



# Riverwoods

## VILLAGE VOICE

### Recycle This Article, Please: On the Hidden Trail of Our Trash

By Jonathon Schlesinger

It's an all-to-common sight in our community: garbage can tipped over, the bounty of material life – wrapping paper, overripe bananas, packing peanuts, and the remains of last Saturday's BBQ – spilling out like some sort of Thanksgiving Cornucopia. For you, a pre-work chore. For a raccoon, a holiday feast.

Raccoons are but one of the many hazards Rafael Jaca faces as he plies the streets of Riverwoods as an employee of Waste Management Inc., the nation's largest waste hauler and disposer. Other hazards include coyotes, foxes, and merely backing-up his truck on our narrow, tree-lined streets. Despite these challenges, Rafael enjoys working in our wooded community; as the sole garbage man operating in Riverwoods for the past 11 years, Rafael has come to know many friendly and appreciative residents.

Riverwoods residents have good reason to be thankful for Rafael's work. Collectively, our



community produces 25-30 tons of garbage each week. Without his work, it wouldn't take very long for this garbage to become a malodorous, hazardous, raccoon-infested mess. Faced with this problem 50 years ago, early residents managed their waste the old fashioned way: burning or burying it. Like nearly everything else about life in our village, how we manage our garbage has changed dramatically. The purpose of this article is to give you a basic idea of where your waste goes after it leaves your property as well as a few things you can do to be more environmentally friendly.

#### PART 1: FINAL RESTING PLACE

After leaving Riverwoods, your garbage makes its way to the Waste Management transfer facility in Wheeling. Here it is loaded onto semi-trailers and sent to its final resting place, the Pheasant Run landfill in Bristol, Wisconsin. It should be noted that this landfill is nearly twice as far from Riverwoods as Waste Management's Countryside Landfill in Grayslake. Neither the representative of Waste Management nor I can explain why garbage collected in Riverwoods bypasses Countryside. Limited by time and the assurance that the facilities are very similar, I chose to visit the closer landfill.

Mike Day, District Manager at Countryside, probably says it best when he describes his place of employment as "a very long construction project." Looking into the landfill from the rim, I have to agree. Far below, semi-trucks dump the contents of their trailers into the bottom of the landfill as large earthmovers (100,010 lbs. large, to be precise) do their best to crush anything beneath their wheels – kiddie pools, foamboard, and outmoded cabinetry – into an even layer. The 120-foot mound beneath me (part of an older landfill) is testament to the fact that despite the earthmover's work, this gigantic hole is slowly disappearing. In

*Continued on page #8*

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 8pm. Sept. 15, Oct. 6, 20, Nov. 3 and 17.

#### Riverwoods Plan Commission

1st Thursday at 7:30pm. Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

GET INVOLVED  
IN RIVERWOODS

#### Village of Riverwoods Senior Program

Call Cheryl Hadley at 847-945-3990.

#### Theatre in the Woods

Call Sandy Sagan, producer at 847-945-0585.

#### Riverwoods Preservation Council

Laurie Breittkopf, president at 847-945-7034. [www.riverwoodsrpc.org](http://www.riverwoodsrpc.org)

#### Riverwoods Book Club

Exercise your brain. The book club is free to all and meets at the Village Hall one Friday a month at 10am.

#### Riverwoods Residents Association

Call chairman John Hughes at 847-607-8402 to share your ideas or volunteer.

#### Plant Sale Committee

Call chairmen Margie Kaul at 847-945-5131 or Sheila Hollander at 847-945-4879.



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RIVERWOODS  
VILLAGE VOICE

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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.

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SEND IN THOSE  
LETTERS!

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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 November/December Issue: October 15, 2009

Send to:  
Editor

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

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# Village Board of Trustees Meeting Notes

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*Summary of ordinances, resolutions, and non-routine matters considered by the Board of Trustees from the meeting minutes of June 16, July 7 and 21. Read the entirety of these minutes on the Village of Riverwoods website: [www.villageofriverwoods.com](http://www.villageofriverwoods.com)*

July 21

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

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Village Treasurer Hal Roseth explained the overall fund balances increased substantially in June by \$536,000. The increase was primarily due to the short term receipts from the SSA's, which will be disbursed as payments on the bonds that were used to fund projects. The current Illinois funds rate is at 0.182% and the approximate balance in IPTIP funds is \$8 million.

Mr. Roseth mentioned he received the prospectus and registration information on the IMET fund, which is a direct competitor of Illinois funds but is more competitive and outperforms Illinois funds slightly. The holdings are similar including federal home loans, Fannie May and Freddie Mack. Village Auditor Irwin Lyons of Miller Cooper referred this fund to the Village. Mr. Roseth will look into this, but believes it could be a good investment. He noted the risk and exposure were identical to the Village's current investments, but would give the Village a little diversity.

Mr. Roseth explained he moved the \$1 million CD that was established at North Side Community Bank. They returned to the Village a check for \$750,000 and kept \$250,000 in an FDIC-backed CD in the bank.

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## ENGINEER'S REPORT

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Village Engineer Pat Glenn explained that the 2009 Roadway Maintenance construction at Indian Trail and Hiawatha Woods would commence next week. Notices would be distributed to the affected residents.

**Rain Gardens** / Mr. Glenn reported the rain garden installations were complete, including the planting of small plants (plugs), in all three locations. He encouraged residents to

come and experience them.

**Bike Path** / Mr. Glenn, Mayor Kaplan, Trustee Chamberlain and Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Mike Ford, met with Ann Maine from the Lake County Board and Bruce Christensen from the Lake County Division of Transportation to discuss how the Village might move forward on a Deerfield Road bicycle path from Thornmeadow to Saunders. Mr. Glenn explained that the best way to be positioned for Federal funding was to complete a Phase I study. Mr. Glenn would prepare a proposal for the Board's consideration at the next meeting. If or when Deerfield Road is widened, the additional expense of modifying the path would not be extraordinary and the county would not discourage the Village from making the path.

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## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Director of Community Services, Russ Kraly, provided a list of 42 vacant or problem properties. He will update the list monthly. Mike Corn, 3075 Blackthorn Road, asked for an explanation of a problem home. Mr. Kraly explained a problem home has junk cars, is vacant and open or has one or more various issues.

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## POLICE REPORT

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Chief Bruce Dayno listed the police activity since the July 7, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting. He explained there was one 911 hang up, eight accidents, 19 alarms, seven animal complaints, 10 fire assists, three assists with other agencies, one car seat installation, five crime prevention notices, two domestic disputes, two driving complaints, two DUI arrests, two harassment calls, two residential or vehicular lock outs, six motorist assists, two public assists, one solicitor complaint, six suspicious circumstances, three thefts, one trespass and 12 case reports. There were 81 traffic stops with 58 persons being issued citations and 68 citations issued. There are currently seven houses on the House Watch list which are checked regularly. Chief Dayno mentioned there was one arrest for criminal trespassing to real property, three arrests for damage to property, one arrest for theft and one arrest for theft over \$10,000 and under \$100,000, financial institution fraud.

Chief Dayno mentioned he had been working with Mr. Kraly on the unoccupied homes. The bicycle officer has checked these homes to de-

termine which homes are open and may create hazards.

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### VILLAGE ATTORNEY'S REPORT

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Mr. Huvard mentioned he met with Estonian House, The Mulch Center, Glenwood Tree and Mr. Pantle, the businesses along Milwaukee Avenue interested in possible annexation into Riverwoods. The businesses showed up with more people and the Village made demands for additional documents. He will report back to the Trustees as more information becomes available.

Mr. Huvard explained that he published a report for a Public Hearing at the next Plan Commission meeting regarding amending the Zoning Ordinance to prohibit windmills and wind turbines.

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### ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE EXISTENCE OF CERTAIN NUISANCES IN THE VILLAGE AND PROVIDING REMEDIES FOR VIOLATIONS

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The Board passed the first reading of the Ordinance Prohibiting the Existence of Certain Nuisances in the Village and Providing Remedies for Violations, in response to 42 problem homes. These residences are abandoned, vacant or have landscaping that is overgrown and/or other conditions deemed to be a nuisance.

July 7

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### ENGINEER'S REPORT

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Pat Glen explained that the Lake County Council of Mayors approved 11 projects for stimulus funding, including \$331,000 for the 2010 Saunders Road Maintenance Project. This project will have to meet federal design and construction standards and will be reviewed by IDOT. The IDOT review process typically takes 3-4 months from the submittal of preliminary plans to approval. The Village is targeting early spring 2010 to commence construction.

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### DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

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**Wind Energy** / Russ Kraly, Director of Community Services attended the first Wind Energy Task Force meeting in Lake County. There was discussion of the benefits and pit falls of various turbines. The group plans to draft a model ordinance for all Villages.

**Abandoned or Vacant Homes** / Mr. Kraly presented a list of 25 abandoned or vacant homes and explained that the first five addresses on his

list are filled with debris and garbage. Mayor Kaplan mentioned that he knows of nine additional. The Village is working with the residents to clean up the properties.

The Village attorney will draft an ordinance for review at the next board meeting. Any ordinance may need to have the same rights or options for occupied homes as well as vacant.

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### PLAN COMMISSION

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**Riverwoods Estate subdivision** / Plan Commission Chairman David Niedelman explained the Plan Commission met on July 2, 2009. One topic discussed was the Riverwoods Estate subdivision. The Plan Commission voted unanimously to send a favorable recommendation to the Board for a plat amendment, since the landowner will not be building a third house.

**Deer Fencing** / The Plan Commission also discussed deer fencing. The meeting was proposed as a discovery/fact finding meeting. The discussion was lively and productive and the Plan Commission plans to look at various reports and review the impact the deer are having on the Village. The Department of Natural Resources will address the issue at an upcoming meeting.

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### POLICE REPORT

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Since the last meeting of June 16 there have been six 911 hang ups, 16 accidents, 40 alarms, eight criminal complaints, 16 assists with fire, two assists with other agencies, two cannabis arrests, seven crime prevention notices, three criminal damage to property complaints, one domestic dispute, two driving complaints, one DUI arrest, six vehicle or residential lock outs, two major crime call outs, one mental subject, 14 motorist assists, two noise/disturbance calls, one parking complaint, two public assists, two solicitor complaints, eight suspicious circumstances, one theft and 15 case reports. There were 192 traffic stops with 104 persons issued citations and 128 citations issued. There are currently nine houses on the House Watch list that are checked regularly.

Chief Dayno reported that in May of 2009, the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists recognized Corporal Ron Shore and Officers Brian Ernst, David Marks and Robert Salmen

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### RIVERWOODS VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**William S. Kaplan**  
Board President  
847-945-1972  
williamskaplan@comcast.net

**Sherry Graditor**  
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847-317-0605  
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Environmental/  
Solid Waste  
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rkoomjian@flinndreffein.  
com

for exceptional DUI enforcement. Their efforts have made the Village of Riverwoods a safer place for both motorists and pedestrians.

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**NORTHWEST ILLINOIS POLICE CRIME LAB**

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Members of the Lake County Major Crimes Task Force get together to investigate major crimes. There were two recent murders in North Chicago and Zion that Detective Brian Ernst assisted with in the assigned role of evidence technician. The Village has been paying \$3,000 per year for membership to the Task Force, but because of Detective Ernst's role as evidence technician we know only pay \$500.

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**ORDINANCE 09-7-14**

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The Board passed Ordinance 09-7-14 amending Ordinance 09-1-1 to correct chapter and section numbering.

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**WINDMILLS, WIND TURBINES AND SIMILAR DEVICES**

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The subject of windmills, wind turbines and similar devices was referred to the Plan Commission to hold a Public Hearing on enacting a moratorium under the Zoning Ordinance to prohibit windmills, wind turbines and similar devices pending text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.

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**BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT**

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Trustee Graditor explained that from June 1, 2008 to June 25, 2008 the Village collected fees of \$11,345 from construction totaling \$919,500. For the same period this year a total construction value of \$249,500 generated fees of \$2,852 for the Village.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

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Trustee Rich Koomjian invited five residents (Mike Clayton, Irene Gagerman, Greg Mancuso, John Norris and Roger Simonson) to join the Environmental Committee. The committee discussed the potential receipt of revenues from SWALCO for recycling. Riverwoods did not have a contract that provided for recycling revenues in the past, and currently there are no revenues because of the poor market price for scrap metal.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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In Executive Session the Board discussed and approved a motion to purchase a parcel of property described by Trustee Haber as unique, adjacent, and contiguous to the Village for a price of \$320,000.

*June 16*

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**POLICE REPORT**

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Chief Dayno listed the activity since the June 2, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting. There were three 911 hang ups, nine accidents, 11 alarms, 12 animal complaints, ten fire assists, one other agency assist, one well being checked, five crime prevention notices, three domestic disputes, two driving

complaints, three DUI arrests, one fight in progress, six vehicle or residential lock outs, one missing person report, nine motorist assists, two noise disturbances, four parking complaints, one solicitor complaint, nine suspicious circumstances, ten case reports and 122 traffic stops with 61 persons issued citations and 75 citations issued. There are five houses currently on the house watch list and are checked regularly.

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**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

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Assistant Chief Ugaste listed the activity since the June 2, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting. There were seven fire calls, no car accidents, 12 paramedic calls and two other calls so far this month.

Assistant Chief Ugaste mentioned that fire hydrants across the Village are becoming difficult to see and wanted to educate residents about the concern. He also mentioned that addresses should be visible from the street.

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**NORTHBROOK WATER COMPARISON**

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To date the Village of Riverwoods has saved \$172,264.32 by going with Northbrook's water. Mayor Kaplan commented that the Village of Deerfield received a rate increase but Riverwoods did not.

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**LAKE COUNTY SEWER USE FEES**

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Mayor Kaplan reported the Village has collected \$68,694 in sewer funds since September 2008.

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**SWALCO DIRECTOR APPOINTED**

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The Board passed Ordinance 09-6-12 appointing a Director and Alternate Director to SWALCO for terms ending April 30, 2011. John Norris will serve as Director to SWALCO representing The Village of Riverwoods.

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**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A GENERAL PREVAILING RATE OF WAGES**

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The Board passed Ordinance 09-6-13 establishing the general prevailing rate of wages in the Village.

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**COLLEGE BOUND OPPORTUNITIES**

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Request from CBO, College Bound Opportunities, for \$6,000 to make a donation in the amount of \$6000 for College Bound Opportunities.

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**JULIE RATE INCREASE**

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Mr. Glenn explained that the Village is on a one-year contract with JULIE. He asked for a multiyear contract but representatives from JULIE would only give a one-year contract. The rate increase is \$0.17 per screen with \$0.15 going to JULIE directly. The other \$0.02 goes to Adesta, to screen JULIE tickets. He mentioned that Adesta has performed admirably.

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# Police Report

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By Police Chief Bruce Dayno

## **Child Safety Seat Installation**

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children ages 2 to 14. Correctly used child safety seats are extremely effective, reducing the risk of death by as much as 71 percent, but nearly 73 percent of child restraints are not installed or used correctly.

Child Passenger Safety Technicians can ensure your child's seat is installed correctly. CPS Technicians put their knowledge to work through a variety of activities, including child safety seat checks in which parents and caregivers receive education and hands-on assistance with the proper use of child restraint systems and safety belts. Call Detective David Marks at 847-945-1130 ext. 41 for an appointment to have your seat checked or installed properly.

## **Emergency Telephone Notification System**

The Village of Riverwoods contracts with the NTI Group to provide their Connect-CTY service for emergency resident notification. With this service, the Village is able to send personalized voice messages and email alerts to residents and businesses within minutes with specific information about time-sensitive or common-interest issues such as boil order alerts, missing persons, and road closures.

As a resident or business, you can opt-in to emergency messages, non-emergency messages or both. The information supplied will be sent to the Connect-CTY system. If you have an unlisted telephone number, or if you have not previously signed up to be on the system, you may not be in our database.

The system will only be used for emergencies and exigent circumstances. We know that your personal information is important; all usage of your personal information will be in compliance with the Village Privacy Policy.

To register, or for more information, go to [www.riverwoods-il.net](http://www.riverwoods-il.net) and click on the Village-To-Resident Notification System link. If you don't have internet access or would like assistance, call the Police Department Records Section at 847-945-1130 between 7:30a.m. and 1:30p.m. Monday through Friday.

## **Bicycle Patrol**

Based on the positive feedback I have been receiving, I know many of you have noticed our newly implemented bicycle patrol. Since graduating from a 32 hour Police Cyclist Course last Spring, Officer Al Maciareillo has been busy meeting and talking to people while cruising residential streets, businesses, and off-road areas.

We started the patrol for a wide variety of reasons. An officer on a bicycle is easily approachable, optimizing community and problem-oriented policing. The officer can make better use of smell and hearing senses to detect crime. Areas not easily traversed by motor vehicles are often easy for bicycles to maneuver through. The bikes are nearly silent in operation and many criminals do not realize that an approaching cyclist is actually a police officer. Officers have a speed advantage if a criminal attempts to flee on foot and can quickly dismount if necessary.

For more information, contact Officer Al Maciareillo at 847-945-1130 ext. 42.

## **Open Garage Doors**

Riverwoods Police Officers on the overnight shift have

been noticing an increase in overhead garage doors being left open and have been leaving Crime Prevention Notices. Don't become a "crime of opportunity" statistic. Close and lock your garage doors

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# Potpourri from the Building Department

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By Russell Kraly, Director, Community Services

Summers almost over! Where did it go? I hope everyone has enjoyed the beautiful weather we've had.

The economy's tight, people are losing jobs, companies are closing or down-sizing, everyone's tightening their belts and trying to weather the storm. We have numerous homes that have been foreclosed on, and people have left with no maintenance taking place. We have a list, but if you have one in your neighborhood, please email me at [russk@riverwoods-il.net](mailto:russk@riverwoods-il.net), so I can add to the list or just verify what we already have. The banks are not stepping forward to take care of these properties; one told me that they have so many homes that it costs a small fortune to maintain these properties. The Village doesn't have a Public Works Department like other Villages do, so we have to hire someone to do this, and then we have to file a lien against the property and hope to get our money back when the property is sold. We will be trying to clean-up some of these in the next few weeks. This will be a one-time attempt to go in and cut the weeds/grass down so at least it looks somewhat kept up. There have been some neighbors in some areas that have gotten together to take turns having their lawn service maintain the property so at least it looks presentable. Hopefully, things turn around soon and we can get back to normal, whatever that is.

We are also in the process of re-writing our Fence Ordinance. It's outdated and not very detailed, so we will be putting together a new one with the help and guidance of the Planning Commission. Deer fences, which were not covered and not recognized as an approved fence, have multiplied in some areas of the Village to the point that it restricts the movement of the deer and encumbers property owners without fences to be visited by them more than they would like. It's a sensitive subject, but the Planning Commission held public hearings over the last two months and had an expert from the DNR come in and answer questions about the deer and their movements within our Village. The Planning Commission will now start to set-up some parameters and guidelines that will hopefully assist us in drafting a new Fencing Ordinance that will benefit all the residents, protect their properties and still let nature and the deer flourish within our Village.

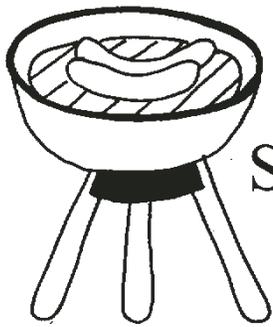
This is a reminder. People have been bringing their boats, trailers, horse trailers and RV's home to store for the winter. By Village Ordinance, if your vehicle is over 30' long, you cannot park it anywhere except in an enclosed structure (i.e. Garage). Under 30', "your vehicle shall be effectively screened with trees or fencing blocking the view of said vehicle in all seasons from the neighboring residences." The height of the fencing shall not exceed the height of the vehicle or ten feet, whichever is smaller. This type of fencing cannot have any top or be located in any side or rear yard setbacks. A permit will be needed for fencing. If using trees and evergreens for screening, no permits are needed. Blue tarps are not permitted screening material. If you want to use a tarp in conjunction with one of the approved screening methods, please use a green, brown, black or camouflage tarp.



Celebrates it's  
**50<sup>TH</sup>** ANNIVERSARY

Please Join The  
*Mayor, Board of Trustees & Office Staff*

for a **BBQ**



Sunday, **October 4<sup>th</sup>**

**1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

at the

**Village Hall**

*(300 Portwine Road)*



Please RSVP by **September 26<sup>th</sup>** to Cheryl

Phone: 847-945-3990 (8:30 AM to 1:30 PM)

Or email: [CHADLEY@RIVERWOODS-IL.NET](mailto:CHADLEY@RIVERWOODS-IL.NET)

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## Financial Transparency Reporting

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Every year your Village is audited by an outside audit firm to ensure that all money handled by the Village as taxes or revenue and as expenses are properly recorded in compliance with generally accepted accounting standards. Upon completion of the audit the Village publishes the audit results on the Finance page of the Village web site (<http://www.villageofriverwoods.com> - click on Government and then on Finance to see the reports).

In the interest of greater financial transparency, we are publishing a new feature to make it easier to understand where the Village gets money from, where we spend it and who does business with the Village. Every source of revenue is explained in plain English and every major expense category is explained as well.

Once a month we will be updating three key pages under the heading "Who does the Village spend money with."

"Vendors awarded Village contracts" - this page details vendors awarded Village contracts for goods and services

"Vendors Paid \$5,000 or more in 2009" - this page will tell you every month the name of any vendor that was paid more than \$5,000 in a month and the total they have been paid YTD along with a short explanation of what was purchased.

"Reimbursements to Village Officials" - this page details any payments other than salary paid to any Village official (appointed or elected).

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## Some News You Can Really Use

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Send us your email address! The Village will be starting an email service that sends you information about special events, Village programs that can save you money, tips on how to care for your property, and more. Each email will feature a short news item, so that you can learn more about how your Village can help you. Emails will only be used for Village purposes, and will not be shared with any commercial, political, or private entity. [The Village is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). We intend for emails to be used solely for Village purposes and not for commercial or private purposes. However, your email address may not be deemed private information exempt from disclosure under FOIA, despite what the Village would prefer. Please keep this fact in mind if you choose to provide your email address.]

You can also unsubscribe to this service at any time by contacting Village Hall in writing or at 847-945-3990.

To receive these helpful messages, please send your email address to [chadley@riverwoods-il.net](mailto:chadley@riverwoods-il.net). Need help with email? Call Trustee Cheryl Chamberlain at 847-914-0665, and she will be happy to help.

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## Property Assessments

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Lake County property owners will receive their assessment notices soon. Notices are delivered between August and November. It's important for taxpayers to read and understand this notice. Questions can be directed to the appropriate township assessor's office or the Chief County Assessment Office at 847-377-2050 or see the website at [www.lakecountyil.gov/Assessor](http://www.lakecountyil.gov/Assessor).

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## Lake County Invites You to Be A Star!

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*Tell us your bike path story and you may be featured on LCTV*

The Division of Transportation will celebrate two new additions to the bike path system this summer. The Deerfield Road Bike Path opened in June, and the Skokie Valley Bike Path Extension in August. To help us celebrate we invite you to tell us your bike path story and you may be featured on our website and LCTV!

What is your favorite bike path in Lake County?

Do you ride for fun?

Do you ride for exercise?

Do you ride to work or to run errands?

Do you ride as a way to cut down on air pollution?

Do you ride to avoid sitting in traffic?

Who do you ride with?

Tell us your bike path story by sending your pictures, videos and experiences to [communications@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:communications@lakecountyil.gov). We are looking for residents to feature in an in-depth program about Lake County's bike path system on LCTV. Visit the bike path website at [www.lakecountyil.gov/bikepath/default.htm](http://www.lakecountyil.gov/bikepath/default.htm)

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## Plastic Bag Recycling Guidelines

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Residents are encouraged to recycle both plastic bags and film. The bag-in-bag system in which plastic bags and film are collected in a larger plastic bag before being taken to a local retailer, is recommended.

**Items that can be recycled should be empty, clean and dry. They include:**

Grocery Bags

Newspaper Bags

Bread Bags

Produce Bags

Plastic Retail Bags (*hard plastic and string handles removed*)

Zip-Lock Bags (*remove hard components*)

Other Storage Bags

Cereal Box Liners

Toilet Paper, Napkin and Paper Towel Wraps

Tyvek (*no glue, labels or other material*)

Diaper Wrap (*packaging*)

Plastic Shipping Envelopes (*no labels*)

Case Wrap (*e.g. snacks, water bottles*)

Furniture Wrap

Electronic Wrap

All empty, clean and dry bags labeled #2 or #4

**Do not include the following. These items are considered contaminants and cannot be recycled:**

NO food or cling wrap

NO prepackaged food bags including frozen foods and prewashed salad bags

NO plastic packaging that has been painted or has excessive glue

NO bio-based or compostable plastic bags

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## In the Kitchen with Gale Gand

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By Gale Gand

This summer the local blueberry crop was later than I'm used to, but still very good. We ended up picking in nearby Michigan on a sunny weekend with friends. My husband and I had prepped our kids for the experience by reading them the sweet book, *Blueberries for Sale*, by Robert McCloskey (only about 100 times-they couldn't get enough of it!). In this old fashioned book the mother and daughter go blueberry picking and run across a mother and daughter black bear doing the same thing. Luckily our blueberry experience didn't mirror that part of the book, just the part about the "plunk" sound made in the buckets as the first berries hit the bottom...and the part about how hard it is to NOT eat most of your pick.

Once we were home, we ate them by the handfuls, on cereal, in pancakes, in muffins we made some blueberry-peach jam and still had some left! So I did a demo at the Deerfield Farmer's Market and made tartlets with them combining them with sour cream and a little almond paste. I used store-bought puff pastry, so it couldn't be easier. They're good for breakfast as well as dessert or a bake sale. Here's the recipe so you can try them, too.

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### HAND FORMED BLUEBERRY-ALMOND TARTLETS

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Makes 4 tartlets

1 sheet frozen all butter puff pastry, thawed  
4 tablespoons almond paste (canned)  
4 teaspoons sour cream  
1/4 cup sugar  
2 teaspoons cornstarch  
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon  
1 cups blueberries

Place a sheet of parchment paper on a sheet pan. Divide the sheet of puff pastry into 4 squares. Divide the almond paste into 4 pieces, roll it into balls then flatten them and place them in the center of the puff pastry squares. In a bowl, toss together the sugar, cornstarch, and cinnamon, then stir in the sour cream. Add the berries and fold together to coat them. Spoon the berries in to the center of the almond paste lined puff pastry. Repeat with other puff pastry squares. Using your hands, gather the puff pastry up around the blueberries and press it onto the berries to bundle then snugly in the dough. It won't look so pretty now but will look beautiful once it bakes up and puffs. Bake at 425 degrees 'till golden brown on the edges, about 25-30 minutes. Let cool before serving.



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## On the Hidden Trail of Our Trash;

*continued from the front cover*

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fact, when this 43-year construction project that is Countryside is finally finished in 2018, Waste Management and the people of Lake County will not only have filled this hole, but they will also have collectively made the tallest landform in the county. Huge size is not uncommon: the now-shuttered Fresh Kills Landfill in Staten Island is so big that it can be seen from the International Space Station.

This isn't to say that Countryside is merely a mound of refuse; in truth, the engineering that goes into this 153-acre site rivals the Pyramids of Egypt in its complexity. Within its depth lie synthetic and natural liners to protect ground water, a network of water monitoring wells, leachate collection stations, and methane vacuums. These multi-million dollar safety mechanisms are in place for good reason. Decomposing garbage produces two significant environmental hazards: leachate (the product of rain water percolating through garbage) and methane (a highly explosive gas.) In fact, Steve Winwood fans in Riverwoods may remember an unfortunate accident at the British rocker's concert at Shoreline Amphitheater in Mountain View, CA. As the story goes, the top of Shoreline Amphitheater – a repurposed landfill – was improperly sealed, causing an unsuspecting smoker to accidentally ignite a hair-raising 5-foot column of methane gas leaking from the soil.

While volatility is indeed a problem, it pales in comparison with methane's darker secret: it is a potent greenhouse gas. In order to mitigate this issue – and any PR problems – some of the methane produced at Countryside is used to generate electricity at a nearby power plant. All environmental and safety measures aside, the dump does produce a subtle but pungent odor. However sharp, it is nothing worse than the odor of some of the imported cheeses we can find locally.

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### PART 2: RECYCLE THIS ARTICLE

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Whereas the Countryside Landfill is the final resting place for most of Lake County's garbage, Waste Management's Lake County Recycling Center is but a brief layover for the 13,000 tons of cardboard, plastic, aluminum, and paper collected monthly across the northern suburbs (including Riverwoods). After being sorted and baled, this material will eventually be shipped to processors – typically overseas – and reincarnated as plastic decking (from milk jugs), or car parts (old Coke cans) or the paper in your hands (office paper). This is, of course, easier said than done; it takes a Rube Goldberg-like network of conveyor belts, magnets, screens, whirling discs, gigantic spinning drums, and last but certainly not least, quick eyes and hands to separate the good from the bad. According to plant manager John Schultz, the facility receives any number of unacceptable items – including garden hoses, car tires, broken telephones, stuffed animals, and bowling balls – from well-meaning, but (very) misinformed residents of Lake County.

Running at full-steam, the facility is an impressive sight. At one end, Bobcats push mountains of raw material – empty cereal boxes, junk mail, and sticky detergent bottles – onto feeder conveyors. Directly in front of me are the natural features: newspaper waterfalls, mountains of milk jugs, and rainbows of detergent bottles cascading into a compactor. Finally, at the end of

the line: 1000 lb. blocks of newsprint and aluminum cans eagerly await their next life. With all of this activity, it is no wonder that school children press their noses against the glass of the visitor's center in awe.

In the words of a New York City Sanitation Department employee: "You want to solve the garbage problem? Stop eating. Stop living." Like a pulse or breadth on a mirror, producing garbage seems to be one of the things that indicates life. It is abundantly clear that the people of Riverwoods will continue to produce volumes of garbage each week; the goal of zero waste, while attractive, is not economically or physically possible. That said, those residents who would like to reduce their waste should consider the following list of suggestions, as developed by the people of Waste Management and the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County.

1. Currently, WM recycles plastics 1-5, paper (including orange juice and soy milk containers), cardboard, glass and metals. Plastics 6-7 should be placed with non-recyclables.
2. Used fluorescent bulbs contain mercury and should never be placed in municipal waste or recycling containers. Used bulbs and tubes (up to 4' long) may be dropped off at the Riverwoods Village Hall, 9am - 1pm, Monday - Friday.
3. Don't throw away your old clothing or shoes! Drop them off at the new Helping Hands collection station outside of the Riverwoods Village Hall.
4. Plastic grocery bags wreak havoc on the machines at the Lake County Recycling Facility. The best way to recycle these bags is to drop them off at a Walgreens, Dominicks, or other stores that recycle them.
5. Old electronics contain toxic metal. The best way to dispose of these items is to drop them off at SWALCO collections.
6. Want to dispose of household chemicals or learn more about waste management in Lake County? Visit [Swalco.org](http://Swalco.org). for more information.

Thank you to Rafael Jaca, Bill Plunkett/Waste Management, and Merlanne at SWALCO for their assistance. This article

did not attempt to address two significant aspects of waste management in our community: composting and electronic waste.

Readers interested in learning more about these topics or other aspects of waste management should consult the following sources: *Made to Break* (Slade, 2006), *Garbage Land* (Royte, 2005) or [Swalco.org](http://Swalco.org). Comments and questions should be directed to [jschles2@gmail.com](mailto:jschles2@gmail.com).



## It was a Good Day for Pooches and People

By Jackie Borchew

The weather was surprisingly sunny and dry for this year's summer fundraiser, the Pooch Parade, to benefit Orphans of the Storm animal shelter. 90 dogs brought their people out to mix and mingle with canines and supporters of the shelter, enjoy some tasty treats and complete the 2-mile course through the shady neighborhood. Upon the return trip (the walk started and ended at Jaycee Memorial Park in Deerfield), raffle tickets were drawn, prizes distributed, and everyone went home a winner with a doggy bag. But the biggest winners of all are the dogs and cats at the shelter, because those 90 dogs raised \$10,000 for their benefit! A huge "thank you" goes out to all who participated and/or made donations towards the walk. The work at the shelter continues all of these years because of our caring community and the support they show.

Photos; Volunteer Emily Cole turns in her pledge sheet with a collection of over \$500.

Riverwoods resident Linna Tucker walked "Max" in the Pooch Parade. "Millie" an orphan dog that walked in the parade, found a friend (she actually did much better than that, she found a new home with a family who had come to walk). Cora and kaily Sagan posed with "Ace," adopted from the shelter.



## Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Collections

Residents have two ways to dispose of their household chemical waste:

- 1) Year-round Collection Events held at SWALCO's permanent facility in Gurnee (1311 N. Estes). The next 2009 public drop off dates are: Saturday September 12th and Monday September 21st 2009
- 2) Mobile Collections Events held at various locations throughout Lake County from April through November.

To see a complete list of items that are accepted go to: <http://www.lakecountyl.gov/swalco/CollectionEvents/HouseholdWasteCollectionEvents.htm>. or contact SWALCO at 847-336-9340. The next mobile collection event is:

Saturday, September 26, 2009 / 8:00am to 2:30pm  
Lake Forest Municipal Services Center  
800 N. Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

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# RPC Progress Report: The Health of Our Woodlands

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The Riverwoods Preservation Council (RPC) is a volunteer organization of Riverwoods residents dedicated to promoting environmental awareness. In late 2008 we embarked on a woodland health study, working with outside experts. The expense of the study was shared equally between RPC and the Village of Riverwoods. Individuals from Audubon Society and Lake County Forest Preserve, as well as RPC volunteers, offered advice and helped collect field data. The study found that Riverwoods' woodlands are suffering in several respects.

**Where:** We selected six properties south of Deerfield Road and two properties north of Deerfield Road. The properties included private and publicly-owned property, with some properties fenced to exclude deer. The properties also varied by degree of invasive species management. We chose properties that are typical of much of our woodlands.

**How:** Within the eight properties, we staked out fourteen "sample plots." Our field researchers counted the trees, shrubs and understory plants found within each plot, as well as larger trees located nearby. We collected data from the plots in the fall of 2008 and the spring of 2009.

**Assessment:** Our consultant, Applied Ecological Services, assessed each plot based on the number and variety of plants found and classified the plot by type of woodland. We used nearby Ryerson Woods for comparison, since it has similar conditions.

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## WHAT IS A HEALTHY WOODLAND?

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A healthy woodland consists of four layers: the tallest and most mature trees (the canopy); a lower layer of trees (the subcanopy); shrubs; and vegetation covering the ground (understory plants).

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## OUR FINDINGS

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**Canopy and Subcanopy:** The canopy comprises a variety of trees, including red oak, white oak, swamp white oak, sugar maple, green ash, basswood, American elm and hackberry. Sugar maples appear to be the most dominant tree species in the subcanopy, other than along the Des Plaines River. Young oaks and oak saplings are conspicuously absent from the subcanopy, meaning that over time oaks may disappear from the canopy. The likely causes are deer browse and shading from the canopy.

**Shrubs:** Overall shrub density was low, with reduced diversity in every study plot. The reduced shrub layer is likely the result of deer browse.

**Understory:** Ecologists use the term "floristic quality" when they speak about site quality. Understory floristic quality is based on the number, value and abundance of species. Using the formula utilized by ecologists to determine floristic quality, the plots were

found to vary from very high quality to poor quality.

Additional factors of concern in the understory are the high percentage of bare ground - no plants - and the extremely low light levels. Chicago Wilderness and the Cook County Forest Preserve find that less than 15% bare ground indicates high quality areas. We found 60%-90% bare ground in a majority of the plots in Riverwoods. Scientific literature indicates that light levels on the ground below 10-20% significantly reduce growth and species composition of understory vegetation in woodlands. Twelve of the 14 plots in Riverwoods exhibit light levels below 10%.

We found understory plant species similar to those found at Ryerson, but significantly fewer specimens. The causes seem to be deer browse, shading, soil chemistry alterations caused by common buckthorn and absence of fire as a management tool.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

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RPC is developing proposed management practices based upon the results of this study, and will present its recommendations to the Village Board of Trustees in the fall.

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## MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Yes, I want to support the RPC in its efforts to preserve Riverwoods! Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of :

\$25    \$50    \$100    Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: RPC, P.O. Box 122, Deerfield, IL 60015

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*My Biggest Concern about Riverwoods*

Riverwoods Preservation Council. The RPC is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. All contributions are tax-deductible. (If your employer matches contributions, don't forget to provide us with the matching contribution form.) Thank you.

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## Riverwoods Tree Count

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The Riverwoods Preservation Council in cooperation with the Village has established a tree count of the larger trees in Riverwoods. The effort is to determine where the mature forest in Riverwoods exists. Trees of 2ft diameter will be located, measured and identified by specie. The trees will be identified with a code number, recorded on an ID sheet and will be plotted on a Riverwoods map for easy reference. We will report to you the 10 largest trees in Riverwoods along with the identity and size of trees on your property. The acorns or seeds from these trees may grow into new trees that can exist better in the Riverwoods environment. The tree count is expected to take two years. We will need your permission to accomplish this task. To assist us, please send your name, address and telephone number to Howard Patterson at 475 Thornmeadow Road in Riverwoods. You may also email Howard at snhpatterson@comcast.net, or call him at 847-945-9281.

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## Dear Plant Ladies

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Your plant questions answered by *The Plant Ladies* (Margie Kaul & Sheila Hollander)

Spring was cool and exceedingly wet, and I had standing water for days on different parts of my property. Now the pattern is hot and dry with rain in short supply. How can I help my young plants to deal with our ever-changing weather?

We are glad that you asked this question because this situation can be confusing. Proper watering techniques are critical to plant health. When Mother Nature turns off the “tap” for long periods, it is important for us to make sure that our young plants - those less than three years old and those sensitive to drought - receive one inch of water per week.

*How do I know if a rainfall produces an inch of water?*

The best way to know that information is by purchasing a good rain gauge. They are available at garden centers and on-line. Place the gauge in the ground and not under an overhang or tree. In this way, you will be able to monitor the rainfall, which can serve as a guide for your watering schedule.

*How often should I water my young plants? What technique should I use to water?*

Water deeply once a week, twice in very sunny, hot, and dry conditions. For trees and shrubs, place a hose at the base of each plant and let the water slowly trickle down into the root zone. There should be no run-off during this process. How long you do this depends on the size of the plant, but as a general rule, water about fifteen to thirty minutes per plant. For groups of perennials, you can set up a sprinkler and water for thirty to sixty minutes. Follow this procedure through fall.

*What else can I do to protect my young plants from drying out?*

You can spread an organic mulch (wood chips, shredded hardwood, etc.) around the plant’s root zone two to three inches deep. Be sure to keep the mulch pulled a few inches away from the trunks of trees and other woody plants. Mulch piled against the trunks may encourage decay and damage from soil insects and small mammals.

*Are there certain plants that can handle both periods of wet as well as some drought?*

Yes, here are three that come to mind. We have had first hand experience with all of these, and they are available at our May plant sale:

*Carpinus caroliniana* or Blue Beech is a native understory tree that is highly adaptable to different soils and light conditions. It grows 15-20 feet high and has smooth, gray, fluted bark.

*Viburnum dentatum* or Arrowwood *Viburnum* is a very adaptable shrub that can take wet, dry, sunny or shady conditions. It grows 8-10 feet high and has flowers, fruit and fall color depending on sunlight amounts.

*Baptisia australis* or Blue False Indigo is a native prairie perennial. It grows 3-4 feet high and has long clusters of bluish-

purple flowers that are followed by interesting seedpods. It does need full sun but is long lived and requires no maintenance once it is established.

*Anything else you might suggest?*

Enjoy your plants during the rest of this growing season and look forward to next spring!



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## Riverwoods Book Club

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By June Melber

If you’re curious about what happens at the book club, here’s your chance to find out. We’ll be happy to pull another chair into the circle just for you. If you’ve never joined a book club before, this is the club for you to try because there is no long-term commitment, no fees, and it’s in an easy to find location—the Riverwoods Village Hall. You just have to read the book and show up. The next book club meeting is Friday, September 11 at 10a.m., the book is **The Yiddish Policemen’s Union** by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Michael Chabon. The October 9 selection is **The Moonflower Vine** by Jetta Carleton, a re-discovered classic. Hope to see you in September, so read like you mean it!

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## Riverwoods Residents Association

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Riverwoods Residents Association (RRA) forms a support network within our Village. RRA is made up of volunteer residents who care about making their community the very best it can be. Membership is \$25 per family and includes two vehicle stickers. Mail your check to RRA, P.O. Box 341, Deerfield, IL 60015.

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### MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Please include me as an RRA member.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

# of extra stickers at \$5 each \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

---

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**Riverwoods Village Voice**

300 Portwine Road  
Riverwoods, Illinois  
60015-3898  
847-945-3990  
Fax: 847-945-4059  
VillageofRiverwoods.com

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Deerfield, IL  
60015-3898

AUTO



*You are invited to the annual Village*

# Halloween Party

*Saturday October 31st*

*Village Hall at 300 Portwine Road*

*4:00pm – 8:00pm*

*Ride the horse drawn hay wagon and enjoy music and song*

*4:30pm – 6:30pm*



*Bring your Children or Grandchildren – Free Hot dogs, Pizza Cider, Candy – And Lots of Surprises & Fun for All*

*Volunteers are needed and very welcome*

*Contact Sherry Kaplan (847) 945-1972*

