



Village of River Grove, Illinois April 2024

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

Frank J. Obaya Trustee

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

I hope everyone had a blessed Easter. River Grove and Veterans Park hosted an Easter Egg Hunt at the newly renovated Trumbull Park. Fun was had by all at this free family event. We value our partnership with Veterans Park, who offers many recreation options to our residents.

Be sure to join us on Friday April 5th at 11 a.m. for the River Grove Veterans Memorial official ground-breaking ceremony at the memorial site, located at Indian Boundary and Grand Ave. This memorial will be a wonderful tribute to our men and women who have served in our military throughout the years. Stay tuned for sponsorship opportunities and how you can assist in this project.

Arbor Day is just around the corner and we invite you to join us at our annual Arbor Day celebration at our Historical House on April 26th at 10 a.m. River Grove has a strong tradition of maintaining our trees and is proudly known as a Tree City for many years. There is an old Chinese Proverb that says... *"The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago, the second-best time is today."*

River Grove Baseball's Opening Day is at Scheltens Field Saturday, April 27th. Opening Ceremonies at 10 a.m. Come on out to cheer on our teams!

Lastly, save the dates for this years River Front Fest, May 30, 31st and June 1st and 2nd. We have an outstanding music line up, a hybrid of food booths and food trucks and a carnival. Fun for the whole family!

Hope to see you soon.

Your friend and neighbor, **Dave Guerin**

RGPD Training

During the first two weekends in March, Training Officers Kross, Cunningham, and Mellett conducted in-house **High-Risk Traffic Stop training for all certified River Grove Police Officers including police administrators.** This specific in-house training program was created to meet a recently established state training mandate that certified officers must complete periodically. The training officers put the "trainees" through four different hands-on practical training scenarios which required the trainees to act as a group to accomplish certain tasks using decision-making and communication skills. During the training scenarios, officers utilized safe "blue" guns and "blue" tasers which are not operational, and role players (made up of volunteers) made the training simulations realistic. This valuable in-house training is the first to occur within the police department, and additional in-house training sessions will follow.



Arbor Day 2024 in River Grove

Since 1872, Arbor Day (the last Friday of April) has been recognized as a time to plant and appreciate trees. The Village of River Grove celebrates this day with a tree-planting ceremony. The 6th graders from both River Grove and Rhodes Schools attend, and they participate in a wood flower decorating contest. This year, on Friday April 26th at 10am, the Village of River Grove and the River Grove Beautification Committee along with the Public Works Department will be planting a tree at the River Grove Historical House in honor of Historical Commission member Nancy Hansen who recently passed away. Be sure to stop by the Village Hall the week of April 22-25th to vote for your favorite wood flower (decorated by our sixth graders). Winner will be announced the morning of the 26th.



River Grove New Business - The Copper Oak

Mayor David B. Guerin and Village Officials joined the Grand Chamber by O'Hare to welcome River Grove's newest business, The Copper Oak, located at 2300 5th Ave. It is a beautiful event space with plenty of atmosphere.

Visit them at www.copperoakevents.com



Village Implements New On-Line Billing for Water/Sewer/Refuse Payments

As of mid-February, you will have noticed that the Village has implemented a new billing system for its utilities including water, sewer and refuse services. Invoice Cloud is a system that interfaces with the Village's accounting system and provides enhanced improvements on how residents and business will pay their utility bills going forward. Enhancements not previously offered include options for receiving billing invoices by email versus the postal service and the ability to set up an automatic payment from a credit card or bank account on the bill's due date, meaning you will never be late on a utility bill again. With a month into the new program, 577 (approximately 22%) residents and businesses have opted for paperless billing and 229 (approximately 9%) have already set up their accounts for automatic payments. **Please see the Village website for additional details or you can call 708-452-7055 or by email to waterbilling@rivergroveil.gov.**

Important Village Reminders:

- To better serve our residents, we have changed our vehicle sticker and pet tag renewal season. Renewals for vehicle stickers and pet tags will **NOW** be due in September! **Your current sticker will be valid until September 30.** Check your mail for your renewal form(s) in August. All prices will remain the same.
- **HELP WANTED!** The Village of River Grove is currently looking Public Works Summer Help. This is a seasonal position. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age by May 1, 2024 and be in High School or College. They must live in River Grove and have a valid driver's license. Starting pay is \$15 per hour. Please visit our website at www.rivergroveil.gov/jobs for more information and to fill out an application.
- Sponsorships are available for the 2024 River Front Fest. Please visit our website or call Shawn Campbell at 708-779-8012.



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