



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,

August is as busy as ever with summer vacation is winding down for our students as they prepare to return to school in a few weeks. There is still plenty of time to take advantage of the great outdoors and enjoy many of the recreational opportunities we have in River Forest.

We hope to see you at the 4th annual Food Truck Rally on Saturday, August 26 from 3:30-9:30 p.m. at Keystone Park. This year's event will feature numerous food trucks serving both sweet and savory items, a beer garden, live entertainment, and plenty of family-friendly entertainment. New this year is a family dodgeball tournament from 6-8 p.m. [Click here](#) to learn more about this event.

The Trailside Museum offers family friendly programs throughout the month, many of which are free. [Click here](#) to view the museum's monthly event calendar.

The Village Board of Trustees will continue its deliberation and discussion of a Welcoming Resolution at its August 21, 2017 meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall. A copy of the draft Resolution will be posted on the Village's website prior to the August 21st meeting. The public is welcome to share their comments with us through the [Village's website](#).

The Village will embark on the nearly year-long process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. The Village's existing Comprehensive Plan is the official policy guide for land use and development and sets forth long-range recommendations for the maintenance and enhancement of the community as well as desirable improvements, developments and redevelopments in selected locations. Community input is critically important to the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan and residents will have ample opportunity to share their thoughts through surveys, a website, community events and public meetings. Look for our booth at the Food Truck Rally and help us shape the future of

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River Forest.

Adam Potter, a member of Boy Scout Troop 65 and senior at OPRF High School, is working with the River Forest Park District and members of Troop 65 to install a new sundial and monument in the center of the existing community herb garden at the corner of Augusta and Keystone this fall. This monument will pay tribute to the strength of family in River Forest. The project will be funded by donations and the sale of inscribed bricks. [Click here](#) for more information and to order inscribed bricks for your family.

Learn more about what's happening in River Forest by liking or following the Village's [Facebook](#) page and visiting the Village's [website](#).

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Best,



Cathy Adduci
Village President

Vehicle Sticker Reminder

The Village of River Forest would like to remind residents to purchase a 2017-2018 vehicle sticker to avoid being ticketed. The deadline for purchasing and displaying vehicle stickers without penalty was July 14th. The late fee on vehicle stickers will be increased from \$10 to \$15 on August 15, 2017. The late fee is in addition to the cost of the sticker.

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. New residents have 30 days to purchase a vehicle sticker without a penalty. The fee for the sticker is \$45 for passenger vehicles and \$25 for motorcycles, antique vehicles and senior citizens (one senior citizen vehicle sticker per household). Vehicle stickers may be purchased in person at the Village Hall, through the mail, or online at www.vrf.us. For questions or assistance in purchasing a vehicle sticker, residents are welcome to call Village Hall at (708) 366-8500.

IDOT Repairs on Thatcher to begin August 10

Please be advised that the Illinois Department of Transportation has notified the Village that they will be completing a resurfacing project on Thatcher Avenue between Chicago Avenue and North Avenue. This project is expected to begin August 10. The scope of work includes roadway resurfacing as well as various areas of curb and gutter replacement. Signage will be posted in the area prior to and during the roadwork.

2017 Historic Preservation Award Winners Recognized

Two homes were recognized for receiving the Laurel McMahon Restoration Award at the July 26 Historic Preservation Commission Meeting. David and Marihelen Burns of 146 Keystone and Tim and

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Emily Ruby of 558 Franklin were selected by the commission as this year's recipients. Both properties are applauded for their outstanding achievement in preservation for the recent home restorations. To learn more about the award and these homes, [click here](#).



River Forest Police Department - Back to School Reminders

During the week of August 21st, schools in River Forest will begin opening for the 2017-18 school year. The River Forest Police Department would like to remind everyone of some state laws, local ordinances, and additional tips to help ensure everyone's safety as the school year begins.

School Zone Speed Limit (625 ILCS 5/11-605)

The speed limit is reduced to 20 mph in designated "School Zones", which are on streets that pass primary and secondary schools. The school zone speed limit is in effect from 7am-4pm on school days when children are present. There are school zones in River Forest on Division Street, Chicago Avenue, and Lake Street, which are clearly marked with fluorescent yellow signs. Additionally, penalties and fines are more severe for drivers caught violating the school zone speed limit.

Use of Electronic Communication Devices (625 ILCS 5/12-610.2)

Illinois law states "A person may not operate a motor vehicle on a roadway while using an electronic communication device", which includes cell phones, smart phones, tablets, etc. This includes looking at the screen of the phone, manipulating the phone, and speaking on the phone. The law makes an exception for "hands-free" operation of the phone, such as speaking via Bluetooth connection. Penalties may be more severe for drivers caught violating the Electronic Communication Device law.

while traveling in one of the previously mentioned “school zones”. Remember, just “Drop it and Drive”.

Obedience to Crossing Guards (625 ILCS 5/11-203)

Drivers must obey the direction of school crossing guards (or police officers) stopping or directing traffic in order to safely assist pedestrians crossing the street. Crossing guards in River Forest are identifiable by their fluorescent yellow attire and hand-held “Stop” signs. If a crossing guard is holding up a “stop” sign and/or directing you to “stop”, it means “stop”.

Pedestrians in crosswalks (625 ILCS 5/11-1002)

Drivers must STOP and yield the right-of-way to any pedestrians within a crosswalk where there is no traffic control device (stop light, stop sign, etc.). The Village of River Forest uses portable signs placed in the street near some heavily used crosswalks to remind drivers of this law. This law applies to all such crosswalks, not just those with crossing guards and/or signs.

One-way streets on school days (RF Village Code 9-2-3, 9-3-3)

Sections of LeMoyné Street, Park Avenue, Franklin Avenue, Ashland Avenue, and Jackson Avenue become one-way streets on school days between 7:30am and 4pm. These sections are identified by “DO NOT ENTER” and “ONE-WAY” signs. Pay attention to road signage at all times, but especially while driving near schools.

Parking around schools

All schools in River Forest utilize some form of a lane dedicated for “student loading” (pick-up and drop-off) for drivers who wish to stay in their vehicles as well as a separate area for parking if the drivers wish to exit vehicles and walk into the school. Please review your school’s traffic plan and heed signage to ensure you are not parking in the student loading lane or driving through the parking area. If the student loading lane is full, you may not block traffic by stopping your vehicle while waiting to enter the student loading lane. Additionally, do not block residential driveways while parking or loading. The Police Department can and will issue parking citations for any of these situations described above.

Finally, please keep in mind that everyone is trying to get somewhere, and the Police Department’s priority is to ensure everyone gets there safely. Please drive carefully around the schools and be respectful and courteous to pedestrians and motorists. The Police Department will be out enforcing the above laws and assisting with traffic flow. If you observe any unsafe situation or driver, you can always report that to us by dialing 911 for emergencies or 708-366-7125 for non-emergencies.

Village of River Forest Receives Certificate of Achievement in Performance Management

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) has recognized the Village of River Forest’s data-driven management and reporting efforts with a Certificate of Achievement in Performance Management. River Forest is among 19 jurisdictions receiving the Certificate of Achievement, and one

of 57 recognized overall. Recipients collect and verify data to ensure reliability, train staff in performance measurement, and report data to the public through budgets, newsletters, and/or information provided to elected officials. To learn more, [click here](#).



Message from D90: District 90 Students Return to School

The 2017-18 school year in District 90 is expected to start off strong. Students return to school on Thursday, August 24, with a full day of classroom instruction. The District's Parent Teacher Organizations are also holding back-to-school coffees for families that day. Throughout the summer, District 90 faculty and staff have been working hard preparing classroom activities, cleaning and making repairs to school buildings, and supporting all the operations that make schools run smoothly. Welcome Back!

RIVER FOREST LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

Take a look at some of the wonderful programs we have coming up at the Library. Please visit our website at www.riverforestlibrary.org for more information and a complete listing of programs.

Children

Wednesday, 8/16, 10 AM-12 PM, Touch-A-Truck, Kids of All Ages with parent/caregiver

Have you ever been up close and personal with a real fire truck or police car? Come explore the real thing and touch the trucks at the Library. This program will be held outside, weather permitting.



Monday, 8/21, 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.](#)

Tuesday, 8/22, 1-4 PM, DIY School Supplies, Grades K-4

Get ready for school! Stop by the Children's Room to assemble some great DIY school supplies for your first day back.



Friday, 8/25, 9:30-10:30 AM, Free Play Friday, Birth-6 years with parent/caregiver.

Play and learn as you explore engaging sensory stations.

Teens

Wednesday, 8/16, 2-4 PM, Quidditch, Grades 5+

Calling all witches and wizards! Come learn the wizarding world's favorite sport! No need to have your Hogwarts letter - this program is open to children entering Grades 5 and up. Please wear sneakers or closed-toed shoes. [Advanced registration required.](#)



Thursday, 8/24, 3:30-5 PM, Rock Your Locker, Grades 5-8
Enjoy a welcome back snack and find out about the terrific library materials and fun programs the Library offers just for Middle School students while crafting items to jazz up your school year.

Adults

Monday, 8/7, 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. Coffee Mondays are supported by Blue Max Coffee and River Forest Township.

Saturday, 8/12, 1-2:30 PM, Foreign Film Forum, Adult

Head to the River Forest Library for a free viewing of a foreign film on our big screen. We will show *Après vous*, a romantic comedy about a Good Samaritan, a hopeless romantic, and the beautiful woman that comes between them. In French with English subtitles. Rated R.

Saturday, 8/26, 1:30-3:30 PM, Hot Summer Movie Showing

Escape the heat and join us for a showing of the hit film *La La Land*!

PARK DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

Here are just some of the fun things we have planned for August. Hope to see you there!

Food Truck Rally

Saturday, August 26 - 3:30 - 9:30 PM (rain or shine), The Depot / Keystone Park

The Rotary Club of Oak Park River Forest and the River Forest Park District are proud to host our 4th Annual Food Truck Rally in Keystone Park and at The Depot. This signature event includes nine food trucks serving savory and sweet food items, a tented beer garden serving craft beer and wine, stage entertainment, inflatables for the kids, and a family dodgeball tournament.

Savory Food Trucks

- Bob Cha: Korean
- Carnivore
- Cheesie's: Grilled Cheese

CheSa's: Gluten Free

- Robinson's Ribs
- Trattoria 225 on Wheels: Wood Fire Pizza
- Tamale Spaceship: Mexican

Sweet Food Trucks

- Beavers Donuts
- Ms. Tittle's: Cupcakes

Craft Beer Donors

- Generations Brewing Company
- Kinslahger Brewing Company
- Oak Park Brewing Company

Main Stage Entertainment Schedule

- School of Rock
- Dooley Brothers
- George Bailey and the Ring Shout

Inflatables

- 77' Extreme Obstacle Course
- The Wrecking Ball
- Bounce House

Family Dodgeball Tournament

6 - 8 PM

(Only 8 team slots available!)

- [Click here](#) to view the flyer
- [Click here](#) for tournament rules

All net proceeds from this event are donated back to local non-profit organizations who serve the needs of our community.

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

2017 Community Bank Makin Tracks 5K Run/Walk

Registration for the **2017 Community Bank Makin' Tracks 5K Run/Walk** is now open. The event is **September 16, 2017, 8 AM, starting at Concordia University Chicago.**

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

[Click here](#) to register.



Upcoming Adult Program

Basic Photography for DSLR Cameras
(co-op with Forest Park) - Tuesday, August 29, 6 - 9
PM, Ages: 16 & up

Learn what all those wheels and buttons do. What is ISO and Noise? What are fast lenses? What is Depth of Field? What is selective focus? How do I stop Fast Action? When should I use a tripod? After this class, you will no longer fear taking your camera out of Automatic!

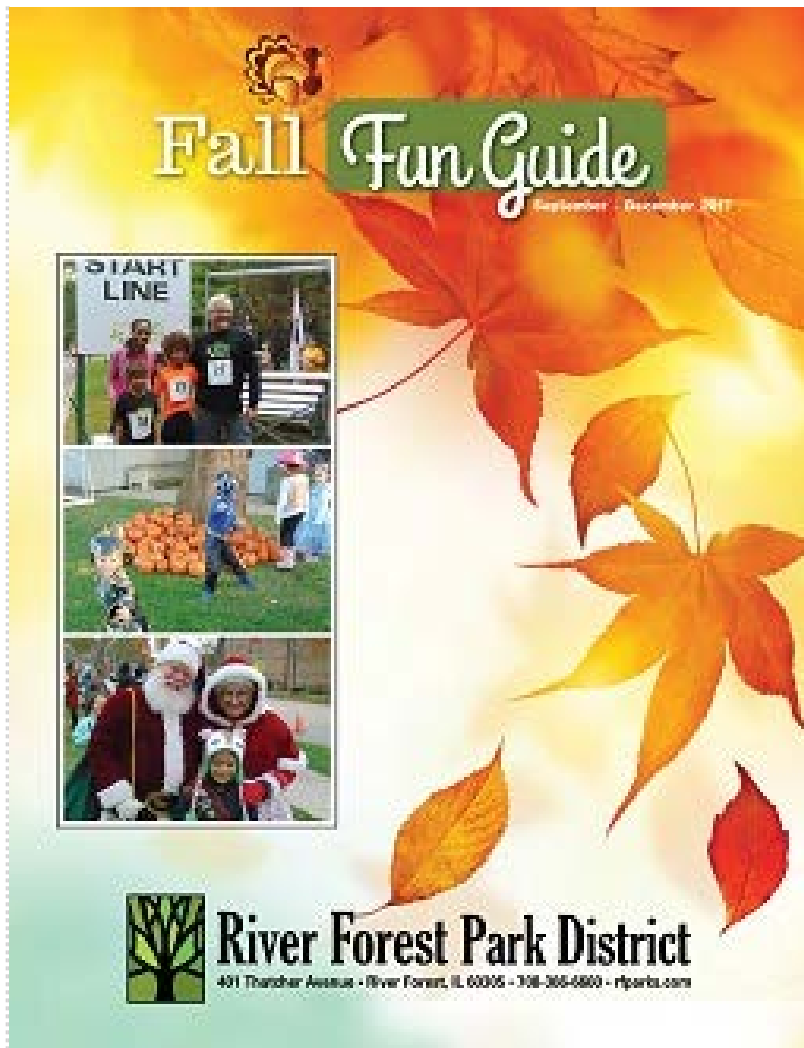
This class is for people new to photography. This class is not for people with Point and Shoot Cameras.

Register Today!

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

Fall Fun Guide Now Online!

The [Fall Fun Guide](#) is now available online and will be delivered to residents' homes on **August 7**. Please check your front door or front step.



TOWNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Celebrating 100 Years at the Aug 26 Rotary Food Truck Rally

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.

Fun fact #1: Your Township funds free cultural and educational programming for seniors all year long, in partnership with River Forest Public Library. Fun fact #2: Your Township offers a program called Sibshops, specially designed for siblings of kids with disabilities and mental or physical health challenges.

Join us at the River Forest Township tent at the Rotary Food Truck Rally on **Saturday, August 26** in Keystone Park. Come celebrate our 100th anniversary, meet Township officials, and learn more about Township programs. Enjoy a day of music and food in the park!

Property Tax Community Outreach on August 21

Assessor Pamela Kende announces a community outreach on

Monday, August 21, 6:30 PM, at the River Forest Community Center, 8020 Madison Street, River Forest. The Cook County Board of Review Commissioner, Dan Patlak, and some of his staff will explain the property assessment appeals process. When attending the outreach, please bring a copy of your property tax bill.

Assessor Kende anticipates that River Forest will be open for appeals throughout the month of August. Her office is available to help residents find comparable properties. Call 708-366-2787 and leave your name, address and daytime phone number.

Township Launches "Brain Health Initiative" on October 28

In commemoration of its 100th anniversary, River Forest Township is introducing the "Brain Health Initiative", a multi-faceted program aimed at education, outreach and support related to brain health, memory and dementia. The kickoff event will be a discussion led by an Alzheimer's Association expert entitled "Healthy Living for your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research". Saturday, October 28, 10 -11:30 AM, River Forest Community Center, 8020 Madison Street. Refreshments will be served.

The Alzheimer's Association is a valuable resource for those interested in learning more about brain health, for those experiencing symptoms of dementia, or their caregivers. Call their 24-7 HELPLINE, 1-800-272-3900, staffed by licensed clinical social workers. Visit www.alzheimers-illinois.org for information and support group locations.

Safe Disposal of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Medications

Safely dispose of unused or expired medications in the secure box in the basement of River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue. Pills/tablets only. No liquids/creams/hazardous items; no loose items. Pills can be disposed of in bulk in re-closeable plastic bags.

This safe action helps the environment and gets potentially dangerous medications out of your home. The program is sponsored by the Cook County Sheriff's Department and is hosted by the River Forest Fire Department.

New Information Assistance Program for Seniors and their Caregivers

Trained staff from Oak Park and River Forest Township Senior Services are available to talk with seniors and their caregivers about various local, state and federally funded senior-related programs, on Thursdays at two new locations:

- **Thursday, August 3 and 17, 10 AM – 12:30 PM**, River Forest Medical Campus, 7411 Lake Street, River Forest, Building A, Community Room, Office-1104.
- **Thursday, August 10 and 24, 10 AM – 12:30 PM**, West Suburban Medical Center, 3 Erie Court, Oak Park, first floor, room 1062.

Please call to register for an appointment: 866-938-7256.

Sibshops Return this Fall

The Sibshops program will return in September! Sibshops is a fun program specially designed for siblings of kids with disabilities and mental/physical health challenges. Open to children in 1st-7th grades; priority given to River Forest and Oak Park residents. Kickoff session is Saturday, September 30; remaining fall sessions are 1st and 3rd Saturdays starting October 21 through December 16. 11:30 AM-1:30 PM, at Thrive, 120 S. Marion St. in Oak Park. Lunch is provided.

To register or more info, please [email Carla Sloan](#), River Forest Township Supervisor.

"Celebrating Seniors™ All Year Long" Programs: New Line-up

Seniors: Join us for these informative and engaging free programs, held at the River Forest Public Library!

- **Sunday, 9/10, 2 PM** – Midlife Maze: a Map to Recovery and Rediscovery After Loss by local author Janis Clark Johnston
- **Sunday, 9/17, 2 PM** – Mesopotamia Collection of the Oriental Institute with Sam Harris, PhD
- **Saturday, 9/30, 2 PM** – Lady Diana Spencer, Princess of Wales by historian Jim Gibbons

Co-sponsored by River Forest Township and River Forest Library. People of all ages from all communities are welcome!

Seniors: Start the Month with Coffee Mondays

Coffee Mondays continue at the River Forest Library on the first Mondays at 10 AM, Coffee provided by Blue Max; co-sponsored by the Township and Library.

- **August 7** – snacks and summer conversation
- **September 11**- update on the new Historical Society of Oak Park & River Forest by local historian Jan Dressel (held on 2nd Monday due to 9/4 Labor Day)
- **October 2**- presentation on genealogy by resident expert Abby Schmelling

"Connect with Tech" this Fall!

Are you a 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 and friends? Come to "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.

The newly revamped "Connect with Tech" program, formerly known as Computer Learning Lab, is offered in partnership with the River Forest Library.

"Connect with Tech" is off in August and resumes on **Wednesdays in September and October** at the River Forest Library, 10-11:30 AM. Call 708-366-5205 for more information.

Sign up for Encore Chorale's Fall Season

Oak Park-River Forest Encore Chorale, for singers age 55 and up, will start its fall season on **Tuesday, September 5**. 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 join this musically talented group; no audition is required. Rehearsals are Tuesdays, 9 - 10:30 AM at Trinity High School. For more info, [email Linda Crabtree Powell](mailto:Linda.Crabtree.Powell). Need-based scholarships for River Forest resident Encore members are available through River Forest Township.

"Gently Used" Medical Equipment Lending

"Gently used" medical equipment is available for River Forest and Oak Park residents to borrow...including walkers, canes, shower chairs, and wheelchairs. Items can be picked up at Oak Park Township, 105 S. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park, Monday through Friday, 9 AM-5PM. Call 708-383-8005 first to determine availability.

Donations of gently used medical equipment are always welcome! Drop off items at Oak Park Township, 105 S. Oak Park Avenue, Monday through Friday, 9AM – 5PM.

Seniors: Navigate the Health Insurance Maze

Free SHIP (State Health Insurance Program) counseling services are available for all River Forest residents aged 60+. Trained counselors will answer questions about accessing Medicare, Medicare Supplement choices, and Medicaid. Whether you are a first time Medicare applicant or are choosing a supplement plan call for an appointment, held on Fridays at the Township Senior Services building, 130 S. Oak Park Ave, Oak Park, 708-383-8060.

Get on the Bus!

Seniors 60+ and residents with disabilities: accessible small buses and vans are ready to take you where you need to go in River Forest and Oak Park and some surrounding areas. Reservations required at least 24 hours in advance; rides are available Monday-Friday during the day. \$1 per ride suggested but not required. Please call 708-383-4806 for more info.

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 meet 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 at 708-209-3218.
- The support group at Township Senior Services will meet on the **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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