



## VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST E-NEWS

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,

A warm and wonderful May to you. This will be a busy month with graduations and summer vacations on everyone's mind.

Also on our minds is the transition of government. The Board of Trustees and I invite you to attend the Village Board meeting on May 8 at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall when the newly-elected officials, Trustees Tom Cargie, Patty Henek and Respicio Vazquez, Clerk Kathleen White and myself as Village President will be sworn in.

On May 1, the Village's new fiscal year began and with that, a new [budget](#) is in place. It is balanced, it has few frills, but it will fill important Board goals and provide the services that you expect from us.

Last month the Village Board approved the appointments of seven residents who will serve on the community's first Sustainability Commission. The list of Commissioners and their roles and responsibilities are posted on our website or [click here](#).

The Village Board also recognized Jaxon and Miles Toppen, two brothers from Roosevelt Middle School in River Forest, who won the top prize in the elementary/middle school competition of the One Earth Young Filmmakers Contest. Their eight-minute video, "[Shells in Need of Saving](#)", followed the rehabilitation of two sea turtles who were rescued from polluted waters near the Florida Keys. The boys adopted [Montel](#), a green sea turtle, with their winnings. Please join me in congratulating Jaxon and Miles on a job well done.

### In This Issue

Message from the Village President

Help River Forest Firefighters "Fill the Boot"

Presentation on Historical Buildings of River Forest

River Forest Service Club – Armed Services Registry

All Contractors Must Be Licensed

Safety for the Season

Know the Code!

Oak Park River Forest High School District 200 - Community Connector Newsletter

CELEBRATING SENIORS WEEK

RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

### Useful Links

[Village Website](#)

[Additional](#)

[Village News](#)



[Village Board](#)

[Agendas](#)

[Emergency](#)

[Notification](#)

[Sign-up](#)

This month we honor the seniors who make our community strong and vital. Please help us celebrate with them by attending any one of numerous, fun events planned for Celebrating Seniors Week. [Click here](#) to view the calendar or view the list of events below. I cordially invite all seniors to the 29th annual **Senior Tea "Big Hearts Little Hands Concert"** at 1 p.m., Friday May 12 at [Willard School](#), 1250 Ashland Ave. A copy of the invitation and RSVP information is available [here](#).

Memorial Day is fast approaching and that means it is time for a [parade](#). On May 29, the 92nd annual event will start 10 a.m., and [travels](#) from Constitution Park south on Ashland Avenue to Lake Street and west to Keystone Park for another tradition - a free hot dog lunch. This year's marshal will be John Gall, who served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1972. A lot of hard work goes into planning this grand event, which is sponsored by the [Service Club](#), the [Parks Foundation](#), the [Park District](#) and the [Village](#). The Park District welcomes individuals and businesses that wish to enter a float into the parade can still do so. [Click here](#) to learn more.

On a personal note, I will be sworn in as President of the Board of Directors of the [West Central Municipal Conference](#), a non-profit organization that represents the interests of municipalities in an area that stretches from Rosemont on the north to Willow Springs to the south. I look forward to the opportunity to serve.

A warm and wonderful Mother's Day to all!

Best,

Cathy Adduci  
Village President

## **Help River Forest Firefighters "Fill the Boot"**

River Forest Firefighters Association Local #2391 will be out on

the streets of River Forest for their annual "Fill the Boot" drive to benefit the MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association) on **Friday, May 26, Friday, June 23, and Thursday, July 27 from 8:30 AM to 12 noon**. Look for your friendly River Forest Firefighters at the corner of Lake and Lathrop. Stop by and say "hello" and make a donation to a great cause.

### **Fill the Boot**

MDA's spirited Fill the Boot campaign is an honored tradition in which thousands of dedicated fire fighters hit the streets or storefronts asking pedestrians, motorists, customers and other passersby to make a donation to MDA, using their collective strength to help kids and adults live longer and grow stronger.

### **Presentation on Historical Buildings of River Forest**

On **Monday, May 22 from 7-8 PM, stop by the River Forest Public Library** for an exciting presentation by Al Popowits, a member of the River Forest Historical Preservation Commission, as he gives a lecture on historically and architecturally significant structures in River Forest. Some of the buildings highlighted include: the Jacob Frank Home, architect: W.J. Van Keuren, 1895; J. Kibben Ingalls House, architect: Frank Lloyd Wright, 1909; Verna Ross Orndorff House, architect: Solon S. Beman, Jr., 1929; and the Cora Cummings House, architect: unknown, 1895. Fall in love with the architectural gems located right here in your own community! Please note that this presentation covers new and different properties than the presentation in September 2016!

### **River Forest Service Club – Armed Services Registry**

The River Forest Service Club continues to collect information about River Forest residents or their loved one's military service for the purpose of recognizing those individuals before and during the annual Memorial Day parade. If you or your loved one has served or is currently serving in the Armed Services, please [click here](#) to visit the Service Club's website and register your information.

In order to recognize these individuals during Memorial Day events, please submit information on or before May 12.

### **All Contractors Must Be Licensed**

The Village would like to remind residents that all contractors performing work in the Village must be licensed and bonded. This includes and applies to all landscape services. To obtain a license a contractor must provide the Village with proof of insurance and a surety bond. The insurance protects property owners in the event that the contractor does damage to the property or if a worker is injured. The surety bond acts as a guarantee that the contractor will perform the work in accordance with Village code and other applicable regulations. For more on contractor licensing requirements and to view a list of contractors currently licensed in the Village, please [click here](#).

### **Safety for the Season**

The River Forest Fire Department would like to provide the following timely reminders about fire safety:

- [Bike Safety](#)
- [BBO Safety](#)
- [Car Safety](#)
- [Lightning Safety](#)

### Know the Code!

The Village would like to provide the following notes regarding Landscaping and Yard Waste:

- Grass clippings, leaves, tree trimmings or any other yard or landscape waste cannot be deposited in any street, alley, or other public place.
- Grass and weeds may not exceed 8 inches in height and must be cut within 5 days after notice by Village.
- Trees and shrubs cannot overhang on sidewalks or streets in such a way as to impede or interfere with traffic or travel. This must be maintained by the owner.
- If a tree or tree limb has become likely to fall on or across any public street, sidewalk or place it must be removed by the owner.
- Properly packaged yard waste to be picked up "curbside", may not be put out prior to 6 PM on Monday (the day before yard waste collection) and will be picked up on Tuesday. For alley collection, properly packaged yard waste may be placed for collection next to the regular garbage collection point.

For more information, please [click here](#) to view the Village Code.

### Oak Park River Forest High School District 200 - Community Connector Newsletter

Please [click here](#) to view the Spring 2017 OPRFHS D200 Community Connector newsletter.

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### CELEBRATING SENIORS WEEK

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The month of May is Older American's Month, and the Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park have proclaimed the week of May 18 - May 25 **Celebrating Seniors Week**. This 7th Annual week-long celebration will highlight and recognize the significant contributions older adults make to our communities. Over 15 community-wide organizations, including the **River Forest Public Library, Township and Park District**, that offer services to seniors will be hosting special events during Celebrating Seniors Week, while local businesses show their support by offering discounts and promotions to older adults. Visit the Celebrating Seniors website for more information at [celebratingseniors.net](http://celebratingseniors.net) and see below for various events and event details leading into and during Celebrating Seniors Week

**Saturday, May 13, 4 PM, Encore Chorale Spring Concert at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 611 Randolph Street, Oak Park** - Oak Park-River Forest Encore Chorale, for singers age 55 and up, will hold its spring concert, "Broadway & Hollywood". The local Encore group, over 40 members strong, is part of the largest chorale organization for older adults in the country. All are invited to attend and hear this musically talented group.

Encore's fall season will start on Tuesday, September 5th; no audition is required. Rehearsals are Tuesdays, 9:00-10:30 AM at Trinity High School. For more info, [contact Linda Crabtree Powell](#). Need-based scholarships for River Forest resident Encore members are available through River Forest Township.

**Thursday, 5/18, 9:30 AM, River Forest Community Center (RFCC)** - IL Secretary of State Rules of the Road and Mobile Drivers Unit/Vision Screening at the River Forest Township

**Friday, 5/19, 10:30 AM, RFCC** - Advanced Directives for Later Life Planning: Powers of Attorney for Property & Healthcare...and Why We Need Them with Tom Wendt

**Friday, 5/19, 3 PM, RFCC** - Fall Prevention with Synergy Home Care with Nick Preys

**Friday, 5/19, 7-8 PM, Terry Sullivan Trio Intimate Jazz Concert, Adult** - Come to the River Forest Public Library for a relaxing evening of fantastic music and enjoy an intimate jazz concert with the Terry Sullivan Trio! Vocalist Terry Sullivan, whose style is influenced by Anita O'Day and Blossom Dearie, sings in small nightclubs and concert venues in the Chicago area. You won't want to miss it!

**Sunday, 5/21, 2-4 PM, Elizabeth Berg Author Visit, Adult** - Join us for this exciting visit from best-selling local author Elizabeth Berg! Head over to the Roosevelt Middle School auditorium, where Ms. Berg will read selections from her books and discuss her newest projects. After she speaks, Ms. Berg will be back at the library for a book signing.

**Monday, 5/22, 1 PM, River Forest Village Hall** - Protecting You and Your Loved Ones with RF Police Officer Glen Czernik

**Tuesday, 5/23, 10-11 AM, Books n' Bagels, Adult** - Come talk about books while enjoying delicious breakfast treats. We'll talk about new books at the library and share some of our favorites. We hope you'll bring your recommendations too!

**Tuesday, 5/23, 11 AM-1:30 PM, Celebrating Seniors Week Luncheon and Panel Discussion, Dominican University** - Wally Amos, founder of Famous Amos Cookies, will be the keynote speaker at the Celebrating Seniors Week annual luncheon, whose theme is "The Silver Gold Rush: Aging's Impact on Business and Community". Amos will also be part of a panel discussion featuring experts in the fields of business and aging. Register and purchase tickets (\$65) online at [www.OPRFChamber.com](http://www.OPRFChamber.com).

**Wednesday, 5/24, 2 PM, RFCC** - Memoir Writing with Cathaleen Roach

**Thursday, 5/25, 1 PM, RFCC** - New! Movement & Memory Class with Gloria Araya

**"Celebrating Seniors™ All Year Long" Programs** - Join us for these informative and engaging programs at the River Forest Public Library throughout the summer:

- **Sunday, 5/7, 2 PM** – Hamilton's Women with Dr. Leslie Goddard
- **Saturday, 6/3, 2 PM** – Frank Lloyd Wright at 150 with Jeff Mishur
- **Friday, 7/14, 7:30 PM** – Dooley Brothers Concert on the library lawn
- **Thursday, 8/3, 7 PM** – Solar Eclipse is Coming with Michelle Nicholas

Programs are free of charge; co-sponsored by River Forest Township and River Forest Library. People of all ages from all communities are welcome!

### **Seniors: Iced Coffee Anyone?**

Coffee Mondays continue this summer at the River Forest Library on the **first Mondays at 10 AM**, Coffee provided by Blue Max; co-sponsored by the Township and Library. Coffee Mondays will take a break in July due to the July 4 holiday weekend.

- **June 5** – exciting student demonstration of the new 3D printer
- **August 7** – snacks and summer conversation

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## **RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT**

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### **Adults**

#### **Sunday, 5/7, 2-3:30 PM, Hamilton's Women, Adult**

Mark your calendars! Historical interpreter Dr. Leslie Goddard is back by popular demand! Meet the real women in Alexander Hamilton's life: his wife, Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton and two of her witty, charming sisters, Angelica Schuyler Church and Peggy Schuyler van Rensselaer. You don't need to have seen the smash hit musical Hamilton to enjoy this, but if you have, it'll bring the history behind the show to life! This program is brought to you in partnership with the River Forest Township.

#### **Saturday, 5/13, 1-2:30 PM, Foreign Film Forum, Adult**

Enjoy a viewing on our big screen of the Spanish film Open Your Eyes (Abre los Ojos). Delicious snacks will be served.

#### **Wednesday, 5/24, 5/30, 10-11:30 AM, Computer Learning Lab, Adult**

Does your computer drive you nuts? Does your tablet make you crazy? Come to our Computer Learning Lab -- whatever your tech issue, we can help you figure it out or get to the next step. These sessions are designed for the total beginner through intermediate home/personal user. No need to sign up, just drop in anytime during the session to learn on one of our laptops, or bring your own device.

### **A Special Program for Grades K-7**

**Stop Motion Animation (Choose from 1 of 2 sessions)**

**Thursday, 5/18, 3:30-4:15 PM or 4:15-5 PM**

Lights... Camera... Action! Join staff from Steve & Kate's Camp at the Library for an afternoon of stop motion animation. Children will create characters, design sets, and film stop-motion masterpieces on custom-built, tabletop iPad stations. All materials are provided- just bring your imagination! Advanced registration required.

**Teens**

**Thursday, 5/11, 3:30-5 PM, Tiny Tasty Pendants: Part Deux, Grades 5-12**

Come learn how to make tasteful, home-cooked jewelry and accessories to add to your style menu. Advanced registration required.

**Children**

**Monday, 5/15, 4-5 PM, Snack Attack, Grades K-4**

Learn how to make a fun seasonal snack at this after school cooking program. Advanced registration required.

**Saturday, 5/20, 2-3 PM, Lego Club, Grades K-4**

LEGO fans will be given a new LEGO building challenge each time we meet. LEGO bricks will be provided. Advanced registration required.

**Thursday, 5/25, 10-10:30 AM, Parachute Play, Ages 2-5**

Join us for fun with parachutes! Bounce, wiggle, and have fun as you play with our favorite prop. Ages 2-5 with parent/caregiver.

**Friday, 5/26, 9:30-10:30 AM, Free Play Friday, Birth-6 years**

Play and learn as you explore engaging sensory stations. Ages birth-6 years with parent/caregiver.

For a complete listing of Library programs, visit the website at [www.riverforestlibrary.org](http://www.riverforestlibrary.org).

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**TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

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**River Forest Township: Building on 100 Years of Vital Human Services**

River Forest Township turns 100 in 2017! Your Township funds and supports a full array of vital human services to youth, seniors, those with mental health needs, and those in financial need...in addition to our active Assessor's office.

In April 1917, River Forest (with a population then of 3000) voted by referendum to create its own township, thereby separating from Proviso Township. The River Forest Village Board passed the necessary resolution in June 1917 in support of the referendum. The Cook County Board formally approved the new River Forest Township in October 1917, making it official.

Your Township continues to ensure that funds are preserved and allocated for the necessary human services and assessor services in our community.

Save the date for your Township's 100th anniversary celebration on **Thursday, September 21, 4 PM**; festivities will include an ice cream social and live entertainment. And look for us in the

Memorial Day Parade!

## **Township Assessor's Office Services Over 25% of Property Owners**

River Forest recently underwent a property tax triennial reassessment. During the appeals process, your Township Assessor's Office assisted and serviced over 25% of River Forest property owners.

During the busy appeals period, the Township Assessor's office handled 622 phone calls, 284 emails, 105 visitors, 383 appeal packets, 136 exemptions, 90 community outreach event, 66 other requests.

Many thanks to the Township Assessor's Office for working overtime to help River Forest property owners navigate the reassessment process.

## **"Connect with Tech" this Summer!**

Work on your tech skills this summer in the cool of the River Forest Library, including tablets, e-readers, smartphones...and of course, computers. Help is available on **Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30 AM, May 24-July 12**. No tech sessions in August. Co-sponsored by River Forest Township and River Forest Library. Free of charge; all are welcome.

Are there specific skills you would like to learn in the tech help sessions? Share your ideas with us at one of two brief meetings at the River Forest Library: **Sunday, May 7** after the 2PM "Hamilton's Women" program or **Monday, June 5** at the end of the 10AM Coffee Monday. Participants will be entered in a drawing for an exciting prize.

## **Senior "Lunch and a Movie"**

Seniors are cordially invited to "Lunch and a Movie", featuring the movie "Courageous", on **Friday, June 2, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM**, at the River Forest Community Center, 8020 Madison Street.

Please RSVP by May 26 to 708-383-8060. Sponsored by Oak Park and River Forest Township Senior Services and Home Instead Senior Care.

## **New Restaurant Added to Senior "Dine-Out Program"**

Oak Park and River Forest Township Senior Services announces the addition of a 4th Oak Park restaurant in the "Dine-Out Program", which offers seniors a tasty, affordable, well-balanced meal at specified local restaurants. Geppetto's now joins Robinson's Ribs, Cozy Corner and Grape Leaves in the program's restaurant lineup.

Seniors can purchase Dine-Out Program coupons for \$4/meal at Township Senior Services (130 S. Oak Park Ave, Oak Park). Coupons are then used to purchase a meal at participating restaurants from a pre-approved healthy menu.

Seniors must first register at Township Senior Services in Oak Park and obtain a program ID. Coupons can then be purchased there on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays from 9 AM-noon,



or by mail.

Only coupons can be used to pay for Dine-Out Program meals, but we ask participants to consider tipping the wait staff. Questions: please call Township Senior Services at 708-383-8060.

## **Condo Association meeting? Block Party? Distribute ICE Packets to Seniors!**

If you have a condo association meeting or a block party coming up soon, your Township staff is happy to attend and deliver free ICE Packets for senior residents.

What is an ICE Packet? The ICE Packet contains a Medical Information Form which seniors fill out and store in the freezer...right where the River Forest paramedics know to find it In Case of Emergency (ICE)! A decal is provided for the front of the freezer to alert paramedics that a completed ICE Packet is inside.

ICE Packets are also available at the Township offices (at the River Forest Community Center), Village Hall and the River Forest Public Library. Questions? Please contact Carla Sloan, River Forest Township Supervisor, [via email](#) or at 708-366-2029.

## **Free Legal Document Preparation for Qualifying Seniors**

Attorneys from the Center for Disability and Elder Law (CDEL) are available to prepare "advanced directive" documents for seniors (60+) and persons with disabilities, with qualifying income. This free legal service includes Powers of Attorney for both Health Care and Property, as well as Living Will Declarations. **2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoons**, Township Senior Services, 130 S. Oak Park Ave, Oak Park. By appointment only; call 708-383-8060 for questions and to pre-register.

## **Caregiver Support Groups**

Whether you are caring for a family member or are a paid caregiver...whether you are caring for a senior, grandchild, or person with special needs...support is available.

- The support group at Concordia University will not meet in May, June and July. **Meetings will resume in August on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 4 PM**, Koehneke Community Center/Concordia Campus. Sponsored by Concordia's Center for Gerontology (in partnership with River Forest Township). Contact Dr. Lydia Manning [via email](#) or by phone at 708-209-3218.
- The support group at Township Senior Services will continue to meet during the summer on **2nd and 4th Fridays, 10 AM**, Oak Park & River Forest Township Senior Services, 130 S. Oak Park Avenue. Contact Steve Smith, 708-383-8060.

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## **PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT**

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### **Party in the Park - Keystone**

### **Thursday, May 18 - 6:00 - 7:30 PM, Keystone Park**

SUPER STOLIE will perform! A highly interactive show that gets everyone involved by introducing dance moves to get bodies moving and catchy tunes to get mouths singing. This is a music-centered exhibition of creativity to explore and inspire the uniqueness and silliness in all of us!

In addition to the live entertainment, there will be face painting, a balloon twister, grilled hot dogs and frozen treats. The event is free and for all ages. \*\*Bring a blanket or lawn chairs.

## **Platform Tennis Social**

**Tuesday, May 23 - 5-6:30 PM, Keystone Park Platform Tennis Courts 7920 Central Ave.**

**Ages: 60 & up**

Come try out the new fastest-growing sport in the Midwest! Platform Tennis is a racquet sport derived from tennis, developed in 1928 in Scarsdale, NY. Platform Tennis is played with a solid paddle as opposed to a strung racquet, and a depressurized tennis ball is used along with an underhand serve. All equipment will be provided and light refreshments will be served. Register online at [rfparks.com](http://rfparks.com) or RSVP by Friday, May 19 to Aly Copus at 708-366-6660 x104 or [via email](#). The event is free. Attendees are asked to wear sturdy gym shoes and comfortable clothing.

## **Bocce Ball Social**

**Wednesday, May 24 - 5-6:30 PM, Memorial Parkway Bocce Courts (on Lake St. between Jackson & Monroe), Ages: 60 & up**

Celebrate Seniors Week at Memorial Parkway during a FREE introductory course on bocce play. The ancient game of bocce closely resembles bowling, requiring strategy and some luck. What a great game to play on a beautiful day with your friends and neighbors. Park District staff and volunteers will be on hand to teach the game of bocce ball, followed by open play. All equipment will be provided. Light refreshments will be served. Register online at [rfparks.com](http://rfparks.com) or RSVP by Monday, May 22 to Aly Copus at 708-366-6660 x104 or [via email](#). This event is free. Please bring a lawn chair.

## **Upcoming Youth Programs**

**Intro to STEM with LEGO®, Saturday, May 6 - 11:30 AM-1 PM, Ages: 5 - 6**

Tap into your imagination with tens of thousands of LEGO®! Build engineer-designed projects such as boats, snowmobiles, catapults, and merry-go-rounds. Then use special pieces to create your own unique design! New and returning students can explore the endless creative possibilities of the LEGO® building system with the guidance of an experienced Play-Well instructor.

**STEM Challenge with LEGO®, Saturday, May 6 - 11:30 AM-1 PM, Ages: 5-6**

Power up your engineering skills with Play-Well TEKnologies and tens of thousands of LEGO®! Apply real-world concepts in physics, engineering, and architecture through engineer-designed projects such as catapults, pneumatic cranes, arch bridges, and battletracks! Design and build as never before and explore your craziest ideas in a supportive environment. An experienced instructor will challenge new and returning students to engineer at

the next level.

[Click here](#) to register for programs.

## Upcoming Youth Sports Programs

### **Dominican University Co-ed Basketball Camp, June 12 - June 16 - 9 AM-2 PM, Grades: 2 - 4, 5 - 8**

Campers will be exposed to all aspects of the game while focusing on the basic fundamentals of each skill. Shooting, passing, dribbling, footwork, and agility will be emphasized. Coaches will incorporate these skills into fun, game-like scenarios throughout camp. All of these activities will be taught by Dominican University coaches and athletes. **Register Today!**

[Click here](#) to register for programs.

## Upcoming Adult Sports Programs

### **Adult Co-ed Sand Volleyball League, June 11 - July 30 - Game Times: 4, 5 & 6 PM, Ages: 18 & up**

Come play sand volleyball at Constitution Park on Ashland Ave. This is a fun way for men and women to stay active. Teams are made up of 6 - 10 adults, with 6 players on the sand court at one time. This is a Recreational Division that will play 7 weeks, with a seeded single elimination playoff at the end. There will be a Sand Volleyball Coordinator on-site facilitating the games and maintaining the courts. All players are responsible for calling their own fouls and managing the game. There is plenty of opportunity to meet other players on and off the court. It will be a great, inexpensive recreational opportunity on Sunday evenings.

### **Adult Co-ed Softball Summer League, July 6 - September 14 - Game Times: 6, 7:15 & 8:30 PM, Ages: 18 & Up**

This 14-inch softball league will consist of a minimum of 4 teams per division. Each team will need to field 5 men and 5 women for each game. Team captains must submit a complete team roster with a minimum of 12 players. An umpire and site supervisor are present at all games. In case of inclement weather, games will be rescheduled by Park District staff. Captains will receive a league schedule and rules prior to the start of the league.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 29, 2017

[Click here](#) to register for programs.

### **Sign up for the River Forest Park District E-Newsletter**

Do you want to be the first to know when the new Fun Guide comes out? Do you want to receive special event announcements and information on upcoming programs? Sign up for our email news! To sign up, fill out the short form at the bottom of our website homepage at [rfparks.com](http://rfparks.com), or [via email](#) and request to be added to our email newsletter list.



If you no longer wish to receive this email please email [unsubscribe@vrf.us](mailto:unsubscribe@vrf.us).