this year will have a lot of new flavor! Music, Food, Carnival, a Duck Race and more, you will find it all at River Front Park (Grand Avenue and Ditka Drive) by the gazebo.

If it is food you are looking for, you will be able to enjoy a variety of specialties from local restaurants such as; Marias, D'Agostinos, Atheme, Ada's, DaLuciano's, River Café, Tri Café and Hala Kahiki, and more. Fest hours are **Thursday 5 to 10 p.m., Friday 5 to 11 p.m., Saturday 1 to 11 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 9 p.m.**

This year we have a new carnival provider in AAA Amusements. All of their rides are sure to thrill young and old alike. People may stop at the Village Hall and pre buy wristband at a price of \$50 for all four days! Also, on Friday, June 28 Mayor David Guerin and the Village Board are hosting a Friends with Disabilities Day which will provide free carnival rides to kids with disabilities and their families between 2 and 4 p.m. that day.

If you are a music buff, the lineup for this year's fest will knock your socks off with a variety of offerings the whole family will enjoy. Thursday night will kick off with Prairie Station, a local country band, and Ladies Night will close the evening with songs to keep everyone on their feet. Friday night, coming back from last year, are favorites Hello Weekend and Hair Band Night. Saturday afternoon in the park will start with the Chicago Experience with songs from the band Chicago. Hinge will take the stage from 6 to 8 p.m. and finishing the night will be High Infidelity. Sunday's line up is all local groups! Starting at 1 p.m., Anthony Rago will be singing the tunes from the Great American Songbook (Tony Bennet, Frank Sinatra and more...). Mistaken Identity will play from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and finishing out the fest as always is River Grove's very own and favorite, The Pondhawks, featuring songs from the Monkey's, Beatles and more.

The final day of the Fest will also include the annual Duck Race down the Des Plaines River. People are able to purchase Duck Race tickets at the village hall from now until the event and then there will be a booth for ticket sales at the fest. All proceeds from the Duck Race go to benefit the River Grove Beautification Committee.

For more details, visit: **Village of River Grove on Facebook** or on the web at **www.rivergroveil.gov**

Currently, our first sponsor is local business Forest Security. There are plenty of sponsorship opportunities.

For more information, call Shawn Campbell (708) 779-8012. We will be sure to provide the full list of sponsors in our next newsletter.