



# Newsletter

Village of River Grove, Illinois November 2020



David B. Guerin Mayor

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Lynn Bjorvik Trustee

Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Roger V. Sewell Trustee

Katie A. Muellner Trustee

Bob Thomas Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee

## From the Mayor's Desk

### Dear Friendly Neighbors,

November is here and autumn is in full effect in beautiful River Grove. Between the changing colors in the forest preserve, and the parkway trees shedding their leaves, it only confirms that River Grove is a perfect place to live. Families throughout the town did a wonderful job decorating their homes with the changing seasons including an abundance of fall plantings and decorations. Our Halloween houses were decorated brilliantly!

We had a great time at our socially distanced "Trunk or Treat" event. A big thank you to our Recreation Department, Public Works and community leaders who made this event a great success. I would also like to commend the creative costumes worn by both kids and adults. Thank you to everyone who celebrated Halloween in a safe manner during these most unusual times. River Grove is not only the Village of Friendly Neighbors, but also the spookiest!

**Public Safety is one of my utmost concerns for our Village.** We have set up 2 events during November that I hope all will consider supporting. **1)** Flu shots will be available to our Seniors on Tuesday November 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the American Legion/Recreation Center. **2)** The Village sponsored Blood Drive will take place on Thursday November 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the American Legion/Recreation Center. Please consider donating to help those in need. Please see the enclosed flyers for more details and how to register.

I am happy to announce that **Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways has granted River Grove \$325,000** as part of the Invest in Cook program. This is a great example of intergovernmental relationships at work to better our community. Thank you to Commissioner Silvestri for helping facilitate this.

On behalf of the Village Board and Officials we would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy Thanksgiving. I myself am very thankful to live in the best country on earth, to be blessed with a beautiful family, and I am grateful for the opportunity to advocate for my hometown and its residents, which I feel are simply the best.

I will continue to fight for the betterment of our community and am always available to you.

*Your friend and neighbor, David B. Guerin, follow me on twitter @davidbguerin*



### From River Grove Public Safety: Smart 911

The Village of River Grove and our dispatch center (NORCOMM) are **Smart911** compatible. **By registering online at: <https://www.smart911.com>**, subscribers can provide **9-1-1** call takers and first responders critical information you want them to know in any kind of emergency.

After subscribing, if you ever call 9-1-1, your Smart911 Safety Profile displays on the 9-1-1 screen and the 9-1-1 call takers can view your addresses, medical information, home information, description of pets and vehicles, and emergency contacts. You can provide as much or as little information as you like. Smart911 is a national service meaning your Smart911 Safety Profile travels with you and is visible to any participating 9-1-1 center nationwide. Subscribing to this service is free of charge.



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



## Shout Out!

This month's Shout Out goes to **Lt. William Justiz** of the River Grove Fire Department. Bill has been with the River Grove Fire Department since December of 2000. Happy 20th Anniversary! He became a licensed Emergency Medical Technician-Basic in June of 1997 and a licensed and National Registered Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic in 1999. Bill has also been a certified firefighter in Illinois since 2000. Along with his formal education,

Bill has attained many licenses and certificates as well as awards and commendations ranging from Eagle Scout to Employee of the Month. He is eagerly involved in his communities and profession, serving on many committees and associations, to share his wealth of knowledge. He is currently a Firefighter/Paramedic with the Chicago Fire Department and a part time Lieutenant with the River Grove Fire Department.



## Invest in Cook Program

The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOTH) selected River Grove for participation in their Invest in Cook Program. **The CCDOTH is granting River Grove \$325,000 for the 2021 Roadway Improvements Project.** This project aligns with Connecting Cook County and their long range transportation plan. An Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) will be coming after it is finalized with the County. The agreement must then be approved by the River Grove Board and then presented to the Board of Commissioners for execution by Cook County. Once the agreement is executed and a Notice to Proceed is given, work can begin. Mayor Dave Guerin stated that he was thrilled with this news for River Grove, **"Any time we can be part of an IGA, it is proof of all forms of government working together for the good of all and everyone wins."**

## Street, Alley and Sidewalk Construction is Underway in River Grove

**From Public Works Director, Brock Leder:** I'm very happy to say that the long-awaited Cherry Street grind and resurfacing is underway. This project will focus on the badly damaged street surface as well as sidewalk trip spots and sewer repair. The construction should wrap up the second week of November.

The 2020 MWRD Green Alley Project has started as well. This year we are reconstructing the 2500 and 2600 block of Spruce Street and Rhodes Avenue alleys. The Village of River Grove is very grateful to have received a grant from the MWRD for the second year in a row. These three alleys will be a concrete constructed surface with a 4-foot wide permeable brick paver section that runs down the middle of the alley. The permeable pavers are designed to allow rain water to drain into the ground instead of our sewer system to avoid them backing up during heavy rain storms. This project is set for completion the fourth week of November. Please be patient as we make our way through town repairing all of our Village's streets, sidewalk trip spots, and alleys. Mayor Guerin and his staff are working hard to obtain grants and set aside money for these repairs!

## River Grove Receives Grant

In conjunction with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, the Village of River Grove was awarded a 50/50 grant through the **ComEd Powering Safe Communities Project**. The grant was submitted through the police department, and was awarded for the purchase of three programmable radar speed signs. To date, one radar speed sign has been installed near Rhodes School and one radar speed sign has been installed near River Grove School. The third radar speed sign will be attached to a trailer which will be deployed on various streets throughout the village. The Chief of Police extends a huge thank you to River Grove Public Works and Director Brock Leder for assembling and installing the radar speed signs. **NOTE:** The sign showing **15** is on Fullerton near Rhodes School, and the sign showing **16** is on River Grove Av. near River Grove School.

