



Village of River Grove, Illinois April 2022

Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk
Lynn Bjorvik Trustee

Robert C. Thomas Trustee
Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee
Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Friendly Neighbors,

First and foremost, I want to ask our residents to continue to pray for the people of Ukraine. River Grove is proud of our European population, many of whom are Ukrainian. As many of you know, my wife's family is of Ukrainian decent and we pray for a quick resolution to this war as well as for the safety of the family and friends of our residents. River Grove stands with the Ukrainian people.

Our Public Works has started the installation of our first ever playground to service our Thatcher Woods and O'Connor Drive area. Many residents have asked for a park in this area and the Village Board is listening. I am happy to announce that the park includes a soccer net, all exclusive playground equipment and shaded seating will be up and running this summer. The park is fenced in for safety. We are looking forward to seeing you at the park dedication ceremony to be announced this summer. This park was paid for entirely by TIF funds generated by the shopping center and, in turn, adding this amenity will encourage future sales and sales tax. The Village Board remains committed to enhancing green space and increasing the value of your property.

We have some exciting events coming up soon including our **Easter Egg Hunt, Arbor Day, Cinco De Mayo Senior Bingo, and River Front Fest**...just to name a few. Our River Grove Rockets Softball and Little League Baseball are ready to be in full swing. We have had some of the biggest registration numbers to date, both organizations have fun opening days planned so make sure you make it out! We encourage old and new residents to be active in our community.

In closing I encourage everyone to participate in our Recreation and Library needs assessment. The Village and Library Board members have been meeting together regularly to discuss the possibility of a joint Library and Recreation Campus. We need and value your input. Please see the flyer in this water bill or visit either of our websites to participate in the survey.

Thanks again for choosing River Grove as your home, having you here makes it "The Village of Friendly Neighbors"!

Your friend and neighbor, David B. Guerin, follow me on twitter @davidbguerin

Free Tax Counseling for Senior Citizens

The Triton College RSVP Volunteer Program, in conjunction with the IRS, is offering free tax preparation services to individuals age 60 or older from low to moderate income households. IRS trained and certified volunteers will prepare tax returns for free by appointment only. For more information or to request an appointment, call (708) 456-0300 Ext. 3895. Please do not leave a message at this extension. Appointments can be made for the following locations: • Triton College • Elmwood Park Public Library (a new location this year) • Eisenhower Public Library (Harwood Heights) • Melrose Park Public Library • Proviso Township Office • Seniors Assistance Center (Norridge) • Leyden Township/Westdale Park.

PLAY BALL!

The River Grove baseball and softball seasons are about to get started. All teams have been busy practicing and getting ready for the first official pitch of the season. **River Grove Baseball's Opening Day is Saturday, April 23rd at 10am.** Games will be played at River Grove's field of dreams, better known as Scheltens Field located at 8592 Herrick Ave. in River Grove. Spectators are asked to bring 5 non-perishable food items to receive a free raffle ticket for a fun prize. Come on out to cheer on our teams as they start their seasons.

The River Grove Rockets Softball Opening Day is Sunday, May 1st at 10am. Games are being held at East Leyden High School softball fields located at 3400 Rose St., Franklin Park, IL. There will be a DJ, raffles and Tri Café will be providing food for purchase.



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

Shout Out!

This month's Shout Out goes to Chuck Fredrickson. Chuck has been working in the Building Department since last November as our new rental inspector. When he is not out in the field he's at the Village Hall in the Building Department or driving the PACE Bus when needed. Chuck was born and raised in Franklin Park. He and his wife Michele, have lived in Northlake for the last 25 years. This is where they raised their 3 sons and now enjoy their 2-year-old grandson. Chuck spent many hours coaching his sons football and baseball teams and is now the president of Northlake Baseball where he was a board member for 20 years. Chuck is a big Chicago sports fan and his favorite activities are biking, working out, golfing, fishing and gardening. We are so happy to have Chuck on the team; his talent and personality make him a great fit!



2022 River Front Fest – Iconic Musical Venue!

You will not want to miss any of the amazing musical performances we have set up for this year's River Front Fest. Thursday, **June 2** we start out the night with local rockin' DJ, **Geno Del Boccio**, spinning some of everyone's favorite songs. Then get ready to rock the house with **16 Candles**, who make it their personal duty to bring all the great 80's songs you love to life in full force. The members are 5 fun-loving guys with a simple love for the music of years gone by and a mission to fuse nostalgia and style to create a sight/sound spectacular unlike any other.

On Friday, **June 3** River Front Fest hits the ground running with the **Lounge Puppets** - one of the best cover bands out there! For over 15 years, they have been igniting crowds with an electrifying live performance that rivals the very artists they are covering! If you're into 80's hair bands and arena rock, get yourself out to the Fest. Closing out Friday night we have one of RG's favorites, **Hi Infidelity!** They are an 80's Rock cover band from the Chicago area. This award winning band has great vocals and harmonies; they play the biggest hits from the Golden Age of Rock and the best new music too. We are sure you won't be disappointed with Hi Infidelity!

Saturday, **June 4th** is going to be a day to remember in River Grove. We start the day early with **Rosie & the Rivets** performing the best danceable music of the 50's and early 60's along with some current hits with a retro twist. They put on a high energy, pure Rock & Roll show that's fun for all ages and definitely family friendly. This will truly be a Retro-Cool experience both visually and musically. **Radio Gaga & Queen** will take the Gazebo stage next. You will hear the hits of Queen and Lady Gaga in this Vegas style production, complete with eye-popping costuming and dazzling choreography. Be prepared to be wowed while the performers deliver the "Concert that never was". Closing out the Thirsty Whale Reunion Night, we have **Enuff Znuuff!** This iconic band spent many a night performing at the Thirsty Whale. They are an American rock band from Blue Island, Illinois, founded by singer Donnie Vie and bassist Chip Z'Nuff, and are best known for their charting singles "Fly High Michelle" and "New Thing". They have a loyal following and we are sure they will not disappoint!

On Sunday, **June 5th**, get ready for the boys who are on a mission from God. Jake and Elroy are gassing up the Blooze Mobile to make their way back to River Grove with the **Blooze Brothers** and lots of fun music for all to enjoy. It has become a tradition that River Grove's home town favorite the **Pondhawks** close out our fest every year. Influenced by a variety of rock legends that echo the Beatles, ELO and Wings to name a few, they have been making chart-topping music since 2010. The Pondhawks are not just musicians, they are storytellers and we are sure you will enjoy them.

We hope you can plan to come out to listen to at least some of these great performances. See the entire schedule and start times on the enclosed flyer.



Historical House

The River Grove Historical House is located at 8455 W. Grand Avenue in River Grove, Illinois. Open House/Tours are on the first Sunday of the month from 1 to 4pm. They begin in May and continue through October. Take a free tour and learn about life in River Grove in the 1880's.