



FOX RIVER GROVE QUARTERLY

A newsletter for and about the Village of Fox River Grove

SPRING 2009

Village News

Precinct Locations

Election Day is April 7, 2009. Fox River Grove has one position for Village President and three open positions for Trustee. 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
- Precinct 16, 33 and 45: Algonquin Road School, 975 Algonquin Road
- Precinct 22: Village Hall, 305 Illinois Street
- Precinct 62: Cuba Township Garage, 440 W. Cuba Road, Barrington

“Park It On The Fox” Classic Car Show

Mark your calendar for June 13, 12-3 p.m., at Stone Hill Center! The FRG Parks Commission will be hosting the 3rd Annual “Park It on the Fox” Classic Car Show to benefit our parks in FRG. The Cary-Grove Area Chamber is co-hosting with their Summer Celebration event! There will be music, outdoor entertainment, raffles and refreshments!

The Parks Commission is currently looking for volunteers to help with this event! Volunteers are needed for pre-show organization now, flier distributors, day of event set-up, parking attendants, concession and t-shirt sales, clean-up crew, etc. Event sponsors are also needed! This is a great family event!! Your help would be greatly appreciated. Contact Cindy Cramer at c.cramer@foxrivergrove.org or the Village Hall at 847-639-3170.

Free Yard Waste Pick-Up Days

Friday, April 24th and Friday, May 1st there will be free pick-up of yard waste. Take advantage of this opportunity to clean up 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.

Make Your Vote Count!

Candidates For Village Positions

The following residents are running for Village President:

◆ **Robert J. Nunamaker** ~ Bob grew up in Wauconda and the Evanston/ Chicago area. He enjoyed working on their family farm, but when he was 10 his father died, and the family moved to the city. He graduated from the University of Illinois Electrical Engineering College, and went on to become a Vice President with Motorola Inc.

Bob and his wife, Marylou, have resided in Fox River Grove for ten years, where their two young grandchildren attended school and their daughter is a teacher. They also have two sons who live elsewhere. Bob said, “ As a Village Planning Commission member and a former school board member of our beautiful community, I would count it a privilege to serve you and Fox River Grove as Village President”.

◆ **Suzanne Blohm** ~ Suzanne and her husband, Gerry, have lived in Fox River Grove for 14 years and have two daughters and a son. They will all be students at Algonquin Road School in the fall.

Suzanne is a past Village Trustee (1998-2003) and was the Finance Committee Chairperson and Budget Officer. Her proudest accomplishment was to implement a plan to balance expenditures with revenues and begin to build an operating reserve/emergency fund. Also at that time, a ten-year plan to begin addressing the cost of the Public Works improvements and relocation was implemented. Both of these plans are still the basis for Village operations today.

Suzanne is running for Village President, and if elected, plans to work with the Planning and Economic Development Committee, as well as developers and landowners to bring businesses to the existing commercial properties in Fox River Grove. Over the next four years, we will need to begin construction to update the Water Treatment and Sewer plant in order to meet IEPA requirements, which will require the relocation of the Streets and Parks Department. She will continue to explore all options available to the Village and find the most cost-effective solution.

◆ **Paulette G. Pelletier** ~ Paulette and her husband, Jeff, have been married 18 years and have been residents of FRG for 10. They have three children ~ a son and daughter in the middle school and a son at Algonquin Road School. Paulette's Mother and Grandmother also live in Fox River Grove.

Paulette is a Civil Engineer, registered IL Professional Engineer (P.E.), a Realtor with Century 21 and certified tax preparer with Liberty Tax. She is also currently a Village Trustee, the Village representative with McHenry County Council of Governments, a charter member of the FRG Lioness Club and has volunteered with the Rec. Council

(Norge Parking).

Paulette loves living in Fox River Grove. She says, “It’s a great place to raise a family. I enjoy being part of the Village and community. As Trustee, I have made a positive impact and as Village President, I promise to do my best to work with Village staff and the Village Board to continue to improve all the things that make FRG special”.

Trustee Candidates are:

◆ **Dennis R. Bowman** ~ Dennis has been a resident for 21 years. He and his wife, Lois, have been married for 30 years and have three daughters.

Dennis has been involved in the Printing/ Publishing Industry in positions of customer service, inventory management, purchasing, sales, sales management, and operations management.

He is a current Village Trustee, past Chairperson of Public Health and Safety, an active member and officer of the Fox River Grove Lions Club, a Junior Achievement Advisor, and a Vocational School Technical Advisor.

◆ **Gerald D. Menzel** ~ Jerry Menzel and his wife, Pat, have lived in FRG for 13 years. During that time he has been a member of the Zoning Board for seven years, and, is in the process of completing his first four-year term as Trustee of FRG. He was one of two Trustees representing the FRG Village Board in the negotiations with the police union and has been Chair of Public Health and Safety for the past two years. He has over 5,500 hours of volunteer work at Good Shepherd Hospital and has also served as an election judge for Algonquin Precinct 9 since 1998.

◆ **Michael R. Ireland** ~ “I’m honored to have another opportunity to represent the residents of our community. My wife, Sarah, and I have made Fox River Grove our home for the last 22 years; we also added two sons, Jamie and Elliott, who were born and raised in our community. As a parent, homeowner and taxpayer, I understand your concerns, as they are also mine.

I bring to this position four previous years as a Village Trustee, 28 years of sales, marketing and management experience and six years of military service. I look forward to hearing your thoughts, concerns, suggestions and working with our Village Board in a collaborative environment as we face many challenges in providing solutions to enhance the quality of life of this village we all call home.”

The Cary-Grove Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Candidates Night on April 2nd at 7 p.m. at the Cary Country Club. Call 847-639-2800 for more information.



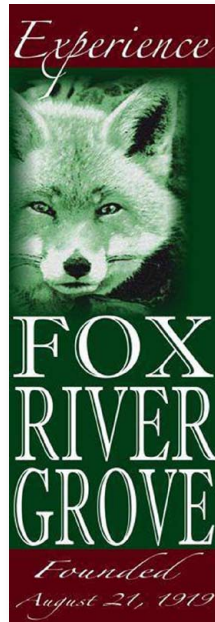
The President's Letter



New Look for Fox River Grove!

Fox River Grove will be getting a "new look" around town with new banners designed by Fox River Grove resident **Melinda Brown**.

Banners will be annually sponsored by businesses and residents who will be making an investment in beautification efforts in Fox River Grove. Look for the new banners soon!



The Sunshine School

Have you heard about Fox River Grove's Sunshine School program for children 3-5 years old at the United Methodist Church? It was founded in 1972 by **Helen Keener-Keck**. She wanted to provide education and the love of learning to the children in our community. With little formal training, she started The Sunshine School and over the years it has grown into a great local school where Fox River Grove children and families can meet each other and become friends that move on to kindergarten together.

There have been many Fox River Grove residents that have taught at this school and have contributed to the program, but three former community members made a great impact on it's success. **Mary Strickfaden**, **Cindy Savone**, and **Anne Brown** all helped to create a solid program that encouraged learning and development for young children for many years.

The current Director, **Danielle Alarcon**, is the daughter of Anne Brown and herself a former student of The Sunshine School. She taught along side her mother for several years before her mother retired from the program. Danielle has been teaching for eight years now, and has been Director for the past four years. She is continually working to enhance the program to meet current standards and provide a developmentally appropriate curriculum that gets them ready to move into kindergarten at Algonquin Road School.

The program is Christian-based with a well-balanced curriculum emphasizing learning through play in all areas of development. There are two classes, Tuesday and Thursday for ages 3 & 4 from 9:00-11:30am and another class on Monday, Wednesday & Friday for ages 4 & 5 from 9:00-1:00pm. They are currently enrolling for the fall and are looking forward to working with new families that will bring ideas and support to this wonderful Fox River Grove establishment.

Call J.U.L.I.E. Before You Dig

Spring is the season for digging and with it comes the lure of outdoor projects. All outdoor digging projects, including the smallest tasks, require a call to JULIE at 1-800-892-0123. One free call does it all to protect you from digging where utilities are buried – it's simple, safe and the law.

Be ready with this information when you call:

- ◆ Your name, address and phone number
- ◆ County and city or county and unincorporated area of township
- ◆ Your company's name and address (if applicable)
- ◆ Location of the dig site
- ◆ Reason you're digging
- ◆ Date work will begin
- ◆ Permit number (if applicable)
- ◆ Section and quarter numbers (if available)

After providing JULIE with the above information, the JULIE operator will give you a "dig number". Be sure to write this number down as it serves as proof of your call. You will also need to reference this number if subsequent calls to JULIE are necessary (e.g. to have utility marks refreshed).

The call to JULIE and service provided by members are free to the excavator. Operators are available to receive and process calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

In Illinois alone there are more than two million miles of underground utility lines. The smallest job could cause a huge problem if you were to hit a line. Even before putting up a yard tent, you should call. Please do not dig without marks. It could save your or your neighbor's lives!

For more information about JULIE call 1-800-892-0123 or visit online at www.illinois1call.com



Curt Ulrich

The Village of Fox River Grove has lost another member of its "Village family".

Building & Zoning Superintendent **Curt Ulrich** passed away January 24th after a two-year battle with cancer.

He worked for the Village for 21 years reviewing development plans, inspecting buildings, and processing zoning requests. He was one of the few officials in the State to have attained the rank of Master Building Code Official and was instrumental in the Village reaching an Insurance Services Office (ISO) Building Code Effectiveness Grading Classification of 2 – one of only nine communities in Illinois which have achieved this high standard.

Curt was a very skilled and hardworking employee who carried out his duties in a calm, methodical manner and whose camaraderie will be missed by all who knew and worked with him.



Everyone looks forward to spring and a renewal of nature. It also is a time for personal renewal and energizing from the long harsh winter we have had.

Our economy has put our world in turmoil which has taken its toll even on Fox River Grove residents and businesses alike. However, we must pool our resources together to continue to support each other in these times. I have faith that we can move forward in a positive way. As a "Grover" everyone can do their part to volunteer to show their community support. Please contact the Village Hall for any way you can lend a hand!

In our Village we will be looking forward toward some new beginnings with new pole banners. Please see information in this newsletter about the new banner designed by Fox River Grove resident Melinda Brown!

A Village President election is also close at hand and you will want to become informed about the candidates who will continue to move the Village into the future. It has been my honor to serve out **Kay Laube's** term. I look forward to returning as Trustee, continuing to serve my community, and work on my own personal re-energizing!

Please check the web, www.foxrivergrove.org for events and information about happenings in Fox River Grove. May Spring 2009 fill you will many blooms!

Very Truly Yours,

Cindy Cramer

*Acting President & Trustee
Village of Fox River Grove*



Thank You

Thank you to **Michael Mago** and G23 Development. They are the developers from the Northpointe Development in Lake Barrington. Mr. Mago generously donated a boulder that will be used in the memorial planned for Village President Kay Laube.

Help The Water Department

Please be sure the water meter viewer on the outside of your home is clear of bushes and shrubs. It needs to be easily accessible for the meter readers to get an accurate read.



Garbage Stickers

Senior refuse stickers (blue) and yard waste stickers (red) are now \$2.25 each. This is part of our regular contract with Waste Management.

Senior Transportation

Algonquin Township offers transportation within Algonquin Township to anyone who is receiving social security or disability or over 50 years of age. The hours are Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the cost is \$4.00 round trip and \$.50 for multiple stops. Reservations must be made at least 24 hours in advance. For more information, call them at 847-639-2700 extension 6.

Seniors Wanted...

Our Fox River Grove Senior Citizens Club needs new members. You only need to be 55 to join. They meet every Wednesday at the Village Hall to visit, play cards and Bingo. Come and join the fun!

Campfire Changes

Campfire Ordinance – The Village Board amended our campfire ordinance changing the time for recreational campfires to be permitted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. Previously, campfires were only allowed from 5 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. A small recreational fire is where wood logs and branches are burned. No leaves or garbage.

Walk On Sidewalks Not Streets

Now that the weather is nice everyone wants to get out and get a little exercise especially at twilight. If walking, Village ordinance requires you use the sidewalk if there is one on either side of the street. Be safe. Leave the streets for the cars.

Relay For Life

The theme for this year's American Cancer Society's Relay for Life is Back To 1985: Celebrating 25 Years of Hope. There are three local relays:

◆ **South McHenry County** on Friday, June 12, 2009 at Crystal Lake South High School, Crystal Lake. For more information, please go to www.RelayForLifeSouthMcHenry.com and

◆ **North McHenry County** takes place on Saturday, June 27th, 2009 at McHenry Township Park. For more information, please go to www.RelayForLifeNorthMcHenry.com.

◆ **Relay for Life in Barrington** takes place on Saturday, June 5th, 2009 at Barrington High School. For more information on these or others, please go to www.cancer.org.

This is a great community team-building opportunity for your friends and family to participate in!

Spring Clean Up May 16th !!

Clean out your basement, garage and attic and dispose of "stuff" at no extra charge.

The types of items they'll 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 typically stored in basements or garages.
- They will not pick up the following:
- ◆ 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 or roofing debris
 - ◆ Unbundled construction debris over 50 pounds
 - ◆ White goods, such as appliances, air conditioners, water heaters, etc.
 - ◆ Computers or computer parts or plasma TVs
- If you're not sure about an item, call Waste Management at 1-800-796-9696
- The **Algonquin Township Highway Department**

Local Spotlight

The Villa Bleu ~ 516 Northwest Highway

If you haven't been to this local landmark it is worth checking out. Villa Bleu has been written up in North Shore Magazine and the Daily Herald with rave reviews about its classic dishes and reasonable prices. From the outside, Villa Bleu hasn't changed much with its original sign dating back to the 1950's. The feel outside, as well as the feeling inside, transports you to a quaint supper club in Wisconsin with dark wood paneling throughout, the bar in front, and open dining room in the back.

Villa Bleu originally opened in 1932 by **Mr. Katrinaris**. He owned it until 1952 when it was purchased by **John Naduornik**. The current owner, **Dan Skoubis**, purchased the establishment in 1986.

The menu has remained basically the same. It offers daily specials that are truly special ~ Tuesday - Bohemian Roast Pork with Sauerkraut and Dumplings, Wednesday - Fried Chicken, Thursday - Ribs, Friday - Fish Fry, Saturday - Roast Duck, and Sunday - Prime Rib. Villa Bleu is closed on Monday. If you are looking for good food, reasonable prices, friendly wait staff, fun bartenders and an owner that is always there to make sure that you truly enjoy every meal -- then you need drive no further! This gem is in our backyard. A note of caution, once you spend a little time there, you too may become a regular.

If you present this article at the time of your meal they will give you a complimentary glass of wine or equal drink. Villa Bleu does not accept Credit Cards (it helps keep the price in check).

has a recycling center. It is open 24 hours, seven days a week. They will accept aluminum and metal cans, glass bottles and jars (green, brown or clear), plastic milk and water jugs, pop and beverage bottles and detergent bottles and newspapers, cardboard and magazines.

They will also collect the following items on the **last Saturday of the month**, from 8 a.m. until noon during the months of March to October.

- ◆ Branches and twigs no larger than 10 inches in diameter **BUT no yard waste, stumps, or root balls**
 - ◆ Latex and oil based paints and aerosol paint cans
 - ◆ Used motor oil in clear or opaque containers
- For further information you can check out their website at www.algtwsp.com ~ Highway Department.

Recycling Directory - Ever wonder where to take used anti-freeze, no longer needed clothing, old computers, packing peanuts and other items to keep them out of the landfills? How about how to get rid of junk mail? Check out the Recycling Directory for McHenry County at www.mcdef.org/busrec.pdf. for answers to these and other ways to help our environment. Information can also be found at the Lake County solid waste management district website: www.lcswmd.com.

Water Conservation

In these tough economic times, here are five easy ways to conserve one of our most valuable resources...and your money.

- 1) Check every faucet in your home for leaks. A slow drip can waste 15-20 gallons a day.
- 2) Put a couple drops of food coloring in your toilet tank. Without flushing, watch the bowl water to see if any color shows up in the bowl. A leak like this can cause a loss of up to 100 gallons a day.
- 3) Keep your shower time to five minutes and only fill your tub to five inches.
- 4) Run your dishwasher or washing machine only when you have a full load. Even when your washing machine has a short cycle, it's more efficient when there are enough dirty clothes for a full load.
- 5) Water your lawn and garden early or late in the day ~ not in midday heat. Avoid windy days. Be sure you're watering your grass and not the sidewalk or driveway. A single lawn sprinkler spraying five gallons per minute uses 50% more water in just one hour than a combination of ten toilet flushes, two five-minute showers, two dishwasher loads and a full load of clothes.

You can check out these websites for more info on water conservation and rain barrel purchases: <https://www.conservemc.org/htdocs/rainbarrelorders.htm> or

<http://lakecountyil.gov/Stormwater/LakeCountyWatersheds/BMPs/RainBarrelSale.htm>



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ Easter Egg HuntApril 4th..... Lions Park
Our Cary-Grove Jaycees have invited the Easter Bunny for a photo opportunity with your children – bring your Easter Basket to hunt for eggs and your camera to make memories.
- ◆ General ElectionApril 7th.....Polling Places
Exercise your right to vote and make your opinion count!
- ◆ Park Clean-Up DayApril 18th TBA
Register at the Village Hall to help make a difference in our Parks!
- ◆ Spring Clean UpMay 16th..... Your House!
Get your spring clean up done for this special pick up!
- ◆ Memorial Day ParadeMay 25..... Algonquin Road School
Line up early in remembrance of those who died for our country.
- ◆ “Park it on the Fox”June 13..... Stone Hill Center
Classic Car show/Cary Grove Area Chamber Celebration Day

Hydrant Flushing

The Water & Sewer Department flushes, inspects and flow tests all fire hydrants twice a year – Spring and Fall. The entire water distribution system is flushed clean to improve water quality and assure that all fire hydrants are in good operating condition for emergencies.

Residents are urged to check for hydrant flushing signs end of April posted at major intersections and at entrances to subdivisions. There may be some loss of water pressure at the time of the flushing. We also ask that residents check for discoloration of water before doing laundry. Running your cold water until it runs clear will remove any discoloration.

Village Hall hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. ; Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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.

Pet Reminder

It's springtime ~ and everyone will be outside enjoying the weather with their dogs. If you take your dog for a walk around the neighborhood, carry a plastic bag with you to pick up the waste. Be sure to throw pet waste away in the trash or toilet, not in storm drains. Pet waste left in yards, streets or parks eventually washes into storm sewers and empties untreated into our streams, ponds, rivers and lakes. Coliform bacteria in pet waste are harmful to your health.

Also, when treating your pet and yard for fleas or ticks, check with your veterinarian for safe substitutes that will minimize impact to the storm drains and your family. Flea dip liquid should be disposed of as a household hazardous waste. By following these disposal techniques, it helps keep drinking water and our natural resources safe and healthy.

Section 5-27 of our Village Code of Ordinances requires that every person keeping any dog shall keep and maintain a collar around the neck of the dog and display on the collar any license tag or your county tag, which is required by law to be displayed on the collar.

Remember it is illegal to walk in the street when there is a sidewalk on either side of the street. Section 5-28 states it shall be unlawful for any person to permit any dog owned or kept by him to run at large within the Village. Any dog found to be running at large is hereby declared to be a nuisance and will be fined \$75.00. Dogs must be leashed.



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