



## Village of River Forest E-News



# RIVER FOREST

*Proud Heritage • Bright Future*

Thank you for taking the time to read the Village's E-News. These messages are sent approximately once per month and include timely information regarding Village events, news and other useful information. We strive to keep the content brief and relevant to the issues that matter most to the community.

### Message from the Village President



Dear River Forest Residents,

Welcome to June and a real summer.

#### Here's what happened at the Board Table in May

Village Trustees approved a new Comprehensive Plan after 18 months of study and discussion. This document sets forth long-range recommendations for the maintenance and enhancement of the community as well as desirable improvements, developments and redevelopments. In short, the plan will help set our future course. A copy of the approved plan is available [here](#).

In addition, the Board awarded a contract to Cordogan Clark and Associates, not to exceed \$25,000, to assess the structural viability of the Civic Center Authority building, better known as the River Forest Community Center, on Madison Street. This architect will help the Village, River Forest Township and Park District, and School Districts 200 and 90 determine how to maximize the facility's use for our community. Results of the study are due this fall.



Last year, the Village Board of Trustees honored 100-year-old Monica Affleck and passed a resolution designating February 12 as Monica Affleck Day. This year, with her passing, Trustees adopted a resolution giving the 300 block of Ashland Avenue the honorary designation of Monica Affleck Way. The sign is posted at the intersection of Ashland and Hawthorne. We cannot be more proud of the marvelous legacy she has left our community.

Click [here](#) to read the Resolution.

Erika Bachner, Katie Brennan and Bob O'Connell were sworn in as new Village Trustees. The Village Board also said farewell to Sue Conti, Carmela Corsini and Mike Gibbs, three Trustees who have played significant roles in making River Forest a better, more viable community. We will miss their institutional memory and their selfless service to the community.



Besides their roles as policy makers, Village Trustees will

be involved in important initiatives the Board will need to address in the next two years.

- Erika Bachner will lead the River Forest Complete Count Committee to ensure that every resident is counted in the 2020 Census. This effort is vital, for the information the Census collects helps determine how more than \$675 billion in federal and state funding is distributed to states and communities, including River Forest.
- Katie Brennan will be engaged with legislative matters that affect the Village by way of unfunded mandates from county, state and federal governments.
- Tom Cargie will continue as our representative to the subcommittee on collaboration, a collection of taxing bodies that work together to make governments more efficient. A good example is the River Forest Community Calendar, which is live at [RFHappenings.com](http://RFHappenings.com). The calendar is a great example of how working together makes a stronger, better informed community. I shared this accomplishment with mayors from around the country during a Mayors Innovation Project conference in Washington D.C., and it was well received.
- Patty Henek will be responsible for identifying how the Village can improve communication with residents.
- Bob O'Connell will work on initiatives involving the River Forest Civic Center Authority building, the public works building and economic development especially around the TIF districts.
- Respicio Vazquez will concentrate on age friendly and other initiatives for senior citizens.

Trustees will make reports as needed and these will be available on the Village's [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page.

The Village also welcomed its newest firefighter Joshua McNabb. The Village Board and I are always pleased to swear-in these new public servants and have a chance to welcome them and their families to the community.



Congratulations to our Village Administrator Eric Palm for being awarded the Jack Williams Award for outstanding leadership in intergovernmental cooperation. This award is given annually by the West Central Municipal Conference to an elected official or appointed representative.



Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make our 94th annual Memorial Day parade a success once again!

#### **What is coming in June**

Please join me and the Board of Trustees for a presentation from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources on how we can manage deer and other nuisance wildlife in River Forest, at [6 p.m., June 24 at Village Hall](#). The Village will also provide details on its plans and support for a deer population maintenance program. All residents are encouraged to attend and learn more about the wildlife population.

The Village is now on [Instagram](#)! We look forward to using this feed to promote all of the wonderful things going on in River Forest.

Happy Father's Day...School's out so please drive carefully.

Sincerely,



Cathy Adduci  
Village President

## 2019-2020 Vehicle Stickers

Vehicle stickers for 2019-2020 are now available for purchase and must be affixed to your windshield by **July 14** to avoid late fees and citations. All vehicles registered in the State of Illinois with a River Forest address must also be registered with the Village through the purchase of a vehicle sticker license. Payment may be made as follows:

- Online at the Village Website by clicking [here](#).
- By mail using the envelope received from the Village (the application can also be downloaded [here](#)).
- In person at the Village Hall during regular business hours or after hours using the drop box located outside the Village Hall.

Stickers are \$45 for passenger vehicles and \$25 for motorcycles, antique vehicles and senior citizens (one senior citizen vehicle sticker per household). Vehicle sticker applications were recently mailed. If you receive an application for a vehicle that you no longer own or a duplicate application, please notify the Village by either calling, or returning the application noting the vehicle's status in the enclosed envelope, so that the vehicle will be removed from our records.

For additional information please contact Village Hall at 708-366-8500 or click [here](#).

## Call for Nominations - Historic Preservation Awards

The Historic Preservation Commission is currently accepting applications for 2019 Historic Preservation Awards from homeowners, architects or contractors who have completed qualifying jobs in River Forest since January 1, 2014. **Nominations must be received on or before June 21, 2019.** Click [here](#) for more information and an application.

## River Forest Police Department

Summer is almost here and so is our Junior Citizen's Police Academy! This year we are partnering with the Oak Park Police Department to offer this free program to boys and girls in our community who are between the ages of 10 and 15. The program runs from **August 5 - August 9**. Stop by either police department and fill out your [application](#) today!



## River Forest Fire Department



### Grilling Safety

Memorial Day is the unofficial start to the grilling season and June is typically the first month that people start cooking and grilling outside with gusto. Recently, a neighboring town responded to a house fire that was started by a gas barbeque grill. After the fire, the owner stated that the fire may have started because the hose may not have been properly connected to the propane tank before using the grill. With this story in mind, the River Forest Fire Department, along with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) would like to remind residents to grill safely and to heed these facts and safety tips on safe

barbeque grilling. Click [here](#) for grilling tips to keep your family safe this summer.

### Hazard Mitigation Plan

This month the Cook County Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management is hosting a series of public meetings to share details about the Hazard Mitigation Plan process with residents. Click [here](#) for meeting dates and locations.

## River Forest School District 90

### Last Day of School

The last day of school for students in District 90 will be **Wednesday, June 12**. Students will be dismissed at 2:30 PM. Summer School will begin on **Monday, June 17**, and will be held at Willard and Roosevelt Schools. Please continue to watch out for students traveling to and from school during the summer months.

### Willard Schools 90th Anniversary - Save the Date

Willard School celebrates its 90th Anniversary on **Saturday, September 7, 2019**. There will be an Open House from 9 AM – noon, with a Special Assembly at 10 AM. Are you a Willard alum? Did you or your children attend the school within the last 90 years? Do you still have any mementos, pictures, newsletters, or any artifacts that you'd be willing to lend to the school? For more information, contact Willard Principal Diane Wood at [woodd@district90.org](mailto:woodd@district90.org) or 708-366-6740.



## GREEN NEWS



### Have you seen the signs?

You might have seen *Keep on the Grass* signs around River Forest now that the warmer weather is upon us. These residents have made the pledge to use alternative maintenance practices for their lawn and garden. No pesticides (which is safer for your pets and family), watering properly and mowing less and mowing high are among some of the practices you can put into place to help reduce water pollution and have a safe outdoor space for everyone to enjoy. Click [here](#) for more information and to sign the pledge.

### Recycling Extravaganza

Thank you to all the residents who participated in the Recycling Extravaganza on May 4th. 659 cars drove through the event! 48,000 pounds of electronics were recycled, 45 bikes were donated, 200 boxes of school supplies and books will be reused, 5,000 pounds of scrap metal was collected and the list goes on. Keep up the good work on keeping items out of the landfill. For questions regarding where to take hard-to-recycle items, [email](#) the Sustainability Commission.

## PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

### Party in the Park - Mike Zabrin's Funktastic

Thursday, 6/20 (rain date 6/27), 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM at Keystone Park

Mike Zabrin is a bass phenom! From James Brown to Stevie Wonder, Bruno Mars and Top 40's to ingenious original music, this talented musical collaboration is what makes Mike Zabrin's Funktastic the most exciting and ambitious soul-infused funk powerhouse. The band brings a high-energy memorable experience that will have your entire family dancing. There will also be face painting, a balloon twister,



grilled hot dogs and frozen treats. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs and enjoy the fun! Click [here](#) for details.

## Register Now for Summer Camp

In addition to the popular half-day morning camps (Tot Camp, Kidz Camp, and Ultimate Sports Camp), the Park District offers a large variety of afternoon specialty camps ranging from sports and fitness to STEAM, cooking, and art. Thrill Zone is a field trip based camp for ages 10 - 14. Click [here](#) for the 2019 Summer Camp Guide.



## RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

Your library offers a wide variety of free programs for all ages. Check out everything your library has to offer at [www.riverforestlibrary.org](http://www.riverforestlibrary.org).

### Summer Reading for All Ages, June 12 - August 21

It's summer reading time! Kids, teens, and adults are invited to join our Summer Reading Program. All of our programs encourage everyone to read throughout the summer. Fun prizes make it extra fun. Stop in the Library to get details about age-specific programs. This year's theme, *A Universe of Stories*, has inspired some really exciting outer-space themed programs that you won't want to miss. Visit our [website](#) to find out about everything that's happening at the Library this summer!



### Summer Reading Kick Off Party

**Wednesday, 6/12, 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM, Kids and Teens of All Ages**

Sign up for the Summer Reading Program and then join in the park for a bounce house, popcorn, ice cream, and lawn games. All summer reading participants are welcome to attend.

## EVENTS CO-SPONSORED BY THE RIVER FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY AND RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP

### June Senior Programs

**Saturday, 6/15, 10:00 AM:** Learn the latest research and ideas for *Healthy Living for your Brain and Body* from an Alzheimer's Association expert.

**Friday, 6/21, 7:30 PM:** Music under the stars. Listen to the annual crowd favorite, the *Dooley Brothers* on the library lawn.

**Thursday, 6/27, 7:00 PM:** Moving or staying put? Either way, *Tidy Your Home, Change your Life* with tips from certified KonMari consultant Kristyn Ivey. Pre-registration required; call the Library at 708-366-5205.

## TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

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To learn more about the programs and services provided by River Forest Township, please visit the website, [www.RiverForestTownship.org](http://www.RiverForestTownship.org), or the River Forest Community Calendar at [www.RFHappenings.com](http://www.RFHappenings.com).

### Parents: Learn About Support 4U

Parents: an important mental health resource continues to be available to your middle-school and high-school aged children, even though school is out for the summer. Through the **Support 4U** app and phone number, students can anonymously text a licensed mental health clinician, 24/7, for assistance or guidance with issues such as anxiety, bullying, eating disorders, and substance use. Students can text **1-844-670-5838** and the following key word: "SAFE" (for D90 students); "HOPE" (for D97); "CARE" (for D200). Sponsored by River Forest Township, Oak Park Community Mental Health Board and other local organizations.

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## AROUND RIVER FOREST

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Still looking for more River Forest info? Click below.

[River Forest Community Calendar – RFHappenings.com](http://www.RiverForestTownship.org)

[Village of River Forest](#)

[River Forest School District 90](#)

[OPRF High School District 200](#)

[River Forest Park District](#)

[River Forest Public Library](#)

[River Forest Township](#)

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