

# VILLAGE OF RICHMOND

SUMMER 2019

Volume 1, Issue 23

## *Village President*

Dear Fellow Residents:

This newsletter includes a number of topics to keep everyone well informed. The first item is that on April, 18th the Village Board approved the new budget for fiscal year 2019/2020. After numerous hours of work and soul searching, the Finance Committee was able to present to the Board a balanced budget. This was an extremely difficult task based on the fact the Village has not raised its tax levy for three consecutive years while costs have risen at a rate of at least 3% per year for the same period. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Finance Committee and Office Staff for all their hard work in securing this new budget.

My second item is to inform you that at a Sheriff's Sale on January 24, 2019, because no other bids were received, the real estate in its entirety, known as Magnolia's was awarded to the Village for its interest bid \$20,701.28, the sum of its lien on the property for prior ordinance violations and legal fees incurred by the City. The Village is currently seeking to remove all the contents of the building and auction off anything that is salvageable. Once that is complete the property will be placed on the market for sale. While proceeding through this entire process the Village will do its best to maintain the outside appearance as best it can.

Effective May 1st, in conjunction with the new budget, a water rate increase will be placed into effect. This is the first rate increase since May of 2014. When the Village was negotiating the refinancing of our loan on the Waste Water Treatment Plant an IEPA requirement was that the plant's revenue met or exceeded expenses. To accomplish this requirement an increase was necessary this year. With this increase a resident who uses 10,000 gallons of water a quarter would be paying approximately \$0.0180 cents per gallon for water, sewer and debt service retention. That is a very reasonable rate considering a 12 oz. bottle of water costs approximately \$1.00.

Lastly, I want to mention the incident (individual pointing a weapon at another) that occurred on April 16th, at 4:45 p.m. at the intersection of Rt. 12 and Broadway. You may have read about this incident in the newspaper, seen comments on social media or heard about this from your neighbor. Many comments and allegations were made prematurely online about the police department and the way the incident was handled.

Chief Cetrangolo and his officers handled this incident professionally, and most importantly within the limits of the law. At no time was this incident taken lightly, nor was there any attempt to "look the other way".

The McHenry County State's Attorney's Office was notified as soon as administratively possible. This contact and the subsequent face to face meeting with the State's Attorney resulted in charges being filed against the individual who pointed the firearm.

Our Police department did what they legally could do as soon as they could do it, with the information provided to them at the time. I congratulate them on remaining professional, and conducting a thorough investigation, despite pressures from outside sources, whom did not yet have a full understanding of the circumstances. I am proud to have each one of them as an employee of the Village of Richmond and am equally proud knowing they are diligently serving and protecting us around the clock.

Thank you for your time and have a wonderful spring 2019.

**Village President  
Craig Kunz**

### TRUSTEES

DENNIS BARDY  
ROBERT EILLIOTT  
GINA GARBIS  
TJ FULMER  
FRANK PEILER  
RAMSIN WARDANIAN  
KARLA THOMAS-VILLAGE CLERK

- **Board Meetings** are held the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month @ 7:00pm at Village Hall.
- **Finance Committee Meetings** are held at 5:00pm Mondays preceding Board Meetings at Village Hall.
- **Community Development Committee Meetings** are held at 5:30pm Tuesdays preceding the 2nd Board Meeting at Village Hall.
- **Check Village Website for details**

**VILLAGE OF RICHMOND  
5600 Hunter Drive  
Richmond, IL 60071**

Phone: 815-678-4040

[www.richmond-il.com](http://www.richmond-il.com)

### Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm

**Village Hall Closed**

**Monday, May 27th  
Memorial Day  
&  
Thursday, July 4th**

## Calendar of Events

- Saturday, May 11th 8:30am~St. Joseph Church Annual Pie & Flower sale
- Thursday, May 16th~Village Brush Pick Up (Place brush curbside night prior)
- Friday, May 24th~Leaf Vacuuming (Place leaves curbside night prior)
- Monday, May 27th~Memorial Day Remembrance @ Stevens Park 10:30am-12:00pm
- Saturday, June 8th 10am-2pm~Nippersink Library Summer Reading Kick-Off Party. Call Library for details
- Thursday, June 20th ~Village Brush Pick Up (Place brush curbside night prior)
- Saturday, June 29th~Richmond Chocolate Fest (Details to come...visit village website)
- Thursday, July 18th~Village Brush Pick Up (Place brush curbside night prior)
- Saturday, August 10th~Richmond Night Out and Bicentennial Celebration-Watch for details on Village Website
- Thursday, August 15th ~Village Brush Pick Up (Place brush curbside night prior)



### Guidelines for Village Brush Pick Up

- ◆ Branches less than 6" in diameter and less than 6 feet in length
- ◆ No grass clippings, yard waste, stumps or lumber
- ◆ Cut ends toward street
- ◆ No brush will be removed that is taken down from a contractor



## CHIEF CETRANGOLO'S REPORT

### Everyone Is A Pedestrian

88 ON AVERAGE, A PEDESTRIAN WAS KILLED EVERY 88 MINUTES IN TRAFFIC CRASHES IN 2017.

#### 10 Walking Safety Tips:

- 1.) Be predictable. Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.
- 2.) Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
- 3.) If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
- 4.) Keep alert at all times; don't be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes (are ears) off the road.
- 5.) Whenever possible, cross streets at crosswalks or intersections, where drivers expect pedestrians. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
- 6.) If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows enough time to cross safely; continue watching for traffic as you cross.
- 7.) Never assume a driver sees you. Make eye contact with drivers as they approach to make sure you are seen.
- 8.) Be visible at all times. Wear bright clothing during the day, and wear reflective materials or use a flashlight at night.
- 9.) Watch for cars entering or exiting driveway, or backing up in parking lots.
- 10) Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and your judgment.

\*Statistics from The United States Department of Transportation

## Note from Public Works

In anticipation of warmer temperatures, in the near future, you will see public works department filling and repairing potholes. Many potholes have been reported to the Village office and will be tended to. Just a reminder, potholes located on Rt. 12 and Rt. 173 are maintained by IDOT, as these are state roads. To report potholes to IDOT, call Woodstock Operations at 815-338-4680.

The Village performs monthly brush pick up every third Thursday of the month. Please review guidelines above to assure brush is removed from residence.

### Experiencing a sewer backup?

Before you call a plumber, call Village office during normal business hours, M-F 8am-4pm. After hours, please call the Public Works On Call number-815-298-1934. Public Works personnel will be sent to your location to assess the problem. If the blockage is in the Village's sewer main line, the Village will take corrective action as quickly as possible.

If the blockage is in your line (the portion from the building to the sewer main line) you will be requested to call a plumber to clear your building's service. In this instance, all necessary repairs and restoration are the responsibility of the homeowner.