



Village of River Grove, Illinois January 2025

Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Lynn M. Bjorkvik Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee

Benjamin E. Ramirez Trustee

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Robert C. Thomas Trustee

Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

Frank J. Obaya Trustee

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Christmas has come and gone...my hope is that everyone had a wonderful holiday season. While it's easy to get caught up in the commercial aspect of Christmas, the time with family and friends reminds us that it's not what we have, but who we have in our lives. Looking around town at all of the amazingly decorated houses, I couldn't help but be in the holiday spirit. Please check out our Facebook Page or website at www.rivergroveil.gov for all information on the winners of our annual house decorating contest.

As we head into the new year, the Village Board has passed another balanced budget for 2025. We will continue to invest in public safety, infrastructure, and use TIF incentives to support our existing businesses and attract new ones. We also proudly maintain our A plus bond rating which is the equivalent of having an 800 personal credit rating. A big thank you to our **Finance Department** for all they do to make us successful and congratulations to them for recently being recognized with the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA)**.

The Village Board and I continue to work with federal, state and county officials to acquire grant money to support projects and ease the financial burden of our residents. I am very lucky to be surrounded by an engaged board, department heads and staff who come to work every day with the best interests of our residents in mind. It's an honor to work side by side with them as we collaborate to make the Village of River Grove an even better place to live, work and raise a family.

I would be remiss if I didn't offer my heartfelt thanks to **Frank Calistro** and his family for all the years of dedication by running our **Duck Race**. They raised a substantial amount of money for the Beautification Committee doing this and they asked that it be donated to the Veteran's Memorial. It is Village residents like this that make me proud to be Mayor of this great Village.

Stay tuned in February for our annual State of the Village which is an excellent snapshot of where we are and where we are headed, future projects and highlights from all of our hard working departments.

Please send me your thoughts, comments or concerns to dguerin@rivergroveil.gov. I value your input and what you have to say. Best of luck in 2025 from my family to yours!

Your friend and neighbor,
Dave Guerin

Happy New Year 2025

2024 Santa Stop

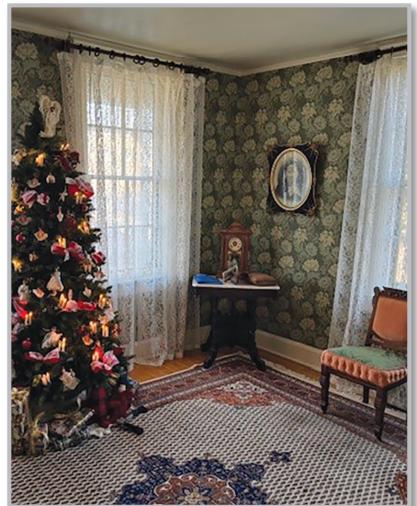
The beautiful weather was perfect for the 2024 River Grove Fire Departments **Santa Stop!** According to Fire Chief Sean Flynn, this year the RG Fire Department visited 68 houses and saw 165 children. Each house donated food to the River Grove Food Pantry. Our thanks to all who participated, the RGFD and of course, Santa!



Mayor Dave Guerin with his kids, Audrey and David Jr.

Historical House Tea

This past December, the members of the **Historical Commission** held a tea at the Historical House for the elected officials and others. It was a great afternoon and the Historical House was even decorated for the Christmas holidays!



WSSRA Comes to River Grove

We are excited to announce, that effective January 1, 2025, the Village of River Grove will be joining the **West Suburban Special Recreation Association (WSSRA)**. WSSRA collaborates with 13 communities to provide therapeutic recreation programs and services to individuals with disabilities across all ages and ability levels. We are thrilled about this new opportunity for our residents. WSSRA has already reached out to our schools and their special education staff to introduce the services available through WSSRA. WSSRA strives to enrich the lives of young and older residents through recreation. They provide recreation programs for adults and children who have a physical impairment, a mental disability or any other type of disability. WSSRA allows residents to participate in year-round programming specifically designed to meet their individual needs. For more information on this, visit the www.wssra.net.



Enriching lives through recreation

River Grove Food Pantry

The River Grove Food Pantry is open to residents who are in need. If you would like to donate to the River Grove Food Pantry you may scan the **QR code** for the **RG Food Pantry Amazon Wish List**. Donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries can be dropped off throughout the year at Village Hall, during business hours. You can reach the food pantry every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** from **9 AM to 11 AM** at (708) 453-8000 x327.

scan the QR code



River Grove Senior Snow Removal Program

Students from East Leyden High School will be assisting our River Grove Seniors with snow removal. A shovel may need to be provided - residents will verify this with the student. The established rate of **\$10.00 per house includes** a path from your front door to your sidewalk/street/stairs and a path from your back door to your garage door. Additional charges apply for salting (**residents must provide salt**), shoveling driveways, carports and or parking spaces. It is up to the resident to handle payment with the student. The resident must contact the student each time their services are needed. Also, please note that payment must be made at time of service. **If any of our seniors wish to have a student assigned to them, please contact at (708) 453-8000 extension 308.**



Please Remember

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