



Village of River Grove, Illinois July 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 the Fourth of July will have passed. I hope everyone had a safe and fun holiday celebrating our independence. I am so proud to be an American, and thank the Lord every day that I was born in such a great country, where we have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Summer is here and it's great to see people enjoying their yards, parks and neighbors. Our neighborhood is alive with block parties, house parties, bikers, runners, the smells of weber grills and the mist of sprinklers. The tree canopy is in full bloom and it covers our streets like a leafy cave. As I walk around town with my kids, I truly enjoy seeing all the improvements on people's homes and the beautiful plantings in front of their homes. It's no wonder that River Grove is one of the most desirable places to live in Cook County and the Northwest suburbs.

Some of our upcoming events include, **National Night Out** on August 1st, held at River Front Park and on August 4th there will be a **Brew, View and Bingo night** at River Front Park, hosted by our Recreation Department. This event is free so bring a blanket and the family and watch the movie **Top Gun Maverick**.

The River Grove Lions and Village of River Grove are bringing back the **Steak & Lobster Fest** to beautiful River Front Park on August 5th. This signature event is the hottest ticket of the summer, and there will only be 600 presale tickets available. Individuals who are interested in this event can purchase their tickets at [www.rivergrovelionsclub.com/events](http://www.rivergrovelionsclub.com/events). The Lions always deliver with great food, good music, drinks, and their annual Grand Raffle that evening. Hope to see you August 5th as we dedicate the "**Lions Park Sensory Path**" which take your senses on a journey. Come support the club who has brought us Lions Park and helped so many throughout the years.

Thanks for being a Grover! My staff and I are always available to help if needed. Have a wonderful summer and hope to see you soon.  
Your friend and neighbor, **Dave Guerin**

## River Grove 135 Years Old

State Representative Brad Stephens attended a June Board Meeting to present Mayor David B. Guerin, the Village Officials and the Village of River Grove with a House Resolution he had established, recognizing the **135-year anniversary of River Grove**. River Grove is the oldest municipality in Leyden Township and was first incorporated on October 6, 1888.



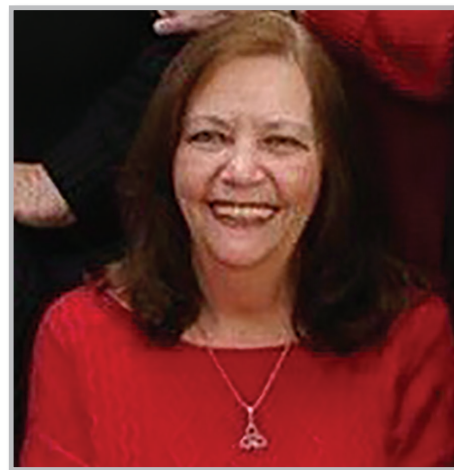
**Please Remember**

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



## Rest in Peace Billie O'Connor

River Grove lost one of its friendliest neighbors last month. As the Village's Food Pantry Director, Billie O'Connor was always there to be of assistance and help a resident in need. She was kind and generous and a dear friend to many. Billie was a 51-year resident of her beloved River Grove and served the community in other ways as well. She was very involved at Rhodes School as a room mother, volunteer and PTA member. She was also a Campfire Troup Leader, Cub Scout Pack Leader and girls' softball coach. Billie was always there to lend a helping hand when needed. Billie's friend, Trustee Michele Obaya said, "*Billie embraced life, had a great sense of humor, always had a smile on her face and loved to laugh.*" Billie loved volunteering to work the River Front Fest and other village events, she was always willing to lend a hand. Her close friend, Joy Lennon recalls, "*She had a very big and generous heart, she was always there to help and NO was not in her vocabulary.*" She will be missed by many.



## River Front Fest Wrap Up

The 2023 River Front Fest is in the books! We were blessed with wonderful weather, a great carnival, music for everyone and a hybrid of local restaurant booths and food trucks. The Village is thrilled with how well this event turned out. There is so much work that goes into the planning, the setting up, getting volunteers, and making sure all aspects of public safety are covered! This event would never go on without the cooperation of all involved including our sponsors. We are so lucky to have committed sponsors who believe in what we do and are willing to contribute money to the event. It is always great when we can bring our community together for the common good.

Sunday of the Fest Mayor Dave Guerin welcomed Senate President Don Harmon. The Mayor stated; "*We are grateful to him for his continued efforts and advocacy for the residents of River Grove.*"



## From the River Grove Lions Club

The River Grove Lions Club annual *Steak & Lobster Fest* fundraiser is BACK! This event will take place on Saturday, August 5, 2023 from 2:00 – 10:00 p.m. at beautiful River Front Park! A full day of delicious food and great entertainment is planned. There is sure to be a whole lot of "good neighborly" fun. One of the highlights of this year's event will be the unveiling and dedication of the Lion's most recent contribution to the community, the River Grove Lions Club Sensory Path. The path goes around the playground and provides everyone, including those who are visually impaired, a unique experience to stimulate the senses of hearing, touch and smell. It is quite spectacular, be sure to stop by and experience it. Also taking place at the event is the drawing for the winners of the Lion's Grand Raffle, with a top prize of \$5,000. For more information, and to purchase meal tickets (**Steak, Lobster or Steak & Lobster combo meals are PRE-PURCHASE ONLY**), please visit their website at [www.rivergrovelionsclub.com](http://www.rivergrovelionsclub.com) and click the events page.



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