



## 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,

Welcome to September. School is back in session, and with it fall sports and other outdoor activities. Please remember to drive carefully around town and watch out for our children walking, running and cycling to and from school.

Since our last newsletter, we have made some progress toward creating a Tax Increment Finance District on Madison Street. In early August, the Village Board announced the availability of revised plans and reports regarding the implementation of a proposed Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district on the Madison Street corridor. These reports are accessible by [clicking here](#).

The Board of Trustees also has set new dates for two public meetings that we must hold as part of the TIF process. Both will be at 6 p.m. at Village Hall. On Sept. 13, the Joint Review Board, which consists of a representative from each taxing body in River Forest and one resident, will recommend to Village Trustees whether the TIF has long term financial merits for their respective units of government. On Oct. 24 a public hearing will be held before the Village Board of Trustees and I. We will take final action on the TIF in November.

We thank the public for its input, which helped make this process a sound one. Their comments have resulted in adding language that would restrict the Village from using eminent domain for any of the residential properties not abutting Madison Street in the commercial corridor. We encourage residents to continue to take part in this process as it offers the transparency that makes local government work.

Should you have any questions about a TIF and how valuable this initiative will be in revitalizing Madison Street, I encourage you to visit a separate page we've set up on our [website](#). If you still have questions and comments about economic development in general, please read [my letter](#) on how economic development will have a major impact on stabilizing our property taxes and increasing our property values.

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In other development news, we anticipate some construction activity around Bonnie Brae when [Concordia University](#) begins building a new residence hall. I had the pleasure to be part of the ceremonial ground-breaking, which will launch a major milestone for one of our distinguished universities.

Thanks to all of you who came out to Keystone Park on Aug. 27 to be part of the third annual Food Truck Rally, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Oak Park, the Village and the Park District. We thank the organizations and all of the volunteers who made it a great event. For more information about Rotary, [click here](#).

Learn about some of our community's historically and architecturally significant gems during an educational forum from 2 to 3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 18 sponsored by the Historic Preservation Commission at the River Forest Library. HPC commissioner Al Popowits will speak about 12 important structures in our community, including the Winslow House, the Tennis Club and the First Presbyterian Church. This is the HPC's first program since its decision to engage in outreach about the treasures in this community and how we can protect them. Our architectural landscape contributes much to the character and culture in River Forest, and is something we can take great pride in. To learn more about the HPC's work, visit its [web page](#).

One of our most popular fundraisers, the Bonnie Brae 9/11 Charity "LemonAid" Stand, will take place from 3 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 11. This 15th annual event will again be held on Bonnie Brae between Oak and Chicago. It's a very River Forest way of checking in with old friends, meeting new ones, remembering one of our country's great tragedies and, most importantly, helping organizations that brighten the lives of children. This year's goal is to raise \$40,000 for the [Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry](#) and [PING!](#), which loans musical instruments to low-income band and orchestra students who attend River Forest and Oak Park schools. To find out more about "LemonAid," check out the event's [Facebook](#) page.

Best,  
Cathy Adduci

Village President

## LemonAid

LemonAid will be hosting their annual event on Sunday, September 11th from 3 PM - 7 PM on the 700 block of Bonnie Brae. In memory of the September 11th attacks, LemonAid works to raise awareness and funds for local charities that serve children. To learn more or to donate, please visit [LemonAid's website](#).

## Fall Leaf Collection

The Village's annual Fall Leaf Collection Program runs from September 19th through November 30th. The next opportunity to dispose of leaves after November 30th will be during the yard waste collection program which starts in April 2017. Rake only leaves onto the street by 7 a.m. 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. Leaves are collected on both sides of the street in accordance with the following schedule:

**Mondays:** The area west of Thatcher including Edgewood, Auvergne, River Oaks and Lake, and all streets south of the Union Pacific Rail

1/2 Day Pizza &  
Cupcake Wars

TOWNSHIP  
SPOTLIGHT

Illinois Township Day

Sibshops

Register to Vote

Seniors: Calling all  
Vocalists!

ICE Packet

Celebrating Seniors™

Seniors: Coffee  
Mondays Fall Kickoff

Senior Lunch and a  
Movie

Caregiver Support  
Groups

PARK DISTRICT  
SPOTLIGHT

2016 Community  
Bank Makin' Tracks  
5K Run/Walk

NFL Punt, Pass, Kick -  
Register Today!

Family Campout

Tween Power Chill  
Yoga - Free Preview  
Class!

Useful Links

[Village Website](#)

[Additional](#)

[Village News](#)

[Village Board](#)

[Agendas](#)

[Emergency](#)

[Notification](#)

[Sign-up](#)

Road tracks.

**Tuesdays:** Harlem through and including William.

**Wednesdays:** Monroe through and including Lathrop, north of the Union Pacific Railroad.

**Thursdays:** Ashland through and including Park, north of the Union Pacific Railroad.

**Fridays:** Forest through and including Thatcher, north of the Union Pacific Railroad.

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

On Sunday, September 18th from 2 PM - 3 PM, stop by the River Forest Public Library for an exciting presentation by Al Popowits, a commissioner on the River Forest Historical Preservation Commission, as he gives a lecture on twelve historically and architecturally significant structures in River Forest. Some of the buildings highlighted: the Winslow House (1893), the Tennis Club (1905), and the First Presbyterian Church (1925). Fall in love with the architectural gems located right here in your own community! Snacks will be served.

## **Street Patching**

The Village's annual street patching program began today and 176 locations will be patched throughout the Village.

The contractor is Brothers Asphalt Paving and they will likely be in town working on September 2nd, 6th, and 7th. The work consists of milling and replacing 2" of the roadway surface at the designated locations. They are re-installing the patch right behind the removal crew so disturbance to traffic should be extremely minimal. No patches should remain open over the weekend.

To view a map of the planned street patching areas, please [click here](#).

## **Fire Department Open House**

The River Forest Fire Department will host an Open House to culminate Fire Prevention Week on Saturday, October 8, 2016.

Department fire fighters and paramedics will display fire apparatus, fire equipment and give tours of the fire station. Fire prevention and safety materials will also be available on a number of topics. This event is free and open to the public. For full details, please [click here](#) to view an informational flyer.

## **Safety Tips**

The Village of River Forest Police Department would like to remind residents to be aware and cautious of ruse scams. Recently, the Police Department has noticed an increase in reports of suspicious telephone calls and emails. In most of the instances, the suspicious person stated they were representing the IRS and demanding that the victim pay a fine to avoid an arrest.

**Please take time to educate yourself on these important issues by reading [the full bulletin](#) provided by the River Forest Police Department.**

## Help First Responders Find You!

Homeowners are encouraged to clearly display home addresses on homes and garages that face the alley-way to help emergency responders find addresses more quickly.

## High School Board Adopts Facilities Plan and Bond Referendum

The Oak Park and River Forest High School Board has adopted a five-year pool and facilities plan. The plan would replace the 88-year old pools with a new 40-meter pool and garage on the site of the current garage, improve learning spaces, add classrooms to accommodate a more than 20% growth in performing arts class enrollment, and renovate locker rooms to mitigate health and safety issues. The Board intends to finance the project with \$20 million in cash and a bond issue. It has approved a referendum question to be placed on the Nov. 8, 2016, ballot, seeking the community's approval for a bond issue of up to \$25 million. According to estimates provided by William Blair & Company, for a River Forest resident with a median home value of \$530,700, the expected tax impact would be an increase of up to \$136 in property taxes per year. An individualized tax calculator and much more information is available by [clicking here](#).

## Input Sought for High School Superintendent Search

Residents are invited to provide feedback on the qualities and experience they'd like to see in a new Oak Park River Forest High School superintendent, whose tenure would begin with the 2017-2018 school year. An online survey is open now through Sunday, September 11th. Visit [www.oprfhs.org](http://www.oprfhs.org) and look under *Quick Links*, or [click here](#) to go directly to the survey.

## GREEN NEWS

### *Beyond the Bin - Recycling Opportunities*

Have you ever wonder where you can recycle an old American flag, corks or maybe a car battery? Check out the latest edition of [Beyond the Bin Guide](#), which is an 18 page list of recyclable items and where to take them. Start taking your recycling *Beyond the Bin*.

### **Having a Party? Need help sorting the trash? Try *Sort It Out***

Do you need containers to help sort trash at your next event? Try the new Sort It Out stations available at the Village Hall. These containers can be checked out from the Village Hall for residential use or delivered by Public Works for public events. Flamingo Fridays organizers have already taken advantage of these containers and have been efficiently and easily sorting their waste. On September 11th, the LemonAid Stand will be using them as well. Call the Village Hall at 708-366-8500, for more information (website link coming soon).



### **Make It Green - Sign Up for Your Green Block Party**

In addition to the Healthy Lawn/Healthy Family Campaign, River Forest's Sustainability Committee will continue to promote the Curbside Compost program. If you sign up for a one year compost subscription at your Green Block Party you will receive **two months free**. Reserve your block party date now or convert your upcoming party to a Green Block Party. Please [click here](#) for more information and to register.

### **Native Tree and Shrub Sale**

Looking to add more native features to your garden? Don't miss out on the native tree and shrub sale. Orders can be placed through September 17th, pick up September 24th. [Click here](#) for information.

## **RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT**

### **For Adults:**

#### **Wednesdays, 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 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.

#### **Saturday, 9/10, 1-3 PM, Foreign Film Forum**

Join us for a screening and discussion of *The Seven Samurai* (Part 1), as part of The Big Read. Part 2 will be shown at next month's foreign film forum on 10/8. Snacks will be served.

#### **Sunday, 9/18, 2-3 PM, Historical Buildings of River Forest (Celebrating Seniors All Year Long)**

Stop by the library for an exciting presentation by Al Popowits, a commissioner on the River Forest Historical Preservation Commission, as he gives a lecture on twelve historically and architecturally significant structures in River Forest. Some of the buildings highlighted: the Winslow House (1893), the Tennis Club (1905), and the First Presbyterian Church (1925). Fall in love with the architectural gems located right here in your own community! Snacks will be served.

#### **Sunday, 9/25, 2-3:30 PM, True-Life Stories from Young Adult Immigrants (The Big Read)**

Join us for a discussion on the immigration and deportation of women and children. Lisa Petrov, Assistant Professor of Spanish and Director of the Latin and Latino American Studies Minor at Dominican

University will lead a panel of Dominican students, faculty, and staff to discuss this timely issue. This program is part of this year's The Big Read: *Into the Beautiful North*.

**Wednesday, 9/28, 1:30-3 PM, Charles Troy Presents: The Creation of *My Fair Lady* (Celebrating Seniors All Year Long)**

The ever-popular Charles Troy is back, this time to present on the creation of *My Fair Lady* in celebration of the Broadway show's 60th anniversary! We'll follow the creative path of this universally beloved show, often called the greatest musical of all time, from its beginnings as Shaw's 1912 play *Pygmalion* and then as a popular 1938 film. Then we'll learn how Lerner and Loewe managed to fashion this difficult material—an intellectual drawing room comedy—into such a stunning musical theatre triumph. This program will be held at the River Forest Community Center in partnership with Terry Zachata and New York Life.

**For Kids:**

**Saturday, 9/10, 3:30-5 PM, Minecraft Madness, Grades 3-4**

Calling all Minecraft builders, warriors, and fans! Head to RFPL to play Minecraft in a shared realm, and compete on challenges to win prizes. Advanced registration required. Grades 3-4.

**Thursday, 9/15, 3:30 PM, Super Stitches, Grades 5-8**

Love all those cute crochet critters you keep seeing on the internet? Beginner? Expert? We'll get you started and on the fast track to Etsy fame!

**Friday, 9/16, 6 PM, Family Trivia, Ages 6 & up**

Calling trivia buffs of all ages! Come share your expert knowledge, win prizes, and have a blast! Teams of four to six players are invited to participate in a fun night of family friendly trivia. A pizza dinner will be served. If you want to play but don't have a full team, we will find you some great teammates. Advanced registration required. For ages 6 through adult.

**Monday, 9/19, 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. Grades K-4.

**Friday, 9/23, 11:45 AM, 1/2 Day Pizza & Cupcake Wars, Grades 5-8**

Middle Schoolers come enjoy School District 90's half day of school with pizza! Then duke it out so see who can decorate the best cupcake. Advanced Registration Required.

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

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**TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

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**Save the Date for Illinois Township Day  
9/21/16**

Celebrate Illinois Township Day on **Wednesday, September 21**, at two exciting events at River Forest and Oak Park Townships!

**4-6 PM, River Forest Township, 8020 Madison St, River Forest (at the River Forest Community Center):** Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social, with free sundaes by Brown Cow. Please bring a food item or monetary donation for the Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry.

**2-4 PM, Township Senior Services, 105 S. and 140 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park:** "Carnival of Information" – a fun and entertaining resource fair for all. Please bring mini sizes of toiletries for Housing Forward.

**All are welcome.** Both events will feature food, live entertainment, and appearances by special guests, including "Abraham Lincoln".

Come join in the fun and learn about the vital human services funded and offered through your Townships. Illinois Township Day is being celebrated all over the state on 9/21!

## **Back to School...Back to Sibshops**

Sibshops will be back for the fall session! Sibshops is a program for siblings of kids with disabilities and emotional/mental health challenges. Sessions are geared around having fun and sharing information and ideas with other kids, with the help of specially trained facilitators.

Sibshops will now meet twice a month and include lunch! Priority is given to participants from River Forest and Oak Park.

Held on **Saturdays, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM** (note new start time), at Thrive, 120 S. Marion St, Oak Park. Free parking next to building for drop off and pickup.

Kickoff session: Saturday, September 24. Subsequent fall sessions held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays: 10/1, 10/15, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17.

Registration required in advance. \$10/session; need-based scholarships available. To sign up or for more information, please email Supervisor Carla Sloan at [cbsloan.rftownship@gmail.com](mailto:cbsloan.rftownship@gmail.com).

## **Register to Vote in the November Election!**

Voter registration ends October 11, so be sure to register to vote in the November 8th Presidential Election!

The Illinois State Board of Elections and the Cook County Clerk websites can provide information about your registration status, how to vote when you are out of town, how to update your voter registration, and a link for registering to vote. Follow the links below for more information.

<http://www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections>

<https://www.elections.il.gov/votinginformation/register.aspx>

Please contact the River Forest Township Clerk at [clerk@riverforesttownship.org](mailto:clerk@riverforesttownship.org) or 708-366-2029 should you need assistance.

## **Seniors: Calling all Vocalists!**

Do you – or a friend, neighbor or family member – like to sing? If so, and if you are 55+, please consider joining the new Oak Park/River Forest Encore Chorale, of which River Forest Township is a co-sponsor.

Encore is the largest and fastest growing choral program for older adults in the U.S. There is no audition. Weekly rehearsals are Tuesday mornings, 9-10:30 AM, starting September 6 at Trinity High School in River Forest.

Cost is \$150 for a 15 week session, including rehearsals, professional direction, sheet music and performance. River Forest Township has partial scholarships available for residents with demonstrated need.

Online registration is now open until September 20 at [www.tinyurl.com/EncoreIllinois](http://www.tinyurl.com/EncoreIllinois). For more information, contact Linda Crabtree Powell at 312-342-7227 or [crabtreepowell@gmail.com](mailto:crabtreepowell@gmail.com).

## Seniors: Be Sure to Get an ICE Packet for Your Freezer

Seniors: River Forest Township and the River Forest Fire Department paramedics want to make sure you have an ICE (In Case of Emergency) Packet in your freezer! The ICE Packet contains a Medical Information Form which you fill out and store in the freezer...right where the paramedics know to find it in an emergency! A decal is provided for the front of the freezer to alert paramedics that you have a completed ICE Packet.

Pick up ICE Packets at the Township offices (at the River Forest Community Center), Village Hall and the River Forest Public Library.

If you are unable to pick one up, or if you have any questions, please contact Carla Sloan, River Forest Township Supervisor, at [csloan.rftownship@gmail.com](mailto:csloan.rftownship@gmail.com) or 708-366-2029. Quantities are available for block parties, church groups, organizations or condo/apartment buildings.

## "Celebrating Seniors™ All Year Long" Announces Early Fall Lineup

Join us as we celebrate seniors into the fall! Co-sponsored by River Forest Township and River Forest Library. **All events are held at the River Forest Library except 9/28.**

- **Sunday, September 18, 2 PM** – Resident Al Popowits enlightens about historical River Forest buildings.
- **Wednesday, September 28, 1:30 PM** – Charles Troy dramatizes the story behind the making of My Fair Lady; held at the River Forest Community Center. Supported by Terry Zachata and New York Life.
- **Sunday, October 9, 2 PM** – Historical portrayer Terry Lynch presents Pierre Salinger and the 1000 days of Kennedy's Camelot.

## Seniors: Coffee Mondays Fall Kickoff

Coffee Mondays continue this fall at the River Forest Library on the first Mondays at 10 am. The September coffee will be held on **September 12** (one week later due to Labor Day), with ideas for local day trips from guest speaker Denise Murray of Forest Park Senior Services. Coffee provided by Blue Max; co-sponsored by the Township and Library.

## Senior Lunch and a Movie

Join your fellow seniors for lunch and the movie "Luther" on **Friday, September 30, 10 AM – 12:30 PM**, at the River Forest Community Center, 8020 Madison St. To register, call 708-383-8060 by September 23. Co-sponsored by Oak Park & River Forest Township Senior Services and Aperion Care of Forest Park.

## Caregiver Support Groups

Whether you are caring for a family member or are a paid caregiver... whether you are caring for a senior, adult child or grandchild...support is available.

- **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, [lydia.manning@cuchicago.edu](mailto:lydia.manning@cuchicago.edu), 708-209-3218.
- **2nd and 4th Fridays, 10 AM**, Oak Park & River Forest Township Senior Services, 130 S. Oak Park Avenue. Contact Steve Smith, 708-383-8060.

## PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

### 2016 Community Bank Makin' Tracks 5K Run/Walk

Today is the last day for **Early Bird Registration!**

- **Early Bird Registration** (by 9/2) - 5K Run/Walk (7 years & older) \$25
- **Late Registration** (9/3 - 9/15) - 5K Run/Walk (7 years & older) \$30
- **Race Day Registration** (9/17) - 5K Run/Walk (7 years & older) \$35

The event is **September 17th, 2016, 8 AM**, starting at Concordia University Chicago.

[Click here](#) for more information on this event.

[Click here](#) to register.

### NFL Punt, Pass, Kick - Register Today!

The NFL Punt, Pass & Kick (PPK) program is a national skills competition for boys and girls to compete separately against their peers. Established in 1961, the PPK program is the oldest NFL Youth Football program.

Girls and boys in five separate age divisions (6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, and 14-15) compete against each other in punting, passing, and place kicking in a fun and engaging forum.

**\*\* Pre-register at the Depot or Online.**

**Registration Deadline:** September 12th

**Ages:** 6-15 (boys & girls)

**Location:** Keystone Park East

**Date:** Thursday, September 15

**Start Time:** 5:30 PM

**Fee:** Free

**Code:** 4301.200

To register online, [click here](#).

## Family Campout

Location: Priory Park

**Friday, September 23rd • 6:30 PM to Saturday, September 24th • 7:30 AM**

A green overnight family camping experience. There will be musical entertainment, a campfire with s'mores, and a treasure hunt!

**Ages:** All Ages (at least 1 adult chaperone per family group).

**FREE!**

Pre-register online or at the Depot.

**Registration deadline:** September 23rd at noon

**Code:** 2209.200

For a recommended camping list, [click here](#).

## Tween Power Chill Yoga - Free Preview Class!

**Monday, September 12th**

**4:00 PM - 5:00PM**

Come meet our NEW Youth Yoga Instructor, Heidi Liecker. Heidi has her certification through Global Family Yoga, a BS in Early Childhood Education, and a CPR/First Aid adult/pediatric certification. She's excited to meet everyone!

**Ages:** 9-12

[Click here](#) for information on the Tween Power Chill Yoga class.



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