



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 May!

At the Village Board of Trustees Meeting on April 8, Trustees adopted the budget for the new fiscal year that begins on May 1. For the ninth consecutive year, the Village's spending plan is balanced, thanks to the diligence of talented individuals who are committed to preserving the vibrancy of our community while keeping our expenditures in check. For more about the budget, [click here](#).

Last year's budget received a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association. To receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, operations guide, financial plan and as a communications device. Kudos to our team!

The Village Board of Trustees and I also had the pleasure of recognizing River Forest Police Officer James Cromley with the 2018 Officer of the Year award. Nominated for his diligent work and willingness to assist, Police Chief James O'Shea highlighted Officer Cromley's



accomplishments and commended him for his mental and physical preparedness for daily challenges. Please help us congratulate Officer Cromley for his hard work and dedication!

May 13 Village Board of Trustees Meeting...

At a Special Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees on **May 13 at 6PM**, the Village Board will take final action and adopt the Comprehensive Plan. Feedback requested by the Village Board during review and discussion on April 8 and April 22 has been incorporated into an updated draft Comprehensive Plan and Action (Implementation)



Matrix. Both are available by [clicking here](#).

We are moving forward on assessing the future needs of the River Forest Civic Center Authority building, located at Madison and Thatcher. The Village Board will consider a professional services agreement with an architectural firm to conduct a needs assessment at its May 13 Special Board Meeting.

Lastly, during the regular meeting at 7PM on May 13, we will swear in our new trustees Katie Brennan, Erika Bachner and Bob O'Connell. We will also honor three outgoing trustees Susan Conti, Carmela Corsini and Mike Gibbs for their outstanding service to our community.

In other news...

The 2019 annual Recycling Extravaganza will be tomorrow, Saturday, May 4, from 8AM – 1PM. The event will take place rain or shine at the River Forest United Methodist Church on the corner of Lake and Thatcher. Please [click here](#) for a list of items that will be accepted and take advantage of this great event while helping the Village's sustainability efforts.



Continuing with green news, the Village received the 2019 GreenQuality Achievement award from the West Cook County Solid Waste Agency. This award was presented to the Village and accepted by the Sustainability Commission for dedication to recycling through the annual Recycling Extravaganza event and for commitment to offering sustainable services and programs to River Forest residents.



I am proud to share that River Forest was once again named a Tree City USA for 2018 by the [Arbor Day Foundation](#). This award is in honor of the Village's commitment to effective urban forest management. This is the Village's 20th consecutive year of winning the award, having first accomplished it in 1998.

TREE CITY USA

In April, I also had the opportunity to speak to Lincoln Elementary third grade students to help them learn more about local government! I am always impressed with the youth in our community. Below is Mrs. McCole's third grade class.



Finally, please join us for the 94th annual Memorial Day

Parade on Monday, May 27! The event will step off at 9:30 AM from Constitution Park, travel south on Ashland Avenue to Lake Street, then west to Keystone Park. A free hotdog lunch will be hosted at Keystone Park after the parade. Our Grand Marshall will be Staff Sergeant Richard Gadek. A lot of hard work goes into planning this grand event, which is sponsored by the Civic Association of River Forest, the River Forest Parks Foundation, the River Forest Park District and the Village. Individuals and businesses can still enter a float; to learn more, [click here](#).



Happy Mother's Day to all!

Sincerely,

Cathy

Cathy Adduci
Village President

River Forest Housewalk

Sunday, 5/5, 1 PM - 5 PM is the Historical Society of Oak Park and River Forest *Tales Our Houses Tell Housewalk*. Learn more about the rich history behind six River Forest homes on the northwest corner of town. Tickets required. Click [here](#) for more information.



River Forest Fire Department

Bicycling Safety



The River Forest Fire Department wants to remind residents about bicycling safety. Before heading out, always do a quick "A-B-C" check of your bike. The "A" stands for the air in your tires. Much like a car, proper air pressure in the tires help smooth out your ride. The "B" stands for brakes. Give them a quick check before you go out to ensure they operate properly. Finally, the "C" stands for your chain. Check to make sure that it is riding correctly on both front and rear sprockets. Click [here](#) to read more

safety tips.

River Forest Police Department

Scott's Law – The Move Over Law

The River Forest Police Department reminds motorists to slow down and move over for emergency vehicles. As of 2017, this law applies not only to authorized emergency vehicles, but any vehicle displaying flashing emergency lights. Three Illinois State Troopers have been killed this year by drivers who disobeyed Scott's Law. Help protect public safety officers while they protect you!



The steps are simple:

- Reduce your speed
- Change lanes if possible
- Proceed with due caution

River Forest School District 90

Staff Appreciation Week

May 6 - May 10 is Staff Appreciation Week in District 90. Our dedicated educators work tirelessly to inspire students' minds and instill a love of learning in all. The District extends its deepest appreciation for all that our faculty and staff do for our students.

GREEN NEWS



Sunday, 5/19, 10 AM - noon: *River Forest's First Tree Walk.* Led by Emily Okallau from the Morton Arboretum. [Email](#) to register for this free event. Click [here](#) for more information.

Questions about Recycling?

Watch [this helpful video](#) provided by the Illinois Recycling Task Force.

PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

Kids Events

Saturday, 5/18, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM: *Donuts and Dinosaurs.* Click [here](#) for details on this **free** event.



Celebrating Seniors Activities

The month of May is Older American's Month, and the Villages of River Forest, Oak Park, and Forest Park have proclaimed **May 2 - May 9** as Celebrating Seniors Week. The River Forest Park District will host the following **free** Celebrating Seniors activities:

Tuesday, 5/7: Platform Tennis Social

Wednesday, 5/8: Bocce Ball Social

Click [here](#) for details on these activities.

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.



Walk with the River Forest Library in the Memorial Day Parade!

Show your library support by joining library staff and Trustees as we march in River Forest's annual parade on **Monday, 5/27**. The parade route is about 1.5 miles with no stops. Participants may be asked to hold signs or pass out candy. Children may ride bikes or sit in strollers/wagons. Click [here](#) to register on our online calendar to receive information via email about where

and when to meet. The first 20 people to join us at the parade will receive a custom RFPL t-shirt.

TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

To learn more about the programs and services provided by River Forest Township, please visit the Township website, www.RiverForestTownship.org.

Celebrating Seniors Week is Here: May 2 - May 9

River Forest Township is hosting a great lineup of Celebrating Seniors Week events at the River Forest Community Center, 8020 Madison St, River Forest. Programs are free and open to all.



Monday, 5/6, 2 PM: *Generations: Genealogy Interviewing & Family Connectedness* with residents Abby Schmelling and Bob Ray.

Tuesday, 5/7, 1 PM: *Step by Step: Decluttering & Downsizing and What to Do with All That Stuff* from professionals Laura Bruzas and Kristi Bangert.

Wednesday, 5/8, 10 AM: *IL Secretary of State "Rules of the Road" and "Super Seniors" Day.* Call Township Senior Services 708-383-4806 to register.

Thursday, 5/9, 10:30 AM: *Elder Life Planning Using Legal Tools Like Advanced Directives, etc.* Tools for later life planning from attorney Tom Wendt.

Programs for those with Dementia and their Care Partners

Tuesdays, 5/14 - 6/18, 10 AM - 12:30 PM: *Care Partner Training.* 6-week class for care partners of those with dementia and Alzheimer's. Training will take place at Township Senior Services, 130 S Oak Park Avenue. Registration required. Call Steven Smith to register at 708-383-8060 x 117.

Thursday, 5/21, 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM: *Memory Cafe.* Designed for those living with memory loss and their care partners, Memory Cafe is a safe space to connect, share a meal, and enjoy recreational and educational opportunities. Takes place every third Thursday at Township Senior Services, 130 S Oak Park Avenue. To register, call 708-383-8060 or email memorycafe@oakpartktownship.org.

AROUND RIVER FOREST

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](#)

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