



Village of River Grove, Illinois November 2025

# Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor  
Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Lynn M. Bjorvik Trustee  
Robert C. Thomas Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee  
Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

Benjamin E. Ramirez Trustee  
Frank J. Obaya Trustee

## From the Mayor's Desk

### Dear Neighbors and Friends,

October was a great month — with Fall Fest, Halloween, and postseason baseball! A big thank you to the Cubs for giving us a great season. Real fans are already counting down to Opening Day next year! In the meantime, we're enjoying the fall weather, the beautiful changing leaves, and preparing for Thanksgiving. As Thanksgiving approaches, I find myself reflecting on all the things I'm thankful for: my family, my friends, and of course, our wonderful village. As a lifelong Grover, I take great pride in our neighborhood, and I'm grateful to be raising my kids in such a safe, welcoming community filled with friendly neighbors.

Mark your calendars for our upcoming holiday events! Stop by the Historical House on Saturday, November 15th, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to take holiday photos. There will be various backdrops available. This is a great way to get a jump start on your holiday cards and gifts. Remember to bring your own camera. Our annual **"Light Up the Grove" at the Christmas Makers Market** event will be held on **Sunday, November 23rd, from 3 to 7 p.m. The tree lighting will take place at 6 p.m.** Join us for complimentary hot chocolate, a festive tree lighting, a visit from Santa, and our craft tent at the gazebo under a heated tent. Don't forget to sign up for our **House Decorating Contest** — back again this year. Register online at [www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov) or call the Village Hall at **708-453-8000 x0!**

With the colder months come snow! Please make sure to follow the **NEW SIGNS** in front of your homes. Parking is now **RESIDENTS ONLY from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.** Be sure to also follow all posted snow removal instructions. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Public Works at **708-452-7055**.

In closing, **if you're new to town**, I'd love to meet you! Send me an email or stop by Village Hall to say hello.

**Happy Thanksgiving** to all, and may God bless you and your family this holiday season.

Your friend and neighbor, Dave



Mayor David B. Guerin at the 2025 Columbus Day parade with other local Mayor's and officials



### Way to go RGPD! River Grove Police Officers Honored

It's always rewarding to be appreciated for a job well done. Recently, Chief Mike Konwinski remarked, **"It's always a proud moment for me when I have the opportunity to recognize some of our outstanding officers!"** The Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists awarded certificates of appreciation to River Grove police officers **Michael Cwik, Tom Krupa, Tony Iakis, Logan McGarry, and Jerry Lucas** for exceptional DUI enforcement through July 2025. Many of these officers have carried that high level of performance over from last year, and all of them continue to perform their duties at the highest standard daily. Mayor Dave Guerin added, **"Our police officers are some of the finest in the area. I am confident and proud that our residents can feel safe with them on patrol."**

## Honoring Veterans and the Young Marines

The month of November always reminds us of our Veterans and how grateful we are for their service. Did you know that here in River Grove, we have an established Young Marines program for boys and girls ages 8 through 18. One of the places they train at is the River Grove American Legion/VFW. These kids drill twice a month on the second and fourth Saturday. They have class from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. They learn physical fitness, public speaking, leadership, and basic life skills such as ironing, shining shoes, and much more. Recently, one of these Young Marines, Christian Alba, who is nine years old, saved a friend's life at the summer carnival at St. Borgia, which was documented in a police report. Christian was subsequently awarded a second-degree life-saving award and a meritorious promotion to Private First Class.



According to the River Grove unit's founder and Unit Commander, Sgt. Richard Wojewnik **"A Young Marine will start off as a private, but depending on how much they do, how much they want to participate in, what schools they want to attend, they can retire at age 18, at the rank of Sgt Major."** The Young Marines started in 1959, recognized by the Marine Corps League, and the Marine Corps in 1965. They've been in the Chicagoland area since 1980. He went on to state, **"The Young Marines are from all over the Chicagoland area and beyond. Currently, there are 26 members in the Unit, eight of whom are young ladies."**

This Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11, at 11 a.m., please join us at our newly built Veterans Memorial, which is located at Grand Ave. and Indian Boundary, where we will honor Veterans we have lost and Veterans who are still with us. This is also an excellent opportunity to purchase a paver to honor a loved one. You can also purchase a paver from your family to show support for the Veterans.



### PURCHASE A PAVER



HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED OUR COUNTRY



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

Join us in this effort to honor our veterans and create a meaningful place of reflection and remembrance.

Pavers are available to memorialize a loved one or as a way for businesses, organizations and individuals to honor those who served

[www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov)

## Snow Removal Assistance for River Grove Seniors

The Village of River Grove, in partnership with East Leyden High School students, will be assisting seniors with snow removal this winter. **The rate is \$10.00 per home.**

**Includes:** 1. Path from front door to sidewalk/street/stairs 2. Path from back door to garage door

**Additional charges** (arranged directly with the student):

– Salting (resident must provide salt) – Shoveling driveways, carports, or parking space(s)

**Note:**

- Seniors may need to provide a shovel (confirm with the student)
- Residents must contact the student each time service is needed
- Payment is due at the time of service

**To be assigned a student, contact: Gina Leder – 708.453.8000 ext. 308**



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

**MAYOR DAVID B. GUERIN  
AND THE VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

**FREE** INVITE YOU TO A  
**THANKSGIVING  
CRAFT PROJECT**

**SATURDAY NOV 15  
10-11:30 AM  
AT THE REC CENTER  
8664 W. GRAND**

**OPEN TO RIVER GROVE RESIDENTS  
AND STUDENTS OF ALL AGES**

**CALL KATIE FOR MORE INFO  
708-453-8000 X303**

**Mayor David B. Guerin  
The Village Officials  
and the Historical House**

**INVITE ALL  
RIVER GROVE FAMILIES AND STUDENTS**

**TO THE HISTORICAL HOUSE  
FOR HOLIDAY PHOTOS**

*various backdrops will be available*

**SATURDAY, NOV 15TH  
11 AM-2:30 PM**

**RIVER GROVE HISTORICAL  
HOUSE AND BARN**

**8455 W. GRAND**

**THERE IS NO COST, AND WE WILL TAKE THE PHOTOS  
WITH YOUR PHONE/CAMERA.**

**MAYOR DAVID B. GUERIN  
AND THE VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

**INVITE YOU TO**

**LIGHT UP  
THE GROVE  
AT THE  
CHRISTMAS  
MAKERS MARKET**

**Get all your holiday shopping done under  
our cozy heated tent**

**Browse with local crafters and check  
everything off your Christmas list!**

**Stop by anytime between  
3-7pm**

**Sunday**

**NOV 23 2025**

**RIVER FRONT PARK  
8701 W Grand Ave  
River Grove IL 60171**

**Tree Lighting starts at 6pm**

[www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov)

**MAYOR DAVID B. GUERIN  
and the Village Officials  
along with the Beautification Committee  
announce the**

**River Grove  
Holiday  
House Decorating  
Contest**

**DECORATE YOUR HOME OR BLOCK TO BE THE BEST  
AND BRIGHTEST IN RIVER GROVE!**

**PRIZES AWARDED TO THE TOP 3 HOUSES**

**MUST BE REGISTERED BY DECEMBER 12TH BY 2PM TO BE  
ABLE TO PARTICIPATE**

[WWW.RIVERGROVEIL.GOV/ACTIVITIES/](http://WWW.RIVERGROVEIL.GOV/ACTIVITIES/)

**JUDGING WILL BEGIN SATURDAY DECEMBER 13TH**

**WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED THE  
WEEK OF DECEMBER 15TH**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Call Village Hall 708-453-8000 press 0