

Riverside Review

August / September 2010

Village of Riverside

27 Riverside Road
Riverside, IL 60546
708-447-2700
www.riverside.il.us

Building Dept. 708-447-1241
Fire Admin. 708-447-2123
Parks & Rec. 708-442-7025
Police Admin 708-447-2127
Public Works 708-442-3590
EMERGENCY 911

Village President
Michael C. Gorman

Board of Trustees
James D. Reynolds
Lonnie R. Sacchi
John E. Scully
Ben Sells
Mark D. Shevitz
Jean Sussman

Village Clerk
Arlene Blaha

Village Board Meetings

All meetings begin at 7:30

August 16

September 20

Commission Meetings

August 2010

05 Economic Dev. Comm., 7:30
09 Cable Commission, 7:30
10 Landscape Adv Comm., 7:00
12 Preservation Comm., 7:30
17 Plan Commission, 7:30
19 Police Adjudication, 6:30
23 Parks & Rec Bd., 7:00
24 Historical Commission, 7:00
Zoning Board of Appeals –As called

September 2010

02 Economic Dev Comm., 7:30
09 Preservation Comm., 7:30
13 Cable Commission, 7:30
14 Landscape Adv Comm., 7:00
16 Police Adjudication, 6:30
21 Plan Commission, 7:30
27 Parks & Rec Brd., 7:00
28 Historical Comm., 7:00
Zoning Board of Appeals –As called

*Please call 708-447-2700 x 254 to confirm the meeting you wish to attend.

For more information please visit
www.riverside.il.us



New Bicycle Routes Approved for Riverside

In 2008, the Village Board designated the first bike route in Riverside. The route along Forest Avenue and Longcommon is used primarily by more experienced cyclists.

In 2009 the Riverside Sustainability Council reviewed and discussed the possibility of designating two additional bicycle routes in the village. The **Riverside Heritage Route** would connect to Cook County Forest Preserve District's Salt Creek Bike Trails to the north at the corner of Des Plaines Avenue and 26th street and to the south at the Barrypoint Road bridge. The purpose of this route is to bring riders through Riverside's Central Business District along Burlington. The **Riverside Ring Route** would be approximately 6.4 miles in length and follow the curved roads along Riverside's perimeter. The Sustainability Council envisions this route as a boundary loop encompassing the curved neighborhood roads of Riverside.

After meeting with staff, Sustainability Council member Tom Jacobs presented the plan to members of the Landscape Advisory Commission, Preservation Commission, Plan Commission, Economic Development Commission and Chamber of Commerce who all expressed support of the proposed plan. Staff and the Village President also met with Cook County Commissioner Tony Peraica who was supportive of the plan. After being favorably reviewed by each of the advisory boards, in May, the Village Board approved the creation of both bicycle route designations.

Maps of the new bicycle routes are available at Village Hall.

Public Works to the Rescue

The storms of June 18th and June 23rd were a real 1 – 2 punch. The Department of Public Works was just getting caught up from the first storm when the second storm hit with a vengeance. Trees and basements took a beating.

During the storm on the 18th, 10 trees on public property were lost. The tree toll on the 23rd was 12. Between whole trees and branches, from the time of the first storm until July 1st, Public Works employees chipped and disposed of an average of five dump truck loads a day.

The priority of every emergency response is public safety. Heavy rains on June 23rd caused the Village sewer system to surcharge resulting in manhole covers being displaced and the first task of police and public works employees was replacement of the covers. Contrary to some rumors in the community, there are no sewer system "relief valves" in the Village of Riverside that can be opened during a rain event to bypass into the Des Plaines River. Simply, the sewer system has a finite capacity and when the capacity is exceeded, the system surcharges finding relief by bursting through manholes or backing up into basements.

Six streets were blocked by fallen trees or large branches on the 23rd. Most of these were simply towed to the nearest public space for later processing. After the storms, the entire Village was scanned for damaged trees or hanging branches that could pose a safety threat. As a goodwill gesture and in an attempt to help restore the Village to normalcy as soon as possible, Public Works employees collected tree debris from private property, but that practice ended on July 7th. The Village does not routinely collect and dispose of trees and branches from private property.

The Department of Public Works and probably many in the community feel that we have had enough storms for this year.

Important Dates

Cruise Night – Thursday, August 12, 6-9 p.m., downtown Riverside

Car Show – Sunday, September 26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., downtown Riverside

The Riverside **Farmers' Market** continues every Wednesday from now through the fall. The Market takes place in Downtown Riverside (17 East Burlington) every Wednesday from 2:30 to 7:00 p.m. Vendors include: Bread from the Heart (*Western Springs*), Brockway Farms (*Will County*), Carol Rodriguez Farms (*Princeton, IL*), Lyons Fruit Farm (*South Haven, MI*), M&D Farms (*Homer Glen, IL*), Fraternite Notre Dame (*Chicago*), Tomato Mountain Farm (*Brooklyn, WI*), Wild Sands Farm (*St. Anne, IL*), and Vacha Florist (*Riverside*).

To get the latest news and developments about the Village of Riverside, please sign up for the E-Flash System. To register, please go to www.riverside.il.us/eflash.

July 4th Wrap Up

Riverside Parks & Recreation would like to extend our sincerest thanks for all of those who helped make the Independence Day activities a huge success!

The festivities began with the **Concert in the Park** on Friday evening. Music was provided by "Butter Side Down" and vendors included Aunt Diana's; Chew Chew Restaurant; Mi Casita; Mollie's Public House; Riverside Chamber of Commerce; Riverside Friends of the Library and Soul Amici Express. Thanks to Arlene Blaha for singing the National Anthem and Senior Girl Scout Troop 4590 for raising the flag. Guthrie Park was packed with the biggest crowd ever!

The 32nd Annual 5K Run took place at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday. Our generous sponsors included Children's Dentistry - Dr. Jerry Udelson; The Competitive Foot; Einstein Brothers Bagels; Eulactol; H&H Industrial Motor Services, Inc.; MacNeal Hospital; McDonalds Restaurants; Minuteman Press of Lyons; PNC Bank; Pepsi; Riverside Foods and State Farm Insurance -- D. Georopoulos Agency.

Our list of 5K Run volunteers is endless. The 5K Run could not take place without the help of Joe Ballerine, Bill Braun, Michelle Brown, the Brundage Family, Susan Casey, Mike Conrad, Meghan Foran, Larry Fulgenzi, the Haley family, the Heine family, Amy Jacksic & son, Nancy Jensen, Elizabeth & Irene Kavel, Joanne, Joe & Mike Kosey, Katie & John Mussio, Barb O'Connor, Jannie Owano, Kristin Peschke & Rachel, Marge & Jim Primozic, Bob Przyborowski, Ben Sells, Jean & Gene Sussman, Kelly Tabb, Kim Vitek, Sue Welch, & Jose'. Thanks to Riverside's Public Works Department, Police Department, Fire Department and Village employees. Thanks to the Friends of the Fourth committee, volunteers and contributors.

5K Race Results are available on our website at www.riverside.il.us (click on the Parks & Recreation icon) or at www.active.com.

The Annual **Parade** took place after the 5K Run. There were over 52 entries this year -- too many to list -- and we made it over the tracks before the freight train came through! The **Festival** rounded out the day from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Vendor booths were provided by Ascension Lutheran Church; Cub Scout Pack 24; Venture Crew 24; Riverside Historical Museum; Riverside Junior Woman's Charity; Riverside Presbyterian Church; Riverside Township Lyons Club and World Vision Children's Sponsorship.

We look forward to seeing you at future events. Be sure to check out the Riverside Parks & Recreation Summer Brochure at www.riverside.il.us.

Get Community Updates - Fast!

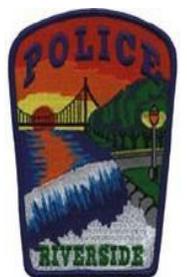
The Riverside Police Department is launching a new Community Information Service designed to deliver important and timely information to residents in our area using the latest technology. This service, created by Nixle, LLC, delivers trustworthy and important neighborhood-level public safety and community event notifications by web, e-mail, and cell phone. Nixle is completely free, simple, and trusted. Sign up at www.nixle.com to register.

Vacation Safety Tips

Your vacation should be a pleasant experience for you and your family. Take a few simple steps to reduce the possibility of becoming a victim of a burglary or other criminal acts against your home. The time spent preparing your home for vacation could save you money later.

Before You Leave...

- Don't forget to lock your doors and windows behind you when you leave your house.
- Be careful about who you tell of your vacation plans or who may be listening when you are discussing the plans with someone else. This includes being aware of who may be watching as you load your luggage into the car.
- Remember, burglars find house keys easily when they are hidden under doormats, above the door ledge, or in a potted plant.
- Stop all deliveries while away, or better yet, allow the deliveries to continue and have a trusted neighbor pick up your newspapers and packages.
- Try to maintain the "lived in" look of your house while you are away. Use timers on lights and turn the ring tone down on your phones. (A ringing phone that goes unanswered can alert a burglar to the absence of any occupants inside the home) Arrange for a trusted neighbor to do some yard work or occasionally park a car in your driveway.
- Leave emergency contact numbers with someone you trust.
- You can call the Riverside Police Dept at (708) 447-2127 and request a House Watch of your home. House watches are conducted by our police officers. Keep in mind that these house watches are on a "as time permits basis." In most cases, a good neighbor keeping an eye on your home is much more effective than any intermittent law enforcement patrol.



While Traveling...

- While traveling, don't "flash" your cash. Use hotel safes for valuables, if available.
- While staying in a hotel, familiarize yourself with the door locks and other safety features. The same applies to rental cars.
- Become informed about "bad" neighborhoods or other unsafe places you should avoid when visiting unfamiliar vacation spots.
- Always stay alert and aware of your surroundings.

Provide quality municipal services to our residents and visitors in a fiscally responsible manner consistent with our Village's historic tradition and community atmosphere.