



September 2019

Village of River Grove, Illinois

Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Lynn Bjorvik Trustee

Roger V. Sewell Trustee

Katie A. Muellner Trustee

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Bob Thomas Trustee

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Friendly Neighbors,

September is a great time of the year. The kids are back to school; football season is upon us and the trees in our town will start showing their beautiful colors. However, with that, our summer is coming to a close. What a summer we had here in the Grove! From the very successful **River Front Fest** to our **UnWined event** and all the others in between. It has been a busy summer. We have sworn in a new Police Chief and hired 2 new police officers to help keep our community one of the safest around. Our Public Works department has been busy landscaping, tree trimming, and keeping the village in tip top shape. You may have noticed the new "River Grove" park benches and garbage cans around the town. They were ordered to replace some of the older ones that had become worn. They add to the aesthetics of this great town.

Our new Starbucks should be opening sometime this month. We are very excited to be welcoming this new business to the community. It has been amazing watching them build this structure and see all the landscaping that has gone into it. We love that they are investing in our community. We have hired an extra crossing guard at the corner of Grand and Thatcher to assist the children go to and coming from school every day. We will continue to monitor the traffic at that location once it opens.

Plans are under way for a Fall Flannel Fest to be held on October 5th at River Front Park from 6 to 10 p.m. There will plenty to do for all ages. Come and wear your best flannel and join in the fun.

Remember that kids are back in school so drive safely and obey the speed limit!

Warm Regards, Mayor David B. Guerin E-mail (mayor@rivergroveil.gov), follow me on twitter @davidbguerin

New Village Trustee

On August 1 at the River Grove Village Board Meeting, Chris Lilly was sworn in as Village Trustee to fill the spot occupied by now Police Chief Michael Konwinski. Chris grew up on Finley Avenue with his parents and his sister Marjie. He attended Rhodes Elementary School and Holy Cross High School before going to DePaul University. Chris subsequently went on to earn an M.Ed. in Human Development and Learning through DePaul's partnership with the Chicago Psychoanalytic Institute and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Concordia University.

While working as a janitor at Rhodes, he double-majored in English and Secondary Education, leading him to earn his professional educator's license and first job at Holy Cross before being hired at Leyden High Schools, District 212, as a teacher and coach. After 20 years of teaching/department chair work at the high school level, Chris moved on to teach at Concordia University Chicago where he is currently employed as the Assistant Dean of the College of Business. He is the author of a book on literacy coaching and numerous articles in peer-reviewed educational journals which he has presented at several national and international educational conferences.

Chris started out serving River Grove in the Youth Government program (1984), as a little league and softball umpire (1988-92), then became Recreation Director (2005-6), and most recently served as a River Grove Fire and Police Commissioner (2017-19). He has been a member of the River Grove Lions Club since 2004 and is a lifelong member of St. Cyprian Church. He has also served on the Boards of Education for Rhodes, St. Cyprian, Guerin College Prep, and the Catalyst Schools in Chicago.

Chris and Tina Lilly have been married since 1994 and have raised three children in River Grove: Joe (Program Supervisor for the Park District of Oak Park), Matt (Personal Trainer at Fitness Formula Club, West Loop), and Samantha (Loyola University). His mother, Connie, is retired and still lives in the house on Finley Ave. where she happily counts many neighbors as old friends.





Shout Out!

This month's shout out goes to the **River Grove Public Works summer help team**. They are pictured from left to right; Jazlyn Zavala, Summer Sewell, Michael Schnoebelen, Jack Lio, Anthony Cichy, Dan Calderon, Sean Mellett and Robbie Boyt. This group of hard working young adults worked together so well. They assisted in many of the regular Public Works duties such as watering all the flowers along Grand Ave. and at the many locations in the village, collecting garbage, cutting grass and trimming trees just to name a few. They also helped in a huge way with special events. They were always around to help out and pitch in where needed. This crew worked together so well and they all got along and respected one another. Such a great season thanks to these unsung heroes.



From the River Grove Food Pantry!

School has started and to insure that our children do not go to school hungry we want all residents to know that our food pantry is open! The River Grove Food Pantry is available to any resident in River Grove who may need some assistance. Two pieces of proof of address are required (license or state ID, lease, current utility bill, etc...). Pantry hours are every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. except holidays and election day. We are also open every second Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon. Help is provided on a once a month basis. Please share this information with any neighbors, families or seniors. We are happy to provide these services to all. Donations are always welcome and can be dropped off during pantry hours or donations can be left at the village office during regular business hours.

Census 2020 is coming!

In an effort to meet the constitutional and legislative requirements the U.S department of commerce will be preparing for the 2020 decennial census. Census Bureau temporary field staff will be working in neighborhoods across the U.S to update addresses lists and maps using laptop computers. Field staff will be knocking on doors in order to verify addresses and gather information on additional living quarters. Field staff will have ID's, laptops, and clothing bearing the US census logos. More information about the decennial census can be found at www.Census.gov.



The Census Bureau is looking for workers for the 2020 campaign. They are hiring for a variety of temporary jobs, including census takers, recruiting assistants, office staff, and supervisory staff. To be eligible, you must be at least 18 years old, have a valid Social Security number, and be a U.S. citizen. **Starting pay in Illinois is \$18.00 per hour, call 312-761-7111 or visit them online for more information.**



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