



Riverwoods

VILLAGE VOICE

Home Rule

By Mayor William S. Kaplan

On Tuesday, March 21, 2006, there will be a General Primary Election. One of the items on the ballot will be the following question:

Shall the Village of Riverwoods become a home rule unit pursuant to Article VII, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution?

YES _____

NO _____

Your Board of Trustees voted unanimously to place this question on the ballot.

I wrote about the reasons given by the Board for seeking a vote on this question in our last newsletter: "Home Rule will provide our Village with the flexibility and local control it needs to maintain the unique character of Riverwoods. It would enhance our ability to preserve the integrity of its zoning ordinances, to operate in a more cost-effective manner, and to have a more diversified and flexible revenue base without raising property taxes."

We have held two Town Meetings at the Village Hall on February 7th and February 21st to discuss the pros and cons of this issue. The majority of those who attended were in support of granting Home Rule Status to our Village.

The following are some reasons for becoming a "Home Rule" community which were examined and discussed at our Town Meetings:

1) Home Rule status would provide bet-

ter grounding for local regulations in connection with our efforts to protect our unique environment. Our Tree Protection Ordinance and our Woodland Preservation Ordinance (which is unique in the state) would be benefited by Home Rule.

2) Home Rule status would provide better grounding for local regulations in connection with the repair and maintenance of our streets and for agreements with owners and road associations to allow the police department to enforce traffic laws on private streets.

3) Home Rule status would help in the enforcement and imposition of sprinkling bans.

4) Home Rule Status would allow the Village to customize the criteria in the zoning and planning process for granting hardship and would allow the Village to require Development Agreements which would obligate builders to adhere to performance standards.

5) Home Rule communities are not expressly covered by the recent Affordable Housing Law which would allow the state to change our master plan and zoning regulations to achieve the goal of having 10% of the housing units in the community being affordable to a household earning 80% of the six-county area median income. Most home rule communities have taken the position that they should be free to control their own zoning and devise their own solutions to their housing issues.

6) Home Rule status would allow the

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Riverwoods Board and Committee 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 8p.m. Mar. 14, April 4, 18 and May 2 and 16.

Riverwoods Plan Commission:
1st Thursday, at 7:30p.m. April 6 and May 11.

TO GET INVOLVED IN RIVERWOODS

Village of Riverwoods Senior Program Call Nancy Morten at (847)945-3990.

Theatre in the Woods
Call Sandy Sagan, producer at (847)945-0585.

RRA (Riverwoods Residents Association) Become a 2006 member for \$20. Receive an auto sticker, support and be a voice in your community. Mail \$20 to RRA, c/o Village of Riverwoods, 300 Portwine Road, Riverwoods, IL.

Meetings are held at the Riverwoods Village Hall. Contact RRA president, Richard Small for more information.

Family Programs Call Jodi Kahn at (847)236-1632.

Plant Sale Committee. Call chairmen Margie Kaul, at (847)945-5131 or Sheila Hollander at (847)945-4879.

The Riverwoods Preservation Committee
Call Greg Mancuso, chairman at (847)945-7034.

"The Buck Stops Here,"
Learn how to live with the deer. Jennifer Filipiak, a Wildlife Biologist with the Lake County Forest Preserve will speak on Thursday, March 23, 7:30pm at Village Hall.

Arts&Riverwoods Call Leslie Ames, chairman, at (847)948-9003.

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It's 11:00 p.m.— Do You Know Where Your Children Are?

The curfew ordinance, which affects youths under the age of 17, is 11p.m. during the week and 12a.m. Holidays, Friday and Saturday. It conforms to state statute.

Read the News First on the Village Website

All information contained in this newsletter as well as other pertinent Village information is available on the Village of Riverwoods website. Read it first at: www.villageofriverwoods.com



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.

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Village Board Meeting
Minutes taken by:
Debbie Limer

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.

Village to obtain non-property tax revenue sources as follows:

Sales Tax: A 1/2 point (0.5%) increase in the current sales tax rate from 7.0% to 7.5% would yield about \$100,000 per year from current sales. This amount would be considerably more with the commercial development of the 37 acres and the former Riverwoods Inn property. The current sales tax rates in nearby communities are: Northbrook 8.25%, Buffalo Grove, (Lake County portion) 7.5%, Wheeling (Lake County portion) 7.5%, Deerfield 7.0%.

Hotel Tax: State law currently requires that our hotel tax be used exclusively for tourism. Home Rule status would free up about \$80,000 per year which could be used for bike paths, and making repairs or building reserves in the water and sewer funds.

Impound Fees: Home Rule status would allow us to impose a fee on owners to recover vehicles towed as a result of a drunk driving arrest. Based on our current rate of DWI arrests, home rule status would generate about \$40,000 a year to help fund the police department.

Demolition Fee: Home Rule status would enable the Village to levy a fee which builders would be required to pay for teardowns.

At the Town Meetings, we have had presentations showing that the policy levy (the Village's only property tax) funded 37% of the cost of police operations. In a typical resident's tax bill examined at the town meeting, only \$188 for the police levy out of a total \$12,600 property tax bill was collected by the Village, with the rest going to schools, fire districts and other taxing bodies.

The following are some reasons against Home Rule which were examined and discussed at our Town Meetings:

1. Home Rule Status would exempt a community from the property tax cap that limits growth in property tax revenues (with some exceptions) to the lesser of 5% per year or the consumer price index.
2. Illinois law forbids the imposition of a Real Estate Transfer Tax in Home Rule communities unless this measure is passed by referendum – but a Home Rule community could potentially pass this legislation. This would require a separate referendum from the current proposition that considers Home Rule.

3. Local government should be limited to powers for which there is express authority given by the state legislature.

Your Board has gone on record that it intends to employ non-property tax sources as a means of funding the police department operations, finding that the burden of a hotel tax, sales tax or impoundment fee would not be felt by our residents. The Board has also supported our initiatives aimed at protecting our woodlands. For these reasons, it voted unanimously to place the Home Rule question on the ballot.

Please exercise your rights and vote March 21, 2006.

Your Vote Counts

March 21 Primary Election

Home Rule

Please Vote

Village Board of Trustees Meeting Notes

Summary of ordinances, resolutions, and non-routine motions approved by the Board of Directors from meeting minutes January 3, 17, December 6 and 20.

WASTE BURNING

The Board of Trustees amended provisions of BOCA related to burning landscape waste.

LIGHTING ORDINANCE REVISED

Ordinance 05-7-13 regarding outside lighting has been repealed. The Village Board discussed the various issues pertaining to outside lighting and how it can be regulated as to not disturb neighbors. A resident came before the Board to complain about a neighbor's lighting. It was determined that the Board would help the neighbors resolve their issue rather than writing another ordinance.

VERNON WOODS

The Board of Trustees authorized spending \$500.00 to investigate water ponding in Vernon Woods.

JOIN LAKE COUNTY PARTNERS

The Village of Riverwoods has joined the Lake County Partners. The dues cost is \$500.

GOOD NEIGHBOR PROJECT

The Village of Riverwoods donated \$5000 to Good Neighbor Project. Orphans of the Storm provided the Village with the executed easements as asked.

HOME RULE STATUS

The Board of Trustees voted in favor of submitting the public question to grant home rule status to Riverwoods. (see cover story)

TOWN MEETINGS SCHEDULED

February 7th and February 21st 2006, were set aside for town meetings regarding proposed home rule status.

SALARY INCREASES

The Board of Trustees accepted the salary increase proposal recommended by the personnel committee. In addition, salary increases for members of the police department and for Chief Weinstein were also approved.

The Police Report

By Chief Morris Weinstein

When calling for police assistance: (847) 945-1820 or 911, please do not disconnect prior to dispatch obtaining all the necessary information. If you want to stay anonymous, that is fine, but the dispatcher does always ask for name and phone number and may seek clarification on

what you are reporting. This information is useful if the responding officers need to have you called back, to obtain additional or subsequent information. We will also be able to tell you the results of our response.

Spring has sprung (or almost): The nice weather is here (almost) and more people will be out enjoying it. Residents will be walking dogs, riding bikes and there will be more children on and around the streets. Drivers need to be alert and drive defensively. Please allow safe distances from pedestrians etc.

WARNING... New Credit Card Scam.

Note: the callers/bad guys do not ask for your card number; they already have it.

The scam works like this: Person calling says, "This is (name), and I'm calling from the Security and Fraud Department at VISA (or Master Card). My Badge number is 12460 Your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern, and I'm calling to verify. This would be on your VISA card which was issued by (name of bank).

The caller asks about a supposed specific purchase and when you say you did not make it, talks about starting a fraud investigation. He sounds very sincere and even directs you to call the 800 number on the back of your card if you have any future questions.

Here's the IMPORTANT part on how the scam works. The caller then says, "I need to verify you are in possession of your card". The caller will ask you to read the three numbers on the back of the card. After you tell the caller the three numbers, he'll say, "That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have your card. Do you have any other questions?" After you say No, the caller then thanks you and states, "Don't hesitate to call back if you do", and hangs up. You actually say very little, and they never ask for or tell you the Card number.

Caution: Do not give out information to a caller.

Waste Management 2006 Holiday Schedule

Following is the 2006 holiday schedule for the Illinois Market Area for the remainder of the year. These are the days that garbage will not be picked up.

Monday, January 2, 2006
Monday, May 23, 2006
Tuesday, July 4, 2006
Monday, September 4, 2006
Thursday, November 23, 2006
Monday, December 25, 2006
Monday, January 1, 2007

Riverwoods Preservation committee is comprised of resident volunteers dedicated to preserving the ecological heritage of the community.

Living with Deer

Determining how to live with deer has been one of the more controversial issues in Riverwoods. Although no one can dispute their grace or beauty, deer can present a number of problems, including traffic accidents and very significant pressure on the plant life of our area. While some contend that the deer population has exploded in recent years, others say the diminution of their natural environment, caused by more and larger homes, vast lawns and habitat consuming amenities has created the problem. Most environmental experts believe that an overpopulation of deer exists in much of the Midwest and Northeastern United States. The debate has centered around two issues: (1) the seriousness of the overpopulation; and (2) the appropriate manner of addressing the overpopulation. Those who contend overpopulation is a serious problem cite as evidence supporting their view extensive damage to vegetation by overbrowsing; auto accidents, transmission of deer-tick borne Lyme Disease to humans and pets, and deer deaths due to accidents and starvation.

Where once there was plenty of open space for them, deer now are damaging both the woodlands and our gardens in order to survive. In addition, having long ago exterminated the large predators, such as bobcats and wolves, which would have controlled herd numbers, we are left with no natural alternatives for achieving a healthy balance. (Although coyotes may take down a few fawns or sick or injured deer, these occurrences do not significantly reduce deer numbers.)

When normal food sources cannot sustain the deer population, they search elsewhere. Starving deer will eat almost any vegetation, including evergreens, many woodlands plants and even tree bark. Most vulnerable are the young trees, which are necessary for woodlands regeneration. This damage to woodland vegetation can have significant effects. If the deer consume the woodlands more rapidly than they are regenerated, there is a steady reduction in the size, quality and diversity of the woodlands. Deterioration of the woodlands has many side effects, including destruction of animal habitats, such as reduced nesting places and food sources for birds. Reduction in bird populations results in an increase in undesirable insect populations. Some animals, such as mice, can adapt better than others to changes in habitat. Those populations may increase while the diversity of the animal population decreases.



The Lake County Forest Preserve District monitors the deer population, primarily through use of aerial surveys in the winter when the deer can be observed. Although controversial, sharpshooters occasionally have been hired to cull a herd. Other control efforts, none completely successful, have included trapping and transporting deer to distant forest preserves; contraception, surgical sterilization; fencing; netting; and use of various deer repellent materials around vegetation. Trapping and sterilization result in high mortality rates because of trauma. Most contraceptive drugs are difficult to administer, partly because two injections separated by several days are required. A newer method recently tested in Highland Park may be more promising. Fencing and netting are highly effective for the protected areas, but they are impractical for large areas, are frequently unsightly and, perhaps most significantly, divert deer to ever-smaller unprotected browsing areas where even greater damage occurs. Deer repellents, while effective, require frequent reapplication. In addition, deer quickly become adapted to the repellents.

Based on annual population surveys conducted at Ryerson Woods, even with culling, the 5-year deer count average remains close to 30 per square mile, rather than the 15 per square mile many consider appropriate for woodland health. Some see “the deer issue” as a simple debate between “animal lovers” and “tree huggers”, and believe that animals should take priority. Others contend that protecting woodland vegetation is essential to creating a balanced ecosystem that ensures survival of all the plant and animal species native to this area. Clearly, the goal of living in harmony with nature demands that this problem receive thoughtful attention and debate aimed at achieving optimal solutions.

Without taking a position this issue, here are some suggestions to help you find your comfort zone in living with our deer.

Deer vs. auto is a contest with no winners. The presence of deer in our Village is one very good reason for obeying speed limits. Be especially watchful at dawn, dusk and during the fall mating season. Where you see one deer, there is usually another. . . and another. Be patient.

Chemical Barriers – There are numerous deer repellants on the market. Some work by scent, some coat the

plant material with a bitter flavor. Most products are sprayed on and need to be re-applied periodically, especially after rains, snow or new growth. Brands you might find easily at your local garden center are Ropel, Bobbex, Hinder, Liquid Fence and Shotgun. Many landscaping companies will include spraying preparations such as these in your monthly maintenance. If you prefer to make your own, try:

*2 eggs, 1 c. water and Hot sauce
Blend in blender on high speed.
Put in gallon bottle. Fill with tap water.
Spray as needed – at least every 2 weeks.*

Other favored techniques include sprinkling highly scented soap shavings, dried blood, human hair, or predator urine on and around vulnerable plants. None of these will be 100% effective, but varying your method and product will boost your success rate. Also keep in mind that starting your repellants early in the year will prevent the animals from discovering or making a habit of enjoying what you are growing.

Plant Selection – When landscaping or gardening, it helps to choose plants “not favored by deer” rather than delicacies such as roses or geraniums or yews. These less palatable plants are often fuzzy or strongly scented, or toxic, such as lamb’s ears (*Stachys byzantina*), catmint (*Nepeta mussinii*), and monkshood (*Aconitum napellus*). Lists of such plants are readily available. Start with the Chicago Botanic Garden, which is always a good resource. The RRA’s Plant Committee does its best to offer an assortment of these plants and shrubs in their yearly sale. Be sure to give them a try. But, keep in mind that sometimes the deer haven’t read the list and occasionally a deer will try your bloom before realizing he/she doesn’t like it.

Physical Barriers – These are quite effective but can be costly and are certainly foreign to the open space ambience of Riverwoods. In addition, physically barriers simply direct the animals to your neighbors’ unfenced properties. Regardless of fencing material, and although deer are said to jump as high as eight feet, they will usually avoid a much lower barrier if they cannot see where they will land. Since the Riverwoods ordinance limits fence heights, try to design one that uses brush and plantings to obscure the landing area.

Should you come across an injured or dead deer, call the Riverwoods Police Department, which will advise you based on the location of the animal and the circumstances. Hunting is not permitted in Riverwoods so if you observe evidence of it, notify authorities.



The Buck Stops Here

They make us smile . . . and they make us frown . . .

Learn about living with our beautiful, and voracious, woodland neighbors, the White-Tailed Deer.

Join us at the Village Hall at 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, March 23rd, to meet Jennifer Filipiak, a wildlife biologist with the Lake County Forest Preserve. Jennifer will talk to us about our deer population and their habits, their



impact on the environment and how the Lake County Forest Preserve is currently managing the situation.

Bring your questions and concerns.

Sponsored by the Riverwoods Preservation Committee

Good Tree Care is Year-Round

Winter is an excellent time to prune trees, since trees are dormant and this is a perfect time to see their shape as well as any damaged limbs. In addition, at this time of year our shrubs and trees may also be under heavy pressure from deer since there is little beyond woody plants for them to eat. If you use a deer repellent spray in the summer, consider using it in the winter, too.

Let’s clear up a few common misconceptions about trees.

Myth: Tree roots are much deeper than grass roots.

Fact: Tree roots are very shallow, so even shallow trenching can seriously injure or kill a tree. In Riverwoods, with its heavy clay, tree roots are typically only 8 inches to 10 inches deep. Construction, including trenching and use of heavy equipment, is the biggest cause of tree injury in Riverwoods.

Myth: Tree roots extend roughly to the tips of the branches.

Fact: Tree roots extend well beyond the branch tips – up to two or three times the overall branch spread of a tree. That means that even minor construction activity well beyond the extent of the tree’s branches can injure tree roots.

Myth: Short-term parking of vehicles or equipment near a tree will not seriously injure the tree.

Fact: Tree roots are injured by soil compaction. Soil compaction can occur through a one-time event, such as moving a heavy vehicle across tree roots, or a series of seemingly insignificant events, such as periodic disturbance of the soil layer around a tree.

Myth: Grass around a tree won’t injure a tree, since in a natural environment trees grow in grassy prairies.

Fact: Because both turf grass and trees have shallow roots, grass competes with trees for moisture and nutrients. Prairies are composed of native grasses with much deeper roots. In nature, trees tend to grow in forests and grasses grow in prairies. When the forest and prairie meet there is competition for moisture and nutrients.

Myth: Mulching around a tree is good.

Fact: Proper mulching around a tree is good. The mulch must not be contact the tree trunk, should be no more than 3 to 4 inches deep, and should extend 6 or 8 feet from the tree. It is not necessary to mulch trees in a forested area, since the trees provide their own mulch by dropping leaves. Those leaves cool the soil, trap and preserve moisture and provide nutrients to the tree. The general goal in transplanting and growing trees should be to emulate nature as much as possible, since that's the environment in which trees have evolved.



Myth: Mulching robs the soil of nitrogen and other nutrients.

Fact: There has been no scientific confirmation of that widely held belief. The type of mulch is much less important than mulching itself. Inexpensive mulch is fine.

Myth: When a tree is injured, it will show discoloration or drop its leaves.

Fact: Trees react strongly to injury, but the reaction is slow to appear. Tree injury is generally not apparent for three to five years after the injury. By the time trees show injury, significant decline in health has occurred.

Myth: Oak trees can live up to 200 to 300 years.

Fact: That's true, but in Riverwoods there is enough stress on trees that a 150 year old tree is very old. In addition, trees in Riverwoods are about 30% shorter than trees in more natural areas.

Myth: Temporarily placing construction soil fill near a tree won't injure the tree.

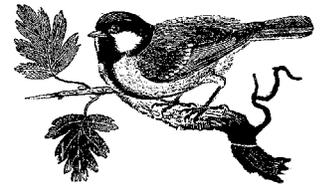
Fact: Soil fill injures roots by compacting the soil around roots. In addition, because the soil in Riverwoods is heavy clay, the soil fill may trap so much moisture that it will drown tree roots.

Myth: Cutting tree roots is always bad.

Fact: Cutting tree roots never helps a tree, but sometimes is necessary. For example, it is necessary during transplanting a tree. It may be necessary during construction. The best way to cut tree roots is to slice them with a sharp implement, to avoid shredding and tearing. If tree roots will be affected during construction, "root pruning" – slicing tree roots before excavation – will reduce tree injury.

Myth: If it's green, it's good.

Fact: Obviously this isn't the case. Poison ivy is green, but few people want it for their property. Buckthorn has



beautiful, glossy, long-lived green leaves. It is undesirable because it is highly invasive – it crowds out other plants with aggressive propagation and intense shade.

Myth: Buckthorn can be controlled by cutting.

Fact: Generally, heavy infestations require not only cutting but careful application of an herbicide such as "Roundup". The herbicide should be applied immediately after cutting, by painting it on the cut. Care should be exercised to avoid herbicide contact with other plants, and with you.

Myth: Agricultural herbicide use is more extensive than residential use.

Fact: Three times as much herbicide is used residentially than agriculturally.

Myth: When planting trees, it's best to plant so the top of the rootball is at ground level.

Fact: Because of the heavy clay soil in Riverwoods, sometimes it is better to place a new tree in a slight berm to prevent roots from drowning.

Myth: It's better to plant larger trees rather than smaller ones, for quick results.

Fact: Larger trees generally do not transplant well. It typically takes about one year per inch of tree trunk diameter for a tree to recover from transplanting. It's best to avoid transplanting trees larger than about three inches in diameter. Possibility Place in Monee, is a good source for healthy trees for Riverwoods.

Myth: The best trees for Riverwoods are oaks, since they are dying out.

Fact: While oaks are having difficulty competing with faster-growing shade tolerant species, variety is still important. In addition, oaks don't tolerate shade well. Good trees for shaded areas include redbud, ironwood, musclewood, witch hazel, and sugar maple. Swamp white oaks tolerate wet, heavy soil, but need light. Some evergreens, though not native to Riverwoods, may thrive, including white pine and junipers. Hemlocks do not like Riverwoods soil, and are deer food as well.

Myth: Frequent watering trees during a drought is good for trees.

Fact: In general, frequent watering is not desirable. Heavy watering, once a month or so during drought, is better for trees. If the soil is dry an inch or two below ground surface, watering is appropriate. Watering can occur at any time, as long as the Village permits it.

Garlic Mustard is Consuming our Habitat

This is a letter to alert you to the dangers of ignoring Garlic Mustard.

1. Garlic Mustard is very aggressive
2. Garlic Mustard is not eaten by deer
3. Garlic Mustard is crowding out our native wildflowers
4. Each plant can produce thousands of seeds
5. The seeds are spread in late June, so we have to act quickly
6. If we ignore Garlic Mustard, a property can quickly become a monoculture of Garlic Mustard.
7. We need everyone to control the infestation; seeds are being spread from unprotected properties to protected properties.

Last year, many homeowners did a marvelous job of controlling Garlic Mustard. We want to congratulate you on that effort. Join with your neighbors and together we will control this invasion.

The Village of Riverwoods will again be matching half the cost of removing Garlic Mustard and/or Buckthorne from your properties. However, you must go to the Village Hall and fill out an application and have it approved before beginning your removal.

Garlic Mustard is an Ecological Threat to Our Woods: Garlic Mustard is an aggressive woodland weed native to Europe and Asia that was originally brought to North America for use as a garlic-flavored herb rich in Vitamin A and C and as a medicinal plant. A petiolata was made from the plant, which was used to treat gangrene and ulcers. The first recorded appearance of garlic mustard was on Long Island in 1868.

Description of the "Perfect" Weed

Garlic Mustard is a biennial in the mustard family (Brassicaceae) with triangular-to-heart shaped coarsely toothed leaves. The first year plants are a rosette of green leaves close to the ground, which remain green through the winter. During spring of the second year, each plant matures and produces a button-like cluster of small white flowers on a stalk reaching 5 - 46 inches high. Garlic Mustard flowers either are cross pollinated by insects or are self-fertilized. By the end of May through early June, slender seed pods are produced which can remain on the plant throughout the summer even though the plants start

dying by the end of June. A single plant can produce thousands of seeds, which can scatter several yards and lie dormant up to five years.

Habitat and Distribution: Although the mode of dispersal is not completely known, it is believed to be influenced by White Tail Deer populations. White Tail Deer prefer to eat native plants over Garlic Mustard. As a result, not only is the population of native plants reduced, but large deer populations disrupt the soil allowing seeds to surface and germinate. Garlic Mustard thrives in moist, shaded soil of river floodplains, forests, roadsides, edges of woods, paths, and roadways, making Riverwoods an idea site for invasion. Garlic Mustard thrives in almost all soil and light conditions. The only soil it cannot tolerate is extremely acidic soil such as undrained peat.

What is the threat to Riverwoods? Garlic mustard is competing with our native springtime wild flowers. Once introduced to an area Garlic Mustard will aggressively monopolize light, moisture, nutrients, soil and space! Garlic Mustard is crowding out our Spring Beauties, Wild Ginger, Bloodroot, Dutchman's Breeches, Hepatica, Toothworts, Violets and Trilliums. Instead of these rare beautiful flowers that once carpeted our woods we are being left with tall gangly plants (5-46 inches high) which turn into dead and dying pale brown stalks starting the end of June.

What you can do to control this Invasive Weed

Garlic Mustard can be controlled, but there are no one-time, permanent solutions. Approaches will vary depending on the time of the year and the situation. Work with your neighbors.

Remember...every blooming head or plant removed reduces the number of seeds that will be distributed!



RIVERWOODS PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Riverwoods Preservation Committee is open to any interested resident of the Village. There are no dues. Meetings are held monthly at the Village Hall. Meetings are scheduled for March 23, April 11, May 10 and June 14, at 7:30pm. If you would like to participate in the RPC, simply show up at a meeting. If you would like to be on the RPC's email distribution, please send an email to gjmancuso@comcast.net, beck2750@yahoo.com, or tonirey@comcast.net.

Methods for Controlling Garlic Mustard

Method	Situation	Technique	Time
Hand Pulling	1. Small infestations	1. Loosen soil with pitch fork	Spring
	2. Close to wild flowers	or hand weeder.	
	3. Before seed pods ripen	2. Pull carefully - removing root.	
		3. Place in dark garbage bag.	
		4. Seal bag.	
		5. Tamp down disturbed soil.	
Cutting off flowers / unripened seed pods	1. Large infestations	1. Place in dark garbage bag.	Spring
	2. Time or physical constraints	2. Seal Bag.	
Glyphosate Herbicides (Roundup)	1. Safest early spring when rosette is green, before other plants start growing	1. Use spray shield.	Spring, Summer or Fall
	2. Infestations with no native plants Roundup is non-selective.	2. Direct towards plant.	
	3. It will kill almost any plant it touches	3. Temperature above 50 degrees.	
		4. Rain not expected for 8 hours.	
Controlled Burn	1. Blow torch with large head	1. Direct towards plant	Fall, Winter
	2. Have water handy		
	3. Check with Riverwoods Fire Department		

Riverwoods Residents Association

An Exciting RRA Year Ahead

By Richard Small

February is finally over and March comes roaring in like a lion. Can Spring be far away? As the new President of the RRA, I am very excited about some changes which will greatly benefit our special community of Riverwoods.

The RRA is in the process of bringing interactive communication to its members. A new website is being developed which will allow online enrollment, updates about upcoming RRA events, interactive email communication, and document archiving. Individual homeowner's associations can post information within this website. The website is www.riverwoodsresidents.org.

Volunteers Welcome

Some very exciting community events are in the planning stages now. All who are interested in participating in RRA activities are most welcome. Events such as the Perennial Plant Sale, the Roadside Cleanup and Barbecue, Family Day, and Arts & Riverwoods are waiting for your involvement. Let us know what your interest is. There is a place reserved just for you! Visit our website for more information or call Richard Small at (847) 940-0444 (evenings).

RRA FUNDS GO TO THE VILLAGE

RRA has given the Village of Riverwoods \$90,000 to go towards the Bike Path Fund. The Village is in the initial phase of building a bike path to be enjoyed by all of the residents.

RRA WEB SITE

RRA has a new web site: www.riverwoodsresidents.org

ARTS & RIVERWOODS

Change is exciting and this year's show will be exceptional. One central location, Ryerson Woods, will provide easier access for viewing all of the wonderful artwork on display. Save the dates of October 13-15 for this colorful Fall event.

Arts and Riverwoods is considering becoming a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation with its own board of directors. To get involved call Leslie Ames, chairman, at (847)948-9003.

PERENNIAL PLANT SALE

This annual event which welcomes Spring showcases plants which thrive in our special woodland environment. Many plants are deer resistant and shade tolerant. Preorders will insure that you receive the plants you are waiting for. Call Margie Kaul for more information.

Go Native— Plant Sale May 19-20

The plant sale is coming: There is a theme in Riverwoods this year and that theme is restore and protect the unique environment we are all lucky enough to call our own.

In the last issue of the Village Voice, there was an excellent article which explained our fragile eco-system and the dangers to it. The plant sale committee would like to help meet the goal of restoration of our woods by offering for sale many plants which are native to the area.

We will be selling three different kinds of perennials this year, including many of your all time favorites from past sales. These are:



Ghost fern will be offered at the plant sale.

1. Plants for your landscaped garden.
2. Transition plants which can be used where your landscaped gardens end and the woods begin. These are hybrids of natives or are plants that complement our natives and are not likely to spread too easily into natural areas.

3. Native plants which can be planted in the woods, enhancing them without doing them any damage.

As always we will offer ferns and grasses. This year there will be six shrubs, varying in size from the tallest at 20 feet to the smallest at three-to-five feet. Some will do well in sun and some in shade. All are native to the area, and various committee members have tried them and they have thrived. There will also be flats of native wildflowers available. These will be three inch plugs and are easily planted in the woods. And, if you have a plant you want and we are not offering it, we will get it for you, if possible. There will be a place in the catalog for special orders.

The sale is May 19th and 20th, and newsletters should reach you in early April. The order sheets and committee names and phone numbers are in the newsletter and if you want to help or if you need help, call anybody on the committee. If they can't help you, they know who can.

See you in May. Happy planting. Hard to believe, but it will soon be spring! Really. Only six weeks to go.



2006 Riverwoods Residents Association Membership Announcement

Join the RRA today not only will you receive your village stickers but be a part of the only Riverwoods Community Association! The mission of the RRA, since 1959, is to encourage the preservation of the unique character of the Riverwoods area and to protect homeowners and residents against any project or act of any kind that threatens to be injurious to the health, safety and general well-being of the owners and residents. We support and encourage social and cultural activities in Riverwoods. We promote information and communication among residents on common concerns to the area. We also promote ways to support and safeguard the basic principle of a village policy built around maximum voluntary citizen involvement, minimum government control and minimum expenditure of funds for municipal services and capital improvement projects.

For the \$20 membership fee you will receive two (2) automobile stickers. Additional stickers are \$5 each.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please include me as an RRA member.

Name: _____

email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

On line enrollment at: www.riverwoodsresidents.org

Please mail in your check made out to:

RRA
P.O. Box 341
Deerfield, IL 60015

A Howling Mistake

By Sherry Kaplan

The Halloween Party was a Howling success, but I made a “howling mistake.” Our Village owes its unique character to the many wonderful volunteers who help make all our special events so great. Their hard work should certainly be properly recognized. In thanking all those who helped with the Halloween party, I did not give proper credit to the group of volunteers who are members of the Family Programs committee of RRA who did the decorations and set up of the party. Without their work this event could not take place. Belated thanks and my sincere apologies to: Jodi Kahn who recruited and coordinated the volunteers and made many of the signs, Jill Kaplan, Amy Birtman, Jannie Hanna, Alice Reich, Vicki Martin, Caroline Shapiro, Stacy Kaufman and Rebecca Nixon.

Riverwoods Montessori

By Lisa Kambich

Along with schools across the nation, during the week of February 26 – March 4, we celebrate National Montessori Week. In all of the classes, in the Montessori tradition of storytelling, children and teachers will recall the life and work of Dr. Maria Montessori. The aspect of Peace as an important part of this education will also be highlighted in the activities during this week. Some children may choose draw a picture, tell, or write a story about what they enjoy in their Montessori community. Others may create a time line or dramatize a play about their experience. The expressions of their ideas are as unique as each child.

On a national level, the American Montessori Society will be announcing the upcoming 100 year anniversary of Montessori education at a reception at the United Nations in New York this month. Due to their extensive educational and humanitarian work at the local, state, national and international levels, our own Executive Director Carolyn Kambich, and Board President Tony Kambich have been invited to take part in this event.

Especially during this time of celebration of Montessori education, we would like to extend our welcome to the community to visit their Riverwoods Montessori School. Please call (847) 945-7582 to make an appointment for a school tour and program information.

Congregation Beth Or Jazz Fest.

Jazz Fest will be held at Beth Or on Saturday, April 29th, at 7:00pm, and includes live jazz music, a buffet dinner, and auction.

The congregation is located at 2075 Deerfield Road, Deerfield, IL. 60015. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact (847) 945-0477 or visit our website at www.bethor.com.

Community Christian Church

Community Christian Church provides a casual, kid-friendly atmosphere where your whole family can grow spiritually. Come check us out during our annual Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival on Saturday, April 15 from 2:00 to 4:00p.m., featuring tons of games and prizes for community children. Or visit us on Easter Sunday, for our 10:00a.m. service, with a Children’s Sermon and performances by our children’s choirs. Childcare will be provided for infants and toddlers. We are located at 1970 Riverwoods Rd. in Lincolnshire. For more details, visit our web site at www.ccclincolnshire@comcast.net, or contact us at (847) 945-8824.

Senior News

By Nancy Morten

I’d like to host a local spelling bee. The winner will represent Riverwoods’ seniors in the regional spelling bee in August. If you are interested in joining the fun, please contact Nancy at (847) 945-3990 as soon as possible.

SENIOR ADULT TRAVEL GOLF LEAGUE

This innovative 9-hole, Travel Golf League rotates weekly between Sunset Valley Golf Course, Traditions at Chevy Chase and Glenview National 9. The league runs Wednesday mornings from May through September. There is a \$30 registration fee, with greens/cart fees payable weekly at each course.

Please call Laura at (847) 432-4110 for further details.

A NEW REWARDS MEMBER

A Gentle Touch Dentistry is the newest member of our Senior Rewards Program. Located at 150 Half Day Road, Suite 203 in Buffalo Grove. When you visit Dr. Patel your rewards membership card entitles you to 10%- 40% off certain procedures. Call Dr. Patel at (847) 913-8206.

Riverwoods Book Club

March 24

Rising From The Rails – By Larry Tye

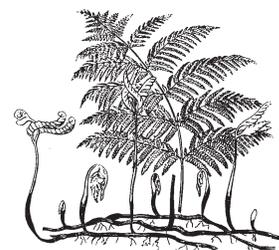
April 21

A Gesture Life – By Chang-rae Lee

May 19

Crossing To Safety – By Wallace Stegner

All are welcome to join in on the discussion groups. All of the above meet at 10:00am on Friday in the Village Hall.



The Architecture of Riverwoods

By Joan Gand

When my husband and I were looking for a home (twenty years ago!) we were attracted to Riverwoods because of the unusual combination of natural woods and homes that blend with the surroundings. We live in such a special area and it is fascinating to delve into the history of the architecture.

Of the well-known Chicago suburbs, Riverwoods contains one of the largest collections of mid-century architecture from the 1950's and 60's. "Mid-Century Modern" architecture is now having a resurgence in appreciation and value (notice it in all the latest fashion ads, TV commercials and cartoons-think *The Incredibles*). The most notable twentieth century architects to build here are Solar pioneers Keck and Keck, who built two homes here and Prairie stylist Edward Humrich. We have the largest concentration of his homes anywhere. In fact, Riverwoods to Humrich is like Oak Park to Frank Lloyd Wright.

In addition to these two big names, there are dozens of wonderful ranch houses throughout old Riverwoods, many designed by architects for themselves. When we moved into our little street, Gemini Lane, and into our Keck and Keck house, two of our neighbors were architects, living in homes they had designed for themselves. Wherever you drive in old Riverwoods, you see long, low houses that blend into the woods and create habitats for artful living inside, while blending the boundaries of inside/ outside with large glass windows.

Riverwoods was created by steel magnate Edward L. Ryerson and Lewis Buscaron, an engineer. They bought property on the banks of the Des Plaines River and subdivided it to create Riverwoods. They loved this land, and Ryerson gave the county the forest preserve we now know as Ryerson Woods. They chose Edward Humrich as the architect to create an unusual and worthy style of home to "set in the woods without taking the trees out" as Humrich explains in his oral history compiled by the Art Institute of Chicago. He further says that "he did forty houses here, including a home for the first president of the village." Friends of ours who were original settlers of Riverwoods have told me that people who moved out here sought a different type of lifestyle, and got it by buying a big piece of the woods and building Humrich homes. They originally built on Sherry Lane, working with Humrich as he created a unique home for them. Every Humrich home is different, but there are signature elements that we can recognize right away when we see one.

Humrich homes usually have horizontal wood siding, stained in a color the harmonizes with the woods, usually

dark brown, flat roofs (although many have been converted), some type of brick or stone for the fireplace, and his signature wood "French" doors with full view glass opening out to the woods. He often used stained concrete floors which are all the rage in downtown lofts and trendy restaurants now. Lots of interior wood, post and beam construction, and views of the woods completed the experience.

Humrich designed many beautiful homes in Riverwoods, but he said his favorite is the Gessner House on Blackthorn. Mrs. Gessner wrote Humrich a beautiful letter where she talked about the effect that the house had on her, giving her more happiness, more intrigue, more assurance, more of everything. She mentioned an article that was published in the [Chicago Tribune](#). "Unique House on Arts Tour"—this appeared on October 2, 1960. It covered the house extensively. It would be fun to find that article – does anyone out there have it? I had the pleasure of touring the Gessner house when it was up for sale years ago and it is stunning.

I hope to start a project where we can document all the Humrich homes, and other significant homes that we have in Riverwoods, and preserve their history. The non-profit organization that I co-founded, Chicago Bauhaus and Beyond, celebrates the architecture and design of the 20th century, and our group intends to study and learn more about Humrich and the unique habitat that he created in Riverwoods. I would love to hear from any of you who know the architectural history of your home, and put together a "survey" of all the significant mid-century homes here in old Riverwoods.

Our Keck and Keck house has garnered much attention in the last several years. Tour groups from the Chicago Botanic Garden, the Art Institute, the Evanston Art Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art, and others have come to see the unique architecture. Our home has been featured on ABC news, in the [Chicago Tribune](#), in the [Pioneer Press](#) millennium issue, [Crane's Chicago Business](#) and [Shelter magazine](#). This tells me that the architecture of Riverwoods is as important to preserve as the woods themselves.

Joan Gand, 847.940.4263
2707 Gemini Lane
Chicago Bauhaus and Beyond
www.chicagobauhausbeyond.org

Source:

ORAL HISTORY OF EDWARD ROBERT HUMRICH

Interviewed by Maya Moran

Compiled under the auspices of the

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Department of Architecture

The Art Institute of Chicago

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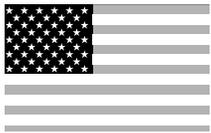
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Send in Those Letters!!

Letters from residents and Riverwoods homeowners' associations are invited and encouraged. Preferred length: approximately 250 words or less, typed preferred. 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 May/June Issue:

April 15, 2005

Send to:

Editor

Riverwoods Village Voice

300 Portwine Road

Riverwoods, IL 60015

eliz Sherman@sbcglobal.net

Orphans of the Storm- Adopt a Valentine

By Jackie Borchew

Over the Valentine's Day weekend, Orphans of the Storm was offered a storefront to showcase dogs and cats at Northbrook Court. The big front window became a staging area for puppies as volunteers introduced available dogs and cats to prospective adoptors.

Over that weekend, adoptions at the shelter were in the "most excellent" range, with 22 on Saturday and 18 on Sunday. An average weekend is half that quantity. We definitely attribute the high volume of adoptions to the exposure at Northbrook Court. Over the weekend the shelter received numerous calls for directions from NBC and comments about the wonderful animals shown.

One important reason for the success is the especially hard to adopt animals, seniors in this case, got adopted because they became a focus. They were not competing with 100 other younger animals in the shelter situation.

A few of the orphans that found forever homes:

—Elf, an 8 yr old male spaniel mix.

—Pappa, a 10 yr old lab mix with a completely gray muzzle. He went to live out his days with a 10 yr old golden retriever who needed a friend.

—Sissy, a 6 yr old persian with three legs. Adopted with her sister My-My, they had been left at the front gate of the shelter January 3, with a 'so sorry' note attached to their crate.

—Brown Sugar, a 9 week old shepherd mix.

Orphans of the Storm animal shelter is open for adoptions every day 11:00am-5:00pm. Adoption fee is \$60 which includes just about everything you need to begin your life together. You are invited to stop by and visit even if you're not quite ready to adopt a friend for life.

