

Riverside Review

October / November 2009

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

October 5

Board of Trustees, 7:30

October 19

Board of Trustees, 7:30

November 2

Board of Trustees, 7:30

November 16

Board of Trustees, 7:30

Commission Meetings

October 2009

01 Economic Dev Comm., 7:30

08 Preservation Comm., 7:30

13 Cable Commission, 7:30

13 Landscape Adv Comm., 7:00

15 Police Adjudication, 6:30

20 Plan Commission, 7:30

26 Parks & Rec Brd., 7:00

27 Historical Commission, 7:00

Zoning Board of Appeals 6As called

November 2009

05 Economic Dev Comm., 7:30

09 Cable Commission, 7:30

10 Landscape Adv Comm., 7:30

12 Preservation Comm., 7:30

17 Plan Commission, 7:30

19 Police Adjudication, 6:30

23 Parks & Rec Brd., 7:00

24 Historical Comm., 7:00

Zoning Board of Appeals 6As 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

Riverside Now A "Preserve America" Community

The Village of Riverside received notification earlier this summer that on July 29, First Lady Michelle Obama awarded Riverside the prestigious designation of "Preserve America Community". The Preserve America program recognizes and designates communities which protect and celebrate their heritage, use their historic assets for economic development and community revitalization, and encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs. Since 2003, there have been 762 Preserve America communities designated.

Preserve America is a federal initiative that encourages and supports community efforts to preserve and enjoy our priceless cultural and natural heritage. The goals of the program include a greater shared knowledge about the nation's past, strengthened regional identities and local pride, increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets, and support for the economic vitality of our communities. Since the program's inception in 2003, the First Lady of the United States has served as the Honorary Chair of Preserve America. Detailed information on all aspects of this initiative can be found at www.preserveamerica.gov.

Benefits of this designation include White House recognition; eligibility to apply for Preserve America Grants; a certificate of recognition; a Preserve America Community road sign; listing in a Web-based Preserve America Community directory; inclusion in national and regional press releases; official notification of designation to state tourism offices and visitors bureaus; and enhanced community visibility and pride. Preserve America Communities are also featured in National Register Travel Itineraries and in "Teaching with Historic Places" curricular material created by the National Park Service.

The Village first applied for this designation in March 2008 and, after revising the application, was successful in 2009.

Village Hires New Manager

The Village of Riverside has announced the hiring of Pietro "Peter" Scalera as the new Village Manager. Mr. Scalera has spent the last eleven years with the Village of Glencoe, serving as the Assistant Village Manager for the past four years. He has worked for the Village of Glencoe in both the Village Manager's office and in the Department of Public Works. He is a graduate of DePaul University with a Bachelor of Arts degree and has a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

During his career, Mr. Scalera managed the \$1.1 million renovation of Glencoe's Village Hall and E911 center, managed Glencoe's Brownfield Grant Program leading to new commercial development and sales tax revenue for the village, and instituted a number of cost-saving measures while maintaining the level of village services. Mr. Scalera has played a key role in the process of developing Glencoe's operating and capital budgets.

Mr. Scalera was selected by the Village Board after an interview process that began with more than 150 résumés, narrowed down to twelve and then four. He began with the Village on October 1. Mr. Scalera's employment contract is available on the Village's website.

Fall Lawn Care / Winterizing Trees

It's time for autumn leaves to start falling in Riverside. To promote the return of a lush lawn come spring, the leaves covering the majority of your lawn should be cleared away. Removal of leaves is also an effective way to control various insect pests, which survive the winter buried in the soil or on its surface. When gathering leaves and other debris, take special care that the foliage is not spread into the Village's streets. Remember, leaves can be left under trees and shrubs where they will compost themselves, creating a natural mulched area.

As fall gives way to winter, help protect plants by properly preparing them for the cold months ahead. Make sure plants have a sufficient supply of soil moisture before the ground freezes. This is especially necessary for evergreens. Once the ground is frozen, trees are unable to take up enough water through their roots to replace what they are losing through their needles or leaves. Young, thin barked trees, such as maples, are susceptible to bark splitting from frost cracks and sun scalds during extreme daily temperature fluctuations in winter. Provide protection by wrapping the trunk with a commercial tree wrap in late fall and removing it in the spring. Mice and rabbits often damage young trees in winter by feeding on the bark, girdling branches and trunks. To prevent damage, construct temporary barriers made of hardware cloth or wire fencing. Place high enough above the possible snow line, and a few inches below the ground line to prevent entry.

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.

Secretary of State Emergency Contact Database

Established on July 1, 2009, the database allows Illinois drivers license and Illinois ID cardholders to enter emergency contact information into a voluntary, secure database. In the event of a motor vehicle crash or other emergency situation when a person is unable to communicate directly, law enforcement may access the database to help them reach the person's designated contacts. An example would be registering yourself or a spouse, a significant other, sibling or elderly parents. This database is not just for medical emergencies. You will need the person's drivers license and social security number in order to access the database and register. Multiple phone numbers can be added into the emergency contact database. You may add this information to your own driver license if you want assurance that the proper person will be contacted in the event of an emergency. Register your contact information or that of a loved one at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Last Chance to Enjoy the Farmers' Market

As a reminder, the last day for this season's Farmer's Market in Riverside will be November 11. The market is held every Wednesday from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Village owned parking lot next to Riverside Bank (17 East Burlington). There are only a few weeks left - we hope to see you there!



Halloween Safety Tips

Most people think of Halloween as a time for fun and treats. However, roughly four times as many children aged 5-14 are killed while walking on Halloween evening compared with other evenings of the year. Additionally, falls are a leading cause of injuries among children on Halloween. Many Halloween-related injuries can be prevented if parents closely supervise school-aged children during trick-or-treat activities.

To avoid the possibly dangerous situations children may face while trick-or-treating, use common sense. Be aware of potential Halloween hazards and take precautions to eliminate them. Consider heading for an indoor Halloween party to help ensure a safe environment.

Halloween Costume Safety Tips

- Wear flame retardant costumes.
- Try on costumes before Halloween to allow time for altering. Hem costumes to prevent trips and falls.
- Apply reflective tape to your Halloween costumes.
- Avoid masks. Use make-up instead.
- Wear comfortable shoes.
- Double tie your shoelaces so you don't trip.
- Keep your costume and wig away from candles.
- Don't carry fake swords, guns, knives or similar accessories that look authentic. Make sure they are flexible and cannot harm anyone.



Trick-or-Treating Safety Tips

- Use a flashlight after dark.
- Take along money for a phone call.
- Wear identification that's easy to read.
- Always trick or treat in groups, with an adult.
- Follow a curfew and take a watch with a backlight.
- Plan your route ahead of time.
- Stay on the sidewalks and out of the streets. Cross only at intersections and designated crosswalks.
- Walk. Don't run.
- Don't go through flower beds and gardens.
- Watch out for open flames in Jack-O-Lanterns.
- Trick or treat in familiar neighborhoods.
- Walk with your head up and be aware of your surroundings.
- Only visit well lit houses. Don't stop at dark houses.
- Don't enter houses unless you know the occupants.
- Carry a spare Halloween bag in case yours breaks or you fill your original one.
- Don't approach unfamiliar pets and animals.
- Don't cut across yards and stay out of back yards.
- Follow traffic signals and don't jaywalk.
- Always watch for cars backing up or turning.
- Never accept rides from strangers.
- Respect other people and their property.
- Be polite and say, "Thank You".
- Don't eat any candy until it's inspected by an adult.
- Don't eat candy that has loose or broken wrappers, is unwrapped, has puncture holes, or is homemade.
- Small children should not be allowed hard candy; it is a choking hazard.
- Report suspicious or criminal activity to an adult or police.