

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. Nov 17, Dec 1, 15, Jan 5, 19 and Feb 2 and 16.

Riverwoods Plan Commission

1st Thursday at 7:30pm. Dec 3, Jan 7 and Feb 4.

GET INVOLVED
IN RIVERWOODS

Village of Riverwoods Senior Program

Michelle Smith
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



A photo from the RPC's publication, "In Our Own Backyard" highlights the natural beauty of Riverwoods. One of the reasons why we choose to call Riverwoods home.

Village Survey: We Asked and You Responded . . .

By Michael Baumann, Village Trustee

Over the last several months the Board of Trustees has been developing a strategic plan for the Village. The plan is intended to provide a long range guide to address the top priorities for the Village and its residents for the next five – 10 years. While the Board had its own ideas for top priorities, it was also important to align the Trustees' and residents' opinions. Hence, we sent out a survey to capture your ideas, opinions and priorities.

The survey focused on capturing information in five areas: a) rating the Village's cur-

rent performance; b) identifying residents' top priorities for the Village; c) how best to communicate with residents; d) resident demographic data; and e) why people tend to move to Riverwoods and stay here. The last area, why people tend to stay in the Village for a long time, was originally observed in US census data. In 2000, the median age in the Village was 50 years, while in 2010 the median age was 60. This suggested that residents were staying put in the Village and the change in median age represented the same people as they aged over the decade between US censuses. If that was truly the case, it would be important to identify the reasons why people stayed in the Village to help guide Village policy and ordinances in order to maintain the qualities that people desire about our community.

There must have been some pent-up demand for expressing your opinions because we achieved a great response rate of 30%. (Thirty percent may not seem that great but for public surveys it is well above the norm of single-digit response rates and it beats the previous resident survey from 2004, which only had a 10% response rate.) With a 30% response rate and representation from all over the Village plus some statistical analysis, we were convinced that the survey responses were highly likely to be a representative sample of Village residents.

What We Learned from the Survey

Current Village Performance

• Resident's opinion of the public safety services (police & fire) and providing the Village services is very good with both categories having at least 55% of responses being rated as Excellent. If combined with the Good rating these two

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 Jan/Feb 2016 issue: December 28, 2015.

Send to:

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



TOYS FOR TOTS

Riverwoods Village Hall will act as a donation drop off site for Toys For Tots this holiday season.



Mayor John Norris (aka Riverwoods Safety Crew) at the Halloween party. Seen here with Jason Mannina, Operations Manager at the Deerfield Golf Club; Bruce Dayno, Riverwoods Police Chief; and Rick Jamerson, Riverwoods Trustee. Pictured below, a team of pizza-serving witches with Pete from P.J.'s

Despite Weather – Halloween Party A Success!

Boy, talk about problems!

First, construction plans had prevented the Village Halloween Party from being held at its usual venue, the Riverwoods Village Hall, so we needed to find a new place to party. Second, the inclement weather certainly put a damper on the day. No question, the trick the weather played on Halloween was no treat. After a week of beautiful weather, rain fell all day and the temperature dropped precipitously.

But not to worry, as Jackie Borchew and her wonderful team of volunteers managed to pull off another wonderful Halloween Party.

We all put our heads together and came up with a new location for the Halloween party. We were able to make arrangements

with the Deerfield Park District to use the clubhouse at the Park District golf club in Riverwoods. Jackie then came up with ways to allow us to move the hayride, the s'mores pit, and all the other parts of the party to the clubhouse. Jackie did so in fine style, and even had a contingency plan that allowed us to work around the bad weather. I think everybody had a good time as I received a great deal of positive feedback about the party Saturday night, and I have received a large number of positive emails during the week.

Jackie had help with all of this, of course, but the number of volunteers is too large for me to include here and I don't want to leave anyone out. The entire Village is grateful to all of you for the great work you did. Thanks for a great party and see you next year.

John W. Norris
Mayor, Village of Riverwoods

P.S. Please see my short article on page #6 on how property tax dollars are distributed. Your answers to our recent resident survey indicated that many of you are unaware of the Village finances. Accordingly, I plan to put at least some information about where the Village gets its money and how it is spent in each issue of the Village Voice.



August 18

TREASURER'S REPORT

Trustee Ford distributed a report showing the first quarter, second quarter and month of July revenue and the expenses by fund. The report can be read in full under the Board Notes

Trustee Ford emphasized this report shows the cash position only. For the month of July, the overall Village revenues exceeded the expenses.

Village Board of Trustees Meeting Notes

The following is a summary of ordinances, resolutions, and non-routine matters considered by the Board of Trustees from the meeting minutes of August 5 and 18, 2015. 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.

es. Year to date, however, the Village is negative \$115,000 which comes out of the General Fund. Trustee Ford noted that the report also shows the annual budget numbers for each fund, along with the percentage remaining of the budget. Trustee Ford explained that, on this report, she separated the net revenues by fund.

Year to date, the operating funds in the Police and General funds are running a deficit of about \$140,000. The Village should expect to see more of a deficit and a decreasing bank balance because of upcoming capital expenses.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mr. Durning reported that Orphans of the Storm will be getting some bat houses.

The temporary voting site for the March primaries will be at Chevy Chase. The Village will post signs before the election.

The Village received a demolition request for 719 Thornmeadow. There were numerous issues with the property. There are no plans to rebuild.

The Village received an unofficial request for a charitable donation from the Deerfield Education Foundation. Mr. Durning asked them to submit a formal request.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Dayno provided the Board with the Police Department activity since the August 4, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting. The Police Report is available to read in full on the Village of Riverwoods website. www.villageofriverwoods.com

Trustee O'Donnell brought up security concerns raised at the Thorngate Homeowners Association meeting, including people parking overnight, speeding, not stopping at stop signs, etc. He indicated there was a theft in the subdivision that raised some concerns. Chief Dayno noted he had received similar complaints and asked his officer to install a speed sign which he believes has been done but will verify it. He also stated that his officers have issued more speeding tickets than usual since the complaints were received.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Huvard noted that the Village is still dealing with a few problem houses one of which is uninhabitable and has a lot of debris. The Village filed a complaint but has not been able to serve the owner. The Village may need to take some extraordinary efforts to serve the owner.

Mr. Huvard stated that he and Trustee Baumann are working on a Village email policy and on storing and cataloging digital files.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Affordable Housing – Mayor Norris indicated that the Village was listed in the papers as one of the delinquent communities regarding the affordable housing act. Based upon legal research, it is his belief that, because the Village is a Home Rule community, that the Village is not subject to the requirement of the act.

In the past, the Village has filed reports of their plan which they will be doing again. The plan is to comply with the policy which is to have 15% of new housing being built to be affordable housing. Mayor Norris noted that when homes are built one at a time, it is very difficult to comply with that policy.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Auxiliary Arborist – Mayor Norris noted that he and Trustee Chamberlain have found a certified arborist who will act as an auxiliary arborist as needed by the Village at a reasonable rate. He was the arborist for the Village of Northbrook.

LockUp/Terraco Consideration of NFR Letter Holdback Agreement – Mr. Huvard explained that Bruce White, the Village's Environmental Attorney, asked the consultant who prepared the Phase II report to provide a 'worst case scenario.' The consultant came up with a budget of about \$29,000, but he expects it to be what he originally projected which was approximately \$10,000. Mr. Huvard went back to Terraco and explained that the Village requested a hold back of \$30,000 but without a cap. Both Terraco and The Lock Up

RIVERWOODS VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John Norris
Board President
jnorris@riverwoods-il.net
847-945-6293

Village Trustees

Michael Baumann
Drainage/IT/Environment/
Stormwater
mbaumann@riverwoods-il.net

Cheryl Chamberlain
Woodlands/Finance
847-914-0665
cchamberlain@riverwoods-il.net

Kris Ford
NSSRA/Treasurer Liaison/
Parks
kford@riverwoods-il.net

Michael Haber
Legal/Water
847-940-1957
mhaber@riverwoods-il.net

Rick Jamerson
Police/Building/Zoning
847-370-6565
rjamerson@riverwoods-il.net

Kevin O'Donnell
Sewer/Solid Waste/Roads/
Bike Path
kodonnell@riverwoods-il.net

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Rob Durning
Director of Community
Services
847-945-3990
rdurning@riverwoods-il.net

Bruce Dayno
Chief of Police
847-945-1130
bdayno@riverwoods-il.net

Tom Krueger
Fire Chief
Lincolnshire/Riverwoods
Fire Protection District
847-634-2512

were okay with the holdback and want to move forward.

Mr. Huvad would like the Board's approval to notify Terraco of their intent to close on the property within the next three weeks. Mr. Huvad spoke with Trustee Haber who stated he would prefer a \$60,000 holdback.

Mayor Norris recognizes the concerns of the Board about the potential risk of buying the property before it has been remediated. He believes the Village has done their due diligence and that a \$30,000 holdback should be enough for what may occur. In addition, Terraco is still liable if there is a problem in excess of \$30,000. Trustee Chamberlain questioned what the \$30,000 worst case means. Mr. Huvad explained that the consultant listed costs for things most likely to arise such as additional sampling. Trustee O'Donnell noted that the worst case scenario would be that the Village does not get the NFR (No Further Remediation) letter. Trustee O'Donnell is unclear why the Village cannot get the NFR letter before closing. Mr. Huvad explained it could take up to six months to get the NFR letter and that the Lock Up wants to proceed promptly.

Trustee O'Donnell asked if a child day care center with an outdoor playground would be allowed. Mr. Huvad explained there would be additional cost remediating to a residential level. If the Board wanted the ability for residential use, the cost would be approximately \$5 per foot higher.

Trustee Baumann would prefer to ask for more money upfront rather than coming back and asking for more. Mr. Huvad suggested that, to make a request for a higher escrow amount more palatable, the Village could stipulate that escrow money would be gradually released as interim decisions are made by the IEPA. As the process continues, there will be less work needed so the escrow could be reduced throughout the process.

Trustee Chamberlain moved to raise the escrow to \$60,000 with the intention of returning it in stages. A majority of the Board voted in favor.

The discussion continued – Mr. Huvad asked Trustees Ford and O'Donnell if there were any other items they wanted Mr. Huvad to negotiate. Trustee O'Donnell believes the Village should get the NFR letter prior to closing on the property. He feels that the Village is assuming an unnecessary risk. He asked if there was any discussion with The Lock Up about waiting until the NFR letter was received before moving forward. Mr. Huvad stated that the Lock Up wanted to proceed but will ask them if they would be willing to wait until the letter is received. Trustee Ford believes Terraco should develop the property rather than the Village.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance approving an Amendment to a Lease Agreement between the Village of Riverwoods and Nextel West Corp – Mayor Norris indicated this would be continued while the Village further investigates their options. Mr. Huvad got information on the four largest companies that purchase cellular antennas and leases. He suggests that the Village would be better served by having someone with in-depth knowledge helping the Village with the decision to possibly sell the cellular tower.

August 4

POLICE REPORT

Chief Dayno provided the Board with the Police Department activity since the July 21, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting. The Police Report can be found on the Village of Riverwoods website. www.villageofriverwoods.com

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Amendment to the Village Personnel Manual – Mayor Norris explained they are working on amending the Village Personnel Manual. This was prompted by the fact that the manual states that the Village gives vacation time to part-time employees, which Mayor Norris does not recommend be done. Mayor Norris will send a copy of the manual to the Trustees and ask them to review the manual and submit any other changes they would like to recommend.

“Phase 2” Findings on the Lockup/Terraco property – Mayor Norris indicated that the Phase 2 findings have come in. Environmental attorney Bruce White explained that the Phase 1 study results suggested that a Phase 2 study be done. Anderson Environmental sampled water in three of the four wells they had dug. There were no volatile chemicals found. One semi-volatile was found, but at a very low level. The three wells showed the same metals that were found in the landfill well. The levels were not significant, but could be an issue if the ground water was used.

Mr. White asked Anderson to contact the IEPA about the metals, to determine if the findings were considered a significant risk. The IEPA stated that the findings would not be a serious risk to the environment or to public health. The IEPA indicated that, in all likelihood, the owner could get a ‘no further remediation’ letter based on the information that currently exists without additional sampling and analysis. Anderson estimated that the cost of obtaining an NFR letter would be approximately \$10,000. An NFR letter is a statement from the IEPA that there are no further claims against the property under Illinois law. It would protect everyone in the chain of



Three happy faces manning the s'mores station at the Halloween party. Betty Dlouhy, Marguerite Welter and Amy Birtman.

title including Terraco, the Village and the Lock Up. Mr. White noted that the applicant for the NFR letter must be the owner of title. The Trustees believe Terraco should pay for the NFR application.

The Trustees discussed possible uses in regard to the groundwater exposure. Mr. White explained that the Lock Up or a fast food restaurant would be acceptable uses. Trustee Chamberlain noted that there was potential interest in putting in a day care center and, therefore, feels there should be some further investigation of this possibility. Mr. White replied that he would talk with the environmental consultant about this possible use.

Mr. Huvarud correctly assumed that the Board requires an NFR letter be issued, which could not be obtained within the timeframe they have for the closing. Mr. Huvarud didn't think either party would be happy with a request to postpone the closing for, possibly, up to six months. He noted that another option would be that the Village could close with a contractual undertaking between the Village and the Lock Up that they will cooperate to get to the NFR letter. The Lock Up could then close and begin the zoning process which could take several months. Mr. Huvarud will talk to the Lock Up and work on the details discussed and have something to present to the Board at the next meeting.

Trustee O'Donnell and Trustee Chamberlain asked what would happen if the NFR letter could not be obtained. Mr. White stated that, based on the uses, all of the findings and the history of the property, all indications show that there should be no problem getting an NFR letter. At worst, the IEPA may require some additional sampling or remediation which should not be extensive or expensive.

Mr. Huvarud asked if the Board has enough information to move forward or if they want two additional weeks for due diligence. The Trustees agreed that Mr. Huvarud should ask Terraco for two additional weeks.

Village Resident Handbook – Mayor Norris indicated that the Village used to have a handbook as part of their welcome package. It listed Village services, phone numbers, cab numbers, etc. Trustee Chamberlain is working on the cost-share program and general land maintenance issues part of the handbook. Trustee Haber suggested adding it to the Village website rather than printing it.

Bannockburn BBQ Challenge – Mayor Norris noted that the Bannockburn BBQ Challenge will take place on Saturday, August 22, 2015 from 2 – 4:30.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance rezoning property at 320 Portwine Road – Mr. Huvarud indicated that the property is currently in the R-2 district. The Plan Commission recommended rezoning the property to the Public Lands district consistent with the zoning of other Village-owned property.

The Board voted in agreement.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Building/Zoning – Trustee Jamerson sent out the Building Report for July. The construction value is down but the fees are up.

Woodland/Finance – Trustee Chamberlain met with the Village Ecologist to go over revisions to the cost-share programs. She added that, with Chuck Stewart gone, the Village still needs the services of a certified arborist from time to time. She and the Mayor have found someone who is interested in working for the Village on an on-call basis. Mayor Norris stated that the arborist's fee would be \$75 per hour.

NEW VILLAGE RECEPTIONIST

Mayor Norris stated that the Village hired a new, part-time receptionist. Michelle Smith is a Village resident and will work three days per week.



Pictured here are Rob and Dan of Patch 22, home of Dixie and Dandy, (the horses), and Abigail and Hannah Haugen and Dana Joras singing for the Deerfield Music Store aboard the wagon rides.

Who Gets Your Property Tax Dollar?



Who Gets Your Property Tax Dollars?

By John Norris, Mayor of Riverwoods

Throughout the 20 years and various capacities in which I have served the Village of Riverwoods, I have frequently heard residents comment on how much they pay in property tax and question what the Village does with “all that money.” In reality, while Riverwoods residents certainly do pay a great deal in property tax each year, very little of that money comes to the Village.

Above is a graphic representation of how each dollar paid by a typical Riverwoods resident is divided among the different taxing bodies in Lake County. As you can see, Riverwoods’ share barely covers the border of the dollar bill. The Village receives less than 2% of each dollar paid by our residents in property tax. In other words, for every \$10,000 a resident pays in property tax, the Village gets back only \$200.

Over 70% of the property tax goes to the elementary and high school districts. We are all grateful for the tremendous quality of the education our children receive, but the schools are expensive. The other recipients of property tax dollars also provide valuable services.

In future issues of the Village voice, I’ll try to outline the various sources of Village revenue other than property tax as well as the steps the Village has taken through the years to keep your property tax as low as possible.

Join the Renewable Power Program and Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

By Rick Jamerson, Riverwoods Trustee

In April 2012, Riverwoods voters approved a referendum allowing the Village of Riverwoods to pursue an electricity aggregation program. Our first foray into electric aggregation began with a three-year contract with MC2. During this contract, Village participants saved over \$1,100,000 compared to the ComEd rates in effect during that time! A 100% Green Power Program was available and cost the average residential customer only \$1.12 per month. The Green Power Program was designed to reduce carbon emissions. Unfortunately, only 21 Riverwoods residents took advantage of this program. Our contract with MC2 has ended with the last billing.

Beginning with the August 2015 billing and continuing through July 2018, Dynegy will be the energy supplier for the Riverwoods Electric Aggregation program. Dynegy has a 100% Renewable Power Program similar to the MC2 program. The additional cost of the Renewable Power Program is .233 cents (\$0.00233) per kWh during the first year and .27 cents (\$0.0027) per kWh during the second and third years. For the average Riverwoods home, the additional cost per month during the first year of the program is only \$4.05 per month over the Traditional Power Program. While this is an increase over the cost of the last program, this is a still small price to pay for a cleaner environment.

All residents who participated in the MC2 program during

the last three years were automatically enrolled into the Traditional Power Program with Dynegy regardless of whether they are in the MC2 Green Power Program. Enrollment into the new Dynegy Renewable Power Program is on an “Opt-in” basis and requires action on the resident’s part. This process is simple and takes less than 15 minutes to complete. Any resident interested in the Renewable Power Program should either call Dynegy at 844-351-7691 or send an e-mail to DESCustCare@Dynegy.com. You will need your ComEd customer number which can be found at the top of your monthly ComEd bill.

As a side note, never give your ComEd account number to anyone that calls you even if they state they are from ComEd or “your current energy supplier”.

VILLAGE SURVEY; *continued from the front cover*

.....
categories have over an 85% favorable rating.

- The Village rated the lowest for Supporting Village Businesses with nearly 60% of survey responses saying they did not know.
- Residents also expressed a significant amount of uncertainty (Don’t Know response) on the Village’s management of Finances (30% don’t know), managing property use & zoning (20% don’t know) and managing storm water (16% don’t know).
- For the remaining categories, survey responses were at least 60% favorable (Excellent + Good), which suggested a general satisfaction with Village performance.

Priorities

• In many survey responses, residents changed their priorities for the Village when they needed to consider raising revenues to address the priorities. While the Village is not currently considering raising taxes or current user fees, the survey data is useful to help the Board understand for what residents are willing to pay extra.

- When the sets of priorities were combined, the top five priorities from residents were:
 - o Village-owned infrastructure
 - o Adequate level of police services
 - o Financial planning
 - o Traffic flow and congestion
 - o Village services
- Each of these priorities were roughly equal in priority in general and if additional revenue was necessary.
- Sixteen percent of all survey responses indicated that none of the priorities were worth raising revenues.

Communication Preferences

- There was no one dominant form of communication preferred by residents, however there was a clear preference for push-type communication. Push communications are served directly to residents rather than requiring a resident to take any additional action such as visit a website.
- For most of the types of information, residents wanted information sent to them in either email, a direct mailing, or included in the Village Voice newsletter. Residents did prefer either direct phone calls or text messages for safety alerts and traffic/construction alerts.

Village Demographics

- The age demographics continued the trend of an aging population who have lived in the Village for at least two decades.

Over 64% of residents were over the age of 56 with 36% over the age of 65. While this is consistent with the trend in the US census data, the Village has nearly three times the population of people over 65 than the national average.

- In terms of people’s time in the village, over 57% of residents have lived in the village for over 15 years with many residents living here for much longer than 15 years. What was unexpected was the spike in residents living in the village for less than five years. Twenty percent of residents fell into this category. What was further unexpected with this group was that 27% of residents living in the village for five years or less were 56 or older.

- With the population of the village skewed to residents 56 or older it was not surprising to find that 58% of households in the Village have no children.

- These two observations indicate that in addition to young families moving to the village there is also a significant segment of older couples with no children that is also moving to the Village.

What is the motivation behind these distinct groups of residents to move to the Village and stay?

- While additional analysis is ongoing with the resident sentiment, there are several characteristics to which a large majority of residents either agreed or strongly agreed:
 - o The woodlands are an essential aspect of the Village character (78% agree/strongly agree)
 - o Larger lot sizes and good schools are a key factor (71% agree/strongly agree)
 - o Privacy is a main reason for living in the Village (66% agree/strongly agree)

Next Steps

It is not enough to just capture residents’ opinions. The Board now needs to translate these opinions into action. Before the end of the year, the Board will incorporate the learnings from the survey into the strategic plan. We will conduct focus groups with residents. The survey provided us with what your opinions are, while focus groups can provide an opportunity for you to explain why you have a particular opinion. Once complete, the strategic plan will include specific actions to be implemented in 2016.

Included in those actions will be to increase push-type communication to residents. We will continue the Village Voice newsletter as a means to inform residents and continue the automated calls to residents about safety alerts. In order to expand to email and text forms of push communication we will need to collect either residents’ email or mobile phone numbers. The Village currently has a privacy policy that prevents the sale or distribution of residents’ contact information for non-official business. We would encourage residents who would like email or text messages to forward their contact information to the Village so you can be included in future communications.

Part of the future communication will include information on managing the Village’s finances, managing storm water, and managing open space within the Village. We are also looking into additional public forums for two-way communication between the Board and residents on these and other top priorities for our community.

In closing we want to thank everyone that contributed to the success of the resident survey. The value of the information obtained far exceeded the cost of conducting the survey.



Escape into Our Lake County Forest Preserve District This Season

With such a wonderful Lake County Forest Preserve District actually touching our Village and extending all the way north to Wisconsin, it's easy to get back to nature. This season make time to grab a friend, two or four-footed, and escape into the forest, if even just for an hour or two.

The following are a few highlights of recent Lake County Forest Preserve news. To read more, go to www.lcfd.org.

DES PLAINES RIVER TRAIL NOW COMPLETE

The wait is over. Construction on the final section of the Des Plaines River Trail is complete. As of Friday, October 23, this last section of trail opened to the public, marking a historic milestone for the Lake County Forest Preserves. Trail users can now enjoy a 31.4-mile uninterrupted north/south venture through Lake County.

This fulfills a vision 54 years in the making for an unbroken greenway along the Des Plaines River that includes a contiguous trail spanning the entire length of the county--from Russell Road just south of the Wisconsin border to Lake Cook Road.

SOLAR-LIT TRAILS GUIDE THE WAY

With small solar lights to guide the way, hikers, skiers and snowshoers can get some brisk evening exercise along the 1.3-mile fitness trail at Old School Forest Preserve in Libertyville, and along a 1.65-mile hilly section of the Millennium Trail adjacent to the Winter Sports Area at Lakewood Forest Preserve in Wauconda.

Though regular preserve hours are 6:30 am to sunset, starting Sunday, November 1, the illuminated trails and adjacent parking lots will remain open after sunset until 9 pm, daily, through Sunday, March 13, 2016. Bicycle and equestrian traffic is not permitted on the lighted trails after sunset. Dogs are allowed but must be leashed.

FOREST PRESERVE SAFETY

It takes less than a minute to break a car window, unlock the door, and remove items left inside. Often there are no witnesses to these offenses because of the ease and speed. The following Theft Prevention Tips are provided courtesy of your Lake County Forest Preserves Police Department.

Theft Prevention Tips

- Keep vehicle windows closed and doors locked at all times.
- Activate your car alarm.

- Always remove your ignition keys.
- Never leave your vehicle running.
- Before entering your vehicle, scan the surrounding area, and always check the interior and the floor and rear seat areas.
- Prior to arriving at your destination, lock valuables in the trunk or glove box, hide them completely out of sight, or take them with you. A wallet or purse hidden under a newspaper or floor mat does not fool a criminal.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Don't broadcast your movements when hiding valuables.
- Larcenies are crimes of opportunity. When property is left unlocked or in plain view, it invites trouble.

Forest preserve police officers regularly patrol the preserves and trails and offer assistance. For emergencies call 911 and for non emergencies call Lake County Forest Preserves Police at 847-549-5200.



Deerfield-Bannockburn firefighters are always a big hit with the children.

West Deerfield Township Hosts a "Special" Halloween Party

By Kristen Scott, West Deerfield Township Clerk

Spiderman, Minnie Mouse and Oz's Dorothy, along with an assortment of ghouls and princesses, enjoyed a festive Halloween party on Oct. 24 for children with special needs and their families, sponsored by West Deerfield Township.

The party aims to provide a low-key, relaxed atmosphere for kids who may be overwhelmed by the traditional Halloween events in the community.

"Children with physical or developmental disabilities may find larger parties and haunted houses challenging," said Town Clerk Kristen Scott, who organized the event, now in its fifth year. "Too much noise or stimulation can be difficult for some of our kids to tolerate, so we try to provide an alternative celebration. Every child should have a chance to enjoy Halloween in an environment that is manageable for their unique needs."



Games, crafts, pumpkin decorating, face painting and, of course, Halloween treats helped make the party fun and engaging.



RPC Bike Drive Exceeds All Expectations

By Louise Simonson, RPC

On the day of the bike drive heavy rain showers could not deter residents of Riverwoods and some surrounding communities from riding, walking or driving their unused bicycles to the Village Hall. Based on the population of Riverwoods, the RPC directors were told not to expect more than six bikes. Oh, how wrong that estimate was! In the end, a total of 39 bicycles had been donated in all sizes and types: 29 adult, seven kid's bikes and three specialty bikes (one electric, one unicycle and even one with a side car).

The donated bicycles will be refurbished by members of the not-for-profit Lake County Bicycle Project and will then be distributed to deserving people located within Lake County. To learn more about this organization check out their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/LCBikeProject



An Important Note from Our Utility Department

By Pearl Swidler

This is a reminder to residents who rent out their properties to tenants. Please make sure that your tenant is current with their utility account before they move out or before returning their security deposit. Feel free to call or email me in utility billing for any further information. You can reach me at 847-945-3990 or pswidler@riverwoods-il.net

VILLAGE REMINDER

Village Curfew – The Village Curfew Ordinance, which affects youths under the age of 18, is 11:00pm during the week and 12:00am for Holidays, Fridays and Saturdays.

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 _____



The display of hands-on reptiles were once again a hit at this year's Halloween Party. Here, a young girl cradles a skink, one of the many exotic reptiles that were available to meet and hold. For the past three years, Rene, a Lake County animal control warden and her daughter Kayla have shared their pets and the knowledge of them.

Halloween Rocks In Riverwoods!

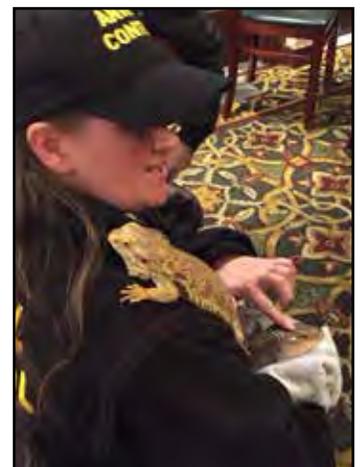
By Jackie Borchew

While results of the Village survey revealed residents preferences on some very important issues within the Village, the survey reported no findings on our love of Halloween. So I will report here for all to hear that Halloween officially remains a top preference of holidays in this Village.

For the 14th year, since the party's founding just after 9/11 as a safe event for the children of Riverwoods, our annual village Halloween party has continued on.

This year's party attracted a flurry of miniature witches, princesses and super heroes. From tiny ladybugs in strollers to the reemergence of the teenage mutant ninja turtle – a favorite of my son some 20+ years ago. And speaking of years, so many Riverwoods children, although disguised in costume, I still recognize as they continue to grow taller and more mature.

So this year, although the rain threatened, the weather gods were watching over us and pulled the clouds back at the final hour so that the party could go on! The horses from Patch 22, Dixie and Dandy, returned to head up the wagon ride, during which





the tradition of a sing-along put on by friends of the Deerfield Music Store honored the memory of Bob Gand. The exotic reptiles arrived ready to curl around any arm that would be offered, the balloon artist twisted animal shapes upon request, and those resident witches took their place serving pizza and hot dogs. All was well! The evening came off in grand fashion but only because of the help and commitment of so many. So here goes. If I miss you, I'm sorry, but you know that you contributed and should feel very good about it!

Planning, decoration and set-up help goes to Susie Crohn, John Norris, Marguerite Welter, Irene Gagerman, Bruce Dayno, Rob Durning, Rick Jamerson, Al Solomon, Mike Corn, Mike Altschuler, Betty and Phil Dlouhy, Joan Becker, Meghan, Ian, Sadie Grace and Tatum Richardson, Rick Jamerson, and Michelle Smith.

Additional people who worked the party include Mary Dayno, Nicki Norris, Chris DeVries, Rosie Seloske, Teresa Yapp and Menia S., Tammy Parashos and Yianna Soukourelis, Officer Al Macciareillo, our Riverwoods firefighters, Amy, Joey, Matt and Cali Birtman, Louise and Roger Simonson, Sherry Graditor, and special thanks to an anonymous donor of a new popcorn machine.

A special thanks to our corporate and resident friends who donated towards our party; Deerfield Golf Club, LakeShore, Mike Corn, Ray Alyea, Gewalt Hamilton, Northside Community Bank, P.J.'s Pizza, and Lake County Animal Warden Rene and her daughter Kayla and their pet reptiles.

Thank you to every resident and friend who came together to celebrate Halloween in our unique little village.

Gale Gand's Holiday Angelfood Cake

Whether you come for a burger and dessert at chef Gale Gand's Spritzburger at 3819 N. Broadway in the city or sign up for a class with her at Elawa Farm in Lake Forest, this Riverwoods resident is always cooking up something. Here's one of her light dessert recipes perfect for the holidays.

Vanilla and Cranberry Angelfood Cake

Makes 1 cake

For the cake:

1 cup egg whites (from about 1 dozen eggs), at room temperature

1 teaspoon cream of tartar

1 teaspoon salt

1 cups sugar

1 1/8 cup sifted cake flour

1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

Freshly grated zest of 1 tangerine or orange

1 cup fresh or thawed frozen cranberries, coarsely chopped (pulse whole berries in the food processor)

For the glaze:

2 tablespoons tangerine or orange juice

2 tablespoons cranberry juice

1 tablespoon egg whites

8 ounces confectioner's sugar

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.

In a mixer fitted with a whisk attachment (or using a hand mixer), whip the egg whites until foamy. Add the cream of tartar and salt and continue whipping until soft peaks form. With the mixer running, gradually add 1 cup of the sugar and continue whipping until stiff and the sugar has dissolved, about 30 seconds.

Sift the remaining cup sugar with the presifted cake flour 3 times, to aerate the mixture. Fold into the egg whites, then fold in the vanilla, zest, and cranberries.



Spoon the batter into an ungreased tube pan. Bake until light golden brown, 30 to 35 minutes. Cool by hanging the cake (in the pan) upside down around the neck of a bottle until it cools to room temperature. Run a long table knife (not a sharp knife) around the pan walls to loosen the cake, then knock the cake out onto a plate. The outside of the cake will remain in the pan.

Make the glaze: Stir the ingredients together until smooth. Pour over the top of the cake and spread with a spatula, letting the glaze trickle down the sides. Let set for at least 30 minutes before serving, or until the icing is hard.

Makes 1 cake



Village of Riverwoods

300 Portwine Road
Riverwoods, Illinois
60015-3898

847-945-3990

Fax: 847-945-4059

VillageofRiverwoods.com



Presorted
STANDARD
US Postage

PAID

Permit #63
Deerfield, IL
60015-3898

AUTO



TOYS FOR TOTS

Riverwoods Village Hall will act as a donation drop off site for Toys For Tots this holiday season.

Donations of unwrapped new toys will be accepted at the Village of Riverwoods from now to December 14, 2015. The Marines from Lake County will pick up the donations on December 14.



*Happy Holidays
& Happy New Year
– Village of Riverwoods*