

VILLAGE
GOVERNMENT

All Riverwoods Board of Trustees and Plan Commission meetings are held at the Village Hall unless otherwise specified and are open to the public; residents are encouraged to attend.

Riverwoods Village Board

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30pm. January 20, February 3, 17, March 3 and 17.

Riverwoods Plan Commission

1st Thursday at 7:30pm. February 5, March 5 and April 2.

GET INVOLVED
IN RIVERWOODS

Village of Riverwoods

Senior Program

Cheryl Hadley
847-945-3990

Riverwoods Preservation Council (RPC)

Mike Clayton, president
riverwoodsrpc@comcast.net

Riverwoods Residents Association (RRA)

Jill Kaplan
847-945-0062

Riverwoods Book Club

June Melber
847-940-7086
argos501@aol.com

Plant Sale Committee

Margie Kaul
847-945-5131
or Sheila Hollander
847-945-4879



Riverwoods

VILLAGE VOICE



Riverwoods Is Special

Riverwoods Preservation Council, Reprinted from Village Voice issue January-February 2006

What we have – Riverwoods is special. Our woodlands are a complex ecosystem of native, interdependent plant species which foster the active growth of oaks and other forest trees, as well as a variety of wildlife. This ecosystem consists of the canopy, the understory, and the plants of the forest floor. Each element has characteristic species. For example, ground plants include trillium, wild geranium, grasses, sedges and native vines such as Virginia creeper, while the understory includes ironwood, blue beech, hawthorn, eastern redbud and smaller trees and shrubs. The canopy is dominated by American basswood, ash, sugar maple, silver maple, black cherry, hickory, elm, hackberry, eastern cottonwood and oak species, but also includes black locust, northern catalpa, white pine, walnut, and willow trees.

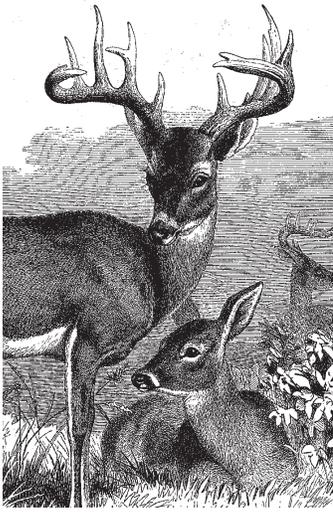
In addition to its unique natural environment, Riverwoods is known for its ambience, the “feel” of the community that arises in large measure from the special connection the residents feel to the natural surroundings and to the community as a whole. Unfortu-

nately, the Riverwoods environment is being degraded and fragmented, creating barriers to wildlife and reducing the ability of the woodlands to regenerate more desirable species. The causes include the proliferation of non-native, invasive plant species, over-browsing by an increased deer population, insect threats such as the gypsy moth, Asian Long-Horned Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer, and stress caused by changes in the water table. We residents are perhaps the single greatest cause of woodland deterioration, as we replace natural growth and beneficial leaf and tree litter with buildings, pavement and large, cultivated areas such as turf grass lawns.

What’s in it for me? – We all benefit from the fact that much of Riverwoods is a woodland ecosystem. The woodlands minimize flooding by absorbing rainwater and snowmelt, thereby reducing the volume and rate of water runoff much more effectively than turf grass and cultivated areas, while also reducing erosion from water runoff. In addition, woodlands filter water pollutants from stormwater, cleaning and recharging the underground aquifer (from which many of our residents derive household water) and providing this area with cleaner recreational waterways.

Similarly, the trees help clean our air, absorbing a variety of pollutants including the greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. Another benefit is the reduction of noise pollution by baffling sound transmission from nearby roads. Finally, our woods provide nesting areas for birds and other wildlife, which in turn assist in the control of insects. In all of these ways, our diverse woodland ecology protects and improves our overall quality of life.

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RIVERWOODS
VILLAGE VOICE

Riverwoods Village Voice is published bimonthly by the Village of Riverwoods. The purpose is to provide a communication forum and information for residents. The views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the Mayor or members of the Board of Trustees.

Editor: Jackie Borchew.

Any resident wishing to become a newsletter staff volunteer please call the Village Hall at 847-945-3990 and leave your name and phone number.

SEND IN THOSE
LETTERS!

Letters from residents and Riverwoods homeowners' associations are invited and encouraged. Preferred length: approximately 250 words or less, typed. All letters must include the author's name, address and phone number. Letters may be printed, space permitting, but may be edited for grammar, clarity and length. If controversial topics are addressed, the editor will seek opposing viewpoints for balance.

Deadline for the March/April 2015 issue: February 20, 2015.

Send to:

Editor
Riverwoods Village Voice
300 Portwine Road
Riverwoods, IL 60015
Jackie@borchew.com

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

We are all reminded of two things by the tragic event that occurred in New York just on Saturday, December 20, 2014.

First, human lives are all too fragile. Second, most us never think about the risks that all police officers face daily, even in a quiet residential community like Riverwoods, to ensure that we are safe on our streets and in our homes.

On behalf of the people of Riverwoods, the Village Board, and myself, let me take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to the members of the Riverwoods Police for all that you do.

John Norris
Mayor of Riverwoods



Village Board of Trustees
Meeting Notes

Summary of ordinances, resolutions, and non-routine matters considered by the Board of Trustees from the meeting minutes of October 21 and November 4. Read the entirety of these minutes or view the video of the actual Board of Trustee meetings on the Village of Riverwoods website at www.villageofriverwoods.com.

November 4

POLICE REPORT

Chief Dayno provided the Board with the Police Department activity since the October 21, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting. The complete Police Report is available on the Village website under Board of Trustees.

Chief Dayno noted there were 125 calls for service including one disorderly conduct arrest. He also stated that there was one hold-up alarm, but it was a false alarm.

Chief Dayno forgot to mention at the last Board meeting that they had conducted some rapid deployment training at Discover. He has two officers who are trainers and who trained the rest of the Department.

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT REPORT

Duane Christenson from the Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire Department announced they would be appointing a new fire chief.

The complete Police Report is available on the Village website under Board of Trustees.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS
FROM THE PRESIDENT

LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM – Mayor Norris explained that the Lake County Forest Preserve District sent the Village a letter stating they would be engaging in a deer management program from December 1, 2014 – March 31, 2015 on Forest Preserve property in areas near and adjoining the Village. If a resident has questions or objections to the program, please call the Lake County Forest Preserve District.

Explorer Scouts – Chief Dayno invited Sergeant

Jamie Watson from the Lincolnshire Police Department and the Explorer Post 2403 to address the Board. Chief Dayno explained that the Explorer Scouts have assisted the Village with compliance checks and several other programs.

Sergeant Watson oversees the Explorer Post program for youths between the ages of 14 and 21 who aspire to become police officers. The Explorers are trained on real-life situations in the field. The program promotes strong character development by instilling self-esteem, discipline, camaraderie and leadership qualities. The program started in 1991 and is still going strong.

Sergeant Watson explained that the explorers perform community service by assisting at numerous community events, and with crime prevention programs and they raise funds for the Special Olympics. They have assisted the Village of Riverwoods at many traffic crashes including crashes requiring roads to be closed for extended periods of time. The Explorer Post is a self-supporting unit and they maintain their own constitution, budget, bank account, uniforms, radios, equipment, vehicles, bicycle unit, policies and award programs. He noted that 98 Explorers have been hired by 53 local agencies. The program creates a wonderful networking opportunity for the Explorers.

Mayor Norris noted the Village has donated to the Explorer Post in the past. Trustee Haber moved to donate \$1,000 to the Explorer Post. The Board voted in agreement.

DONATION REQUEST TO SPONSOR A MOBILE PANTRY IN HIGHWOOD

Trustee Chamberlain stated that the Finance Committee met and, although they agreed it was a very good cause, they expressed concerns that the beneficiaries of the pantry would not likely be Riverwoods residents. They also felt that the city did not have the authority to guarantee the volunteers needed to man the pantry. She stated that Riverwoods residents would fall into the West Deerfield Township or Vernon Township pantry which Riverwoods residents contributed to via their property taxes. Trustee Chamberlain indicated that, therefore, the Committee did not feel it was appropriate to

use Riverwoods tax money for this.

Trustee Ford explained people do not know who would take advantage of the food bank or any of the mobile pantries held in Lake County. She noted that the Village gave a donation to the food bank last year. She explained that if enough residents are not able to volunteer, there are other volunteers that are available.

Trustee Chamberlain noted that when the Village donated to the Northern Illinois Food Bank last year, she understood it went into their general fund. Trustee Chamberlain would not mind giving a donation to the Northern Illinois Food Bank instead of sponsoring a truck.

Trustee Haber moved to donate \$1,000 to the Northern Illinois Food Bank. The Board voted in favor.

TERRACO REQUEST FOR A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF RIVERWOODS

The Terraco development team came before the Board to request a redevelopment agreement and reimbursement of eligible costs under the TIF Act.

Scott Gendell, Dan Wander and Matt Darin from Terraco; Kevin Lewis, engineer; Mike Laube, TIF consultant; and Bill Woodward, traffic consultant with KLOA were present. Jim Olguin, zoning attorney for McDonalds; Elizabeth Stack, area real estate manager with McDonalds; Sue Connelly, operator of existing McDonalds; and Dan Olson with Watermark Engineering were also present.

Mr. Olguin believes this particular McDonald's is the best use for this site. He understands that one of the major concerns regarding this project is increased traffic. He explained that typically a use either pulls from existing traffic or creates additional traffic because it is a destination. McDonalds restaurants typically pull from existing traffic rather than create new traffic. Mr. Olguin explained that the destination traffic would not increase, as the use already exists on the other side of the street.

RIVERWOODS VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Therefore, having McDonald's at this site will have the least impact on traffic.

Mr. Olguin then addressed the second concern that residents and Board members had expressed which were the hours of operation. McDonald's, as a general policy, always requests the ability to go 24-hours. Mr. Olguin explained that going 24-hours would be based on demand and that the location would not start out as a 24-hour operation. Should the Board decide not to grant a 24-hour operation, they would request the ability to come back to the Board if and when the demand increases.

The third concern, maintenance and appearance, he felt could easily be addressed by examining the existing McDonald's. He then introduced the owner, Sue Connelly.

Ms. Connelly stated that she is a local community member and has six restaurants in the area. She started with McDonald's in 1976 and Ms. Connelly has always tried to be a good municipal partner. She noted her current Riverwoods location, which she has been at for 20 years, is not a destination McDonalds. Her slowest business days are on the weekends and in the evenings. She believes the new site would be similar.

Mr. Wander discussed the traffic generation from the Terraco property and the traffic generation at the proposed Buffalo Grove development. The Terraco development would generate 2,454 new two-way trips while the proposed Buffalo Grove development on the northwest corner would generate 15,706 new daily two-way trips. Trustee O'Donnell questioned how many existing vehicles would stop at the development. Mr. Woodward explained there would be approximately 2,100 existing pass-by trips. Trustee O'Donnell noted, based on the projected numbers, there could be 9,000 new vehicles going through the intersection if both developments were allowed.

Trustee Chamberlain asked about McDonald's green initiative. Mr. Olson explained they would have LED lighting inside and outside. All of the rooftop units would be high efficiency. They would have low emission fryers, reflective roofing materials and high efficiency water fixtures throughout the store. McDonald's also recycles, uses environmentally packaged cleaning products and before cooking oil recycling. Trustee Jamerson asked how many of these are now required by code as opposed to voluntary initiatives, but Mr. Olson did not know.

Thirteen residents spoke against the proposal. Several indicated that they would prefer a different development at the entrance of the Village. A few residents expressed concern about the request for 24-hour operations. Most of the residents expressed concern about the increased traffic.

More than 100 residents signed a petition against the develop-

ment. Most of those residents did not feel the development suited the character of the community. These residents were also concerned about traffic getting worse and causing more accidents. Several residents expressed concern about the proposed gas station selling liquor. They questioned how the Board could consider it when they said no to the Mobile station. Residents also believe the proposed uses would have a negative impact on the value of their homes.

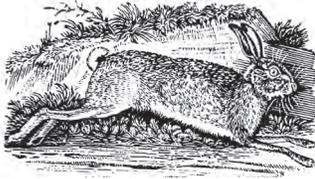
A few residents volunteered to be on a committee to discuss alternative plans such as a community center or an art center. They believe this is an opportunity to build community. The TIF funds could be used toward enhancing the Village.

Mr. Gendell then stated that he would like to go back to McDonald's and True North with some of the concerns expressed at this meeting, namely the hours of operation and the liquor license requested by the gas station. Mr. Huvard explained that the Board is required to consider the Plan Commission's report within 60 days of receiving the report which is dated September 10. He explained that, procedurally, the Board can accept or reject the Plan Commission's report. Mr. Huvard asked the Board if the issues of concern were important to the Board in order to make a decision. If they were, then the Board could delay, otherwise the Board could move forward this evening. Trustee Chamberlain stated that the issues would not be important in discussing the TIF request, but would be in discussing the text amendments and request for special uses.

Mr. Huvard explained for the public that there was a request for TIF assistance. The developer, from the outset, made it known that the assistance was important to them. He noted that the developer indicated that if they do not get the TIF funds as requested, they stated that the proposal would not be feasible. Because of this, Mr. Huvard's recommendation to the Board was that they address the TIF request before the zoning request. The request is for \$1.5 million funded with a pay-as-you-go note with TIF funds and 40% of sales tax received from the development for not to exceed 20 years.

Trustee Chamberlain does not think the benefits to the Village warrant this expense. Trustee Chamberlain moved to reject Terraco's request for TIF assistance, namely that substantially all real estate tax increment and 40% of sales taxes generated by the development, as needed for up to 20 years, would be used to pay Terraco for \$1.5 million of TIF-eligible costs. Trustee Jamerson seconded the motion.

Trustee Haber thinks it has been shown that the will of the community is such that there is not a feeling that this project will materially benefit the community. And as a Trustee elected by the residents, that speaks volumes to him. However, he feels that the Village needs to be cognizant of the fact that



the history is such that in the past, the Village has not taken the opportunity to control properties along its boundary and that's why the Village finds itself in the position with regards to the Buffalo Grove property on the west side of Milwaukee. The Village had the opportunity to control it but opted not to. He wonders how the residents would feel if the Village spent \$3 million to buy this property. He wants the residents to consider the fact that economics and realities drive developments. He believes that Terraco made a lot of concessions to make it a nice development, but the feeling of the community is against it. Therefore, he supports the motion.

Trustee Ford agrees with Trustee Haber. She also thinks the Board needs to look at the Village finances. She feels that the question of open space and how to defend our borders has been brought to the table and to look at what kind of economic conditions would benefit us or if we are willing, as a community, to take on those kinds of economics to support open space. She also supports the motion.

Trustee O'Donnell thanked the Plan Commission for fulfilling their responsibility on this difficult petition. He expressed regret about the criticism that they received from some. He stated he was open-minded about what was discussed this evening and did not rush to a decision without having all of the facts from the developers and other interested parties. The developer has done a great job in addressing the Village's concerns. However, it did not change the nature of the land, the nature of the situation, the existing infrastructure or the potential growth in that area. His other comment was about the realities of that intersection. He feels it is important for everyone to understand that one or more of those corners will be developed, very possibly with a gas station on one of them, and it will impact Riverwoods. He also wanted to thank all of the residents who communicated with him for their thoughtful comments. He supports the motion.

Trustee Jamerson stated that all of his thoughts were expressed by the other Trustees. He stated that his seconding of the motion obviously supports the motion.

Trustee Baumann does not see this as a door closing, but rather an opportunity. He believes the Village should look strategically at the entire B-1 district. He feels the Village also needs to look at the properties adjoining the B-1 district as well as trying to attract appropriate development. He doesn't look at this as a vote against development. The consensus this eve-

ning was that something will be built here. If the community is behind it, the Board can work with the developers to come together and build something so that the developer can make money but that the community can be proud of and patronize. He supports the motion.

Mayor Norris complimented everyone at the meeting on their behavior. He apologized to anyone with whom he may have been short with or curt to. He also complimented the Plan Commission. Their task is different than that of the Board. They are more restricted as to what they can allow or reject 'Yes' or 'No' to. The Board has more authority to do that.

Mr. Gendell requested that the motion to consider the development be taken off the table. In closing, he stated that this process was very expensive and that there needs to be a better way to go through it without spending \$300,000 just to get rejected. He noted that he has debt on this property and that that is a real concern. He would be happy to sell the property to the Village at his original cost. If it will take years to develop this property, it is fair to both the Village and to Terraco to have the Village purchase the land

REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS TREES

Trustee Chamberlain explained she could not find another Village that pays for the removal of hazardous trees on private property. In Highland Park, they initiated a program in the '70's where residents could pay \$50 for elm tree removal. The program became very costly, so they reevaluated and now pay 20% of the removal cost for low-income residents. They are now currently looking to expand this to Ash trees. Most economic assistance programs are through the townships. She looked at what was available and most of the assistance is for low-income or senior residents.

Trustee Chamberlain likes the bid packet put together by Mr. Stewart. She questioned whether the Village should go beyond that. Trustee Haber explained that low income assistance should be limited to essentials, except perhaps to consider assistance for low income residents. He does not think the Village should provide assistance to cut down dead trees. The Village needs to enforce the rules rather than provide an incentive for following the rules. Trustee Ford suggested publicizing the packet from Mr. Stewart. Trustee Baumann agrees that the existing ordinances should be enforced. The Board could make a special dispensation if there is an extreme need. Trustee Chamberlain will put something in the Village Voice and on the Village website.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Building/Zoning – Trustee Jamerson provided the building report for October. The full report can be viewed on the Village of Riverwoods website in the current Board notes. If

there are additional fees for re-inspection, they do not show up on the report. The fees collected are for initial permit and inspection fees.

NSSRA/Treasurer Liaison/Parks – Trustee Ford is working on getting the assessed valuations for calculating the member agency contribution for NSSRA.

October 21

POLICE REPORT

Chief Dayno provided the Board with the Police Department activity since the October 7, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting. The complete Police Report is available on the Village website under Board of Trustees.

Chief Dayno stated that they conducted tobacco compliance checks at Riverwoods Food and Liquor and the Mobile station at on October 14, 2014. Neither establishment sold to the underage agent.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Village Hall Project Update – Mayor Norris received recommendations from the green consultant. He forwarded the information to the architect to determine the cost effectiveness.

Ravinia Green Country Club – Mayor Norris noted that last week the club membership voted to sell the club to a management company who agreed to continue running it as a country club. There are no plans to develop it as residential housing.

NEW BUSINESS

2014 Road Maintenance Program Quote Summary and Recommendation – Village Engineer Pat Glenn noted that the MFT road project includes resurfacing Calvin, Farner and Strenger. His estimate was \$197,000. The bids came in with a low of \$172,900 to a high of \$212,000. Mr. Glenn recommends that the Board accept the low bid.

The Board voted to award the 2014 MFT Road Maintenance project to Chicagoland Paving in an amount not to exceed \$172,900.

TERRACO REQUEST FOR A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF RIVERWOODS CONTINUES

Discussion continued in consideration of Terraco's request for a redevelopment agreement with the Village for reimbursement of eligible costs under the TIF Act, and Terraco's request for Special Use and proposed text amendments

Dan Wander and Matt Darin from Terraco; Kevin Lewis, engineer; Mike Laube, TIF consultant; and Geoff Dickinson, Senior Project Manager with SB Friedman were present.

Mr. Wander summarized his work with the Village since they purchased the property in August 2010. He stated that the property has some significant challenges in development. Terraco had tried to get feedback on what the Village is looking for at this site and had serious discussions with several grocery stores. The consensus was that the site did not work for a grocery store due to population density and site size. They then approached a number of other potential users, including restaurants, furniture stores, drugstores, clothing stores and other retailers, but there was no interest from these users.

They had received a positive response from a day care facility, but the Village was not supportive of this use at that time. Mr. Huvad explained that the proposed day care user was projecting a student population of 200 in a 15,000 square foot building. The Village was concerned as they did not feel that drop off and pick up during rush hour could be safely facilitated. That is why the Village did not want a day care facility on the site.

Mr. Wander explained that their site is very small and needs significant improvements both on site and off site. The proposed improvements include right-in and right-out lanes on both Milwaukee and Deerfield Roads, widening Deerfield Road and adding an intersection on the east end of the property. He stated that these improvements will mitigate the existing impacts of the intersection. The proposed on site improvements include flood plain and storm water management and compensatory storage.

Mr. Wander stated that their request is for \$1.5 million in funding including TIF funds and 40% of the sales tax generated by the development. Their GAP analysis would be -1.26% with no assistance, 3.33% with the TIF assistance and 11.11% with the TIF and sales tax assistance.

Mr. Wander stated that the annual benefit to the Village for the next 20 years would be \$160,059. The undiscounted amount over 20 years would be \$3,201,191. Upon expiration of the TIF/ tax sharing, the annual sales tax would be \$195,062 plus the TIF increment of \$60,695. The proposed gas station is a significant sales tax generator for this location. Their projection is \$12 million sales annually including both food and convenience store sales. Mr. Wander noted that if the additional tenant is a sales tax generator, the benefit to the Village would be higher.

Mr. Huvad introduced Village consultant Geoff Dickinson with

SB Friedman, a TIF consulting firm. Mr. Huvard gave a brief history and explanation of how the TIF district was formed, what a TIF district is, the state laws that govern TIFs, and costs that can be reimbursed from TIF funds. He explained that the Village had originally hired SB Friedman to perform an eligibility study to determine whether the property could qualify as a TIF district. He then explained that once Terraco presented a plan and requested TIF funds, the Village again hired SB Friedman to be their consultant and to advise the Village Board on the projections that the developer has presented.

Mr. Dickinson explained that Terraco is requesting two sources of funds: TIF and sales-tax-revenue sharing. He confirmed Mr. Huvard's explanation of TIF fund uses. He then stated that sales-tax-revenue sharing has fewer restrictions. He reviewed the economics of the proposal and validated their construction budget and proposed revenues. Mr. Dickinson believes the revenues and expenses for the pro forma were roughly reasonable. He also looked at the all of the numbers to ensure the Village would not be over-subsidizing the developer, thereby enriching the developer. Mr. Dickinson noted that his rate of return was slightly different than that of the developer.

Trustee Chamberlain noted that the new sales projections for the gas station were much higher than the original projections and asked Mr. Dickinson his opinion on that. Mr. Dickinson explained he is less comfortable with the new projections having not seen numbers this high for this type of use. Trustee Baumann asked if liquor sales were included in the numbers. Mr. Laube explained that the gas station sales projection is \$1,500 per foot and of that \$300 is attributable to the convenience store operation. He stated that they did not have a breakdown of how much of the \$300 were liquor sales. Mayor Norris asked if the sales numbers were based on a 24/7 operation and, if so, how would the numbers would be affected if the operation was not 24/7. Mr. Wander replied that both the gas station and the McDonald's numbers were based on 24/7 operations. He then stated that the gas station would be more affected than the McDonald's if that were not the case. Trustee Jamerson asked about the \$300/sq. ft. sales projection for the east building. Mr. Laube explained that was a good average for a typical retailer or low end fast food restaurant.

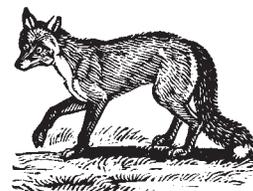
Trustee O'Donnell asked Mr. Dickinson his professional opinion of what a target initial rate of return for this type of project should be. Mr. Dickinson explained that, because the developers already own the land and would like to develop it, an IRR in the mid to upper teens would probably be acceptable. Trustee O'Donnell asked for the petitioner's minimum acceptable return. Mr. Wander replied that the 16.55% on SB Friedman's GAP analysis is the lowest acceptable return.

Trustee Ford asked if Terraco were to sell the McDonald's property earlier than the 10-year projection, would they continue to get a portion of the sales tax. Mr. Huvard explained that there would be a note that would be payable from the TIF and sales tax funds and that the conditions of the note would have to be worked out.

Trustee Jamerson asked if the third building would be built at the same time as the other two buildings. Mr. Wander explained that he would not build the 6,000 foot east building until they had a tenant. Trustee Jamerson noted that, according to the numbers presented by Terraco, the annual TIF funds will be less than the requested sales tax, meaning that a greater portion of the note will be paid with sales tax revenues. Mr. Huvard explained it would depend on how the note is structured. He said that using sales tax revenue will accelerate the period of time over which the note is paid off. Mr. Laube explained they are requesting a pay-as-you-go TIF and sales tax structure program that, based on their sales projections, will come to \$1.5 million over 20 years. If there is a balance on the note after the 20-year period, the Village would not be obligated to pay that balance.

Trustee Chamberlain asked why the sales projections increased so drastically. Mr. Wander explained the change is in the gas station numbers. He explained that their initial projections were more conservative. Terraco took another look at the numbers and talked to the Shell owners who stated that they would do much better at this location. Mr. Wander reminded the Board that Terraco had originally talked to Circle K who owns the Shell station at Aptakisic. Circle K's projections were in line with the higher sales projections.

Twelve residents spoke against the project. They expressed concern about: the additional traffic created by this development and the potential development on the opposite corner in Buffalo Grove, having a fast food restaurant and a gas/convenient store at the entrance to the Village, compromising the beauty of Riverwoods, a potential decrease in property values, not keeping with the style of Riverwoods, having businesses that do not benefit the residents, increased DUIs and traffic accidents, and the small financial benefit to the Village. Residents also that requested information be published in the Village Voice so more residents become aware of the proposal.





**Riverwoods Police Department
Residential and Commercial
Burglar / Holdup Alarm Annual Registration Form
2015**

\$25 Initial Registration

\$15 Renewal

Date: _____

Resident/Business Name(s): _____

Resident/Business Address: _____

Names of Owners/Occupants: _____

Owner/Occupant/Business Phone Number (s): _____

Work Phone Number(s): _____

Other Phone Number(s) (Cell, Pager): _____

Email Address _____

Email is optional for both Police emergency contact and Village non-emergency notification.

Police use only

Keyholder/Emergency After Hour's Contact (24-hour availability):

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Name & Phone Number of Alarm Co: _____

Registration information shall be securely maintained and restricted to inspection only by the Police Chief or certain officers or Village employees specifically assigned the responsibility for handling and processing alarm-user registrations in the course of official duties without the express written consent of the alarm user supplying such information.

Please mail to:

Village of Riverwoods Police Department
845 Saunders Road
Riverwoods, Illinois 60015

Please be sure to include your \$25.00 check (initial registration fee) or \$15.00 check (renewal fee) payable to the Village of Riverwoods. Please do NOT include payment for any other Village fees or bills.

Police Dispatch non-emergency 847-945-1820

Police Administration 847-945-1130



Riverwoods Montessori elementary and kindergarten students participating in a podcast with teachers and students in Antarctica.

Greetings from Antarctica!

Tony Kambich, Riverwoods Montessori School

Riverwoods Montessori Kindergarten / Elementary partnership activities this month were especially exciting as we participated in a live webcast from Antarctica.

Did you know that Antarctica is the highest, driest and coldest place in the world? Or that it is one huge desert and in some places it has not rained in over two million years? Did you also know that there is a volcano. And the volcano, Mt. Erebus, is one of the two most active volcanoes in the world?

We are fortunate to have the opportunity to learn more directly about Antarctica and the scientific studies of the Velvet Ice Expedition Team. Yamini Bala, Deerfield Montessori Children's House site director, is part of a team of educators and scientists who are doing research over the next several weeks in Antarctica. During an initial live webcast from the McMurdo Station, the Velvet Ice Team shared some interesting facts about Antarctica and their studies. At the end of the presentation we were able to ask some questions that will lead us into our own further studies here at Riverwoods Montessori School. The Velvet Ice Team is now headed to their base camp at the WAIS (West Antarctic Ice Sheet) Divide. We look forward to our next webcast with the team.

Book Club News

By June Melber

The next meeting of the Riverwoods Book Club will be Thursday, February 5, 2015. We will start the New Year with **The Hot Zone**, by Richard Preston. This book documents the discovery of Ebola in the 1970's. More exciting and a lot more scary than even a Stephen King novel, because it really happened. Start the year off with us, at the Village Hall, 10am. As always, refreshments will be served and the meeting is open to all.

For more information contact June Melber at 847-940-7086, or argos501@aol.com, or call the Village Hall.

Don't Dump It! Donate It to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore

Don't Dump it! Donate It and Deduct It! – New and used building materials and household products are accepted at the local Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

- *I'm remodeling my kitchen and my cabinets are in good condition. What can I do with them?*
- *My new furniture comes next week. Who will pick up my gently used furniture?*
- *I'm cleaning my garage and have things too good to throw in the landfill. Who can use them?*
- *I want a tax deduction for my donation. Which group is a non-profit and not a private business?*

The Habitat ReStore in Gurnee is ready to accept your donations today! We welcome new and gently used items including:

Cabinets	Tools
Appliances	Doors
Lighting	Flooring
Furniture	Yard tools
Sinks and counter tops	Patio/yard items
Windows	Commercial displays
Toilets and tubs	Manufacturer overruns

Your donation allows a hard-working family living in an attic or basement to move into a simple, decent, affordable, healthy, energy-efficient home. Your support makes a permanent difference in the lives of the children who can now thrive without continual moves from apartment to relative. Your call with a donation will help people living about 20 minutes from our town, right here in Lake County. Your donation will make a difference.

As you clean out your basement or garage, donate to the Habitat ReStore. And as you remodel your home or business please shop with us.

Contact us: donations@habitatlc.org or call 847-249-3160.

Drop off: 3545 Grand Avenue, Gurnee (1/4 mile east of Route #41 on the south side of Grand Avenue. Look for the ReStore sign just above the Salvation Army sign.

Pick-up: Our two trucks are ready to come to your house or business for larger items.

Hours: Tuesday-Friday: 9am-6pm

Saturday: 9am-5pm Sunday-Monday: Closed

The habitat for Humanity Restore reminds you to Reduce, Reuse and ReStore.

VILLAGE REMINDERS

Village Curfew – The Village Curfew Ordinance, which affects youths under the age of 18, is 11:00p.m. during the week and 12:00a.m. for Holidays, Fridays and Saturdays. This conforms to state statute.

Overnight Parking – No overnight parking is allowed on any Village street, from 3-6:00am No parking is allowed on Thorngate streets after dark.



Green Corner

Private Well? When Was Your Water Last Tested?

Riverwoods Preservation Council

When was the last time you had your well water tested? In Lake County approximately 90,000 residents rely on groundwater from aquifers to supply their private wells. The Lake County Health Department recommends that users of private wells have their well-water tested annually to assess whether the quality meets the minimum drinking water standards. Testing is not difficult and the Lake County Health Department reduces their processing fees considerably during National Ground Water Awareness Week, March 8 - 14. The basic test includes evaluating the water for bacteria and nitrates.

Obtaining a testing kit – There are three ways in which you may obtain a testing kit.

The first two options require you to return the water samples in person to the facility.

- 1) You may pick up the kit in person from the Lake County Central Permit Facility, which is located at 500 W. Winchester Road in Libertyville. The hours are Monday – Thursday, 7:30am – 3:30pm.
- 2) You may request that a kit be mailed to you by calling the Facility at 847-377-8020. However, there will be an additional charge for this option and these kits will still need to be returned in person during business hours.

3) You may request that staff from the Health Department come to your home to test the water for you. Under this option the staff will also inspect the well. This is the most expensive option and in past years the cost has ranged from between \$52.00 to \$55.00.

What is the basic cost for testing the water? During the past four years the Health Department has charged \$16.00 for routine testing, but during National Ground Water Awareness Week, the Department has reduced the charge to \$10.00 for well owners.

Although the official testing fees for 2015 had not been published by the deadline of this issue of the Village Voice, the Health Department staff expects the pricing structure to be similar as in the past years.

How long does it take to get results? Results of water samples are ready for homeowners in approximately three working days.

For answers to any further questions you may contact the Lake County Health Department at 847-377-8020 or send an email to HealthEHS@lakecountryil.gov. You can also get information from the EPA Citizen Guide to Groundwater Protection.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE RPC

The RPC would like to involve more people throughout the Village in local ecological issues. We have sponsored interesting programs and events, such as a water management panel, shoe and eyeglass recycling, installation of a rain garden at the police station, and a native plant lecture at Red’s Garden Center. The RPC, a nongovernmental, resident-run environmental organization, is seeking directors and others interested in Riverwoods’ ecological matters. To learn more, please contact the RPC at riverwoodsrpc@comcast.net.

RPC MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes, I want to support the RPC in its efforts to preserve Riverwoods! Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of :

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other _____

I have attached my employer’s matching contribution form.

Join at a level of \$100 or more and receive a 10% discount on most plants sold each spring by the RRA Plant Sale Committee.

Please make your check payable to the Riverwoods Preservation Council, P.O. Box 122, Deerfield, IL 60015. The RPC is an independent, resident-run, volunteer-run, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. Your contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Thank you!

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Find the Riverwoods Preservation Council on Facebook at www.riverwoodsrpc.org, and at riverwoodsrpc@comcast.net.

RRA - Join and Make a Difference in Riverwoods

Riverwoods Residents Association (RRA) forms a support network within our Village. Membership is \$25 per family and includes two vehicle stickers. Mail your check to RRA, P.O. Box 341, Deerfield, IL 60015. For more information contact Jill Kaplan at jedma1@yahoo.com or call her directly at 847-945-0062.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Address _____

of extra stickers at \$5 each _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Living with Wildlife

The Lake County Forest Preserve website is a good source for advice when it comes to living with wildlife. And as Riverwoods residents, we are all lucky to enjoy sightings of these wild animals from our homes. But sharing the woodland can be tricky at times. The following is some good advice from the Lake County Forest Preserves website. Read more at www.lcfp.org

Human development in urban areas has replaced natural areas that were once habitat for wildlife. Open fields, forests and wetlands have been replaced by lawns, gardens and neighborhoods. Many animals are adapting to this new environment, sometimes at the expense of their human neighbors by creating a disturbance or causing damage to property.

The best way to prevent common wildlife issues is to avoid providing potential sources of food and shelter before an animal creates a disturbance or causes damage to property. Following are recommendations for how to prevent common wildlife conflicts:

- Do not encourage wildlife to come in or near your home by feeding them.*
- Keep pet food and water dishes indoors.
- Turn on outside lights, make noise and observe the area for any signs of wildlife before letting your pet outdoors.
- Keep grills and barbecues clean.
- Repair broken, weak or rotted areas all around your home.
- Trim tree limbs that provide easy access to your roof.
- Install and maintain chimney caps.
- Cover openings under decks, elevated sheds, concrete slabs and porches with welded wire.
- Add welded wire to the inside of attic vents to deny access if covers are removed.



The simplest solution to keeping animals out of your garbage cans is to bring the cans inside where animals cannot reach them. If this is not possible, keep the cans in a secured area or sprinkle black pepper on the top bag inside the can. Another deterrent is to place rags soaked in ammonia on top of the lid and secure with bungee cords. Use an odor deterrent for one week after you notice issues or when putting garbage outside for weekly pickup.

* Be aware of all state of Illinois wildlife regulations. It is illegal to provide food and salt or mineral blocks to wild deer or other wildlife in areas where wild deer are present.

Even though it may be tempting to trap and remove a nuisance animal, removal does not usually provide a permanent solution. Trapping and removing animals only creates an opening for another animal to occupy. A trapped adult may also leave young behind that often die of starvation in an inaccessible area. The best solution is to focus on removing the attraction, not the animal, in order to prevent future invasion.

Please remember that it is illegal for homeowners to trap certain species and there are many federal and state laws against keeping wildlife.



Riverwoods Is Special,
cont. from front cover

There are economic benefits as well. Property values tend to be higher for wooded lots, since the supply of wooded properties has been declining while demand for such property has been increasing. Preserving or re-establishing a natural landscape provides signifi-

cant savings of time and money for the homeowner. Natural landscaping utilizes less water and hardy native plants, once established, require little care. Because they have adapted to local conditions over thousands of years, they generally require no fertilizer or pesticides, little or no irrigation, no weekly mowing, and little or no weeding. Pollution is reduced because use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and of fuel-burning equipment such as lawn mowers is reduced.

Finally, native plants provide biodiversity and wonderful visual appeal. They grow in a variety of shapes and textures, from rigidly columnar to gracefully spreading and vary in height from a few inches to more than eight feet for some grasses. They exhibit numerous colors and shades, ranging from greens to blues to silver, and include multiple variegated species, and flower at different times of the year. Some have colorful seed pods or provide changing seasonal colors, and some, such as prairie grasses, remain upright throughout the year, swaying in the breeze, even during the bleak winter months.

As a homeowner in Riverwoods, one of the few areas that retains many of its original natural features, we are each entrusted with a precious resource. In effect, we are each stewards of the land we inhabit.

It's easier than you think. When preserving or restoring the natural landscape, the first and most important thing to remember is to do no harm. Before diving into a project, get expert advice. This approach is particularly important in dealing with our fragile woodlands.



Riverwoods Village Voice

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AUTO

Orphans of the Storm Makes It Easy for Seniors to Adopt a Friend

Orphans of the Storm is proud to introduce our cat adoption program; **Feline Friends for Seniors**. This adoption program is designed to help senior adults better afford the initial costs to take on an adult cat as a pet. On any day at Orphans of the Storm any senior age 65 or older may select an adult cat, or two, and we will waive the \$90 adoption fee and in addition we will reduce the vaccination fee of each to \$60. So that the total cost to add a feline friend to your life will be \$60.

Our adult cat room is home to 150 - 200 cats on any day. Our cat gallery houses another 50 - 100 easily. So you will most likely find whatever type of cat you have in mind. Our adoption counselors and volunteers are available to assist you in making the best selection for your lifestyle. You never need an appointment to visit and discover your next feline companion.

Along with companionship, elderly pet owners experience the many health benefits that come with caring for a cat, such as reduced stress and blood pressure levels. You can also count on improved mental and physical health and an increase in overall happiness.

