



Village of Richmond Spring 2026 Newsletter

Village President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

As we turn the corner toward spring, yes, it's almost here! I'm reminded how much there is to feel proud of in Richmond. Each season brings new opportunities, and our focus remains the same: planning thoughtfully for the future while preserving the character and heart of our community.

One of our biggest areas of focus lately has been smart, intentional growth. As available land becomes more limited, we're taking a more careful approach to what we allow, where it goes, and how it fits into the fabric of Richmond. Recently, we rezoned a piece of property from business to a brand-new residential classification for our community: townhouses. This gives us more housing options while still maintaining the look and feel we value, not just filling space, but shaping it with purpose.

Road improvements are always top of mind, and we're stepping up our efforts in a big way. Commercial Street is next on the list for resurfacing, and it's part of a broader plan to improve roads throughout the Village. Thanks to the 1% sales tax that was passed, Richmond will receive additional dollars that are being invested directly into infrastructure and quality-of-life improvements that benefit everyone.

Supporting our local businesses continues to be a major priority. We recently launched a new Business Hub on the Village website. A one-stop FAQ resource designed to make it easier for business owners to find answers without jumping through hoops. We also passed a Façade and ADA Improvement Program, offering a matching grant of up to \$10,000 for exterior upgrades or ADA-friendly improvements. Our message is simple: we stand behind our local businesses and want them to succeed.

Facade improvements help keep Richmond a desirable place to visit and live in, attracts new customers to mom-and-pop shops that need the traffic now more than ever, and increases property values. Additionally, retrofitting existing sidewalks and entrances with ramps or other barrier-free improvements makes Richmond a more friendly place for our aging neighbors and those with disabilities.

And while we're thinking ahead, don't forget to keep an eye on Stevens Park in March. We'll be adding a festive little touch to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and hosting our annual St. Patrick's Day event downtown on March 7th at The District. It's just one small way to keep our community fun, welcoming, and full of spirit.

Thank you for being part of what makes Richmond such a special place. With spring right around the corner, there's a lot to look forward to, and we're excited about what's ahead.

Warm regards,

Toni Wardanian

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
TONI WARDANIAN

TRUSTEES
LAURI COOK
ROBERT ELLIOTT
ADAM METZ
FRANK PEILER
JASON WEILER
LINDA WEISS

VILLAGE CLERK
KARLA THOMAS

· **Board Meetings** are held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:00pm

· **Community Development Committee Meetings** are held at 6:00pm on the Monday prior to the 2nd Board meeting of the month

· Check Village Website for dates.

VILLAGE OF RICHMOND
5600 Hunter Drive
Richmond, IL 60071
815-678-4040
www.richmond-il.com

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

Village Hall Closed:

Monday
February 16, 2026

Friday
April 3, 2026

Calendar of Events

Saturday, March 7
St Patrick's Day Event

Thursday, April 2
LRS Curbside Electronics Recycling

Thursday, April 2
LRS Yard Waste Pick Up Begins

Monday, April 20
Public Works Brush Pick Up



Mark your calendars! Our annual St Patrick Celebration is back and bigger than ever!

March 7th, 2026
The District
10308 N Main St
2-7pm

Richmond Police Dept.

Citizens' Police Academy is back for Spring 2026!

The Richmond Police Department is proud to offer this exciting and informative course to its citizens, residents, and anyone that works lives or plays in Richmond for FREE. There is no cost or obligation required during or upon completion. In this program, a wide range of topics will give participants a rare look into the behind-the-scenes world of the daily functions of law enforcement. Be an informed citizen—you will soon understand why there is nothing “routine” about what police department’s do every day.

Visit our website www.richmond-il.com to fill out an application or stop by the Village Hall to pick one up!

Cost: FREE!

10 Week Program

Dates: SPRING 2026: Beginning – March 9th, 2026

Times: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, Monday Nights

Ages 18 to 118! (Physical Participation Optional)



Winter doesn't mean quiet for our Richmond Public Works crew! They have been hard at work clearing streets, with one of the snowiest starts to December in recent memory. Quick moving weather events called 'clippers' have been arriving back to back in January, prompting a rapid response from our team to ensure our roads are safe to travel. Between snow plowing and building the new ice rink in McConnell Park, our crew also repaired two water main breaks in below freezing temperatures. Thank you for all of your hard work this winter!

