



Village of River Grove, Illinois June 2023

Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Lynn M. Bjorvik Trustee

Robert C. Thomas Trustee

Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee

Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

Benjamin E. Ramirez Trustee

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, River Front Fest 2023 will be history. It's always great to kick off the summer with great rides, food, and music. I really enjoy catching up with residents at River Front Fest. Ever since I was a kid, I thought the fest was a great way to bring the east and west side of town together. A BIG thanks to our Special Events Committee, our Public Works and our Public Safety team for making this annual event a success. Also, thanks to all our volunteers working the ticket booths, beer garden and water booth, we could not do it without you!

Summer is here and it's a great opportunity to throw a block party with your neighbors. Block party permits are available through our clerk's office. Stop by or call the village hall and our friendly staff will assist you. Block parties are a great way to meet new people living on your block or catch up with your long-time neighbors.

River Grove is home to some of the nicest parks in the area. As a Dad of two young kids, I take every opportunity I can to enjoy Spruce St. Park, Thatcher Woods Park, Lions Park or the newly renovated Trumbull Park located at 2311 Leyden Ave. We would be remiss not to thank our friends at Veterans Park District for the redesign and updating of Trumbull Park including a splash pad, tennis courts, bocce courts, adult exercise equipment, walking path, soft-ball field, new bathrooms and plenty of picnic space. Hope you can make time and get outside to enjoy some outdoor recreation.

In June we pay tribute to our dads on Father's Day. Salute to all the hard-working dads, including my dad who has sacrificed so much over the years to give my sisters and I a better life. Love you dad!

Happy 4th of July! Celebrate safely and God Bless the USA! The greatest country on earth!

Best regards,

Your friend and neighbor, **Dave Guerin**



Congresswoman Delia Ramirez was in from Washington DC and stopped to say hello to **Mayor David B. Guerin**. There were several topics of discussion including; rail road blockage, social services and veteran affairs.

Planting Day 2023!

On a grey Saturday morning in mid-May, many River Grove volunteers gathered in the Village Hall parking lot and began planting different areas of the Village. They planted at the Village Hall, Lions Park, the bridge and the train station. Thanks to all who came out and helped. A special thanks to RGPW and the Beautification Committee.



Shout Out! Kimberly Stewart

Kim Stewart is one of our newest employees. She works part time as the Administrative Assistant to the Fire Department. She grew up in East Rogers Park and attended Lane Technical H.S. Upon graduating she went on to Arizona State University in Mesa Arizona. Kim moved back to Chicago and attended the Northwest Community Hospital EMT-P program. Upon completion, she became a state licensed paramedic, a career she held for 15+ years! Kim lives in Franklin Park with her husband Mark, who is the Franklin Park Fire Chief, and her daughter who is a junior in high school at East Leyden. Kim enjoys traveling with her family; her favorite vacation is any place that includes tropical weather, a beach and water. In her down time, she enjoys reading, puzzles, shopping with her daughter, and binge watching a good Netflix series. Kim brings a lot of knowledge to her position and is a great asset to the Department.



Village Website Update

The Village has a redesigned website as of May 23rd. The previous design had been in place since 2017, when we switched to the CivicPlus platform. Much thought and analysis has gone into creating a visually appealing website that is user-focused. We hope you find it useful as well as easy to use.

Our website address has not changed: please visit us at: www.rivergroveil.gov to see the redesign.

Reminders from Fire Chief Sean Flynn: 2023 Fireworks Safety Tips

- Please leave the fireworks to the professionals.
- At least nine people died, and an estimated 11,500 people were injured in fireworks-related accidents last year, according to U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.
- Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water/hose nearby in case of accidents.
- Designate a safety perimeter; 35 feet away from structures and people is best.
- Ditch faulty fireworks; soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding them.
- Supervise children when they are handling sparklers. Sparklers burn at about 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit — hot enough to melt some metals.
- Don't forget about your pets! Keep your pets indoors, close the curtains, and turn on the TV or radio to create distractions.
- Never place a part of your body directly over a firework or hold a firework in your hand when lighting.
- Avoid alcohol consumption when handling or using fireworks.



New Bike Lockers at the River Grove Metra Station

New bike lockers were installed at the River Grove Metra Station. The previous bike lockers were falling apart and needed to be replaced. These new, state of the art, Alpen bike storage units are secure and will hold the bike, the rider's belongings and other essentials. Public Works Director Brock Leder said, *"The new lockers are a safe and efficient way to lock up a commuter's bike and allow them to be confident that they are returning to a secured dry bike when they get off the train."* Please contact the Village Hall for pricing and availability.

