



Village of River Grove, Illinois

Newsletter MAY 2020



David B. Guerin Mayor
Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Lynn Bjorvik Trustee
Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Roger V. Sewell Trustee
Bob Thomas Trustee

Katie A. Muellner Trustee
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From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Friendly Neighbors,

We are over 45 days into the stay at home order and by now, as most of you know, the governor has extended the stay at home order until the end of May. Please visit our website at www.rivergroveil.gov to view the governor's amended order.

My heart goes out to everyone who is suffering from the burden of this pandemic whether it be with their health or finances. There is no doubt that we are going through tough times. The news is full of fear, people are jobless, and there seems to be no end in sight.

I must say, as your mayor, I have never been so proud as I see this community come together even though we are physically apart.

The pass-by birthdays for children have been awesome. The creative art work put up in resident's front windows has been powerful and moving to see. People are sewing masks for first responders and local restaurants, although their operations have been cut, are sending food to medical professionals on the front line of this war. Our local American Legion has been collecting personal products for Hines patients. Our Lions Club is sponsoring a virtual food drive, collecting over \$10,000 and counting to help our neighbors in need. All of this shows what a compassionate village we are, understanding that we are all in this together. There is too much positivity in our great village to ever bring us down.

I have great confidence that when this is over we will come back stronger than ever...as people, as a community and as Americans. Tough times don't last, tough people do.

Once again thank you to everyone working as a team, maintaining social distancing and respecting the stay at home orders. I would be remiss if I did not thank the Village staff and all the departments working hard to make our life easier during this difficult time.

Keep the faith!

Your friend and neighbor, David B. Guerin E-mail (mayor@rivergroveil.gov), follow me on twitter [@davidbguerin](https://twitter.com/davidbguerin)

River Grove Holds First Easter Parade

The Village of River Grove held their first Easter Parade this past month. Mayor Guerin and the Easter Bunny, along with the River Grove Police, Fire and Public Works trucks went up and down the streets of town. The goal was to bring a little cheer to the residents and children in this time of self-quarantine. The response and turn out could not have been better. We are grateful to our residents for showing such an out pouring of support. As a village we could not be more proud of our first responders and we thank them for all that they do.



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

In Remembrance

In lieu of this month's shout out, we what to pay tribute to long time employee **Corey Beck**. On April 20, 2020, River Grove said a final goodbye to Corey Beck, retired Superintendent of Public Works. Corey was a lifelong resident of River Grove and lived in his childhood home his entire life. Corey was hired by Bud Leder of the River Grove Public Works Department while he was in high school as a summer help employee. He became a full-time laborer for Public Works in June of 1975, and retired as the Superintendent in January of 2019 after 44 years of service. Former Director of Public Works Brent Leder said, *"Corey was my right hand man for many years. He was a good, hard worker who always had my back. There are not enough positive words to describe Corey. I am just sorry he didn't get the time to enjoy his next phase of life in retirement."* Corey was also a volunteer fireman for the Village from 1976 to 1986, ending his career as Chief Engineer. Corey was a man who enjoyed outdoor activities including boating and snowmobiling, but his passion was riding his motorcycle. Corey became a Mason in 1995 and a Shriner in 1996. He traded his Gold Wing for a Harley and joined the mighty Medinah Motor Corps, riding in parades and performing with the Drill Team, all in an effort to support Shriners Hospital for Children. Corey was known as a man of few words but his actions spoke volumes to his character. Corey served his family, friends and the Village of River Grove his entire life. Mayor Guerin said he was *"honored and fortunate enough to have worked with Corey in his administration. Corey was a genuine person who touched many lives in the village and through his work as a Mason and Shriner, he will be greatly missed."*



Construction Update from Public Works Director Brock Leder

While some might consider road construction an inconvenience, the payoff is always well worth it. River Grove has several road construction projects going on, which are sure to create havoc during the next few months.



- The Grand Avenue bridge has been well under construction for the last month. They are rebuilding the bridge deck joint and modifying the traffic signal at Grand & River Road.
- The Illinois Department of Transportation has also started the River Road grind and resurfacing project. This project will start at 1st Avenue & River Road then move north toward Foster Avenue.
- The 2700 blocks of Budd St. and Hessing St. grind and resurface project has been sent out for bid. This project should start in May and be completed this June.
- This year's Green Alley Project is still under review but is set to start in the beginning of June and completed this August.
- Fullerton Avenue is wrapping up and set to open May 1st. This has been an ongoing project of the Village of River Grove, starting with a new water main that runs from First Avenue to Maple Street and new curb lines along both the north and south side of Fullerton Avenue. This new roadway is a great improvement and ties in great with the newly improved Green Alley Project that was completed last year.

YOUR RESPONSE MATTERS!

Health clinics, fire departments, schools, even roads and highways. The census can shape many different aspects of our community. It is important to River Grove that all residents fill out their CENSUS. **Here are some CENSUS facts:**

- By law, the Census Bureau cannot release any identifiable information about you, your home, or your business, even to law enforcement agencies. That's protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code.
- Census results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states and communities each year.
- The results determine how many seats in Congress each state gets.
- It's mandated by the U.S. Constitution in Article 1, Section 2: The U.S. has counted its population every 10 years since 1790.

For questions about responding to the 2020 Census, **call 844-330-2020** or visit their Language Support page for help in additional languages (<https://2020census.gov/en/languages>).

