

Village of Riverdale

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

(May-June 2004)

A few thoughts from our Mayor.

I got caught. I am writing my article at the very last minute. My intent was to ask for volunteers. We seriously need volunteers, but today, 4/24/04 I attended our Governors Press Conference promoting Equal Pay for All. As I was sitting with other Mayors I was forced to acknowledge that pay discrimination goes beyond the obvious lines of race and sex.

Pay discrimination is disguised in title. Is a nurse, normally a female, any less important than a doctor? When the doctor forgets to document your vital information on your medical chart, who is the person that follows up? Who makes sure that your medical information is up to date and accurate? Yet, who makes the big bucks? This train of thought forced me to acknowledge how government rewards department heads.

The male dominated worlds of Police Chief and Fire Chief make more money than the female dominated worlds of Economic Development Directors or Village Clerks. Are these positions less important? While I acknowledge the obvious inequity of pay, I realize that change will only come about with a universal mind change. Universal in that families have to raise daughters that acknowledge and promote their unique importance in this world. Families have to raise sons that respect and acknowledge the importance of women in their lives.

My original request in this letter was for volunteers. Riverdale is in need of volunteers. We need mentors for our youth, we need property maintenance inspectors to maintain our housing stock, we need people to volunteer on commissions, and we need to reinvigorate our Emergency Services Disaster Agency more than anything else.

ESDA is the organization that serves our community in times of need. These are the people that support and assist our police and fire personnel in the event of an emergency. What would we do if a terrorist attack occurred in Chicago? My fear is that it will occur in Chicago. Why is that my fear? We border Chicago and we are the first Metra stop out of Chicago. If a terrorist attack occurs in Chicago, where will the people of Chicago come? Riverdale.

Are we ready for a wave of people from Chicago? Not today. But we can be with the volunteers.

Mayor Zenovia G. Evans

" FOUR WINDS OF UNITY" - The Village of Riverdale presents a Youth Centered Community Forum, Saturday, June 5th, 12 Noon to 4 p.m. hosted by Mayor Zenovia G. Evans. Join us in walking from the four corners of Riverdale to unite at the center of the community for fun activities and a youth-adult forum. We will have a Rap/flow contest, 3-point basketball (youth vs. adults), and adult lip-syncing. Keep a lookout in the community for details.

VEHICLE TAGS go on sale on May 3. During May, auto tags are discounted to \$25.00. During June, all tags are regular price: \$30 for cars & "B" Trucks, motorcycles, \$15, and Sr. rate is \$7.00 (one per household) Watch for your application in the mail.

FREE HEALTH SCREENING is set for Saturday, May 22, from 8-Noon at Resource Center, 13725 S. Wabash. Call for reservations – Park Forest Health Dept. 748-1118. This free health screening is open to all Riverdale residents

FORECLOSURE SEMINAR – Don't lose your home due to foreclosure. Attend this seminar to find alternatives. Free seminar is set for Thursday, May 13, 6:30 PM at Village Hall. Reservations required – Call Michelle Irvin, 841-6716.

SPRING CLEAN UP – Now is the time to set out your old furniture, white goods, and other household trash. Saturday, May 8, 7 AM- Noon, and items should be out the night before. No hazardous waste, batteries, or tires. Call Public Works for more information – 841-2202.

ANNUAL WATER REPORT

The Village is required to annually publish an Annual Drinking Water Quality Report no later than July 1st of each year. That report is included in this issue of our Newsletter.