

Riverwoods Village Voice

March/April 2016

Volume 20, Issue 2

VillageofRiverwoods.com

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. Mar 15 and Apr 5, 19, May 3 and 17.

Riverwoods Plan Commission

1st Thursday at 7:30pm. Apr 7, May 5 and Jun 2.

GET INVOLVED
IN RIVERWOODS

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

VILLAGE EASTER
EGG HUNT

Sunday, March 27
3 - 4:30pm
Riverwoods Village Hall



Riverwoods

VILLAGE VOICE

To Spend or Not to Spend? That Is the Question! *(With Apologies to Shakespeare)*

The Village Board and I are currently struggling with the important question of "To Spend or Not to Spend" - and the equally important question: "How Much to Spend" - on replacing or re-building the Village Hall. We are struggling because we are mindful of conflicting duties: to steward Village finances as carefully as possible - and to make long term decisions that benefit our community.

Most of you know we have been working on a solution for the defects and deficiencies found in our current Village Hall. We have spent the last two years evaluating a range of options, from rehabilitating to replacing our current facility. A separate article later in this issue discusses the status of that project in detail.

Our highly experienced municipal construction manager has estimated a cost for the building, site work, landscaping, audio visual gear, furniture, and equipment, of approximately \$5,000,000.

We may be able to achieve cost savings with some alternates. We hope that, after bidding, the total will be less - but, although highly unlikely, it could be more. We are working with \$5 million as the best estimate.

Here is the situation as it stands:

1. Our existing Village Hall is inadequate, antiquated, and unsafe. Details are set forth in the accompanying appendix. The Board unanimously voted in 2014 that we had to either make major repairs or replace the building.

2. We have not found an inexpensive means of restoring the building to functionality. We explored a renovation project, utilizing as much of the current building as possible, but that resulted in a bid (building and site work alone) of more than \$5 million.

3. The Village operating budget has a surplus. We have \$12.5 million dollars in the General Fund, and we do not have to raise taxes to pay for this project.

4. \$5 million is still a lot of money! The Board and I wish to be as fiscally responsible as possible. That said, we cannot afford to do nothing. Accordingly, at the March 1, 2016 board meeting, we directed our construction professionals to take one final look at whether some kind of retrofit was possible that could lessen the cost. We are also meeting with our financial advisors to investigate the various options to be sure we find the best way of paying for the project.

Given the importance of this question to the entire Village, we want to ensure everyone has an opportunity to understand the issues involved, and to participate in the process. Accordingly, we are scheduling a town meeting for March 29, 2016 at 7:30 pm to discuss the needs, the solutions, and the costs.

We'll be doing our best to get out the word. We would really like to see you at the town meeting.

John W. Norris
Mayor, Village of Riverwoods



RIVERWOODS
VILLAGE VOICE

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

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



SEND IN THOSE
LETTERS!

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

Deadline for the May/June 2016 issue:
April 22, 2016

Send to:

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

APPENDIX
To the Mayor's Cover Letter

I. The Building Inadequacies.

A. We have an existing Village Hall that is inadequate, antiquated, and unsafe. A partial of deficiencies and defects includes:

1. It fails to meet current building, fire and safety codes.
2. It is not accessible to all Village residents as its entrances, restrooms, stairways and doors are not handicapped accessible as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
3. It floods during moderate to heavy rains, causing damage to the building and fostering the growth of mold that is both dangerous to everyone who enters the building and expensive to remediate.
4. The meeting rooms are too small, and fail to provide means of conveying information to residents attending meetings.
5. Much of the building has been built piecemeal with small oddly-shaped rooms and corridors.
6. Significant elements are no longer structurally stable on their own and are held together with tension rods.
7. The floors in the balcony areas of the old board room are no longer safe for general or public access.

II. We Will Not Need to Raise Taxes.

A. The Village has approximately \$12.5 million dollars in the General Fund. This balance is there primarily to give the Village the ability to undertake needed capital projects, as well as provide a cushion for a downturn in Village revenues. If we entirely pay for a new building using money in the general fund, we will leave a balance in excess of \$7.5 million dollars.

B. Our operating budget for the 2016 has a surplus. While the surplus is smaller than it has been over the last few years, that is in part due to our taking a very conservative approach to revenues, budgeting less money from the state than is actually predicted.

III. Discussion.

A. We have trimmed and sized the proposed new building design to be as useful for the future as we can now conceive. The design is at a mid-point price range for municipal buildings, not extravagant, but suitable for our needs and reflective of our community.

B. A new village hall building would have a longer useful life and not require additional expenditures in the near future. Making only the mandatory repairs and corrections to the existing building might (and I emphasize might) cost less than a new building in the short run, we would still be left with most of the existing deficiencies in the current structure and the prospect of a limited future life for an old building.

V. My Thoughts:

- A. No one wants to raise taxes.
- B. We have built up a General Fund balance for important needs and not simply to see how large a cash balance we can achieve. Having a safe and useful village hall is an important need.
- C. If we only repair what we have rather than build a new facility, we would:
 1. Spend several million dollars to put Band-Aids on a 50-year-old building; and,
 2. Still be faced with the prospect of an inadequate facility and more expenses in only a relatively few years; and,
 3. Following a course of action that is not a true solution, but, rather, an expensive act of kicking the can down the road.
- D. The world will change, but we hope to maximize local control – over our zoning, finances, ecology, Village character and quality of life – to insure that change is for the better. The way to accomplish these tasks is by coming together as a community – and for that, we need a village hall.



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 January, 6, 19, 29 and February 2. 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.

February 2

VILLAGE FINANCE PRESENTATION

Danielle Driscoll, Vice President of JPMorgan Securities, came before the Board to go over the Village's portfolio. She noted that Chase has worked with Riverwoods since 2011. Her team works strictly with government not-for-profit accounts in the Midwest. They work collaboratively with finance teams rather than just managing the account.

The Village's total portfolio includes 12% in municipal bonds, 20% in US treasuries, 43% in brokered CDs, and 25% in US Agency Notes. The portfolio yields 1.42% monthly. The Village is well positioned to take advantage of higher rates.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Trustee Ford distributed the unaudited statement of revenues and expenses by fund. The report is posted in full on the Village website in the Board of Trustee Notes.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Dayno provided the Board with the Police Department activity since the January 19, 2016 Board of Trustees meeting. The Police Report is posted in full on the Village website.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Food Scraps Recycling – SWALCO and the Lake County Waste Haulers are working on food scrap recycling. Food scraps are a huge part of waste and a number of communities are looking into a program for recycling them.



RIVERWOODS PLANT SALE

The plant sale pick up will be May 13-14. Watch for the Plant Sale newsletter and get your orders in by April 30.

*I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.*

New Business

RIVERWOODS ZONING ORDINANCE AFFECTING THE B-1 NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT

This proposed Text Amendment would remove an automobile service station, car wash, convenience food and coffee store as possible uses in the mixed-use planned unit development. Plan Commission Chairman Niedelman explained that, rather than leaving those uses as open and acceptable, the Plan Commission would rather have them removed. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the ordinance granting a Special Use for a Mixed-Use Planned Development for The LockUp storage facility on the southwest corner of Deerfield Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

2175 DEERFIELD ROAD

The parcel located at 2175 Deerfield Road is joined with property in the Village of Deerfield located at 780 Saunders Road. A restaurant planned for the Saunders parcel has already been approved by Deerfield.

Mayor Norris spoke with the Village Manager in Deerfield about a possible land swap, but the Village of Deerfield suggested that the Village of Riverwoods annex the Saunders property. This will now go to the Plan Commission.

Trustee Haber suggested that if the Village accepts the 780 building as part of the annexation, they could accept it subject to the approvals made by the Village of Deerfield.

RIVERWOODS VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

Mr. Huvad will look at the Deerfield approvals and see how that plan can be incorporated into Riverwoods.

APPROVAL OF SOIL BORINGS/GEI FOR VILLAGE HALL SITE

The bid received for the original Village Hall restoration caused the Board to rethink the project. They sat down with the construction manager and the architect to come up with a plan that would cost close to what the Board had originally discussed. They came to the conclusion that it would cost less to put up a new one story building with a smaller footprint than to rehab the existing building.

WB Olson is looking at costing out the Village Hall improvements and asked for information on soil conditions. They feel this information would help tighten up their cost estimates. The Village solicited a quote from GEI because they are reliable and have worked with the Village previously. In addition, unlike other geotech firms, they will provide sound advice on the design side to the Village. GEI has a union shop to accommodate the prevailing wage requirements. If the Village is going to put up a new building, with a new foundation, soil borings will need to be done to access the soil conditions.

The Board agreed to approve the contract for soil boring in an amount not to exceed \$10,400.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF NEW SERVERS

The Police Department needs a new server to handle the car cameras and potential body cameras in the future. In addition, the Village needs additional capacity for the utility billing program. The utility billing server will come out of the water and sewer budget.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Building/Zoning – The Building Report for January has been corrected and no longer adds bonds to the permit fees.

January 19

PLAN COMMISSION REPORT

The Plan Commission voted to recommend approval of a Special Use for the proposed new coffee shop next to the Mobil gas station. The Plan Commission also recommended approval of The Lock Up proposal.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Dayno provided the Board with the Police Department activity since the January 6, 2016 Board of Trustees meeting.

Chief Dayno noted that there was a firearm turn-in on the report. He explained that residents may bring unwanted firearms to the station, which are then brought to the crime lab where

they are melted down.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Property on the Southwest corner of Deerfield and Milwaukee

– Mayor Norris stated that the Village has spoken with the current owners of PJ's restaurant on the southwest corner of Deerfield Road and Milwaukee Avenue regarding annexation into the Village.

New Business

PROCLAMATION HONORING ALL-STATE JAZZ PIANIST ZACH MOLINA

Mayor Norris read a Proclamation honoring All-State Jazz Pianist Zach Molina, a 2015 graduate of Deerfield High School. He proclaimed January 19, 2016, as Zach Molina Day in the Village of Riverwoods.

ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ECOLOGICAL COST-SHARE PROGRAMS

Mr. Huvad prepared a draft Ordinance to authorize the creation of the seven cost-share programs. The Ordinance contains a skeleton with the minimum requirements for each program, the details to be modified from time-to-time. The idea of the Ordinance was to establish a framework whereby the Board would be protected from picking up unwanted liabilities. Arguably, once an application is approved, the resident would have a contract with the Village which could be problematic. Instead, he suggested that the Village issue a cost-share permit that would act as a tracking mechanism.

The program requires the Village Ecologist to visit the property to determine which cost-share program would apply.

Each program includes a specifications section and a performance standard. If the performance standard is not met, the resident would not get reimbursed. Cost sharing for mandatory landscape requirements or mitigation as required by a building permit would be excluded from the programs.

January 6

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mr. Durning reported that 2015 was the first completed year for business licenses. He has inspected three businesses so far who have applied for 2016 licenses.

Mr. Durning received a call regarding the possibility of opening a fitness club at the Shoppes of Riverwoods.

The Riverwoods Liquor Store has applied to renew their liquor license even though they may be going out of business.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Dayno provided the Board with the Police Department activity since the December 15, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting.

There were 71 crime prevention notices issued. Most were for residents coming back from vacation who were provided with a report of the last check done by the Department. Chief Dayno reported that the male pickpocket leader from the Panera incidents in February has now been extradited to Illinois.

Chief Dayno believes there have been two recent deer incidents.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Video Retention Policy – Clerk Gagerman sent out a policy that was informally agreed upon by the Trustees at the last meeting stating that the Village will keep the videos of the Board-meetings for 90 days after approval of the minutes.

New Business

STAFF SALARIES

The personnel committee met and agreed to a 2.5% increase, which is consistent with the police department non-supervisory contractual increase.

The Board approved a 2.5% increase for all non-union and non-elected officials.

CENTER FOR ENRICHED LIVING DONATION REQUEST

The Center for Enriched Living has requested a donation of \$5,000 for general operating expenses, which the Village has given in the past. They also asked the Village to waive building permit fees in the amount of \$33,195. The budget and operations committee voted in favor of the \$5,000 donation for general administration. They did not feel it was appropriate to waive the building fee as the Village does not profit from these fees, they only cover the Village's actual costs.

Other municipalities do not waive building permit fees for not-for-profit organizations. In addition, this request would exceed the entire 2016 donation budget of \$30,000.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Building/Zoning – Trustee Jamerson sent out the Building Report for December. The Village ended the year about 25% higher in construction value than 2014. He also noted that the Village had a good year with more than \$15 million in construction value.



Riverwoods Facebook Page

The Village of Riverwoods now has its own facebook page. Check us out and “like” us at facebook.com/VillageofRiverwoods. Just another way to keep current with your Village.

Riverwoods Has Floodplains – Do You Live In One?

By Pat Glenn, Village Engineer

Spring (and winter) rains can sometimes bring flooding. While we do have some floodplains in Riverwoods, they are generally limited to two areas of the Village. FEMA Floodplain Maps and information are available at the Village Hall. Please come in during regular office hours and see if you are affected. We would like to remind you that flood insurance is mandatory if building in the floodplain along with using a federally regulated/insured bank for a loan. Come in and our Building Department Staff will be happy to help you with this information. The Village Engineer can also help you get Elevation Certificates. They already have information on file for some areas of the Village, and for a nominal fee will be able to help you get one for your property if needed. They are also available to try to help you address flooding problems. Please call the Building Department if you have any questions at 847-945-3990.



Electronic Recycling

By John Norris, Mayor of Riverwoods, and SWALCO Board Members

As a Riverwoods resident, you have curbside electronics recycling available to you as part of our waste hauling contract with LakeShore. All you have to do is put your electronic products at the curb on your first garbage pick-up day of the month.

You may read or hear reports that SWALCO will no longer be providing electronic recycling to Lake County residents. That is true. The state law banning electronics from landfills has not provided adequate funding for agencies like SWALCO to continue to perform this valuable service. As a member of the SWALCO board of directors, I can tell you that SWALCO is working hard to get the State of Illinois to do what is necessary to fix a problem it has created.

For now, you still have curbside electronic recycling as a Riverwoods resident!

Beware of the IRS Telephone Scam

By Bruce Dayno, Riverwoods Police Chief

In February, several Riverwoods and Deerfield residents received telephone calls from con artists claiming to be IRS representatives demanding money owed for back taxes. The Riverwoods Police Department put out an alert via telephone and email as soon as we were made aware of the calls. Thankfully, we received no reports of residents sending money.

The following is a description of the **Internal Revenue Service Scam**.

The caller purports to be an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) representative. Using intimidation tactics, the caller tries to take control of the situation from the beginning. The caller advises the recipient of the call that the IRS has charges against them and threatens legal action and arrest. If the recipient questions the caller in any way, the caller becomes more aggressive.

The caller continues to intimidate by threatening to confiscate the recipient's property, freeze bank accounts, and have the recipient arrested and placed in jail. The reported alleged charges include defrauding the government, money owed for back taxes, law suits pending against the recipient, and nonpayment of taxes.

The recipients are advised that it will cost thousands of dollars in fees/court costs to resolve this matter. The caller creates a sense of urgency by saying that being arrested can be avoided and fees reduced if the recipient purchases Moneypak cards to cover the fees within an hour.

Sometimes the caller provides specific instructions on where to purchase the Moneypak cards and the amount to put on each card. The caller tells the recipient not to tell anyone about the issue and to remain on the telephone until the Moneypak cards are purchased and the Moneypak codes are provided to the caller. The caller states that if the call is disconnected for any reason, the recipient would be arrested. Some recipients reported that once the caller obtained the Moneypak codes, they were advised that the transaction took too long and additional fees were required.

Call recipients have reported that the caller spoke with broken English or stated the caller had an Indian accent.

If you receive a similar call, follow these tips:

- Resist the pressure to act quickly.
- Report the contact to TIGTA at <http://www.treasury.gov/tigta> by clicking on the red button, "IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting."

• Use caution when asked to use a specific payment method. The IRS would not require a specific payment method such as a Moneypak card or wire transfer.

Anytime you are pressured on the telephone to send money immediately, it is likely a scam, especially if you are promised money but must first send in "administrative or legal fees." Contact the Police Department if you are uncertain.

Individuals who have fallen victim to these types of scams should notify the police and file a complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center, <http://www.ic3.gov>.

These scammers like to prey on senior citizens. Please take the time to discuss this information with friends, neighbors, and relatives whom you feel may be potential victims.

For more information, contact Chief of Police Bruce Dayno at 847-945-1130 or email bdavno@riverwoods-il.net.

If you are not receiving Telephone and Email notifications from the Village and would like to, please sign up at <http://www.riverwoods-il.net/PublicSafety/notifications.html> or call Police Records at 847-945-1130.

The Village has phone numbers for most residents in our Resident Notification System, but many residents have not supplied email addresses. For non-urgent messages, the Village may only send out emails. If you are currently only receiving telephone notifications and would like to add an email contact, please call Police Records at 847-945-1130.

Riverwoods Community Water Supply

By Pat Glenn, Village Engineer

Recent news about contaminated drinking water in Flint, Michigan, may understandably leave people wondering if something like that was likely to happen here. We offer the following to help address those concerns.



In April 2014, Flint ceased purchasing treated drinking water from the City of Detroit (sourced from Lake Huron) and started treating raw water drawn from the Flint River. In accordance with Federal regulations, testing was performed, and it was soon clear that lead levels in tap water were rising rapidly. Upon investigation, it was determined that the lead contamination was caused by the more corrosive river water (due in part to higher salinity from road salt) leaching lead from older plumbing that used lead in the pipes and joints.

While lead water services are not uncommon in the older systems in the Chicago region, the Riverwoods public water system uses copper service lines almost exclusively. In addition, our water supplier, the Village of Northbrook, adds a small amount of a chemical to the treated water that bonds to the inside of pipes to control corrosion. Finally, the Village of Riverwoods tests water for lead at the tap and provides those test results to the Illinois EPA regularly. The tests have never indicated lead levels that would cause concern. Finally, it is virtually impossible that the salinity level of Lake Michigan water could ever reach the level found in the Flint River.

Bottom line—lead contamination of the Village public water supply is extremely unlikely.

For residents served by private wells, the Lake County Health Department offers testing services for lead and other contaminants. You can reach the Health Department at 847-377-8020 or HealthEHS@lakecountyil.gov.

Meet Our Water Department

The Public Works Division for the Village of Riverwoods is overseen and managed by Swanson Water Treatment. Swanson Water Treatment in Libertyville, Illinois, is owned and operated by Murny Swanson. Some of their responsibilities include: managing the pumping station, performing all required EPA water testing for the Village of Riverwoods, meter installation, flushing hydrants, locating water lines, and connecting and disconnecting water. Murny Swanson has provided this service for the Village for well over 20 years. He and his staff are an integral part of the Utility Division for the Village of Riverwoods.



Above: The Swanson Water Treatment crew (left to right) Diane Hubbard, Murney Swanson, Mike Mahoney, Jason Desbiens, and Joyce Fromm (Riverwoods utility billing manager prior to Pearl). Left: Pearl Swidler.

Meet Pearl – Pearl Swidler oversees the utility billing in the Village. As the liaison between the Village of Riverwoods and Swanson, Pearl is able to advise or direct you to the proper person to answer any question or concern you may have about your water.

When asked about her life Pearl shared the following; “I worked for the Special Ed District of Lake County (SEDOL) for 30 years at Gages Lake School, which is a public therapeutic day school for children with severe emotional and behavioral disorders. I worked as a Crisis Intervention Specialist and for the last five years before retiring, I held an administrative position as Lead Teacher! “

Pearl and her husband Bill reside in Wilmette. Their son, Joey, lives in Brooklyn, NY and is a Certified US Olympic Weighlifting Coach and a Certified Crossfit Trainer/Coach. And their daughter, Francie, lives in Denver and is the Digital Producer of on-line news for the Denver Post. Needless to say, Pearl and Bill do a great deal of traveling to see their children! They are hoping to be planning some weddings soon!

“Over the last 25 years, we had two beloved mixed lab dogs, Sadie and Kelsey. We currently are ‘petless’ mostly because we do quite a bit of traveling. However, if the right situation comes along...well...you never know.”

Walk With Mitchell to Help the Children of Lake County

By Jackie Borchew

You may not be aware that the Lake County State’s Attorney’s office has a nonprofit division known as the Children’s Advocacy Center. Located in Gurnee, this center assists with the investigation and prosecution of crimes involving the sexual and physical abuse of children.



Mitch with his handler, Jason Grindel



The Center is committed to providing a safe environment for child victims of abuse as they investigate and help successfully prosecute offenders of child abuse without causing further trauma to the child victim.

This is where Mitchell comes in. Mitchell provides comfort, compassion, and companionship to the children as they talk with officials about their abuse. Mitchell, a yellow Labrador Retriever born July 19, 2013, was selected for training as a service dog based upon his temperament, attitude, and interaction with people. Mitchell was donated to the State’s Attorney’s Office by Support Dogs, Inc, a national not-for-profit organization accredited by Assistance Dogs International. When needed, Mitchell will accompany children into court.

The Lake County Children’s Advocacy Center prosecutes hundreds of cases of abuse each year. Each of these cases start with an interview in one of four interviewing rooms. Currently only two of these rooms can be used because necessary video equipment is broken or unavailable. The cost to replace this equipment is \$40,000. The goal is to make a dent in that cost with an upcoming fundraiser.

A 2-mile dog walk fundraiser to benefit the Lake County Children’s Advocacy Center will take place on Saturday, April 30, at 10am at Jaycee Memorial Park in Deerfield.

Sponsored by the Deerfield Rotary and the office of State Senator Julie Morrison, you are invited to come out with your dog and join in to help this deserving cause. Donations will be accepted to walk with Mitchell. The morning starts with refreshments and a rally for the cause.

Fundraising in various forms will take place starting now and leading up to the Walk With Mitchell on April 30. For more information, to donate and/or register for the walk go to www.deerfieldrotary.org or <http://lcsao.org/about-us/childrens-advocacy-center>. Checks should be made out to the Deerfield Rotary and may be mailed directly to: Deerfield Rotary, P.O. Box 156, Deerfield, Illinois 60015.



An Update on Village Hall Construction Plans

Submitted by the Building Committee

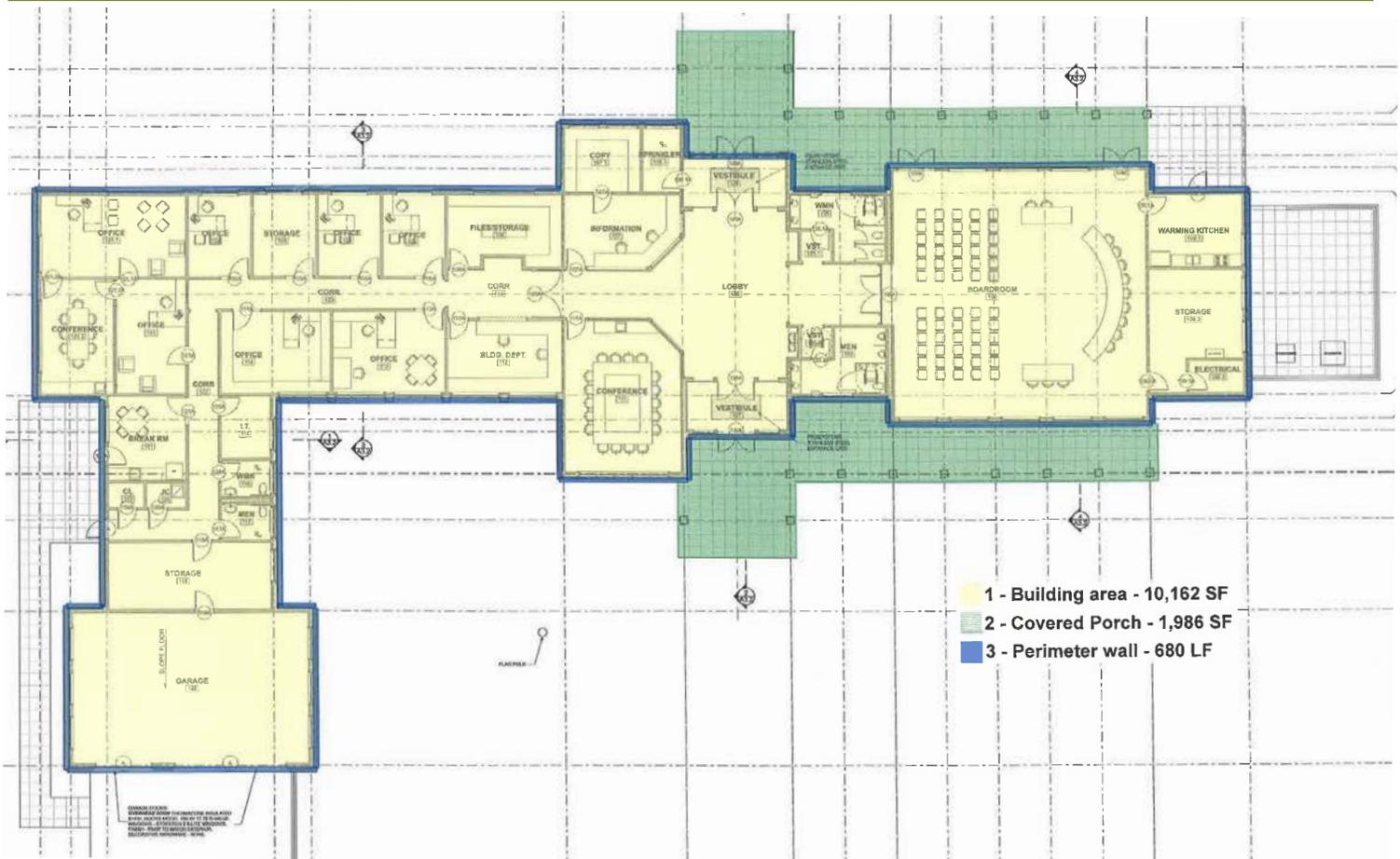
The Village went out for bids on renovating the Village Hall last fall in a traditional design-bid arrangement, but we were disappointed when we received only one non-compliant bid, which had a price tag that seemed too high and that could not be evaluated against other measures. To overcome this setback, the Board next retained the services of W. B. Olson, Inc. (Olson), a well-regarded firm with experience serving as a construction manager on municipal projects. As a construction manager, Olson is acting as the Village's agent to review plans, suggest cost-savings measures, solicit interest from qualified contractors, and manage the construction process.

After reviewing the bid drawings from last fall in detail, Olson made recommendations and suggestions. The most significant of these was to depart from our original plan

of remodeling the existing structure and to instead build new.

Our expectation was that renovating the existing building would be less costly, as we would preserve much of the foundation and existing structure. After the failed bid and holding discussions with contractors who examined the plans but chose not to bid, we learned that several aspects of the project we had in mind were leading to unexpected inefficiencies.

Olson pointed out a number of factors that had not been evident during the initial planning process, particularly the usually high costs necessary to provide mechanical improvements to the existing structure in general, and especially to provide the HVAC, elevator, and additional fire-code-compliant stairways. When the cost savings from avoiding these expensive items was added to the savings from a reduction in total square footage possible if we went to a new, one-story design, the normal cost situation, i.e., that remodeling would be less expensive than new construction, was seen to not be true in our situation. As a result, the building committee reporting to the Board concluded that designs for new construction





Lake County Forest Preserves – Dog Parks and Summer Camps

OFF-LEASH DOG PARKS

Lake County offers four uniquely different outdoor areas where dogs can exercise, play, swim and socialize off-leash. An annual or daily permit and a dog are required for entry. Reduced rates are offered annually, beginning August 31. A vehicle sticker is issued with each permit. Replacement stickers may also be purchased.

Annual permit – allows access to all four Dog Parks. Annual permits are valid for the calendar year only, and are not prorated. Annual permit fee is \$50 for the first dog, \$20 each additional (up to 3), for Lake County residents.

Daily permit – allows one day’s access to all four Dog Parks. Purchase online now, or at self-pay stations located in the parking lot of each site for spur-of-the-moment visits. Daily permit fee is \$10 for a visit.

Gift Certificates – Give that special dog in your life the perfect treat. To purchase, call or visit our General Offices in Libertyville, 847-367-6640, 8am–4:30pm during weekdays.

Our closest dog park is Prairie Wolf, located just north of Half Day Road on Waukegan Road in Lake Forest. This 44-acre area is fenced and features large fields, trails, drinking fountain, and training enclosures. Dogs are allowed to swim in a swimming pond located through gates at the east end of the dog area. Please pay close attention to your dog in this open swimming area to make sure it does not stray.

REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMPS

Sneak some learning into your child’s summer adventures. Our Summer Camps meet the summer wishes of kids and parents alike. Registration for the 2016 camp season is now available.

Choose a topic and age group that suits your child. Camps are offered for ages 4 through 14. Choose from adventures in nature, art, history, fishing, and much more. Browse all available camps and register online or by phone at 847-968-3321.

Trained Lake County Forest Preserve educators experienced in supervision, safety techniques, and activity development lead our camps.

Partial scholarships are available in the case of financial hardship. A financial assistance application is available online, or call 847-968-3321 for details. Completed applications can be mailed or delivered to the Lake County Forest Preserve General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL 60048. View on Google Maps.

Welcome to the 2016 Riverwoods Plant Sale – May 13-14

The Village of Riverwoods is a unique community nestled along the east side of the Des Plaines River where various natural communities including forests, woodlands, savanna, marsh, and prairie can be found developing over heavy clay soils and shallow aquifers. The natural communities are an integral part of the Village’s identity, a source of many benefits for its residents, and an essential green infrastructure link between rivers and forest preserves that provide habitat for numerous migrating and nesting birds, native animals, plants, fish, and insects.

The land was very healthy prior to European settlement in the 1830’s. Oak woodlands & savannas were maintained primarily by frequent fires and grazing by bison and elk. Following European settlement, the ecological health of the natural communities began to decline as natural processes such as fire were eliminated, bison and elk were extirpated, and surface water hydrology changed as homes and businesses were eventually built into the environment. Natural communities are now under stress from invasive plants, canopy tree shading, surface water changes, and deer browsing.

In recent years, the Village of Riverwoods and the Riverwoods Preservation Council (RPC) have become highly aware of the changing ecological conditions and have taken steps toward improving the health of the natural communities. In fall 2015, the Village and RPC worked with the Village Ecologist (Applied Ecological Services, Inc.) to map all natural communities found within the Village. The results of the inventory indicate that the Village is made up of several distinctly different natural communities with vast differences in species composition.



This new awareness of how complex the Village natural communities are prompted the Village and Plant

Committee to rethink the way the Village’s annual plant sale operates. Beginning in 2016, the Village and Plant Committee is taking an exciting new approach. Residents will now have the opportunity to choose native trees and shrubs that are appropriate for the ecological community in which they live. In the past, residents selected trees and shrubs from an overall list without really knowing if their selections were appropriate for the area in which they live.

The new approach will be easy for residents to follow. In early to mid April, please look for the Riverwoods Plant Sale newsletter which will include a Plant Sale Selection Guidance Map and ordering instructions.



Great White Trillium– This native woodland flower brightens up the forest floor each Spring in Riverwoods. Photo by Sue Auerbach.

Village Introduces Updated Ecological Cost-Share Programs

By Steve Zimmerman, Village Ecologist and Cheryl Chamberlain, Trustee

In the late 1990's, the Village of Riverwoods began encouraging residents to be good stewards of their properties through cost-share programs. The goal is to improve our property values by caring for each of our natural communities. The Village Ecologist, Steve Zimmerman, and Trustee Cheryl Chamberlain have updated these programs to make them more systematic and easier to understand. There is a program available to suit every property type.

An Ecological Consultation is now required as a gateway first step to apply for the Village Cost-Share Programs. Residents get the opportunity to spend an hour with the Village Ecologist on their property to obtain an in-depth ecological assessment and determination for which Cost-Share Programs the resident is eligible. Residents learn what will grow best on their property and how to care for it. A Program Eligibility Map/Report will be provided to the resident which summarizes the consultation, outlines all Cost-Share Programs eligible to the resident, and how to do the work. Next, if needed, the resident hires a qualified contractor to implement the work. All programs are 50/50 cost share with a Village reimbursement maximum of \$2,000 (except \$4,000 for the Rain Garden Program).

You may call Michelle Smith, Executive Assistant at Village Hall, at 847-945-3990 to request a consult with the Village Ecologist.

Ecological Consultations can be conducted year round but are best done from April through November.

The Ecological Consultation Program is a 50/50 cost-share program; the cost to the resident is \$75.

Canopy & Subcanopy Tree Thinning Program – The intent of this program is to provide for the removal of selected canopy & subcanopy trees such as sugar maple and basswood in order to reduce shade levels and competition for desirable native species.

Invasive Shrub Removal Program – This program helps residents improve ecological health by removing invasive shrubs such as buckthorn and honeysuckle thereby increasing the opportunity for desirable native species.

Garlic Mustard Removal Program – This program encourages residents to remove invasive garlic mustard from their property to allow native woodland understory species to thrive.

Prescribed Burn Program – The Prescribed Burn Program provides a tool for residents with healthy woodlands and/or prairies to maintain these areas using fire. Prescribed burn management helps improve the health of a woodland or prairie removing duff, replenishing the soil with nutrients, and by allowing native plants to thrive.

Native Tree & Shrub Planting Program – Residents can improve the ecological health of their property by planting native trees and shrubs appropriate for the ecological setting.

Native Seeding & Planting Program – The intent of this program is twofold. First the Village Ecologist may recommend that an area be seeded and or planted with native species following garlic mustard removal or invasive shrub removal. Second, residents may wish to seed a woodland understory, prairie, or wetland to increase native species diversity or to fill in bare areas.

Rain Garden Program – The Rain Garden Program encourages residents to install rain gardens on private property to “micro-manage” stormwater runoff as close to the source (like downspouts, driveways, sump pump discharges) as possible. A rain garden is a shallow depression that is planted with deep-rooted native plants. It functions by capturing and infiltrating stormwater runoff into the ground thereby reducing the flows to nearby streams and other drainage ways.

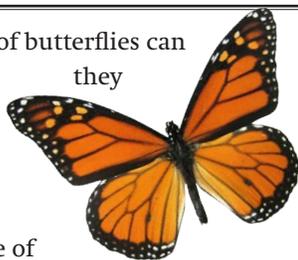


Funds available for each program will be re-evaluated by the Board of Trustees on an annual basis.

Help make our programs a success and apply today!

Plants to Attract Butterflies

Approximately 150 species of butterflies can be found in Illinois. Unfortunately, they are declining in numbers, mainly due to the loss of wetlands and prairies. Planting butterfly gardens will help support their populations and, as a bonus, give us the pleasure of their beauty in our yards.



When planning a butterfly garden, we always think about the showy flowers that attract the butterflies. But remember that butterflies start out as caterpillars, the butterfly larvae. And caterpillars require specific (generally native) woody plants (trees or shrubs) to feed upon. You won't get the butterflies if you don't have the plants necessary for their larvae.

Plants to host butterfly larvae – Here are some examples of woody plants needed for specific butterfly larvae. They are all native to the Riverwoods area. Many are very common here and can be easily found throughout the village – Black-Eyed Susan, Blazing Star, Boneset, Butterfly Weed, Echinacea, Coneflowers, Goat's Beard, Goldenrod, Ironweed, Joe Pye Weed, Milkweed, New England Aster, Phlox, Wild Bergamot, and Lavender.

Plants that attract butterflies. Most flowering plants that attract butterflies require sun. Plant these at the woodland edge, in an open meadow, a prairie or in a sunny garden. The butterflies require sun, too. They warm their flight muscles in the sun-

light and will rest on a warm stone or board when they aren't feeding. Aside from their beauty, butterflies

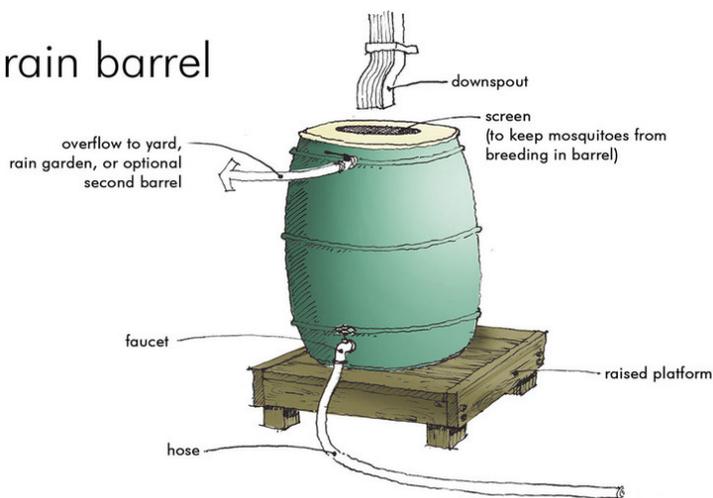
are excellent pollinators and the larvae are an important part of the food chain. The larvae may munch away at some of your garden plants as well as

their host trees, but consider that a good sign...not a problem.

Insecticides will harm the larvae and butterflies, along with whatever other insects you may target, so refrain from using insecticides in your butterfly garden, (if you feel you must use them at all). Butterflies usually like flowers with a 'landing pad' like coneflowers, asters or the clustered flower heads of milkweed or phlox. In general, the butterflies are not as picky about their food as the caterpillars. Large masses of nectar-producing flowers will attract many different species.

A few shrubs and trees to attract butterflies are: Shadbush Serviceberry, Paw Paw, Birch, Hackberry, Dogwood, Black Cherry, Willow, and Linden.

rain barrel



Rain Barrels: Practical and Environmentally Beneficial

With all of the recent talk about water, this article, originally submitted for the March/April issue 2011, is a nice fit and a great reminder of how resourceful a rain barrel can be to collect rain water for your outside gardening uses.

Collecting rainwater for use during dry months is an ancient practice. Historical records show that rainwater was collected in simple clay containers as far back as 2,000 years ago in Thailand, and throughout other areas of the world after that. With the rising price of municipal water and moderate to severe watering restrictions now facing much of the United States during the summer months, more and more homeowners in our modern society are turning to the harvesting of rainwater to protect the environment and save money.

An easy and inexpensive way to collect rainwater is by connecting one or more rain barrels to your gutter downspout system. You can use a rain barrel even if you don't have gutters by positioning the barrel where two roof sections meet and create a valley. Most rain barrels come equipped with a spigot, a screen to keep out bugs, a diverter for overflows and a hose fitting to allow you to connect multiple barrels to one downspout.

How much water can you expect to collect? A house whose footprint is 1000 square feet will collect 600 gallons of water for every inch of rainfall! Rainwater can be used to water indoor or outdoor plants. In fact, plants thrive on the soft, chemical free properties of fresh rainwater.

In addition to the practical aspects of collecting rainwater, there is an environmental benefit. The protection of every natural resource is key to the survival of humankind. Fresh water is undoubtedly one of the most important of those natural resources. For those of us with access to the water wealth of the Great Lakes, it may be difficult to accept water scarcity. However, some experts believe that water will replace petroleum as the 21st century's core commodity.

New RPC Director

Betty Dlouhy has joined the RPC Board. The RPC's newest Director is a long time Riverwoods resident (since 1983). Betty has been active in a number of community activities in the past including the Caucus, the annual Village Halloween party, the Plant Committee, and the Village Voice. The RPC Board members now include: Laurie Breitkopf, Mike Clayton, Betty Dlouhy, Sheila Hollander, Rick Jamerson, Rich Koomjian and Louise Simonson.



Please contact any of us to learn more about the RPC and our ongoing activities.

Green Corner

Textile Drive – Our annual textile drive must be delayed this year due to decreased need. However, the demand for prescription eye glasses and all types of shoes remains high. Please consider contributing towards the eye glass and shoe drive. Riverwoods Village Hall, located at 300 Portwine Road will serve as the collection site.

RPC/Riverwoods/SWALCO



RECYCLE AND REUSE Eye Glasses & Shoe Drive

Prescription Glasses and All Types of Shoes

APRIL 11-26

At Riverwoods Village Hall

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!

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 _____

Gale Shares a Few of Her Favorites

By Gale Gand, Pastry Chef and Riverwoods Resident



Chicken and Broccoli Strata with Jalapeños

Serves 8

- 5 cups cubed French bread
- 2 cups grated Monterey Jack cheese
- 10 eggs
- 4 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup frozen or canned corn kernels
- 1 cup blanched or frozen broccoli florets
- 1/2 cup pulled chicken meat
- 2 4.5 ounce cans jalapeños

Butter a 9 X 13 inch baking dish. Place bread cubes in the dish then top with the grated cheese. In a bowl, use an immersion blender or whisk together the eggs, milk, mustard, and salt. Pour the mixture over the bread cubes. Sprinkle the ingredients over and fold it in slightly. Cover and chill up to 24 hours.

Uncover the dish and bake at 350 degrees for 60 minutes. Tent with foil if the dish is browning too quickly. Let cool for five minutes before serving.

Quick Pear Streusel Coffee Cake

Serves 8

For the cake

- 1 - 1/2 cups flour
- 2 - 1/4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 2 chopped ripe pears (I like Bartlett)

For the streusel topping

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup flour
- 3 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Butter an 8-inch square baking dish or line it with parchment paper.

In a mixing bowl, using a wooden spoon, stir together the dry ingredients. Add the eggs, the milk and the 1/4 cup butter and stir until combined. Add the chopped pears and stir to coat them with the batter. Pour into the buttered baking dish.

To make the streusel, mix the sugar, flour, and cinnamon together in a bowl then pour in the three tablespoons melted butter and stir until blended. Sprinkle over the top of the batter. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes, until golden and dry on top. Cool in the pan and cut into squares. This cake keeps for up to four days, covered at room temperature and is actually better if made the night before.

Gale Gand is founding pastry chef and partner of the renowned Michelin one star, Mobil four-star, AAA five-diamond restaurant, Tru in Chicago, host of the long running show "Sweet Dreams" on Food Network and Cooking Channel, and author of seven books. Her 8th, Gale Gand's Lunch, came out April 2014. She has her own root beer company and has received an Outstanding Pastry Chef award from The James Beard Foundation. She teaches cooking at Elawa Farm in Lake Forest, a historic organic farm. Gale is the mother of twin nine-year-old girls and a 17-year-old son, and is married to an environmentalist. For more info go to www.galegand.com.

Book Club News

To learn the next selection and date for the book club, please contact the Village Hall, or June Melber at 847-940-7086, or email June at argos501@aol.com.

Medicare Advice

Are you 65 or about to be? Are you confused by Medicare options? Do you need help finding services for an aged or disabled family member or friend? Or are you looking for your local S.H.I.P (Senior Health Insurance Program) or S.H.A.P. (Senior Health Assistance Program) contact?

Help is available through your local agency of which one is located in every county in the United States. As a result of the passage of the Older Americans Act, passed in 1974, the Agency on Aging for Northeastern Illinois is the agency that serves residents of Lake County. For Riverwoods residents, the nearest SHIP site is at the Patty Turner Center in Deerfield. To get more information on services available, check out their website at www.AgeGuide.org, or call them at 630- 293- 5990. Some brochures on services are available at the Riverwoods Village Hall, or call or email June Melber, your Lake county Advisory Council representative for the agency.

Back by Popular Demand!

Vernon Township's 8th Annual Community Garage Sale

Vernon Township will be hosting its 8th Annual Community Garage Sale in the west parking lot of the Prairie View Train Station. (This year's event is scheduled for early summer rather than the fall.) The Township will be selling two parking spaces (16 ft x 17 ft) for \$25.00. The proceeds from the sale of spaces benefit the Vernon Township Food Pantry. Crafters are welcome to participate.

When: Saturday June 18, 2016 Rain or Shine

Time: 10:00am until 3:00pm, Set-up starts at 7:00am

Applications are available at the Vernon Township Administration Building or on-line at www.vernontownship.com. Spaces are available on a first come first serve basis. Spaces may be reserved in person at the township office or, if mailing the application, spaces will be assigned by the Township. Everyone is invited to participate, however space is limited so reserve your spaces early. Deadline for reserving a space is May 27th. You will need to bring your own supplies such as tables, chairs, clothes racks and shade screens. Clean up is the responsibility of the space holder at the end of the sale.

For further information please call Vernon Township



Congratulations to our Young Pianist Champion

Kudos to Riverwoods own Zach Molina. Zach is a two-time all-state jazz pianist while in his junior and senior year at Deerfield High School. He is currently a freshman at the University of Illinois in Champaign, Urbana. Zach has worked to get to the top five in state having competed against students in 50 schools in northern Illinois among nine school districts. Zach is seriously considering a career in music. He made it to two University groups - jazz big band and jazz ensemble.



He's also part of a comedy improv group called "Meatheads". Zach also accepted an offer to be the spokesman and pianist for a well known local jazz group called "West of Staley". He has the support of his proud parents, Flo and Peter. The Village Board of Trustees honored Zach at a recent Board meeting with a proclamation and a sign at Lake Cook / Portwine that recognizes his achievements. Well done Zach!

Avian Architecture at Brushwood *The Bird Sanctuaries of Dave LaForge*



Bird sanctuaries can be as varied and exquisite as the homes we live in. Multimedia artist Dave LaForge was inspired by the beauty of birds and nature around us to create this exhibition of unique platform bird feeders made from recycled materials and featuring distinctive and unexpected details.

LaForge has been an admirer of nature and architecture throughout his life. Through his work as a master plasterer on numerous vintage architectural estates throughout the North Shore and Chicago, he has found not only inspiration but also the raw materials for his bird feeders (bird sanctuaries). By utilizing the job site scraps to bring life to the structures in his imagination he is not only serving the birds, but also practicing one of the best forms of recycling. A Vietnam Vet and Waukegan native, La Forge now lives in rural Wisconsin with his artist wife, Sandra.

This exhibition is free and runs through April 10, 2016 at Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday 9am - 3pm., Sundays 1 - 3pm or by appointment.



Village of Riverwoods

300 Portwine Road
Riverwoods, Illinois
60015-3898

847-945-3990

Fax: 847-945-4059

VillageofRiverwoods.com



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60015-3898

AUTO

- RIVERWOODS -
EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 / 3-4:30PM
VILLAGE HALL

All Residents Invited -
**Woodland Easter Egg
Hunt and More!**

Join your Riverwoods friends for an old fashioned Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 27, at 3 - 4:30pm in the afternoon at the Village Hall.

All children are invited to come out to join in the fun! Search for colored eggs in one of two age appropriate egg hunts, meet the Easter bunny and some of his furry friends (a donkey, a piglet, some lambs and bunnies) as we welcome Spring.

If you would like to join in the planning, make a donation of eggs or candy, or assist on the day of the egg hunt, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Jackie Borchew at jackie@borchew.com / 847-602-8508, or Michelle at the Village Hall at 847-945-3990.

This event is dependant on the weather so please check the Village facebook page that morning if in doubt at facebook.com/VillageofRivewoods.