



# River Forest Township News

## Fall, 2007

### Township Officials Staff & Volunteers

#### Trustees

Jerry Davis  
Mark Kelty  
Anna Marie Romeo  
Mary O'Brien

#### Supervisor

Veronica Krawczyk

#### Assessor

Pamela Kende

#### Clerk

Elizabeth 'Buff' Martin

#### Staff

Social Worker:

Josie Lynn

Admin. Asst.:

Angelika Davis

#### Mental Health Committee

Lydia Tuck, Dir  
Helene Connolly  
Margaret Tafilaw  
Susan Klock  
Bill Schmelling  
Linda Gusloff  
Patti Marino

#### Youth Committee

John FS Williams, Dir  
John Hagensick  
Josie Lynn  
Ann Pepper  
James Fitch  
Ange Davis  
Connie Geocaris  
Kelly Taira  
Richard Barrett

#### Senior Committee

Desiree Scully, Dir  
Donald Pochlyly  
Mary T. Small  
Peggi Mizen  
GeorgAnn Zussman  
Mary Bozzi  
Diana Berg  
Jim Flanagan

Looking to give back to your community? Township government relies strongly on volunteers. Please consider investing a few hours every month to directly affect the community where you and your family live. Each of the three township advisory committees have vacancies at this time. Youth; Mental Health; and Senior Committee members make an enormous difference in the lives of our residents, providing oversight in program selection and funding. It is due to volunteer effort that the Township can provide valued services while keeping expenditures at a minimum. Caring individuals volunteer on a regular basis to support Township sponsored programs and services.

Visit our website at [www.riverforesttownship.org](http://www.riverforesttownship.org) to learn more about what River Forest Township has to offer residents in need. Also on our website is a service directory to assist you with information about programs and services; links to other local groups and organizations; and means to contact us. A brief summary of services can also be found on page two of this newsletter.

If you would like to volunteer, please call me, or use the email link on the website to contact me. You are important to us and your input is always welcome.

~ ~ ~ *Veronica Krawczyk, Township Supervisor 708-366-2029x1*

- **Township office hours:** Monday – Clerk Elizabeth “Buff” Martin - 10am to 12pm  
Wednesday – Supervisor Veronica Krawczyk – 9:30am to 2pm.  
(Please call 366-2029 for a daytime or evening appointment outside the stated hours.)  
Thursday – Assessor Pamela Kende – 10:00am to 12pm.
- **Flu and Pneumonia shots – Wednesday October 24<sup>th</sup> 9am-3pm** at the River Forest Community Center, 8020 Madison, RF. \$30 for Flu shot/\$40 for Pneumonia shot. Medicare Part B accepted.
- **Holiday Food and Gift Basket** – call 771-6159x244 to "adopt" families, to volunteer, or to inquire about this program. We cannot stress enough how thankful we are to members of our community for their generosity in support of this program. Because of you, last year's holidays were made joyous for many local families in need. A store food gift certificate, and gifts from "Adopters" (individuals, businesses, organizations, school classrooms and congregations) brightened the season for all involved.
- **Senior Discount Metra Pass** – \$3.50 for picture ID - Wednesdays 9am to noon at Oak Park Township Offices, 105 S Oak Park Ave. - 383-8005 – Must show Driver's License, Passport or State ID.
- **Handicapped Parking** – *temporary cards* valid for up to 90 days or *permanent parking placards* - Please phone the Township Supervisor to request applications.

#### **Voter Information: The next election will be February 5, 2008 - Federal Primary Election**

**Last Day to Register to Vote** - January 3, 2008. Call Township Clerk Elizabeth “Buff” Martin at 771-3355 to schedule voter registration or register at Village of River Forest 400 Park Avenue  
Hours: Monday 8am to 7pm; Tues-Fri. 8am to 4:30pm

**Applications for mail-in absentee voting** are available at: River Forest Library, 750 Lathrop; Village of River Forest, 400 Park; River Forest Township, 8020 W. Madison

If you have used the **Motor Voter registration** and this is your first time to vote, **you must vote in person and show identification.** In-Person Absentee Voting will begin January 15, 2008 in Maybrook (Maywood courthouse) at the Whitcomb Bldg, 1311 Maybrook Square, Room 109 County Clerk's Office, 708-865-6010 - Hours are 8:30 am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, open until 7pm Wednesday evenings. Please remember to take your voter's registration card with you.

#### Assessor's Corner

**Pamela Kende, Assessor 708-366-2787**

The Second Installment tax bills will be mailed out around October 1<sup>st</sup>. Payment will be due 30 days thereafter. This installment should show all the exemptions you applied for as well as any assessment reduction/increase you received via the appeal/permit process. Please review the bill, especially the Exemptions listed in the gray box on the right side of the tax bill to be sure all your exemptions are included. Please call me with any questions.

In January, 2008 River Forest will be reassessed. Notice of the new assessment will be mailed sometime in Spring, 2008. River Forest will then be assigned a 30 day period for appeals. The dates will be posted in the local newspapers. Please note, your tax bill should be in your own name and address related to homeowner exemption status. Name change forms can be downloaded at [www.cookcountytreasurer.com](http://www.cookcountytreasurer.com) or contact me to have a form mailed to you. A name change will NOT effect your assessment.

**Your Needs are important to us! Contact the Supervisor at 708-366-2029, #1.  
For Property Tax Information, call the Assessor at 708-366-2787.**

Visit our site: [www.riverforesttownship.org](http://www.riverforesttownship.org)

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## Guide to Township Supported Services . . .

(All phone numbers are in area code 708.)

Meals at Home: call 485-3422 to arrange for meal delivery to the homebound - \$4.75 per meal.

### **Contact the following agencies directly to inquire about services, or call the Mental Health Committee at 358-8855.**

*Mission: To enhance the mental health and developmental potential of residents, establish an appropriate continuum of community support services, and manage local resources in a fiscally responsible manner.*

- NAMI (National Alliance for Mentally Ill), 524-2582 Drop-in Center - Supervised opportunities for recreation and socialization.
- Community Support Services, 354-4547 A respite service for the developmentally disabled and their families.
- Family Service and Mental Health Center, 383-7500 – crisis intervention, psychiatric services and adult/family substance abuse.
- Oak/Leyden, 524-1050 Training program for adults with developmental disability who require vocational training and social services. Also, early intervention for children from birth to age 3 who are at risk of developmental disability. The program facilitates a normal development pattern in children who demonstrate a special or general delay in one or more abilities.
- Parenthesis/Parateen, 848-2227 Parent-child center offering support services and educational opportunities to families with preschool children. The Parateen program serves teen families including the parenting teens, their parents and children at weekly sessions which provide a shared meal, transportation, workshops on self-development and parent education on childcare.
- Sarah's Inn, 24 hour Hot Line 386-4225 Comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence. Evening counseling is available. Group treatment program for abusers.
- Sequin Services, 863-3803 Client and family support program for persons over the age of 14 with developmental disabilities. Links individuals and/or families with the services needed to prevent institutionalization.
- Community Care Options, 749-6767 Child and adolescent program of outpatient psychotherapy for children ages 3 to 18 who are experiencing serious emotional difficulties.
- Hephzibah, 386-8417 A child welfare and day care agency providing assessment services, crisis intervention, foster care, group homes and school-age childcare.
- Way Back Inn, 848-2065 Provides rehabilitation and support services to address the special needs of women who are suffering from alcoholism or drug dependence.

### **Targeting Youth . . .**

*Mission: To enhance the social and emotional development of youth and their families, and to work for the prevention of juvenile delinquency by addressing the needs of youth at risk of becoming involved in inappropriate or illegal activities.*

- Peer Power 383-0700, focuses on the ability of youth to discuss life problems/issues and to support to each other.
- Project Pair 386-8417, a year-round mentoring program for youth ages 5 – 12.
- Intramural Sports at OPRF High School 383-0700, serves a diverse youth population and also engages identified at-risk youth in positive, consistent supervised activity, linked to school performance, models conflict resolution skills.
- Summer School Work Study 383-0700, for high school students, encourages responsibility while obtaining job related skills; builds self-esteem and benefits local agencies by providing volunteer support.
- River Forest Community Center 771-6159, a variety of recreational programs serving children of all ages.
- I-Search 386-1841, enables elementary school students to learn about and discuss personal safety related issues with police officers and other community resource workers.
- TIME (Teen Initiative Meeting Expectations) 386-3393, early intervention program targeting at-risk youth.
- Financial Aid Scholarship 445-2727, helps children of families within income guidelines, to participate in activities.

### **Especially for Seniors . . .**

*Mission: To enhance the quality of life for seniors in our community by providing a broad array of supportive services that promote the values of independence, self-esteem and dignity.*

- ❖ Transportation: Blue or Red Cab books 771-6159 x200 / Bus service 383-4806 - call 24 hours in advance to arrange pickup.
- ❖ Call Senior Services at 383-8060 or visit the office at 418 Oak Park Avenue – 6<sup>th</sup> floor for:

Information & Referral	Health & Wellness Activities	Circuit Breaker
Case Management	Senior Health Insurance Program	Elder Abuse Intervention
Community Care Program	Chore Program	Are You OK? TeleCare Reassurance
Transportation	Senior Advocate Program	News & Views newsletter
Senior Lunch Program	Tax-Aide	Money Management**
Home Delivered Meals	Affordable Wills	Education Programs
Dine Out Program	Energy Assistance	Carrier Watch

(\*\*Money Management Program assists low income older persons who have difficulty with household budgets, paying bills, keeping track of bank records, intervening with creditors, completing medical forms and other personal financial issues.)

- ❖ Senior Discount Metra Pass at 105 S Oak Park Ave., Wednesdays 9-12am, \$3.50. Identification required. Call 383-8005.
- ❖ Recreational Activities: Call the River Forest Community Center at 771-6159 and / or  
The Senior Citizen's Center of Oak Park and River Forest at 848-5251.