



Newsletter

Village of River Grove, Illinois June 2021



David B. Guerin Mayor

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Lynn Bjorkvik Trustee

Robert C. Thomas Trustee

Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Katie A. Muellner Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee

Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Friendly Neighbors,

Greetings! It certainly seems like it was a longer than usual winter, but summer is here. Flowers are in bloom, the sprinklers are on and the Weber grills are hot and ready for some burgers or veggies. Afternoons fly by as we take a stroll with the kids or dog and say a quick hello to our neighbors as the sun sets in the background.

Residents and people across this great nation are experiencing what seems to be a new sense of freedom as masks are removed and the most vulnerable population have been able to obtain their vaccination. Please join us Saturday, June 17 as we gather at beautiful River Front Park to dedicate Lions Park and listen to the sounds of the very popular Hi Infidelity playing songs of the Eighties. There will be food trucks with a variety of food choices and plenty of thirst quenchers for the whole family. Come out for some River Grove Family Fun and be sure to tell your friends and family. Admission is free.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge Memorial Day which has just passed. Thank you to all of our soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom. Prayers go out to all the loved ones who have lost a family member who has served.

I hope you all join me and fly Old Glory on Flag Day, Monday, June 14th. River Grove street poles will be lined with American flags in honor of this great country.

Thank you for choosing River Grove to live, work and play. It is my opinion that this is one of the greatest Chicago suburbs to raise a family; with great schools, safe streets and affordability. I am proud to call River Grove my home and I hope you are too. My staff and department heads are here to serve you. Please don't hesitate to send us a comment or concern and I will be happy to get you in touch with the right department.

In closing I want to humbly thank the residents for having confidence in my TEAM to lead our community for four more years. It is with great honor that I serve as village president of my hometown.

Your friend and neighbor, David B. Guerin, follow me on twitter [@davidbguerin](#)



Fire Department Grant Allows for More AEDs

The River Grove Fire Department was awarded the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) EMS Assistance Grant. This grant allowed the RGFD to purchase Philips Heart Start Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) to be placed in all of the Village of River Grove Buildings. The Village of River Grove previously had AEDs in the VFW/Senior Center and Shelton Field's Concession Stand. Now we have AEDs in our Village Hall, Police Department, Public Works Building, and the Court Room/Food Pantry as well.

Summer Time Reminders...be a good neighbor!

- Residents living in apartment buildings, please remember to close the lid on your dumpster.
- Shred Day is June 5th – Electronic Recycling will be at the American Legion Hall from 8am -12pm and not at Public Works this day.
- Vehicle Sticker renewals were sent out. You can come into village hall, use the drop box outside of village hall or mail your renewal in the envelope provided. If you mail in, you may return multiple renewals in one envelope and pay with one check. Please allow 2 weeks for processing.
- Remember to call the Building Department (**708-453-8007**) before starting any remodeling or construction projects to make certain of permit requirements.
- Celebrate safe this summer and especially on the 4th of July. Please respect your neighbors and abide by the Village noise and curfew ordinances. Remember we are the village of friendly neighbors!



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

Shout Out! Trustee Lora Lantgen

River Grove's newest Trustee, Lora Lantgen grew up on the North Side of Chicago. She is an only child, however, she comes from a large Italian family. She is a Cubs fan, loves rock music and has a big interest in making arts and crafts. Lora has a AAS degree in Emergency Management and holds other licenses and certificates as well. She worked on a private ambulance for 7 years before she changed careers and found herself employed with Chicago Transit Authority. She started with the CTA in 2012 as a Training Specialist- teaching safety classes and is now an Environmental Compliance Officer. Her job includes making sure the CTA is in environmental compliance with the EPA and all other governing agencies. Lora has lived in River Grove for almost 10 years and her husband Matt grew up here. Both his mom and dad's families have been residents of River Grove for over 50 years. Lora and Matt have brought life back into River Grove Baseball and have worked with the Village to enhance the youth sports in our community. This is one of the main reasons she wanted to be a trustee, to be even more involved in the town and to be a voice for the community. Lora believes if you invest all your heart and soul into something, only good things can become of it. She is dedicated to putting her heart and soul into River Grove. Mayor Guerin said, "We are looking forward to having Lora serve on the board to share her new ideas and enthusiasm."



From the River Grove Police Department

The **Vacation Watch Program** is a service provided by the River Grove Police Department where members of the department will conduct periodic physical checks of your residence while you are on vacation or away from your residence for an extended period of time. In the event of an emergency, we will work with the person you designate as an emergency key holder to ensure that your residence is safe and secure. Please visit the Police Department Online Services page at www.rivergroveil.gov for more information.

2021 Planting Day

The 2021 Village Planting Day was a huge success! It was a record year for turnout. Many residents and elected officials brought their children as well, to help in the efforts to beautify our village. Public Works was out in force, helping to dig and place flowers and even though rain was in the forecast, they brought out the water truck just to be sure all the new flowers were "showered" with care! When you are driving through town, please notice the colorful flowers along Grand Ave including the bridge area. You can take pride in knowing that your neighbors did that!



Flag Day 2021

Flag Day is a celebration of the American flag that occurs each year on the anniversary of the flag's official adoption, June 14. What was commonly referred to as the "Stars and Stripes" was adopted by the Continental Congress as the official American flag on June 14, 1777, in the midst of the Revolutionary War. Colonial troops fought under many different flags with various symbols such as; rattlesnakes, pine trees, and eagles. The flags had slogans such as; "Don't Tread on Me, Liberty or Death, and Conquer or Die." The Declaration of Independence made the adoption of an American flag necessary. Previously, each colony or special interest had its own flag. On the 14th of June, Congress made the following resolution: "The flag of the United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, with a union of thirteen stars of white on a blue field." These colors were designated to mean: **white** for purity and innocence, **red** for valor and hardiness and **blue** for vigilance, perseverance, and justice. The Village of River Grove would like to thank former employee and past Commander of the American Legion, Mike Warchol, and the Law Offices of Smith and Smith for their generous gifts of \$500 each to replace our American flags here in the Village. The Village is very grateful and shares their patriotic values as we proudly wave the red, white and blue!

