



Village of River Grove, Illinois September 2023

# Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Lynn M. Bjorvik Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee

Benjamin E. Ramirez Trustee

**From the Mayor's Desk**

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Robert C. Thomas Trustee

Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

## Dear Friends,

Another summer is in the books! Last week my daughter and I continued our annual tradition of "Back to School" shopping. It's hard to believe the kids are back in school already. Please pay extra attention as you drive to work or go about your errands. Stop at stop signs and slow down, especially in school zones. Our bus drivers and crossing guards work hard daily to ensure safe passage to school for our kids.

This year marks our 135th anniversary and we welcome everyone to celebrate at our **Fall Flannel Fest** on September 30th. We will have food, beverages, and many kid's activities. We will also have two great bands...**American English** will be paying tribute to the Beatles and we are excited about the return of **Infinity**, read more in this newsletter regarding these events. We also will be bringing back my annual stein hoisting competition. Be sure to check our website for more information. The following day, October 1, join us for **UnWined**; a celebration of Jazz, Crafts and Wine. This is always a relaxing day in the park.

In closing, my last letter mentioned our new partnership with Flood Bros Disposal. By now you have received your new trash bin, larger recycling bin, and a mailing from Flood Bros Disposal highlighting the new service. If you are a senior and would like to receive a smaller bin and a 10 percent discount with the smaller can, contact our friendly staff at public works at (708) 452-7055. More info can be found on our website at [www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov). While you are there, be sure to sign up for village alerts via text, email or phone. Click on the Notify Me button to get started.

Your friend and neighbor, **Dave Guerin**

## River Grove National Night Out

**National Night Out** is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. It enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community and provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. River Grove celebrated National Night Out at River Front Park with the RGPD providing free hot dogs, chips and water to residents. They also had inflatables, a face painter and many games for the kids in town to play. There was a deejay on hand to add to the atmosphere as well as a CPD fly over helicopter and a Sheriff's department German Shepard. Chief Mike Konwinski said, *"National Night Out is in its 39th year. It was celebrated by over 17,000 communities nationwide, and attended by over 38 million neighbors. In Illinois, the River Grove Police Department is one of 200 law enforcement agencies that formally participated in National Night Out."*



**Please Remember**

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



## Shout Out! River Grove Public Works 2023 Summer Help

With summer coming to an end, so is the work of the Village's summer help staff. This year RGPW employed 6 high school and college students. They are an incredible asset to the public works team; covering for vacations, helping out at special events, but mostly assisting with all the jobs that need to get done around town. Residents may see them in the water truck making sure all of our beautiful flowers get watered or painting the curbs and fire hydrants, even helping with hot patching any streets that need repair: doing whatever it takes to make River Grove better. The Village is grateful to **Dominic Irla, Piotr Janusz, Nate Leder, Shawn Gaugenti, Matt McBrien** and **Jake Galanis** for their hard work and dedication this past summer. (pictured left to right)



## The Village is proud to offer the Parkway Tree Planting Program to its Residents

As a Tree City USA, planting and maintaining the Village's tree population is very important. We are able to once again offer residents a **50/50 Tree Planting Program**. Many different tree varieties will be offered. A complete listing of tree choices and a registration form will be available on the village website at [www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov) under the Public Works page or at the village hall. The deadline to order trees is October 1st. The resident's cost per tree will be \$200.00. The trees will be planted by a contractor in late fall. If you have previously called requesting a tree, a registration form will be mailed to you. For more information please call (708) 452-7055.

## Back to School Safety Reminders

The end of summer is a reminder that the start of a new school year is upon us! The River Grove Crossing Guards (THE BEST AROUND!) met for safety training in the beginning of August with **School Resource Officer Jackie Bednar**. They have the job of keeping our kids safe when crossing the streets going to and coming from school. Please be patient when driving and allow extra time for your commute, now that school is back in session.



## Get Ready for Fall Flannel Fest and UnWined

Mayor Guerin and the Village Officials are excited for our annual **Fall Flannel Fest** and **UnWined** events. The Fall Flannel Fest will take place on Saturday September 30 from 2 to 10:30 p.m. This is a family friendly event. In the afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m. there will be a petting zoo, pony rides, a face painter and inflatables. At 5 p.m. the gazebo will be the stage for the band **American English**. They are a Beatles tribute band and are sure to get River Front Park moving. At 7 p.m. the Mayor's stein hoisting contest will take place, you don't want to miss this fun filled event! At 8 p.m. the band **Infinity** will rock the park. They cover everything from classic to current; performing songs from Boston, Bon Jovi, Led Zeppelin, Styx, Queen, REO Speedwagon and of course their signature group...Journey. There will be a variety of food booths and food trucks, beverages for adults and children. **As in years past we encourage everyone to wear their favorite flannel.**

The following day from 2 to 6 p.m. we will host our **UnWined** event. This event is a local favorite; come out and relax with a glass of wine while shopping crafts under the tent. We have some surprises this year so be sure to stop by.