



## 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,

I hope you all had a restful and safe Fourth of July. There's a lot to report.

#### Here's what's happened at the Village Board table:

We will help the Historic Preservation Commission increase the visibility of significant homes and historic preservation award winners that are on the market by listing these important properties on the Village's website. The listing will be voluntary and free. This is a proactive approach to ensure that the 295 homes on the significant properties list are sold to people who see the importance of preservation. A letter will be sent to both homeowners and the Oak Park Board of Realtors.



The Historic Preservation Commission is also wrapping up production of a brochure that will serve as an education piece for residents and anyone interested in historic preservation. The brochure will highlight 32 significant homes and past historic preservation award winners. Similar pamphlets in other communities sparked interest in creating our own. We look

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forward to using this as a showcase of our architectural treasures. To learn more about Historic Preservation, go to the Commission's [web page](#).

[Sign-up](#)



In June, Village Trustees changed rates and designation of spaces for ALL River Forest-owned parking lots. The new rates and designations took effect on July 1. Cash payment boxes are being eliminated, and payment must be made by using Passport Parking. [Click here](#) for more information. Please call Village Hall at (708) 366-8500 if you have any questions.

**Also on the table:**

The Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District for North Avenue took an important step forward in June when the Joint Review Board unanimously approved its creation. A member of the public and representatives from each taxing district that encompass River Forest are on this important board. A public hearing on the TIF will be held at 7 p.m., July 9, at Village Hall. I anticipate consideration of formal approval of the TIF at the August 13 Village Board of Trustees meeting. Please [click here](#) to learn more.

Also moving forward is a mixed-use development at Lake and Lathrop. A public hearing was held on June 28 and continued to July 26 at 7 p.m. at Village Hall. If the Development Review Board concludes its deliberations and makes a recommendation to the Village Board this month the Trustees would take action on the matter on Aug. 13. To read more please visit [vrf.us/lakeandlathrop](http://vrf.us/lakeandlathrop).

A public hearing will be held soon for a senior care community proposed for the northwest corner of Harlem and Chicago where TCF Bank and three single-family homes to the north of TCF are located. The project will consist of assisted and memory care living units and is proceeding through the Village's Planned Development application process, the same process that Lake and Lathrop and Lake and Park developments need to follow. To read more about the senior care project, including a second resident meeting that will be held on July 17, visit [vrf.us/chicagoandharlem](http://vrf.us/chicagoandharlem).

Resurfacing of Chicago Avenue from Harlem to Thatcher will start on July 9. Signage will be placed in advance of the work to warn drivers of the pending construction. Chicago Avenue will remain open during construction. The initial project will include sidewalk and crosswalk improvements along with excavation work to create bump-outs with stormwater friendly rain gardens at Keystone, Forest, Jackson and Bonnie Brae. You can stay

abreast of project updates by [clicking here](#).



On July 25, the Police Department will host its third community crime prevention meeting of 2018 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Village Hall. I hope you will attend and learn how we can make River Forest a safer, stronger community. [Click here](#) to see other presentations in the series and learn important safety tips.

Finally, with the dog days of summer here, please be mindful of those in need. Keep an eye on the elderly and make sure they are comfortable and cool in their surroundings. Please do not keep your children or your pets in hot cars and keep cool yourselves. [Click here](#) for tips on keeping cool in hot weather and [click here](#) to view an interactive list of cooling centers in Cook County.

Enjoy the summer...

Sincerely,

Cathy Adduci  
Village President

## 2018-2019 Vehicle Stickers

Vehicle stickers for 2018-2019 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](#).



## Junior Citizen's Police Academy - July 16 - July 20

The Village of River Forest Police Department will be hosting its annual Junior Citizen's Police Academy from July 16, 2018 through July 20, 2018. The academy will be held from 9 AM to 3 PM each day and will meet at the River Forest Police Department located at 400 Park Avenue. This is a FREE program for kids between the ages of 10 and 15 who live or go to school in River Forest, Oak Park, or Forest Park.

Application packets are available online by [clicking here](#) or at River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue, and are due July 11, 2018. Call or email Ofc. Glen Czernik with any questions at 708-280-0254 or [gczernik@vrf.us](mailto:gczernik@vrf.us).

## Safety for the Season

The River Forest Fire Department would like to provide everyone with these timely reminders. Please take time to read the safety tips by [clicking here](#).

## Summer Safety from the River Forest Police Department

### Bike Safety

- When cycling in the roadway, ride to the RIGHT (with traffic).
- Cyclists in the roadway must obey the same "rules of the road" as motor vehicles, such as signaling turns, obeying traffic control devices, and right of way.
- When cycling at night, state law requires bikes have a front light (white, visible at 500 feet) and a red reflector in the rear. RFPD recommends also using a red light attached to the rear.
- When cycling, always wear a helmet!

Children may be awarded a coupon for a free Slurpee® by an RFPD officer if they are observed wearing a helmet while riding their bike. This is made possible by a partnership with 7-11 called "Operation Chill"—one which RFPD has participated in for over 10 years.

### **Curfew**

Curfew for juveniles under age 18 in River Forest is 11 PM - 6 AM on weeknights (Sun.-Thurs.); and 12 AM -6 AM on weekends (Fri.-Sat.). Driving privileges (whether by learner's permit or Graduated Driver's License) for juveniles become invalid one hour prior to curfew (10 PM - 6 AM on weeknights and 11 PM - 6 AM on weekends.) If a juvenile is encountered driving during this time, he/she could be subject to arrest for the offense of Driving Without a Valid License, a Class A Misdemeanor in the state of Illinois. Additionally, the vehicle may be towed and impounded with an Administrative Fee of \$500 plus towing costs (\$100+).

### **Driving Safety**

RFPD will be partnering this summer with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to reduce injuries and deaths due to traffic collisions. Throughout the summer, RFPD will conduct several traffic safety missions by increasing enforcement and specifically focusing on violations most likely lead to accidents or injuries. In order to stay safe remember the following:

- Always wear your seatbelt while driving—"Click It or Ticket".
- All use of electronic devices must be "hands free" while driving—"Drop It and Drive".
- Do not drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs – "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over".

### **Thefts of Tools and Landscaping Equipment:**

Theft of construction tools, equipment from construction vehicles, sites, tradesmen's vehicles and lawn maintenance crews increases during the summer months. Workers should remove keys and keep vehicles locked at all times while on the job site. Do not leave trailers open and do not leave equipment unattended.

To assist the police in the recovery of property, record the serial numbers of tools and equipment and have them available on the job site. Consider engraving a unique ID, such as a driver's license number on the tools/equipment to aid the police in returning any tools recovered from thieves.

If you see anyone suspicious or any suspicious activity near your worksite or vehicle, please call 9-1-1. Do not wait to call, call immediately. Try to get a good description of the person or persons, any vehicle information and direction they leave.

## **Imagine OPRF Working on Long-Term Facilities Master Plan**

On June 26, 2018, the District 200 Board of Education held a public meeting for the Imagine team and consulting architects to begin discussions of potential recommendations for a long-term facilities master plan for OPRF High School. Imagine shared two

concepts, based on the past nine months of intensive research and stakeholder input. Based on Board members' feedback and questions, Imagine will present a single refined concept by mid-August (public meeting date and time to be announced). At that time, estimated costs for components of the plan as well as potential phasing of the plan will be presented for discussion. The concept will be further refined after that meeting and presented to the public for input this fall. The goal is for Imagine to make its recommendations to the Board for a long-term facilities master plan later in fall 2018. For more information on the work of Imagine OPRF, [click here](#).

## GREEN NEWS

### Get a Free Vegetable Garden

The Deep Roots Project is sponsoring a FREE Inspiration Edible Garden (as seen in the [Wednesday Journal](#)) project that will award ten edible gardens (8' x 4') in prominent areas around Oak Park and River Forest. We would like this opportunity to invite Oak Park and River Forest residents to apply for a Free Edible Garden. For more information, contact David Murphy at 773-502-5600 or [dmurphy@deep-roots-project.org](mailto:dmurphy@deep-roots-project.org).

### It's Green Block Party Time Again - This Year Plant "Parkways for Pollinators" Garden

During your Green Block Park you and your neighbors will create a garden on your block as part of the "Parkways for Pollinators" program. Learn about native plants and create your own neighborhood garden. The Village has partnered with the [Deep Roots Project](#) to help residents plant native flower gardens on parkways in River Forest. These "Parkways for Pollinators" gardens are offered for free to all River Forest Green Block Parties. Kids and adults alike will have a dirt load of fun planting a 4 x 10 foot native flower garden that will attract butterflies, humming birds and other pollinators to your block. The plants are perennials, so your block can enjoy its pollinator garden for years to come. Visit the [Village website](#) for more information.

The next meeting of the **River Forest Sustainability Commission** will be July 10, 2018 at 7 PM, held at Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue. All are welcome to attend. For more information on the Sustainability Commission visit [vrf.us/sustainability](http://vrf.us/sustainability).

## RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

Here are some highlights of programs at the Library in July. Visit [www.riverforestlibrary.org](http://www.riverforestlibrary.org) for a complete listing of programs.

### For All Ages

#### Friday, 7/20, 3-4:30 PM, Tie Dye

Bring your own clothing items to tie dye and we will provide vibrant colors and tips on how to make the best designs. This program will be held outside, weather permitting. All ages.

### Adult

#### Wednesday, 7/11, 10-11:30 AM, Connect with Tech

Are you a local senior who wants to get more out of your

smartphone, eReader, tablet, or personal computer? Would you like to explore better ways to connect electronically with family? Concerned about internet safety? Then join us for Connect with Tech, which helps beginner tech users in a small, intimate group setting. Bring your questions and devices, or use one of the laptops provided. No need to sign up, just drop in anytime during the session to learn.

**Friday, 7/13, 7:30-9 PM, Dooley Brothers Concert**

Join us on the library lawn for our annual Dooley Brother's Concert! The Dooleys have been entertaining Chicagoland for over 30 years with their delightful banter and wide musical repertoire. And they are River Forest natives! This program is brought to you in partnership with River Forest Township.



**Saturday, 7/14, 1:30-3:30 PM, Foreign Film Forum, Adult**

Head to the River Forest Library for a free viewing of a foreign film on our big screen. Snacks will be served. In July, we will show the French film *8 Women*. *Rated R*.

**Friday, 7/20, 12-2:30 PM, Film Lover Fridays, Adult**

Join other movie lovers on the 3rd Friday of every month to watch popular and entertaining films! This summer we'll be showing classic movies from the 1940s! Today we'll be watching *Shadow of a Doubt*. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy before the film starts. Light refreshments will be served. This program is brought to you in partnership with River Forest Township.

## Teens

**Tuesday, 7/10, 7-8:30 PM, Rock 101, Grades 5-12**

Join professional staff from School of Rock to learn one or more Rock 101 songs. These are classic songs like *Beverly Hills* by Weezer or *Come Together* by The Beatles. You can learn a whole song on guitar, drums, voice, or keys in no time! No experience necessary! [Advanced registration required.](#)

**Tuesday, 7/31, 7-8:30 PM, Guitar Hero Tournament, Grades 5-12**

Challenge your peers to Guitar Hero for a chance to become a rock legend and win prizes. [Advanced registration required.](#)

**Tuesday, 7/17, 3-4:30 PM, Teen Just Dance Tournament, Grades 5-12**

Can you move and groove to the music? Test out your dancing skills at this fun Wii game tournament. [Advanced registration required.](#)

## Children

### **Wednesday, 7/11, 3-4 PM, The Mystery Shop Show, Kids of All Ages**

Get ready for a highly interactive mystery storytelling show featuring twisted tall tales, funny fables, bittersweet legends, and spine-tinglers with delightful songs and lots of audience participation. This program will be held outside, weather permitting. Rain location: RMS gym.

### **Monday, 7/23, 4-5 PM, Dave DiNaso's Traveling World of Reptiles Show, Kids of All Ages**

Get up close and personal with reptiles as you join us in our front garden for this live, hands-on show featuring animals from around the world. This program will be held outside, weather permitting. Rain location: RMS gym.

### **Wednesday, 7/18, 2-3 PM, Rockin' Rock Collection, Grades K-4**

Create your very own personalized rock collection and carton case with an expert from the Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art. Rocks from home can also be brought in for identification! [Advanced registration required.](#)

### **Wednesday, 7/25, 3-4 PM, Edible Rock Formations, Grades K-4**

Eat some rocks! Learn about different types of rocks while you create edible versions of the real thing. [Advanced registration required.](#)

### **Tuesday, 7/31, 3-4 PM, Ancient World Rocks and More, Grades K-4**

Rocks have been important to civilization for a long time. Learn about ancient rock mysteries and how rocks have been used through the ages. [Advanced registration required.](#)

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## PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

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### **Party in the Park - Constitution Park**

#### **Thursday, July 19, 6 PM - 7:30 PM, Constitution Park - Free! For All Ages**

SM6 will perform! You will not want to miss this family cover/dance rock band comprised of six siblings who are talented beyond their years. SM6 plays clean family friendly music that will keep the audience on their feet!

In addition to the live entertainment, there will be face painting, a balloon twister, grilled hot dogs, and frozen treats. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs. The event is sponsored by Mathnasium, and The Safe + Fair Food Company.

### **Register Now for Summer Camp!**

With over 40 different summer camps to choose from, we have something for everyone!

In addition to our popular half-day morning camps (Tot Camp, Kidz Camp, and Ultimate Sports Camp), we offer a large variety of afternoon specialty camps ranging from sports and fitness to STEAM, cooking, and art. For the older kids, we offer Thrill Zone, a field-trip based camp for kids ages 10-14. [Click here](#) to see the



Thrill Zone Field Trip schedule.

Our 2018 Summer Camp Guide is available online. [Click here](#) to check out our large variety of fun summer camps.

## Youth Programs

**Safe Sitter Essentials** *New!*

**Sunday, July 15, 9 AM - 3 PM, Ages: 11 - 15**

Safe Sitter® prepares students to be safe when they are home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting. Students learn life-saving skills such as how to rescue someone who is choking and helpful information like what to do if there is severe weather. The lessons are filled with fun activities and role-playing exercises. Students even get to use CPR manikins to practice CPR and choking rescue! This class includes the following curriculum:

- **Safety Skills:** Students learn how to prevent unsafe situations and what to do when faced with dangers such as power failures or weather emergencies.
- **Child Care Skills:** Students learn tips to manage behavior that will help them stay in control of themselves and the children in their care. Students also learn the ages and stages of child development, as well as practice diapering.
- **First Aid & Rescue Skills:** Choking rescue and CPR; students also learn a system to help them assess and respond to injuries and illnesses.
- **Life & Business Skills:** The ability to screen jobs, discuss fees, and greet employers will set students up for success now and in the future.

The fee includes a Student Handbook with completion card.

**French Cooking Party** - *New Class! New Kitchen!*

**Saturday, July 28, 3 PM - 5 PM, Ages: 7 - 12**

During our hands-on French cooking class, our little chefs will travel to Europe where they will learn how to create three delicious French recipes from the savory to the sweet. We will also learn fun facts about French culture and cuisine. Our menu is so mouth-watering that you will want to register immediately! [Click here](#) to register.

## The Depot Re-Opening

Come check out our newly renovated program space at The Depot! The administration offices are now on the second floor.



## TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

### News from the Assessor

2nd installment property tax bills have been mailed and you should receive your bill this week. You may also view your tax bill on-line at [www.cookcountytreasurer.com](http://www.cookcountytreasurer.com).

The second installment tax bill takes into consideration the changes in the property assessment from last year's triennial reassessment.

Always look at your tax bill to make sure that you are getting the exemption(s) to which you are entitled.

If you do not have your exemption(s) on your tax bill, please notify our office immediately so we can get you a corrected tax bill before it is due. 708-366-2787.

### Announcing the "Support4U" Program

A new program is available to students at Roosevelt, Brooks and Julian Middle Schools and OPRF High School called "Support4U". Support4U is a mental health-related prevention and support resource for students, by which they can text licensed mental health clinicians for assistance or guidance. While students can initiate a text conversation on any issue, some of the matters that students might wish to address could include anxiety, depression, substance use, suicidal ideation, eating disorders, bullying, abuse, or any other mental health-related topic.

Support4U is anonymous and available to students 24/7. We thank Districts 90, 97 and 200 for their support of this program on behalf of their students.

Please share this information with D90 and D200 students! The Support4U texting number is 844-670-5838. District 90 students will also text the word "SAFE" and District 200 students will text the word "HELP".

Support4U is sponsored by River Forest Township, Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township, the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation, NAMI, and the Oak Park-River Forest Rotary Club.

For more information, please contact your school administration or Supervisor Carla Sloan at [supervisor@riverforesttownship.org](mailto:supervisor@riverforesttownship.org).

### "Celebrating Seniors™ All Year Long" Continues All Summer Long

All are welcome to come and enjoy a free concert under the stars! Always a crowd favorite, the *Dooley Brothers* band will play on the River Forest library lawn, **Friday, 7/13, 7:30 PM**.

Held at the River Forest Public Library; sponsored by the Library and River Forest Township.

### Introducing the Great Neighbors Program

A local partnership, consisting of Oak Park & River Forest Township Senior Services, Arbor West Neighbors, and Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly, is introducing the **Great**

**Neighbors Program** in the River Forest and Oak Park community. Through this program, which fosters “intergenerational connectedness”, River Forest and Oak Park residents aged 18+ can volunteer to become a “Friendly Neighbor” to a senior in their neighborhood.

One or more “Friendly Neighbor” volunteers will be matched with a senior, with whom they will connect and share on a regular basis. Brief training and screening are required. The time commitment is flexible.

**Great Neighbors** is a program of Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly and has had much success in Chicago!

If you are interested in becoming a “Friendly Neighbor” to a senior, or if you are a senior and would like to connect with other adult neighbors on a more regular basis through this program, please contact Supervisor Carla Sloan, 708-366-2029 or [supervisor@riverforesttownship.org](mailto:supervisor@riverforesttownship.org).

## **Seniors: “Gather, Discover, Engage” this Summer!**

River Forest Township and River Forest Public Library are partnering to re-vamp two successful current senior programs and one new senior program, under the umbrella “*Gather, Discover, Engage*”. Please join us this summer!

- *Coffee Mondays* will continue on the **first Monday of each month at 10 AM**, featuring refreshments, guest speakers and time to chat. *Next Coffee Monday: August 6 (no Coffee Monday in July)*.
- *Connect with Tech*, where seniors can receive assistance with tablets, e-readers, smartphones, and laptops, will move to the **second Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM** (program was previously offered weekly). *Next Connect with Tech: July 11*.
- A new program, *Film Lovers Friday*, will meet on the **third Friday of each month at noon**. Seniors can bring a lunch and watch a film, with beverage and dessert provided. The genre through August is “Classic Movies from the 40’s”, including Alfred Hitchcock’s *Shadow of a Doubt* on **July 20**.

*Gather, Discover, Engage* programs are free, meet at the River Forest Public Library and are open to seniors from all communities. Call 708-366-5205 for more information.

## **Rules of the Road Class for Seniors**

Refresh your driving knowledge at a free “Rules of the Road” class! Prepare for that next driver’s test! For River Forest and Oak Park seniors. **Wednesday, July 11**, 1:30 – 3:30 PM, at Township Senior Services, 130 S. Oak Park Ave. Call 708-383-8080 to reserve a spot. Next class will be held on October 10.

## **Lunch & Movie for Seniors**

Township Senior Services is hosting a free “Lunch & Movie” event on **Friday, July 20**, 10:00 AM – noon. See the popular movie “I Can Only Imagine” and share lunch with fellow seniors. Held at the River Forest Community Center, 8020 Madison Street. Call

708-383-8060 to register by July 16.

## Senior Wellness Group to Promote More Meaningful Living

Seniors: Gather with other older adults to share and learn ways to enhance meaningful living. Oak Park and River Forest Township Senior Services is partnering with Concordia University to host a free 8-week wellness group at Concordia in the Christopher Center, 7400 Augusta Ave., room #263. Tuesdays, September 11 thru October 30, 3:30 – 4:30 PM or 6:30 – 7:30 PM. For more info or to register, contact River Forest Township Supervisor Carla Sloan, 708-366-2029 or [supervisor@RiverForestTownship.org](mailto:supervisor@RiverForestTownship.org).

## Seeking Full-Time or Part-Time Employment?

Excellent free employment resources are available to all, including those age 50+, at the American Job Center, 1701 South 1st Avenue, Maywood. Resume and interviewing skills..job re-training..job opportunities...all are available at this center. For more information, contact Laina at 708-223-2652.

## Support Groups for Those Losing a Loved One to Suicide

Two monthly drop-in support groups are held monthly in River Forest for those suffering the loss of a loved one to suicide. Groups are run by LOSS (Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide) and are led by a licensed clinical social worker.

- **Teen Support Group:** For teenagers 13-18, **third Thursday of the month, 6-7:30 PM. Next meeting July 19.**
- **Adult Support Group:** For adults 18 and over, **third Monday of the month, 6-8 PM. Next meeting June 16.**

**\*\*\*We are trying to determine interest in continuing the teen group in River Forest this fall. If you or anyone you know is interested in participating in the teen group, please contact the number below.**

Hosted by River Forest Township (located at the River Forest Community Center), 8020 Madison Street. Please call 312-655-7283 for more information and to register, or visit [www.catholiccharities.net/loss](http://www.catholiccharities.net/loss).

All are welcome to try the groups. LOSS is a completely non-denominational program of Catholic Charities.

## Township Senior Services Needs Your Input!

Oak Park and River Forest Township Senior Services is seeking information from older adults, their families and caregivers, community partners, and those who work with older adults. Input from these groups will allow for a holistic view to help shape our vision for Township programs and services moving forward.

Please [click here](#) to complete this brief survey by July 15.

For a paper copy of the survey, please call Cathaleen Roach, Senior Outreach Coordinator, 708-771-6159 x234.



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