



Village of River Grove, Illinois August 2022

Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Lynn M. Bjorvik Trustee

Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

From the Mayor's Desk

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Robert C. Thomas Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee

Benjamin E. Ramirez Trustee

Dear Friendly Neighbors,

I hope everyone had a happy and safe 4th of July. We are now in the dog days of summer and as I walk around the neighborhood, it's great to see everyone enjoying their homes. I encourage everyone to check in on their elderly neighbors during this hot weather, especially if they live alone. The **Elmer Wolf Center** is always available as a cooling center, just call Village Hall at (708) 453-8000 if you or another resident is in need. We are the Village of Friendly Neighbors!

I want to thank Joanne Widseth from my team for once again organizing a successful **Dog Wellness Clinic**. We had over 75 furry participants. This event offered microchips, vaccinations, physical exams, training tips and other information to keep our animals safe. It was co-hosted by **River Grove, Cook County Animal Control and The Anti-Cruelty Society**. If you have not done so please stop by the village hall to pick up a free fire safety sticker for your front door, to alert firefighters to the number of animals in your home in case of an emergency. We would like to remind all dog owners to pick up after their dogs. Village Hall has free waste bag dispensers that attach to your leash so you always have a waste bag available.

I had the opportunity to meet with local mayors and leaders to launch the **Cross Community Climate Collaborative (C4)** with a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) signing at Triton College. I was proud to represent River Grove at that event.

I would like to take a moment to tell you about a great program our local veteran's organization is offering. Stop by and properly decommission your worn United States flag and exchange it for a commissioned one at the **Chicagoland Combined Veterans Museum** located in the **Kathy Bruce Center/American Legion**. Let's keep those American Flags looking beautiful and flying high throughout the village year round, as we salute the greatest nation on earth. A big thank you to our local veterans for administering this program and thank you for your service.

By the time you read this we will have celebrated **National Night Out** on Aug 2nd. This is a national police outreach program to connect our community with local police. Thanks for keeping our village safe, we are proud of our Police Department.

Hope to see you soon! My office is always available to you if we can be of any assistance.

Warm regards, David B. Guerin, follow me on twitter @davidbguerin

Morning of Music

Mayor Guerin arranged to have **Jack D'Amico** come to the gazebo for a "morning of music" a few weeks ago. A continental breakfast was served and a delighted crowd enjoyed the sounds of Frank Sinatra and the Rat Pack. Watch for River Grove Recreation to have more of these events for our residents in the future.



Mayor Guerin and Jack D'Amico



RG Recreation and helpers



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

Shout Out! Trustee Ben Ramirez

Our newest trustee is Ben Ramirez. He comes to this position after having served for several years on the board of Rhodes Elementary School, most recently serving in the role of Secretary. Ben grew up on the west side of town (the village) after his family moved to River Grove in the early 1970's. He attended both Rhodes and St. Cyprian elementary schools, ultimately graduating from St. Cyprian school. Ben went to high school at Quigley Preparatory Seminary North in downtown Chicago. The pursuit of further education and training (B.S. & Ph.D. degrees in Chemistry and a NIH postdoctoral fellowship) would draw him away from River Grove and ultimately Illinois for more than a decade. Ben eventually returned to live in River Grove in 2016 along with his wife Sandra and their two daughters, Melissa and Kassady. Both of them are graduates of Rhodes Elementary School. Ben currently works at UIC where he has managed a research lab core facility for 15+ years. Ben enjoys cooking, baking, hiking, biking and reading books, especially about history. He thinks River Grove is a great place to live and raise a family and is committed to improving the community for all especially for young children and future generations to come.



Blood Drive Thursday, Sept 8th

Join Mayor Dave Guerin and the Village Officials as they host the Red Cross for a blood drive at the Recreation Center/ American Legion 8664 W. Grand from 9 am until 2 pm. Register now at redcrossblood.org Come to donate blood, platelets or plasma and receive an e-mail coupon for a **FREE haircut** at participating Sport Clips locations; **PLUS** a limited edition **Red Cross T-shirt** while supplies last.

School Will Be Back In Session Soon!

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they take proper safety precautions. Here are some tips from the National Safety Council to make sure your child safely travels to school:

Walking to school

- Review your family's walking safety rules and practice walking to school with your child
- Walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing the traffic
- Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections
- Stay alert and avoid distracted walking

Riding a bicycle to school

- Teach your child the rules of the road and practice riding the bike route to school with your child
- Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, and in single file
- Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street
- Stay alert and avoid distracted riding
- Make sure your child always wears a properly fitted helmet and bright clothing

Riding the bus to school

- Teach your children school bus safety rules and practice with them
- Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus
- Teach your children to stand six feet (or 3 giant steps) away from the curb
- If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach him or her to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other

Driving your child to school

- Stay alert and avoid distracted driving
- Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school's drop-off procedure
- Make eye contact with children who are crossing the street

Join River Grove Senior Club



Mayor Guerin, along with **Recreation Director Katie Muellner**, served baby back ribs (**donated from Underpass Lounge**) to the **River Grove Senior Club** at their last meeting. Please call the Village Hall at (708) 453-8000 if you would like to join the River Grove Senior Club.

RG Crossing Guard For Hire!

The Village of River Grove is looking to hire a seasonal Crossing Guard. The position requires 2 hours a day (one in the morning and one in the afternoon) and the pay is \$22.00 an hour. Training is provided by the RGPD and applicants are required to be fingerprinted and have a drug screening. **For more information and to get a fillable online application and to review the Crossing Guard job description, go to: www.rivergroveil.gov**