



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,

Happy November!

This is shaping up to be a busy month at Village Hall.

The Village Board of Trustees and I will conduct a goal-setting workshop on Monday, November 21 at 7 PM at Village Hall. We will discuss the various goals and initiatives that we want to take on during the coming fiscal year that will begin on May 1. We encourage you to attend the goal setting workshop to learn how your local government sets priorities that will, in the end, make our community safer, stabilize property taxes and improve our quality of life. The Trustees and I will ensure that these goals align with the Village's budget, which we will start preparing early in 2017.

Last year the Village Board set a goal to examine how we can better communicate with residents. The Village commissioned Jasculca Terman Strategic Communications to study how we currently engage with residents and how we can improve. To read

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Jasculca Terman's report, click [here](#). The consultant presented several recommendations to the Village Board, some of which will be implemented by summer when a more user-friendly website, a better constructed e-newsletter and an improved mobile app will go live. The Village is also examining whether to add social media to our communications mix, and we would like to know what you think. We are conducting a community-wide survey and encourage you to respond by following the link to the survey that is provided later in the newsletter.

At the November 28 Village Board Meeting, the Trustees and I will conclude our deliberations and adopt a series of ordinances that will create the Madison Street Tax Increment Financing District. This will end more than two years of study, discussions and meetings, as well as the collection of valuable community input. Once the process concludes the real work of finding appropriate developers who are interested in making River Forest a stronger, more viable community will begin. We will keep you apprised of our progress on our website, e-newsletter and mail. To read more about the TIF, please click [here](#).

In closing, the Board of Trustees and I want to wish you and your family and friends a warm and wonderful Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Cathy Adduci

Resident Social Media Survey

The Village is considering the development of a social media channel to share news and information with residents. We need your help! Please take a moment to participate in [a brief survey](#) to help us better understand how you use social media, and what kind of information you'd like to see us share on a social media channel. This survey will take less than five minutes to complete.

We also invite you to share the survey link with your fellow River Forest residents: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RiverForestSocialMedia>

The social media survey will remain open until Friday, December 2. Thank you for helping us as we explore new ways to keep you informed!

Thanksgiving Holiday

The Village Board and staff wish all residents a happy Thanksgiving holiday. Please note Village Hall will be closed Thanksgiving Day (11/24) & Friday (11/25).

Thanksgiving Holiday Parking

Pharaoh of Egypt

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PARK DISTRICT

Will family be visiting this year? Do they need somewhere to park? Contact the Police Records division Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM for answers: 708-366-8500 x 345, and use our 24/7 non-emergency line to call for permission to park a vehicle on the street overnight: 708-366-7125. Please stop by the Village Hall for a free refrigerator magnet that keeps parking and other important contact information within reach.

The Overnight Parking Ban will be lifted for Wednesday, 11/23/16 (12:01 AM) through Monday, 11/28/16 (12:01 AM). No overnight waivers will be required during this period.

Reminder - parking is not permitted on any Village street after two inches of snow or more has accumulated on the street, and for up to eight hours after the snowfall ends, to allow snow plows to safely clear the street.

Temporary Sidewalk Closure – East side of Franklin from Central to Lake

The sidewalk on the west side of Franklin Avenue between Lake Street and Central Avenue is closed temporarily due to ongoing construction in the area. The closure is expected to last through early December. The sidewalk on the east side of Franklin remains unobstructed. The southern entrance to the MB Financial Bank lot from Franklin will remain open, however, in the coming week the northern entrance may experience a temporary closure. Until the sidewalk is reopened pedestrians are encouraged to cross at controlled intersections where stop signs are present.

Motorcycle/Scooter Parking

The Village has recently added two motorcycle/scooter daily parking spots. These spaces are located on Hawthorne Avenue, on the south side of the railroad, where Keystone Avenue jogs. These daily fee parking spaces are available for \$2.50 and are conveniently located near the platform stairs.

SPOTLIGHT

Register Now for the Rec Basketball Season

Mandatory Rec. Basketball Player Evaluations

Co-ed Basketball Pre-Season Clinic

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Upcoming LEGO® Programs

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Package Theft Prevention Tips

Historically, November and December are the months when the Chicagoland area experiences an increase in reports of delivered packages being stolen from the homes to which they are delivered, and River Forest is no exception. If you are having packages delivered to your home, here are some tips to avoid becoming a victim of package theft:

- If possible, have packages delivered to your workplace.
- Have packages delivered to a place where they can be received in person, such as the home of a trusted neighbor who stays home during the day, or a retired relative.
- Request the shipper require a signature confirmation or hold your package at their pick-up facility so you can pick it up in person at your convenience.
- If available, request store delivery.
- Request a specific delivery date and time from the shipper when you know you will be home.
- Provide delivery instructions to the shipper so that packages can be left at a safe location at your home that is out of sight from the street.
- Sign up for delivery alerts from the shipper.

Additionally, please remember to lock your vehicles whether parked inside or outside, and do not leave valuable items visible inside the vehicles.

Pavement Rejuvenation

This year street maintenance efforts were completed in early October. Thank you to all residents for remaining patient during this process. The Village has been notified that residents in areas near streets that received the pavement rejuvenation spray may have



noticed an odor from the liquid that was applied. The recent warmer-than-usual weather may have caused the smell to return. The liquid has a chemical smell, but contains agricultural oils and polymers that extend the life of the pavement. The smell is not harmful and will dissipate over time. To view a map of the streets impacted, please [click here](#).

Solicitors

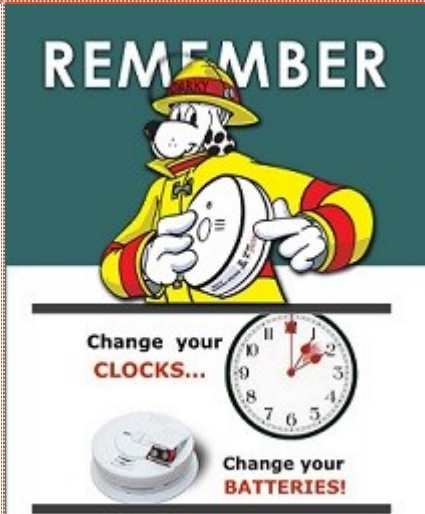
The Village has an ordinance that includes requirements that solicitors must meet to be allowed to go door to door to seek orders for the purchase of goods, obtain prospective customers, subscriptions, contributions on behalf of charitable organizations, and signatures on petitions for political or public policy matters. With the exception of signatures on petitions for political or public policy matters, a person or entity seeking permission to go door to door must have a valid Village issued solicitor permit. The permit is good for one year from the date of issuance and the solicitor must make a copy of the permit available for inspection. The approved hours for solicitation are Monday through Friday, 9AM to 8PM, and Saturday, 9AM to 5PM. No solicitation is allowed on Sunday or holidays.

If your residence is approached by a solicitor you may ask them to leave. The solicitor is required to adhere to any notice that is prominently displayed stating "No Solicitors". Free "No Solicitors" stickers are available at the Village Hall and should be displayed at or near the main entrance or main door to your home. If you suspect a solicitor is not registered with the Village, ask them for a copy of their permit. If they refuse or do not have a permit, please call the police non-emergency phone number (708) 366-7125 as soon as practical.

Safety for the Season

The River Forest Fire Department wants everyone to enjoy the season and holidays safely. Please take time to read the following safety tips:

- [Turkey Fryer Safety](#)
- [Kitchen Fire Safety](#)
- [Heating Safety](#)
- [Thanksgiving Safety](#)
- [Cooking Safety](#)
- [Candle Safety](#)



Know the Code!

As winter approaches, the Village would like to remind you:

- Village code requires residents and business owners to remove snow and ice from sidewalks in front of and adjacent to their property within 24 hours after an event.
- Snow or ice frozen on sidewalks that cannot be removed without injury to the pavement should be treated with an abrasive material until weather permits further clean-up.
- Parking on Village streets is prohibited after snow exceeds two inches in depth, and for an eight hour period following the cessation of the snowfall.
- Snow removal contractors are prohibited from using snow blowers between the hours of 1 AM and 5 AM

IRS Scam Calls

The Police Department would like to alert residents to a new scam utilizing phony IRS claims. Scammers are sending phony IRS CP 2000 forms and claiming that the income reported on a tax return does not match the income reported by the employer. This is meant to worry the recipient. To create further confusion, scammers claim that this is somehow related to the Affordable Care Act. These phony notices are being sent in the form of text messages and even live phone calls. The IRS will never initiate contact with you to collect overdue taxes by an email, text message or phone call. If you receive any of these emails, text messages, mailings or phone calls do not respond and/or hang up the phone. If you receive a "CP 2000" form in the mail and doubt its legitimacy you are encouraged to call the IRS at 1-800-366-4484 to confirm it or determine if it is a scam.

Message from OPRFHS District 200 Regarding

Referendum Question

Vote on the high school's referendum question

Whether you vote early or go to the polls on Election Day, November 8, please be sure read to the end of your ballot to vote on the referendum question put forward by the Oak Park and River Forest High School Board of Education. On August 16, 2016, the Board unanimously adopted a five-year facilities plan, which will add classroom space, replace the two 88-year-old pools, and mitigate health and safety concerns in locker rooms. The Board intends to finance the \$44.5 million project with \$20 million in cash. The referendum question allows voters to determine whether \$25 million in bonds should be issued to finance the remaining cost of the project. [Click here](#) for more information.

RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

Adult Programs

Wednesday, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 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.

Sunday, 11/6, 2-3:30 PM, Cleopatra, The Last Pharaoh of Egypt, Adult

Martina Mathisen is back, this time as Cleopatra, the most famous female ruler in history. Learn the true story behind one of the world's most famous historical figures. This program is brought to you in partnership with River Forest Township as part of the "Let's Celebrate Seniors All Year Long" program.

Monday, 11/7, 10-11 AM, Coffee Monday, Adult

Come to the library on the first Monday morning of every month for coffee, breakfast snacks and conversation. It's a great way to get to know your neighbors and learn about things going on in the community. Today, Ayesha Akhtar of the Epilepsy Foundation of the Greater Chicago Area will speak to us about epilepsy awareness. Coffee Mondays are supported by Blue Max Coffee and River Forest Township.

Saturday, 11/12, 1-2:30 PM, Foreign Film Forum, Adult

Join us for a screening and discussion of *The Seagull's Laughter*.

Snacks will be served.

Sunday, 11/13, 2-3:30 PM, The Making of a Legend: Gone with the Wind, Adult

This illustrated talk by historian Leslie Goddard, PhD., reviews the story of how the film *Gone with the Wind* was made, including the two-year search for Scarlett, the pioneering special effects, and the perfectionistic drive of visionary producer David O. Selznick. We'll also examine the accuracy of the movie's history and explore what accounts for this film's remarkably enduring popularity! Brought to you in partnership with River Forest Township as part of the "Let's Celebrate Seniors All Year Long" program.

Teen Programs

Thursday, 11/17, 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!

Wednesday, 11/30, 3:30 PM, Tiny Tasty Pendants, Grades 5-8

Come learn how to make tasteful, home cooked jewelry and accessories to add to your style menu. [Advanced Registration Required](#).

Child Programs

Saturday, 11/12, 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](#).

Saturday, 11/19, 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](#).

Monday, 11/21, 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.

Tuesday, 11/22, 10-11 AM, Toddler Band, 2-4 years

Join the band! Make an instrument and move and groove to the music. For kids ages 2-4 with a parent/caregiver.

Wednesday, 11/23, 9 AM-5 PM, Family Game Day, Kids of All Ages

Challenge a friend, sibling, or parent to a fun board game. Games will be provided. For all ages.

For a complete listing of Library program, please [visit the RFPL website!](#)

TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Sibshops Fall Session Continues

Sibshops continue on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays: 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17. It's not too late to join the fall session!

Sibshops is a program for siblings of kids with disabilities and emotional/mental health challenges. Siblings do fun activities and share information and ideas with other kids, with the help of specially trained facilitators.

11:30 AM-1:30 PM (including lunch), at Thrive, 120 S. Marion St, Oak Park. Free parking is available next to building for drop off and pickup. Priority is given to participants from River Forest and Oak Park.

Registration is required in advance. \$10/session; need-based scholarships available. To sign up or for more information, please [email Supervisor Carla Sloan](#).

Early Voting Still Available Before the Election!

Early Voting is still available before the November 8th Election! The closest location is Oak Park Village Hall, 123 Madison Street, Oak Park (Madison and Lombard Streets). Open Nov 4 (9AM-7PM), Nov 5 (9AM-5PM), Nov 6 (9AM-3PM), and Nov 7 (9AM-5PM).

See the [Cook County Clerk website](#) for other Early Voting locations and hours.

For those who have not yet registered to vote, Grace Period Registration and Voting is still available at six Cook County locations through November 7. Please [click here](#) for details.

Please contact the River Forest Township Clerk at 708-366-2029 or [via email](#) should you need assistance.

Want to be a Tax Preparation Volunteer?

- **AARP Tax-Aide Program:** Forest Park or Franklin Park locations. Volunteers are trained to become tax preparers and receive IRS certification. Visit the AARP [website](#) and click on Volunteer to complete the volunteer application process.
- **Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) Program at Triton:** Training sessions for preparers will be held on five Saturdays, January 7- February 4, 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM at Triton. Contact Kay Frey at 708.456.0300, ext. 3603

or [via email](#).

“Celebrating Seniors™ All Year Long” Features History & Travel

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

- **Sunday, November 6, 2:00 PM** – Edu-tainer Martina Mathisen presents Cleopatra.
- **Sunday, November 13, 2:00 PM** – The Making of a Legend: Gone with the Wind with historical edu-tainer Leslie Goddard.
- **Saturday, December 3, 2:00 PM** – Christmas in the Holy Land with travel historian Bill Helmuth.

Medicare Part “D” Open Enrollment Assistance

Township Senior Services is offering screenings for persons interested in reviewing their Medicare Part “D” drug plan. For those who do not receive government assistance, this is the one time during the year when this is possible.

Monday, November 7: half-hour appointments are available. Schedule by phone 708.383.8060. 130 S. Oak Park Avenue, OP.

Bring a copy of your Medicare card and a list of your meds, including monthly quantity and dosage.

Free Memory Screenings

Free memory screenings through the National Memory Screening Program are available on **Friday, November 18, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM** at Township Senior Services, 130 S. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park. Call Steve to schedule an appointment 708-366-8060. Screenings take about 10 minutes and are an initiative of the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America.

Seniors: Warm up with Coffee Mondays

Coffee Mondays are held at the River Forest Library on the first Mondays at 10 AM, featuring guest speakers and time left to chat! Coffee provided by Blue Max; co-sponsored by the Township and Library.

- **November 7** - Ayesha Akhtar from the Epilepsy Foundation speaks on epilepsy awareness
- **December 5** – veteran journalist and communications expert Matt Baron presents (in a fun and engaging way!)

how numbers are used and misused in the media

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, 4:00 PM**, Koehneke Community Center/Concordia Campus. Sponsored by Concordia's Center for Gerontology (in partnership with River Forest Township). Contact Dr. Lydia Manning at 708-209-3218 or [via email](#).
- **2nd and 4th Fridays, 10:00 AM**, Oak Park & River Forest Township Senior Services, 130 S. Oak Park Avenue. Contact Steve Smith, 708-383-8060.

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

Seniors: 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 River Forest 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 inside.

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 708-366-2029 or [via email](#). Quantities are available for block parties, church groups, organizations or condo/apartment buildings.

PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

Please visit [the park district website](#) for complete information regarding program prices and registration!

Register Now for the Rec Basketball Season

Grades 1 & 2 Basketball Season
Game Season: January 14 - March 11

This year's season will run from January to March, on Saturdays only. The first week will be team practice/scrimmages only. Starting on the second week, teams will practice for the first half hour then

play a game for the last hour. COACHES will contact the players with all pertinent information and schedules by December 31. Each team will have a roster of up to 10 players. Each participant is guaranteed to play half of the game. The Park District will provide shirts, equipment, and supervised gymnasiums. Children will play against their peers and friends, with coaches stressing fundamentals and sportsmanship. PLEASE NO TEAMMATE REQUESTS!

Pee-Wee	Division	(Grades	1	&	2)
Grades	3	-	8	Basketball	Season
Practice	Season:	January	10	-	March 10
Game	Season:	January	14	-	March 11

Practices are held during the week, with games on Saturday mornings or afternoons. Alternate sites may be designated when we are pre-empted by the site owners and will be designated on the game schedule or by the coaches. COACHES will contact the players with all pertinent information and schedules between 11/28 and 12/17. Each team will have rosters of up to 10 players. Each participant is guaranteed to play half of the game. The Park District will provide team shirts, equipment, and supervised gymnasiums. Children will play against their peers and friends, with coaches stressing fundamentals and sportsmanship. PLEASE NO TEAMMATE REQUESTS!

- Rookie Division (Grades 3 & 4)**
- Junior Division (Grades 5 & 6)**
- Senior Division (Grades 7 & 8)**

Mandatory Rec. Basketball Player Evaluations

Day/Date: Saturday, November 12
 Location: Roosevelt Middle School North Gym

Co-ed Basketball Pre-Season Clinic

Grades: 1 - 8

Get a jump on the upcoming basketball season with 3Point Athletics. These pre-season clinics are designed to help boys and girls get ready for league play through fundamental skill work. The clinic will also allow for plenty of in-game playing experience. 3Point's team of engaging and knowledgeable instructors are committed to the well-being of each participant by creating a productive, positive and fun basketball experience for everyone.

Saturdays, Dates: November 19, December 3, 10 (No clinic 11/26)

Location: Roosevelt Middle School North Gym

Grades Time

1 - 2 9:00AM - 10:30AM
3 - 4 10:30AM - 12:00PM
5 - 8 12:30PM - 2:00PM

Holiday Tree Trimming

The deadline to sponsor a tree is November 28!

Community businesses, organizations and neighborhoods are invited to sponsor a tree which will be on display along Lake Street in Memorial Parkway. A tree with lights will be provided, and sponsors will bring and hang their own decorations.

Sponsorship is \$25 per tree.

Day/Date: Thursday, December 1
Time: 4:00PM - 5:00PM

The tree lighting ceremony will be at 5:00PM

Upcoming LEGO® Programs

Junior Robotics

Ages: 8 - 11

How would you like to turn your next LEGO® creation into a robot, programmed to do exactly what you tell it to do? The Bricks 4 Kidz® new Jr. Robotics classes offer all the fun of building with LEGO® bricks, PLUS the challenge of computer programming! Using our proprietary model kits, along with drag-and-drop icon based software, WeDo software provides an introduction into the world of computer programming and robotics that will equip children to succeed in a technology-based marketplace. This fun, action-packed program combines real-life skills with real-kid fun! Min 8/Max 16

Tuesdays, November 8 - December 13 (No class 11/22, 11/29)
4:00PM - 5:00PM

Holiday Winter Fun

Ages: 5 - 10

Join Bricks 4 Kidz® this winter as we celebrate the Holiday Season using LEGO® bricks. This workshop is packed full of fun LEGO® based holiday activities, games, take-homes and building! Kids will use our proprietary model kits, including technic LEGO® components, motors, battery packs, and remote controls to construct holiday-themed creations!

Saturday, Dec 3, 10:00AM - 12:00PM

Jedi Engineering

Ages: 5 - 6

The Force Awakens in this introductory engineering course for young Jedi! Join Play-Well TEKnologies as we explore engineering principles by designing and building projects such as LEGO® X-Wings, R2 Units, Energy Catapults, Defense Turrets, and Settlements from a galaxy far, far away. Create motorized and architectural projects with imagination and engineering to defeat the Empire!

Saturday, Dec 10, 10:00AM - 11:30AM

Jedi	Master	Engineering
Ages:	7	- 12

The Force Awakens in this advanced engineering course for young Jedi! Join Play-Well TEKnologies to discover key engineering concepts such as gear trains, worm drives, pneumatics, and eccentric motion. Build LEGO X-Wings, AT-AT walkers, Pod Racers, Star Destroyers, Cloud Cities, Settlements, Fortresses, and other complex machines and structures from a galaxy far, far away.

Saturday, Dec 10, 12:00PM - 1:30PM

Tween Power Chill Yoga

Mondays, November 7 - December 12

4:00PM - 5:00PM

Tween Power Chill Yoga brings tweens together to explore how Yoga can help them better understand and appreciate their changing bodies, relationships, and life on and off the mat. Yoga can help kids move through these often-challenging years and emerge with healthy ways to address stress and find balance. Blending physical strength-building postures, breathwork, and relaxation, this class helps empower and inspire self-awareness and body confidence.

Ages: 9-12

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

Adult Yoga Classes

Hatha Yoga and Meditation

Session 3 starts November 14

Mondays, 7:30PM - 8:45PM

Monday and Wednesday morning and evening yoga classes are available for all fitness levels and abilities. See pages 21 and 22 of the Fall Fun Guide.

Winter-Spring Fun Guide will be Online November 28!

The Winter-Spring Fun guide will be available to view online

November 28th and will be delivered to residents' homes December 5. Resident registration begins December 12. Non-resident registration begins December 27.

If you no longer wish to receive this email please email unsubscribe@vrf.us.