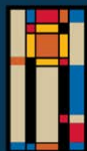




Village of River Forest



**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,

### COVID-19 Update

Thank you River Forest for helping keep us safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. As of today, the percent change in confirmed cases over the past 14 days is -15%. Please click [here](#) and select "Case Data by Town" to see updated information from the Cook County Department of Public Health. Always remember to wear a mask and social distance.

## Equity and Inclusion

The Board of Trustees will soon consider approving a partnership with Dominican University to help create a culture of equity and inclusion in River Forest by working with our residents and neighboring communities. On September 29, we heard an exceptional presentation from **Sheila Radford-Hill**, PhD, a River Forest resident who serves as the chief diversity officer at Dominican University. As a member of the Dominican leadership team, **Dr. Radford-Hill** collaborates with university and community stakeholders to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. She explained the framework, "Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation" (TRHT), which we will be using within our working groups. For more information please visit our website [www.vrf.us](http://www.vrf.us).

## Halloween

The Village Board of Trustees will hold a [Special Meeting on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 7PM](#) to continue our discussion on Halloween Trick-or-Treating in our community. We have guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health that we will use to help our deliberations. For more information, refer to the IDPH [website](#) and [press release](#). Also, currently most neighboring communities have decided to permit trick-or-treating with restrictions. Please refer to our website [www.vrf.us](http://www.vrf.us) for more information.

## Senior Flu Shots

The [Illinois Department on Aging](#) (IDoA) is encouraging all older Illinoisans to get a flu shot. Doing so will help reduce the strain on healthcare systems and keep hospital beds and other medical resources available for COVID-19 patients. The CDC recommends getting a flu shot this month. Flu vaccinations are available in River Forest at Walgreens, CVS, and Jewel. Click [here](#) for more information about this year's flu season from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

## 2020 Census - Time is Running Out!

The deadline to respond to this year's Census has been extended to **October 5, 2020**. Head to [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) and Be Counted River Forest! **The Census is safe and secure, quick and easy, and matters for our community.** You can respond [online](#), [by phone](#) or [by mail](#).



If you have already completed the Census, check in with your friends and family to be sure they have done the same. If you know someone in a traditionally undercounted population such as a senior or someone in multi-family housing, please reach out to them and make sure they are counted. Spread the word!

## Tour de Proviso

Tomorrow at 9:30am, join Broadview Mayor Katrina Thompson, Bellwood Mayor Andre Harvey and Maywood Trustee Miguel Jones on a bicycle tour of Proviso Township. The tour begins at Broadview Village Hall (2350 S. 25th Avenue, Broadview), ends at 718 S 5th Avenue in Maywood. Click [here](#) to view the flyer and biking route. Tag @VillageofRiverForest in your photos on Instagram and Facebook!



## USPS Appreciation



River Forest residents have designated Monday, October 5 as a day to give a collective "Thank You" to USPS essential workers who have tirelessly served the community throughout the pandemic. Residents can participate by chalking sidewalks, making homemade cards, putting signs on their mailboxes, or even giving their carriers a small gift. Join together on October 5 to let them know how much our community appreciates all they do for us!

## Tree Trails

Congratulations Nicole and Arabella Scott (Arabella is pictured here next to her favorite redbud tree) who were the first winners of the Sustainability Commission's [Tree Trails](#) activity, winning three months of free curbside composting. If you have not yet had a chance [to participate](#), you still have time! The contest has been extended through October 31 and a second winner of three months free composting will be chosen.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy".

Cathy Adduci  
Village President

## Village Spotlight

The Village's 2020 Asphalt Patching Project will take place during the week of October 5. Work will include the removal and replacement of surface asphalt at more than 100 locations throughout the Village. Most patches will be restored to a depth of 2", while more severe locations will be restored to a depth of 4". It is anticipated that this work will be complete by the end of the week. Staff annually inspects all streets and areas of pavement failure to identify where patching is needed. Street patching maintains and improves surface conditions of Village streets, alleys and parking lots, prolonging the life of the pavement. This is a less expensive alternative to resurfacing, which involves not only the replacement of defective surface but also additional surface areas that have not yet begun to deteriorate. The annual patching program helps keep Village roadways safer for motorists and bicyclists.

## Fall Leaf Collection

The Village's annual Fall Leaf Collection Program runs now through **12/4**. The next opportunity to dispose of leaves after 12/4 will be during the yard waste collection program, which starts in April 2021. Rake only leaves onto the street by 7AM on your collection day, leaving the curb exposed, where Village and Strom crews will collect them. Grass clippings, brush or any other type of yard waste mixed with your leaves will not be collected. Click [here](#) for the collection schedule.

## Voting in the November 2020 General Election

### Voter Registration

Eligible voters can register online, in person, or by mail. Click [here](#) for more information about voter registration.



### Early Voting

For the November 3, 2020 Election, traditional Early Voting will take place **10/19 – 11/2**. The nearest early voting locations are Elmwood Park Village Hall (11 W Conti Pkwy), Maywood Courthouse (Whitcomb Building, Rm. 104, 1311 Maybrook Dr), and Oak Park Village Hall (123 Madison St). Click [here](#) for more information about early voting and more early voting sites.

### Vote By Mail

Any registered suburban Cook County voter may request a mail ballot online. Once the County verifies your registration and processes your application, they will send a paper ballot to the mailing address you designate in your application. The deadline to apply is five days before an election, however ballots must be postmarked by Election Day (November 3) in order to be counted. Click [here](#) for more information about voting by mail and click [here](#) for an FAQ.

### Election Day Voting

Registered suburban Cook County voters can only vote in their home precinct on Election Day. Residents who are not registered to vote may register and cast a ballot on Election Day. Those who wish to register on Election Day must present two qualifying forms of ID. Registered and unregistered Cook County residents can find their assigned polling place with the [Your Voter Information tool](#).

## River Forest Police Department

The River Forest Police Department has issued a [press release](#) to remind residents to Click It or Ticket. For more information, visit [BuckleUpIllinois.org](#).

## River Forest Fire Department



As the seasons change, the River Forest Fire Department would like to remind residents about fall fire safety. Click [here](#) for safety tips on Halloween decorating and home heating, and [here](#) for pet safety tips.

The Fire Department would also like to inform residents about the [new Illinois Smoke Detector Act](#) that will take effect January 1, 2023, which will require property owners to replace old smoke alarms with a 10-year battery smoke alarm.

## GREEN NEWS

### Get Ready for Winter, Conserve Energy & Save Money with Nicor and ComEd

Utility companies offer many ways to ensure that homes are operating at peak performance during the winter months while also saving money. The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program offers free assessments and incentives for homeowners.



During the assessment, an Energy Advisor will walk through a home to understand its energy use, provide a customized report detailing opportunities for saving energy and money, and provide free products to assist with cost savings. Click [here](#) to learn more here about the home energy assessment and other money saving programs from Nicor.

ComEd offers a host of energy savings programs, including Fridge and Freezer recycling, real-time pricing, a multi-family home energy savings program, and more. Click [here](#) to learn more about the ComEd programs.

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## SCHOOL DISTRICT 90 SPOTLIGHT

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### Upcoming School Holidays

District 90 will be closed on Monday, 10/12 and Tuesday, 11/3, 2020. There will not be any instruction on those days.

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## PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

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### Seeking Trunk or Treat Car Sponsors

The Park District is hosting Trunk or Treat Drive-Through on Friday, 10/16 from 5:00-7:00 PM. Businesses or organizations are encouraged to join to hand out candy and goodies from decorated cars. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.



### Holiday Centerpieces and Wreath-Making Workshop

The Park District is hosting a centerpiece and wreath-making workshop for the holidays on Sunday, 11/15 from 2:00-4:00 PM for all ages. Staff will provide materials along with a holiday snack and beverage. This class is sure to be a highlight of the holiday season. Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

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## RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

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Visit the Library [calendar](#) to see all of our virtual programs. Need homework help or test prep? Check out the new [LearningExpressLibrary](#). Discover all the resources and happenings on the Library [website](#).

### Sue Quinn to Retire

Sue Quinn has announced that she will retire from the position of Director of River Forest Public Library. Sue's last day in the building will be 10/20, although she will continue to consult as needed until a new director is in place. The Board has retained a consulting firm HR Source to assist in the search for a new director. During this time, Joanna Bertucci (Operations Manager) and Amy Grossman (Children's Services Manager) will serve as interim co-directors. Sue will be profoundly missed.



### No Book Donations Please

We greatly appreciate the generosity of our community but cannot accept book donations at this time due to concerns over COVID-19. Please do not put book donations in the drop boxes. We recommend donating books to your neighbors or Goodwill. Thank you for your understanding.

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## TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

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Many in-person Township services and programs have been moved to a virtual platform this fall. To learn more, visit [www.RiverForestTownship.org](http://www.RiverForestTownship.org), the River Forest community calendar at [www.RFHappenings.com](http://www.RFHappenings.com), or [email](#) Supervisor Carla Sloan.

### Seeking New Township Clerk

River Forest Township is seeking a new Township Clerk. Applicant must be a River Forest resident. This is an elected, part-time, paid position. Click [here](#) to learn more about this positive way to serve the community. For questions or further information, please [email](#) Supervisor Carla Sloan. **Deadline to apply: Friday, 10/9.**

### Sibshops Are Back this Fall!

Sibshops are back... on Zoom! This program is specially designed for *siblings* of kids with disabilities, mental health issues or physical illness. The program is funded by River Forest Township and led by facilitators from Thrive Counseling Center.

For 1st-7th grade siblings. Siblings share with each other and the facilitators, while engaging in fun activities. **10/3, 10/17, 11/7, 11/21, 12/5, 12/19.** 11:30AM - 1PM; \$5 per session; \$30 for 7 sessions. Need-based scholarships are available. For more information or to register, please [email](#) Laurie Johnson or call 708-383-7500 x 409.

### Seniors: Enjoy Coffee Monday and Other Senior Programs on Zoom!

River Forest Township and the Library are once again partnering to bring Coffee Mondays...now on Zoom! **10/5, 11/2,**

12/7, 10 - 11AM. Special guest speakers will present each month.

Celebrating Seniors All Year Long programs are also back, by Zoom! The series continues **Thursday, 10/8**, 7 - 8:30PM, with educator and architectural guide Beth Sair leading a virtual tour of Chicago's many amazing outdoor statues.

For all programs, visit the [Library's calendar](#) to register and obtain the Zoom link.

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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](#)

[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](#)

