



FOX RIVER GROVE QUARTERLY

A newsletter for and about the Village of Fox River Grove

SPRING 2005

Village News

\$100 Special Events Raffle

On Sunday, April 24th the raffle will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall (Barrington Banquets) on Kelsey Road. Last year's raffle was a huge success. The profit of \$3,474 was used toward the Fireworks, Fox Fest and Tree Lighting. We didn't have to seek donations from local businesses for entertainment, tent rentals, prizes and the horse and wagon ride.

First prize is \$4,000 cash (last year's raffle had five winners that split it and each received \$800), first number drawn is \$250, loser's ticket is \$500 and nine \$100 winners. You can buy a ticket yourself; split it with a friend or a group of friends. Each ticket allows one person entry for open bar (beer, wine, soda) and pizza. Additional guests are \$10 each. It's from 6 - 9 p.m. To purchase a ticket, call Joanne Ladd 847-639-8665, Peter Strand 847-516-1146, Donna Brouder 847-639-7263 or stop by Village Hall and purchase one.

This is a great chance to win some cash and support our local events in Fox River Grove.

Precinct Locations

Fox River Grove is located in both Lake and McHenry Counties. The precinct locations are as follows:

- Precinct 4 - FRG Fire Department, 411 Algonquin Road
- Precinct 9 - FRG Middle School, 401 Orchard Street
- Precincts 16, 33, & 45 - Algonquin Road School, 975 Algonquin Road
- Precinct 22 - Village Hall, 305 Illinois Street
- Precinct 62 - Cuba Township Garage, 440 West Cuba Road, Barrington

Village Elections April 5th

Be sure to cast your vote at your local polling place!

There are four positions open for the Village Board – one President and three Trustees.

We have three residents that are running for the **Village President:**

◆ **Michael R. Ireland**, 504 Ski Hill Rd., has been a resident for 18 years. He and his wife, Sara, have been married for 19 years and they have two sons.

Occupation/Education: Regional Sales Director of Arrow Services

Village Experience/Community Involvement: Village Trustee for 8 years, involved with Rec Council for 9.5 years and active member of FRG Lions Club.

◆ **Katherine (Kay) Laube**, 425 Woodbine Ln., has been a resident for 22 years. She and her husband, Edmund, have been married 32 years and they have one son and one daughter.

Occupation/Education: Freelance contractor photo stylist in commercial photo business with a

Bachelor's degree of Fine Arts in Fashion Design. She also spent seven years as the Building Manager at the School of Art Institute in Chicago.

Village Experience/Community Involvement: 19 years on the Zoning Board with 17 years as Chairperson, 8 years as School Board member, Committee Chair of both Cub Scout Pack 357 and Boy Scout Troop 166 and a volunteer Girl Scout leader.

◆ **Mary Lu Seidel**, 203 Grove Ave., has been a resident for 17 years. She and her husband, Jim, have been married for 15 years and have two sons and a daughter.

Occupation/Education: Sales Specialist at Home Depot, currently working toward her masters degree in Urban Planning.

Village Experience/Community Involvement: Village Trustee for 8 years, Chairperson of Finance Committee, Member of Economic Development Commission, FRG Rec Council, and PTO District 3 newsletter editor.

There are five candidates running for three **Village Trustee** positions:

◆ **Dennis R. Bowman**, 224 Lexington Ave. has been a resident for 17 years. He and his wife, Lois, have been married for 26 years and have three daughters.

Occupation/Education: Dennis has been involved in the printing/publishing industry in positions of customer service, inventory management, purchasing, sales management, and operations management.

Village Experience/Community Involvement: Village Trustee for 2 years, Chairperson of Public Health and Safety, active member of the FRG Lions Club, Junior Achievement Advisor, Vocational School Technical Advisor.

◆ **James A. McNutt**, 523 Algonquin Rd. has been a resident for 17-1/2 years. He and his wife, Shirley, have been married 9 years.

Occupation/Education: Business Operations Manager with a Physician's Association in Arlington Heights. Duties include accounting functions, human resource responsibilities, tenant interaction and facility maintenance. Attended Northern Illinois University and Columbia College in Crystal Lake to achieve a degree in Accounting.

Village Experience/Community Involvement: Elected Trustee of FRG Library District for 12 years.

◆ **Gerald D. Menzel**, 600 Barberry Tr. has been a resident for 9 1/2 years. He and his wife, Patricia, have been married 50 years and have 1 daughter and 2 sons.

Occupation/Education: Retired, was president of executive search firm. B.S. in Economics and Sociology from University of Wisconsin and graduate work at U of I.

Village Experience/Community Involvement: ZBA since 1997, FRG Lion's Club, American Legion FRG, past president of Auxiliary of Good Shepherd Hospital.

◆ **Richard J. Miller**, 503 Highview Dr. has been a resident for 9 years. He and his wife, Cindy, have been married 29 years and have five sons and three daughters.

Occupation/Education: Business Manager for the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints with a Bachelor's degree in Economics. He is currently working on his MBA.

Village Experience/Community Involvement: Served as a Church leader, active in Boy Scouts, received the District Action Award, Silver Beaver Award and is an Eagle Scout.

◆ **Paulette G. Pelletier**, 988 Plum Tree Rd. has been a resident for 6 years. She and her husband, Jeff, have been married 14 years and have two sons and a daughter.

Occupation/Education: Realtor with Century 21 and a Civil Engineer who has worked with municipalities on rehab and Main Street beautification.

Village Experience/Community Involvement: Recently appointed to the Plan Commission, FRG Rec Council.

The President's Letter



It has been a pleasure and honor to represent the Village of Fox River Grove as its Village President for the past eight (8) years. For personal reasons, I will not be seeking re-election in April, and therefore, my tenure on the Village Board will be coming to an end. As I have stated on many occasions, and sincerely believe, our community is a fantastic place to reside; raise a family; and subsequently retire. During my fifteen (15) years of involvement with the Village government, I have been extremely proud of the accomplishments that have been made through the hard work and efforts of various elected and appointed board members, but most especially, our dedicated Village staff. I suspect that many of our residents do not know, nor are they fully aware, that we have so many department head and employees that have long standing employment relationships with the Village of Fox River Grove. It is by the stability of our Village staff that we are able to provide services to our residents at such a high quality.

The elections for the Village President, as well as three Board members, are scheduled on April 5, 2005. There are many fine people running for office, and I encourage everyone to get acquainted with the various candidates, and exercise your right to get involved in your local government by voting for the person of your choice. Our democratic form of government is second to none, and we should all take advantage of the right to choose the leaders that we believe will do the best job.

This Village has experienced a winter with some heavy snowfall. As a result, our Streets and Parks employees have been working diligently in plowing and clearing the streets so that we can safely travel on them. I think it is noteworthy that the Streets and Parks Department is understaffed, and the current employees have worked extremely hard to accomplish the obligations and responsibilities of their jobs. Also, by way of cross training, some of the employees from the Water and Sewer Department have loaned their services, so that the Village can continue to operate at its high level. Once again, it is a reflection of our dedicated employees and exemplifies how a small community can make things happen.

It has been a great experience for me to work with various governmental entities, service organizations and/or not-for-profit groups during the past twelve (12) years as a Board member. We have been fortunate to be awarded a Home Town Award through our inter-governmental agreements with School District 3 and the Fox River Grove Rec Council. By our combined efforts, we have provided facilities and opportunities for young people to participate in various sports, including baseball, softball, basketball, train-

ing for cross country, and other activities. Our Village has also enjoyed fine working relationships with our Fire District; Library District; Lions Club; Cary-Grove Jaycees; Cary-Grove Masons; Fox River Grove Rec Council; Norge Ski Club; Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts; and other organizations and entities. As such, and by combining our efforts, we provide events that are indicative of our small town, which we all closely associate with by being a resident of the Village of Fox River Grove.

The fireworks celebration is scheduled for July 9, 2005. We plan to have a similar format to last year, but there may be some changes. It is premature at this point to describe all the activities, but we would expect that we will be proceeding with the fireworks, in conjunction with the Fox River Grove Rec Council for their All Star Days, and possibly, on Sunday the water fights with the Fire District. I once again expect that everyone will enjoy the festivities during that weekend.

It is important that all of us recognize that the Village has been actively seeking grants and loans through the Federal and State government and various agencies to supplement our revenue toward providing services. We have been fortunate to be the recipient of grants procured through Representative Donald Manzullo; first, for a substantial water and sewer grant which will be used for our upcoming upgrades in the amount of \$550,000; and more recently, a grant extended to our Police Department for equipment purchases and acquisitions in the amount of approximately \$10,000. Moreover, for our downtown development, which has been an issue for discussion during the past year or so, we were awarded a \$20,000 grant through the Illinois Department of Transportation. The monies from IDOT can be used for marketing and other uses related to our downtown economic development. The acquisition of these various grants is critical toward continuing to move ahead with our plans for water and sewer improvements, as well as to supplement monies available for downtown development.

During the past couple of years, we have experienced, and certainly observed, economic development at the east end of our town, at or about the intersections of Route 14 and Route 22. There has been substantial growth on Route 14 with retail and service providers, including Panera Bread, UPS Store, U.S. Cellular, and

Washington-Mutual Bank. At the triangle of Route 14 and Route 22, we have been pleased with the Walgreens Store, and expect additional retail and services in the near future. Our Village has been working diligently for years to annex additional properties on Route 14 toward the Lake County border. Within the next six (6) months to one (1) year, we expect to complete annexations of these commercial properties, which will provide a much needed addition to our commercial, retail and sales tax base.

Fox River Grove is a wonderful community, and it is my expectation that it will continue



Village President Steve Tasch greets the award winning 2004 Fall Cary-Grove High School Athletes.

to exemplify the character that distinguishes us from other towns. I hope everyone has a pleasant Spring and Summer, and I'm sure we are all anxious for the warmer weather that comes with those months, as well as the fun activities that become available. I hope to continue to see everyone at our fireworks display, as well as other festivities and Village functions as they occur.

Steve Tasch
Village President of Fox River Grove

Dog Tags

Several residents have stopped at the Village Hall to purchase their dog tags. Unfortunately, due to Springfield legislation changes, the Village can no longer offer this service. You must get your County tag from your veterinarian or directly from McHenry or Lake Counties. McHenry's mailing address is 11608 Banford Road, Woodstock, IL 60098. The phone is 815-334-470. Lake County is 29278 North State Route 83, Mundelein, IL 60060 and their phone number is 847-949-9925. This can be done by mail or in person.

Holiday Thank You's

We would like to thank Carol Young, Beth Stephans and Joyce Hurley for all the ornaments they collected for our Village Christmas tree. Our ornament collection has grown over the past few years and our tree is quite "foxy"!

Michelle Cooke, Stephanie Cooke and Christina Harris did a great job assisting us with decorating our Christmas tree and the Village Hall. They also designed and hung the beautiful snowflakes decorating the Village Hall. Thank you girls for your hard work.

Senior Tax Services

Income tax preparation is again being offered by Senior Services. To set up an appointment, please call 815-344-3555. This service will be continued through April 15th.

Senior Transportation

Algonquin Township offers transportation to anyone who is receiving social security or disability or over 50 years of age. The hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the cost is just \$1.00 each way. For more information, call them at 847-639-2700 extension 6.

Pace Dial-A-Ride

Dial-a-Ride operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The cost for a one-way ride is \$.80 for seniors and students and \$1.60 for all others. The phone number is 800-451-4599 and one-day advance notice is required.

Seniors Wanted

The Fox River Grove Senior Club is looking for new members. If you are 55 years or older or new to our area, the seniors meet every Wednesday at the Village Hall to visit, play cards and Bingo. Come and join their fun ~ they'd love to have you. Questions? Call Emily Richards at 847-516-4162.

Spring Clean-up

While you're on a roll in cleaning up your garden and yard, you can continue in the attic, basement and garage for the annual Spring Clean-Up day on May 21st. This is a Saturday, not our regularly scheduled pick up day. This is a great opportunity to "clean house" and dispose of the "stuff" you've been accumulating. The types of items they will pick up are:

- ◆ Furniture weighing less than 50 pounds
- ◆ Lawn and garden items, but not landscape waste
- ◆ Plumbing fixtures
- ◆ Small auto parts drained of oil and gasoline
- ◆ Bundled construction debris of not more than one cubic yard and weighing less than 50 pounds

◆ Similar types of items that are usually found in garages or basements

They will not pick up the following items:

- ◆ Automobile batteries or tires
- ◆ Auto parts weighing more than 50 pounds
- ◆ Any liquid or hazardous waste materials such as paints, gasoline or motor oil
- ◆ Bricks, stones, concrete
- ◆ Roofing debris
- ◆ White goods, such as appliances, air conditioners, water heaters, etc.

◆ Computers, computer parts or plasma TV's

If you are not sure about an item, please call Waste Management at 1-800-344-1066

Algonquin Township Recycling Center

The Township Recycling Center is open the last Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until noon during the months of March through October. They will take the following items:

- ◆ Branches and twigs BUT no yard waste, stumps or root balls
- ◆ Computer CPU's, keyboards, printers, scanners, calculators, word processors, battery back-ups and mice BUT no monitors or plasma screens
- ◆ Latex and oil based paints, stains, and varnishes as well as aerosol paint cans
- ◆ Marine, motorcycle or car batteries
- ◆ Motor oil in clear or opaque containers
- ◆ Washers, dryers and oven ranges

For further information or if you have questions, please call 847-639-2700, Extension 6.

Lake County Plant & Fish Sale

The Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is once again holding their annual plant and fish sale. The deadline for plant orders is April 15th and fish orders is March 25th. They offer evergreens, deciduous and fruit trees, shrubs, climbing vines, groundcover, ornamental grasses, perennials and prairie plant kits. There are also seven varieties of fish available. You can contact the district at 847-223-1056 to order a catalog or ask questions.



Mulch Matters

With warm weather approaching, many gardeners will be busy cleaning up and repairing their gardens and yards from the cold weather. Listed below are some helpful hints when using mulch....

◆ Try to use organic mulch or mulch that is composted prior to using so that weed seeds, insects and disease microorganisms are killed.

◆ Spread mulch under trees, shrubs, and throughout planting beds to a depth of no more than three to six inches.

◆ Pull mulch away from the base of the tree to create a donut-shaped hole. Mulch piled up against the trunk allows moisture to build up and create ideal conditions for pests and disease.

◆ Spread the mulched area around a tree to the drip line of the branches or at least a four to five foot diameter around the trunk. Larger mulched areas are more beneficial.

◆ Check the mulch level annually and replenish as necessary. Excessively deep mulch restricts free airflow to plants' surface-level roots.

Mulching is important because it provides a layer of insulation that protects plant roots from temperature extremes, conserves soil moisture, improves soil's organic composition, prevents erosion, and reduces root competition. (Article reprinted in part from the Morton Arboretum - Healthy Mulch Use)

Garbage Stickers

Senior refuse stickers (blue) and yard waste stickers (red) are now \$2.10 each. This is part of our regular contract with Waste Management.

Free Yard Waste Pick-up Days

Friday, April 29th and Friday, May 6th, there will be free pick-up of yard waste. Take advantage of this opportunity to clean out your yard and gardens. You can put out as many kraft bags as you need and you do not need to put stickers on them.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ **Cary-Grove Community Showcase** ----- March 5th ----- Cary-Grove HS
A great opportunity to meet local business owners, enjoy some entertainment and visit great craft show. Showcase runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ◆ **Annual Easter Egg Hunt** ----- March 19th ----- Lions Park
The Easter Bunny has been invited to Fox River Grove for photos with the local children. Be sure to bring a basket to hold the goodies he's hidden in the park and a camera to record some good memories. The fun starts at noon!
- ◆ **Consolidated Election** ----- April 5th ----- Polling Places
Be sure to exercise your right to vote! The Village is electing a President and three Trustees. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ◆ **Special Events \$100 Raffle** ----- April 24th ----- Barrington Banquets
Help us raise funds for the Fireworks, Fox Fest and Tree Lighting. Join us from 6-9 p.m.
- ◆ **Free Yard Waste Days** ----- April 29th & May 6th ----- Your House!!
Place as many kraft bags out for garbage pick-up without stickers at this time.
- ◆ **Spring Clean-Up** ----- May 21st ----- Your House!!
Clean out your house, basement and garage.
- ◆ **Memorial Day Parade** ----- May 30th ----- ARS
Line up at 8:30 a.m. to remember those who sacrificed their lives for our country. Parade proceeds from ARS to Lions Park.

Visit the Village of Fox River Grove web site at www.foxrivergrove.org for all the latest information on events, regulations, policies, etc. This web site is a service provided by Rick Gallas, Angel Street Enterprises, Inc. @639-7710.

Nancy Kiefer Fund

Nancy Kiefer, Chairperson of Special Events for many years, is seriously ill. She was in intensive care for several days and is still in the hospital. Friends and neighbors have started a fund at Harris Bank to aid the family with her medical expenses. Any donation would be appreciated.

Nancy has always generously given her time to our schools, PTO, and the Village. We now have an opportunity to return her generosity. You can mail or drop off a check for the *Nancy Kiefer Help Fund*, at Harris Bank, Routes 22 and 14. Thank you for your help!

John Borre

John Borre, longtime resident, is seriously ill with brain cancer. He has been very involved with the Rec Council, both coaching and as President.

The Rec Council has placed a large card at the Village Hall waiting for your signature. Please come by and sign it. Keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers.



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