



Village of River Grove, Illinois October 2022

# Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Lynn M. Bjorvik Trustee

Robert C. Thomas Trustee

Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee

Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

Benjamin E. Ramirez Trustee

## From the Mayor's Desk

### Dear Friendly Neighbors,

Fall has arrived and the colors in the trees remind us of the changing seasons. There is so much beauty in fall, especially here in River Grove. We need to embrace these changes, enjoy them and take a minute to reflect on what is important in our lives. I hope most of our residents were able to stop by our **Fall Flannel Fest** and **UnWined** events. We have more fun events planned for October including a **White Elephant Senior Bingo** that will take place Thursday 10/27 at the **Kathy Bruce Recreation/American Legion Center**. Please be sure to register online through the Village website [www.rivergroveil.gov](http://www.rivergroveil.gov) or call the Village Hall. We are also looking forward to the **Trunk or Treat** event on Saturday 10/29 at the Gazebo area. Hopefully, you have the opportunity to go and see the new street improvements at the Gazebo and Ditka Drive. We are always striving to make River Grove a place our residents can be proud of.

**October is Fire Prevention month**, which is a good time to check your smoke detectors and change the batteries in them. The RGFD will install a smoke detector for owner-occupants either in single-family homes or condos at no cost. Please call (708) 716-5033 to schedule an installation.

I hope everyone has a happy and safe Halloween. As always, my office is readily available. Send me an email with what is on your mind at [mayor@rivergroveil.gov](mailto:mayor@rivergroveil.gov)

Your Mayor, David B. Guerin, follow me on twitter [@davidbguerin](https://twitter.com/davidbguerin)

### From Our Village Comptroller Greg Peters: 2nd Installment Tax Bills are Delayed

Residents have been inquiring at Village Hall as to why the Cook County 2nd installment property tax bills are not available. In past years, the second installment bill was mailed by the Cook County Treasurer's Office during the month of July with a due date in early September of each year. Unfortunately, due to a computer system upgrade in the Cook County assessor's office, the process of transmitting assessment records was delayed. This, in turn, delayed the rest of the processes the various county departments are required to perform to mail a tax bill to county residents. The County continues to indicate that a bill will come by the end of 2022. Residents are encouraged to keep in mind that unless the County is allowed to change its procedures on due dates for the following tax cycle, the 1st installment of the following year's tax bills may still be due in early March, 2023.

### From the Building Department

#### Utility markings and what they mean:

The Village gets many phone calls on colored flags that might be on there property or on the parkway or even on the sidewalks.

\* Remember to call **JULIE** before you dig. **Dial 811** or **1-800-892-0123**. JULIE works to prevent damage to Illinois underground utilities by connecting homeowners and professional excavators with member utility companies via a free and easy-to-use contact notification system.

#### Utility Markings

	Red - Electric		Blue - water
	Yellow - Gas, oil		Orange - Telephone
	Green - Sewer		Purple - Reclaimed water
	Pink - Temporary survey markings		White - Proposed construction

## Shout Out! Best of Luck in Retirement - John "Bucky" Bjorvik

Everyone's favorite River Grover John "Bucky" Bjorvik has decided, after 43 years of service to the Village, to retire. Born and raised in River Grove, Bucky started working for River Grove as temporary summer help in 1978. He became a full time employee in 1979, working as a laborer for Public Works. In 1983 Bucky received his water operator's license and has been with the Water Department ever since. Back in the day water meters were read by someone from the water department coming into your house and physically reading your meter. More than likely that someone was Bucky. These visits combined with his friendly, helpful and outgoing nature allowed him to get to know and help residents in remarkable ways. In 1985, Bucky became a River Grove paid on-call firefighter. He leaves with a lieutenant ranking and the most years ever served by a River Grove employee. From water main breaks to the occasional animal pest that needed a new home, to his work as a firefighter, Bucky has served the Village and its residents with a smile and is definitely a part of why River Grove is The Village of Friendly Neighbors! Bucky will now be able to spend more time with his family and we are sure his wife Lynn will keep him very busy with "honey do's"! We wish him the best of luck and thank him for his over 4 decades of service to the Village of River Grove. Bucky's last day with the Village was September 30th.



## NFPA announces "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape™" as the theme for Fire Prevention Week, October 9-15, 2022

**Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.™**

[firepreventionweek.org](http://firepreventionweek.org)

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## From Chief Sean Flynn and the River Grove Fire Department

This October represents the **100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week**, the nation's longest-running public health observance on record. According to NFPA data, home — the place people feel safest from fire — is where they are at greatest risk, with **three-quarters (74 percent)** of all U.S. fire deaths occurring in homes. When a home fire does occur, it's more likely to be serious; people are more likely to die in a home fire today than they were in 1980.

Today's homes burn faster and hotter than they used to, minimizing their time to escape safely; in a typical home fire, you may have as little as **two minutes** to get out from when the smoke alarms sound.

**Developing a home escape plan with all household members and practicing it regularly ensures that everyone knows what to do when the smoke alarm sounds and uses that time wisely.**

- Make sure your home escape plan meets the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home.
- Know at least two (2) ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows open easily.
- Have an outside meeting place a safe distance from your home where everyone should meet.
- Practice your home fire drill at least twice a year with everyone in the household, including guests. Practice at least once during the day and at night.